

Hockey at MTU

Michelle Edith Jarvie

Hockey: is there a bigger sport at Tech?

Hockey is big all year round, from kid's hockey camps in the summer to the Great Lakes Invitational (GLI) in the winter. The men at Tech have a Division I Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) varsity hockey team. They are funded by the university and have access to private locker rooms, exercise facilities, paid coaching staff, equipment, and all of the other amenities provided with varsity status. Despite the fact that the WCHA formed a women's league in 1999, Tech does not offer women's hockey equal status as a varsity sport. Sadly, the athletics department is not taking active steps to develop our women's "club" status team into a varsity team.

The Michigan Tech Women's Hockey Club formed as a student organization in 1993. Unlike the intramural women's hockey, the women's "club" team plays other schools, but is only permitted to play opposing "club" teams, as it does not have varsity status. As a "club" the team does get some funding through USG, the Presidential Advisory Council for Women's Diversity, both the Presidential Commissions for Diversity and for Women, and the Michigan Tech Parent's Fund. Additionally, the team recruits local business sponsors. However, despite this funding, each woman must pay a fee to be on the team, must fund major portions of her travel expenses, and must provide her own equipment. Ice time is also a precious resource

for the women's team, as each practice and game hour must be rented from the SDC. As renters, the women are provided with changing rooms available to any renters, but the players do not even have their own lockers for equipment storage. Additionally, because much of their travel expenses are out of pocket, and no salary is offered for a coach, the team is coach-less. Thus, one can easily see the benefits to the players, both financially, and in terms of athletic development, that would be provided if the university chose to actively develop the "club" into a varsity status team.

Other schools within the WCHA have chosen to develop women's hockey as a varsity sport. During the premier, 1999-2000 season, Minnesota State University, University of Minnesota, University of Minnesota-Duluth, St. Cloud State University, and University of Wisconsin Madison all had women's varsity hockey teams.

MTU has provided partial funding to the women's "club" team. However, it is time that the university athletic department recognizes the growing interests and abilities of women hockey players. As any student organization, the development of the "club" team currently depends solely on themselves. I challenge MTU to make the development of women's varsity hockey team a long-term goal.



The Michigan Tech Women's Hockey Club

THE IMPORTANCE OF TITLE IX TO WOMEN'S SPORTS

None of the varsity hockey teams, and many other women's varsity teams, would not exist if it were not for Title IX.

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 was a piece of legislation that banned gender discrimination in schools. It pertains to both academics and athletics. Title IX does not insist on equal funding for men and women's sports. It allows for consideration of budget restraints and gender ratios. However, according to the Women's Sports Foundation, policy interpretations of Title IX state:

when a school offers a team in a contact sport for one sex, it must also offer a team for a member[s] of the opposite sex under the following conditions: opportunities for members of the excluded sex have historically been limited; and there is sufficient interest and ability to sustain a viable team, and reasonable expectation for competition for that team.

There can be little argument about the historical exclusion of women from hockey. Interest in sustaining a team is evidenced by the "club" team that has persevered for nine years at Tech. Competition at the varsity level would be provided through the WCHA varsity women's teams. The only arguable point in this interpretation is the "ability to sustain a viable team". If the university and the athletics department takes Title IX seriously, they should be taking active steps to develop the women's hockey abilities. I believe this begins with providing a coach. In fact, according to the University of Iowa's Title IX website, one of the factors examined in accommodation of women athletes is:

Where the members of one sex have been and are underrepresented among intercollegiate athletes, whether the institution can show a history and continuing practice of program expansion which is demonstrably responsive to the developing interests and abilities of that sex.

For more information on women's hockey and Title IX, see these web-references: www.womenssportsfoundation.org bailiwick.lib.uiowa.edu/ge/Title_IX.html www.whockey.com

Women interested in joining the hockey "club" are encouraged to find information about the team at www.sos.mtu.edu/whockey. Those interested in supporting the women's team are encouraged to attend the November 1-2 tournament between NMU, MSU, and MTU "club" teams at Houghton. Keep an eye out for details to be announced.

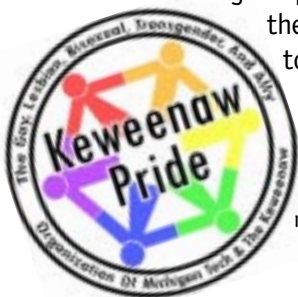
A Pink Star goes to **Jim Mihelcic**, professor in the Civil/Environmental Engineering Department, for actively recruiting female graduate students. Mihelcic also encourages undergraduate women to attend graduate school by assisting them in finding undergraduate research opportunities. He continues to be an exemplary teacher who treats female students with respect and provides a positive classroom environment for women. **Thank you, Jim!**



National Coming Out Day: October 11

Keewenaw Pride is sponsoring a chalk circle where people can sign support in front of the MUB from 11am to 3pm (inside in the Commons if it's raining).

See the back page for more on Coming Out.



Equality in the Governor's Office?

Amy Graham

For the first time in Michigan history, a woman — Jennifer Granholm — has won the support of a major party in her bid for the governor's office. But Granholm doesn't want you to vote for her because she's a woman. In the September 22 Detroit News & Free Press article, Women Stand to Make Michigan Political History, she says, "In the end, I don't think people vote for someone because they are different but because they are excellent." This is not the only first for Attorney General Jennifer Granholm. In 1998, she was the first woman to be elected Attorney General of Michigan.

During her campaign for governorship, Granholm has faced a number of challenges. One of her biggest was the primary election in August. In the August primary, Granholm faced two competitors for the democratic ticket, former governor Jim Blanchard and U.S. Representative David Bonior. The campaign also faced challenges as Granholm has been unfairly portrayed as anti-choice on a few occasions including a July 1 Detroit Free Press article.

As a strong woman with a strong resume, Attorney General Granholm brings with her a great deal of experience. An honors graduate of both the University of California at Berkeley and Harvard Law School, Granholm clerked for Honorable Damon J. Keith on the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. She was appointed Wayne County Corporation Counsel in 1994. While on the Counsel, she reduced taxpayer-funded lawsuit payouts by 87 percent. Before joining the Wayne County staff, she was a federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office where she maintained a 98 percent conviction rate.

As Attorney General, Granholm has, among other things, introduced Michigan's first state-level High Tech Crime Unit to explore, investigate, and prosecute Internet and high tech crimes. Her office brought the nation's first criminal charges against an online company selling GHB, the date rape drug, via the Internet and was the first law enforcement official to use racketeering charges to successfully shut down a for-profit child pornography website. She has also taken action against companies selling tobacco, drugs, and liquor to minors via the web.

Granholm has been endorsed by many organizations, including EMILY's List, the Police Officers Association of Michigan, the National Women's Campaign Fund, the Michigan Education Association, Michigan NOW, and One Hundred Women. While these endorsements speak a great deal about Granholm's commitment to community, women, family, and other important issues, **make sure you find out for yourself if she is a candidate you can support.** There is a great deal of information about Attorney General Granholm on the web site created for her campaign: <http://www.granholmforgovernor.com>.



POETRY

Insomnia

Prey on me further, till exhaustion
Drains me, as Life's chalice brims full
Of the choicest of luxuries – sleep.

For moments when eyes droop
And wilt under scrutinizing darkness,
For instants when the soul mirrors
A sinless worshipper at the pews of Another
with calm reverence,
So the body sinks into the depths of
An encircling peace.

Unmindful, young, soulless now,
Only one dares violate this gift, save
Macbeth.
Lost further down the spiral, cringing under
a fiery gaze,
Sleepless, ruined, defiled,
Lullabies soothe this soul no more.

Aswin Sudhakaran

Why Come Out?

Sandra Hubscher

In a recent issue of *The Advocate* (Sept 17, 2002) Bill O'Reilly sounds in with what has become the common fallback position of those uncomfortable with or opposed to gay rights. Speaking of coming out he states, "If you want to live the kind of life where you have the most options you can have ... shut up. Shut up." Why not shut up and remain invisible? Why not hide your sexual orientation to avoid harassment, loss of acceptance and the rarer but more dangerous outcomes of being out? For many gays this option of having a dual life, one for public consumption and another for private fulfillment, is the most comfortable choice. For those uneasy with gay rights it has become a defensible position in a changing world. Gays can no longer be labeled and dismissed as aberrant or misfits but this stance allows them to impose a virtual closet on gays by asking them to maintain their invisibility.

So why do people broadcast their sexual orientation? Why is coming out such a sacred rite for queer folk? In the pioneering days of the gay rights movement no progress could come without visibility. The only way to show the world homosexuality wasn't the "love that dares not speak its name" was to provide counter examples not only of happy, healthy homosexuals but of the sheer numbers of common people who were "perverts." Even in this era of gay pride marches, equal rights clauses and media visibility, coming out remains the most powerful weapon in the gay rights arsenal. No march on Washington, talk show debate or scientific study has the power to do what a best friend, son or daughter, or co-worker can do with a few simple words, *I am gay*. Putting a familiar face to an abstract issue brings an unforgetting reality to any hatred or bias a detractor may feel. The acceptance gays find today could not exist without the visibil-

ity and demand of change coming out brought with it.

Even assuming an accepting society, however, coming out is still necessary to living an integrated, healthy life. Bill O'Reilly, in the same article, states, "It's easier to have a good life if nobody knows what your sexual proclivities are - hetero or homosexual or whatever - so keep it quiet..." But what does keeping it quiet entail? In order to hide your "sexual proclivities" you must also hide organizations you belong to, the people who are your friends, the partner you're committed to, and so on. Would a heterosexual couple hide the fact they're married, live together or have children in order to avoid the accompanying conclusion that they also have a sexual relationship? A heterosexual couple maintaining a "decoy" bedroom or introducing one another as housemates is a ridiculous scenario yet this is exactly O'Reilly and others like him are proposing for homosexuals. They say they don't want to know what gays do in the bedroom, that it's no one's business, but this isn't what people are saying when they come out. It's not a statement of sexual preference but of choices in life and love. Only the critics see it so narrowly in terms of the sexual act itself, a statement to their true problem with the issue.

Coming out is about sharing the important things in your life, taking part in the community and living honestly without a web of lies and deceptions. Remaining closeted benefits not those who remain in the closet, but those who are uncomfortable with or opposed to integration of homosexuals into society. Making the issue one of sex obscures the true point of coming out and puts in into a taboo realm where people like O'Reilly can unfairly malign it.

We See You In There


Julie Estep

In honor of National Coming Out Day on October 11, it's time to cast some light on the ol' ten-percent controversy. Jason Evans, our beloved queer writer for the Lode, has been hassled for continuing to use the mid-20th-century Kinsey numbers to say queer (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender) folks make up 10% of the population — despite the fact that more recent studies have put the percentage of queers at closer to 3% of the general population. What's up with the discrepancy?

It's this. The 3% numbers reflect studies (e.g., Smith, 1992, University of Chicago) that focus either only upon people who claim a gay identity (that is, they publicly present themselves as queer), or upon people who take part in exclusively same-sex activity. This kind of figuring leaves out a massive contingent of the queer population. It leaves out, for example, bisexuals (those who experience attraction to either sex); folks who have same-sex desire but for whatever reason have not engaged in same-sex acts within the timeframe covered in the survey; and folks who engage in same-sex acts but whose partner is of the same sex and/or who do not want or are afraid of publicly claiming a queer identity. When this extended group is factored into a large-scale study (e.g., Laumann, 1994, U of Chicago) — voila! — 9 % of women and 10% of men display adult same-gender sexuality.

Here's the rub, so to speak. Of these, 59% of women and 44% of men reported (not necessarily exclusive) same-sex desire only. That is, they reported **desire**, without claiming queer **identity** or same-sex **behavior**.

What does this mean? Among other things, it could mean that there's a big, untapped pool of bisexuals out there. It could also mean that there are some unhappily-matched folks in heterosexual relationships. If nothing else, the huge desire-only percentage means that a number of us are thinking and feeling things we, for whatever reason, aren't (yet) acting on. Perhaps, as researchers continue to debunk unflattering myths about queer folk, and social codes continue to become less straightening, the population might relax a bit more too. Less repression, less road rage. People will perhaps use less alcohol to smother feelings. There will be, perhaps, less dishonesty, posturing, and people-pleasing. There will be, perhaps, even less of a "ratio" problem at MTU. There will certainly be more colorful variety. And, no doubt, more drama. What fun! As the Friends of Dorothy say, "Come out, come out, wherever you are!"



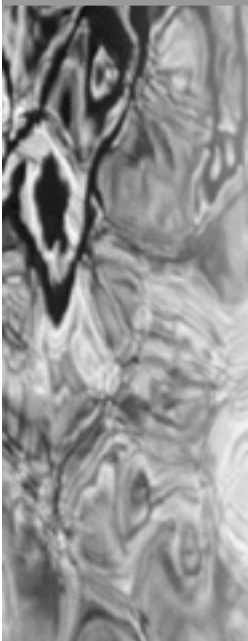
If you, or anyone you know, is a victim of domestic violence
take the first step to end the abuse!
 Call the Barbara Kettle Gundlach Shelter Home
(906) 337-5623
 Ontonagon Outreach Office: (906) 884-4004
 Toll-free in the U.P.: **1-888-337-5623**
 Or send us e-mail at **bkghome@pilot.msu.edu**
 (all contact is confidential)

C A L E N D A R

- 10/2 Keweenaw Pride Meeting MUB Alumni B, 8pm
 10/8 MTU Career Day, Gates Tennis Center & SDC Gym
 10/9 Keweenaw Pride Meeting Oak Room, Wads Hall, 8pm
 10/11 National Coming out Day, visit the chalking circle or pick up a button or ribbon from the booth outside the MUB (between 11am & 3:30pm)
 Womens Tennis vs. Lake Superior State, Gates Tennis Center, 3pm
 Womens Volleyball vs. Wayne State, SDC Gym, 7pm
 10/12 Womens Volleyball vs. Hillsdale, SDC Gym, 1pm
 10/15 Womens Volleyball vs. Northern, SDC Gym, 7pm
 10/16 Keweenaw Pride Meeting Oak Room, Wads Hall, 8pm
 10/19 Womens Volleyball vs. Ashland, SDC Gym, 4pm
 10/20 Womens Volleyball vs. Findlay, SDC Gym, 2pm
 10/23 Keweenaw Pride Meeting Oak Room, Wads Hall, 8pm
 10/30 Keweenaw Pride Meeting Oak Room, Wads Hall, 8pm
 11/6 Keweenaw Pride Meeting MUB Ballroom B1, 8pm

send us your events for a free listing: send the events to tbt@mtu.edu by the third Wednesday of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

POETRY



Mighty Blue

Drifting, this shriveled continuum that is
 Memory
 Slices yea commercial blue expanse
 Into the political domains of modern madness,
 Pity the broken hearts left in its wake.

Magnificent Atlantic, your fathomless sister
 Drowns this opposite hemisphere, curdled down under.
 Twin cities of art and virtue flank you yet,
 Parted by Time and Space;
 As we sail blindly toward the
 Memory-less Pacific. *Et tu, Atlantic?*

Aswin Sudhakaran

R E S O U R C E S

- Barbara Kettle Gundlach Shelter 337-5623
domestic violence shelter; 24-hour crisis line
 Career Counseling 487-2313
 Counseling Services 487-2538
 Dial HELP 482-4357
*Crisis intervention: a gentle, helpful voice,
 24 hours a day, 7 days a week*
 Employee Assistance Program ... 482-2299
 Houghton Community Health Center
 483-1860
 Keweenaw Pride pride@mtu.edu
*an MTU group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,
 Transgendered or Questioning Students, Staff,
 Faculty, Community Members, Friends, and
 Allies*
 Legal Services of Northern Michigan
 482-3908
 Office of Student Affairs 487-2212; 487-2465
 Office of Residence Life 487-3404
 On-campus emergencies 123
 Planned Parenthood 482-0790
 Society of Intellectual Sisters (SIS)
<http://www.sos.mtu.edu/sis/>
*Promoting sisterhood primarily amongst
 African-American women and scholarship
 among members*
 Society of Women Engineers
radugopo@mtu.edu
 Western UP District Health Department ...
 482-7382
*AIDS testing, family planning, immunization,
 pregnancy testing*

WHAT IS tbt POLICY?

The TechnoBabe Times is dedicated to the empowerment of women in all aspects of technology.

We want **tbt** to be a place where voices not usually heard or seen on campus or in the community can be seen & heard. We want to be a publication that encourages new and different voices. And so: we solicit thoughtful, reflective, critical writings (or drawings or mixed media pieces or poems or...) that offer us all positive views and smart actions...

If you have any ideas, questions or comments—or wish to advertise in **tbt**—please contact our president Ariana Jo Jeske at ajjeske@mtu.edu or write to us at tbt@mtu.edu. You may also write the list to submit a piece of work or to become part of the **tbt** staff (all girls and boys interested in the cause are welcome!).

THANK YOU to the CCLI for help on this issue.

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