Men’s lacrosse team video goes viral

Rock, paper, scissors is how the WMU lacrosse team settled a recent match with the University of Dayton that was canceled by lightning. WMU took the best two out of three games.

A video of the two teams using the old children’s game to decide the winner went viral, garnering some 463,000 views and the attention of nationwide media such as ESPN and other sports news organizations. To watch the video, visit instagram.com/p/BLET9cHBxD2.

Service-learning award winners named

The WMU recipients of 2015-16 Excellence in Service Learning awards are Brian Gogan, English, and social work graduates Victoria Brooks, Erica Goble and Trista Schuman. The community partner honor was presented to Restore Ministries and was accepted by the group’s executive director, Marcus Collins. For details about the awards, visit wmich.edu/servicelearning.

Graduate journal extends deadline

The deadline to submit written materials for the Hilltop Review: A Journal of Western Michigan University Graduate Research has been extended to Friday, Oct. 21. For the upcoming issue, WMU graduate students may make submissions of research articles, book reviews, letters to the editor, artwork and digital photography from all disciplines.

The Hilltop Review awards small monetary prizes for the three top-ranked articles submitted and the top-ranked cover art. To make a submission, a volunteer to be a peer reviewer or staff member, visit scholarworks.wmich.edu/hilltopreview.

For more information about the Hilltop Review or the Graduate Student Association, visit wmich.edu/gsa.

Presidential search moving forward

The 22-member Presidential Search Advisory Committee has met twice and nearly finished developing a leadership profile that outlines the qualities the next president should have. A website at wmich.edu/presidentialsearch has also been launched and will be continuously updated as the process moves forward.

Still time to attend an FLSA meeting

Informational training sessions on the Fair Labor Standards Act changes that go into effect Thursday, Dec. 1, will be held at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24, and Thursday, Oct. 27, and at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25. The sessions are open to the campus community and are targeted toward nonexempt employees as well as managers, supervisors and timekeepers. For more about the WMU FLSA Compliance Project, visit wmich.edu/flsacompliance.

Alliance with FSW formally announced in Florida

Officials from WMU and Florida Southwestern College gathered Oct. 18 to formally announce their new alliance that will allow WMU to offer several high-profile academic programs at FSW’s Charlotte County, Florida, campus.

The event included remarks by John M. Dunn, WMU president; Jeff Allbritten, FSW president; Denis Wright, FSW regional vice president for economic development; and Bill Truex, chair of the Charlotte County Board of Commissioners.

“Florida is home to the highest number of WMU alumni outside of the Midwest and presents great opportunity for new research, development and partnerships,” Dunn has said. “Our alumni and University supporters are thrilled that WMU is partnering with FSW to become an economic and cultural force in the area.”

WMU has record-breaking homecoming day

Young and old from all walks of life participated in the wide range of activities taking place Oct. 8 on homecoming Saturday. From left to right, clockwise: Couples renewed their vows, many people “dressed up” for their vow renewal, fans cheered the Broncos to victory, and runners and walkers from across the country took part in the 18th Campus Classic. (Photos by Mike Lanka)
Climate change, water is talk topic
Climate change and how it will affect water resources will be discussed by Ro-
manian scholar Liliana Zaharia from the University of Bucharest at 3 p.m. Friday.
October 21, in 219 Wood Hall.

WMU choirs present fall showcase
Three acclaimed choral ensembles—
the University Chorale, the Collegiate Singers and Cantus Femina—will present a
free concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23,
in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

WMU represented at poetry reading
Humorous poems will be featured during a
“Can Poetry Be Funny?” reading at 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 25, in the Kalama Zoo Public
Library’s Van Deusen Room. Among the
special guest speakers will be Don Cooney,
social work, and Garrard McLeod, retired
WMUK general manager. Reading will
be Bonnie Joe Campbell, Jennifer Clark,
Elizabeth Kerlikowske, Kit Almy, Lynn
Patton, Janet Hellig, Elizabeth Clem,
Marion Boyer and Deborah Gang.

Research night returns to Waldo
Waldo Library is staging “Night of the
Research Paper” from 4 to 9 p.m. Tues-
day, Oct. 25, to help students in the pre-
course prepare for their research assignments. For more
information, visit wmich.edu/library/
researchnight.

Annual Benefits and Wellness Expo scheduled for Oct. 26
This year’s Benefits and Wellness Expo
is set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday Oct.
26, in the Bernhard Center’s East Ballroom.
In addition to drawings for Fitbits and other prizes, healthy food samples and exhibitor
giveaways, it will feature health prevention
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Sphinx Virtuosi to perform in Dalton
The Sphinx Virtuosi, 18 of the na-
tion’s top African-American and Latino
classical soloists, will perform at 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 26, in the Dalton
Center. Robert White, music, will host a
pre-performance discussion at 7 p.m.
Tickets are available at millerauditorium.com
or by calling (269) 387-2300.

Career-related events taking place
WMU will host the Broadcast Media
Career and Networking Fair from noon
4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, in Brown
Hall’s first-floor lobby. A series of business-
related career events strictly for WMU
students begin Friday, Nov. 11, so don’t
miss them.

Research night returns to Waldo
Waldo Library is staging “Night of the
Research Paper” from 4 to 9 p.m. Tues-
day, Oct. 25, to help students in the pre-
course prepare for their research assignments. For more
information, visit wmich.edu/library/
researchnight.

Around campus and beyond

Around campus and beyond

Professor pens digital media book
Richard A. Gershon, communication, has penned a book that delves into how smart,
creative companies have transformed the
business of media and telecommunications
by introducing unique and original products and services. Titled “Digital Media
and Innovation: Management and Design
Strategies in Communication,” it was released by SAGE Publications Inc.
in March.

His text introduces current and future
media industry professionals to the people,
companies and strategies that have proven
to be real game changers by offering the
marketplace a unique value proposition for
the consumer.

Today’s media managers are faced with the
same basic question: What are the best
strategies for staying competitive over time?
In one word, Gershon asserts, “innovation.”

Henderson elected fellow of APS
Charles R. Henderson, physics and Mal-
linson Institute, was elected a 2016 Fellow
of the American Physical Society during the
APS Council of Representatives’ Sep-
tember meeting on recommendation of the
Topical Group on Phys-
ics Education Research.

The prestigious honor is peer recognition
for Henderson’s outstanding contributions to physics.

He was cited for pio-
near research and collaborative use of
research-based instructional strategies in physics, for his leadership and service to the physics educa-
tion research community; and for serving as an ambassador to science, technology,
engineering, and math education broadly.

Henderson researchers physics education,
change in higher education and discipline-
based education research. His work has
been supported by more than $7 million in
external grants.

Political scientist tapped for D.C. post
Mark S. Hurwitz, political science, is help-
ing to determine which grant proposals from
U.S. scholars in the areas of law and social
sciences will get National Science Founda-
tion funding. The NSF tapped Hurwitz for
a two-year post as a program director for the federal agency’s Law and Social Sciences
Program, which awards some $5.5
million annually in grants to
researchers.

“The types of proposals we usually get range from
studies on how judges make decisions to issues
of police-community interactions to legal
mobilization and access to justice,” says
Hurwitz, who went on leave in August to
take this assignment in Washington, D.C.

“We’re dealing with critical issues—what’s
going on in our streets, communities and
courthouses. Given everything we’re hearing
on the news, these are not trivial issues.”

When he completes his term, he expects to
return to the University with a new skillset,
better equipped to enhance and promote the
research and scholarly community at WMU.

Henderson

Gershon

Hurwitz
Future teachers benefiting from scholarship

Six recent graduates of Kalamazoo high schools have just had an opportunity to meet those behind a new WMU scholarship they are the first to receive.

The WMU-Kalamazoo Public Schools Future Educators Program will help the students become educators and enhance their educational experience at Kalamazoo Public Schools.

At an Oct. 6 luncheon for the first six scholarship recipients, the previously anonymous benefactor for five of the scholarships revealed his identity and met and congratulated the students benefiting from the program.

William F. Pickard of Bloomfield Hills, a WMU alumnus and trustee, initiated a $250,000 grant to the program.

That grant funds five $5,000 scholarships annually for five years for Kalamazoo Promise-eligible students who plan to become teachers. It was provided by the Pickard Family Fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

A sixth program scholarship was funded by the Advia Foundation. Janet Veatch from Advia greeted students at the meeting as well. The six students awarded named scholarships through the program this year are all graduates of KPS high schools.

Committee seeks nominations for review observation team

WMU’s Learner Support Program Review and Planning Oversight Committee is soliciting nominations from senior leaders, deans, chairs and directors by Friday, Oct. 21, to serve on its Observation Team.

Nominations are being sought from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the divisions of Academic Affairs, Intercollegiate Athletics and Student Affairs.

WMU is well into the second cycle of its integrated program review and planning process. Called Learner Support Program Review and Planning, this review cycle is intended to collect and analyze meaningful data-driven information. Data will be used to inform strategic planning leading to campuswide continuous improvement in WMU’s learner support programs portfolio.

Phase I of the cycle is continuing through Wednesday, Nov. 30. Actively completing their self-study reports are 126 learner support programs from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the divisions of Academic Affairs, Intercollegiate Athletics and Student Affairs.

They are responding to a set of questions developed for the Academic Program Review and Planning process— the first cycle in the integrated program review and planning process. But these questions have been modified for use with learner support programs.

Phase II of the current cycle, next division-level review, will begin Tuesday, Nov. 1, and span until Friday, Jan. 6, 2017. The final review cycle will be conducted in 2018.

Trustees approve changes in campus, road names

Acting at its Oct. 11 meeting, WMU trustees approved a slate of name changes designed to make it easier to navigate the University campus.

The changes grew out of a yearlong effort to assess, simplify and make wayfinding on campus more intuitive. The effort includes new signage as well as other wayfinding tools.

The first major change involves redesignating the University’s major physical presence in Kalamazoo as Main Campus for everything west of Stadium Drive, and East Campus for property east of Stadium Drive. In addition, the campus Ring Road, which includes several stretches of named roadways that are remnants of a time when they were city streets, will now be known as North Ring Road and South Ring Road.

Four named streets around Lawson Ice Arena—Crane, Hussey, Roell and Warner—will be incorporated into a new, single Lawson Drive. The four names were selected in 1975 to honor faculty members.

Those names will instead become the names of individual intramural fields to preserve the recognition intended for the four, who were members of the Women’s Physical Education Department.

Clayton tapped to head military, veterans affairs

A WMU staff member who is a U.S. Army veteran with more than 20 years of military experience is the new head of the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs.

WMU has selected Billy L. Clayton, that office’s military outreach and recruitment coordinator for the past two years and a retired first sergeant, to fill the post of military advocate, effective Oct. 17.

Clayton replaces Joyce D. Busch, who was serving as military advocate until leaving WMU in late July to take a teaching position in the Washington, D.C., area.

“Billy brings a wonderful combination of military and WMU service as well as an understanding of our students to this position,” says Randy W. Ott, director of the Center for Academic Success Programs, where military and veterans affairs is housed.

“The more than 700 veteran students at WMU will continue to be well taken care of under Billy’s leadership,” Clayton served in the Army from 1993 to 2014. He first came to WMU in 2009, when he was assigned by the Army to serve as a senior military instructor in the University’s ROTC program.
WMU students, employees have complimentary access to New York Times

All WMU students, faculty and staff members now have complimentary access to the digital edition of the New York Times and select New York Times apps.

Two types of subscriptions to nytimes.com were made available starting at the beginning of this academic year. They are a group account, called the nytimes.com Pass, and The New York Times in Education account, which provides specialized tools for teachers.

Both types of subscriptions allow 24/7 access to digital content. As with an individual subscription, both can be used on a desktop computer, tablet and mobile device. The subscriptions are prepaid through WMU's University Libraries, so they require only a valid wmich.edu address and Bronco NetID.

“In addition to the active campus community getting great news, the exciting part about these subscriptions is that teachers can use a variety of New York Times resources in their classrooms,” says Lou A. Morgan, senior marketing specialist in University Libraries. “At the same time, students can have their own accounts so they can use Times resources for other classes—and for as long as they’re a student here.”

The group pass allows users to review and receive news regardless of whether it is in email, video or virtual reality formats, as well as to download an elections app, search the New York Times archives back to the 1880s, sign up for email newsletters and alerts, and more.

It includes the NYTimes smartphone and tablet apps, which are available through the Apple and Android app stores.

Faculty members who set up a New York Times in Education account have access to lesson plans, based on subject areas, which center around Times articles and are updated weekly by faculty contributors.

In addition to those faculty-curated New York Times articles, subscribers receive custom news alerts, suggestions for co-curricular activities and weekly digests of news articles in such major subject areas as biology, business, criminal justice and economics.

For more information, visit wmich.edu/news/2016/10/35360.

Apply for cultural funding

The University Cultural Events Committee is accepting applications for partial funding of cultural events to take place between now and spring 2017. The next deadline for funding consideration is Monday, Nov. 7. For more information, visit wmich.edu/cec or contact Julie Nemire at julie.nemire@wmich.edu.