

# DAILY BULL



The Daily Bull is probably not suitable for those under age 18 and should not be taken seriously... like required reading on Syllabus Day.

Tuesday, September 05, 2006

"It has nothing to do with being Italian. I just REALLY like Italian Sausage!"

~ Melissa Masucci

## Trashville

By Katie Becker ~ Daily Bull

This summer's reading, as many first year students know, was Garbage Land. I was, of course, inspired by this remarkable piece of literary genius. As I sat listening to the author, I was transfixed by her oratory prowess. What, indeed, happens to my trash here at Tech? I began carefully picking through my miniscule chocolate brown garbage can provided to me in the residence halls. I fastidiously reuse Wal-mart bags to avoid the additional waste (cost) of buying real garbage bags. Over the course of Orientation week, my can had been filled beyond full with the following: six (6) Swiss Miss pudding cups, two (2) Kraft Easy Mac disposable cups, the peelings of one semi-ripe mango, two microwavable Asian dinners (though I took out the folding plastic forks to reuse), a number of knotted cherry stems and 3 (three) band-aids from flip-flop related wounds. However, my story was not to be an adventure/travel novel, but instead became something... else.

...see Trashville on back



## The Religious Recruiting War

By Scott Nelson ~ Daily Bull

As the new freshman pour into the great halls of Michigan Tech for orientation, there is one theme the rings through the ears of everyone present. Everyone wants the first-years to flock to their organization to bolster their numbers and help to support their cause, whatever it may be. However, during my first week at Michigan Tech, I noticed that the organizations with the most fervor are those that follow the various sects of Christianity. Those would be IVCF, Campus Crusade for Christ, His House and other religious based student orgs.

The first thing that I noticed was the messages on all of the white boards throughout the dorms. An IVCF member wrote on their board, "Join us in the Light. Join IVCF," where their next-door neighbor wrote, "IVCF sucks! Join Campus Crusade for Christ." I have noticed this petty bickering occur between these two organizations escalate and continue throughout the entirety of orientation week.

The next thing I noticed was the mass of table tents that blanketed the dining halls across campus. I noticed that they popped up even prior to the first meal in the dining halls. They all gallantly announced events that each respective organization was holding in the upcoming week. Then, I noticed an anomaly; one of the organizations upgraded their event to have better free food. The next morning, one of the other organizations had replaced their table tents to say that they had

now outdone all of the organizations with their free food.

This escalation of their respective events continued well into the week, until the night of WHSA's Vegas Night. At the Vegas Night, the IVCF supplied free Root Beer Floats to all attendees, which were quite yummy, in my opinion. There was also a station down from the Root Beer table that showed the attendees the nature of these organizations with literature, projectors and other propaganda items. However, the next morning when I entered the dining halls for breakfast, all I could see from wall to wall were the other religious organizations' table tents all telling us about their root beer float socials. It was incredible the audacity of the organizations to blatantly copy another org of their gimmick.

Finally, I saw the climax of the recruiting Blitzkrieg was the "Free Books" Campaign. Stationed outside of the Wads Cafeteria, a table chalk full of free religious texts, baiting first-years into taking the free merchandise and joining their organizations.

All of these recruiting practices just make me think about the nature of religion, these religious organizations and the churches that they represent. If these organizations are supposed to bring the gospel of the Christian God to the world and the university, then why does it really matter in the long

...see Religious on back

You know, I missed these little quirky, awkward moments without you here this summer. I think you've grown on me. All of you.



## Steaming Pile

Straight from you-know-where

"Things to do in the UP during the summer when you're bored"

# DRINK

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### ...Religious from front

run which one of these practically similar organizations the first-years join. Well, after all of my pondering I really figured out that it is the almighty dollar, not the almighty itself. The only question is, at what point did our religious focus around the world switch from joining a religion for their teachings to joining a religion for their free books and root beer floats? ☹

### ...Trashville from front

Once my garbage bag was full, I tied it closed, and made the long, arduous trek across the hall to the small, weakly lit concrete room, with a large gray rolling bin. A sign proclaimed "Reminders Please: 1. Bag all garbage. 2. Break down all boxes. 3. Take large trash items outside. Thank you!!!" But once my garbage had been put into the bin, what happened next? It was always gone the next morning if I went to check. So I decided to spend the night in the room, concealed behind the massive bin. It was an odiferous experience, but my sleep-deprived efforts were rewarded around what I estimated to be 4 AM. Time means little in such situations. Teal fairies ap-

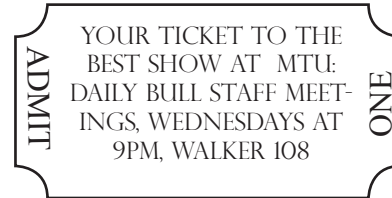
peared in a puff of indigo blue smoke. I managed to catch on, and gathered a small dust sample in a seemingly unused plastic Ziploc baggie. The other fairies proceeded to gather the bags from the bin in an intricate dance, before disappearing once more in a cloud of fetid orange powder. I collected the powder in another bag and snuck back into my room.

My samples in hand, I sought out experts to help me. The guy down the hall who might be a biology major helped me dissect the dead fairy. My friend in chemistry took the sample to ChemSci for further analysis. The fairy was determined to be vaguely humanoid, though its luminescent wings mimicked those of the common damselfly. The smoke particulate contained a number of hallucinogens, primarily LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide) and PCP (phencyclidine), as well as woad pigment. The orange dust contained many strange and bizarre chemicals. The nearest match anyone could determine was pasteurized processed cheese food product. However, there were concerns the sample had been contaminated with the lab technicians Cheetos.

Where did the fairies come from? Where did they go to with the garbage? Why were there different colors of smoke? I stayed up night after night in the garbage room, awaiting the fairies. The scent began to permeate my skin and hair, but I never again saw the mysterious fairies. Each night, as if by magic, I would be lulled into sleep before they appeared, and awake to an empty gray bin. I began picking through other's trash for food, scraping the bottoms of Easy Mac cups, finishing half-eaten granola bars. Three weeks after I first began my search, I awoke to find the great gray bin missing. I was lost in the empty space. I felt my way along the wall, my questing fingers

encountering first a light switch, then a door handle. I opened the door to a bright light, blindingly bright after my days in darkness. My personal trash saga was over, but with many questions still unanswered. I was but one student, in one hall. How much trash did all the residents of Wads produce in a day? What happened to the fairies I saw that first night? Why did I just spend three weeks in the garbage room across the hall from my actual room? What classes am I taking again?

I have since decided that the precise details of my trash are not important. It could be fairies, gnomes or maybe time-space discontinuities. As long as it went away somehow, I no longer cared. It's not like it was my problem.



## Oh, All the Places She Did Miss

By Nic Leatherman ~ Daily Bull

In last week's Lode there was an article called "Oh, All the Places You Could Go," but, oh, how many places she missed, especially the ones right here on campus. This is for you first years that are forced to live in the dorms and are too lazy to walk to the places suggested in the Lode.

**Restaurants and Lounges:** The Keweenaw Commons Food Mall ~ On the ground floor of the MUB, this little gem has a wonderful view of the admin buildings and parking lot. It is also home to its very own bowling alley and billiards hall that are only open on select times that no one ever remembers.

**Homestyle and Ethnic Food:** Daniel

Heights ~ Right behind McNair are the Daniel Heights apartments. For some real, homestyle ethnic food, make some friends in the Heights. The lower heights are primarily foreign students without food plans and the upper heights are all other students. So if you want some good, home-cooked food, go and make some friends or steal their food when they are not looking.

**Fast Food Restaurants:** Wads Cafeteria ~ Come in here to eat your mass-produced food. The Cafeteria has a broad buffet with a lot of food that you would never eat in your life. Trust me, after months of starving you give in...you give in.

**Pizza:** Campus Café ~ The Campus Café located in the basement of Wads is a good place for your pizza needs. The Café comes with a couple TV's which are already on shows that you don't want to watch and a wonderful view of people's feet as they walk on the sidewalk outside. That also means to you girls you might want to think again about wearing that miniskirt while walking there. Instead, walk to my place, Walker. Yes, that is where I live, forever and ever.

**Second Hand Shops:** Dumpsters ~ After move in and move out people tend to throw away a lot of really useful things. Last year alone I found five used pornos, a bookshelf to put them

on and Beethoven's Greatest Compositions Vol. 1.

**Groceries:** Cafeterias ~ Just walk in to the cafeteria with your backpack and from there it should be obvious on what to do.

**Shopping Centers:** MUB ~ The bookstore, cell phone vender and place to get outdoor stuff; what else do you need? If have a suggestion for the campus, tell the main office, but I warn you, they already turned down my suggestion for an on campus bar.

**Gifts:** Random Stuff ~ Just walk around and find random stuff. Everyone loves a free monitor from the 90's, a fancy silverware set acquired from the cafeterias or cotton candy condoms from K-Day.

**Movie Theatres:** Film Board ~ Cheap movies played in Fisher. Freakin' Awesome!

**Video Rentals:** Dorms ~ Just walk around and ask people until you find the movie you want. You would be surprised on how well this works, even with movies that are still in theatres.

**Coffee Houses:** Screw the coffee, you are going to need something harder at this school, but if you need your coffee, check out the new café in Fisher when it opens. ☹

# Daily Bull

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