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**MSU runs program to help foster children adapt to college**  
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**People step into action in local square dancing club**  
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**CRIME**  
**SEARCH FOR SUSPECTS IN EXPLOSIONS CLOSES IN**

By Kate Jacobson  
THE STATE NEWS

The East Lansing Police Department has narrowed its search for suspects involved in four suspicious explosions that occurred in East Lansing since May.

The explosions occurred during an almost two-month span, with the first incident May 25 at the intersection of Grove and Elizabeth streets and the most recent July 16 in the intersection of Evergreen Avenue and Fern Street.

East Lansing police Detective Sheriff Fadley said information the department obtained has produced a description of two possible suspects for the July 16 incident. Police believe these people might have been responsible for the three other explosions. Fadley said the suspects might strike again in the near future.

"We believe strongly that the suspect is in possession of at least one more (explosive)," he said.

Fadley said the suspects are white males in their mid to late 20s.

A witness said the suspects invited themselves into a party the witness was at and told him and a few others they possessed explosives. The witness gave a ride to the two suspects in his car but asked them to leave when he became uncomfortable.

"One of the suspects produced and showed a witness a pear-shaped and pear-sized firework-like explosive," Fadley said.

The witness also added that the suspect talked about being a repo man and had found the devices in one of the vehicles he had repossessed.

East Lansing police Lt. Kevin Daley said the explosions are potentially dangerous to people.

"So far, only property has been damaged, including a June 9 explosion causing damage to the Cron Manage-

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## 40 years after Woodstock



This 1969 photo shows people at the Woodstock Music and Art Fair on a 600-acre pasture in the Catskill Mountains near White Lake in Bethel, N.Y.

AP FILE PHOTO

By Zane McMillin  
THE STATE NEWS

What started off as a musical festival 40 years ago on farmland near Bethel, N.Y., ultimately became a symbol of an enormous movement within America's youth culture.

Woodstock, a four-day series of musical performances in August 1969 that attracted about 500,000 people to watch performers such as Jimi Hendrix, Joe Cocker and The Grateful Dead, was a pivotal point in American history that marked a break from the tradition-based society of the 1950s, said Gary Hoppenstand, an MSU professor of writing, rhetoric and American cultures.

"There were a variety of social movements occurring that radically transformed society," Hoppenstand said. "Woodstock was one of the great symbols of that era."

**Changing over time**

The 1960s was a time of political upheaval in the U.S., he said, with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement all contributing to growing discontent among the younger generations that strived to break apart from mainstream culture.

"It was an expression of independence," Hoppenstand said. "Sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll... were expressions of people who said, 'We don't believe in your system; we don't believe in such things as the Vietnam War.'"

Mark Greber, an East Lansing-based political consultant and Ingham County commissioner, said Woodstock was the culmination of a series of events of a

much larger movement called "the '60s."

"The '60s marked a break with the social order that had preceded it," he said. "The sense that America was controlled society where the authorities had more or less unlimited power to control peoples' lives... that attitude was destroyed by the '60s."

**Less 'white bread'**

That break from society, he said, was enough to set America on a course that completely changed the face of society, namely from a predominantly white, patriarchal one to one in which freedom of choice and the open opposition of government became more prevalent.

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**UNIVERSITY**

## MSU waits on investigation of fair labor practices of clothing company

By Meredith Skrzypczak  
THE STATE NEWS

A company known for manufacturing goods with MSU logos and trademarks has been "put on notice" by the university in light of growing allegations that it permits unfair labor practices.

Russell Athletic has license agreements with MSU permitting it to make Spartans apparel, but the university threatened to pull the plug on current license agreements and renews July 23. If Russell doesn't meet certain labor requirements, university officials have said they will end ties with the company.

More than 30 colleges and universities across the country, the United Kingdom and Canada have either cut current license agreements or stated they will not enter into future

business with the company or its parent, Fruit of the Loom, said Jack Mahoney, a United Students Against Sweatshops strategic campaigns staff member.

"The reality is that a factory where working conditions are good and where workers' rights are respected is more the exception than the rule," he said. "The best way to engage is by choosing cases where we feel the workers' rights... are especially egregious."

Labor standards at Russell factories in Honduras were called into question, the latest after the Jerzees de Honduras factory was closed in January 2009, when the company cited a lack of business as the reason for closure.

"The company alleged that it was closing the factory because of a lack of business," said Jorge Perez-Lopez, the executive director of the Fair Labor Association,

or FLA. "The union alleged that the factory was not being closed because of business decisions, but because the company wanted to do away with the union."

Russell is in a remediation process and was placed on special review by the FLA on June 25 to work on the remediation points for 90 days.

"There's definitely some allegations brought against us that are false, but there are definitely some areas of improvement for us," said Catherine Gammon, the senior director of advertising and media relations for Russell. "We have made progress, but we have not made enough."

MSU will wait to confirm the company has taken all

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**NATION**

## Bill could ban texting while driving

By Meredith Skrzypczak  
THE STATE NEWS

To some, texting while driving is a skill learned by precariously typing a message on a cell phone while steering, but lawmakers are trying to put the brakes on this practice with a bill to ban texting while driving.

U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., introduced the legislation July 29 to ban all texting or e-mailing in motor vehicles across the country and failure to comply would mean a loss of federal highway funds for states.

Schumer was joined by U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., and U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan, D-N.C., in the introduction of the legislation.

A study performed by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, released July 27, reported the risk of crashing or being involved in a near crash was about 23 times higher while text messaging.

"Studies have shown over and

over and over that texting while driving is dangerous and it's time to take action to prevent the tragic accidents that result from this activity,"

Charles Schumer, U.S. senator

over that texting while driving is dangerous and it's time to take action to prevent the tragic accidents that result from this activity,"

"With this new legislation, drivers will finally be held responsible for dangerous behavior that puts the public at risk."

This type of legislation might spark action on similar state legislation, state Rep. Lee Gonzales,

D-Flint Township, said. Gonzales introduced a state House bill in February that would ban talking on cell phones and texting while driving in Michigan.

"It's got to be a one-two punch," he said. "If we can get some

momentum at the national level and at the state level, I think... they know we shouldn't be doing certain things while we're driving."

Enforcement of the legislation might be difficult, state Rep. Wayne Schmidt, R-Traverse City, said.

"That's what the question comes down to is how do you truly enforce this?" he said. "If we see continuing trends of accidents caused by texting or using cell phones... then we might have to look at further measures."

The Michigan State Police, or MSP, declined to comment on federal legislation but said texting while driving is not supported at the state level.

"To text requires your hands, your eyes and your attention, all of which should be focused on driving," MSP spokeswoman Melody Kindraka said.

It might be difficult for law enforcement officers to deter-

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