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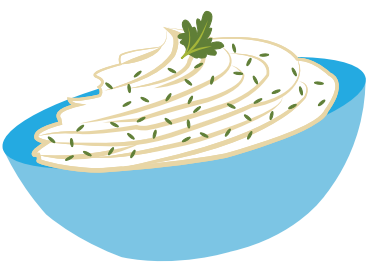
NEWS: Local Artist of the Month: Danny R.W. Baskin



SPORTS: EMU's new basket- ball court honors re- cord-holding leader



REVIEW: 'Snow Angel (Deluxe)' is one to keep on repeat



Domestic, sexual violence top EMU's annual crime report

AARON HUGHES
MANAGING EDITOR

Eastern Michigan University in 2022 reported 40 crimes of domestic violence, 28 cases of rape, and 16 cases of stalking in a federally required Annual Security and Fire Safety Report.

The numbers of crimes are higher than in the previous two years. The current report also indicates higher rates of crime compared to other universities within the Mid-American Conference, which includes universities in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Toledo, Ohio, and Buffalo, New York. Compared to other universities in the conference, Eastern had the highest number of aggravated assault cases on campus, the highest number of domestic violence reports, the second highest number of rape cases both on and off campus, and third highest numbers in both stalking and fondling.

Matthew Lige, the university's Department of Safety chief, said despite those numbers the campus is safe.

"Our numbers are increasing because our students are engaged with our offices," Lige said. "And I believe that there is a level of empowerment to take a stand against the things that they know are wrong."

The annual report is required by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistic Act, which mandates that all federally funded universities provide members of the university community information on various offenses, crimes, policies, and procedures. EMU leaders said increased reporting and education are just

one of the contextual issues behind the data. Others include the reporting of cases from previous years, disturbances stemming from relationship issues, and the impact of the pandemic on activity on campus and student interaction.

"The majority of the cases represented in the ASR [crime report] are not criminal cases involving strangers and I think that is an important distinction," Lige said. "These are situations where acquaintances have had an uncomfortable physical encounter or an uncomfortable, intimate encounter, or they know each other. At some point, there was an issue over consent and then a report was filed."

Walter Kraft, the university's vice president of communications, said the university is committed to student safety.

"Student safety and student emotional well-being is the university's number one priority above all else," Kraft said. "The cameras we have on campus, the resources dedicated to Title IX, the effort to make sure people know that they can report and feel comfortable reporting. There is nothing more important to this administration and this university than making students know that they are safe and protecting them emotionally and physically."

Echoing the chief's statements, Kraft also said the numbers in the report could be misleading.

"What you are hearing here and what we would all say is, this is a very, very safe campus," Kraft said. "These are not people coming externally off campus and assaulting our students. These are relationship-type issues, acquaintances that somewhere the

communication was not all there. So, if there was somebody coming off campus and doing things like that, we would be able to spot it and track it and make contact with that person."

Matthew Gregory, the coordinator of EMU's Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Office, confirmed that a number of the cases reported for 2022 happened in earlier years.

"Keep in mind that when we get a report, not all the time is that report from that year. So, something could be reported to us that happened several years ago, several semesters ago. And we have to look into everything if the person reporting it wants us to look into it," Gregory said. "So, a lot of times what I have seen since I have been here in February, is more and more students are coming to let us know about things that happened when they were in high school, things that happened when they first started and did not feel comfortable approaching it or talking about what happened to them. And then also not knowing that they can come back at any time and still get some support."

Christine Watson, executive director of SafeHouse Center in Ann Arbor, said she was not surprised by the university's security report. SafeHouse provides free services for survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault.

"Unfortunately, those numbers are probably actually a little bit higher, because we still continue to see how domestic violence and especially sexual assault cases are under-reported on campuses," Watson said. "So that is my first reaction, is that those are high numbers, but they are probably not even

fully representative. The second thought is obviously that it is very sad that we continue to see this high level of violence happening on our campuses, in our communities."

Watson, agreeing with Gregory, also said many sexual assault survivors tend to report late.

"We tend to see it more for the sexual assault situations versus domestic violence," Watson said. "Domestic violence I would say typically ... it will be a delayed report in terms of maybe a couple of days or something like that. But we do tend to see that happening more as the situation is unfolding and the survivor is going through the actual abuse. For sexual assault there is usually a longer delay in reporting because of a variety of reasons: People do not feel safe; they do not think they are going to leave; they have had other people go through the process and did not like what they saw or how that felt."

Survivors of violent crimes also do not always report directly to the university's Department of Public Safety. In some cases, the reports are given to what the university, under the Clery Act, defines as campus security authorities, also known as CSAs. The Clery Act requires that anyone considered a campus security authority must report Clery-defined crimes. CSAs typically include officials with significant responsibility for campus activities. However, who exactly is a CSA can change from campus to campus. For example, Kent State University, also a member of the Mid-American Conference, does not require dining staff and maintenance employees to report Clery-related incidents.

Continued on Page 3

Ypsilanti Tenants Union hosts workshop to educate residents

AMEERA SALMAN
CELLAR ROOTS EIC

In an effort to inform Ypsilanti renters, the Ypsilanti Tenants Union hosted a Tenant Organizing 101 workshop on Sunday, Nov. 12.



PHOTO CREDIT: MADISON
CANTRELL

A MEMBER OF THE MCKINLEY TENANTS ASSOCIATION SPEAKS TO ATTENDEES ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION'S EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RENTING CONDITIONS.

The workshop, held at the Ypsilanti Farmers Marketplace Hall, welcomed residents on Sunday afternoon with information packets and a presentation to

start the session off.

The Ypsilanti Tenants Union is an organization that exists to organize tenants, helping them create their own tenant associations and fight for material improvement in living conditions.

Founded on the guiding principles of class solidarity, collective action, and mutual aid, the Ypsilanti Tenants Union serves as a resource and network of Tenant Associations.

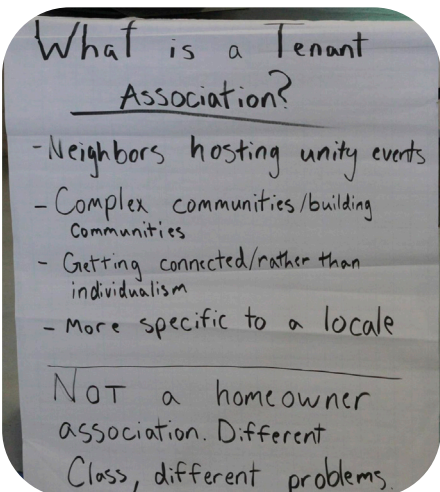
The workshop featured an interactive discussion on what a tenant association is; there were a variety of ways to describe the concept.

A tenant association, as defined by the union, is "a group of tenants living in the same building or development who choose to join forces in order to advocate for themselves, particularly when dealing with their landlord or management."

Residents attending the workshop learned what they could do in a tenant association, including building relationships with neighbors, sharing resources, and advocating needs to landlords.

"Sometimes it's easier to know your neighbors if you live in a complex, but sometimes houses are scattered everywhere and it feels very isolating," said Em, a member of the Ypsilanti Tenants Union. "I think it's really important that those people who are feeling isolated know that they're not facing different problems than other people."

The McKinley Tenants Association, local to the Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor area, cited issues including mold, mice, mildew, and flooded basements and laundry rooms, along with rising rent prices.



PAGE WITH IDEAS COLLECTED FROM PARTICIPANTS AT THE YPSILANTI TENANTS UNION "TENANT ORGANIZING 101" WORKSHOP ON THE QUESTION "WHAT IS A TENANT ASSOCIATION?"

New court unveiled for former EMU basketball coach

AMEERA SALMAN
CELLAR ROOTS EIC

On Sat., Nov. 18, Eastern Michigan University made public a court dedication to former basketball coach, Ben Braun.



THE JUMBOTRON DURING THE UNVEILING EVENT.

The "Ben Braun Court" display is featured on the basketball court in the EMU George Gervin GameAbove Center in Ypsilanti, Mich.

Braun coached at the university for 11 seasons (1986-96), leading the Eagles to three MAC titles and four postseason opportunities, including three NCAA appearances. He brought in 185 wins as a coach with the men's basketball program, the most for any coach in its history.

"I am greatly honored for the recognition of having my name on the basketball court at Eastern Michigan University," Braun said.

Braun coached 24 players throughout his career who were drafted or went on to play in the NBA. He is also on a short list for NCAA coaches with a large number of former assistants and players advance professionally to become head coaches

According to EMU Athletics, a fundraising campaign in honor of Braun surpassed its goal, raising over \$250,000.

"I hope we can continue building the athletic tradition

we have established not only in basketball but in all sports at Eastern Michigan University," Braun said.



PHOTO CREDIT: MADISON CANTRELL
BEN BRAUN WITH FAMILY AND ONLOOKERS AS HIS NAME ON CENTER COURT IS UNVEILED BEFORE MEN'S BASKETBALL GAME ON NOV. 18.



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Whats the move? Nov. 20 - 26

KASEY DESCHLER
ART DIRECTOR

Get a head start on your Thanksgiving Recess with these events throughout the week!

Transgender Day of Remembrance - Nov. 20

The LGBT Resource Center is honoring National Transgender Day of Remembrance with a vigil to remember those who have lost their lives to anti-trans violence. It will be hosted at the EMU Lake House from 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Ypsilanti Bicentennial Time Capsule Burial - Nov. 20

Months after the opening of the previous capsule, The Ypsilanti Bicentennial commission is burying a new time capsule at the base of the Ypsilanti Water Tower. It will begin promptly at 4 p.m. at the Water Tower and will allow time for community members to share what they love about Ypsilanti or what they are thankful for.

Riverside Art Center Fine Arts Club - Nov. 20

Twice a month, Riverside hosts a space for local artists to showcase their work, talk about their process and sell pieces. Attendees are not required to present pieces and the event is open to artists, art lovers, collectors and community members. If you would like to share your work, arrive and sign up by 6 p.m., doors open at 5 p.m. and the event ends around 8 p.m.

Fall Pop Up - Nov. 21

Campus Life is hosting a postcard making, video games, wax stamping, and board games event on the first floor of the student center. This event is free and will be from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

EMU Trumpet Studio Recital - Nov. 21

A recital featuring EMU studio trumpet solo and trumpet ensemble pieces at Pease Auditorium from 7 p.m - 9 p.m.

Black Friday Comedy Show - Nov. 24

Ypsilanti native Christian Royce will be coming home to give the community a night of laughter. Hosted at the Dreamland Theater, the show starts at 9 p.m. to 11 p.m and tickets are \$10.

Chris Canas Band Live - Nov. 25

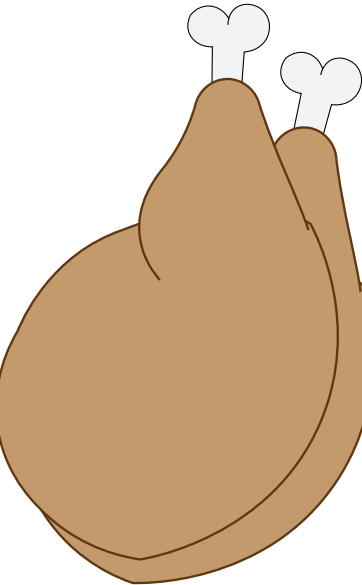
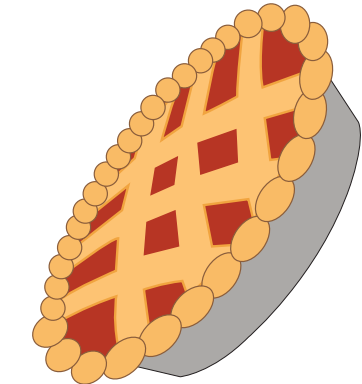
Multi-instrumentalist, songwriter, producer, and Detroit's Prince Of Blues will be in Ypsilanti for a night of blues, funk, and soul music. The concert will be hosted at Mosh in depot town starting at 8 p.m.

Ypsilanti Artisan Holiday Market - Nov. 25 - 26

Shop from over 40 local crafters, artisans, and food vendors at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse from 11 p.m. - 4 p.m. Support crafters and makers of all kinds by taking home jewelry, self care products, specialty tea and more.

Depot Town Tree Lighting Celebration - Nov. 26

Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the Ypsilanti Youth Choir welcome community members to join them to watch the lighting of the Depot Town Christmas tree. Unicorn rides, a petting farm, cider and cookies will be available at this free event that begins at 5 p.m. in depot town.



EMU student among four to receive John A. Muter Memorial Scholarship

NAJAT HACHEMI
NEWS REPORTER

Kyle Martin, a senior student at Eastern Michigan University majoring in environmental science with a minor in zoology and biology, has recently received the John A. Muter Memorial Scholarship from the Muter Outdoor Fund. Martin is one out of four college students to be awarded the scholarship.

The John A. Muter Memorial Scholarship was established to honor the late John Muter. Muter passed away after a long fight with cancer in 2016. He loved his outdoor experiences with friends and family, often taking curious learners under his wing to spread his knowledge on the Great Lakes State.

"The Muter Outdoor Fund is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization established to provide scholarships, grants, and programs that promote outdoor recreation and celebrate Michigan's natural resources and rich outdoor heritage," Bret Muter, president of the Muter Outer Fund said. "Funding to support the John A. Muter Memorial Scholarship comes from generous donors and supporters of the Muter Outdoor Fund.

The scholarship is awarded to undergraduate college sophomores and juniors who demonstrate a commitment to engaging new generations and audiences with Michigan's natural resources and rich outdoor heritage.

"When the organization first launched, most of those donors were friends, family members, and others who knew John and wanted to honor his passion for the

outdoors," Bret Muter said. "Today, however, many of our supporters are individuals or organizations who did not know John, but have come to appreciate and support the Muter Outdoor Fund's mission of engaging new audiences and new generations with the outdoors in Michigan."

Three to six scholarships are awarded each year, with four being awarded in 2023. The Muter Outdoor Fund has awarded \$22,500 in scholarships to 24 Michigan students since 2018.

Winners are selected based on their passion for Michigan and its outdoor opportunities as well as their demonstrated commitment to introducing others to those

opportunities.

Martin developed the EMU Chapter of the Sierra Club with five other undergraduates. The club takes on environmental issues on campus, advocates for local sustainability initiatives, and hosts events to encourage appreciation for the outdoors. Martin is currently investigating the breeding ecology of wood frogs and several species of salamanders for his honors thesis. In addition, he's completed internships with the Huron River Watershed Council and Michigan Sea Grant. Kyle intends to attend graduate school to continue his studies in ecology, evolution and organismal biology.

"He [Kyle] is not only clearly committed



PHOTO CREDIT: KYLE MARTIN

to pursuing a career in a natural resources-related field, but is actively working to enhance environmental understanding and appreciation within the EMU community and beyond," Muter said. "It's clear to us that Kyle is and will continue to be a leader and advocate on behalf of Michigan's natural resources and outdoor recreational opportunities."

Martin couldn't have been more honored to be one of the John A. Muter Memorial Scholarship's recipients.

"I'm beyond honored to be a recipient of the 2023 John A. Muter Memorial Scholarship, and the news meant a lot to the rest of my family and me," Martin said. "The competition among students is high for this prestigious scholarship, so it is an honor to have been selected and become the first Eastern Michigan University student to win it."

The Muter Outdoor Fund expects to award several \$1,000 scholarships in 2024. The application deadline is Tuesday, April 30 at 5 p.m.

"There is a disproportionate number of young black and brown people in outdoor recreation," Martin said. "So I firmly believe that organizations such as the Muter Outdoor Fund and support from people like Mr. Bret A. Muter can be the first step to eliminating the stigma surrounding students of color in nature and creating further access for everyone in Michigan's great outdoors."

The 2024 application cycle for the John A. Muter Memorial scholarship is now open. To learn more information about the Muter Outdoor Fund and its scholarship, visit their website.

EMU associate professor selected to serve with Financial Management Association

NAOMI BARBOUR
NEWS REPORTER

Eastern Michigan University's assistant vice president of academic budgeting and operations and associate professor of finance, Dr. Karen Craig, has been appointed as the chair of the student chapters committee for the Financial Management Association (FMA) International organization. She will assume a three-year term and oversee, direct, and supervise FMA's student programs and the National Honor Society.

This organization was established in 1970 and develops and disseminates knowledge about financial decision-making. According to the FMA, it broadens common interests between academics and professionals, gives opportunities for professional networking, promotes the development and basic understanding of financial practices, and enhances education in finance.

"I am thrilled to be selected as the FMA's

student chapter committee chair," said Dr. Craig. "My years of serving as the FMA EMU chapter advisor have allowed me to work closely with our incredible finance students, extending their professional development and financial learning beyond the classroom."

Craig's expertise in student development and teaching financial success is an example of what her talents have led to. During her three-year term, she will provide resources to student members to help with professional and personal development while supporting them with networking opportunities. Previously, Dr. Craig worked for over 15 years in the nuclear industry before entering academics where she gained her extensive corporate experience to strengthen her teaching in the classroom.

Being the FMA's EMU advisor, a member of their Board of Directors, and working on the Student Chapter Committee for a few years gave her experience and a foundation to be selected for this position.

"To see our EMU students develop and succeed as working professionals is personally rewarding," Craig said. "To take on a greater role with FMA as the student chapter committee chair means I can continue to give back to the over 3,000 FMA student members through FMA's global chapters."

For financial leaders at EMU, FMA is hosting the 2024 Finance Leaders' Conference at Baruch College in New York, NY, the only international conference for undergraduate and MBA students to address their needs and concerns about finance careers.



PHOTO CREDIT: EMU

Ypsilanti City Council approves purchase of \$3.7 million building for Department of Public Services

AMEERA SALMAN
CELLAR ROOTS EIC

At a special meeting on Nov. 9, the Ypsilanti City Council approved a resolution to purchase a \$3.7 million building to replace the failing Department of Public Services (DPS) facility.

DPS laid out a proposal, given at the Nov. 9 meeting, detailing the goals of the department and the need for a new facility. Some goals included retaining and attracting staff and investing in infrastructure.

With 27 employees, DPS makes up over 20% of all city employees. The department provides the city with routine maintenance services and disaster response, including trash pickup, snow removal, and more.

The current DPS facilities, located at 14 W. Forest Ave., spans 2.4 acres and has buildings dating back to the 19th century.

Immediate structural issues were cited in the presentation including severe deficiency in the roof structure of the main building, significantly uneven concrete flooring, and coal dust embedded in walls.

Other problems were also outlined in the proposal, emphasizing the department's request to city council for next steps to be taken.

The next steps included the possibilities of building a new facility, renovating the existing facility, or relocating to a new facility.

Weighing the pros and cons of the given options, city council member Desirae Simmons wanted to do her best to serve the people most affected by the situation.

"Understanding that our DPS workers both are a significant part of our workforce, as well as they both have some of our longest-serving staff, as well as our newest staff, as well as being one of our most diverse departments, so I was thinking about all of that ... as an employer," Simmons said.

Simmons voted in favor of the new building proposed by the department after learning repairs to the current DPS facility were likely to be delayed.

"I think the totality of all the different issues started to add up," Simmons said.

A resolution to allocate the money from reserves in order to purchase the building was passed. There will be an estimated construction cost of \$2.75 million and a transition time of one to three months.

Ypsilanti Community School district to receive \$42.2 million to pay off debt

ERIN FLYNN
NEWS EDITOR

A \$114 million plan will pay off the debt of the Ypsilanti Community School (YCS) district as part of the \$615 million spending bill, House Bill 4292, passed by Michigan lawmakers.

After the State House's approval on Nov. 2 and a signature from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, the YCS school district will have its remaining debt and outstanding school bond loan fund balances paid off after receiving \$42.2 million of the total \$114 million in funding.

Supporters of the debt forgiveness say it will pave the way for struggling school districts to have better opportunities.

"This will give the district a lot of financial relief to finally be able to put more money into the classrooms, as well as pay the teachers and supporting staff more," Rep. Jimmie Wilson (D-Ypsilanti) said.

Michigan's Treasury Department will be directed to pay up to \$19.3 million for the former Willow Run Community Schools, which merged with Ypsilanti in 2013. This

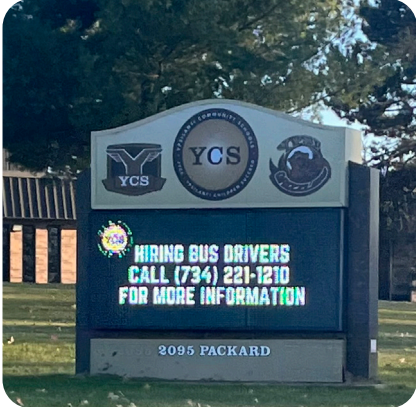


PHOTO CREDIT: JESSICA TURNER

A SIGN OUTSIDE YPSILANTI STEMM MIDDLE COLLEGE.

will aid in paying off the district's outstanding school bond loan fund balances.

In addition, \$17.3 million will be given to YCS that will grant them the option to either retire debt of the former Willow Run Community Schools, or for student improvement initiatives.

Ypsilanti Community Schools will receive up to \$5.5 million to pay outstanding tax debt held by the Michigan Finance Authority.

This debt had a great impact on the YCS school district, and has for years.

"Every year off the top of their operating budget, they [YCS] had to spend 2 million dollars on debt," Wilson said. "This greatly affected the district the past ten years since the school districts consolidated. They had to take out multiple loans from the Department of Treasury to pay the bonds in a school district where home values have greatly depreciated."

Other districts included in the debt

forgiveness are Benton Harbor, Inkster, Muskegon Heights and Pontiac.

Benton Harbor will receive up to \$10.02 million for Benton Harbor Area Schools to pay outstanding emergency loan balance. The former Inkster School District, which the state dissolved in 2013 to pay outstanding school bond loan fund balances, will receive up to \$12.1 million. Muskegon Heights School District will receive up to \$31.3 million, and Pontiac up to \$18.3 to pay their outstanding emergency loan balance.

"Eradicating this debt is the final step in making our schools, once again, a world-class education system," Rep. Brenda Carter (D-Pontiac) said in a written statement.

In order to receive this funding, YCS, along with the other four school districts, must offer strategic plans with school board training programs, and partner with local school districts to implement policies that increase attendance and graduation rates for all students.



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Local Artist of the Month: Danny R.W. Baskin

MADISON CANTRELL
LEAD PHOTOGRAPHER

Danny R.W. Baskin is settling into his office space and role as the new Gallery Program Director at Eastern Michigan University.

EMU welcomed Baskin onto the staff this fall. He now oversees EMU's University Gallery, located in the Student Center, and Ford Gallery, located in Ford Hall, and their monthly rotating exhibitions. The gallery exhibitions range from visiting artists to MFA thesis and capstone shows, and more.

Additionally, he handles the university's permanent art collection, largely housed in Ford Hall. This includes the majority of the art that can be seen around campus. Next semester, he plans to begin re-cataloging the collection with the help of a student.

"I wanted to get back into a more educational-facing position," Baskin said.

Baskin appreciates EMU's focus on community and looks forward to continuing to work with his colleagues and students on important projects.

Baskin moved to the area from the Ozark Mountains

of Arkansas.

In the past, Baskin has been employed at museums such as Crystal Bridges and 21c Museum Hotel, and galleries such as Feast Gallery, a gallery he and his spouse started together. As a result of Feast Gallery, numerous career opportunities opened up for him.

As an artist, he is currently based in furniture and woodwork. He prides himself on being conscious of the materials he uses, so he buys his wood locally. In his work, he draws inspiration from historic furniture design, Judaica or Jewish ceremonial art, and more.

Pre-pandemic, he was based in sculpture and fabric, creating installations where he would build fabric sculptures, a table, and prepare meals. As part of the show, he invited attendees to gather and have a meal together. During the pandemic, as his interactive shows were canceled, he shifted to furniture and woodworking, restoring antique furniture, building on commission, and for everyday use.

Considering the meanings behind his work, his relationship to the meanings has changed a lot over time, from conceptual ideas to practical and functional use.

"I often think about memory and legacy," Baskin said.

Growing up surrounded by art and history, Baskin always knew he wanted to be an artist. Pursuing an art education and career helped him to achieve his goals.

Baskin completed his undergraduate education at the Maryland Institute College of Art with hopes of becoming an illustrator. He later attended the University of Arkansas School of Art where he received his master's in sculpture. Throughout his education, he worked on curatorial projects, art conservation, and in museums and galleries.

"I started really focused on trying to be an artist and then I moved to showing artists," Baskin said.

Baskin plans to continue creating furniture, focusing on making pieces for his new home, setting up his at-home studio, and adjusting to life at EMU.

"I find furniture making to be relaxing and joyful. It gives me pause, a time to meditate on my life," Baskin said.

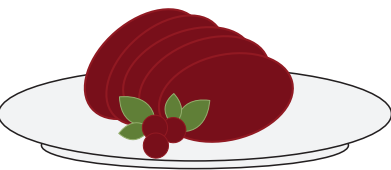
View Danny R.W. Baskin's work at his website www.feastfeastfeast.com, and for more information on EMU's galleries and their exhibitions, visit www.emugalleries.org.



PHOTO CREDIT: MADISON CANTRELL
EMU'S GALLERY PROGRAM DIRECTOR, DANNY R.W. BASKIN, OUTSIDE OF FORD HALL.



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EMU's Spin e-scooters seen as a success a year after launch

CHARLES BOYKINS
NEWS REPORTER

On Sept. 19 of 2022, Eastern Michigan University introduced the Spin electric scooters, a year later the number of scooters on campus has doubled.

As part of a partnership with Spin, EMU started with 50 scooters on campus and now according to their website has reached to 100. Operating 24 hours a day, students and staff are able to ride the e-scooters across campus as long as it is not within the no ride zones.

In some universities, e-scooters have been met with disapproval due to safety concerns. The scooters have even been banned on some campuses such as Columbia University and Boston University due to reckless driving and fire hazards. At EMU the Spins have been seen as a success, according to the university's public relations team.

"Ridership at EMU has consistently

mirrored patterns seen in university programs worldwide. We experienced our highest ridership levels ever at the beginning of the fall semester this year, marking a particularly encouraging trend. Anticipating a decline in ridership as the weather turns colder, we look forward to a resurgence come spring semester," EMU's public relation team said.

Read more: [EMU launches e-scooters Sept. 19 to improve campus transportation](#)

However, the rider's usage has declined in the colder months of the fall semester, the scooters are still available until snowfall.

When asked about the scooter's reputation and perception, EMU's public relations team said "Regarding perceptions of the scooters, the trajectory has been overwhelmingly positive. As is common with any new mode of transportation, there is an initial learning curve. Many individuals initially try the scooters due to their novelty, but as that excitement wanes, they reveal themselves

as a sustainable and enjoyable means of transportation for short distances. This shift in perception is recurrent, demonstrating that communities consistently embrace and accept scooters as a valuable alternative to single-occupancy vehicle trips".

The Spin scooters are discussed and the future of the scooters are generally presented during board meetings.

"Regarding the Spin Scooters, from what health and safety has gleaned it appears those who use the Spin Scooters appreciate the efficiencies gained as they positively influence their time management and fuel savings," Kathryn Wilhoff, director of Environmental Health and Safety, said.

The scooters are accessible to anyone with the Spin app and card. Spin scooters can be accessed via the Spin app which is downloadable for free. The base cost of renting a scooter is a dollar and the price increases \$0.39 per minute to ride.



PHOTO CREDIT: KASEY DESCHLER

Domestic, sexual violence top EMU's annual crime report - continued from pg. 1

Eastern's list of required Clery Act reporters is broader.

"The other piece of it is our numbers are going to normally be higher because every person at the institution that works here is a mandated reporter and that is unique to other institutions," Gregory said. "So, that means anyone who is not a confidential person in their role, CAPS [Counseling and Psychological Services] essentially as the best example, has to report if they think something could be Title IX. And I am the person at the institution who determines if it actually is."

The annual report also shows data from the previous two years, in this case from 2020-22. Compared to those two years, EMU in 2022, saw an increase in some crimes on campus. In 2020 the university reported 13 rapes in contrast to the 28 reported in 2022. Charges of fondling tripled from 2020 to 2022. However, during both the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years the university was under COVID-19 restrictions, and there were fewer students on campus. Gregory and Lige noted that the pandemic affected the students and the reports.

"Now that more classes are back on ground, now that more students are living on campus and they are getting comfortable with one another in different ways, we do typically see an influx of reports at the beginning of the fall and beginning of the winter semester," Gregory said.

Lige said that from a nonscientific viewpoint, all of us were impacted differently by the pandemic.

"I think there is a resilience in our students having gone through the

pandemic as teenagers and now into adulthood, and the freedoms that come along with that," Lige said.

"And maybe in society pre-pandemic, the students did not always file reports on domestic issues," Lige said. "So, I think it is symptomatic of what we went through as a nation and the students are coming here and they are taking the stand for themselves. And in a way, it is encouraging because no means no. If you see something, say something. We have promoted those ideas and those catchphrases for years, and it seems like sometimes we fall on deaf ears. But I feel like after 30 years that is starting to pay off. And our students are coming forward when maybe they did not before because they are taking some pride themselves, in the circumstance they are in, and they are taking a stand for themselves."

Public safety education

Lige said the university and the Department of Public Safety offer a number of services designed to keep students and staff safe. The university in recent years also has increased efforts to promote safety and educate the community about consent and Title IX. The work includes the new Zeroeyes software, self-defense classes, Student Eyes and Ears for University Safety, known as SEEUS, mandatory Title IX training, collaboration with campus departments, and collaboration with the SafeHouse Center.

Watson said SafeHouse has a great connection with Eastern Michigan University.

"For instance, if you are an EMU student and you experience domestic

violence or sexual assault, you file a police report, or you go to the hospital. We will get notified and then we can speak to you in that moment, either in person at the hospital or by phone," Watson said. "That is a 24-hour service as well. So that is a great collaboration with the EMU police department where if they have somebody who is finally reported or honestly, even if they just have somebody checking in with them because they are experiencing something, they will refer them to us and sometimes even do a soft handover."

Resources

For emergencies call 911, or university police at 734-487-1222. The university's Department of Public Safety is located on campus at 1200 Oakwood St., by the Hoyt and Pittman residence halls, and is open at all times. The department also offers protective self-defense spray and personal safety alarms with a two-minute training session.

To report any sex-based discrimination, harassment, or sexual misconduct, contact the Sexual Misconduct and Prevention Office in room 250 at the Student Center or call 734-487-9126. The office is available to anyone who wants more support or insight into Title IX-related cases.

For mental health support reach the university counseling office at 734-481-1118. Students and staff can also visit the Campus Wellness Center on weekdays from 9-5 p.m. at 75 N. Huron River Drive, by the Crossroads Market and public safety building.

To contact the SafeHouse Center dial its helpline 734-995-5444 or email info@safehousecenter.org.

New Episodes Weekly!



Eagletainment

Hosted by Queso Tone (left) and Julez DeShetler (right) with guest Anya "Nya" Fuller (center).

Soaring Eagles

Hosted by Sarai Yanes (left) with guest Alfred Sheffield



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Eagle Sports
Tips and Tales

BLAKE MCQUEARY
SPORTS EDITOR

EMU volleyball's Callie Minshew
secures All-MAC Second Team honors

Eastern Michigan University volleyball's Callie Minshew (Brandon, Mississippi) was named to the All-Mid-American Conference Second Team, the athletic program announced on Nov. 18.

Minshew finished the year with 429 kills and 32 total aces. The 429 kills mark the most of her collegiate career in any of her five seasons played, while also it ranks fourth in the all-time single-season records at EMU, as she passed former Eagle Rachel Iaguanelli who sat with 412.

On Tuesday, Sept. 26, Minshew would record 25 kills and 21 aces against Central Michigan University. That performance would put her in rare company as the first Eagle to record 25 kills and 20 digs in a match since Franki Streffling in 2021.

The Mississippi State University transfer would finish the season ranked first in the MAC in attacks (10.89), second in points (4.49), and third in kills (3.89). Throughout the country, Minshew ranked 17th in total attacks (1,198), 20th in total points (496.0), and 21st in total kills (429).

Huntington Prep's Dillion Tingle
signs with EMU men's basketball squad

The Eastern Michigan University men's basketball program's 2024 recruiting class just got a whole lot stronger.

On Monday, Nov. 13, Dillion Tingle (Huntington, West Virginia) confirmed on his X account (formerly known as Twitter) that he was signing with the Eagles, as head coach Stan Heath announced the news on Friday, Nov. 17.

Tingle is listed as a three-star recruit by 247Sports and Rivals, while he is the second-ranked overall recruit coming out of West Virginia, and the 235-ranked player nationally.

Huntington Prep, Tingle's current high school, has produced numerous professional talents, including the NBA's Andrew Wiggins, Thomas Bryant, Miles Bridges, and many more.

EMU Swim and Dive secures first win
of season over Oakland, 155-145

The Eagles certainly made a splash at Oakland on Thursday!

The Eastern Michigan University swim and dive program secured its first win of the 2023-24 season on Thursday, Nov. 16, as they defeated Oakland University inside Oakland University Natatorium, 155-145.

Sophomore Ali Kudo (Guelph, Ontario) secured the first event win in the 1,000-yard freestyle as she notched a season-high finish of 10:23.13, while freshman Morgan Hofmester (Powell, Ohio) finished in third place.

The Eagles would also take the 100 backstroke as junior Kiersten Russell (Canton, Michigan) finished in first place, freshman Siporah Sang (London, Ontario) finished in second place, and freshman Marlee Christie (Seminole, Florida) finished in third place.

EMU would also see wins in the 100 breaststroke, three-meter dive, 200 backstroke, and 200 freestyle relay where EMU's A, B, and C teams all finished atop of the standings.

EMU's new basketball court honors record-holding leader

Echo sports editor Blake McQueary sat down with legendary EMU men's basketball coach, Ben Braun, to discuss his coaching journey ahead of his court unveiling inside the George Gervin GameAbove Center on Saturday, Nov. 18.

BLAKE MCQUEARY
SPORTS EDITOR

As an ordinary, though undersized, kid who loved sports, Ben Braun , who coached Eastern Michigan University's men's basketball through its most successful decade , often found himself as the youngest or smallest guy on the team.

Being that guy on the team didn't matter, Braun said, because he loved playing and he focused on learning the rules and the technicalities of the sport. So, he thrived competing against those older kids in the neighborhood.

"Those guys took me under their wing and then got mad when I started beating them," Braun said Tuesday, just days before EMU celebrated the naming of the basketball court in his honor.

"When you're playing sports, you aren't trying to be friends," Braun said. "You're trying to win."

That focus meant that he often inherited the leadership role: making the rules, choosing the teams, and developing the strategies.

Born in Milwaukee, Wisc., Braun moved to Chicago at a young age and grew up in the Windy City.

He played both basketball and baseball in high school and spent a year on the court for college play before graduating and becoming a college coach. Over a 37-year career, Braun tallied a 615-517 record as a coach and still holds the honor of being the winningest basketball coach at Eastern.

Braun returned to Ypsilanti on Saturday, Nov. 18, when the athletic program introduced the "Ben Braun Court" during the first home game of the 2023-24 season at the



PHOTO CREDIT: BLAKE MCQUEARY
NEW BEN BRAUN NAME ON CENTER COURT AT THE EMU GEORGE GERVIN GAMEABOVE CENTER.

George Gervin GameAbove Center. Braun said he's still processing the honor.

"It's hard to put into words until it happens. I'm still blown away by it, honored, and humbled," Braun said. "Out of all of my achievements, this is different. To be able to share and spend this with former players, coaches, my family, and everyone who has supported me, it's a little surreal but it's special to me."

Time to play

Whether it was on the diamond as a shortstop, or on the court as a point guard at New Trier High School, Braun said he focused on always knowing what was happening.

"In both of those positions you really have to know your team, the other team, and what's going on," Braun said. "Being the

captain on two state-rated teams, in a very competitive Illinois Association, that's where I really got my background."

During the summers, while still in high school, Braun coached baseball and basketball youth teams. He credits those experiences with the development of his skills.

"It didn't matter what I knew, my challenge was to get what I knew to the youngsters so they knew it and could master it," Braun said. "A good coach isn't just somebody who knows a lot about the game, it's someone who can impart their knowledge, expertise, and motivations to their players."

Braun said coaching was always in his blood, especially as he learned from such coaching legends as Pete Newell, Bob Knight, and Mike Krzyzewski. Krzyzewski, a fellow Chicago native, was Braun's main source of knowledge when it came to coaching and philosophies.

"I got to know Mike [Coach K] over the years and I admired him because people always thought he had great teams because he had great players," Braun said. "Truth be told, he didn't always have pro players on his team. His teams were great because he taught the game to his players."

Braun said a lot of that knowledge stemmed from Newell.

"The guy I'll put at the top of it all though is Pete Newell," Braun said. "Bobby Knight learned from Newell, then Mike Krzyzewski learned from Bobby Knight."

Braun played college basketball at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse for a year before transferring to the University of Wisconsin. His goal, after that transfer, was to play baseball.

"As good as a basketball player I was, I was better at baseball," Braun said. "Baseball just came easier to me."

While he was ready to play baseball he worked out with the Wisconsin basketball team every day, but that's when his focus shifted to the classroom.

That transition was one he credits to the start of his coaching journey.

"I was proud to say that I became a student at Wisconsin because I never took academics seriously at New Trier and La Crosse," Braun said. "I put all my effort into academics and became a really good student."

Becoming a teacher

Braun graduated with a teaching degree in English and a minor in African American studies. He then began his coaching career as an assistant at Washington Park High School in Wisconsin while also teaching.

"I put teaching and coaching into the same breath," Braun said. "I knew I had to be a teacher before I could be a coach."

After spending two years at the high school level as an assistant, Braun accepted the head coaching position at Siena Heights University, an NAIA private school in Adrian, Mich.

While at Siena Heights, both coaching and teaching, Braun earned a master's degree in guidance and counseling. That was a part



PHOTO CREDIT: JONATHAN KNIGHT

BEN BRAUN TAKING A PICTURE WITH HIS WIFE, JESSICA, THEIR SON JULIUS, AND THEIR DAUGHTER ELIZA AT THE UNVEILING OF THE NEW COURT IN HONOR OF THE FORMER LEGENDARY COACH.

of the blueprint for Braun to find his edge in coaching, as his former high school coach, John Schneider, advised him.

"It was an adjustment, but I was so young, I didn't know what I didn't know," Braun said. "I coached those kids how I wanted to be coached, and did exactly what he [Schneider] told me."

Braun spent eight seasons as the head coach at Siena Heights where he led the team to five postseason tournaments while maintaining an overall record of 148-103.

His next stop, prior to the 1985-86 season, was Ypsilanti where he was hired as the associate head coach of Eastern's men's basketball team. Midway through the first season in Ypsilanti, he was elevated to interim head coach. Head coach Jim Boyce had stepped down.

"Boyce actually hired me to be his associate," Braun said. "I tried to talk him out of stepping down but he was adamant that's what he wanted to do. He told me he knew I'd be great. He did that for me."

Things were rocky in the beginning, but Braun credits those moments as the reasons he stayed at Eastern for a decade.

During Braun's initial year as interim head coach, current EMU men's basketball head coach Stan Heath was on the team.

Heath wasn't a starter, but as the team struggled against the Division 2 opponent Grand Valley State University Lakers that season, Braun called out Heath's number.

"Stan went into that game from the bench and single-handedly turned that game around and won it for us," Braun said. "I tell Stan all the time, he had as much to do with me being hired as anybody. Why would anyone want to hire a guy who can't beat a Division 2 school?"

After Braun was hired as the full-time head coach, he spent 11 years with the program where he led the Eagles to four postseason berths, three of them being NCAA appearances. He also earned three MAC Coach of the Year awards, and a 185-132 record, which marks the most wins by a coach in EMU men's basketball history.

Braun said it was the community support surrounding the program that led to those legendary moments.

Bob England, the director of the Rec IM Center at EMU at the time, would shut down the Rec department during the men's basketball games, Braun said.

"That doesn't happen at very many places," Braun said. "I don't even think that's legal now."

Braun and his program drew so

much attention from the students and the community that almost every one of their home games was full of crowds.

The arena would reach capacity so often that the coaching staff would have to pull some strings to get people into the games.

"One of my assistants knew of a way to still get people into those games," Braun said. "He would leave a crack in one of the backdoors of Bowen and people would find their way in."

Community connection

Roy Wilbanks, Eastern's vice president of university relations at the time, was the mastermind behind getting the community behind Braun's program. He saw the vision before Braun could make it a reality.

"He always told me to not forget about the Ypsilanti community," Braun said. "He taught me to go out and speak, do fundraisers, attend high schools, and let the community know how important it was to me."

After the 1996 season, Braun accepted the head coaching position at the University of California to replace Todd Bozeman. The decision wasn't an easy one, he said.

Promises that were made were the deciding factor in whether or not he would go.

"I remember talking with Earl Boykins and Derrick Dial about my promise to be there for them through their graduations and that I wasn't comfortable leaving without their approval," Braun said. "They both told me to take the job and that they and the team would be fine. So I took it."

Although Braun was 2,265 miles away from EMU in his new head coaching gig, he found the time to watch the Eagles from afar.

"While I was at Cal I would watch every single Eastern Michigan game," Braun said. "My athletic director would tell me to stop watching them, but I just couldn't, those were my guys."

Braun would spend 12 years as Cal's head coach where he posted 219 wins, marking second in the school's history by any head coach.

He also took the Bears to more postseason appearances and more postseason victories than any coach in school history.

After his tenure at Cal, Braun was hired as the men's basketball coach at Rice University, replacing Willis Wilson in 2008. He spent six seasons there before retiring from coaching in 2014.

"I've had to build programs wherever I've gone, but I've enjoyed it," Braun said. "There's just something about building your own team. It's fun."

Eastern Michigan vs. Buffalo game: Preview, odds, what to watch

BLAKE MCQUEARY
SPORTS EDITOR

Win or go home. That is the fate for this Eastern Michigan University football team this week as they prepare to play their final regular season game of the year against the University at Buffalo in New York. What better way to do it than in the Big Apple?

Both teams came off of nail-biting finishes last week as the Eagles defeated Akron University in a double overtime thriller to put them one win away from bowl eligibility. On the other hand, Buffalo lost a heartbreaker on the road against Miami (OH) after a late touchdown that would have made it a one-possession game was called back, resulting in a 23-10 loss to the Red Hawks.

These two teams have only met a total of 10 times, as the Eagles own the series as they sit with a 6-4 advantage. In recent years it has been all Buffalo as they have knocked off EMU in their past three meetings.

Here is the full game preview, as well as how to watch and what to watch for:

When: Tuesday, Nov. 21

Where: Buffalo, New York

Time: 7:30 p.m.

TV: ESPN2

ESPN Analytics: Buffalo 64.4% chance to win

Keys to success, what to watch

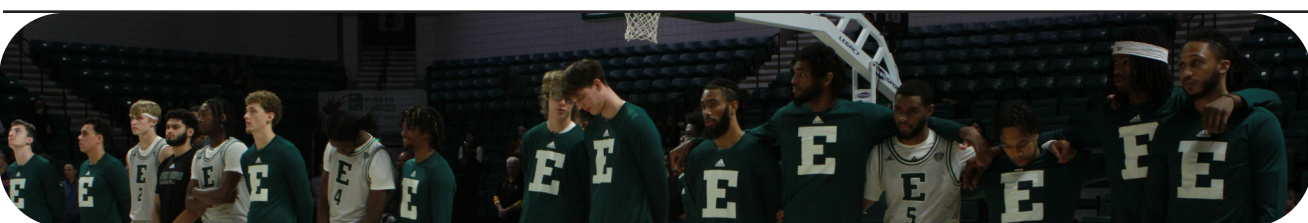
EMU

Those who paid attention last week, there's really no secret: feed Samson Evans and utilize the playmakers. The Eagles are

coming off of one of their most complete offensive performances all year against Akron where the offense totaled 315 yards (214 passing, 101 rushing) and Evans carried the ball 15 times for 71 rushing yards and three touchdowns. Not only did Evans do his thing, but wide receivers Tanner Knue (eight catches for 79 yards) and Hamze El-Zayat (six catches for 92 yards) were both stellar on the outside for the Eagles as quarterback Austin Smith finished with 214 passing yards and one passing touchdown. When this offense focuses on getting the ball into the hands of both Knue and El-Zayat, while feeding Evans in the red zone, they can be efficient and score the ball with ease.

Buffalo

The key for Buffalo will be to get the job done on defense and stop this Eagles offensive attack. Although Buffalo has only secured three wins this year with eight losses, the record simply doesn't speak for itself; when this defense gets going, they are tough to battle with. In Buffalo's three wins this year, they have only allowed their opponents to score a total of 29 points: Kent State (six points), Central Michigan (13 points), and Akron (10 points). Within that defense is sophomore safety Devin Grant, who secured two interceptions returned for touchdowns against Central Michigan, as well as a blocked field goal against Akron to triumph Buffalo in both of those wins. The Eagles must be careful because if this defense comes to play on Tuesday night, it could be a long one for EMU.



EMU men's basketball secures victory new Ben Braun court

ELENA DAVIS
SPORTS WRITER

The win was made even more special for the Eagles as the court inside the George Gervin GameAbove Center was renamed in honor of former head coach Ben Braun by Eastern Michigan prior to the game. Before the 1985 season began, Braun took the post of assistant head coach at Eastern. However, on Jan. 15, 1986, halfway through the season, he was promoted to temporary head coach. The rest is history.

Defending the nest on Saturday, Nov. 18, the Eastern Michigan University men's basketball team defeated Cleveland State University, 69-62, behind 31 points from junior Tyson Acuff (Detroit, Mich.).

"He's a great communicator with his teammates. His teammates really respond to his leadership on and off the court," said head coach Stan Heath on Acuff's stellar performance. Heath went on to say Acuff is one of those guys that plays for himself and for other people.

Junior Julius Ellerbe (Fort Washington,

Md.) and junior Yusuf Jihad (Farmington Hills, Mich.) both scored 10 points in the first half. Acuff scored 17 points on a 6-for-6 start from the field.

With 13:26 remaining in the first half, Eastern Michigan started on a 7-0 run, completed by a three from Acuff, to grab a 20-13 lead after the teams were tied at 13 points apiece. Then, the Eagles gave up their lead and trailed 32, 32 at the half.

With 4:48 remaining in the game, redshirt junior John McGriff (Glenn Dale, Md.) completed a 7-0 run to extend Eastern Michigan's advantage to 61-53. Eastern Michigan had taken the lead after the interval. Before the game ended, the Vikings managed to cut the deficit significantly, but the Eagles won 69, 62 by cruising the remainder of the way.

With 18 of its 40 points coming from players who did not start, Eastern Michigan benefited from having a strong bench during that time.

"We felt like coming into this year, we had to become a team with an identity of rebounding and defending," Health explained. "So I think our players are starting

to see very clearly what you have to do to give ourselves a chance."

Eastern improved to 2-2 on the season while Cleveland State moved to 3-2. In contrast to Cleveland State, which was 23-of-67 (34.3%) from the floor and 5-of-21 (23.8%) from three-point range, Eastern Michigan shot 25 of 53 (47.2%) from the floor and 5-of-15 (33.3%) from close range.

Acuff's 31-point outing marked the third time in his career that he has scored 30-plus points in a game and the sixth time he has scored 20-plus points in a game. Ellerbe led Eastern with eight rebounds, while four players got six or more. Acuff, Jihad, and Junior Jalin Billingsley (Georgetown, Ohio) each had six boards.

The match between Cleveland State and Eastern Michigan on Saturday was their 33rd encounter as the Eagles took their 24th all-time win over the Vikings.

Next, Eastern Michigan is scheduled to travel to the University of Detroit Mercy for a 7 p.m. start on Tuesday, Nov. 21. The game will be on ESPN+.



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Around The Community



PHOTO CREDIT: AARON HUGHES
EMU STUDENT CLADONTA HALL, ALSO KNOWN AS CLAY THE DON PERFORMS AT ZIGGY'S 734 SATURDAYS EVENT IN DOWNTOWN YPSILANTI ON NOV. 11, 2023.



PHOTO CREDIT: KAIA TOLU
AT THE CAMPUS EVENT AROUND THE WORLD IN ONE DAY, HOSTED BY CAMPUS LIFE AND THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION, STUDENTS FROM VARIOUS NATIONAL BACKGROUNDS REPRESENTED THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES IN A FLAG DISPLAY BEFORE STUDENT PRESENTATIONS IN MCKENNY ON NOV. 16, 2023.



PHOTO CREDIT: KASEY DESCHLER
THE THANKFUL EVENT STAFF POSING WITH EMU MASCOT SWOOP.



PHOTO CREDIT: KAIA TOLU
ON NOV. 13, 2023, IN HONOR OF TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK EMMA WUETRICH, COORDINATOR OF THE EMU LGBT RESOURCE CENTER, PAINTED THE FREE SPEECH WALL ON CAMPUS ALONGSIDE MEGAN SHACKELFORD AND KARLEY WALSH.



PHOTO CREDIT: KAIA TOLU
THE ATTENDEES OF THE AROUND THE WORLD IN ONE DAY CAMPUS EVENT GATHERED TO GET CULTURAL FOODS BEFORE STUDENT PRESENTATIONS ON NOV. 16, 2023, IN THE MCKENNY BALLROOM.



PHOTO CREDIT: MADISON CANTRELL
SIGN OF YPSILANTI'S RIVERSIDE ARTS CENTER

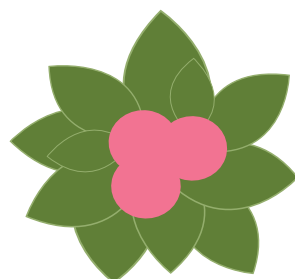


PHOTO CREDIT: KASEY DESCHLER
PIANIST ROBERT JANZ IS HALF OF THE DUO THAT STARTED THE BAND TWO SOUPS AND THE SALAD BAR. THE NAME IS IN REFERENCE TO THE ROTATING MEMBERS OUTSIDE OF HIMSELF AND HIS BROTHER, WILL JANZ.



PHOTO CREDIT: MADISON CANTRELL
IMAN PRESENTS THEIR STAINED GLASS ART AT THE YPSI FINE ARTS CLUB ON WEDNESDAY, NOV.15.



PHOTO CREDIT: MARIE WHITE
THE STATE OF THE FREE SPEECH WALL ON EMU'S CAMPUS ON NOV. 19. FIVE DAYS AFTER THE WALL WAS INITIALLY PAINTED FOR TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK.



PHOTO CREDIT: MADISON CANTRELL
VENDORS SELL HANDMADE GOODS AT RIVERSIDE ARTS CENTER'S HOLIDAY ART FAIR ON SATURDAY, NOV.18.

Review: 'The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes' portrays the tragic prequel of Coriolanus Snow

MARIAM FAKHREDDINE
OPINIONS COLUMNIST

On Friday, Nov. 17th The Hunger Games: the Song of Ballads and Snakes featuring Tom Blyth and Rachel Zegler was entirely sold out in the Canton Emagine theater. From the lines to purchase popcorn to the actual cinema, the entire space was crowded. There was excitement in the theaters when this movie came out. It displayed the number of fans of The Hunger Games novels by Suzanne Collins

The adaptation of Collins' novel features an intriguing premise about the origins of the Hunger Games and the transformation of young Snow (portrayed by Donald Sutherland in the previous films) into a dark side.

Synopsis:

In this film, Tom Blyth plays Coriolanus Snow, a young man who began his journey in the Capitol in an attempt to lift his family out of poverty. He was Lucy Gray Baird's, portrayed by Rachel Zegler, mentor; she is from District 12, which is also where Katniss Everdeen is from. Lucy Gray has this amazing voice that the Capitol is in awe of and they donate to her for the Games because of it.

Lucy's survival won't be simple. The

mentors' only job is to assist in the creation of quality television by crafting "spectacles, not survivors." Snow wants Lucy Gray to come out on top and to stay alive throughout the games.

Highs:

The acting in the film was outstanding particularly when it came to Coriolanus Snow's transformation from an empathetic person to a cruel one. It portrayed Snow's transformation into the cold-blooded President he played in the earlier Hunger Games films. The anguish he felt from trying to help people while residing in the Capitol gradually fades. Blyth's performance, particularly in the scene where Lucy Gray left Coriolanus, was strong and captured the real feeling of turning evil.

Another high was Lucy Gray, the singing made her character show her pain through the songs she sang. Her character gives a reminder of Katniss because of the courage she gets through during the games. There is a song that she sings called "the Hanging Tree" which was from the previous Hunger Games movies. This added reminders of the other Hunger Games movies, it gives excitement for the fans.

The movie's special effects, which included an explosion in the arena prior to the games and snakes in a tank that dropped into the arena, were really amazing.

The movie gained importance from this particular explosion since it demonstrated how much Lucy Gray genuinely cared for Coriolanus. Snow did, at one point, truly care about someone but himself, as shown by the chemistry between these two characters. The soundtrack for this film was another highlight; it truly made the film come to life. It revealed the truth beneath a brave face and brought the characters' emotions to life.

Lows:

One of the film's bad points was how little Snow's cousin Tigris, played by Hunter Schafer, was featured, even though the film had some of her encounters with her cousin. Throughout the entire film, she truly assisted Snow in working through his feelings, and more instances such as that should have occurred, particularly in the closing scenes.

At the film's conclusion, there was yet another low period that demonstrated how sometimes love isn't always enough. Snow has trouble with empathy throughout the movie, but in the end, his affection of love for others disappears. Given his brutality in the previous Hunger Games films, this makes understandable, yet if love triumphed over all, he would still be the same young man from the start.

Verdict:

The true story of President Snow was depicted in this highly emotional film. This

was a crucial film because it helps viewers comprehend the suffering this character endured. Yet, it doesn't lessen the resentment that the fans have for him in his capacity as President Snow.

Rating: 8 out of 10.

Mariam Fakhreddine is a film and theater reviewer for The Eastern Echo. She has worked as a news and features reporter for The Echo for two years.



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Review: 'Snow Angel (Deluxe)' is one to keep on constant repeat

MARIE WHITE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Rene  Rapp released her debut album 'Snow Angel' in August of this year and surprised fans with a deluxe version on Nov. 17. The singer had announced that the deluxe album would be coming in a TikTok with Coco Jones on Nov. 15 and released the song titles on Instagram a day later.



The new songs "Messy", "I do", and "Swim" are accompanied with a remix of "Tummy Hurts feat. Coco Jones", bringing the run time of the album to 48 minutes. The songs bring new emotions to the album that will make you sob.

"Making this album has been the greatest gift," Rapp said in an Instagram post.

Highs

Like the original album, the production of these songs is amazing. Alexander 23 and Rapp are credited as the producers for most of the songs and their combination of lyrics and music brings you to a whole other place. From the upbeat melody that crescendos in Messy to the somber harp sounds throughout 'I Do,' each song brings a different production mixed with her voice to make a beautiful baby.

Lyricaly, the songs are heart wrenching. Each song has a different feeling from identity to internal crises but each one hits harder than the last, and Rapp's voice cements those feelings into your brain. In "Swim" the lyrics "How could waterboardin' feel so good at first" brings forward the pain of love so well, being wrapped up in your own emotions that the hurt comes later. In the song "I do" (which personally makes me sob), the lyric "It's tearing me apart 'cause you don't see us like I do", brings that gut-wrenching emotion of unreciprocated love for someone you love dearly.

Lows

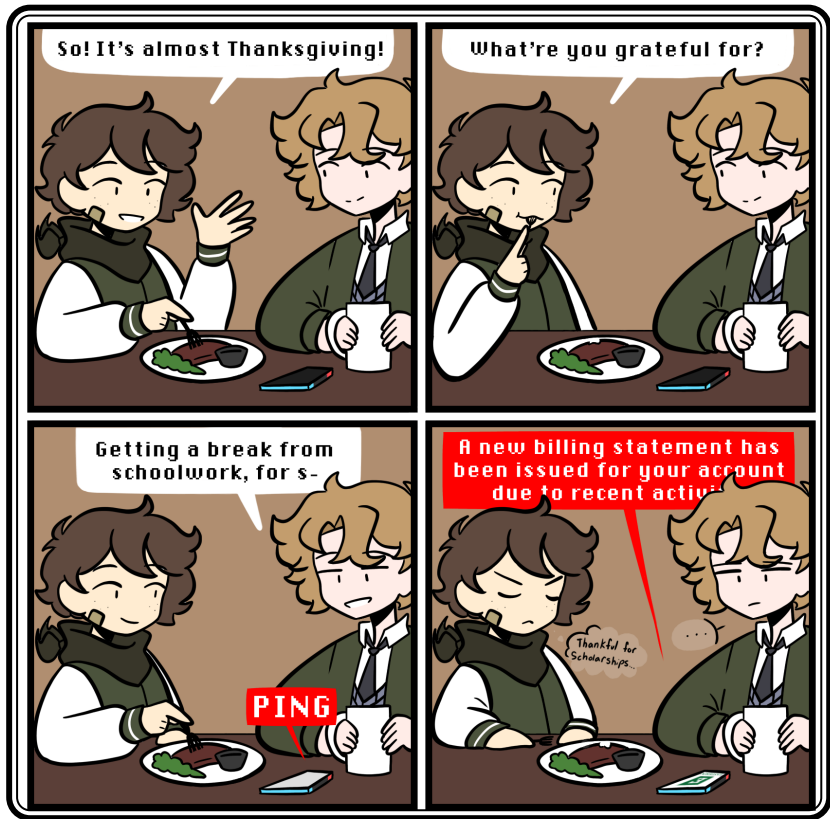
Genuinely the only low I have is there isn't more music (which is greedy). The added songs feel intentional and fit really well with the vibe of "Snow Angel" and adds to an already amazing composition.

Verdict

If you haven't listened to Rene  Rapp before, now is the time. She is quickly becoming a huge voice in the music industry, which is well deserved. If you like somber music that transitions into upbeat hot-girl pop music, then this album is for you.

I give "Snow Angel (Deluxe)" a 10 out of 10.

THANKSGIVING | RYLEE CURLEY



TOO ACCURATE | RYLEE CURLEY



Review: a new and improved 'Lust for Life'

KASPER MIELKE
OPINION COLUMNIST

"You can't beat the classics" is a phrase that get passed around a little too loosely. So, what happens when Hayley and the Crushers, a California-based pop rock band, covers a classic artist such as Iggy Pop?

Background

Hayley and the Crushers is not nearly as well-known as Iggy Pop, but their music is still powerful and fun. When talking about why they decided on this particular song and artist, they expressed their need to pay homage to Detroit, as it has been their home since the summer of 2022. When they relocated, they felt right at home within the hustle and bustle of the motor city. In showing their appreciation for the city, they covered Iggy Pop's iconic "Lust For Life." Hayley and the Crushers took the 1977 song and put their own modern twist on it, but this is not to say that they got rid of what makes the song special in the eyes

of many.

Did they do it justice?

A stark difference between the original and the 2023 version is that the instrumental in the beginning of the song was cut short, since the main focus of this cover is the rocking vocals. There is a male and a female voice, which gives the song more dimension. Hayley Cain, the lead vocalist, uses her high vocal range to emanate that of Iggy's, and she succeeds.

On top of that, Dr. Cain ESQ, traditionally the band's bass player, adds in his raspy vocals to assist the frontwoman. By far, the only real critique of this cover is that the borderline growling vocals do not completely mesh with the vibe. The song is meant to be fun, and while his vocals are in that wheelhouse, it kind of distracts from the overall tone.

Verdict

In comparison to Iggy Pop's version, Hayley and the Crusher's spin on "Lust for Life" is a pleasant addition to the arsenal of



classic rock covers.

This cover is an 8 out of 10.

Kasper Mielke is a music reviewer for the Eastern Echo. He is a women and gender studies major with a minor in creative writing. He has worked for The Echo since the summer of 2022, and has stuck to writing music reviews.

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The Eastern Echo informs the Eastern Michigan University and Ypsilanti community by highlighting newsworthy content in a fair, accurate and timely manner.