



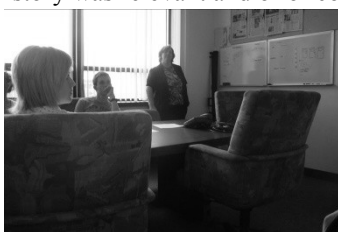
The Press Meets the Paper

By Donald Jagos

Tuesday July 7, 2009 the SSI media team toured the Lansing State Journal and watched them balance the daily budget. The “daily budget” actually has nothing to do with finance: it is the term used by the newspaper to identify what is put in the paper and where. They discussed major stories such as the funeral for Michael Jackson, and smaller local stories such as a pot bust during a routine traffic stop. They reviewed whether or not a story was relevant and or of concern to people. And although they have an



online source for their paper, eighty percent of their revenue is brought in by the hard copy. Even though they write the stories, most of their stories come from normal people like you and me. And unlike the SSI media team, they were hard working, well organized, and don't have silly quotes from Zak Weston.



Cliff's Notes: House Bills

By Dustin Rowland

All of the caucuses are hard at work finding ways to defend their bills and ways to attack their opponent's bills. However, most of the teams aren't spending much time looking at the bills they aren't directly connected to. As legislators, the state representatives should make informed decisions when they vote on Friday. This article is an effort to condense each team's arguments into an easy- (and quick-) to-read format.

Each caucus was asked about the bill they sponsored and the bill they opposed. The caucuses were questioned about what positive effects their bill would have and what negative effects their opponent's bill would have. The arguments listed are not direct quotes.

HB 4836 (Hate Crimes)

Content: Adds a crime committed because of someone's sexual orientation or status as a veteran to the list of things considered hate crimes.

Positive effect: Decreased discrimination against minorities.

Negative effect: Unequal categorization of groups targeted as needing extra protection.

HB 4160 (Regulate Local Minimum Wages)

Content: Prohibits local governments from setting their minimum wage higher than the state government's minimum wage.

Positive effect: Slowed increase of unemployment rate.

Negative effect: Violates local government's rights.

SB 776 (Partial-Birth Abortion)

Content: Defines performing partial birth abortion as a felony.

Positive effect: Less partial birth abortions.

Negative effect: Doctors would go to jail.

HB 4163 (Ban on Smoking in Public Places)

Content: Prohibits smoking in public places.

Positive effect: Significantly reduce secondhand smoke and improve the public health.

Negative effect: Decreased business revenues.

SB 1059 (Minors and Abortion Waver)

Content: Makes a minor seeking an abortion only able to go to a single court. Also adds situations in which a minor can obtain an abortion.

Positive effect: Would make the justice system more legitimate and decrease abortion.

Negative effect: More minors would seek illegal abortion.

HB 5133 (Teen Drivers and Cell Phones)

Content: Prevents minors from using cell phones while driving.

Positive effect: Fewer accidents and teen deaths.

Negative effect: Increased government control.

Adult vs. Embryonic Stem Cell Research: Science or Ethics?

By Katherine Reffitt

The debate over adult versus embryonic stem cell research is a scientific issue that has developed into an ethical issue. The first difference between adult and embryonic stem cells is that adult stem cells are taken from adults and embryonic stem cells are taken from aborted babies. The second, and biggest, difference is that there have been no breakthroughs in embryonic research while countless cures and breakthroughs have been developed with adult stem cell research. Advances have been made in diabetes, Parkinson's disease, cancer, burns, cardiovascular disease, metabolic disorders, and muscular dystrophy. As of now, embryonic stem cell research has developed no cures and the results produced cannot be used on patients because they can cause tumors and the target effect cannot be controlled.

According to *Time Magazine*, "...Some stem-cell enthusiasts think that even antiabortion absolutists can support stem-cell research, since it uses surplus embryos that are doomed anyhow. But that logic would justify Nazi experiments on doomed Jews in the concentration camps. If the microscopic dot is a human being with full human rights, the answer is easy: no stem-cell research."

Yet, in spite of all the hype and attention that has recently been given to stem cells, research has all been done in adult stem cell research and not embryonic.

The NIH [National Institute of Health], a US research agency, in 2008 awarded \$88 million of its \$938 million stem-cell budget for human embryonic research in the fiscal 2008 year.

In Michigan's last election, a constitutional amendment was passed that overrode the previous restrictions on embryonic stem cell research to make it legal. Now bills are going through legislature to refine the details on the constitutional amendment. The agenda of the people behind Proposal 2 to amend Michigan's constitution is to use embryonic stem cell research as a segue to cloning.

Ethics comes into play when the following question is proposed: "If adult stem cell research is having all the success, why is embryonic used?"

The 21st Century Science and Technology Magazine had this to say about adult stem cell research:

"It is remarkable that in the debate—often carried on with little competence—the potential of embryonic stem cells is exaggerated in a one-sided way, while important moral questions and issues of research strategy are passed over in silence. Generally, advocates of research with embryonic stem cells use as their main argument that such research will enable us to cure all of the diseases that are incurable today—cancer, AIDS, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, and so forth. Faced with such a prospect, it is supposed to be 'acceptable' to 'overlook' a few moral problems."

Mr. Mailand was asked his opinion on stem cell research. "The push for embryonic seems religious. Why pursue [embryonic] if adult is so successful? Does the end justify the means? We can do it, but is it right?"

Mr. Visscher said, "Adult stem cell is the way to go. They have not respected the sanctity of life by pursuing embryonic research."

Murder or Misunderstanding?

By Katie Pedrie

An undeserved blow to the chest, or an unfortunate misunderstanding? That is the question attorneys assigned to the State vs. Smith case are asking.

Pat Smith, a black belt in karate, worked as a security guard at Super King. One day Fred Howe, a known shop lifter, ran toward the exit. In his hands, he held cigarettes, a lighter, a pack of diapers and no visible receipt. They were not in a bag, which is against store policy.

Smith chased Howe down to "catch him before someone got hurt and make sure her never did it again." Smith claims Howe turned to him and yelled, "Leave me alone or I'll stuff you full of lead." Smith's boss, Terry Walker, backed that claim up. However, other sources, including Fred's friend Chris Dunn and several witnesses who were also present say Fred in fact said, "Leave me alone and I'll give you the stuff back."

When Smith did not stop chasing him, Howe dropped the items in his hands and reached for something in his pocket. Smith attacked him with a hard karate chop to the chest. Howe fell and Smith gave him a second, lesser hit.

(Continued on page 2)

House Bill 4259 (Unmarried Adoptions)

By [Dustin Rowland](#)

In Michigan, there are 19,500 children waiting to be adopted. While married couples do adopt a significant number of children, many children are trapped in the foster care system. House Bill 4259 aims to remedy this problem. There are many unmarried couples in Michigan who wish to adopt children. Although a single person may adopt a child, their partner would not be granted rights as a parent. This is a considerable deterrent to some couples. Passing this bill would decrease the number of children in the foster care system.

Even though it is an honorable goal to put more children in homes, a couple who is not willing to make the commitment to marriage may not be qualified to make the far larger commitment of raising a child. Although children would be taken out of foster homes, the homes they would be put in wouldn't necessarily be better. So even though this bill would decrease the number of children in foster care, it would increase the number in unstable homes.

The decision to make is whether the benefit is worth the risk. Do we keep more children in foster homes that guarantee a certain level of stability? Or do we toss the dice and disperse children into homes that may damage them mentally, emotionally, and physically?

Sport's Challenge

By [Kaitlyn Beuckelaere](#)

Yesterday, the campus enjoyed playing various sports and games such as volleyball, ultimate Frisbee, basketball, and some relay races. Reporters went around and asked participants how they felt about the games, favorite sports, being required to play, and what they would do differently next year.



Here are a few answers the reporters got:

"I really liked the sports... well, I got water poured into my ear canal; I didn't really like that. I like that you are required to play, or else I probably wouldn't have," said Ruby Tanja. "I think they should have Red Rover next year!"

One student didn't enjoy it as well as Ruby. When asked, she said, "It stunk. They need a new activity." When asked what she thought of being required to play, she said, "I think it's low and dirty... no no no. I don't think it's not fair. People should be able to decide for themselves whether they want to play."

Another student said, "I don't think it's right that they make you play if you don't want to. You should have a legitimate reason for not playing, however; not just medical though."

Some students believe the rule that guys need to intentionally include the girls should go.

One female student said, "I think it's stressful on the girls as well, because if they aren't good at the sport, and didn't necessarily want to play in the first place, they don't want to feel stupid by failing miserably in front of a whole bunch of people."

When asked about what to do next year, the response was almost unanimous: soccer. When asked about what games they would like to get rid of, it was also almost unanimous that the water games should be done away with.



(Continued from page 1)

Howe didn't move, so Smith pulled his hand from his pocket. Howe had been reaching into his pocket to remove the receipt to prove that he had indeed paid for everything, except the lighter. Police officers that arrived on the scene initially did not think much of the situation. Howe had a criminal history. It wasn't until Detective Vic Estrada, whose family has been feuding with Smith's for years, arrived on the scene that Smith's guilt was suggested.

Chris Dunn's affidavit reports that Howe's doctor had been alarmed by his blood pressure and cholesterol. The defense pointed out that the autopsy shows that Howe's arteries were approximately 95 percent blocked. Needle marks were also found on his forearms, evidence of drug use. These factors, along with smoking, could have contributed to the heart attack that caused his death.

"But think of it like this," Prosecutor Zak Weston suggested. "It's like a guy lighting a match in a room full of gasoline. It was waiting to be blown up, but that doesn't mean the guy lighting the match is not at fault."

Smith is being charged with second-degree murder. Lesser charges include manslaughter and negligent homicide.

Girls' Dorm Party

The tradition continues! Females only: come to the commons area in the girls' dorm to enjoy food, drinks, and games. All girls are invited; bring snacks and games during free time tonight from 8:30-9:45 p.m.

Napping or Yapping

By Anonymous

Yesterday, the media asked all the students what they thought of the lectures. The results were surprisingly positive, with only a few exceptions. Many of them thought the lectures were very informational and encouraging, but wish they had more sleep to understand it better. The consensus is that Wally Hostetter was really encouraging and that he connected with the audience well.



The students had various things to say about the other lectures:

"I like the worldview classes," said Troy Zuccaro.

"I think they are all really good," added Austin Elieff. "They are very informational."

Some people, on the other hand, have a different opinion on the matter. "They're good...when they end on time...or early,"

said Melody DeMerell.

"I think they're good, but hard to follow, especially in the morning," said Joel Muffett.

Some people feel even stronger about the issue: "I just think they're boring. I can't pay attention!" said Byron Toorthais.

As you can see, there is a wide variety of feelings about the lectures; however, overall the majority likes the lectures and finds them interesting.

ADC's: Is it Really Slave Labor?

By [Katherine Reffitt](#)

In the staff room when no one is watching them, the ADC gang can be found having fun and playing games. They were caught playing Apples to Apples the other day. When asked what they thought ADCs did, Dominic Gologram answered, "They just party and stay up and dance all night."

But seriously, what do ADCs do? Here is the real scoop. In an interview, Rachel Malick said as a head ADC she does whatever she is told, which includes printing name tags, planning the sports activities, printing name tents to be used at the capitol, counting people in sessions to make sure that everyone is there, and hunting them down if someone is missing. ADCs also have to come early and stay late. As a head ADC, she also has to make sure all other ADCs have things to do, and that they are doing it.

Other ADCs help in tracks to assist the teachers. They help where needed and "do the grunt work," said Ed Malick. Also, they think "they are awesome," added Rachel Malick.

In their free time, like the rest of us, they have been know to play euchre and ultimate Frisbee, watch movies, have square dances, and nap.



Misquotes

"I feel like ngngnngnngnngn..." - Michael Robbe

"Dustin, when I said, 'Be creative,' I meant, 'Be creative'." - Dani Demerell

"I am now exiting the lion's den [media room]" - Mr. Muffet

"So you can take anything I say, and put it as a quote in the newspaper, just like that?" - Justyn Charbonneau

"Were you there when they laid him in the womb?" - Mr. Muffett

"Dump Zak Weston." - Zyrek Castellino

"If an expression could be put as a quote, that would be quoted." - Donald Jagos

Mr. Muffet: "If you talk with your head down they can't hear you because your forehead can't talk."

Nathan Phillips: "With all of those wrinkles it can."

"Anyone who dies during their speech I will personally come to your funeral and say good things about you." - Mr. Muffet.

"The first time she took a look at me, she went, 'Yeeelaah'." - Wally Hostetter

Noah Bliss: "Hey, Joe, what's your favorite color?"

Joe Cecil: "Pink! ...wait... I meant blue! I meant blue!..."