



Weather

Snow

High 32° | Low 25°

Three-day forecast, Page 2

Michigan State University's independent voice | www.stateneews.com | East Lansing, Mich. | Tuesday, February 2, 2010

**Students, E.L. officials begin
Census preparations**

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**Report: medical schools have
low minority representation**

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**Basketball team tests perfect
Big Ten record at Wisconsin**

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CRIME

E.L. POLICE ARREST MISSISSIPPI FUGITIVE

By Kate Jacobson
THE STATE NEWS

East Lansing police arrested a man Saturday morning for urinating in public, only to discover he is a fugitive from Mississippi convicted of shooting an Iraq war veteran several times during a robbery.

Leo Wales III, 20, was arrested near Quality Dairy, 1509 E. Grand River Ave., by an East Lansing police officer at about 1:30 a.m. Saturday.

Police found that Wales was convicted of armed robbery and aggravated assault with a gun for a March 2009 incident in Jackson, Miss., where he robbed and shot Iraq war veteran Michael Robertson several times. He was sentenced to 80 years in prison.

East Lansing police Capt. Kim Johnson said Wales resisted arrest and the officer had to use a Taser to subdue him. Wales gave officers a false name, but fingerprints taken revealed his identity.

East Lansing police Chief Tom Wibert said Wales told police he was staying with friends on the 300 block of Gudson Street. Police didn't know how long Wales had been in East Lansing.

Wales jumped bail the day before his trial started, but the trial continued without him, said Robert Smith, the district attorney of Mississippi's Hinds County, where Wales was prosecuted.

"His court date was scheduled, and his family and his lawyers said that they had spoken with him and that he was going to show up for trial," Smith said. "But he never did."

Wales' attorney, Randy Harris, said Wales spent time in Detroit, but was living with family in Mississippi at the time of his arrest in March 2009. Harris said he objected to the trial proceeding in Wales' absence.

Harris and Smith said witnesses testified that Wales and an accomplice, Neil Jackson, went up to Robertson's parked car, demanded money and shot Robertson several times before fleeing. Witnesses testified the duo made off with \$600.

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An unexpected homecoming

Increasing numbers of young adults head home while searching for employment



MSU alumnus Tyler Smith, right, eats dinner with his father, Dave Smith, Monday evening at their home in Mattawan, Mich. Smith graduated from MSU in May 2009 and moved back into his parents' home in August. He said that the adjustment was difficult but he is starting to enjoy living with his parents.

"You just feel like you're being left behind, almost. Everything's moving so fast, you're just in this huge hurry to get out and get into the real world — whatever the real world is."

Tyler Smith, 2009
MSU alumnus

By Britanny Shammis
THE STATE NEWS

For the first four months back in his parents' house, Tyler Smith didn't unpack. Boxes filled with pictures of old high school girlfriends and pieces of clothing worn once at MSU theme parties — ugly Christmas sweaters and snow pants from Goodwill — cluttered the room.

Smith, a May 2009 MSU graduate, was home again, back in his high school bedroom in his parents' Mattawan, Mich., house after a fruitless job search.

And he was in denial. "I had friends going to Chicago and stuff like that," he said. "You just feel like you're being left behind, almost. Everything's moving so fast, you're just in this huge hurry to get out and get into the real world — whatever the real world is. I want to be doing it like other people are, but that's not the way it worked out." But with the current economic situation and a shift in the mindset of parents, Smith is not alone in making a stop at home before heading out into the real world. Thirteen percent of parents nationwide with grown children say at least one child

has moved home in the past year, according to research by the Pew Research Center. Although university officials don't know how many MSU students return home after graduation, Phil Gardner, director of the MSU Collegiate Employment Research Institute, said as many as half of MSU graduates take a "temporary detour" home after leaving school.

No place like home

The way Smith envisioned it, he would get a job in line with his advertising and public relations degree right after graduation and find a place of his own. At least 30 job applications later, he instead found himself packing up a truck to move home.

Ten percent of people younger than 35 said the recession

sent them back home, according to the November 2009 Pew study. The percentage of 16- to 24-year-olds currently working is 46 percent — the lowest it's been in the 52 years the government began tracking that information.

Gardner said a large number of students find themselves in situations similar to Smith's because of the poor economy. "Some may have always thought they could go home because that door is always there," Gardner said. "Others view it as a detour because they gained their independence. They found out what they want to do; they want to move on."

Daniel Stein never thought he'd end up moving back.

See GRADUATION on page 2

To see students discuss going home after graduation, visit stateneews.com/multimedia.

FINANCIAL AID

Obama budget plan increases Pell Grant funding

By Marissa Cumbers
THE STATE NEWS

Michigan would receive \$1.2 billion in new funding for Pell Grants helping more than 317,600 Michigan students afford college, as part of President Barack Obama's proposed budget revealed Monday.

Obama proposed a \$7-billion increase to federal Pell Grants in his \$3.8 trillion budget plan. The proposal, included in Obama's 2011 fiscal year budget, also would raise the maximum Pell Grant award from \$5,350 to

\$5,710, according to a statement from the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. During the 2007-08 school year, 7,004 MSU students received Pell Grants. Zack Pohl, spokesman for U.S. Rep. Mark Schauer, D-Battle Creek, said these investments could stimulate Michigan's economy.

Obama's budget proposal

President Barack Obama proposed Monday a \$3.8 trillion budget plan for fiscal year 2011.

The plan would increase a \$17 billion increase to federal Pell Grants.

The plan would include the maximum Pell Grant award amount from \$5,350 to \$5,710.

Michigan would receive \$1.2 billion in new Pell Grants funding helping more than 317,600 Michigan students afford college.

SOURCE: U.S. OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

"(Congressman Schauer) plans to carefully review the details of the president's 2011 budget throughout the coming days, but in principle, he supports efforts to make higher education more affordable for middle-class families by boosting funding for Pell

Grants," he said. U.S. lawmakers now will review Obama's fiscal year 2011 spending suggestions and use them as a blueprint as they develop their own budget. Some lawmakers still are concerned Obama's proposal would cost too much. "With the highest unemployment in America, now is not the time to burden Michigan's middle class with the largest levels of borrowing, spending and tax increases in our nation's history," U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Brighton, said in an e-mail. Regardless of the price tag, nursing sophomore

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ADMINISTRATION

Simon looks to Web to reach bigger crowd

By Zane McMillin
THE STATE NEWS

For the first time in MSU's history, the State of the University address is going viral.

In a video set to upload sometime next week, MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon will break from the usual method of delivering the speech at the All-University Awards Convocation. Instead, Simon is set to take her message to YouTube and social

media Web sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

University Spokesman Terry Denbow said the video, which likely will be about 10 minutes long, will feature Simon discussing the university's health with

viewers. Simon will focus on the major issues facing the university, such as its finances. Denbow said by creating a video for mass distribution on the Internet, Simon hopes the message will reach a broader audience than those who attend the Feb. 9 awards ceremony.

Simon still will speak at the See ADDRESS on page 2



Simon