

# Two KCC instructors publish “Basic Mathematics” book

Staff Writer

Kellogg Community College Math Instructors, Brian Goetz and Graham Smith, recently published “Basic Mathematics” with co-author Dr. John Tobey of North Shore Community College. The book arrived just in time for the beginning of the spring semester for most colleges and universities.

Approximately seven years ago, Goetz and Smith had an idea to create a new type of math book for Mathematics Clinic courses. “We saw people coming to school that never anticipated being in school. They tended to struggle with how to learn math and how to study with the materials that were available, so the goal was to create materials with easier access to mathematics and imbed a study system into the book,”



From left to right: Doris Lewis, Graham Smith, and Brian Goetz

Photo by Nicole Finkbeiner

said Goetz. “And we didn’t want to have lives for bunches of years,” joked Smith.

With the help of Dr. Tobey, the duo spent countless hours, putting other personal projects on hold, creating a new type of book that would not only help students be more successful in mathematics, but in all their college classes.

Each chapter in “Basic Mathematics” features objectives that cover one topic at a time instead of multiple topics at once. “Math is a subject that builds on itself, so you have to build your knowledge one step at a time. Only then can you move on and understand the next section and step,” said Smith.

For each of these small les-

Continues on page 3

# Bid a Brighter Future

Staff Writer

The Kellogg Community College Foundation raised \$9,934 during its annual Bid a Brighter Future Auction held on Jan. 14. The money raised will benefit scholarship funding for Kellogg Community College students.

The all-day event included silent and web auctions as well as a cash prize raffle. During the silent auction, current and former KCC employees circled auction tables, bidding on over 140 gift and service items.

In the spirit of fun, some KCC staff members dressed as referees and “arrested” anyone suspected of pushing, stalking items, or any other territorial behavior. Offenders were taken to a mock jail where they had to beg their coworkers for \$5 bail money to ensure their timely release.

“We’re really excited to have raised so much money for scholarships,” said Rose Dulaney, co-chair of the Bid a Brighter Future committee. “but it was almost as important for everyone to have a great time.”

The auction began 7 years ago as a way for employees to donate unwanted holiday gifts to help raise funds for scholarships. “Instead of standing in long return lines, employees could donate unwanted gifts to the KCC Foundation,” said Ginger Cutsinger, executive director of the KCC Foundation. “It started out almost like a white elephant exchange but has grown to include some truly exceptional items and services such as golf lessons, fishing trips, gourmet meals – all offered by co-workers, and the opportunity to wear jeans to work on payday Fridays. This year, we also had a large selection of pieces created by our staff including quilts, fine art work, and framed photographs – several from KCC students.”

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Matt Samra bidding on an item for Bid a Brighter Future

Photo by Ed Williams

# New faculty contract agreement

William Cook  
 Staff Writer

Kellogg Community College Faculty and Administration came to a tentative agreement on a new two-year contract in late October.

In August of 2009 the last faculty contract expired, leaving the faculty working without a contract for three months. According to faculty members, the negotiation centered on several issues, including pay raises, back pay, Kellogg Faculty Association (KFA) dues and workload calculations for the Nursing faculty.

Faculty agreed to accept a one percent pay raise and an additional pay raise this year as long as state budget cuts do not interfere. Back pay for August till September will be made to compensate for the lost one percent in the recent months, according to several faculty members.

Continues on page 3

Tuition hikes  
 Pg. 2



Peer Advocate  
 Program Pg. 3

What will become  
 of our students  
 Pg. 4



Movie reviews  
 Pg. 6



Super bowl  
 Pg. 7



# Incremental tuition hikes

**William Cook**  
Staff Writer

Students here at KCC are experiencing incremental tuition hike that will continue to rise until the fall of 2010.

The tuition rates have been raised \$2 per credit hour for resident students and will continue to rise an additional \$2 for the summer and fall semesters. Out-of-state students are hit the hardest, paying the most, with a \$4.50 per credit hour hike.

Rick Scott, Chief Financial Officer at KCC explained that because of Kellogg Community College's financial needs the tuition hike was necessary. Several variables must be considered when implementing tuition hikes, such as, state funding, property tax hikes, and other financial needs, he said. Both Scott and Public Information Director Nicole Finkbeiner agreed that the tuition increases are not large and KCC is still one of the most affordable schools of its type in the state.

The idea that the tuition hikes were small and incremental is the bright side of the story. Finkbeiner and Scott both seemed to be satisfied that the tuition

increases still left KCC in the top slots of affordable schools. They both made it abundantly clear that the hikes were not as severe as some of the hikes we have seen at other schools, such as University of California, where students saw a 33 percent tuition hike late last year. Kellogg Community College also has some of the most reasonable lab fees out of all the schools in the state, according to numbers that were collected for Scott.

Overall, fulltime (12 credit hour) students, who are Michigan residents, will see their tuition go up \$24 in the spring, another \$24 in the summer, and a final \$24 in the fall for the year of 2010.

Faculty member Sue Stetler also said that she believed KCC was one of the most affordable schools in the state.

One student said "at least the hikes are reasonable, and I trust the school to put the extra money to good use."

This seems to be the common consensus here at KCC. That in these rough economic times the school still tries to make education affordable, and that no budget-busters will be dropped on students like we saw in California a couple months ago.

# College representatives "raise eyebrows" for taking a chartered plane to the UP

**William Cook**  
Staff Writer

"Mott Community College President M. Richard Shaink and Trustee Sally Shaheen Joseph are among eight other college representatives who have raised eyebrows for flying to a triannual Michigan Community College Association meeting in Escanaba," according to an article published by the Flint Journal.

According to the MCCA Web site "the Michigan Community College Association is the primary advocate for Michigan's 28 public community colleges. The organization is committed to providing leadership on issues affecting our member colleges. The MCCA fosters collaborative partnerships between the colleges and other education stakeholders."

The Flint Journal reported "agenda items were legislation updates on a bill to allow concealed weapons on campuses, retirement legislation, and Speaker of the House Andy Dillon's health care plan."

The Flint Journal also reported, "the MCCA-chartered plane, which left from Lansing and made a pick-up stop in Traverse City, cost a total of almost \$5,000 split between MCC, Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Kellogg Community

College in Battle Creek, and Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City and the MCCA." And that "at least eight other colleges opted out of the Escanaba trip, some saying they couldn't justify the price of traveling that far."

KCC's Dr. Ed Haring was one of the eight representatives who apparently "raised eyebrows." Dr. Haring said that the total cost of his part of the trip was only \$675 for the Oct. 2 to 3 MCCA meeting in Escanaba. He also explained

**"Dr. Haring said that the total cost of his part of the trip was only \$675..."**

that he had not heard complaints about it and that he "did not believe there was much of a story in it." Dr. Haring said that the flight was the cheapest and most cost effective way to attend the meeting.

And according to the Flint Journal MCC Trustee Andy Everman said, "As a taxpayer, I want to know how this translates into additional funding for the college? How does this translate into better education for our students?"

Dr. Haring said that he traveled alone, which reduced the cost considerably, and also said that the MCCA meetings rotate from school to school, so often times the colleges in the Upper Peninsula have to travel far as well. Dr. Haring said that he believed it was important to attend a meeting in their backyard once and a while.

Tuition and Fee Rates:	
<b>Fall 2009</b>	
Residents	\$77.50 per credit hour
Non-Residents	\$121.25 per credit hour
Indiana Residents	\$122.25 per credit hour
Out-of-State/International Residents	\$170.75 per credit hour
Industrial Trades Instruction	\$5.75 per clock hour/\$138 credit hour
<b>Spring 2010</b>	
Residents	\$79.50 per credit hour
Non-Residents	\$124.50 per credit hour
Indiana Residents	\$125.50 per credit hour
Out-of-State/International Residents	\$175.50 per credit hour
Industrial Trades Instruction	\$5.95 per clock hour/\$141.75 credit hour
<b>Summer 2010</b>	
Residents	\$81.50 per credit hour
Non-Residents	\$127.75 per credit hour
Indiana Residents	\$128.75 per credit hour
Industrial Trades Instruction	\$6.10 credit hour
<b>Fall 2010</b>	
Residents	\$83.50 per credit hour
Non-Residents	\$131 per credit hour
Indiana Residents	\$132 per credit hour
Out-of-State/International Residents	\$184 per credit hour
Industrial Trades Instruction	\$6.25 per clock hour/\$149 credit hour

The above charges include total fees of \$7.00 per credit hour (student services \$2.00, technology \$4.00, and Internet \$1.00).

A credit hour of tuition purchases 16 hours of instruction. Some courses require more than 16 hours of instruction (for each credit). In courses where additional instruction is provided, an added cost fee will be charged for each additional instructional hour.

- Online courses are charged a fee of \$10 per credit hour at registration
- Laboratory fees are charged for course work in which specialized

equipment, materials, and supplies are required.

- Senior citizens 65 years of age or over who reside within the College district may register for classes tuition free. Other fees are payable.
- Outstanding balances must be paid in full prior to registering. (Battle Creek library fines should be paid in the Learning Resource Center, and all other balances should be paid where registering.)

Tuition and fee rates are subject to change.

# Black history month

**Zach Bush**  
Staff Writer

Kellogg Community College will continue its annual Black History Month celebrations this year.

The events will kick off in February in celebration of Black History Month, which started in 1926 as a week-long celebration and later evolved into a month-long observance throughout February. Although the schedules for both history months are not yet set in stone some events have been planned.

On Wednesday, Feb. 10, KCC will have karaoke and a Michael Jackson impersonator to do covers of the recently deceased pop icon's hits. The Walkin'

Cane Music performance, and a soul food lunch prepared by Dr. Washington, will be featured on Feb. 24. Even more events could also be added during to mark this month of remembrance.

Women's History Month will follow in March. The celebration of Women's history dates back to 1911 when an unofficial single day held the events. It wasn't until 1987 that it became an official full month of celebrations. So far events include a musical performance by Micaela Kingslight on Monday, March 1, and a possible guest speaker.

The celebrations are open to everyone and all are encouraged to attend. For further schedule updates check with Campus Life.

# Documentary show

**Starlene K. Ghere**  
Staff Writer

For the last year, Ryan Flathau, the head of the Kellogg College Photography and Multi-Media Program has had his photography and multi-media students take pictures of the college and its students.

This project was arranged by Ryan Flathau and the KCC's Public Information and Marketing Department.

The purpose of this project is two things; first, to help the college have fine art hung, and second, teaches students how to do documentary work.

This project ended with about fifteen-hundred pictures.

The class for this project first edited them down to one thousand pictures. Of these, one hundred were picked for the final, which are now in the show.

The show runs from now through April 1.

Students can vote for their three favorite pictures which will be included in a KCC calendar available for sale later this semester.

At the end of the show, all one hundred pictures will be hung throughout the KCC campus for all to see.

**Check Us Out On The Web**  
[www.kellogg.edu/bruin](http://www.kellogg.edu/bruin)

# Mercury Spill

Zachary Bush  
Staff Writer

Students who use the south-end walkway by the Schwartz building may have noticed that the carpet has been torn out. Although some may think that the college may have failed to keep up this small area for some reason in reality the carpet is missing for the exact opposite reason.

On the morning of Dec. 3 Mark Olmstead and an associate happened upon an unknown substance. "We noticed something shiny on the carpet and with closer examination found out with was mercury," Olmstead said.

Mercury is an element that can be harmful if consumed or touched.

Upon realizing that the substance was indeed mercury, a company from Kalamazoo was called in to clean up the spill. Taking care of the incident entailed

combing over the whole area and closing off that part of the walkway. After that was done the carpet had to be removed and the area vacuumed with a special vacuum.

The carpet and everything else that may have been in contact with the substance was put into a 50 gallon drum that is going to be picked up by the company that cleaned the spill so that they can dispose of it properly.

The strange thing about the spill is that it doesn't appear the chemical element is from KCC.

"The college has eliminated using mercury in the chemistry department," said Olmstead, "The thought is that it was brought in and dropped by someone accidentally. They may not even know they dropped it."

The situation was taken care of properly and the walkway is safe to use again.

# Peer Advocate Program

Starlene K. Ghere  
Staff Writer

Peer Advocates are students working on campus to provide peer to peer support.

The Peer Advocates' main goal is to listen to fellow students regarding concerns or questions and direct them to the appropriate resources on/off campus.

They are putting on several events in February for National Mental Health Month.

The hope is to increase awareness and provide up-to-date information on mental health issues.

These events are scheduled for Feb. 2, 9, and 23 in the student center, where a display will be available from 11- 1:00 pm.

Some community agencies will be on campus to provide resources and information.

The subjects that will be covered include:

- Maintaining one's mental health"
- Mental Health and the non-traditional student
- Misconceptions about mental health disorders
- Seeking help from mental Health Professionals.

Students are invited to visit the Peer Advocate display located in the student center.

Everyone who stops by to participate will be entered into a drawing.

Come join the Peer Advocates' and receive some very valuable information that could help both you and your loved ones.

# New faculty contract Continued from page 1

KCC Faculty member Sue Stetler describes this as positive for the full-time faculty members whom have been with the school for a long time (thirteen years or more), because those who have reached the top for set annual pay raises will get an extra push.

Another issue was the calculations of the Nursing workload, specifically how to calculate certain extraneous areas such as clinical and lab time. Kathy Bess said the calculations were clarified and the Nursing faculty workload will now be defined and separated into three different tiers. This clarification was

needed, especially with the new Human Patient Simulation Center opening. However, KCC Chief financial Officer Rick Scott implied that there is still some confusion in this area and that this issue will constantly need attention.

One of the big issues, according to faculty member Sue Stetler, was to charge all full-time faculty KFA dues, whether the individual is now a participating member of the KFA or not; specifically, for the luxury of representation by the KFA. The decision was to charge fees to all full-time faculties.

# Presidents Day

Kenny Clevenger  
Staff Writer

Hail to the Chief! Presidents day (celebrated on the third Monday of February) was originally celebrated as our first President George Washington's birthday, due to his overwhelming popularity as "the father of our country." But the holiday has become, in later years, a tribute to all of our Chief Executives.

While we students and federal employees lounge on this day of salute to our past presidents, let's get to know a little about the office and those who held it.

The constitution of the United States vests the responsibility of the Executive branch to the President of the United states of America. His duties include, but are not limited to; commander in chief of our armed forces and establishment of a cabinet of executive officials. He appoints ambassadors to foreign nations, appoints Justices to the Supreme court, and from time to time convenes Congress to deliver a state of the union address.

With 43 men serving in the top job, lets begin to sort them out.

With height being an advantage to some, to others it was a minor problem. The tallest president was Abraham Lincoln (16) standing six-foot-four-inches tall, while the shortest was only five-foot-four, one of our founding fathers; James Madison (4).

Weight didn't matter much for our heaviest president, William Howard Taft

(27), who after leaving the White House tipped the scale at 340 pounds. Our shortest president was also our skinniest, James Madison (4) coming in at 100 pounds.

Although at first our constitution set no restrictions on term limits for our president, President George Washington (1) set the tradition of only serving two terms. Later the constitution was amended to restrict careers to two terms after our longest serving president died in office, Franklin D. Roosevelt (32) after a little over 12 years in the President's mansion. William Henry Harrison (9), only served one month, due to the pneumonia he caught at his inauguration ceremony.

Article 2 of our constitution requires that those who serve in the White House be at least 35. The youngest elected president was John F. Kennedy (35) at 43, while the youngest inaugurated president was Teddy Roosevelt (26) aged 42. Roosevelt took office after the assignation of William McKinley (25).

As we know with age comes wisdom. Just shy of his 70th birthday Ronald Reagan (40) was sworn in as our oldest inaugurated president.

As we sit back and take it easy on our day off, let us first share these quick facts with a friend so we can sound intelligent. Then second, and most of all, let us be thankful to those men that bore the weight of the executive branch on their shoulders, and let us all join in a quick hum of Hail to the Chief.

# Two KCC instructors Continued from page 1

sons, there are an instruction examples, guided practices, and opportunities for the students to immediately practice the skill. Unlike a typical math book, where the problems are at the end of the section, the practice problems within each section eliminates the need for students to constantly flip back and forth to review examples.

In addition, "Basic Mathematics" is filled with tools to help students learn effective study skills. Throughout the chapters, there are self-assessment tools that allow students to check either a box that says "got it" or one that says "must study" so students can review what aspects they need to study further. At the end of the chapter, there is another self-assessment that lets the student review their understanding of all of the materials covered.

There are also question logs for students to write their questions to ask their instructor as well as spaces to write things they need help with and a list of potential resources where they might seek additional help.

"A reoccurring theme for us when working on this book is that we wanted it to be like an on-ramp to student success. The book has so much support that struggling students will get the help they need to be successful," said Goetz. This theme be-

came the inspiration for the cover, which shows a traffic on-ramp.

Portions of the book have been used by colleges and universities across the country for five years, including in Goetz's and Smith's classrooms. The feedback helped the authors to make the revisions necessary for students to be successful, resulting in approximately 500 students receiving free classroom materials. Now that the final version is complete and printed, the publisher, Pearson Education, Inc. has donated 80 copies for KCC student use.

Not only was Dr. Tobey a critical asset to the successful publication of "Basic Mathematics," but Goetz and Smith are quick to point out that KCC's Director of Institutional Research, Doris Lewis, also played a critical role.

Lewis, formerly the chair of the Math and Science department at KCC, completed the answer portion of the book including how to develop the answers. Based on her work with the answers, the publisher has contracted with her to complete the instructor's resource manual for the book.

Goetz and Smith will receive a percentage of the net sales of the book, but plan to donate any royalties from purchases by Kellogg Community College students to the KCC Foundation for scholarship use.

**"filled with tools to help students learn effective study skills."**



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## What will become of our students?

William Cook  
Assistant Editor

At length I thought about "Indoctrinate U," the documentary that demonstrates students losing freedom to voice opinion, the intolerance of students, university administrators, and faculty members; this stirred up gut wrenching feelings of nervousness and frustration inside me.

The fact that the film outlines instances when individual opinions are not tolerated and treated with respect is nothing less than aggravating. When thinking about college and higher education certain words and principles come to mind, words like critical thinking, exploring unknowns, and achievement. When an atmosphere of intolerance is prevalent in our universities these principles of education seem to be forgotten.

The type of speech code discrimination outlined in "Indoctrinate U" prevents important topics from being discussed, even in a constructive degree. And it is unfortunate that we see this in our nation's top universities, in the places where our future leaders and pillars are educated. This will affect all of us in some negative way, directly or indirectly.

It is a sad day when students are no longer allowed to express their thoughts. The fact that many students are sanctioned because other students feel harassed or offended by opinions shows that many of our schools are reluctant to teach critical thinking, constructive criticism, and the idea of having an open dialog in our educational facilities.

Students' feeling so harassed by opposing opinions is frightening. What will happen when the school is not around

to defend these vulnerable young minds, to discriminate against controversial viewpoints? It seems apparent to me that many students are often radicalized in this context. And the end result is not conducive with the standards and foundations we expect from higher educational facilities; in most cases we expect our students to leave these institutions cultured, but the reverse is occurring.

We need to encourage an open dialog no matter how touchy the issue is; whether the topic is homosexuality, race issues or race relations, or issues of a political nature. We must not gag opinions or discredit them by discrediting the speaker. This is what we see in American politics now-a-days, republican pundits at democrat's throat, or vice versa. This separates us, adds to the polarization of America, and causes more problems than it solves. Diverse groups not working together

to understand or come to a common consensus, we see them bashing through, attempting to silence the opposition at any opportunity.

Last time I checked freedom of speech was not restricted to "you have the freedom to speak as long as the others agree with you" or "you have the freedom to speak, but sprinkle your statement with sugar and put a cherry on top." But apparently many fellow Americans do not feel the same. At what point can we just say "that is your opinion, this is mine. Let us agree to disagree." Or how about trying to understand and learn from others perspectives, and debating in a civil manner.

It seems many students are moving into a future of real intolerance. When words are just as dangerous as weapons.

"you have the freedom to speak as long as the others agree with you"

## Driving in a winter wonderland

Liz McCord  
Editor-in-Chief

Winter is finally here, so it is time to start preparing your vehicle for winter. It is better to be safe than sorry, and I for one, would rather be over prepared than not.

First off, check out your vehicle. Make sure your battery and charging system are in good working order. Inspect all belts and hoses for signs of wear or cracking, replace any that do not look to be in good condition. If anything is going to go wrong, you can bet it will happen to you in the winter time.

It is also a good idea to change your motor oil to a lighter weight oil, which will make your engine a little easier to turn over during cold weather. If you need an oil change anyway, this is the best time to take care of this.

Make sure that you have four good snow tires on your car. It doesn't matter if your car is front wheel drive or rear, put on four good tires.

Also check your antifreeze; they sell testers in automotive stores. It looks like a rather large eye dropper, you just remove a little of the coolant from your radiator using the tester. There are little balls inside the tester, which will float to different levels inside. This will tell you at what temperature your antifreeze will freeze. If need be, drain some of the coolant from your system and add more antifreeze.

Change your wiper blades to winter wiper blades: these are heavier and can push snow and ice easier. Also make sure that your washer reservoir is full, it is always a good idea to carry a spare gallon of washer fluid in your trunk. It will never fail that you will run out of washer fluid while traveling, not a home in your driveway.

Now it is time to start packing your car for winter driving. Make sure that your spare tire is in good condition and full of air. Also make sure that your jack is in good working order, and that all the parts are where they should be. Here is a list of items that you should be carrying in your trunk for winter emergencies. A small tool kit, with a pair of pliers, a phillips and straight screwdriver, a hammer, a pocket knife and some other small tools. A set of jumper cables, tire chains, a small bag of sand or cat litter (this can be used both for weight in a rear wheel drive car and to

place on a slick roadway to give you more traction), a blanket, some extra clothes, a pair of boots, and some bottled water. Also carry a first aid kit, a flashlight with a set of extra batteries, matches, a small shovel or snow scraper, and something brightly colored that can be used for flagging. A small broom for snow removal and a heavy duty ice scraper should be carried in the front of the car where they will be easy to get at.

Also never let the gas tank in your vehicle fall below 1/2 for winter driving. Not only will a fuller tank of gas give your car more weight, it could also mean the matter of staying a little warmer or freezing to death, if you are caught in a snow storm.

If you absolutely do need to go out in a storm, try not to go alone, take someone else with you. Two people can usually get a car unstuck, when one person can't. Dress warmly, in several layers. Even though it will be warm in the car while you are traveling, if you do end up stuck somewhere, it may get cold very quickly. If you do get stuck, tie the flagging to your car and open the hood. Try to only run the car for 10 minutes per hour, run the heater only when the car is running, to save the battery. Also, if it is dark, use the dome light only when the car is running. Before starting the car, get out and check and make sure the tailpipe is clear. Also be sure to crack your window a bit when the car is idling. You must be very careful of carbon monoxide poisoning.

If it is snowing hard, stay with your car! You may get confused in the storm and not be able to get back to your car. Keep moving around, exercise a bit if need be, this will help you stay warm. Get the extra clothes and the blankets from your trunk, if there is more than one person in the car, huddle together to stay warm. Or even cover yourselves with road maps, newspapers or even the car floor mats.

Of course many people now have cell phones and can make a call if they have problems. But don't forget, cell phones don't always have signals. Or if you can't get in touch with someone to help, it still could take several hours, particularly if the roads are practically impassible.

Remember, taking good care of your vehicle before winter and packing the right supplies could be a matter of live and death. And drive carefully and slowly!

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## KCC FILM CLUB

See some great movies followed by a even better discussions at noon on Fridays in the Davidson Center, Rm 202 — FREE event

**Feb. 19** **Mulholland Drive**  
Rated R  
Running time - 141 min  
Genre: drama

**Mar. 5** **The Soloist**  
Rated PG 13  
Running time - 117 min  
Genre - drama

**Mar. 19** **Iron Jawed Angels**  
Unrated  
Running time - 123 min  
Genre - period piece

**Apr. 16** **Key Largo**  
Unrated  
Running time - 100 min  
Genre - film noir

**Apr. 23** **Good Fellas**  
Rated R  
Running time - 146 min  
Genre - Crime

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College Life

# Cost of a degree

Liz McCord  
Editor-in-Chief

As the price of a college degree continues to rise, there's growing evidence that the cash payoff isn't quite as big as often advertised. The best estimate now is that a college degree is worth about \$300,000 in today's dollars, nowhere near the \$1 million figure that is often quoted.

College graduates earn, on average, about \$20,000 a year more than those who finished their educations at high school. Add that up over a 40-year working life and the total differential is about \$800,000. But since much of that bonus is earned over a period of many years, subtracting out the impact of inflation means that \$800,000 in future dollars is worth only about \$450,000 in today's dollars.

Then, if you subtract out the cost of a college degree — about \$30,000 in tuition and books for students who get no aid and attend public in-state universities, and the money a student could have earned at a job instead of attending

school—the real net value in today's dollars is about \$300,000.

Even so, a college degree is one of the most lucrative investments a person can make.

Better yet, college graduates can go on to earn advanced degrees, which return even bigger payoffs. The average holder of a bachelor's degree earns about \$51,000 a year, but those who've gone on to earn MBAs, law degrees, or other professional degrees earn about \$100,000 a year.

The college experience can be a trying and expensive experience for some, but the benefits of higher education pay off in spades throughout the rest of your life. The rewards go beyond the financial. Graduates can expect a drastic improvement in demeanor, self worth and financial stability. The introduction of diverse cultural backgrounds, the potential future networking relationships formed and the opportunity to discover knowledge from intellectuals in your field of choice, all have an upside that is far outweighed by the cost and time that higher learning requires.

# The Hallmark holiday

Paige Gordeneer  
Staff Writer

When most people think of Valentine's Day they think candy, chocolate, hearts, flowers, etc. Gag me.

Valentine's Day has become one of the world's biggest holiday scams ever, an even a bigger one than Christmas. People think there has to be a day set aside to spend money on flowers and candy, when in actuality, you should be able to spend money on your significant other whenever you feel the need to.

There shouldn't be one day of the year dedicated to making your significant other feel special. They should get to feel like they are the world to you every day of their life with you. Why can you only love your special someone on one day of the year?

What's most irritating about this particular "holiday" is the fact that everyone has forgotten what it is actually about.

Valentine's Day exists to celebrate St. Valentine, a man who was martyred for believing in his religion and refusing to change his mind. He was persecuted and interrogated on Feb.14. How do you get flowers and romance from that?

Feb.14 was meant to be a day to celebrate St. Valentine through feasting and festivals. The flowery romance and candies didn't come around until Geoffrey Chaucer came into play. Chaucer ruined the celebration with his tales of love and romance.

Not that I have anything against Chaucer. I think he is a brilliant writer and I love "The Canterbury Tales" but he destroyed the actual meaning of Valentine's Day. Chaucer invented his tales of romance and linked them to the same date as the martyrdom of St. Valentine.

Today, Valentine's Day is a silly holiday perpetuated by society to get people to spend massive amounts of money in a few days on that special someone. It isn't a real holiday. It's a hoax.

## Spring Session Library Hours

Monday - Thursday	7:45 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday	7:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## Jazz for valentine's day

Zachary Bush  
Staff Writer

Kellogg Community College's Jazz Ensemble and Olivet College's Jazz Ensemble presented a cabaret-style concert, called "Jazz for Valentine's Day," on Feb. 5 in the Student Center.

Jazz lovers had the opportunity to listen to classic tunes by Count Basie,

Glen Miller, Les Brown, and more while sitting comfortably at clothed tables with refreshments. In addition, there was space available for dancing while both bands treated guests to a variety of jazz pieces. "We wanted to create an atmosphere where people could enjoy listening or get up and spin around the dance floor," said KCC's Instrumental Music Instructor, Dan Alt.



DU students: Shontea, Matt, Elona, Donna, Alyssa and Mike.

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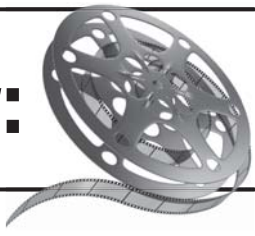
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## Movie Review:



# A Ray of Sunshine

Paige Gordeneer  
Bruin Staff

The movie "Sunshine Cleaning" flew way under the radar for most people.

Directed by Christine Jeffs, Meagan Holley's story of the Lorkowski family and their trials and tribulations is a charming and quirky film with its fair share of ups and downs and funny moments.

"Sunshine Cleaning" tells the story of Rose Lorkowski, played by Amy Adams, and her sister Norah, played by Emily Blunt. Rose is in the cleaning business when her cop boyfriend suggests starting a biohazard cleaning business to clean up crime scenes.

Rose discovers the amount of money she can make doing this and realizes how much she actually needs it. Her son has recently been kicked out of public school so she must send him to a private school.

Rose asks her unemployed sister Norah to join her and their strange journey begins. They learn the rules of

the business together and start to earn a name for themselves.

The Lorkowski sisters get a new start and build their relationship together and slowly discover who they really are and what matters most.

Just when things are looking great, Norah does something to push Rose away, and ruin their lives one more time, like she always does.

Eventually Rose and Norah discover that it isn't about what you do or how it turns out, but that it matters who you do it with.

The DVD features a writer's commentary and an interview with two women who really are in the biohazard cleaning business, "Sunshine Cleaning: a fresh look at a dirty business," which happens to be almost as entertaining as the film itself. The interview covers their horror stories and what these two women had to go through to become biohazard cleaners.

Overall "Sunshine Cleaning" was a very rent-worthy movie. Everyone should at least see it once.

## "Indoctrinate U"

William Cook  
Assistant Editor

This movie is a hard-hitting documentary about contemporary American higher-education establishments or facilities restricting and manipulating our freedom of speech amendment rights. This film takes you into the contemporary American university and demonstrates the practice of discriminating intellectual freedom. The documentary was directed by Evan Coyne Maloney. Who has since made appearances on television pundit programs such as Lou Dobbs. The documentary also aired several times on the Documentary Channel.

"Indoctrinate U" addresses the rise of polarization in America, and uncovers the ways that it damages our dialog in contemporary universities. The documentary covers a broad array of injustices from students being sanctioned for expressing themselves in an opinionated but civil manner to professors being canned for political partisanship. The film also covers the practice of speech codes in university policy, and how these speech codes are used in a way to benefit the social norms and/or political preferences of the university rather than encouraging higher learning and open dialog in all issues. Over the length of this film it is made abundantly clear that these speech codes are always open to interpretation by the university, drawing no lines and always subject to change.

This film was very fun in a rebel sort of way. Maloney travels to some of the most well known universities in the country, such as: Columbia, Vanderbilt, and Berkeley. Oh, and yes even our very own Michigan State University and University of Michigan. Throughout the film Maloney goes to the offices of college bigwigs

to ask the tough questions, at which point they usually ask him to leave. And when Maloney does leave he usually finds the campus police waiting for him.

Although this documentary seems to have an agenda, it still raises points which seem to be overlooked in the world of academia. I would definitely recommend this film.

# Groundhog Day

Kenny Clevenger  
Staff Writer

Once a year people don't look to their local weatherman for their predictions but instead listen to a small woodland creature. The day is February second and the animal is Phil Punxsutawney the groundhog. The legend states that it is on this day when the groundhog comes out of his hole after hibernating all winter to look for his shadow. If he sees his shadow, we expect another six more weeks of winter and if he does not, winter is over and spring has begun.

This method of prediction of the weather owes its origin to early Christian Europeans who celebrated Candlemas. On Candlemas Day clergy bless candles and distribute them to people, commemorating the Purification of the Virgin Mary. They would determine if winter was over depending on the weather of Candlemas.

This tradition supposedly was brought to Germany by the Roman legions. The Germans adapted this holiday and concluded that if the sun made an appearance on Candlemas Day, a hedgehog would cast a shadow, predicting six more weeks of bad weather.

The tradition was first practiced in the United States in Pennsylvania dur-

ing the late 1800s. The first settlers in Pennsylvania were Germans who found groundhogs in abundance and thought they resembled the European hedgehogs. They thought groundhogs were the most reasonable and intelligent animal and decided that every February second, the animal would appear from his hole to determine the coming seasonal change.

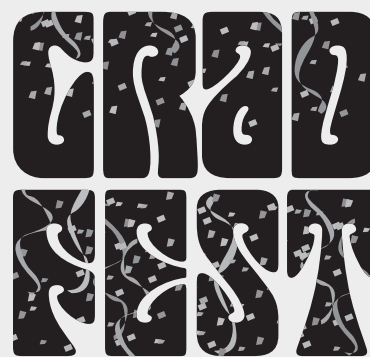
In 1887, Punxsutawney developed the "Punxsutawney Groundhog Club" and Punxsutawney was declared the weather capital of the world.

Since then, the tradition has become much more popular and gained public attention. Phil has done everything from starring in a movie "Groundhog Day," starring Bill Murray to meeting President Ronald Reagan to appearing on the Oprah Winfrey show.

Phil's yearly Groundhog Day predictions are even entered into the Congressional Record.

The early observances of Punxsutawney Phil took place in private in wooded areas that are near the town, but now tens of thousands of visitors from all over the world come to watch Phil's debut, as he has become a recognizable celebrity throughout the country.

Let's all cross our fingers and hope that Phil concludes that this winter is over!



Battle Creek Campus  
February 8-11 Mini Café 5:30-7:30 pm  
16-17 Bruin Café 11 am-1 pm

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# Super bowl

**Kenny Clevenger**  
Staff Writer

Bags of chips, beer (ID REQUIRED), chili, friends, couches, jerseys, face paint, footballs, add lots of cheering and subtract the Lions. Another year, another Super bowl. Since the merger of the National Football League and the American Football League in 1966, this football game has become a defacto holiday in America. It has evolved into more than a sporting event.

When the game takes a break at half-time, for some, the real show begins. It's all eyes on center stage where entertainers like Janet Jackson, Paul McCartney, The Rolling Stones and Tom Petty have all graced the stage for the halftime show, some more memorable than others. Some even changed the rules. This year, fans can look forward to the 1970's classic rock band, The Who to rock the stadium.

For others the fun comes at the break in action. The Super bowl has become the largest television broadcast in America. Due to this huge viewing audience, companies invest millions in advertising and save their best commercials for the Super bowl. A 30 second commercial advertisement during the game is about \$3 million.

Did I mention chips? Chili? Soda? Pizza? Super bowl Sunday has become the second largest day of food consumption, just behind Thanksgiving day. Supermarkets are slammed pack with shoppers all week preparing for that Super bowl party.

And if all that doesn't get you, how about the game itself?

So Super bowl Sunday sit back, relax, get some chips and dip and whatever it is that brings you to the game, be proud to be part of the great tradition that is American Football and the Super bowl.

# NBA vs. Lady Bruins

**Ray Yager**  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 19, the NBA is facing off against the Lady Bruins right here at KCC.

That is the Noontime Basketball Association, a conglomeration of KCC alumni and staff, who have been getting together for 36 years for pick-up games. These gentlemen meet three times a week at noon for their games in the KCC gym.

Some of the members include: Athletic Director Tom Shaw, also known as "Out of Shape" by his teammates. Shaw joked, "After 36 years we (NBA) are finally worthy of playing the Lady Bruins."

The guys are having a good time preparing for the matchup with the Lady Bruins by using creativity to assign a nickname to each player as well as their ages representing their uniform numbers.

Each member has been given a nickname as well as title of middle age, senior citizen, and even a "piaper Dandy."

The Lady Bruins don't seem to be intimidated by the NBA's experience as guard Marisa Hamilton was quoted saying "We are gonna win, period."

The game is shaping up to be a lot of fun for both teams competing as well as all who come out to support the event.

 **KELLOGG COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**2010**  
**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
FEB 6	Sienna Heights College JV	(A)	3:00 pm
10	<b>KALAMAZOO VALLEY COM. COLLEGE</b>	(H)	<b>5:30 PM</b>
12	*Grand Rapids Community College	(A)	5:30 pm
20	*Glen Oaks Community College	(A)	1:00 pm
22	*Ancilla College	(A)	5:30 pm
24	<b>*MUSKEGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE</b>	(H)	<b>5:30 PM</b>
27	MCCAA State Tournament	TBA	TBA
MAR 5-6	Region XII Tournament, Donaldson IN	(A)	TBA

HEAD COACH: **KYLE KLINGAMAN** \*Indicates league games

 **KELLOGG COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**2010**  
**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
FEB 8	<b>*JACKSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE</b>	(H)	<b>7:00 PM</b>
10	<b>KALAMAZOO VALLEY COM. COLLEGE</b>	(H)	<b>7:30 PM</b>
12	*Grand Rapids Community College	(A)	7:30 pm
20	*Glen Oaks Community College	(A)	3:00 pm
22	*Ancilla College	(A)	7:30 pm
24	<b>*MUSKEGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE</b>	(H)	<b>7:30 PM</b>
27	MCCAA State Tournament	TBA	TBA
MAR 5-6	Region XII Tournament, Flint, MI	(A)	TBA

HEAD COACH: **MELVIN MCKNIGHT** \*Indicates league games

## BRUIN BEAT

### FEBRUARY

**Feb-Apr 1 Art Exhibit: KCC Documentary Photography Project**  
Davidson Gallery • 8 am-4:30 pm, Monday-Thursday

**6 KCC Women's Basketball at Sienna Heights College JV**  
Adrian, MI • 3 pm

**8-11 GradFest Info Table by the Mini Café**

**8-11 Human Services Club: Valentine's Photos**  
Student Center • 11 am-1 pm

**8, 9 KAB: Trivia Table for "The Soloist"**  
Student Center • 11 am-1 pm

**8, 9 KAB: Valentine's Day Fundraiser**  
Student Center • 11 am-1 pm

**8 KCC Men's Basketball vs. Jackson CC**  
Miller Gym • 7:00 pm

**9 Academic Workshop: Student Success**  
Spring Lake Room (LRC) • 10-11 am

**10 Academic Workshop: Cover Letters**  
O-104 • 1-2 pm

**10 KCC Women's Basketball vs. KVCC**  
Miller Gym • 5:30 pm

**10 KCC Men's Basketball vs. KVCC**  
Miller Gym • 7:30pm

**10 Black History Month: Jackson Idol**  
Student Center • 11 am-1 pm

**11 Spectrum: General Meeting**  
O-102 • 1 pm

**11 [TNTV] KAB: Valentine's Movie Night**  
TBD • 9:30 pm

**12 KCC Women's Basketball at Grand Rapids CC**  
Grand Rapids, MI • 5:30 pm

**12 KCC Men's Basketball at Grand Rapids CC**  
Grand Rapids, MI • 7:30 pm

**13 Faculty/Student Exhibition**  
Binda Performing Arts Center • 4-6 pm

**14 College Goal Sunday**  
Student Center • 1-4 pm

**16, 17 GradFest**  
Student Center • 11 am-1 pm

**16 Academic Workshop: Help Desk**  
O-08 • 2-3 pm

**17 Psi Beta: Mental Health Forum – Domestic Violence**  
Binda Performing Arts Center • 10-11:30 am

**17 KAB: General Meeting**  
Student Center • 12 noon

**17 Phi Theta Kappa: Officer Meeting**  
O-102 • 1 pm

**18 Spectrum: General Meeting**  
O-102 • 1 pm

**19 Film Club: "Mulholland Drive" FREE movie!**  
D-202 • 12 noon

**20 KCC Women's Basketball at Glen Oaks CC**  
Centerville, MI • 1pm

**20 KCC Men's Basketball at Glen Oaks CC**  
Centerville, MI • 3 pm

**22 KCC Women's Basketball at Ancilla College**  
Donaldson, IN • 7 pm

**22 KCC Men's Basketball at Ancilla College**  
Donaldson, IN • 7:30 pm

**23 Academic Workshop: Study Tips & Strategies**  
Spring Lake Room (LRC) • 10-11 am

**24 Black History Month: Soul Food Lunch featuring Walkin' Cane**  
Student Center • 11am-1pm

**24 KCC Women's Basketball at Muskegon CC**  
Muskegon, MI • 5:30 pm

**24 KCC Men's Basketball vs. Muskegon CC**  
Miller Gym • 7:30 pm

**24 Spectrum: Movie Night "TransAmerica"**  
D-202 • 7 pm

**25 Spectrum: General Meeting**  
O-102 • 1 pm

**27 Women's Baskball MCCAA state tournament**  
Location TBA • Time TBA

**27 Men's Basketball MCCAA state tournament**  
Location TBA • Time TBA

**27 Bruins Give Back: Habitat for Humanity**  
Battle Creek, MI • 9 am-12 noon and 1-4 pm

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The KCC Bruin is a free student publication produced monthly by Kellogg Community College students during the fall and spring semesters. The KCC Bruin welcomes letters to the editor from members of the College and the community. Letters must be signed and submitted with a current telephone number or email address. All letters become property of the Bruin and may be edited for clarity and length. By-lined opinion columns represent the opinion of the writer and do not necessarily represent the views of the Bruin staff or the College. Letters may be submitted by mail to: KCC Bruin student newspaper, c/o Kellogg Community College, 450 North Ave., Battle Creek, Mich. 49017. Letters may also be submitted at all three KCC sites. At the Battle Creek site, letters may be dropped off in the English Department on the main floor of the C Building; the College Life Office in the Student Center; or the student newspaper office. At the Grahl and Fehsenfeld Centers, letters may be submitted at the information desks. The Bruin office is located in room 302 of the Roll Building. The staff can be reached at (269) 965-3931, Ext. 2630 or e-mail the Bruin editor at bruin@kellogg.edu



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