Upper Peninsula Briefs

SEVEN Upper Peninsula counties were under a flood warning Monday because of heavy rain and melting snow.

The National Weather Service issued the advisory for Marquette, Baraga, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw and Ontonagon counties.

The Escanaba River at Gwinn was expected to crest at about 7 feet, or six inches above the flood stage.

Meanwhile, high winds and hail caused damage in spots across the peninsula.

"There were quite a few reports of large hail in Iron County ... and scattered reports throughout the western U.P.," said Joe Lester, a meteorologist at the weather service office in Negaunee Township.

Rainfall in Marquette County measured .98 inches Sunday, a record for the date. The previous record of .68 was set in 1995.

"This was a combination of two thunderstorms," Lester said. "We had heavy rain Sunday morning, a break Sunday afternoon and then more thunderstorms at night."

The western end of the U.P. received even more rain, ranging from 1 to 3 inches, with Watersmeet reporting 3.68 inches.

In the eastern U.P., winds approaching 65 mph damaged the Star Line Mackinac Island warehouse in St. Ignace, police chief Tim Matelski told The Mining Journal of Marquette.

Some trucks were escorted across the Mackinac Bridge on Monday. The bridge had been closed for several hours Sunday night.

MARQUETTE, Mich. (AP) - A 16-member delegation will accept an award Tuesday in Washington, D.C. on behalf of Marquette County, which was named one of the nation's 30 "most livable communities."

The ceremony was being held at the National Press Club. Also among the winners selected by Partners for Livable Communities, a Washington group that develops its list once every decade, were Grand Rapids and the Traverse City area.

The Marquette County delegation included leaders from business, government and other segments of society, including lead delegate Monsignor Louis Cappo, chairman of the Lake Superior Community Partnership.
HOUGHTON, Mich. (AP) - Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps squads from the Copper Country squared off against one each other in drill competitions Saturday in the Husky Challenge.

Students from Ironwood, Calumet and Hancock participated in the event, the first of its kind in the Upper Peninsula. It was overseen by the Michigan Tech University U.S. Air Force ROTC.

Contests included color guard; individual drill, where teams were given a card with specific steps to follow and then judged by how well they adhered to the steps; knockout, a contest reminiscent of "Simon says" where individual cadets who performed a maneuver incorrectly were eliminated until just six remained; and the team exhibition, where units presented their own routine.

"They would spin rifles. There were new kinds of commands, different types of routines. There was even one team that did a rifle routine to music, and that was quite interesting," said Tim Pach, the organizer of the event.
Nimrod Gear Years ago, as a reporter for a small newspaper in central Texas, my beat included a little town called Hutto, whose high-school sports teams were known as the Hippos; the girls' teams were called the Lady Hippos. That seemed to me the most unfortunate nickname I was likely to encounter. But this was before I heard of the Nimrods. Lately, a lot of people have heard of the Nimrods, of Watersmeet Township School in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, but that nickname has turned out to be anything but unfortunate: it has helped move about $80,000 worth of Nimrod gear in about two months, to buyers all over the United States, and attracted interest from some of the biggest sports-apparel companies. Pretty impressive for a high school with 77 students.

Among other things, the story of the Nimrods provides one answer to an often asked question: Does television advertising really work? It was through a series of TV spots that the Nimrod brand broke -- albeit a series of ads for something else. ESPN, the sports megabrand whose properties include cable channels and a popular magazine, featured the Watersmeet Nimrods in a campaign built around the theme "Without sports..." which aims to underscore how much athletic competition and fandom mean in American life. Three ads, which were broadcast starting in late January, introduced viewers to the scrappy Michigan basketball squad and its supporters and asked, "Without sports, who would cheer for the Nimrods?"

Funny, Nimrod appears in the book of Genesis and is identified as a mighty hunter, but of course the term has a more widespread colloquial meaning as a slang insult, along the lines of nerd, loser or dork. The ESPN ads did not suggest that maybe you would like to cheer for the Nimrods, or load up on team paraphernalia to broadcast your support -- there was no 800 number or Web address. But enterprising consumers tracked down the school's address, phone number and Web site and started buying the surprisingly wide selection of gear marked Watersmeet Nimrods or, more impressively, Nimrod Nation. The ads also drew attention from human-interest hunters of the infotainment complex, and members of the team appeared with their coach (and school principal), George Peterson, on CBS's "Early Show" and then "The Tonight Show." Sales increased, and Watersmeet's business manager, Sandy Robinson, says that it finally got so overwhelming that the school decided to work out a deal with a nearby college, Michigan Tech, to handle the orders and the proposals from two sports-wear companies, Eastbay and Champ Sports. (ESPN is also selling Nimrod gear on its Web site.)

This still leaves the question of why someone would actually want to wear an article of clothing labeled Nimrod Nation. The gear happens to have come along during an interesting stretch in the history of slogan-wear. On the one hand, the "throwback" craze seems fueled in equal parts by nostalgia and by people buying hats and jerseys for strictly aesthetic reasons, whether they're interested in the team or not. On the other hand, Urban Outfitters and other stores have been pushing a style that might be called High Idiocy: shirts with slogans that are stupid to the point of absurdity but are meant as something approaching camp -- "Who's Your Daddy?" in a hokey 1970's font, "Gettin' Lucky in Kentucky," "Jesus Is My Homeboy," that sort of thing. If nothing else, they might be cheap conversation starters.

Peterson has a different theory, based on what he says has been an avalanche of cards, letters and e-mail messages, "telling us what a great job we're doing and how proud they are of us, how the boys look so great. That's what small-town America is all about: clean-cut boys, very respectful." Perhaps. Certainly the appeal of Nimrod Nation would be nonexistent if some snarky marketer had coined the phrase. (Peterson says that he's had to assure a dozen or so doubters that the team and the school are real, not an ad agency invention.) "In the beginning," Robinson says, "we were very skeptical" about how the ESPN ads would come out. After all, "with a nickname like the Nimrods, you just never know." Good point. But everyone seems pretty happy with how it has all worked out. Peterson says he hopes the shirts are put up for sale in the Mall of America. Now what will it take to get America cheering for the Lady Hippos?

GRAPHIC: Drawing (Drawing by Philippe Lardy)
Brazilians Are Heavyweights In Chase For Model-Plane Title

Sandra Mathers
Sentinel Staff Writer

DELAND -- The Flying Tigers from Auburn University had lofty hopes Saturday for their classy orange and blue "War Eagle Lifter."

They had hoped the Eagle would win the day at an international college competition for automotive engineers -- one that NASCAR fans are not likely to recognize.

The Tigers, members of the Society of Automotive Engineers, were not competing to see who had built the best on-road gas-guzzler. These guys build big, radio-controlled planes that carry hefty payloads aloft.

On a remote, abandoned runway surrounded by pine forests near the DeLand Municipal Airport, the Flying Tigers, an eight-man team of engineering students from Auburn University in Alabama, managed to hoist only the second-heaviest airborne load of the day -- 22.9 pounds -- without crashing or overshooting their landing strip.

Edging out the Tigers was a Brazilian team, CEA-UAV, from the Federal University of Minas Gerais. Its plane made it into the air with 26.6 pounds of payload.

"The Brazilians knocked us out of first place," said Adam McLarty, Tiger team captain. "We plan to knock them out" today during the final day of competition.

The Tigers insist they could still win. McLarty, a graduate student and teaching assistant, said the team's plane is capable of lifting 28 to 29 pounds.

"If you don't crash, it's a success," he said.

After Saturday's competition, the Tigers were ranked first among the 30 American teams.

They competed against 34 other college teams from the United States, Canada, Brazil and Puerto Rico at the three-day event, sponsored by the University of Central Florida, the DeLand Flying Club and the SAE North Florida Section. The event winds up today. Three Central Florida teams bombed in Saturday's competition.

The University of Central Florida's Knight Hawk team came in 27th out of 30 teams in the regular class. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach entered two teams in different classes. Team Humpty Diddle ranked 21st in the regular class, while Team Titan came in last among the five open-class teams, which have to meet less restrictive specifications.

If the Tigers walk away today with first place, they won't be surprised.

"Our design is real good," said Christoph Burger, a doctoral candidate at Auburn from Germany and one of the plane's two primary designers. "It's a solid design."

The team's gas-powered model with its 12-foot wing span, which cost $4,000 to build, also was designed by Auburn senior James Davis, 23, who has an engineering job waiting for him this summer at Eglin Air Force Base.

Their model -- more than three months in the making -- is high-tech, with carbon fiber stitching on the fuselage, Styrofoam wings covered with balsa wood sheeting and in-line skate wheels.

Even so, Saturday didn't start well for the Flying Tigers. They began in 12th place. But by early afternoon they had worked their way up to second, then first place, with two successful flights -- the second carrying 15 one-pound, 10-ounce steel plates.

Team members were flush with sun and excitement. Their air-show performance would help determine their final design class grade at Auburn.

Then the Brazilian team took to the air and knocked Auburn out of the top spot for the day.
Gov. Jennifer Granholm says she is leaning against supporting a possible sulfide mining project in Marquette County.

Kennecott Mining Co. is considering developing the nickel and copper mine in the Yellow Dog Plains area near Big Bay. Opponents have voiced concern about water pollution and other environmental problems.

Interviewed by The Mining Journal on Thursday, Granholm said she would await recommendations of a group reviewing state mining and reclamation rules before taking a position on the project.

But she added that "the risks to the (Lake Superior) resource are paramount. ... "We don't want to do anything that's going to harm the quality of the water."

"I just think that it's got to be looked at with great care," Granholm said. "The risks may be too great for us to head down that path."

Earlier this month, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality formed a group to monitor mineral explorations in the Yellow Dog Plains and in Menominee County.

In both cases, the companies haven't decided whether to proceed with mine development.

The minerals that would be targeted are sulfide ore bodies, which form sulfuric acid when brought to the surface and exposed to moisture and air.

Supporters point to the jobs and economic growth the Yellow Dog mine could create, but Granholm said they might not be around more than a decade.

"If we're concerned about jobs, let's create jobs that will last," she said.

MUNISING, Mich. (AP) - Two teenagers have been charged with aiding a youthful gunman accused in the holdup of an inn and service station in the village of Christmas.

Amadeus Eugene Glenn, 17, of Ishpeming, and Anthony Douglas Worth, 18, of Gwinn, were arraigned Thursday in Alger County District Court on charges of conspiracy to commit armed robbery.

They were held in the county jail on a $250,000 cash bond. A preliminary hearing was scheduled for April 23.

John David Zardus, 18, of Ishpeming, was charged earlier this week with robbing the Pair-A-Dice Inn on March 29. Police said about $400 was taken.
The weapon used in the robbery was a stolen BB gun, said Sgt. Tony Grahovac of the Alger County Sheriff's Department.

MARQUETTE, Mich. (AP) - A man has pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting a 16-year-old girl.

Joseph R. Scott, of Ishpeming, pleaded guilty to fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct Thursday in Marquette County Circuit Court.

A more serious sexual-conduct charge was dismissed in a plea bargain reached as his trial was under way.

HOUGHTON, Mich. (AP) - Michigan Tech University's interim president announced reassignments and plans for improving efficiency Thursday.

Addressing the campus community for the first time in his new post, Glenn Mroz outlined a restructuring of the university administration.

"Our key to the future is people doing what they do exceptionally well and working as a team," Mroz said.

"In our case, to continue to make progress as a national university of choice, we need to be able to take care of our budget issues and link our budget closely with our strategic plan," Mroz said.

Many audience members had questions dealing with Tech's 2004-05 budget, which officials say may include a $5 million deficit. Mroz said the administration will have a draft budget prepared by May 7.

HOUGHTON, Mich. (AP) - The Houghton Spring Arts and Music Festival will receive city support for at least one more year.

The Houghton City Council voted Wednesday to provide $2,200 for the third annual festival, to be held May 29 at Mattila Square.

Mayor Tom Merz said the festival is good for the community, but it should be self-sufficient after this year.

"It's still in its infancy, but at some point the diaper has to come off," Merz said.

Local musician Ken Thiemann started the festival in 2002 to showcase art and live music from the Great Lakes Region. It is sponsored by the Copper Country Community Arts Council, which operates the Community Arts Center in Hancock.

Arts Center Director Cynthia Cote said the festival should be able to stand on its own after this year.

"I think every event should be able to do that, but everybody needs seed money to start working on their dreams," Cote said.
Colleges prod slow movers
Full-time students get tuition break to speed up graduation

Maureen Feighan

Adnoris Torres is roughly 16 credit hours shy of his political science degree at Michigan State University, and if all goes well, he’ll graduate this December 6 1/2 years after he started.

Torres, 25, doesn't regret the slow course he's plodded. He switched programs, took some math classes twice and has been heavily involved in a student Chicano-Latino group, as well as with his fraternity.

"I've been only taking about 12 credit hours a semester," said Torres of Battle Creek. "There's only so much time."

But as five and six-year graduation rates are increasingly becoming the norm for many college students, more schools are trying to light a fire under slow-moving students with tuition policies that give full-time students a break.

At least five Michigan universities now have some variation of a flat or block rate tuition plan for full-time students, and at least one more is considering it. The tuition plan charges students a flat rate if they take 12 or 16 credit hours a semester, while part-time students continue to pay per credit hour.

University officials say it encourages students to carry heavier course loads, which in turn speeds up graduation rates and opens up space and resources for new students.

Students have mixed emotions. Some say they like paying the same rate for five classes as they would for four. Others, who take the minimum number of hours to be considered full time (typically 12 credits or four classes), say they shouldn't pay for courses they're not taking and shouldn't be forced to hurry and graduate. Part-time students are not affected by the tuition plan and continue to pay per credit hour.

"I would rather take credits at my own pace," said Laura Woloson of Clarkston, a junior at MSU, which is considering adopting a flat-rate system. "Sometimes you have a hard workload one semester and you need to take a lesser workload the next semester."

But proponents of the rate system say the longer students stay in college, the more money they waste paying fees and the more things they miss out on, including jobs.

"I think of this largely as not so much a university issue but an opportunity-lost issue," said Peter McPherson, president at MSU, where students on average graduate in 4.5 years. "The longer students are here, the more it costs them in room and board, and it costs them in opportunity -- both in terms of graduate school and future employment. If they graduate earlier, they gain employment money they otherwise wouldn't have."

Some detractors

Not every institution is a fan of flat-rate tuition plans.

Michigan Technological University in Houghton had one for full-time students for more than 10 years before deciding last spring to switch to a per-credit-hour system. School officials determined students were signing up for more classes than they could handle and then dropping them, wasting time and resources.

Ferris State University in Big Rapids also has changed its flat-rate tuition plan, shortening the credit block from 12 to 16 credit hours to 13 to 15. Since then, 30 percent fewer courses were dropped during the winter semester, officials said.

Before the change "there was what we called a lot of shopping and dropping of courses," said Sally DePew, director of budgetary planning and analysis at Ferris State. "We were providing space...
and faculty for courses students were dropping. It really was an efficiency issue."

**Pluses and minuses**

Yet other universities stand by their flat-rate tuition policies.

Northern Michigan University in the Upper Peninsula adopted the plan for full-time students in 1996 after administrators conducted a study two years earlier that found some "pretty disturbing trends," said Paul Duby, associate vice president for institutional research.

The study found that students took an average of 14 to 15 credit hours a semester in the 1980s but 10 years later, the average course load had dropped to 12 to 13 credit hours.

Graduation rates also had stretched, the study showed, from 4.5 years in 1984 to 5.5 in 1993. Federal law requires students to take at least 12 credit hours a semester to qualify for financial aid.

"Students had changed in that decade," Duby said. "More and more were changing their majors multiple times."

Since the change in tuition structure, the average course load has inched up to 13.9 credit hours and the average graduation rate is closer to five years, Duby said.

"There's a lot of positives," he said. "Overall, it's been a very very good experience for us."

But flat-rate tuition plans don't always translate into larger course loads and quicker graduation rates.

At Grand Valley State University, which charges full-time freshman and sophomore students $2,824 if they register for between 12 and 16 credit hours, the average student carries 12.9 credits per semester and 49 percent of students graduate in six years. Only 20 percent graduate in four years.

The reason students aren't taking more courses has less to do with the rate structure and more to do with demands on student time, said Matt McLogan, vice president of university relations at Grand Valley.

"Many students tell us they need to work," McLogan said.

McLogan insists the flat rate has achieved what it was supposed to when it was established more than 20 years ago -- to encourage students to take more courses. Previously, Grand Valley had a huge commuter-student base, with many attending part time and only 1,500 students on campus. Today, approximately 13,000 of the university's 21,000 students live on the university's main campus in Allendale.

"The block tuition rate design was an essential component of that" increase, McLogan said, who added the university also added more housing and recreation to entice more students on campus.

**Resources issue**

Experts say more public universities, especially in fast-growing regions such as the South and West, are likely to implement block tuition because it's an issue of resources and demand. The longer older students stay in college, the less space and resources there are for incoming students who also will need campus housing, academic counseling and parking.

"When students are taking five and six years to graduate, to a certain extent, that reduces the amount of space available for new students," said Jacqueline King, director of the center for policy at the American Council on Education.

Jared English, an MSU senior graduating in May, believes there are other ways to speed up graduation rates, namely improving academic counseling so students aren't taking course they don't need and reducing course requirements. Many programs require students to take prerequisite courses before they can take certain upper-level classes.

Torres, for one, believes every student matures at a different rate, and forcing students to take more classes to graduate could limit involvement in outside clubs, travel or maximizing their college experience.

"If they're maintaining a good academic standing, I don't think they should be rushed out," Torres said.

**Michigan colleges with block tuition**

- **Ferris State**
  - Block rate: $3,022 per semester for 13-15 credits
  - Per credit hour: $230

- **Grand Valley**
Block rate: $2,824 per semester for 12-16 credits for lower level students; $2,927 for 12-16 credits for upper-level students.

Per credit hour: $246

Lake Superior State

Block rate: $2,568 per semester for 12-17 credits

Per credit hour: $214

Northern

Block rate: $2,316 per semester for 12-18 credits

Per credit hour: $193

U-M, Ann Arbor

Block rate: $4,145 per semester for 12-18 credits for architecture, art & design, education, music, natural resources, environment and nursing upper division*

Per credit hour: $338

All figures are for in-state undergraduate students.

* Tuition rates vary for different programs

Source: Detroit News research

How block tuition works

* Block or flat-rate tuition is for full-time students, those who take a minimum of 12 credit hours (typically four classes). It allows the student to pay one rate per semester rather than per credit hour for a block of credits. For example, a student taking 15 credits would pay the same as a student taking 12.

* Part-time students are not affected by the tuition plan and continue to pay per credit hour.

* At least five Michigan universities charge a block or flat rate for tuition. Michigan State University is considering the payment system.

Share your view

Which tuition policy for full-time students is preferable: Charging a flat rate, or per credit hour? Share your views in the CyberSurvey at detnews.com/schools/.
WHATCOM PEOPLE

Julianne Park, a senior at Mount Baker High School and winner of the recent Pacific Idol competition, has been accepted to Boston Conservatory of Music, one of about 30 vocal performance majors accepted. Park, who has been president of the school choir for the past two years, will have a vocal soloist recital at 3 p.m. Sunday at First Presbyterian Church, 1031 N. Garden St. She is the daughter of Kenneth and Joni Park.

Three students from Bellingham have been named to the dean's list at George Fox University in Newberg, Ore., for fall semester 2003. To qualify, students need a 3.5 grade-point average or higher while taking at least 12 graded credit hours of classes. The students are: Jared D Jost, a senior majoring in business administration; Greg A Haveman, a senior majoring in chemistry; and Shawn Fox, a freshman majoring in biology and communications arts.

Adam L. Airoldi of Bellingham was among more than 1,400 students named to the dean's list for fall semester 2003 at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Mich. To qualify, students need a 3.5 or higher grade-point average. Airoldi is a sophomore majoring in biological sciences.

Ane K. Wynn of Bellingham recently returned to St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., after four weeks of study in Rome through the college's international studies program. Wynn, a sophomore majoring in classics, studied religion and culture in Rome during the January interim.

Mattie Farrar, the daughter of Logan Farrar of Bellingham, has been named to the honors list for the 2003-04 first semester at Tabor Academy in Marion, Mass. Tabor Academy is a four-year college preparatory boarding and day school 50 miles south of Boston.
The Duffel Bag
Area, State And National High Schools

DAVID BOEHLER
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Around the area

Vincent in Showdown: The Milwaukee Vincent boys basketball team will play Glenbrook North of Illinois at 8 p.m. Feb. 12 in the 10th annual "City-Suburban Showdown" at Northwestern University's Welsh-Ryan Arena in Evanston, Ill. Glenbrook North has won three straight Central Suburban North Conference titles. Tickets will be available through Vincent.

All in the family: Dave Cunningham has been hired as girls basketball coach at Milwaukee South. His brother, John, is the girls coach at Milwaukee Madison, and his sister-in-law, Alina Cunningham, is the girls coach at Milwaukee King.

Learn tennis: Coinciding with the USTA's new advertising push during May, it will be easier for anyone to learn how to play tennis. Several tennis centers in the Milwaukee area will offer inexpensive introductory lessons especially tailored for new players or those returning to the game. By logging onto www.TennisWelcomeCenter.com, people will find a local club that offers the lessons.

Quinn going to college: Tony Quinn is the new women's soccer coach at St. Mary's in Minnesota. The native of Belfast, North Ireland, spent 10 seasons as boys and girls coach at Racine St. Catherine's. His record of 273-86-19 ranked among the top three in the state for high school coaches.

Robak update: Milwaukee Pius' Tiffany Robak finished fifth in the 1-meter diving competition at the YMCA Short Course Swimming and Diving Championships in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She earlier took first place in the 3-meter competition.

Scorers / Timers banquet: The Wisconsin Scorers and Timers Association will hold its 45th annual banquet and awards night at 6:30 p.m. on April 24 at Mader's.

Novak an All-American: Michigan Tech women's basketball player Andrea Novak (Divine Savior Holy Angels) earned All-American fourth team honors by the Division II Bulletin. The senior was also named the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Player of the Year after she averaged 19 points and five rebounds. She finished second on Tech's all-time scoring list with 1,710 points and first in field goal percentage (52.5%). Tech boys basketball player Josh Buettner (Shawano), a junior, picked up third-team honors. He was also the conference player of the year and led the league in scoring (22.3). The school has never had a man and woman named All-American in the same season until now.

More college updates: Jahi Craig (Milwaukee King), a freshman guard at Williston (N.D.) State Junior College, was selected as a first-team Region 13 performer. He set a school record with 17 assists in one game and finished with an average of 16.4 points and 7.3 assists this season. . . . Milwaukee School of Engineering senior wrestler Matthew Schoenherr (Tomahawk) recently set the school record for most collegiate victories with 123. He was named an All-American after taking eighth place at the Division III national tournament. Schoenherr was a Lake Michigan Conference champion as well, along with teammate Greg Snow (Stevens Point). . . . UW-La Crosse freshman Melissa Marsack (Homestead) recently took 11th place on the vault at the NCAA Division III National Championship. She also placed second on the vault and ninth on the floor exercise at the WIAC Championships. . . . Garden City Community College basketball player Torre Johnson (Milwaukee Juneau) averaged 19.2 points last season. He was named freshman of the year in the Kansas Jayhawk Conference.

-- David Boheler

To submit information to the Duffel Bag, send it by fax to (414) 224-2049 or by e-mail to dboehler@journalsentinel.com
Sports notes

Mat setback: Freedom's Garrett Lowney met his match Saturday in the U.S. Senior Nationals Greco Roman wrestling tournament in Las Vegas.

The top-seeded Lowney, who outscored his first five opponents 26-0, lost in the 211.5-pound finals to second-seeded Rudy Ruiz of the New York Athletic Club on a referee's decision after a 2-2 tie.

Lowney, a bronze medalist in the 2000 Olympics, still hopes to qualify for the 2004 Summer Games in Athens, Greece.

All-stars: Kimberly's Andy Hurley and Wrightstown's Mitch Schaeuble have been selected to play in the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association's all-star games on June 19 at the Kohl Center in Madison.

Hurley will play for the Division 1 North team at 2 p.m., while Schaeuble will play for the Division 3 North team at 6 p.m.

Schneider honored: Kaukauna's Maria Schneider, a sophomore for the Michigan Tech women's basketball team, was named to the all-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Association North Division second team. She averaged 9.7 points, 2.6 assists and 2.2 rebounds per game as Tech finished 16-11 overall. She won her team's scholastic achievement award with a 3.65 grade point average.
WOMEN WANT CLEAN GARAGES

Forget the flowers, cancel the candy -- what mothers really want for Mother's Day, or any other day, is a cleaned and organized garage.

Marc Shuman, president of GarageTek in Syosset, N.Y., says most calls to his firm, which designs and installs garage organization equipment, come from women.

"Women are ignoring the traditional boundary line that says the garage is male turf. If it's a mess -- and frankly that's how guys often leave it -- it's women who resolve to fix the problem," Shuman says in a statement.

"But, each year a growing number of male customers order GarageTek's customized and professionally installed system as a gift to the women in their lives."

IMMIGRANTS LACK ENGLISH SKILLS

The vast majority of immigrants lack even the most basic literacy skills to be successful in the United States.

A report by ETS, the non-profit educational testing and measurement organization, finds nearly 40 percent of all 18- to 64-year-old immigrants who arrived in the United States in the 1990s lacked a high school diploma or GED.

"A national need to address English-language and literacy proficiency deficits of the immigrant population has reached crisis proportions," says study author Andrew Sum of Northeastern University.

According to the U.S. Census, in the 1990s those who either did not speak English at all or who did not speak it well, rose to 8.3 million -- a gain of 71 percent.

SUV TAX CREDITS FOR SOME

The National Association of Tax Professionals says many consumers believe they can get a tax credit just for buying a sport-utility vehicle.

Legislation had been discussed in Congress to offer a tax credit to buyers of hybrid SUVs -- that used less gasoline -- but it never became law.

However, there is a clean fuel tax deduction of up to $2,000 for those who bought hybrid automobiles such as the Toyota Prius, CNN/Money reports.
In addition, there is a deduction for SUV buyers who own small businesses and buy a SUV, weighing more than 6,000 pounds, which is used for business purposes.

ANTI-ICING COATING Passes TEST

A coating developed by Michigan Technological University, which was tested this winter on the iciest bridge in Wisconsin, might make winter commuting safer.

The pavement is covered with a sheet of anti-icing epoxy covered with an aggregate that looks like kitty litter.

"It acts sort of like a hard sponge," says inventor Russ Alger, of MTU's Keweenaw Research Center. "You put a light amount of de-icing chemical on there, and it keeps coming up to the surface."

When salt trucks apply magnesium chloride to the bridge, it doesn't just sit on top of the concrete, later to be shoved aside by snow plows and washed into the river, it soaks into the overlay and stays put -- which resulted in no accidents on the bridge this winter.
U.P.I.

April 14, 2004 Wednesday

Anti-ice coating helps make roads non-skid

HOUGHTON, Mich., April 14 (UPI)

U.S. researchers have developed a road pavement surface that absorbs anti-icing chemicals and helps preserve vehicle traction during freezing conditions.

The researchers, from Michigan Technological University, said the surface is a sheet of epoxy covered with an aggregate. When de-icing chemicals are applied, "it acts sort of like a hard sponge," one researcher said. "You put a light amount of de-icing chemical on there, and it keeps coming up to the surface."

When salt trucks apply magnesium chloride to the surface, it soaks into the overlay and stays put, instead of lying on top, eventually being pushed off by plows and ending up in streams and rivers, they said. This reduces salty runoff and can save money. "You don't have to use very much chemical, and you don't have to apply it very often," the researchers said.

The anti-icing overlay is currently coating a test stretch of pavement on a bridge in Wisconsin, and researchers said there have been no accidents there so far this winter, while last year there were about a half dozen. Also, crews have applied magnesium chloride to the bridge only five times, fewer than half the typical number.
Honors

Dean's List

* Eastern Washington University: Joshua Plavnick of Lansing was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2003 quarter.

* Choate Rosemary Hall: Sean O'Brien of East Lansing was named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2003 term.

* Taylor University: Kae Savoie of Okemos was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2003 term.

* Olivet Nazarene University: Aaron Brawner of Perry was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2003 semester.

* Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology: The following students were named to the Dean's List for the winter 2004 semester: Haslett: Michael Brandell; Lansing: Christopher Thiede; Okemos: Jeffrey Rubitschun and Kathleen Stynes.

* Bellarmine University: Lesley Colosimo of Lansing was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2003 semester.

* Fort Lewis College: Jessica McCallum of Mason was named to the Dean's List for the winter 2004 term.

* Michigan Technological University: The following students were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2003 semester: Holt: Benjamin Rook; Lansing: Thomas Berriman and Jessica Diggs; Okemos: Matthew Wierzba; Williamston: Leo Western.

Graduates

* Michigan Technological University: The following students graduated in December: East Lansing: Brent Burns; Eaton Rapids: Aaron DeGrow; Haslett: Bethany Balbak and Tyler Ploucha; Hastings: Robert Dixon, Kathryn Thomas, Michael Burke and Gerald Laeder; Lansing: Sean Hettich, Marla Rader, James Whitmarsh; Vermontville: Joseph Stadel.

Scholarships

* Laura Hamlin of Webberville was named a recipient of Michigan Farm Bureau's Young Farmer Trust Fund Scholarship for the 2004-5 school year.

* Travis Marshall of Stockbridge has been awarded a Dairy Memorial Scholarship by the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

* Timothy Glennon of Lansing has received a Des Moines (Iowa) Area Community College Foundation Pioneers Scholarship.
Making the grade: ace your college classes with this advice on choosing courses, selecting a major, writing papers, and dealing with professors

Randinelli, Tracey

Swarthmore College? One of the toughest liberal arts schools in the country? No sweat, thought Esther Zeledon. After all, the Miami resident graduated sixth in her class from Braddock High School, the largest secondary school in the U.S. with more than 5,400 students. In high school, she took 10 AP courses and pulled mostly A's. She figured work at Swarthmore would be more of the same. "I thought college was going to be like high school: Do some homework, a test here and there," she says. "I thought I would be able to get straight A's."

It didn't take long for Zeledon to realize she wasn't in high school anymore. The environmental science major soon discovered the workload was staggering. "I got about one paper a week for English and one every other week for history, as well as 800 pages a week to read," she says. That did not include a five-hour chemistry lab and four hours of pre- and post-lab work, as well as stuff like eating and sleeping.

But the worst part, says 20-year-old Zeledon, was that despite long hours of studying, she couldn't manage to pull the top-notch grades that came so easily in high school. "It was so difficult to get an A," she says. "I didn't see that pretty letter my first year."

Zeledon's story isn't unique. Even the most successful high school students can find their academic world turned upside down at college. The problem: They haven't been prepared for the vast differences between high school and college academia.

"Students find that the strategies that served them in high school are not good enough for college," says Pat Grove, campus director of the Learning Resource Center at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. "The volume and complexity of the material is so vastly different, and the expectations of the faculty are entirely different from the expectations of their high school teachers."

In high school, says Grove, students are required to memorize and recall information. But in college, professors expect students to truly analyze and understand concepts.

Colleges are just beginning to recognize that graduating high school students need more guidance to make the transition. Many schools now require freshmen to take orientation courses designed to teach them time management, communication dynamics, and other skills they need to be successful in the brand new world of college.

CHOOSING COURSES

In high school, choosing your courses is easy--most are requirements and very few are electives. At many colleges, however, it's a little more complicated. You get a course book that may contain several hundred pages of classes. Which classes you take, the times you take them, the days you take them--it's more or less all up to you.

It doesn't have to be overwhelming, though. You most likely will have an academic adviser to help you. "Your adviser is your university resource broker," says Elizabeth Teagan, director of the University Transition Advising Center at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. The college adviser is familiar with faculty, knows what's needed to fulfill requirements within the university and in your major, and he or she can spot problems that you are likely to miss.

For many students, one of those problems is filling general education, or gen-ed, requirements. In order to graduate, many colleges require that you take a number of credits in liberal arts disciplines--English, math and science, a foreign language.

"Gen-ed courses teach a lot of skills that students will need in their other courses--working in groups, critical thinking, analysis," says Dave Meredith, director of enrollment management for the honors programs at the University of Cincinnati. It's important to balance your schedule with a required math or foreign language course as well.

Getting gen-ed requirements out of the way early can be particularly beneficial to students who are still undecided about their major, adds Meredith. "If you can say I'm wiping off my history requirement, that can make you feel like you're progressing."

* Plan a balanced schedule.
Consider courses that are extra challenging and courses that require less effort. "You shouldn't
take biology, calculus, physics, and chemistry together the first semester—"that's ridiculous," says Rutgers University's Grave.

Robin Diana, associate director of the Center for Student Transition and Support at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York, suggests meeting with your adviser early in the course selection process. Take a look at the course sequence for your major with an eye toward the next four years, not just the coming semester. Then agree what courses you should be taking, says Diana, "so that four years down the road you don't realize you need two that are not being offered that semester." Other points to remember:

* Be flexible. At many universities, first-year students are the last to register. That means that many of the more popular classes and class times have already been filled. "Know that the days and times that you want will probably not be the days and times you get," says Diana. "Have a Plan A, a Han B, and a Plan C ready to go."

* Keep your own personality in mind. If you're a morning person, schedule your classes early in the day. (Early birds are at an advantage, since the competition for an 8 a.m. class is much less fierce than for a class at a later hour.) If you know you can't function before 10 a.m., however, don't force yourself to take early morning classes.

* Make sure you're prepared. Some classes have prerequisites. An introductory class in chemistry, for example, may require that you have had several years of chemistry in high school.

GET TO KNOW YOUR PROFESSOR

You'll find that one of the biggest differences between school and college academics is the relationship you have with the person standing in front of the class. In high school, teachers pretty much tell you what your responsibilities are," says Bonnie B. Gorman, director of first-year programs at Michigan Technological University in Houghton. "In college, you have to figure that out." It's your job—not the professor's—to make sure you are keeping up with assignments and progressing through the class.

What's more, a college professor is often less accessible than a high school teacher. In high school, you saw your teachers every day; in college, you may spend only an hour or two with a professor each week. And that hour of two is far from intimate: In an introductory class, it may well be you, the professor, and several hundred other students.

"In a lecture hall, it's not likely a professor is going to know you one on one," says Diana. "You need to take initiative to get to know your professor and have them know who you are."

CLASSROOM IMPRESSIONS. Start in the classroom environment itself. That means showing up—and on time. (Ah interesting side note, says Victoria McGillin, dean for academic advising at Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts: Depending on a college's costs, each class you cut costs between $70 and $150. Ouch.)

Sit as close to the front as you can, and particularly in larger classes, try to sit in the same seat or area of the room for each session. The professor may not immediately know your name, but he or she will begin to recognize your face. Show that you're attentive by making eye contact on a consistent basis. "It's about being present versus that vague stare students get after the first 20 minutes," says Texas Tech University's Teagan.

In smaller, less lecture-driven sessions, class participation can also help get you noticed by a professor, particularly when you've done the assigned reading or writing. While raising your hand to make a point is great, don't forget that probing questions can be an effective way to participate in class discussions.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY. If participating is difficult because of class size, see if available alternatives exist. "Some faculty are increasingly playing around with Web-based e-mail discussions," says McGillin. "They'll consider that comparable to having raised your hand in class." If all else fails, drop the professor an e-mail with questions or comments on the day's lecture. "If it's clear to a professor that a student is making an effort in their class," says Gor-rean, "that's what's important."

THE OFFICE VISIT. One of the best ways of getting to know a professor is also one of the most under-utilized. At most colleges, professors designate several hours a week as "office hours": times when students can talk to them about grades, assignments, and problems they have with the class material. But if you ask most professors, you'll find that office hours are often very quiet.

"We have several professors who use our center for their office hours," says Rutgers University's Grove, "and they get lonely sitting there."

The University of Cincinnati's Meredith suggests visiting a professor early in the semester to say hello and introduce yourself. "If you only see the professor after you've bombed the midterm, they may look at it as, 'Oh they're just trying to save their grade.'" Meredith stresses that taking advantage of office hours throughout the semester can definitely help your final grade. "If it's a difference between a B-plus and an A, maybe if you've been to his office a couple of times he'll remember it and you'll get the A."

FACING PROBLEMS. It's also important to remember that professors are people, too. Sure, they might have PhDs, but as
Teagan says, "They're dads and moms and aunts and uncles just like anybody else." If you're having a problem, most will do whatever they can to help. Becky Libby, a student at the University of Southern California, found herself floundering in a first-year writing class. To her surprise, her professor noticed something was bothering her and came to her rescue. "She met with me every day for literally two weeks to bring my writing up to par," Libby remembers.

**TAKE NOTE**

In high school, studying is a day-to-day process. You go to class, you get homework, you do it. Your teacher tells you you're having a test next Friday, you study, you take the test. You might know a paper is due in two weeks, but that's about as far into the future as you get.

In college classes however, your semester is usually mapped out from Day 1. Most professors hand out a syllabus on the first day of class. The syllabus tells you when to expect quizzes and tests, when papers are due, what you'll be expected to read in time for each class, even the topics that will be covered in each day's lecture. The syllabus makes it easier to see how you'll be progressing throughout the semester, but it also puts more responsibility on you to make sure you're getting the work done--and doing it well.

Taking good notes is a vital step in the process. Again, you'll probably find it was easier in high school. A high school class environment is usually more interactive, while a college-level introductory class can consist of 90 minutes of lecture. Trying to copy the lecture verbatim isn't very smart, unless you happen to be a court reporter of stenographer. Taping a lecture helps, but it takes valuable time to transcribe the tape.

Instead, make sure you've read the assigned material before class--that way, you'll have some idea of what the professor is going to say before he or she says it. During the lecture, don't try to take down every word the professor says. Instead, look for clues that will tell you what topics of ideas the professor thinks matters. Did he or she write something on the board? Mention something more than once? Illustrate an idea with examples? Chances are, those are things the professor considers important--and will probably include on an exam. "You want to synthesize and identify the main points," says Michigan Technological University's Gorman.

Many high school students find their note-taking strategies--if in fact they have any--have to change once they get to college. There's no one "right" way to take notes; different strategies work for different people. Some prefer an outline. Others favor some variation of the Cornell, or "One-third, two-thirds" method, in which you record specific notes from the lecture on the right two-thirds of the page, and later, in your own words, summarize the main ideas on the left side of the page. Still other students prefer mapping out ideas on the page and linking relationships visually. You may even find you need to use several different strategies, depending on the subject.

**EXAM TIME**

College and high school exams are similar in that they measure what you've learned. What's different is the learning process itself. "A lot of learning in high school is memorization," explains Texas Tech's Teagan. "In college, memorization may be part of a body of investigation, but it's really just the first step." College learning isn't just about knowing concepts--it's about understanding the relationships between those concepts.

In high school, you're usually tested on a few chapters or concepts every couple of weeks. Many college classes, on the other hand, hold just two exams--a midterm and a final--that measure your knowledge of weeks of lectures, dozens of pages of notes, and hundreds of pages of text. Obviously, this is not a process that happens overnight.

"Studying for an exam is really an extended review period you should be doing every day," says Ken Miller, director of student affairs at Pennsylvania State University at Erie. "Day by day the material may not be difficult, but over 12 weeks, it will be more difficult to absorb and recall all the material. Students who keep up are more prepared than those who try to cram."

When you're faced with prepping for an exam, your first step is to find out what kind of exam it's going to be. A closed-ended (i.e., multiple choice, true-or-false) will stress concepts: Was Robert E. Lee a southern or northern general? An open-ended (i.e., essay) exam will stress relationships between concepts: Compare Lee's battle strategy to Grant's. Knowing the type of exam you're facing will give you a better idea of how you'll need to study for it.

If you've kept up with the reading, paid attention during class, and practiced good note-taking, you probably have a good idea of what material is going to be on the exam. "A professor is not going to put together a final that doesn't look like anything you've seen during the semester," says Rochester Institute of Technology's Diana. Many professors also keep copies of previous exams on file; while they won't tell you the exact questions you'll be facing, they will give you an idea of what to expect. In any case, it's your right to ask for guidance, says Teagan.

**YOU WILL SURVIVE!**

You know the academic strategies--but you still feel like you can barely keep your head above water. What can you do? Nearly all campuses have academic advisement centers you can turn to if you're feeling the crunch. Also, take comfort from the fact
CHUCK GUILFORD, associate professor of English at Boise State University, author of “Beginning College Writing” (Little, Brown), and creator of the Paradigm Online Writing Assistant (www.powa.org), offers these tips:

1. Own the topic. Ask yourself, “What about this topic do I care about? What about it has value to me?” Make the subject your own.

2. “Problematize” the topic. Mold the topic into a core question or problem that must be solved using research and investigation.

3. Survey what's out there. Your professor, former students in the class, or other faculty may have suggestions for finding sources.

4. Get the information. Use the library, Internet, and even interviews, when appropriate.

5. Come up with the solution. Propose a hypothesis to your research problem, which you can use to help structure the paper.

6. Start writing. Divide the problem into the main points, and then plug in your information. The final solution of answer to the research problem should be the conclusion of the paper.

7. Document your sources. Note that departments within a university often have different requirements for citing sources.

8. Write it again ... and again. Be prepared to do at least three drafts, plus a final edit.

   * And here's that warning. Don't be tempted to buy an essay off the Web. "Plagiarized papers lack the voice that students bring to their writing," says Guilford. Having someone else write your paper for you may save you a few days or weeks of work, but the reward may end up being an F for the paper of even the course.

MAJOR DECISIONS

For many students, their first academic dilemma arrives in the form of that little box on the college application labeled "desired major." Most students do not have a clear idea of what they want to do for the next 40 years-and that can cause some "major" stress. Students also feel pressure to choose, says Texas Tech's Teagan "[Not having a major] has a negative connotation. The first question people ask after 'What college are you going to?' is 'What's your major?'"

"If you fall into the undecided category, you're not alone. According to Ablongman.com, a college-planning Web site, one-third of high school students haven't a clue what they want to do for a living, and more than half change their major during their freshman year. Eventually, you will have to choose your course. These tips can help:

   * GET TO KNOW YOURSELF. Pinpointing the qualities that make you who you are can often help you narrow down career choices that best coincide with those qualities. What type of personality do you have? What do you enjoy doing? What are your values?
   * TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CAMPUS FACILITIES. Career counseling or resource centers are not just for seniors arranging job interviews. Schedule an appointment with a career counselor. "Talk about what you like, what you don't like, your interests, your dreams," says Wheaton College's McGillin. Your academic adviser can also be useful in helping you determine the major that will best prepare you for what you want to do.
   * TALK TO EVERYONE YOU KNOW. Everyone has a story about how they got into their field. Get the scoop first hand from adults you know--and pay special attention to people whose career path took an unlikely turn.
   * INVESTIGATE INTERNSHIPS. Many companies offer internships to high school as well as college students. If you have an idea of what you want to do, find an internship in that field to solidify--or negate--that interest.
   * TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GENERAL REQUIREMENTS. "We encourage students to think of general education courses as potential career avenues," says McGillin. If you haven't decided on a major by the time you matriculate, use your gen-eds to get a taste of several different job fields. You might not be excited about taking a required government course, but three weeks of the class might convince you that politics is your calling.
   * DON'T BE AFRAID TO GO IN UNDECIDED. At most schools, you're not even required to settle on a major until sometime during your sophomore year. "Undecided students area step ahead of those who declare and change declare and change," says Teagan.

Tracey Randinelli is a regular contributor to CAREERS & COLLEGES.

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Great schools with late admissions: the staff at careers & colleges gives its picks of schools with rolling admissions programs

Mosser, Traci

Think it's too late to apply to college? No way! Many great schools accept late applications of have rolling admissions programs. In general, rolling admissions means that these schools accept applications and applicants throughout the year. A word of warning: Before spending time filling out the application, contact the school's admission office first to make sure they are still accepting applications. Also, keep in mind that late applicants may qualify for less financial aid. Note: "R&B" stands for "Room & Board" and "Size" refers to number of undergraduates.

MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY, Houghton, MI

WWW.MTU.EDU IN-STATE TUITION: $ 6,810 OUT-OF-STATE: $ 17,700 R&B: $ 5,795 SIZE: 5,737

Michigan Tech is known for its strong engineering programs, and you can be certain that MTU's computer labs and technological services are also top-notch. In addition, the school boasts an acclaimed forestry program, enhanced by its proximity to thousands of woodland acres. More than 80 percent of students receive financial aid, with an average aid award of $ 7,500. Rolling Admission Policy: No application deadline.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA, COLUMBIA, MO

WWW.MISSOURI.EDU IN-STATE TUITION: $ 5,553 OUT-OF-STATE: $ 14,705 R&B: $ 5,374 SIZE:

Named one of America's best college buys, according to Money magazine, Barron's Best Buys in College Education, and The College Finder, "Mizzou," as the school is nicknamed, also offers a lot of academic bang for the buck. With a top-rated journalism school, more than 100 living-learning communities (where students with similar interests live in the same dorms and attend classes together), and a strong study abroad program, Mizzou may be just the place for you. Rolling Admission Policy: Apply by May 1.

CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA, Hyde Park, NY

WWW.CULINARY.EDU TUITION: $ 8,820 R&B: $ 2,675 SIZE: 2,300

Have dreams of becoming a top chef? At the CIA, you'll learn how to cook and bake through hands-on instruction in the school's 41 kitchens and bakeshops. The four-year college offers degrees in two major areas of study: culinary arts and baking and pastry arts. Applicants must have six months experience in a professional kitchen, banquet facility, hospital kitchen, soup kitchen, or other non-fast-food facility. Rolling Admission Policy: Applications accepted year-round.

HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY, High Point, NC

WWW.HIGHPOINT.EDU TUITION: $ 14,290 R&B: $ 6,780 SIZE: 3,000

High Point, NC, is known as the "furniture capital of the world," and accordingly High Point University offers the nation's only majors in home furnishings marketing and home furnishings management. Set on a beautiful wooded campus, the school is affiliated with the United Methodist Church. The diverse student body enjoys a variety of cultural activities and the knowledge that their school is consistently rated one of the top-tier regional liberal arts schools. Rolling Admission Policy: Apply any time during the academic year. There is no closing date for applications, but space is limited.

BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE, Bridgewater, VA

WWW.BRIDGEWATER.EDU TUITION: $ 17,990 R&B: $ 8,480 SIZE: 1,240
With its unique Personal Development Portfolio Program, Bridgewater students are required to explore and demonstrate growth in four areas: Citizenship and Community Responsibility, Intellectual Growth and Discovery, Emotional Maturation and Physical Health, Ethical and Spiritual Growth. Though the listed price tag may be high, more than 95 percent of students receive financial aid. Rolling Admission Policy: Apply no later than August 1.

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY, PEORIA, IL

WWW.BRADLEY.EDU TUITION: $ 16,800 R&B: $ 5,980 SIZE: 5,200

Peoria is often referred to as the heartland of America, and besides boasting warm, hardworking folks, the town also offers a laid-back medium size college. Bradley stands out for several reasons: a solid liberal arts core, professors who give out their home phone numbers, and noticeable interaction between students and faculty. Rolling Admission Policy: Bradley admits students on a rolling admission basis beginning October 1. Applications reviewed until the class is filled.

MANHATTANVILLE COLLEGE, PURCHASE, NY

WWW.MVILLE.EDU TUITION: $ 23,620 R&B: $ 10,130 SIZE: 1,500

Located on 100 acres in Westchester County, just 30 minutes from New York City, Manhattanville promotes itself as "nurturing yet academically rigorous." The school offers a "Semester in New York City" program that gives students a chance to live and study in Brooklyn Heights and work at internships in business, non-profit organizations and governmental agencies. Rolling Admission Policy: The school processes applications throughout the year, but the admissions office generally recommends applying by March 1. Before applying for Fall 2005, check to see if space is still available.

WILLIAM WOODS UNIVERSITY, FULTON, MO

WWW.WILLIAMWOODS.EDU TUITION: $ 14,000 R&B: $ 5,700 SIZE: 854

Are you a horse lover? If horses aren't your thing, how about sign language? The unique William Woods may just be the only college where you call get a degree in equestrian science or American Sign Language. The school also offers a popular Mentor-Mentee Program that connects students and faculty for research partnerships. Rolling Admission Policy: Although applications may be submitted any time, students wishing to enroll for the fall semester are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

SAN FRANCISCO ART INSTITUTE, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

WWW.SFAI.EDU TUITION: $ 23,508 R&B: $ 9,450 SIZE: 500

At SFAI, you won't just get an education in the fine arts, you'll also learn something about the liberal arts. While students spend a lot of time getting messy with paints and clay in the studio, they also have to crack the books in the classrooms learning about art history and contemporary culture. The school has turned out some notable alumni, including celebrity photographer Annie Leibovitz. Rolling Admission Policy: Applications reviewed on a continuing basis through September 1.

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST, JUNEAU, PA

WWW.UAS.ALASKA.EDU IN-STATE TUITION: $ 4,752 OUT-OF-STATE TUITION: $ 15,840 R&B: $ 11,560 SIZE: 650

Surrounded by the Tongass National Forest, a temperate rainforest, UAS is a school that uses its beautiful natural environment to its advantage. Students study natural science on the Mendenhall Glacier and learn about fisheries while "knee deep in salmon." The school touts its commitment to personal attention. There are 11 students for every professor. Rolling Admission Policy: Apply by August 1 for the fall semester.

CHATHAM COLLEGE, PITTSBURGH, PA

WWW.CHATHAM.EDU TUITION: $ 20,360 R&B: $ 6,714 SIZE: 1,200

At Chatham College, a small women's liberal arts college in the Shadyside area of Pittsburgh, students get personal attention and are encouraged to make an impact on the world around them just like the school's most famous alum, environmentalist Rachel Carson. When they're not getting ready to take on the world, Chatham students take advantage of Pittsburgh's many cultural and entertainment opportunities. Rolling Admission Policy: Chatham accepts applications for admission on a rolling basis.