

WSU enrollment slips; Macomb CC is No. 3 in state

For the first time, the top three Michigan colleges in size includes a community college.

Macomb Community College topped the 30,000 mark in enrollment as Wayne State University slipped below it.

The trend was highlighted in a report to the State Board of Education detailing enrollment for Michigan's 100 colleges and universities.

Generally, as enrollments drop at the state's 15 public four-year colleges and universities, there is an enrollment increase at both the 56 private colleges and the 29 community colleges in the state.

"IN ALL FAIRNESS," said Macomb Community College President Albert L. Lorenzo, "it is somewhat inappropriate to compare enrollments between community colleges and major research universities."

"But since the inception of community colleges, there have been those who have argued that only 'traditional' university education has any real value, and warranted support."

"Our new ranking should counter that argument once and for all, and demonstrate the co-equal need for both types of institutions to serve the job training and educational needs of our rapidly changing society."

COMMUNITY COLLEGES traditionally have offered individual class-

es, one-year certificate programs and two-year degree programs using apprenticeship and co-op training, as well as classroom instruction.

Although they are most often thought of as a place to start a four-year degree, community colleges serve older students seeking to upgrade skills, keep pace with technology, or learn new job-related skills. Average age of students at Macomb is 26.

"Simply put, we can't be ignored anymore," said Lorenzo. "The very fact that the majority of the state's community colleges maintained or increased enrollment in this economy illustrates the changing trends that have been occurring in student preference for higher education in this state and across the country."

The report, part of the U.S. Department of Education's Higher Education General Information Survey, showed the following enrollment figures for the three largest institutions in Michigan:

- University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Dearborn, Flint): 46,322.
 - Michigan State University: 42,730.
 - Macomb Community College: 30,410.
 - Wayne State University: 29,775.
- Total enrollment figures for the three categories of institutions are as follows: Public four-year (15) — 226,385; private (56) — 69,807; community colleges (29) — 213,204.

OK in moderation

Video game addict may be hostile

Playing video games in moderation is no more harmful for most children than other diversions, but video "addiction" can cause problems, a Michigan State University psychologist said.

"There is no scientific evidence that video play increases violent or aggressive behavior in children," said Gary Stollak, professor of psychology at MSU.

"Neither would I argue that reading a Stephen King horror novel necessarily arouses violence, or participation in or observation of football arouses hate-

"If they're playing video games several hours a day, four or more days a week, I'd be concerned. It means they're not engaging in other important activities. . ."

—Gary Stollak

ful and vengeful feelings."

Stollak said parents should try to learn what motivates their children to play video games.

friends, developing their physical skills, enjoying creative activities and gratifying needs through diverse interests, then I'd be relaxed.

OCC offers short courses

Babysitting, financial planning, computer programming and cake decorating are among the topics of non-credit short courses being offered this winter at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College.

A complete listing of short courses and registration information are available from the Office of Community Services, 471-7520.

The non-degree and leisure-time courses are offered during a variety of time periods throughout the winter. Registration will take place up to and including the first class meeting.

Minimal course fees are charged. Senior citizens will be admitted to one short course per semester with a 50 percent discount.

"WHILE a child might be engrossed in the game and playing aggressively," he said, "it might not elicit any hostile impulses. I'd guess that for most kids, it's simply a distraction from their cares and woes, a game that tests their perceptual motor coordination or taps a desire for challenge or mastery."

"Of course, it may indicate hostility for a few," Stollak said. "In their minds, they might think: That's my mother over there, and I'm shooting laser beams at her."

According to Stollak, parents shouldn't worry about children who spend a small part of their time in front of video screens, as long as that one activity doesn't dominate their daily life.

"I'd urge parents to ask themselves: 'What else is my child doing between 6 in the morning and 10 at night?'"

"If children are having fun with

distraction, and if unchecked, one addiction might lead to another.

"I would argue that a contributor to alcoholism and drug addiction is the inability to find a socially acceptable activity that is totally distracting," he said.

"Children who engage in repetitive, habitual, compulsive activities in middle childhood (ages 7-12) could be the same ones who will abuse alcohol and drugs in their late teens because their strategy of dealing with conflict is still escape."

Women's group hears Gorsuch

Anne M. Gorsuch, who has had a fiery reign as administrator for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), will be guest speaker at the Women's Economic Club luncheon meeting Friday, Jan. 14 in the Columbus Ballroom of the Westin Hotel in downtown Detroit.

Gorsuch, who was threatened with jail for contempt of Congress last month, will speak on "EPA in the '80s" at 11:45 a.m. For ticket information, call the Women's Economic Club office at 963-5088.

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Kelley uses proposals D, H against Edison

Attorney General Frank J. Kelley has won the denial of a \$21.6-million Detroit Edison rate increase by a state Public Service Commission (PSC) hearing officer.

Kelley had opposed the boost in electricity charges, saying the request was banned by proposals D and H approved by voters in the Nov. 2 election.

The proposals, under a preliminary order by Ingham Circuit Court Judge Thomas L. Brown, require a "full and complete hearing of rate adjustments" and prohibit certain automatic adjustments of rates.

EDISON ARGUED that the increase

it sought, based on changes in the consumer price index (CPI), is not an automatic adjustment. It contended that a December hearing on the increase in the CPI meets the "full and complete" hearing test.

Hearing Officer Theodora Mace, in granting Kelley's motion to dismiss Edison's rate-hike request, said the limited hearing on the CPI increase is not sufficient to comply with the proposals' requirements.

Detroit Edison has the right to appeal her decision to the full commission.

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