

# fooling around with news is April frolic

By Sharon Dargay  
staff writer

The same company that built the Milwaukee Bridge may construct a people mover to shuttle students around the campus of Larry Institute for the Technological.

Meanwhile, the Southfield college is studying ways to reverse the earth's rotation in order to save its new administration building — a concrete and Lego block construction — from collapsing.

And its mechanical engineering department is under federal government contract to produce a secret device that suspiciously resembles a bottle opener.

Honest. It says so right there in the "Tech News."

The zany newspaper parody, published every April Fool's Day, is an eight-year tradition at Lawrence Institute of Technology. The spoof takes a cross-eyed view of campus life, poking fun at everything from controversial alumnus John DeLorean to building aesthetics.

"IT'S THE most fun issue of the year to write," said Editor Sam Bellestri, alias "Sam Belligerent." "It gives us a chance to write about things we'd like to poke fun at."

"You can get away with writing about some things by poking fun at them. It's easier (than being serious) and more enjoyable anyway."

An ongoing rivalry between architecture and engineering students underpins several verbal darts aimed at the school's management building. The monolithic structure, a collection of concrete and columns, houses the registrar's office, library and cafeteria.

"It's the kind of place that an engineer would look at and say 'what a waste of space,' but an architect would say 'oh, it looks so nice,'" Bellestri explained. "There's a lot of unfinished concrete that hasn't been painted. They say that's so you can see the cracks better."

The college's student activities center, housed in a building accessible by a 10-minute trek over "back paths," earned front-page coverage for the third consecutive year.

"WE'VE HEARD for years that a new center was supposed to be built. Two years ago the headline said 'center closed to students.' Last year we ran a picture of a semi-truck trailer with a sign that said 'gala re-opening — April 1,'" Bellestri said.

This year, the publication urged construction of a people-mover to transport students from the main cluster of campus buildings to the activities center nearly a half-mile away.

Interspersed with the esoteric jokes are absurd tidbits, like the classified ad offering an undependable, loud, rusty

Pontiac Lemans "free to a good home." Or crossword clues that would puzzle any serious player.

## He finds a new job

Continued from Page 10

Harrison didn't feel self-conscious going to such an extreme degree to advertise his plight, he said.

"MY PRIDE went way down the toilet when I went on welfare, so it didn't matter."

Harrison selected a site with a heavy traffic flow and close to the Golden Corridor and its many office complexes.

"I got a number of people who called. People interviewed me over the phone for all kinds of things."

Several individuals involved in the direct sales for Amway and Shaklee products contacted him, Harrison said,

"but what I'm trying to land is a full-time job."

He received \$50-60 calls, but no concrete offers until last week.

Troy city officials, citing sign ordinances, had asked Harrison to remove the sign just a few days earlier.

They let me keep it three months. I really appreciated it."

Harrison's especially attracted to sales jobs. A heart problem would preclude any work that involves heavy lifting, he said.

To keep busy, Harrison has been doing odd jobs for neighbors and friends.

Harrison figured he could compensate for lack of formal know-how with determination.

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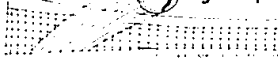
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