Credit card theft hits close to home for Aquinas students

By Tyler Nethercott | The Lancer Online

Credit card theft hits close to home for Aquinas students

Constantly being told to be weary of the internet for study and research purposes, students should also be on the lookout for identity theft online — a trend which has been striking close to home at Aquinas College.

Recently, sophomore Matt Seager attempted to purchase tickets for a metal-rock concert on Ticketmaster when his debit card was denied. Confused by the denial, Seager checked his balance. He realized that there was $750 in his account,

but instead of $750 there was $28. When he finally got through to the Lake Michigan Credit Union, when he learned his money and called the credit company to cancel his account.

"Apparently, according to the clerk at the credit union, the last withdrawal from my account was at Seager's account, but he still felt the need to do a little more research about the nature of the theft.

"When I looked at the last purchase before the withdrawal, it was for a book I purchased for $9.50," he said. "I then found out that identity theft occurrences are more frequent on the site than on many other websites. At least now I know who to blame if I ever find myself in a similar situation.

"I told the woman it had more than likely made a fraudulent card and they managed to acquire my pin number somehow. They said that this kind of situation is not rare.

The credit union offered another explanation identity thieves hacked into the ATM, but said it was very unlikely somehow. They said that this kind of an occurrence is not likely.

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Grade inflation in higher education a scandal, 'achievement level disappearing'

By Chester Factor

For over 15 years, grade inflation has engulfed nearly the entire American educational system and now continues in reverse. A recent survey by the National Council on Measurement in Education has shown that, on average, college students receive grades that are 10% higher than they were 15 years ago. The survey also found that professors who awarded As in 2000 now give out 85% of A's, whereas in 1980, only 50% of students received As.

The grades that faculty members offer are not only higher, but at Harvard and other elite institutions, students are not only receiving higher grades, but in some cases, no grades at all. The 2005-2006 academic year saw a 20% increase in grades of A plus and A minus. The 2006-2007 academic year saw a 25% increase in grades of A plus and A minus. The 2007-2008 academic year saw a 30% increase in grades of A plus and A minus.

The reasons for this grade inflation are many. Some blame the pressure to maintain high enrollment numbers, while others blame the desire to keep students happy and satisfied with their educational experience. Some blame the rise of the “gaming the system” mentality, where students are encouraged to take easier courses in order to get better grades.

But the real reason for grade inflation is the drop in achievement level. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) found that, between 1990 and 2005, the average reading score of high school seniors dropped by 30 points, and the average math score dropped by 27 points. The drop in achievement level is caused by a variety of factors, including a decrease in the number of students taking challenging courses, a decrease in the number of students taking advanced placement exams, and a decrease in the number of students taking the SATs.

The drop in achievement level has led to a decrease in the number of students who are prepared for college. The College Board found that, between 1990 and 2005, the number of students who scored a 600 or higher on the SAT dropped by 25%. This has led to a decrease in the number of students who are able to attend college, and a decrease in the number of students who are able to attend the college of their choice.

The drop in achievement level has also led to a decrease in the number of students who are able to find jobs after college. The National Association of Colleges and Employers found that, between 1990 and 2005, the number of jobs available to college graduates dropped by 20%. This has led to a decrease in the number of students who are able to find jobs after college, and a decrease in the number of students who are able to find the jobs that they want.

The drop in achievement level has also led to a decrease in the number of students who are able to find the careers that they want. The National Association of Colleges and Employers found that, between 1990 and 2005, the number of students who were able to find jobs in the career of their choice dropped by 25%. This has led to a decrease in the number of students who are able to find the careers that they want, and a decrease in the number of students who are able to find the careers that they are passionate about.

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**St. Patty’s Day: Moose Style**

Go Irish: The annual St. Patrick’s Day celebration was held at the Moose Cafe, hosted by the Ireland Alumni Association. Students, graduates, faculty and friends of Aquinas came out to join. Irish music provided background music for the festivities. The celebration was held the day of the week the celebration falls on this year and the lack of funds. "I'm such a trickster," Epplett said. "I mean, I really pushed to publish an issue. Hopefully, I can trick some people. That's what April Fool's Day is all about."

**Special online April Fool’s Day edition of The Saint promises to be delightful**

*By Craig VanNoostrum*

Sometimes a tight budget and a vision collide.

As the Editorial Board of The Saint contemplated publishing an April Fool’s Day issue, it was faced with the reality of a budget that had been cut over the past several years. "We thought it'd be truly funny and fitting to have an issue come out on April Fool's Day," said editor Chris Epplett. "But there were a couple of obstacles—namely, the lack of funds and the tight budget that had been cut over the past several years.

As a result, the editors decided to try something new—publish the newspaper online for the special day. The pages will be available some time after midnight on April 1. The exact timing of each issue was not revealed before that date. We used our computers like electronic leprechauns to do this. We turned on our computers like electronic leprechauns to do this. We turned on our computers to make the issue of April Fool’s Day.

"To state the obvious, which often like to do, this is the first time The Saint has published an April Fool's Day issue,” said student reporter Kyle Mahoney. "When the newspaper was inaugurated in The Saint’s first year, an April Fool’s Day issue appeared a few times. But, you know, with some careful research, you’ll find out The Saint has never published one before."

The Aquinas newspaper, which is in its second year under the nickname The Saint, did not publish an issue on April Fool’s Day last year. "We’re excited about this issue," Epplett said. "I think the readers will be happy with this new edition."

The pages will be available online at www.aquinas.edu/thesaint. Be sure to check out our April Fool’s Day edition online for some of so many jokes on April Fool’s Day that will make you laugh. The pages will be available online at www.aquinas.edu/thesaint. Be sure to check out our April Fool’s Day edition online for some of so many jokes on April Fool’s Day that will make you laugh. The pages will be available online at www.aquinas.edu/thesaint. Be sure to check out our April Fool’s Day edition online for some of so many jokes on April Fool’s Day that will make you laugh.

**Start by doing what’s necessary... then do what’s possible... and suddenly you are doing the impossible.**

— St Francis of Assisi

The Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity, Catholic women religious in service to the world. Our ministries include education, healthcare and community/parish services in a diversity of rewarding environments.


The world needs you. God calls you. We invite you.

**Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity**
From the perspective of the Editor in Chief, that shows how much we've been doing and will continue to do in the future.

Dear Reader,

We've been doing and will continue to do in the future.

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Dear Reader,
Non Sequitur

I believe that the Earth was created by aliens who were attempting to escape from one or more incoming extraterrestrial ships. No, I don’t. No one does. I am a Scientist.

But Isaac Hayes — the voice of Shaft in the movies, a star of Shaft in the TV series, and a man who could have been a great James Earl Jones — was indeed a genius. Hayes made music and performed it with such a drive and creativity that he was the voice of the soul. He died at the age of 74 in 2008, but his music lives on.

Hayes was a singer, songwriter, and actor, but he was also known for his work in film and television. He appeared in several movies and TV shows, including Shaft, Black Dynamite, and Shaft in Harlem.

Hayes was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, on June 20, 1931. He grew up in a poor family, and he began singing in church at an early age. He attended Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, where he studied music.

Hayes was the first African-American to win an Emmy Award for music composition, which he did for the TV series Shaft. He also won an Academy Award for Best Original Song for the movie Shaft.

Hayes was a man of many talents, and he used them to create some of the greatest music of his time. He was a true icon, and he will be missed.

And the Oscar for making our souls cry goes to...

To say that Shaft is a disillusions is a dissapointment would be giving it too much credit.

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To say that Shaft is a disillusions is a dissapointment would be giving it too much credit.
By Matt Bergevin

**V for Vendetta**

Two-time Academy Award-winning actress Natalie Portman战争了，ruined to the role of V, the lead in the upcoming James Bond film, **V for Vendetta**. The role of V is provided by Hugo Weaving, who played Agent Smith in *The Matrix*. V is an extraordinary character who dreams of a revolution and is willing to commit acts of terrorism to achieve his goals. The story of **V for Vendetta** is set in a future dystopian society where the government is corrupt and oppressive. V is a symbol of resistance against the government and is known for his violent actions and philosophical views on life and existence. The film was directed by Christopher Nolan, who is also known for his other groundbreaking films such as *Inception* and *The Dark Knight*. The cast of **V for Vendetta** includes Hugo Weaving, Natalie Portman, James McAvoy, and Christian Bale. The film features a mix of action, drama, and political themes, and is expected to be one of the most anticipated releases of the year. The film is set in a future where the government is corrupt and oppressive, and V is a symbol of resistance against the government and its brutality. V is a revolutionist who dreams of a better world, and is willing to commit acts of terrorism to bring about change. The story of **V for Vendetta** is set in this dystopian society, where the government is corrupt and oppressive. V is a symbol of resistance against the government and is known for his violent actions and philosophical views on life and existence. The film was directed by Christopher Nolan, who is also known for his other groundbreaking films such as *Inception* and *The Dark Knight*. The cast of **V for Vendetta** includes Hugo Weaving, Natalie Portman, James McAvoy, and Christian Bale. The film features a mix of action, drama, and political themes, and is expected to be one of the most anticipated releases of the year.
**SPORTS**

**SPARTAN FANS STILL HAVE HOPE**

By Matt Bergevin | Sports Editor

The Saint needed a golden touch to get the season off to a winning start. But with victories over Ohio State and Xavier, the Red Storm are off to a 2-0 start for the first time in school history.

**Pong table becomes a regular event at St. Joseph the Worker Hall**

By Matt Bergevin | Sports Editor

Ping pong is a sport that can be played by all. It requires intelligence, skill, hand-eye coordination, and an all-second talent. It was given the name Beng Beng by the Japanese in the 19th century. Ping pong is very popular overseas, especially in Asia. It was given the name ping pong by J. Jackson due to the sound made by the ball striking the table and the vellum paddles that were used at the time. Soon after, the National Table Tennis Federation was founded. It was held at the Paris Olympics in 1920. Ping pong is not only popular in Asia — it is slowly growing in popularity more and more in the states. There is even a professional league called the International Table Tennis Federation. The ITTF is a network of rules, regulations, exemptions, and much more to do with the sport. It is sponsored by ping pong companies in Asia. The National Table Tennis Federation sponsors the World Cup and Olympic Table Tennis. It is held in late March at Paris, France.

Ping pong is a very popular recreation, especially in St. Louis. The Saint had a recreational ping pong league that is still in existence. The league is sponsored by the St. Joe's Hall resident Mike Stempien. "It has been a great way for me to develop my skills as an advocate for St. Joe's Hall alumnus Charley Clapp. "Playing ping pong suggests a healthy exercise, an alternative to other activities. It has also been a great way for me to develop my skills as an advocate for St. Joe's Hall," said St. Joe's Hall resident Mike Stempien. "It has just been a great way for me to develop my skills as an advocate for St. Joe's Hall."
Baseball team prepares to take the field

By Bob Brown

So far for the Aquinas softball team, their toughest opponent has been the weather. Aquinas suffered another rainout in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament on Thursday when their scheduled game against Madonna was called off after only one inning.

"The women's basketball team also played relatively well against the Ohio State Buckeyes and the University of South Florida. However, they were unable to finish the game due to a lack of scoring in the second half," said the source. "The women's basketball team lost the game by a score of 67-47 to the Buckeyes. The team's performance was una satisfactory, and the players showed little desire to continue fighting.

The weather continued to be a problem for the rest of the week, as the women's basketball team was forced to play their remaining games in an indoor facility. However, the team showed improvement in their last game, a win over the University of Notre Dame. The team's performance was much better in this game, and they were able to overcome the difficult conditions.

The basketball season ended on a high note for the women's team, as they advanced to the NCAA Tournament. The team's performance was impressive, and they showed the country what they were capable of.

The Aquinas baseball team is returning 19 players from last year's squad, and hopes to continue on improving their already impressive record.