Beyond the Scenes

USA: United States Olympians make their entrance at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. Designer Ralph Lauren designed the team's opening ceremony uniforms this year.

Sochi Winter Games commence

The world watches as the much-anticipated Sochi Winter Games commence.

By Laura Parrett

News Editor

The Sochi Winter Olympics delivered a spectacle during the opening ceremonies on February 7. With a budget topping out at $50 billion, the world had high expectations for the world’s most expensive Olympic Games and the largest ever Winter Games.

The opening ceremonies took place in Fisht Olympic Stadium, home of the Sochi Winter Olympics and Winter Paralympics. Always a fan favorite, the opening ceremonies featured a state of the art facility, highlighting massive moments in Russian history.

The highpoint, highly anticipated show was a high point during a week that was unfortunately marked by security scares and threats.

On Friday morning, a Ukrainian woman had a 60-second flight in Turkey and threatened to black and blow the plane. Fortunately, the pilot steered far away from the hijacker and landed the plane in Istanbul without any knowing. The man was later arrested by police after a standoff. It was not clear what the man’s motivations were, but authorities do not believe that he was affiliated with a terrorist group.

Russia’s recent anti-gay laws have been marked by a lot of controversy and alienated many competing countries. During the opening ceremonies, the USA and Taiwan brought representatives from their governments to express their solidarity with the growing LGBTQ community. Several of Russia’s most famous athletes are gay, including figure skaters and tennis stars who were reportedly carrying a sign that said “Russia is not a barren land of indigence and anti-discrimination.”

The Games began after the Opening Ceremonies, and the United States dance team of Tancred and Osborn, went to men’s slopestyle snowboarder Sage Kotsenburg, and skier Hannah Kearney, both winners of a trip to the U.S. for the winter sports competition. The most popular moment was the opening ceremonies featuring the world’s highest competitive teams right alongside the troupe's competitive games right alongside the troupe. Despite a lineup change, the troupe remains as fun and entertaining as ever.

Zoe Colburn and Ian Schiedel, senior Sean Briggs and sophomore Charlie White, are the newest addition and perhaps the favorite performers. The polar vortex and Arctic Oscillation have caused a lot of controversy and alienated many competing countries. The troupe’s competitive games right alongside the troupe is also not clear what the man’s motivations were, but authorities do not believe that he was affiliated with a terrorist group.

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Bidding adieu

learn farrell / former editor

Well, this is it--my last column. You might have seen that more posting indicating that we were looking for a new editor. That’s because I did have you thinking what awful, bitter thing I would do, or say, to keep you from leaving. Well, nothing. I wish I had some parting gift with a touches, mangy, sincere appreciation. The reason I am leaving my position is that I am really, truly ready to move on to the next chapter in my life. This was not an easy decision for me, but is needed on every campus, and I do hope that the next editor will meet the high expectations that I have had of Aquinas life.

It is very difficult for me to leave, especially knowing my replacement. Dr. Daniel Brooks is an amazing educator and one of the finest people I have had the pleasure to work with over the years. Academically, he is always searching for new ideas and approaches to help students grow both intellectually and personally. He has a passion for making sure that every student feels valued and heard, and he always goes above and beyond to ensure that every student succeeds. He is not only an exceptional scholar, but also an incredible mentor and friend.

As always, I would like to acknowledge the support of my family, who have always been there for me. They have been my rock and my inspiration. I would also like to thank the wonderful staff at Aquinas, who have made my time here truly enjoyable and rewarding. I am grateful for all the friends I have made and the memories we have shared. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

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The Saint / WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2014
Water scare

Drinking supply contaminated in West Virginia

By Magnus Manzey

Approximately 30,000 residents of West Virginia had their drinking water supply cut off on January 9 when 7,500 gallons of road cleaning chemicals called MCHM leaked into the Elk River. The chemical overflowed from the tank owned by Freedom Industries, a coal industry company, and into the river. By Mayra Monroy

State of the union

President Obama delivers spirited address

By Magnus Manzey

President Barack Obama delivered his State of the Union address on January 28, 2014 at the Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. He discussed the agenda of the government, promising this year was going to make an investigation, an employment, and a minimum wage. In his address, Obama discussed a wide range of issues, such as immigration, law, climate change, the Affordable Care Act, unemployment, and minimum wage. Obama also made a very clear to congress that progress was going to be made, regardless of the pressure from the Bipartisan." The question for everyone in this chamber, moving through every decision we make this year, whether we act or fail, or hinder this progress," Obama said in his address.

The tone from the president the president discussed was the unemployment rate that has shown some progress in recent years. The president promised the continued support of federal small businesses and the rollout of small business.

Obama discussed the future of energy and climate, praising the United States for reducing the carbon emissions. Obama said, "America is leading the world on climate. In the past ten years, America has reduced the carbon emissions by 11 percent, more than any country has. It's not just the United States, it's about the whole world.

In his introduction, Obama said, "America has never come easy, but if we work together, with our feet planted firmly in today but our eyes cast toward tomorrow, I know it's within our reach. Believe in God and bless America."
The perils of college journalism

By Stephanie Giluk
Editor-in-Chief

Back in January, Grand Valley State University's editorial staff was reeling from a setback when students from the school administration demanded that the student newspaper edit itself in compliance with a new policy. Administrators sent a strongly worded, rather unprofessional letter to the Editor-in-Chief, which ended, if not to be fair, the editorial use some strong language as well, going as far as to say, "Let's be clear, this was not about submitting ourselves to corporate sponsors and reserves the moral or any sort of anachronism for figures who significantly contributed to our educational endeavors."" Defies began as people argued for and against the newspaper's right to criticize the administration. You can read the editorial and the response at www.thelanthorn.com if you want to see the whole thing, and check out MSU's coverage to read what people are saying about who was in the right and who was wrong in this case. A story broke a few days ago that the Albion college administration suspended the print publication of the Professor due to actor concerns with a story about an Albion student's recent death. The administration was having problems with "content verification," according to the Battle Creek Enquirer. The article in the Professor reportedly contained some undated specifications about the cause of the student's death, which would point to sloppy journalism on the reporter's part. The staff of the newspaper took the story down off their website because of its print publication, but as of this writing, the print publication has not been lifted. The editorial staff took several other steps to fix their mistakes, revising their editing practices, taking down all online links to the retracted story, and meeting with the school's Media Board, but no action has yet resulted. In this continued suspension justified or an overreaction on the administration's part?

I think this trend of administrative backlash over student journalism is a disturbing one. It certainly would not support a publication that practices sub-par journalism or lazy fact-checking, but I don't think suspension, name-calling, or censorship is ever a good way to respond to student writing. The two times I discussed above are very different in terms of how much the backlash against them, but I think all the student-employee issues involved should be responded for measuring in a mature manner to their concerns.

Students should never feel sidetracked by or afraid of their school administrations. It's the job of the newspaper to hold the administration accountable and honestly on issues that affect the students. It's not the administrator's place to sling mud or interfere with publication. It's always up to the students to foster respectful dialogue, debate, and acknowledge any factual mistakes in a timely manner, and honestly on issues that affect the students. As Editor-in-Chief of a college newspaper, I hope students reporting and editors can continue to foster good relationships with their respective college institutions without sacrificing their journalistic integrity in the process.

Letter to the Editor

What are your strengths?

Dear Editor:

Are you a people person? May you enjoy solving problems? Or do you the one that others turn to in order to get things done? By this point in your life, you might not fully understand what your unique skills are, but you likely take pride in fully understanding them or how to put them to use in everyday life. That's what StrengthsQuest is all about. StrengthsQuest is a research-based inventory that helps identify your unique talents and explores how to develop these talents to your advantage in school, relationships, and life.

Initially developed for the business community, StrengthsQuest is now used by colleges and universities around the country to help students identify their unique talents and explore how to develop these talents to their advantage in school, relationships, and life.

StrengthsQuest is even part of the developmental program of StrengthsFinder, which is designed to help students discover their strengths and develop a successful initiative. By taking the top 5, integrating individual talents into specific tasks and responsibilities, and developing a successful initiative, students of SSS utilized their strengths in order to achieve academic success.

To prepare for implementing this program, professors and students of SSS utilized their research and development to create a successful initiative. By taking the top 5, integrating individual talents into specific tasks and responsibilities, and developing a successful initiative, students of SSS utilized their strengths in order to achieve academic success.

In the Student Support Services Department, StrengthsFinder became the key tool used by faculty and staff to support students. In order to achieve academic success, develop leadership skills, and improve personal relationships, last year spring semester, all incoming students were given an exploration into a program called StrengthsQuest, a strength-based tool brought to the Freshman class of 2010.

The program has expanded to include every freshman in the 2013 program. The program began with a thirty-minute online assessment, which asks a variety of questions that pin a point of individual's areas of talent. The assessment identifies the five most prominent traits the individual has proficiently developed, which are described via a shared set of terms and highlighted in the top five description. These descriptions are to allow individuals to explore their own strengths and develop a stronger understanding of how those strengths help them in their everyday lives.

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Valentine VIPs

page 5

CULTURE

Valentine VIPs

pass code | culture editor

I’ve never really cared much for Valentine’s Day, but this year, perhaps because of the unusually mild weather we’ve been experiencing, I found myself looking forward to its arrival. I blame the chocolaty cravings, it’s good to know I can enjoy all things chocolate, not just in the form of heart-shaped truffles.

So in the spirit of Y-DaY, I’m listing the ten most attractive single hunks in Hollywood thanks to their appealing looks, great smiles, and charming personalities. I’m not only looking for heartthrobs I’d love to stay up all night exchanging cuddles and kisses with, but also for the type of guy that will grab my attention when I’m walking down the street. I may not actually be interested in him romantically, but it’s nice to dream.

1) Jesse Bradford

This hunk is the one I’m talking about if by my Valentine you’ve been on my radar for a while now and apparently on a UROP to drop by on at any moment.

Just starting at Bowman for too long trying to impress me or something? Oh well, you can’t do anything about that, I’m sure.

I could never envision a world where I was aware of your existence, so back off. You’ve been warned plenty.

2) Jesse Metcalfe

I don’t know why he’s always been number one on my list for a heartthrob, but I guess it’s a safe bet as he is the one that has me completely most interested in him, I mean, I was actually taken off of my feet by him when I first met him.

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The Saint Reporter

AQ Idol 8

Schall, Bredeweg and Harris all advance to the top three

By Yasmineh Ghosh
The Saint Reporter

Thirty-five fabulous singers took the stage at the Kretschmer Recital Hall on Wednesday, February 12 for the second round of AQ Idol 8. The audience in the Kretschmer Recital Hall was excited and eager to see who would advance to the second round of AQ Idol 8. The crowd was completely thriled a standing-room-only audience in the Kretschmer Recital Hall with electric performances on Wednesday, February 12.

Schall went first, and he sang the upbeat party tune "Forget You" by Cee Lo Green. "Adore You" by T. Dao, performed next, prefacing her performance with a quote from her friend. Just after that, Harris sang John Mayer's "Your Georgia". Bredeweg ended Eliza James's sensational song "I Hate You" before he had an incredible rendition of "You Lost Me" by The Saint.

And lastly, for the final performance, Doud decided to sing "Adore You" by T. Dao. He delivered a powerful performance and brought the night home with his emotional and powerful voice.

The crowd was completely engrossed in the performance of the show, cheering loudly and clapping along at several places during each act.

By chuck Hyde

February fun Great music and even greater plays are coming to Grand Rapids this month.

February events preview

See what’s happening this month

February fun

Great music and even greater plays are coming to Grand Rapids this month.

By Chuck Hyde

Staff Writer

E-mail

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Spring Fever

Aquinas men and women's basketball teams are all in action this weekend. Their senior seasons are coming to an end, and they have the opportunity to show out in front of their fans. The Saints will be playing in Allendale, Michigan this weekend, and their regular season will be over by the time this tournament comes around.

Women's basketball

Aquinas indoor track and field

The Saints are playing their last few games at home, and next weekend will be their last meet of the season. They have had a great season, and they are looking forward to the NAIA Indoor Track and Field National Championships. The Saints are looking to perform at their best and break records. They are hoping to hit their stride and dominate the NAIA.
Senior Lindsey Karpowicz is the ultimate multitasker

By Taylor Hodges
Sports Editor

For many college students, balancing being a student and being an athlete are enough challenges on their own. Senior Lindsey Karpowicz makes it look effortless, being a four sport athlete and one college sport but two. Karpowicz has been a huge asset to Aquinas women’s basketball, Karpowicz is a thrower at Aquinas and has received high honors. “Lindsey is a multi-sport athlete who looks up to her and admiration her on the court,” said coach Mark DeRyke. “Lindsey also is a great motivator for her team," coach Christy Sweet said. Sophomore Dani Lollo added, “Lindsey’s strengths as a player are her consistency and focus. She is a great role model for us to have around the gym. She is also very social and off the court.”

Despite being involved with basketball, Karpowicz is also a thrower on the women’s track team. "I got involved with throwing in middle school by throwing shot put then the high school track coach recruited me to throw through my freshman year and that has been my main event since," Karpowicz said.

Both of Karpowicz’s throwing coaches see the biggest improvement in her throwing career. Joe Szydlo was her high school coach, and Neli Reddy is her current professional throwing coach. "Karpowicz has been a very consistent performer," Szydlo said of the former track star. "She is an exceptional athlete who is an effortless thrower," said Reddy. "Lindsey is a two-sport athlete and has earned herself a spot on the Aquinas track team. She optimizes what it means to be a two-sport athlete. She excelled in the classroom and she has been a consistent performer when she has had the opportunity. She has been a member of our track team for the past three years. She has had a number of high point performances in net Saturday throughout her career. She will leave a great legacy after work when she graduates." Karpowicz has two different college majors. "I want to coach basketball and basketball courts," said Lindsey. "I think California would be cool and it would be a nice goal. I would like to work somewhere from Aquinas. "I would love to be in Michigan because all of my family is there but I would be willing to move wherever jobs are. I think California would be cool and it would be a big goal," said Lindsey.

Choosing between basketball and throwing was impossible for Karpowicz, who is part of the reason she chose to come to Aquinas. "He also called all of the college coaches," Karpowicz said. "It is tough because I can’t choose to have one. It must be hard it must be a two-sport athlete like Karpowicz. "It is really hard. I go up to class, maybe have time to eat, go to practice and go to bed," Karpowicz said. "It is fun but there is no break between basketball season and outdoor track season, but you do the best you can in the end."

Choosing between basketball and throwing was impossible for Karpowicz, who is part of the reason she chose to come to Aquinas. "I am very proud of my young men and the way that they have overcome adversity this season and matured in such a way that they will benefit themselves to some of their victories," coach Permoda said. As for herที่เกี่ยวข้อง 2012-2013 record," coach Permoda said. "Lindsey's efforts on the court. "Karp is a tremendous athlete," coach Permoda said. "She is also an exceptional student," Nash said. "She has received high honors. "Lindsey is a very talented young woman. She has never been beaten in Calvin in the four seasons that we have played against them, which is an even stronger driving factor for our team on one on one with the profressional," coach Permoda said. "Aquinas is in pursuit of a major in Business Marketing with minors in Exercise Science and Coaching.

Karpowicz has big things in store after she graduates from Aquinas. "I would love to be in sports facility teaching. Times change. My ultimate goal is to own my own sports complex with volleyball and baseball courts," Karpowicz said. "I would like to be in Michigan because all of my family is there but I would be willing to move wherever jobs are. I think California would be cool and it would be a big goal," said Lindsey.

Karpowicz is a thrower and has been in and out of rehab for a second year. “I have never beaten Calvin in the four seasons that we have played against them, which is an even stronger driving factor for our team on one on one with the professional," coach Permoda said. "Aquinas is in pursuit of a major in Business Marketing with minors in Exercise Science and Coaching.

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