

In Our Own Words | Staff Editorial

Case reopening a positive step

On Friday, Sept. 21 Ingham County Prosecutor Stuart Dunnings III announced that the county had reopened the murder case against Claude Zain McCollum, who was tried and convicted of killing LCC Professor Carolyn Kronenberg.

Dunnings announced that new evidence had been brought to light and that it was substantial enough to reinvestigate Kronenberg's murder.

Meanwhile, McCollum and his relatives have been in the media proclaiming his innocence. In an exclusive interview with the *Lansing State Journal*, McCollum claimed that he has always been innocent. His family also distributed flyers protesting the verdict and calling for his exoneration.

The reaction of the accused is understandable. During his trial, no physical evidence was brought forth from the prosecution to condemn him.

No witness could be produced to corroborate his guilt.

The prosecution rested on a statement that McCollum gave to police when he was arrested in 2005 in which he said he may have been able to commit the murders had he been sleepwalking.

McCollum was described by the media as a drifter with no fixed address.

The recent arrest of 27-year-old Matthew Macon allegedly gave McCollum's family hope that McCollum might be proven innocent.

Macon is suspected of, but has not been charged with, committing the brutal beatings that horrified Lansing several weeks ago.

The connections in brutality between Kronenberg's murder and the recent beatings prompted the family to cry foul on McCollum's trial.

We applaud Dunnings for showing diligence in reopening McCollum's case in light of the media scrutiny.

By working closely with LCC and State of Michigan Police, Dunnings showed he truly is interested in pursuing justice, and isn't out to lock up the first suspect police came up with.

It is our hope that Dunnings may find Kronenberg's true murderer, whether it be McCollum, Macon or anyone else.

We feel Dunnings' zeal in pursuing the case proves his dedication to the phrase "Justice is blind."

The Lookout

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The Lookout is always looking for staff writers to write news, sports, opinion and/or arts & entertainment articles. Anyone interested in staff writing for The Lookout may stop by SPS 208 (located between Dart Auditorium and TLC) or call (517) 483-1288. No experience is necessary.



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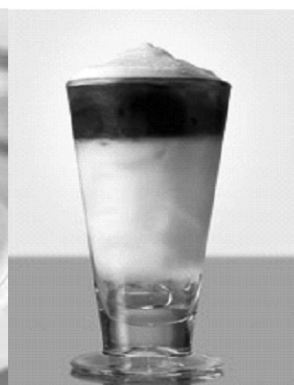
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