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Officials warn of impacts if Asian Carp reach Great Lakes
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Football team looks to ignore controversy, focus on bowl
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Finding Faith and Unity

Students look to faith as common source of hope, healing, regardless of religious identity

By Ian Johnson
THE STATE NEWS

Love never meant much to Dorothy Beemon as she was growing up. The Saginaw native was born into a life with a mother who struggled with a dependency on drugs and an alcoholic father. At age 6, Beemon was out of her home and into foster care, eventually ending up at her grandmother's house. After her grandmother died, Beemon said she felt like she was living with no guidance and no purpose.

"I just assumed it was how life was for everyone else," she said. "When I would see my father, he would say he loved me, but since he wasn't there, it really didn't mean much to me. When people would tell me that they loved me, it didn't faze me. I didn't believe it, I didn't trust it and I didn't care much about it."

Beemon started attending church after she moved into her aunt and uncle's house during high school. In a life void of role models, she said God became her only stabilizing factor. "Christ came at a time when I felt like I had completely lost everyone," she said. "The someone was telling me about this heavenly father and he became a parent to me."

Beemon, a higher, adult and lifelong education graduate student, is the first member of her family to go to college and is one of many students at MSU trying to balance their academic and spiritual lives. Although some consider the lives of religious people to be saturated in archaic rituals and observances, religion continues to be one of the most important aspects of life for many at MSU.

Coexist

After millennia of crusades and holy wars, religion often has been treated as a means for conflict rather than a reason for peace, said Nada Zohdy, an international relations senior. Zohdy is co-chair of the Interfaith Council, an assembly of religious students who believe individuals' religious identities shouldn't prevent them from helping others, she said.

"It's a great opportunity to not only help bring together people of different perspectives to learn about each other, (but) to help students deal with religious issues with the administration," she said. "Of course religion is often used to divide people, but it can also be a really powerful way to bring people together."

The council is completing its first semester of operation and welcomes students of any faith, Zohdy said. "This semester, the council has addressed the Israel-Palestine conflict, sexuality in religion and differences in religious texts. "When you really look deeper than you can through reading and really talk to people about practicing, you realize there's more in common than you may initially think,"



SEAN COOK/THE STATE NEWS

Higher, adult and lifelong education graduate student Dorothy Beemon poses with her bible. Beemon said her faith has helped her overcome many obstacles in her life.

said Geoff Levin, an international relations junior and a Jewish member of the council. "If we can't coexist at a friendly and wonderful place like MSU, then there's not a lot of hope for coexistence elsewhere."

Spirituality of the sexes

Zohdy, who practices Islam, decided to change the way she observed her religion

when she made the transition to college.

Zohdy began to wear a hijab, which is a traditional head covering worn by many Muslim women. The hijab covers much of the head and face, which Zohdy said leads many outside the religion to wrongly consider it a means of restricting and oppressing women. Wear-

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INVESTIGATION

POLICE STILL SEARCH FOR ANSWERS IN ROSMAN DEATH

By Brittany Shammass
THE STATE NEWS



Rosman State News.

The reports stated Rosman, a 19-year-old business sophomore and Alpha Epsilon Pi member, had a blood alcohol content of about .14 — nearly twice the legal driving limit of .08 — at the time of his death.

Rosman was at Joe Louis Arena for a Detroit Red Wings game, Detroit police Sgt. Eren Stephens said police do not know where the underage Rosman might have gotten alcohol and are continuing to look into which bus was involved in dragging him about 3,300 feet to the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Michigan Avenue.

The Wayne County medical examiner who prepared the report could not be reached for comment Monday.

An investigation into the incident conducted by the national branch of Alpha Epsilon Pi has concluded and the Detroit Police investigation is ongoing.

David Zemon, president of MSU's chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi, referred all questions to the national branch. Alpha Epsilon Pi national spokesman Jonathan Pierce would not comment on the findings of the investigation or on whether action would be taken within the fraternity. He also declined to comment on how Rosman might have obtained alcohol.

Joe Louis Arena security officials referred questions about the incident to the Detroit police.

Interviews with Rosman's friends and text messages he sent indicate he was under the bus intentionally, but police have not yet been able to confirm that, Stephens said.

"It's just based on what the text messages said," she said. "Rosman said he was under the bus. I guess something happened with security."

Surveillance tapes from the

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Ⓚ To listen to MSU students discuss how faith shapes their lives, visit stateneews.com/multimedia.

SPORTS

MSU basketball defeats Citadel 69-56

By Joey Nowak
THE STATE NEWS

The MSU men's basketball team knew The Citadel's 3-point shooting would give the Spartans fits Monday.

But what the Spartans saw at McAlister Field House was more than frustrating. It was nearly upsetting.

The No. 12 Spartans narrowly avoided another early season loss in their fourth game away from home in the last five, overcoming an astounding 73 percent first-half 3-point shooting performance by The Citadel and escaping Charleston, S.C., with a 69-56 win.

"First half, nobody played very good defense," MSU head coach Tom Izzo told the Spar-

tan Sports Network after the game. "At one point, they were 6-for-6 and it was just getting worse. A couple of those shots were tough shots, too."

The Bulldogs' always-looming threat from deep was introduced in the Spartans' 79-65 win last year in East Lansing, but it is doubtful even MSU's Big Ten-best 3-point defense could have slowed The Citadel from deep.

"I think they thought we were the Japanese and they were going to get back at us for Pearl Harbor," Izzo lamented

of the small Southern military school. "They were just making shot after shot."

The Spartans (7-2) successfully countered the home team's early perimeter perfection with domination in the post, outscoring the Citadel 16-4 in the paint in the first half. On the night, MSU outrebounded the Bulldogs 35-16 and outscored them 20-0 on second-chance opportunities.

Senior forward Raymar

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Morgan



Lucas

EXPANSION

Wharton approved to manage facility

By Zane McMillin
THE STATE NEWS

Wharton Center will extend its reach north next year, after the Traverse City Commission voted unanimously Monday to approve the center as operations manager for the Traverse City Opera House.

Wharton Center will begin managing the opera house's operations July 1, 2010. It will propose and schedule performances and will oversee rentals, ticket sales and promotion. Until then, the center will be in a transition period to help guide operations, Wharton spokesman Kent Love said.

Wharton is not responsible for the opera house's revenue during the transition period, but will be responsible after

the takeover. "If the performances that we're presenting aren't making any more and there's some type of deficit, then that's our responsibility," Love said.

Wharton will be paid \$75,000 each year for its services and receive 25 percent of each year's profit from the opera house. It also is required to create a budget and programming plan by May 1, including an operations budget, costs, rental dates and list of possible events for the coming year.

The deal first came about a year ago, when a consultant in Traverse City mentioned Wharton might be interested in partnering with the opera house, which had been searching for an operations manager,

said Jeffrey Corbin, vice chairman of the City Opera Heritage Association Board of Directors.

"Wharton has the knowledge of a lot of more different types of artists that are greater in diversity programs than we do and how to make them happen," he said.

The opera house is operating in a deficit and needs to raise about \$1.25 million to complete renovations that have taken about 30 years. Wharton will not be responsible for paying either cost, Love said, but operators hope Wharton-managed shows will increase revenue to help close the deficit. He said the center plans to hold about 30 performances at the opera

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