

On campus today

THINKING GLOBAL, ACTING LOCAL

NMU hosts Central American students

Twenty-two Central American high school students and four adult mentors were introduced to the university, Marquette area and U.P. winter recreation during a weeklong visit at the end of January. The students, who come from disadvantaged backgrounds and hadn't previously traveled beyond borders, also received lessons on leadership and entrepreneurship that they can put into practice when they return to their respective countries.

"This has been amazing; it is my American dream," said Emmanuel Melendez, a 16-year-old from Nicaragua, on the final day of his stay. "It's a wonderful place and snow is amazing—something in my country we never see. Most important for me was learning about leadership that will help in my future. If I have control of me, I work better with others."

The students toured the Tilden and Empire Mines, took part in outdoor leadership activities at Al Quaal in Ishpeming, snowshoed to the Eben Ice Cave, attended an NMU hockey game, visited Marquette Senior High School and learned from presentations by local small business leaders.

"This is important because it expands their vision of the world," said Argel Chavarra, a mentor from El Salvador. "The students learn good attitudes and behavior that they can multiply. This program starts with a trip to the United States, but it does not end there. They will do projects at home and there is a one-year followup."

Chavarra and another mentor



stayed with Fred Joyal, geography professor, and his wife, Ann, one of several volunteer host families. "We've hosted a number of international visitors over the years and enjoy learning about other countries," Joyal said. "Much more of the world speaks Spanish than many people realize, so it's great for people here to have these opportunities. I'm particularly proud that NMU is engaged in this and that the community has been so open and friendly."

The project was a joint effort

between NMU's International Programs Office and the Modern Languages and Literatures Department, which provided translators and logistical assistance.

NMU received nearly \$23,000 to sponsor the Marquette portion of the Youth Ambassadors Program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of State. A partnership between NMU and Georgetown University brought the delegation to Marquette. The group also spent a week in Washington, D.C.

A 'Distinctive Destination'

That's the title Marquette has been honored with by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The city is one of 12 destinations recognized this year for offering "an authentic visitor experience by combining dynamic downtowns, cultural diversity, attractive architecture, cultural landscapes and a strong commitment to historic preservation, sustainability and revitalization."

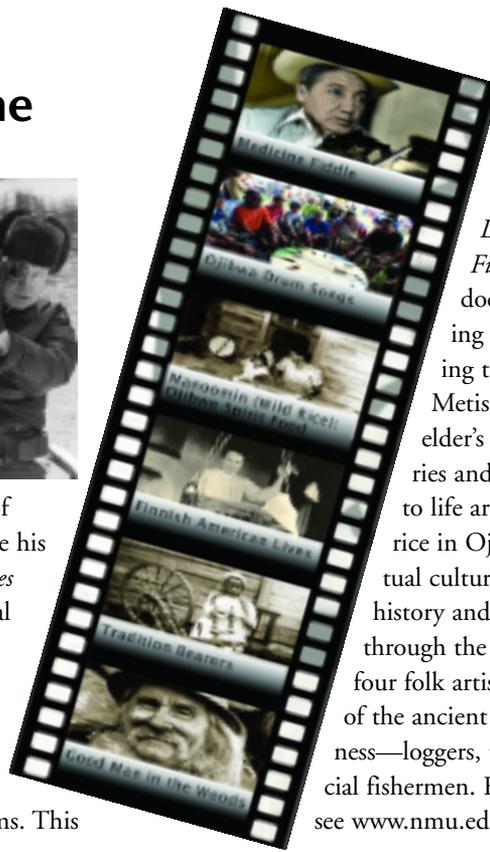
To read more and watch a great video on the area, visit <http://www.preservationnation.org>



Heritage frame-by-frame

In 1980, a young professor of sociology at NMU began a journey that he had no idea would last for 30 years. As part of his work studying the Finnish culture of the Upper Peninsula, Michael Loukinen came to know a multi-generational family in north Ironwood who exemplified the changes occurring in such immigrant families in the region. Inspired by his love of documentary filmmaking, he raised funds to make his own film about this family. *Finnish American Lives* was released in 1982 to great regional and national acclaim and brought attention to the history and culture of the Upper Peninsula's people.

Thirty years and 13 films later, Loukinen is still pondering his next projects. His past work, however, is being celebrated on campus this winter with a retrospective of some of his best films. This



retrospective, *Michael Loukinen: 30 Years of Filmmaking*, features his documentaries celebrating the fiddling and dancing traditions of Native and Metis families; of an Ojibwe elder's interpretations of stories and the songs that come to life around the drum; wild rice in Ojibwe history and spiritual culture; Finnish American history and folk art expressed through the lives and repertoires of four folk artists; and the survivors of the ancient callings of the wilderness—loggers, trappers, and commercial fishermen. For more information, see www.nmu.edu/sociology.

Making mining history more accessible



Archivist Marcus Robyns at the digitization station

Historical documents from Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Mining Company covering mining, land use, lumbering and labor activity in the upper Great Lakes region during the major industrialization period of 1890-1960 will be digitized, thanks to a grant received by the NMU and Central Upper Peninsula Archives.

The project will put 70,000 items online, including correspondence, maps and reports, making them available to scholars, students and the general public from anywhere in the world.

“For archivists, this funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission is the equivalent of a National Science Foundation grant,” says NMU Archivist Marcus Robyns. “It’s a very competitive process. They receive hundreds of applications.”

“To get the grant, we had to demonstrate the national significance of this project,” Robyns added. “We made the case of iron mining’s impact on immigration, labor issues and industrial development in the United States. There was also the societal impact of the corporate welfare programs implemented by CCI, particularly in the planning and creation of Gwinn. CCI set up housing, community centers, pension and safety programs—all designed to create a stable workforce with less turnover and unrest.”

The grant will enable the archives to purchase equipment and hire a project archivist, who will supervise two student assistants. The year-long project will begin in April.

On campus today

Assisting students in the difficult economy

NMU will offer a tuition credit to resident undergraduate students with the \$1.3 million in stimulus funds the university is scheduled to receive through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The credit, which will average about \$190 for full-time students, will be applied to the fall 2010 semester.

"The legislation that is providing the funding requires universities to use it to either mitigate increases in tuition and fees for students who are Michigan residents or to improve university learning facilities," says NMU Vice President Gavin Leach. "We wanted to help Northern students because of the economic climate."

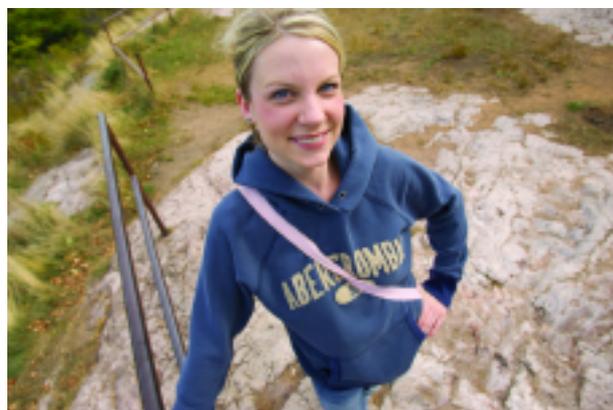


The university will also offer interest-free loans to students who were supposed to receive the Michigan Promise Scholarship until the legislature pulled the funding from the state budget. More than 1,200 NMU students were counting on \$1.5 million through the program. To assist with the unbudgeted expense, NMU is offering interest-free loans, with payments that can be spread over 20 months, to cover the value of each

student's anticipated award, worth up to \$2,000.

"Northern remains committed to access and affordability," says NMU President Les Wong. "The university had already allocated an additional \$1.2 million in financial aid for the neediest students this year, but we knew we needed to act again on behalf of Michigan students expecting the scholarship. By not delivering on its promise, the state put an added hardship on Michigan families—many of whom are already struggling—and shifted the burden to universities to try to fill the void so late in the academic year."

The NMU loan program applies only to the 2009-10 academic year.



Campaign College: Women to Win!

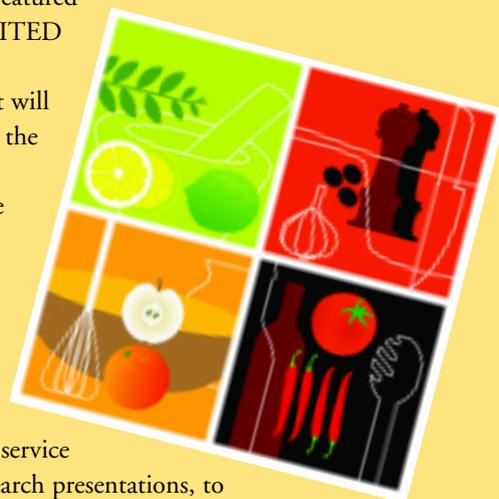
NMU is one of only 10 campuses in the nation and Jamaica awarded a grant to hold a 2010 Campaign College: Women to Win event. On March 20, this free training will teach young adults—women in particular—how to run for elected office and for university leadership positions. One goal of the program is to decrease the disparity between the high percentage of women in colleges and universities and their low representation in student government by encouraging them to run for campus leadership positions. Jocelyn Benson, a candidate for Michigan's Secretary of State in 2010, will be the keynote speaker.

UNITED in food

Do you have a favorite family dish or treat that relates to your heritage or upbringing? If so, share it with us and it could be featured in the 2010 UNITED recipe booklet.

The booklet will be published for the fourth Uniting Neighbors in the Experience of Diversity Conference, featuring international speakers, music, dance, art, film, service projects and research presentations, to be held in the fall on NMU's campus.

To submit your recipe, and share the story of its meaning and history in your family or heritage, go to www.nmu.edu/UNITED.



Still a superior teacher's college



NMU received an overall score of 68 out of 70 in Michigan Department of Education's teacher preparation institution performance scores for the 2007-08 academic year (the most recent measure), resulting in an "exemplary" classification by the state. Only one other institution, Andrews University, received more points.

The rankings are based on scores in several areas. NMU received full points in all categories except for diversity because the percentage of students represented by ethnic minorities at NMU is less than the 10 percent needed to get the five points in the category. Thirty of the 70 points are awarded for more than a 90 percent passing rate on the content areas of the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC). NMU's 95 percent pass rate was among the highest in the state.

"We are pleased that the state has recognized our program and given it an exemplary rating," says NMU's School of Education Director Rod Clarcken. "We have an outstanding teacher education program. Our faculty, students, alumni and employers have known that for years, and now I hope others will come to know its excellence as well."

Courtesy of Marsh Photographic Creations



Theatre named for Dr. P.

A public dedication ceremony was held in December at the Black Box Theatre on the campus of NMU to honor recently retired longtime theater professor James Panowski. The NMU Board of Trustees voted to name the space The James A. Panowski Black Box Theatre. The theatre, in the McClintock Building, has been a popular venue for student-produced, directed, designed and performed one-act plays.

Panowski served as artistic director of the Forest Roberts Theatre at Northern for 34 years. During his tenure, theater students used rooms in Jamrich Hall to direct and participate in lab shows and studio productions. When a large room and surrounding space in the McClintock building was vacated by Graphic Arts, Panowski worked diligently to secure the space for student theatrical productions. The Black Box was established in 2000.



Pictured are NMU alumni who are involved in the Forest Roberts Theatre program and attended the dedication ceremony. From left to right are: (front row) Panowski, NMU President Les Wong, and Jacqueline Love '99; (2nd row) Kim Hegmegee '93, Denise Clark '89, Paul Truckey '88, Blaine Betts '70, Cindy Paavola '84 and Tony Tollefson '82; (3rd row) Bobby Glenn Brown '87, B.G. Bradley '91, Jeffery Gagnon '93 and Rob Sherlin '95.

SPORTS AT NMU

'Cats Prowl Last Fall

By Kyle Lynch

The Wildcats proved dangerous during the fall portion of the 2009-10 athletic season. Among the milestones for the teams of autumn were:

- the volleyball team's return to the NCAA Tournament;
- the soccer team's first-ever home conference tournament playoff match; and
- the football team's first top 25 ranking in the American Football Coaches Association poll.

Volleyball

Coach Dominic Yoder's volleyball team captured 19 wins, the third consecutive year with 19 or more victories—and finished 19-5 overall and 11-5 in Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

action, which was good for second place in the North division. Northern won its first-round GLIAC Tournament match versus Grand Valley State, but lost in the quarterfinals to Saginaw Valley State. In the NCAA

Tournament first round, the 'Cats fell to Hillsdale, 2-3 in a wild five-set contest.

Yoder felt positive coming into the season, saying, "We thought that our team was skilled and poised enough to compete for a shot at hosting the GLIAC tournament, as well as to compete for a trip to the NCAA tournament." The coach was not disappointed with how the season



Senior linebacker Nathan Yelk was one of 100 players named to the 2009 D2 Football.com All-America Team. Yelk was a first-team all-GLIAC pick who led NMU in total tackles (51 solo, 47 assisted). He also had 9 tackles for loss, 2 sacks, 2 interceptions recovered 3 fumbles and scored a touchdown.

unfolded and "the way the team built upon last year's success, allowing seniors to go out with success and they did." He was also pleased with the team's 100 percent graduation rate.

Added Yoder, "I think next year's team will be young, but with much talent and potential. It will be up to our coaching staff to develop these players to the level of the 2009 senior class."

Soccer

The soccer team went 10-9-1 overall and 7-6-1 in the GLIAC, the latter earning NMU home field advantage for the first round of the conference tourney, where the 'Cats dropped their match to No. 1 nationally ranked Grand Valley State.

"Hosting a GLIAC playoff match was a first and a well-deserved reward for the players. I think the season was a great success," says Coach Matt Granstrand. "We are working hard in our off season training and we have a very talented group returning, as well as an exciting incoming class, so it should be a great year. I will go as far as to say



Outside hitter Mandie Meyer closed out her senior year by being selected as an honorable mention to the American Volleyball Coaches Association Midwest Region Team and to the GLIAC's first team. She led the Wildcats with 403 kills and had 48 service aces, 313 digs and 27 total blocks.

that I expect to be in the NCAA postseason tournament in 2010.”

Not only did Granstrand’s squad have its best year on the field, but also one of its best-ever in the classroom, capturing the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Team Academic Award with a 3.29 team grade point average.

Football

The Wildcat football team also put together an exciting 2009 campaign. At one point in the season it won five straight games to climb into the No. 23 spot on the AFCA’s Division II national rankings. Northern finished 6-4 overall and in GLIAC play to tie for fifth place in the 12-team conference. It was the first winning season since 2002.

“We improved and I’m pleased that we’re moving in the right direction. Still, we’re not where we want to be,” says Coach **Bernie Anderson, ’78 BS, ’89 MAE**. “We took pride in having a winning season for the first time in a while and I felt we were about two games away from making the playoffs. We needed to improve defensively and we did. We also started to build some consistency from week to week, which is what has to be there to be a winning football team.”

Anderson says the 16 seniors will be difficult to replace, but adds that the majority of the defense is back, as are NMU’s starting quarterback, kicker and punter.

“I think if we have players step up to fill in what we’ve lost on the offensive line and at the tailback position, we have the potential to be solid across the board,” Anderson says. “I know the coaches and players want to keep moving the program forward. I’m proud of how well our team has done academically and that the players are very active in volunteer work. They’re developing good

leadership skills, and we’ll need that to go where we want to go.”

Cross Country

A relatively young NMU cross country team finished 13th at the NCAA Midwest Regional meet and was seventh at the GLIAC Championships. Coach **Jenny Ryan ’02 MS** says that more than half of her 30-member squad were freshmen or sophomores.

“They gained a valuable year of experience and they learned how to train. That along with some talented recruits we’re bringing in and the return or some of our top performers from 2008 who missed the past year due to injury or red-shirting will make us a strong team.

We should be moving up in the conference and region,” says Ryan.

To learn more about these Wildcat teams and to find out how the winter squads are faring, go to www.nmu.edu/sports.



Senior Bibiane Mahy was the Wildcat cross country’s team top finisher at the GLIAC Championships (34th), Lake Superior State Challenge (3rd), Midwest Championships (39th) and Roy Griak Invitational (21st).



Kara Music, a second-team All-GLIAC choice, finished her Wildcat career as the NMU soccer program’s top goalkeeper with a 47-25-4 record, 1.17 goals-against average and an .820 saves percentage. The wins and GAA were NMU records, as were her 21 shutouts and 393 saves.



USOEC Hosts National Weightlifting Competition

As if the Berry Events Center hasn't had enough excitement for one year hosting the U.S. Olympic Team Trials and a World Cup in short track speedskating this past fall, the Harlem Globetrotters this winter and as the site of some nail-biting Wildcat basketball and hockey action, April 16-18 the venue will host the 2010 USA Weightlifting National Collegiate Championships.

Among the Olympic Challenge events put on by the United States Olympic Education Center in past years, weightlifting was decidedly one of the fan favorites.

"When the crowd gets into it like that, the atmosphere is electric. It spurs the athletes on and they become motivated to prove how

strong they are. I expect to see several national collegiate records fall during our event," says Andy Tysz, USOEC weightlifting coach and event director.

Like Tysz, USOEC director **Jeff Kleinschmidt '83 BS** has no doubt the crowd will again be enthusiastic in its support.

"When it comes to putting on elite sporting events, the USOEC,

NMU and the Marquette community have gained an excellent reputation. If this event is anywhere near as successful as the speedskating Olympic Trials and World Cups held at the Berry in the past, these weightlifters will be thrilled with the atmosphere and it will be a great competition," says Kleinschmidt.

To learn more, go to www.nmu.edu/usoc.



NCAA Tournament Record-holder Returns to NMU

Former Wildcat Kim Falkenhagen '97 BS has returned to NMU volleyball as Dominic Yoder's assistant coach. Falkenhagen was a member of the 1994 and 1995 NMU teams after transferring from Weber State. She is an NMU Sports Hall of Fame inductee as a part of the 1994 national championship team.

Falkenhagen comes to NMU from Eastern New Mexico University, where she has been head coach since 2007. Prior to that, she was the coach at Bemidji State (2003-06), a graduate assistant coach at West Texas A&M (2000-02) and a prep coach at Bay City (Mich.) Central High School (1997-99).

At the 1995 NCAA Tournament, where the 'Cats were the runners-up to the national title, Falkenhagen was named to the NCAA all-tournament team after posting a hitting percentage of .867 against Virginia Wesleyan—an NCAA Tournament record that still stands. Falkenhagen was also an all-region pick both years at NMU.

