Voting Time!

Once again, it’s GBM #3! It’s the moment of truth—after a month spent collecting signatures, attending events, and polishing bents (big and small), our initiates are brought to a final vote. We have a wonderful pool of applicants this semester, and it’s been a great process so far. Let’s all do our best to make good, fair decisions.

MEXICAN FOOD! WOOOOHOOOO! ALRIGHT! YEAHHH!

Once we are done casting judgment deciding on our initiates, we will be getting burgers at Circa. This should be a good opportunity to blow off steam and chat for a while, so if you are interested, be sure to stop by!

Hope to see you there!
Thank You to All Contributors!
I could not put together the Local Bent without your input and content.
If you are would like to have your work featured in the Local Bent, I always welcome (appropriate) content! This could include (but is not limited to):

- Countdowns
- Sports columns
- Cultural features
- Reviews
- Jokes

Come on, send it in!

Tau Beta Birthdays!

Nicholas Buck—November 9th
Kel Carlile—November 11th
Mohammad Alsmirat—November 18th

Happy Birthday, Tau Bates!

You’re making us cry with happiness.
Initiates: a Who’s Who

Ali Abdallah

Hello, I am Ali Abdallah, a third year Biomedical Engineering student. Although the BME program is new, and my class will be the first class to graduate, I have been able achieve a great deal of success in the program. As a freshman, my BME design team and I were chosen as one of six finalists to compete for cash prizes in a national rehabilitation engineering competition. Aside from that, I have also been on the board of many student organizations, including ESD and the Water Compilation Organization, and was accepted to a research program last summer at the University of Michigan.

Andrews Ankrah

Andrews Ankrah was born in Biriwa in the Central Region of Ghana. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry and is pursuing a second degree in Biomedical Engineering. Service to community has been his mantle. As a high school graduate, he volunteered to teach and mentor Junior high school students from his hometown. In the university, he devoted most of his summer breaks not only to teach students, but also played an unofficial role as public health officer. Andrews hopes to be a physician in future, specializing in medical research. He currently resides in Wixom, Michigan, with his family.

Brien Dux

My name is Brien Dux. I am a senior mechanical engineering student and a transfer student from Oakland Community College. My current involvement in the College of Engineering is as a member of the Formula SAE team, vice president of ESFB, and an honorary member of BMES. I have two awesome younger brothers whom I like to hang out with and in my spare time I like to play soccer, downhill ski and watch Detroit sports.
James (Jim) Frantz

My name is Jim Frantz, and I am pursuing a degree in Electrical Engineering. I enjoy a good argument, even though I'm always right. I'm always willing to help fellow classmates with schoolwork or anything. Otherwise, I'm a quiet computer nerd who loves Star Wars and Lord of the Rings. Oh, and techno music. I don't care what Eminem says. Moby rocks.

Andrew Joseph

My name is Andrew Joseph, and I am a junior here at Wayne State University. I am majoring in Mechanical Engineering. I am from Toronto, Ontario. I enjoy playing and watching sports such as basketball, baseball and football. I also enjoy playing and listening to different types of music. I grew up learning how to play the piano and acoustic guitar and I still play these instruments when I can. I am excited about potentially joining Tau Beta Pi, as it would be great to join a group of successful engineering students. Tau Beta Pi gives us an opportunity to give back and serve our fellow engineering students at Wayne State University.

Hajra Khan

Hi! My name is Hajra Khan and I'm a 3rd year Biomedical Engineering student at Wayne State. I love being involved in the College of Engineering, and this year I have had the pleasure of serving as the President of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) organization and as a member of the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES). I also like dedicating my time to other community service organizations around my city, such as the Canadian Red Cross. I am looking forward to becoming a Tau Beta Pi member soon and becoming actively involved in the Michigan Epsilon Chapter.
Maxwell Laws

My name is Maxwell Laws, and I'm a junior at Wayne State. I'm a part of the Biomedical Engineering Class of 2015. I recently transferred into the class, and I started off at Wayne as a Pre-med Biology major. I do research at a cardiac physiology lab at the medical school, and I'm a regular volunteer at the Karmanos Cancer Institute. I used to work at Wayne State's Student Disability Services (SDS) as a student assistant. Currently I'm initiating to become a member of Wayne State's Tau Beta Pi chapter. I spend my free time either on my computer or watching the History Channel. My favorite TV show is probably Sons of Anarchy. Also, I'm absolutely obsessed with the “A Song of Ice and Fire” series, otherwise known as Game of Thrones.

Hamzeh Omar

My name is Hamzeh Omar, and I am a junior in the Biomedical Engineering undergraduate program. Outside of classes, I spend much of my time doing research with Dr. Harini Sundararaghavan in Neural Tissue Engineering. I am also active in the College of Engineering; I am president of the Biomedical Engineering Society and treasurer of the Engineering Student Faculty Board. In the future, I plan on completing medical school and specializing in ophthalmology. Some of my hobbies include a saltwater aquarium, reading, and scuba diving. I also recently learned how to ride a motorcycle. I look forward to having a great time with Tau Beta Pi members and giving the association the best of my efforts.

Anant Patel

I am majoring in Chemical Engineering and Finance. I am on the Wayne State University Debate Team. I came to the US in 11th grade, and since then I have lived here alone. Apart from that I am highly enthusiastic about what I do. I am huge math geek and like solving math puzzles. I work at Karmanos Cancer Center as a student assistant. Thank you!
**Vatsal Patel**

I am originally from India. I came to the U.S in 2009 and studied at Oakland Community College to finish my general education credits. I am studying Industrial engineering and currently a senior at WSU. I transferred to WSU in fall 2011. I am also the V.P of membership for IIE board. My plan is to get a Master’s in Business administration after I finish my Undergraduate degree. I like to ride my motorcycle in summer. I am also learning rock climbing and would like to climb a real rock someday. I also like skiing in winter time and learning snowboarding.

**Karthik Ramaseshan**

Karthik Ramaseshan is a Biomedical Engineering major at Wayne State University. He is part of the Irvin D. Reid Honors College, where he received the Presidential Scholarship. Karthik is an aspiring orthopedic surgeon. He is planning on attending medical school after completing his undergraduate degree. To gain more experience, Karthik started working as a clinical research assistant at Crittenton medical center where he helps with the development and coordination of all clinical studies. In addition, Karthik also volunteers at several non-profit organizations, such as Hospice of Michigan and Dinosaur Hills Nature Preserve. He also serves on the Wayne State Student Senate and the Wayne State Campus Activities Team.
Radhika Rastogi

Radhika Rastogi is a sophomore at Wayne State University’s Honors College, majoring in Biomedical Engineering. She is also part of the MedStart program, which guarantees direct admission to medical school. She hopes to use her undergraduate degree to enhance her abilities as a future physician and to improve both medical techniques and technology. Aside from academic pursuits, Radhika is involved in many volunteering organizations and opportunities, like the American Medical Student Association, the Honors Student Association, and the Red Cross. To relax, Radhika prefers spending time reading, writing poetry, and submerging herself in music. She also continues practicing classical Indian dance, Bharatnatyam, in which she has trained for 9 years.

Kenneth Thomas

Ken Thomas is an Electrical Engineer. He is currently an undergraduate researcher under Dr. Pandya and Dr. Woodyard. He is working on optical diffusion spectroscopy to detect tumors. He is also “a pretty cool guy that doesn't afraid of anything”.

Tonya Whitehead

Hi I'm Tonya Whitehead; as many of you already know, I'm a PhD student in Biomedical Engineering and hold the Rumble Fellowship this year. My research involves tissue engineering to regenerate nerves. I spend most of my time in a lab on the second floor of the EDC, usually trying to create microparticles, harvesting cells from chicken embryos or accidentally getting shocked with high voltage while electrospinning. It is really pretty fun once the sting wears off.

In my "spare time" besides TBP, I'm a member of BMES, ESD & SWE on campus. When I escape campus I'm still busy volunteering, serving on the Board of Directors for Michigan PTA and Pawsitive Impact for Pets and fostering for the Shiawassee County Humane Society. Besides my foster dog, I have 3 dogs of my own. Some people might say I'm a crazy dog lady, but I don't think so. If you're bored sometime, ask me about my dogs' eyes.

Last winter I completed my MS in Biomedical Engineering here; in a former life I received a BS in Computer Engineering and a MS in Manufacturing and Engineering Management from Michigan State University. Then I spent a few years in industry before deciding to reclaim my youth and come back to school.

Christina Wong

Christina Wong is a sophomore studying at Wayne State University. She hopes to utilize her current studies in Biomedical Engineering/Pre-med with a minor in Chinese to eventually become a practicing physician. To keep herself involved in her community and school, she actively participates in pre-medical societies, volunteers with large organizations, and works as a friendly face in many of Wayne State University's departments, including marketing and communications, admissions, and the college of education. In her free time, she enjoys being part of the band family in the Warrior Marching Band. With five years of experience, she is confident in both her marching skills and playing skills on the flute.
Hello everyone, my name is Ao Yu, a Tau Beta Pi initiate. I'm studying Mechanical Engineering at Wayne State University, going on my 3rd year of secondary education. Both my mother and father are engineers. I guess you can consider my family as a little engineering society within itself. Since everyone is an engineer in Tau Beta Pi, I think I can feel right at home. To tell you guys the truth, none of my friends are engineering majors, so it becomes difficult to get some jokes across. I think that would not be the situation here, with a bunch of engineers—not to mention you're all engineering HONOR students.
Initiate Crossword!

Let's see how well you know them. (ANSWERS ON LAST PAGE)

http://www.armoredpenguin.com/crossword/

1. Scuba diver
5. Likes to ski
7. Likes Sons of Anarchy
9. Likes engineering jokes
12. Rec Sec's childhood friend
13. President of SWE
14. In the Marching Band
15. Served on the board of the Water Compilation Organization
16. Is Halo

2. Plays piano and acoustic guitar
3. On the debate team
4. Techno fan
6. (Not) a crazy dog lady
8. Emigrated from Ghana
10. Wants to be an orthopedic surgeon
11. Learning to rock climb
“If I stop now, my sense of shame might catch up with me.”
“I see. Welcome to the race, then.”

In Prohibition-era St. Louis, Missouri, ambitious entrepreneur Atlas May establishes a speakeasy, hidden in the limestone caves beneath an otherwise-legitimate front, the Little Daisy Café. Business booms, and Atlas’ underground creation, called the Lackadaisy, soon bustles with patrons. Bootlegging is a dangerous trade, however, and in 1926, Atlas is murdered, leaving the Lackadaisy to his widow, Mitzi May. Atlas’ speakeasy quickly succumbs to financial troubles and fades to a shadow of its former self. Despite this, Mitzi and the small band of stragglers connected to her are desperate to restore the Lackadaisy to its prime. For now it is unclear whether their efforts—some legal, most, not—will result in the comeback they all desire or end in a bloody tragedy.

Also, everyone is a cat. (Wait, what?)

Lackadaisy is a webcomic (http://lackadaisycats.com/index.php) written and illustrated by Tracy J. Butler. It’s a labor of love on her part, so it does not update nearly as frequently as most prominent webcomics. When Ms. Butler does put out pages, however, they are always worth the wait. Everything about Lackadaisy is meticulous, from its layered story, to its quirky historical details, to its semi-photorealistic art style (which, given that it features a bunch of anthropomorphic cats, is an impressive achievement in and of itself).
Genre-wise, this comic is a bit difficult to pin down. Lackadaisy is a 1920’s period piece, but it’s also part gangster romp, part murder mystery. Its abundance of shady, profoundly miserable personalities—femme fatales, unsavory criminals, and disgruntled hangers-on—bespeaks a heavy film noir influence (a few panels even feature Venetian blind lighting). Like the Little Daisy Café, no one is who he or she appears to be at first. Despite this, Lackadaisy, true to its name, somehow manages to be weirdly light-hearted. It consistently maintains a funny tone somewhere between irreverent slapstick and tragic drudgery that often leaves me at a loss for how to feel.

Hey, did I hear someone say “funny”? Because this comic is funny!

![A burning truck and a cat with a question mark in its eyes.](image)

Seriously, depressing implications aside, Lackadaisy can be and often is hilarious. Ms. Butler clearly loves bouncing her strange, slightly unhinged characters off each other, often to calamitous effect. And suddenly, certain artistic choices make sense. To quote the artist, “When dealing in sociopathic criminalism and gratuitous violence, how could it not be cats?”

Some caveats—this is, again, an ongoing work. While Ms. Butler shows no external signs of being anything other than a dedicated, detail-oriented perfectionist, no guarantees can be made about the future of the comic. Also, fuzzy cast notwithstanding, this comic can be violent and disturbing at times—nothing gratuitous, mind you, but definitely not for the kids. Despite these and the warning that you might earn some sideways glances if you are caught reading a sepia webcomic sporting gun-touting cat people, I cannot recommend Lackadaisy highly enough. But enough of my addlepated ishkabibble. Check it out for yourself!
Burgers at Circa!