2010 Winter Carnival...

Games We Know Captured in Snow

“I love everything about Winter Carnival- the statues, special events, the camaraderie! However, being a native Texan, I delight in explaining to my friends “down South” the concept of human bowling, marathon statue construction, and a strange sport known as “Broomball”. Carnival is a truly unique experience that makes our grueling winters bearable and unites us as a community as we bond over hot chocolate and fried candy bars.”

Claire Drom Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Delta Zeta Sorority; American Chemical Society

“My favorite part of Winter Carnival has been statue building. The camaraderie between builders in sub-zero temps is something that cannot be matched. I have also enjoyed running the Battle of the Bands competition the past couple years.”

Erik Stolberg Electrical Engineering Statue Co-Chair, Mama’s Boys

“It’s hard to top the all-nighter, but I would have to say that my favorite part of winter carnival is getting a large group of the snowmobile club together to go out riding... the alumni that started our club come up to ride every year and it’s always a good time. I also love how everyone on campus unites to show the world that we have way too much fun in the snow!”

Jennifer Fuller Civil and Environmental Engineering, Sledheads- The Snowmobile Club (Vice President)

“My favorite part of Winter Carnival is the way it brings everyone on campus together. Michigan Tech is a fairly small, but incredibly unique community, and Winter Carnival is just one of those traditions that has been a part of our history for decades. I love that people from around the Midwest know about our Carnival and travel long distances to come and see our statues. Winter Carnival and the traditions that go along with it add to the richness of our community, and that is what I love the best.”

Megan Heinlein Biological Sciences Pre/Med Delta Zeta Sorority

“The best part of Winter Carnival is that it really brings us closer together as a brotherhood. For over a month, we dedicate all of our free time to completing common tasks, trying to reach our goal of the overall win. Even when we don’t get the overall win, we’re still extremely proud of our work and know that the time we spent together and the bonds we formed are extraordinary. The statues may finally melt in July, but my memories of carnival will never die.”

Paul Valencia Biological Sciences Recruitment – Sigma Phi Epsilon

Winter Carnival Spirit

Travis Pierce - Director of Housing
Travis Pierce has a lot of winter carnival spirit, he is always out there for events, even during the all-nighter when many of the rest of us are home in bed. He actively supports the students in their involvement, cheering them on and encouraging them to get even more involved. He also volunteered to be on the winter carnival task-force, a team of staff and students that is working to make winter carnival safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

Nominated by Kerri Sleeman

Jenna Joestgen - Senior, Biomedical Engineering
Jenna Joestgen has endless Winter Carnival spirit as the chair of Stage Revue. She has been dedicating countless hours and weekends since last fall to ensure the event runs smoothly and that Carnival is a little more funny for us all!

Nominated by Erin Jarvi

“THERE IS NOTHING LIKE A DREAM TO CREATE THE FUTURE.”
--VICTOR HUGO
It begins with yellow scaffolding emerging much like the long awaited daffodils in spring. Not long after plywood appears and then lights. All of a sudden car sized blocks of snow and ice seem to grow overnight, greeting each morning a few hours closer to their final shape. This is our version of spring, Spring Semester. So begins the Winter Carnival story.

How many other universities have campus traditions like ice fishing tournaments? Or what about human bobsled races? We find ourselves in the throes of winter and instead of hibernating ‘till spring, we get out into the snow and embrace it with passion, hard work and big smiles. In his inspirational and thought-provoking book, *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation*, well known author and academic Parker Palmer describes the notion of finding one’s calling and then embracing it with enthusiasm. He calls this vocation. Our calling as an institution of higher learning is academic but it is events like our adventurous celebration of winter that speak loudly. The story is here and it’s a good one!

This year the story of our students will be read by new eyes as our students will host the Blue Key National Conference in conjunction with Winter Carnival festivities. Founded nationally in 1924 with a commitment to scholarship, leadership and service Blue Key has remained steadfast in promoting these values. Nowhere are these principles more evident than on our own campus. Our chapter has shared their story for many years and now members from locations all across the globe will be able to be a part of the 2010 Winter Carnival story.

This is the time to pause and reflect upon our story. The wonderment of Winter Carnival and all of the peripheral events are astonishing when we think about the vast amount of time and energy that goes into the production of each. The level of ingenuity, creativity and innovation of the skits, the queen’s competition and statues is nothing short of amazing. As educators, Michigan Tech plays a vital role in making a difference the lives of our students. We strive to educate the whole student; spirit, heart, mind and body. We have an interesting story to tell but our story is not necessarily about us; it’s about our students. And as we have said before, they aren’t just part of the story, they are the story! Get out and embrace it with enthusiasm.

Thanks, you have my best wishes, and I’ll see you in the snow,

Les

**Student Affairs Leadership Team (SALT)**

**Gloria Melton**
In addition to enjoying Winter Carnival as advisor to Blue Key, the organization that plans and coordinates Carnival I like watching the progression of the statues over the month. It’s amazing to witness it all come together and to see the energy of our students through the process!

**Beth Wagner**
My favorite part of Winter Carnival is the excitement (and all the hard work) from the start of January through Winter Carnival weekend. Along with Broomball, it gives us all a wonderful celebration that makes our winter campus come alive. It is a truly loved Michigan Tech tradition!

**John Lehman**
My favorite part of Winter Carnival is 5:00-7:00 am on Thursday morning. The campus is unbelievably quiet, save for the few putting the final touches on their statue; statues which are at their most pristine and their most precise states. The campus grounds and buildings almost seem to breathe softly as if in a well earned sleep with a sense of great relief; like a tourist town in the off season. The big work is done and it’s time to rest before the long weekend celebration with close friends and family.

**Beth Pollins**
My favorite part of Winter Carnival is viewing the fine, meticulous details in the snow statues. It just amazes me how the statues “come to life” during the All Nighter! Details such as window panes, chains made out of individual links, vehicles made from snow, the statue lettering, and even their sheer size are just phenomenal to see. It’s also great to see tons of people out and about on campus and in the community appreciating this unique Michigan Tech tradition that began way back in 1922. I’m proud to be part of it.

**2010 Winter Carnival Events**
For a full listing of all Carnival events visit: http://www.mtu.edu/carnival/

**Wednesday, February 3**
- 4:00 PM – All-nighter statue construction begins
- 10:00 PM – Winter Carnival recess begins

**Thursday, February 4**
- 6:00 & 10:00 PM – Stage Revue performances at Rozsa Center

**Friday, February 5**
- 7:07 PM – Hockey vs. Minnesota Duluth at the SDC

**Saturday, February 6**
- 5:07 PM – Hockey vs. Minnesota Duluth at the SDC
- 8:30 PM – Torchlight parade & fireworks at Mont Ripley
- 9:00 PM – Awards Ceremony in MUB the MUB Ballroom

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