



**To see a Living City presentation about amateur boxer Tyler Lord-Wilder, visit [stateneews.com/multimedia](http://stateneews.com/multimedia)**

**Mich. prison budgets to increase in next fiscal year**  
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BOARD

## MSU TRIES TO CAP TUITION INCREASE AT 5 PERCENT IN '09

By Kayla Habermehl  
THE STATE NEWS

With concerns about state funding cuts for higher education, the MSU Board of Trustees most likely will increase student tuition Friday when it sets the 2009-10 budget.

Trustee Dianne Byrum said the increase has not been solidified but probably would be about 5 percent.

Trustee Melanie Foster said the board discussed a tuition increase as well as downsizing budgets for colleges and departments to combat the effects of the economy.

"There will be a tuition increase simply because of diminishing state funding," Foster said. "Every department, every college has been given directives to decrease spending."

The board is scheduled to meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 401 of the Administration Building.

A 5 percent tuition increase for in-state undergraduate students taking 15 credits would raise tuition about \$236 per semester, based on summer 2009 tuition rates.

During a conference call Tuesday, the board discussed potential reductions in state funding, the impact on student financial aid and the options the board has, Foster said.

In the state's proposed 2010 budget, MSU is set to receive about \$284 million, a \$9 million decrease from 2008-09.

"We have four areas that the university gets funded from: state funding, which we know ranks 50th out of 50 states in public education in the last decade; we have tuition; we have donations, which have fallen off significantly; and income from the portfolio, which has fallen off significantly," Foster said.

There is a degree of uncertainty about state funding as the state's budget hasn't been set, Trustee Faylene Owen said.

The state's budget must be finalized by Oct. 1 and the MSU budget by June 30.

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TECHNOLOGY

## Profs wary of math Web site

By Daniel Luscombe  
THE STATE NEWS

For students who dread math assignments, the Web site WolframAlpha.com could serve as a study aid or shortcut to an easy 4.0.

WolframAlpha is a computational knowledge engine Web site that launched in May. Among other tasks, the site can solve a variety of math problems and provide a step-by-step process of how the solution was reached.

For some, the Web site might be an educational tool, but for others it might be a quick way to get answers for homework assignments.

Audrey DeGuire, a graduate assistant who teaches Mathematics 132, Calculus I, has mixed feelings about the site's potential.

"That's the way you'll learn

# Dynamic dads

Role of father evolves as women take on upper-level positions in work force, dads stay home



Lansing stay-at-home dad Eric Vanden Bosch kisses his 2-year-old son, Sawyer, while visiting the Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., in Lansing, with his other sons, 4-year-old Braden and 4-month-old Miles, in the stroller. Eric has a season pass to both Potter Park Zoo and Impression 5 Science Center, where he frequently takes the children.

SEAN COOK/THE STATE NEWS

**"Mothers still predominantly take on a lot of the primary care, but there's a shift of fathers taking a greater part in that."**

Jason Downer, researcher at University of Virginia

By Brittany Shammass  
THE STATE NEWS

When people see Lansing resident Eric Vanden Bosch spending time with his three sons during the week, they often say, "Oh, you're hanging out with Dad today," assuming Vanden Bosch has a day off from work.

What they don't realize, is for Vanden Bosch, hanging out with his kids is part of his job as a full-time, stay-at-home dad.

"Then it's like, 'Oh, you get to stay home with your kids, you're lucky,'" he said. "They say it's a great opportunity;

it's a cool thing I get to do." Vanden Bosch is a prime example of fathers whose role within the family has blossomed from the traditional breadwinner and disciplinarian to nurturer, playmate and companion, said Jason Downer, a researcher at the University of Virginia who specializes in teaching and learning. The shift might stem from expansions in the labor force, which has offered more opportunities to women, he said.

Downer said a study showed fathers spend more time with their children when the mothers work rather than stay at home.

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CRIME

## String of tampon machine thefts hit MSU

By Brittany Shammass  
THE STATE NEWS

A heavy flow of break-ins and thefts from feminine-hygiene dispensers across campus led MSU Police to launch an investigation.

A total of six break-ins and thefts were reported to MSU Police between June 1-12, amounting to at least \$750 in stolen change, MSU police Sgt. Florene McGlothian-Taylor said. The incidents have targeted women's restrooms in buildings across campus, including the Chemistry Building, Human Ecology Building and the Computer Center.

"I can't recall a time (when) there have been numerous ones at one time," she said. "Not those type of machines."

"It's got to be bad if someone's stealing from a machine in a bathroom."

Sheena Patel, nutritional sciences junior

Nutritional sciences senior Sheena Patel said a person who would steal from a tampon machine must be desperate or bored.

"I think that if you're going to steal something, you should steal it from someplace better than a tampon machine," she said.

"I guess I think when you need something, you need something," she said. "I think that's a pretty pathetic way to get money because I can't imagine stealing from a feminine-hygiene machine could be very lucrative. Going out and earning money seems to be more of an honorable and smart way of doing things."

Some of the machines appeared to have been entered with an unknown tool, McGlothian-Taylor said. She did not know if the machines, which cost about \$400, would need to be replaced.

Police are unsure whether one person is responsible for all of the break-ins, but the incidents remain under investigation, McGlothian-Taylor said.