



## Rocky Horror Show wows Wharton with raunchy humor

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## For a video interview with hip-hop duo Schwayze from their East Lansing gig, visit [stateneews.com/multimedia](http://stateneews.com/multimedia).

### ACADEMICS

## OFFICIALS PLAN MORE FRIDAY CLASSES NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

By Meredith Skrzypczak  
THE STATE NEWS

Students might see more Friday classes on their schedules next year as a result of an initiative to refocus the standard schedule agreed upon here more than 15 years ago.

Classes that have been held on Mondays and Wednesdays in the past might now be scheduled on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, a decision made mainly to reduce scheduling conflicts for students, MSU Provost Kim Wilcox said.

The changes will take effect for classes next fall, he said. Wilcox said that on Wednesday, Friday schedule is the university's standard scheduling procedure and has been for more than a decade. Exceptions to that procedure have led to a high number of classes meeting only on Mondays and Wednesdays.

"What has happened is ... we've been pretty flexible in exceptions," Wilcox said. "Minimizing scheduling conflicts and providing more accessibility for students is a reason for the change to the standard schedule, he said."

"As we start to reorganize and cut budgets, I'm afraid we're going to have fewer and fewer class sections available," Wilcox said. "As class sections become fewer, we can't afford class conflicts. ... Let's get back to the standard schedule that we all agreed upon."

Classes with exceptions in terms of content and nature of instruction might stay the same, Wilcox said.

Wilcox said the move will make scheduling easier for students and provide more classroom space and flexibility.

College of Engineering Dean Satish Udpa said advantages outweigh disadvantages.

"We're basically redesigning things," he said. "Any time there's a change, there's some concern here. 'We're doing this for what?' ... We'll benefit."

But not everyone agrees. Elementary education junior Zoe Hawes said her classes this year mostly are on Mondays and Wednesdays, something

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# Musical Relief

Detroit's MSU Community Music School brings positive note to struggling city



Detroit resident Erin Whitsett, 13, and jazz studies sophomore Marcus Miller laugh during the jazz class at the MSU Community Music School, 3408 Woodward Ave., in Detroit. Miller is one of the mentors who helps to teach students and give them help learning about jazz music.

By Heather Guenther  
THE STATE NEWS

The MSU Community Music School's expansion into Detroit is music to Kimberly Whitsett's ears. Whitsett, who lives in Detroit, enrolled her 13-year-old daughter Erin in a youth jazz band program offered at the new location after she read about it in a flyer.

"I was telling a friend of mine you know you're in the right place when your child comes to you during the second break saying 'I can't wait to come back next week,'" Whitsett said, laughing. "The first classes at the MSU Community Music School in Detroit began about two weeks ago, offering MSU an opportunity to tap into a new talent pool, said Rhonda Buckley, associate dean for outreach and engagement for the College of Music."

Buckley serves as the executive director of MSU's new Detroit Community Music School and the East Lansing school that has existed for 16 years. Jazz studies sophomore Marcus Miller spends his Wednesday nights in Detroit serving as a mentor to Erin Whitsett, who began playing the alto saxophone

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For an audio slideshow of students at the Detroit school, visit [stateneews.com/multimedia](http://stateneews.com/multimedia).

### STATE BUDGET

## Lawmakers miss session, face looming Wednesday deadline

By Marissa Cumbers  
THE STATE NEWS

Despite canceling sessions Sunday and not scheduling a meeting today, Michigan lawmakers said they still believe it is possible to pass next year's budget by Wednesday's midnight deadline.

However, the Senate on Friday passed a continuation bill that would avoid a state government shutdown and give lawmakers until Oct. 31 to balance the state's \$40 billion budget if that doesn't happen.

Their goal is to eliminate a \$2.7 billion budget deficit.

The continuation budget would carry 2009 spending levels through the end of October, with some small cuts to avoid deepening the existing deficit, said state Rep. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, who opposes the bill.

The House would have to pass the continuation bill before Thursday, but legislators said they still hope to reach a budget agreement by Oct. 1, so the bill is not needed.

"(The) continuation budget is a mistake; we have to sit down and balance the budget," Jones said. "I hope it's not even put up for a vote."

The fate of the Michigan Promise Scholarship remains unknown after a joint House and Senate higher education committee voted Wednesday to eliminate the scholarship, and a House Appropriations Committee passed a bill Thursday to reinstate it using as-yet-undefined funding.

Budget bills must be approved by conference committees before going to the full House or Senate for a vote. Both bills are awaiting votes by the full House and Senate.

Legislators cited the Jewish holiday Yom Kippur, which began Sunday at sundown, as a reason for taking time off.

"It was difficult because some people could come in, but only for a short period of time," said Rep. Mark Meadows, D-East Lansing, who supported the cancellation.

The House and Senate are scheduled to resume at 10 a.m. Tuesday, leaving only 14 hours

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"What we're trying to do here is have classes that benefit the community of Detroit, but that also benefit our students from Michigan State."

Rhonda Buckley, College of Music associate dean for outreach and engagement



The MSU Community Music School, 3408 Woodward Ave., in Detroit, opened about two weeks ago and offers five classes, including early childhood music and jazz.

## MSU football

CHRIS VANNINI

## Spartans' 1-3 record misleading



Madison, Wis.—Well, who saw this coming? I don't think too many.

The MSU football team has limped to a 1-3 start and hasn't beaten a Football Bowl Subdivision team in 10 months (a 21-7 victory against Pur-

due last November).

The Spartan bandwagon is losing members every day and Wolverines fans have come out of hibernation loud and clear.

But as bad as this season has begun, it's not time to jump ship. There still are huge opportunities for this team and the season is not lost.

Since that last FBS victory, the Spartans have lost to Penn State, Georgia, Central Michigan, Notre Dame and, most recently, Wisconsin. A win against Football Championship Subdivision opponent Montana State is sprinkled in there.

However, those five losses—specifically the three this season—have been against high-quality opponents.

Yes, Central Michigan is in the Mid-American Conference, but the Chips likely are going to win the con-

"Nobody thought we'd be 1-3 at this point, but we are. It's a learning experience."

Mark Dantonio, MSU head football coach

ference and head to a bowl game for the fourth straight season. If you make four consecutive bowls, you are a good program.

Yes, Notre Dame isn't the same Notre Dame of old, but this is a team that still has an outside chance to go to an FCS bowl game. The Spartans were, perhaps, one play away from coming out of both those games with a win, and if the Spartans made one play at the end of both of those games, they easily could have come out of the gate with a 3-0 record.

Yes, the loss to Wisconsin wasn't as close as the 38-30 score read, but Wisconsin is a very talented

team that will compete for the Big Ten title this season. Also, just about nobody (other than the Badgers) wins the look far from doing that.

The Spartans are better than their record, for whatever that's worth. Wisconsin head coach Bret Bielema even called the Spartans "the best 1-3 football team out there."

The Spartans, predicted by many to finish in the upper echelon of the Big Ten, look far from doing that.

"Nobody thought we'd be 1-3 at this point, but we are," head coach Mark Dantonio said. "It's a learning experience; it's an experience that we have to draw things from

and have to get better from."

So the Spartans aren't as good as we thought they would be. That doesn't mean they're as bad as some people might think.

This team averages more than 438 yards and 32 points per game and if you put points on the board in the Big Ten, you have a chance to win every single game.

The Big Ten season is just starting, which is a positive for this team. The conference looks just dreadful and anybody can win on any day. The team that wins this conference may have two or three losses in the conference and the Spartans get to skip playing against one of the league's favorites, Ohio State.

The Spartans also have games against Northwestern, Western Michigan and Purdue that should be considered must-wins.

The defense has been the biggest and most troubling problem this season, and its deteriorating confidence is snowballing, but if the defense can play consistently well for an entire game, it might snowball in the opposite direction.

So while the Spartans bandwagon is getting smaller, I still believe the team can win this season a success.

There's no better week to turn everything around than this week. A win against Michigan could springboard the team to a Big Ten title run. Let's not forget, under Mark Dantonio, the Spartans are 0-3 the week before Michigan but have gone 4-1 in the regular season after the last two U-M games.

Just win this win more than anything," sophomore quarterback Keith Nichol said.