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## YOU CAN CALL ME AL

### Presidential candidate faces students on MTV forum

By Hanna LoPatin  
Daily Staff Reporter

Vice President Al Gore answered the questions on every college student's mind yesterday: He prefers paper to plastic, he has a Sister Hazel disc in his CD player and the biggest perk of winning the election would be the promotion to Air Force One.



Incidentally, he also plans to make his first act as president signing a racial profiling ban, he supports legalizing same-sex civil unions and despite MTV's introduction saying he "even smoked the herb," Gore opposes legalizing marijuana for medical use.

During a commercial break on MTV's Choose or Lose town hall meeting taped yesterday on North Campus,

Gore even quipped, "Did you know that I invented the environment?" And after a student asked if he could call the vice president "Al," the candidate simply said, "Absolutely. You know the Paul Simon song, right?"

Engineering senior Mike Muse, one of 150 students picked through an audition process to join the audience for the forum, told Gore he had once been pulled over and "surrounded by six police cars" because the officer told him he fit the description of someone who had committed a crime.

Racial profiling, Gore said, "is a new label for a very old practice." If elected, the vice president said "a ban on racial profiling will be the first civil rights act of the 21st Century."

"That is exactly the answer I was looking for," Muse said after the show was taped.

Responding to several questions about the mp3-sharing Websites such as Napster, Gore told students and the nationwide television audience of young voters that he supports intellectual property rights.

"It's a great technology, but it can only be used over the long term if they find a way to protect the rights of the artist," Gore said. "Intellectual property is still property."

For the final question of the event, which was taped at the Media Union in the morning and aired on MTV

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NORMAN NG/Daily

ABOVE: Vice President Al Gore talks to students during MTV's "Choose or Lose" forum taped on North Campus yesterday. LEFT: Gore "knocks on wood" after audience members at the Ann Arbor Community Center urged him to talk about his prospects of winning.



### Coming soon from the Daily's election team:

- Coverage of George W. Bush's trip to Michigan tomorrow and Friday.
- The second in our six-part series on issues affecting this year's campaign. Part two: Higher Education.



ALEX WOLK/Daily

### Protesters attempt to block Diag display

By David Enders  
Daily Staff Reporter

Interim Dean of Students Frank Cianciola spoke for nearly an hour yesterday morning with students protesting an anti-abortion group before Department of Public Safety officers moved in and threatened to arrest the protesters.

"I was simply stating the position that there was a student group who had followed all the proper procedures to secure the Diag," Cianciola said.

A group of about 10 students supporting a pro-choice stance attempted to block members of the Genocide Awareness Project from setting up a display decrying abortion on the Diag around 7:30 a.m. It was the second day of the two-day exhibit.

University spokeswoman Diane Brown said officers had reached the second warning of a three-warning system given prior to arrest in protest situations.

The students occupied the space intended for the display of 30 mounted six-foot by 13-foot photographs graphically portraying aborted fetuses next to images of atrocities including the Holocaust, racially-motivated lynchings and genocide in Rwanda.

Members of GAP began setting up the display despite the protest. "We just worked around them," said GAP member Gary Rozier of New Jersey.

DPS officers moved inside the barriers erected to separate GAP members standing with the photographs from those walking through the Diag, as well as increasing the number of officers on hand from yesterday. Brown said "safety concerns" for the group motivated both moves.

Although protesters remained on the Diag throughout the day, their actions were limited to marching circles around the display and engaging GAP members in debate.

"Honestly, I was probably expecting more protest," said the Rev. Jim Kusher of Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, one of the campus groups sponsoring GAP. "I can't say I'm disappointed either way, but I was expecting that there might be a little more violence in the protest."

"Not so much violence against people but people taking out anger against the displays," he said.

At other campuses GAP has visited, reactions have included tears and vandalism. A University of Kansas student drove his car into the display.

Kusher also expected protesters to be "more heated in their rhetoric."

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Inside: Pro-choice professor lectures at the School of Public Health, Page 3.

### Gore campaigns to young voters

By Yael Kohen  
Daily Staff Reporter

Common political rhetoric suggests that students are apathetic to the political process and have historically neglected to vote on Election Day. But Vice President Al Gore said political indifference is not plaguing youths as much as believed.

"This generation of young people is the most socially aware and civically involved generation ever in American history," Gore told a group of Michigan reporters yesterday before he left Willow Run Airport on his way to Des Moines, Iowa. But Gore acknowledged that "as of yet, they have not been attracted to the democratic process in the same way they have helped out charities and community groups

and social causes."

Studies have shown that although voter turnout among young people is low, the number of young volunteers is on the rise. And presidential candidates are making efforts to use that civic engagement to promote political awareness and to attract what could be one of the largest voting blocks in the country.

Gore participated in MTV's Choose or Lose 2000 town-hall style forum at the University yesterday to give young people — both voters and non-voters — a chance to bring up the issues that most directly and deeply concern them.

Despite some criticism that the MTV program was contrived, commercial breaks allowed for a question-and-answer period that was

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### Cheney attacks VP's credibility

By Jeremy W. Peters  
Daily Staff Reporter

TROY — Republican vice presidential nominee Dick Cheney shifted into attack mode yesterday as both he and Democratic Vice President Al Gore visited Southeastern Michigan.

"Our opponent Al Gore has over the years failed to speak the truth," Cheney told a largely Republican crowd yesterday at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy. Flanked by Gov. John Engler, the head of the Bush campaign in Michigan, Cheney was eager to point out what he said were falsities in Gore's rhetoric.

"Most recently we've seen him confuse the facts on the prescriptions of his mother-in-law and his dog," Cheney said in regard to Gore's incorrect statement last week that his mother-in-law was taking the same arthritis drug as his dog but paying far more for it.

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JOYCE LEE/Daily

Republican vice-presidential candidate Dick Cheney speaks at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy yesterday.

### State unveils university logo license plate line

By Anna Clark  
Daily Staff Reporter

Starting Monday, Michigan drivers can take their school spirit on the road.

A new series of collegiate license plates, including one bearing the University's block 'M' logo, make their official debut early next week.

By replacing the traditional blue-and-white Michigan plate with one that promotes a state-supported university, drivers can advertise their favorite school

while simultaneously donating money to it.

The state will donate \$25 of the specialty plate's \$35 first-time fee to the featured university, Secretary of State Candice Miller said. The annual \$10 renewal fee also will be donated to the school.

"We wanted to give Michigan motorists not only a chance to show their school pride but an opportunity to raise revenue for the university of their choice," Miller said.

University of Michigan Vice President for Government Relations Cynthia Wilbanks said the plates



sparked much enthusiasm when Miller presented them to university presidents and representatives yesterday.

"It was a festive occasion," Wilbanks said. "I think there was general excitement about the opportunities for drivers to show their true colors."

While Miller couldn't predict sales for the plates, she said she expects them to be "wildly popular."

"I think there's a tremendous audience for this,"

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### Grand Valley reneges on same-sex benefits

By Rachel Green  
Daily Staff Reporter

Grand Valley State University yesterday reneged on its decision to propose an extension of employee benefits for same-sex partners.

Grand Valley State's Board of Trustees planned to discuss the proposal at its Oct. 6 meeting. The issue was dropped from the agenda when media attention

about the possibility of same sex benefits at Grand Valley State sparked controversy among university employees, according to a statement provided by the university.

"This premature airing denied me the opportunity to communicate my reasoning in advance to the many constituencies of the university whose support is necessary if such a proposal is to be accepted," Grand Valley State

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#### WEATHER

Tonight  
Partly cloudy.  
Low 40.

Tomorrow  
Partly cloudy. High 54.

64°  
Partly cloudy

#### NEWS

##### New boy in town

Martha Cook welcomes its first male server in the history of the 85-year old all-female residence hall. PAGE 3.

#### ARTS

##### A different drummer

Gadfly Records offers a slate of alternative music to today's teeny-bopper boy bands. PAGE 8.

#### SPORTS

##### Clean sweep

Wolverine spikers sweep Toledo, 3-0, to boost their record to 9-3. PAGE 10.

