## THE Filthy Lucre

One Page Good, Two Pages Bad

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at the Filthy Lucre appologize for our brief hiatus; you see, when we first heard of the financial crisis currently plaguing our fine democracy, we immediately decided to suspend our publication schedule while our editors traveled to Washington to help avert the apocalypse. Well, they haven't saved our credit industry quite yet, but here's a slightly late issue anyway, to tide you over. You're welcome.

-the Staff of the Filthy Lucre

## Is Our Children Learning?

Fenix Magico: Concerned Citizen

College is supposed to be a place of learning and expanding of one's mind. At MSU-Northern, the faculty and staff seem to have a slightly different opinion on this subject. Many students have reported faculty that have expressed the lack of confidence in their student's cognitive abilities.

In simple terms, Northern's faculty seems to believe that all students are mentally disabled. Some believe this to be caused by the No Child Left Behind Act, or the gradual "dumbing down" of the high school curriculum. A few pseudo-professionals have gone as far as claiming that this is a disease and must be treated fast! While others simply say... DUHHHH!

How far has Northern descended into the darkness of "the stupid"? Will Graphic Design classes devolve into using crayons and finger paints? Should professors institute story time with popup books and animal crackers? Will English Professors give out gold stars whenever a student successfully strings three words together?

There have been reports from all over campus of various departments expressing their concern about the growing problem of "the stupid." One faculty member was heard to say, "students are too stupid to handle their own finances." Another was overheard saying that Northern would be a better place if the students were "less stupid."

Many students, fresh out of high school, lack the ability to construct coherent sentences, follow simple instructions, or function like an adult. Will this hinder the greater good of society? Will the next elite minds be hindered by "the stupid?" Do we get to go to the playground after lunch?

## **Letters To The Lucre**

Wan Keroo: Honor Roll Student

1 C yer upset cuz top dog iz gonna fill the pool with sand, why, its so we can have the hoods bigist sandbox horay fer us! let the cul catz swim aroun & leve us presents...

and next we cn fill donaldsn hall with jello or whip creme yahoo! wed get the enrolemnt then u bet maybe even a spot in playboy or some such.

then we cn fill the subs old lunch room with sily puddy or wait maybe toxic waist frm the farm mech bldg.

n fac cd probly fill a buncha admin & profs ofices with them init and not see any diff on campis doncha no?

## Banned Book Week, & Why You Should Fear It

Alice Riven: Bookmonger

For most folks, Banned Books Week is an obscure holiday celebrated by the same kind of people who enjoy Pi Day. (celebrating of the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter every March 14) I've heard a lot of questions about Banned Books Week, and I'd just like to clarify a few points.

From time to time, someone reads a book that they find inappropriate or offensive, and they feel the need to challenge its placement in school or public libraries. These challenges can lead to the book being banned, but they usually only serve to bring more public attention to that book, and books often become more popular due to the challenge.

Books can be challenged on a number of reasons: sexual content, profanity, slang, violence, offensive portrayals of racial or religious groups, or portrayals of homosexuality. These the most common reasons, but more will invariably arise as writers find new ways to irritate readers. The goal of this particular holiday is to celebrate

our freedom of speech. Our illustrious Vande Bogart Library can certainly supply you with some interesting banned books; some of which are located on a revolving shelf between the elevator and the Coffee Cart. So this week why not rebel against society with a good book?

[We should note that the most banned or challenged book of 2007 was "And Tango Makes Three," a heartwarming true story of two gay penguins who adopt a baby together. Happy feet indeed! We kid, it's a cute story. -ed.]

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