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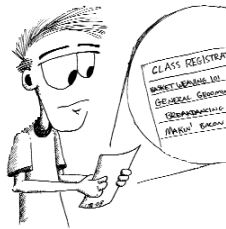
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Foreign affairs

Students studying abroad offer different perspectives on war with Iraq.

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Credit cut

Academic committee should consider requirement decrease.

OPINION, page 6



Dreaming ...

'The Stuff of Dreams' brings classic theater characters to life.

ENTERTAINMENT, page 9

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Thursday
March 27, 2003

The ADVOCATE

An award-winning newspaper published weekly for the Minnesota State University Moorhead community



KATIE MYRMEL/THE ADVOCATE

National champ

Senior Chris Nulle won a Division II national weight throw title March 14. See page 12 for the story.

Barden proposes 120-credit degree

By AMY DALRYMPLE

Editor

A recent proposal by President Roland Barden could save students money and speed up graduation rates.

But opponents argue it could also lead to an "erosion of education."

Barden met with the Academic Policy and Advisory Council Tuesday to discuss decreasing the number of credits required for a bachelor of arts degree.

He's asking the committee, primarily made up of faculty, to consider lowering the 128-credit requirement to 124 or 120.

The Minnesota State Colleges and University system allows schools to award degrees for

students who complete a range of 120 to 128 credits, Barden said.

"Everything we have here is pegged at 128 and I wondered why," he said. "I don't see why we have to be locked into 128 when there is discretion allowed by the board."

While Barden is in favor of lowering the number to 120, which would be four years of college at 15 credits a semester, he said 124 could be a compromise. Traditionally the number has been a multiple of four.

The reduction would come from electives and wouldn't affect liberal studies or major programs.

One benefit of a decrease would be to save students money, Barden said. At the current rate of \$125.38 per undergraduate credit, students could save up to \$1,000 in tuition.

Barden said reducing the graduation requirement by a few

elective courses would not reduce the quality of a degree. He cited institutions, including the University of Minnesota, that require less than 128 credits for graduation.

Bette Midgarden, vice president of academic affairs, said each department that grants a bachelor of arts degree offered feedback about the proposal.

Of the 19 departments surveyed, five were opposed, five were neutral, two were in favor, six had mixed opinions and one supported only the 124-credit proposal.

The language department was among those opposed. Spanish professor and APAC member Jim Weckler said he'd like to see students spend more rather than less time at MSUM.

"The background knowledge that students have coming in is lacking," Weckler said.

☐ CREDITS, back page

Beyond the label: Lamm urges students to overcome isolation

By TERI FINNEMAN

News Editor

Nomy Lamm openly acknowledges herself as a fat 23-year-old amputee, Jew, dyke, anarchist and queer. After all, she said, the labels are all true.

Lamm, from Olympia, Wash., will speak out about gender conditioning, feminism, identity and genderqueer activism at 8 tonight (Thursday) in the CMU ballroom.

Lamm said her multi-media

presentation describes her experiences growing up and how people can be alienated from their own experiences.

"Labels can't define a person. That's the irony of it," Lamm said. "A lot of people probably find it shocking or want to know what's [my] point. I'm not trying to say anything besides, 'Here are a list of words to describe myself.'"

Because of her complex persona, Lamm said she believes she has a lot to share and information that's relevant to

a number of people.

"It's really hard to grow up and not see a reflection of yourself anywhere in the world," Lamm said. "I'm critiquing the ways that women are represented in the media and the ways we're brainwashed to think about our bodies. I'm working to create more new and compelling options for ourselves."

She said Riot Grrl, a feminist network in the Washington



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Nomy Lamm

punk scene, influenced her in the 1990s.

"Riot Grrl is very 'do it yourself' based," Lamm said. "The

☐ LAMM, page 3

Conference promotes unity

By DANIELLE MACMURCHY

Staff Writer

Unique to Minnesota, the annual Unity Conference will be April 3-4 in the CMU Ballroom.

For the past eight years, the Unity Conference has given students from the tri-state area an opportunity to view life from a Latino's perspective. This year's theme is "Heroes Americanos: Latinos on the American Panorama."

The conference offers a variety of programs. Information workshops will place people in a small-group setting, giving them a more personal experience. These workshops can be taken at either the youth or adult level.

Several speakers will give an account of their road to success, such as Sandra Benitez, an award-winning author, Efrain Guerrero, a motivational speaker and comedian and Michael Heralda, a Mattel Toys designer.

The two-day event will also include a keynote dinner, a talent show and the Outstanding Latino Students Awards.

Several organizations have been involved in the conference. The Organization of Latino Students, the Black Student Alliance, student senate and other volunteers, have all come together to put

☐ UNITY, back page

Biology lab 'charmed' by alumna gift

By TERI FINNEMAN

News Editor

Fred and Ginger made MSUM their new home last week amidst enthusiasm from the biology department. Their reaction to life at MSUM? A few tongue slithers and a quick gulp of rat.

The corn snakes, a gift from MSUM 1994 alumna Sandy Howard, will help dispose of old mice from the biology department and be used for outreach programs.

Howard said she had the snakes for nearly four years but was ready to give them a new home.

"I wanted to give them to some place where they would get handled, and it sounds like the biology department has a lot of tour groups that come through," she said. "[MSUM biology professor] Todd Nolte was actually looking for that type of snake. He

wanted exactly what I had."

Nolte said he's had previous experience with corn snakes and wanted them at MSUM due to their easy care.

"Corn snakes are one of the most common snakes that one would find at a pet store," Nolte said. "We have groups of elementary kids that come through the department all of the time. We try to put on some programs for them, and snakes are always good for that."

He said Fred and Ginger will be kept in a large snake enclosure in one of the animal research rooms, since a more secure, public enclosure isn't available. Nolte said there isn't anyone in the biology department who is studying snakes specifically, but Fred and

Ginger could be displayed during reptile units.

☐ SNAKES, page 2



GLENN TORNELL/SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

Alumna Sandy Howard and biology professor Todd Nolte display the snakes Howard donated.

Holocaust film to be shown April 7

In connection with Holocaust Awareness Month, the award-winning documentary video "Jehovah's Witnesses Stand Firm Against Nazi Assault" will be featured throughout the day April 7 in the CMU.

The documentary explores a seldom-told story of defiance in the face of Nazi tyranny. Not focused on religion, it features 10 historians and first-hand accounts of those who endured persecution and imprisonment while in Nazi concentration camps.

An exhibit table will be set up in the CMU from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. that Monday.

Information for students and the general public, as well as curriculum materials for educators, will be displayed.

The documentary is 28 minutes long.

Science center seeks volunteers

The MSUM Regional Science Center will have a new volunteer information open house at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the Center for Business Atrium, located between Seventh Avenue and Ninth Avenue South. Free parking is available in the lot off of 10th Street.

Volunteer opportunities exist at the bird monitoring station, public events, astronomy programs, and as a gardener, historian or docent. Staff and current volunteers will be available to answer questions.

Individuals interested in knowing more about the MSUM Regional Science Center and the volunteer program are invited to attend. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, call the science center at 236-2904.

Fund-raiser for powwow planned

An inter-campus fund-raiser to support the Woodlands and High Plains Powwow will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday at the NDSU Alumni Center, 1241 N. University Drive.

The public event will feature an Indian taco meal and a silent auction to raise money for the 14th annual inter-campus powwow at NDSU this month.

The spring powwow is sponsored by MSUM, NDSU and Concordia College.

The silent auction will include a variety of American Indian crafts, blankets and artwork.

For more information about the fund-raiser, call Peg Furshong at 231-8239.

Housing plans volleyball tourney

Visiting graphic designer and scholar Michele Y. Washington will present "Passion, Funk, to a Syncopated Beat" at 6 p.m. April 3 in King Auditorium.

Washington has spent years researching the influence of African American culture on design and has written on the subject for a number of publications. During her presentation, she will discuss the steps she follows for projects: research, writing, designing and refining.

Washington's professional experiences in the graphic design field include roles as art director for Essence magazine and senior designer for Self and Black Enterprise magazines.

This lecture is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Julie Mader-Meersman at 236-2567.

Student senate begins elections

Anyone interested in running for student senate president, vice president, treasurer, academic district senator or other senate positions may apply at www.mnstate.edu/stusen.

The deadline for executive positions is 5 p.m. Wednesday and 5 p.m. April 9 for senator positions.

Study abroad rep offers information

International Studies Abroad representative Mike Nelson will have a table in the CMU from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday to offer information about a variety of study abroad programs.

Hendrix begins alcohol survey

During April, Hendrix Health Center will survey MSUM students on their use of alcohol and how they perceive the norms surrounding alcohol use. The survey will satisfy requirements for the Federal Drug-Free School Act.

Data from the survey will be used to implement programs, services and policies aimed at reducing the harmful effects of high-risk alcohol and drug use. Data will be compared to the same survey conducted in 2001 to determine changes in student use and perceptions.

Close to 700 students will be surveyed in classrooms selected through a stratified random sample. The students will take the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey, which takes approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Instructors of classes selected in the sample will be notified for their permission to administer the survey. Questions about the survey may be directed to Julie Poseley at 236-2211.

Cholesterol test available in April

Free cholesterol testing will be offered at the health fair from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday in the CMU ballroom.

Testing will also be available from 8:15 to 9 a.m. throughout April at Hendrix Health Center, which is now located in the transition building near the Center for the Arts.

To be tested, individuals must fast 14 to 16 hours prior to testing.

For more information, call Hendrix at 236-2211.

Celebration of Nations entry deadline nears

Students who want to host a table, sell food or perform at this year's Celebration of Nations must complete forms by Friday. Forms are available at www.mnstate.edu/intl or at the International Programs office in Frick.

This year's celebration will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. April 11 in the CMU ballroom.

Those who plan to sell food must attend a food safety workshop and will find out more information about buying food and borrowing utensils later.

For more information, contact Ulkar at babayeva@mnstate.edu or Njeri at njeri_z@yahoo.com.

Students attend Model U.N. event

Fifteen MSUM students and MSUM professor Andrew Conteh will participate in the 27th annual Arrowhead Model United Nations Conference in Michigan this weekend.

Representing Iraq will be Jamie Cailao, Brandon Sherman, Jeremy Grabinger and Justin Simpson.

Nikki Elken, Stephanie Shoemaker, Alua Karpykova, Ross Lockhart and Kristin Larson will represent Japan.

Kurt Olerud, Heather Ehrichs, Vanessa Rabel, Njeri Mwangi, Kurt Schneider and Sarah Saylor will represent Guinea.

The students have been meeting weekly since last fall to research and prepare written resolutions. Nearly 300 participate at the event.

THE Hap 3.27 - 4.2

Happenings and Events

- 3.28** "The Justifide Concert," 7 to 10:30 p.m., CMU ballroom, \$5.
- 3.30 - 5.19** "Northern Lights," 2 p.m. Sundays and 7 p.m. Mondays, MSUM planetarium, \$1.50.

Dragons' Den 3.27-4.2

Organizational events on campus

- 3.27** Student senate, 5 p.m., CMU 205.
- 3.27** Sigma Tau, 5 p.m., Weld library.

Send us the time, date and location of your next event. advocate@mnstate.edu

THE Security Report 3.10 - 3.23

- 3.10** Non-injury traffic accident at Sixth Avenue South
- 3.11** Theft from Frick
- 3.14** Vandalism in South Snarr
- 3.14** Vandalism in Ballard
- 3.14** Vandalism in East Snarr
- 3.15** Vandalism in Grantham
- 3.17** Theft from East Snarr
- 3.17** Fire alarm in CMU
- 3.19** Fire alarm in Bridges
- 3.19** Vandalism in Holmquist
- 3.20** Non-injury traffic accident at 17th Street South
- 3.22** Fire alarm in Ballard
- 3.23** Fire alarm in East Snarr
- 3.23** Drug violation in South Snarr

☐ SNAKES, from front

Howard, who lives in Fargo, said she's always liked snakes and decided she wanted a few of her own after "snake sitting" for a biology teacher.

"Corn snakes are the most docile and are good starter snakes for people who have never kept snakes," Howard said. "They're easy to handle."

She said she's often been questioned about why she wanted to own snakes, but she thinks having fish is similar.

"They move around in the cage and have different personalities," Howard said.

"They're kind of calming." She bought Fred and Ginger as babies, but as they began to grow, a 40-gallon aquarium was soon needed.

"I used to keep them in my living room, so they were part of the family," Howard said. "So we'd have something to look at, and they'd have something to look at."

She said she had to clean the cage once per month and make sure the snakes had warm, cool and hiding spots. She also fed each snake one mouse per week.

Howard said Fred and Ginger advanced from newborn mice to adult mice and

then from baby rats to adult rats. Each rodent cost \$1.

"The pet store has a whole freezer of frozen animals to feed to other animals. You buy frozen dead mice and thaw them out. They give you your mice in a bag that says 'Gourmet Rodent,'" Howard laughed.

Howard also enjoyed letting the snakes roam around her house and entertain her friends but said snake owners know their pets need to be watched carefully.

"I put them in the tub a little to wet their skin and took my eyes off Fred for five seconds, and he was six inches

down the drain," Howard said. "I had to pull him out and he didn't want to come. He just wanted to keep going."

She said giving away the snakes was kind of sad, but she's allowed to have visitation rights.

"Snake owners like to believe that their snakes recognize them, but there's really not scientific evidence to that fact," Howard said. "But it's always hard to let go of them after you've taken care of them."

Finneman can be reached at crusher69@hotmail.com.

The Advocate is published weekly during the academic year, except during final examination and vacation periods.

Opinions expressed in The Advocate are not necessarily those of the college administration, faculty or student body.

The Advocate encourages letters to the editor and your turn submissions. They should be typed and must include the writer's name, signature, address, phone number, year in school or occupation and any affiliations. Letters are due Monday at 5 p.m. and can be sent to MSUM Box 130, dropped off at The Advocate office in CMU Room 110 or e-mailed to us at: advocate@mnstate.edu. The Advocate reserves the right to edit letters and refuse publication of letters omitting requested information. It does not guarantee the publication of any letter.

"Zebedah, you have some baby in your beard."

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The Advocate is always looking for talented writers, photographers, columnists and illustrators. Meetings are held every Monday at 4:30 p.m. in CMU Room 207.

Contact the editor for more information or come to the meetings. Students can also write and work for The Advocate for credit.

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Readers beware: The Advo April Fools' Day edition is approaching.

The Advocate is hiring a business manager for 2003-04. Training will begin this semester. Accounting experience is necessary. Stop by CMU 110 for an application.

To Place an Ad Call: 236-2365

LLAMM, from front

idea is that we can create our own culture and don't need to be represented by mainstream media."

As for her anarchist label, Lamm said she deeply believes that people are responsible for their own actions, and there isn't a higher authority.

"I think it's a pretty empowering way to look at the world," she said. "There are certain tenants of existentialism in there."

After growing up with a fake leg, Lamm said she had a dif-

ferent experience with the concept of body image than most of the people around her. Again, her interest in Riot Grrrl helped her through this.

"I realized there was a potential to look at the experiences you've had that caused isolation and alienation and say, 'That doesn't mean there's something wrong with me,'" Lamm said. "I can recognize it and create a space for myself in the world."

She said this new empowerment enabled her to talk about

fat oppression and to call herself by that description without the typical negative connotations that come along with it.

"That led me to acknowledge all of the things about myself," Lamm said. "In terms of those identifications, I just have a lot to work with."

Wendy Brovold of the 10

Percent Society said sponsors of the event wanted to bring someone to campus who was more on the edge of issues.

"This isn't going to be your typical speaker. She speaks about issues usually ignored," Brovold said. "She encompasses a wide variety of social issues. We've never met any-

one like her before."

Lamm said she's had quite a bit of support, despite her struggles, and has been well accepted at college campuses.

"People should come watch me and see what they think," Lamm said.

Finneman can be reached at crusher69@hotmail.com.


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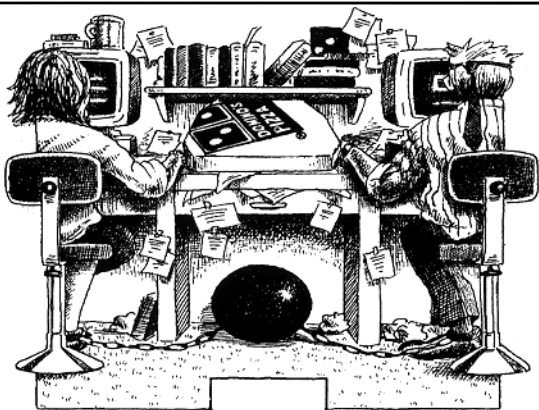
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Students overseas feel effects of war Students witness anti-war history firsthand

By SARAH SMITH

Special to The Advocate

No one said studying abroad would be easy. Due to the current affairs and issues of the world, it has been interesting.

I, along with another MSUM student, am currently studying at the University of Lincoln in England, which is located in a small city north of London.

Since we arrived, we have been bombarded with "No War" messages everywhere. I saw them at school, restaurants, in the streets and in neighboring cities. The signs were encouraging everyone to participate in the anti-war peace protest in London.

Being mass communication students, we decided to journey to London in pursuit of a story. On Feb. 15, we witnessed one of the largest war protests in

history. More than one million people of different ages, different colors and different religions came to London to march together for peace.



Smith

Whatever our political views, protesting the war was not our exact intention. We were drawn to the opinions, the mood and the atmosphere. Despite our interests in the rally, we were a little apprehensive.

When we arrived in London, we were dropped off on the street and made our way to the starting point of the march. The atmosphere was thick. People were somber and serious.

We started to notice the picket signs, chants, costumes and

other propaganda. Then we started to feel uncomfortable. It is not every day you see signs saying your president is a murderer or hear songs about George Bush and his daddy being killers.

However blunt the messages were about President Bush, it was somewhat of a comfort to know these same attitudes were directed at Tony Blair, the British prime minister, as well.

After an hour, the mood seemed to shift. Drums, singing and other music made the march peaceful and calm.

After marching more than four hours, we reached our ending point at Hyde Park. A sea of people spread across the park for a ceremony. We headed back to the bus, realizing we'd just witnessed an amazing moment in history.

Since I went to the protest as a "neutral journalist," people often ask me what I think of the war. This has forced me to open my eyes.

As an American, people want to know if I support President Bush. Many people I meet do not support the war. They don't think there are good enough reasons. Some believe Blair is just a puppet the American government is using.

On the other side, I met a young man and mentioned that I was going to the rally. He stared at me with hard eyes and then walked away. His friend let me know that he was in the Royal Air Force.

Of course my family and friends were scared about us being overseas during war; apparently so is MSUM. About a month ago, I received a

letter from MSUM addressing the subject of the war. It warned us to be careful and to take precautions like "don't wear American clothing labels" and "don't talk loudly in public."

Although I sometimes feel so far away from home, I also feel at home here. I have never felt unwelcome or uncomfortable, despite where I am from.

However, since the start of the war, the mood here has changed. Eyes and ears are glued to the television, radio, Internet and newspapers. On the first day of war, all of the newspapers on campus were sold out by noon.

Protests have also continued. On the first day of war, protests took place here in Lincoln. There are still signs everywhere protesting the war and telling about new protests, rallies and demonstrations.

My life has certainly changed since the start of the war. What used to be a normal event here is now meaningless compared to what is on the news.

Attitudes toward me, as an American, have also changed. Rumors, attitudes and defensiveness toward Americans has increased.

Now that war has started, we need to focus our attention on supporting all the troops. We should remember that we are all on the same side, fighting for the same thing.

Despite the current affairs of the world, I cannot let attitudes and fears control my life. I will go on wearing my American clothing, talking in public and using my pick up line, "Hi, I'm American." No matter where I am or what the issues are, I will still be an American. I will still be me.

Smith can be reached at sjanes21@hotmail.com.

Smith attended an anti-war rally in London. Even though the protest criticized Bush [right] she said it was a comfort to know they also criticize Blair.



SARAH SMITH/SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

Despite war studying continues in paradise

By KATIE MYRMEL

Special to The Advocate

Halfway around the world in Australia, I was oblivious to the fact that the war in Iraq had even started. Things are very different from back home. It's a whole new perspective on the world.

Everything is very laid back and casual. "No worries, mate" really does have significant meaning here. Moving into the housing at UniCentral, Kate, the RA, said, "We're still a little drunk from last night, but no worries, we know what we're doing."

So began my semester at the University of the Sunshine Coast. Despite the fact that I am in absolute paradise, I can assure you that I have been learning. For instance, I've learned that you can get within two feet of the kangaroos on campus (even though there are signs posted all over saying 'do not approach the kangaroos'), Tim Tams are the best candy bars ever, and Aussies are very much into politics.

I guess I should give you a better idea of what it's like

being one of the only Minnesotans over here. I never noticed that I have an accent, but now people come up to me and say "yah, you betcha," or they'll make references to "Bobby's World" and the movie " Fargo." This does get a little annoying, since I have never used that phrase. The Aussie accent is a lot worse. Every time my friend Stuart says anything, I listen very intently, and I still end up saying, "What!?" For him everything is one long sentence with no breaks between the words. They also have a lot of very peculiar words. For instance, swimsuits are "togs," and they call beer "piss." Some



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Myrmel poses with a koala at the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary in Brisbane, Australia.

clips from news programs back home. Among the scrolling news flashes at the bottom, sports scores are weird to see next to the number of soldiers being killed.

It's also been reported that it's split evenly for Aussies being for or against the war. Nearly everyone I've talked to

of their slang words are hilarious, like "bloody," "heaps" and "oh bugger."

War in Iraq

Despite being in paradise, I picked a crazy time to study abroad with the war in Iraq. There have been peace protests and rallies on campus and around the country.

We get some

in this area is against it. It's odd being the American here, with everyone speaking out against our country. Australians ask me millions of political questions and my view on the war. Some of the bus drivers and workers at restaurants have even held political conversations with me and other Americans.

"They have to realize that we're not doing it, we're not running the country," Domenic Fragomeni from Cleveland said. Most Aussies do try and make it clear they understand it's the American government's decisions they're speaking against, not the American people.

They also protest against their own Prime Minister and his involvement.

So during all this chaos around the world, I'm having the time of my life while I'm here. I think everyone should study abroad if they have the opportunity to, although I would suggest choosing a better time than in the middle of a war. I know I'll be happy to come back home safely.

Myrmel can be reached at katemarie28@hotmail.com.

Record number of MSUM students study abroad

By TERI FINNEMAN

News Editor

As students returned from Florida, Mexico and the Caribbean earlier this week, a record number of 63 MSUM students have gone the extra mile and spent the year living in locations around the world.

Senior Kristi Rosholt is spending her school year in Qingdao, China, and said her experience has been more than she can put into words.

"I have learned so much about how to work and interact with others who don't share [my] background," Rosholt said. "I learned more of my strengths and weaknesses by letting go of the fears that held me back before I had this opportunity to live halfway across the world all on my own."

Rosholt, a double major of East Asian studies and social work, said she chose to study in China because she wanted to experience living in a completely different culture and immerse herself in the language.

"Not only have I learned about the Chinese culture, but I've made many international friends who I have learned from, too," she said.

Rosholt left at the beginning of the school year and will return to the United States sometime in July.

"If you have the chance to stay for a whole year, do it," she said. "It really takes you a while to adjust to a new culture, and so often, if you only stay for a semester, you're just beginning to settle in and make friends. A year is much more worthwhile."

Rosholt said her living conditions are comfortable, but living in a communist country does create some odd factors to adapt to.

"The whole country doesn't get heat until Nov. 15, no matter how cold it might be in October," Rosholt said.

Despite the temporary chilly conditions, Rosholt said she advises students to study abroad.

As a general rule, Jill Holsen, MSUM director of international programs, said international programs and the financial aid office try to be as helpful as possible to make study abroad financially feasible for students. She said the financial aid office takes the budget for a program abroad, including spending money, all transportation, passport fees, etc. and bases financial aid on this budget.

"Students pay tuition and fees to MSUM and then exchange places with students from the host institutions," Holsen said.

MSUM students can study in more than 30 countries with a program fee set at \$4,400 per semester. Holsen said tuition for programs in China and Australia is slightly higher.

Visit www.mnstate.edu/intl for more information.

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Amy Dalrymple
Editor

Teri Finneman
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Reduction in credit requirement won't reduce quality

The academic advisory panel is discussing a new policy that could put an end to fluff courses.

President Roland Barden is asking for the Academic Policy and Advisory Council's opinion on his proposal to lower the requirement for bachelor of arts degrees from 128 credits to 120.

Barden is in favor of the change so students can skip unnecessary coursework and finish their degrees sooner. Several faculty members have reservations about the change because they fear MSUM's quality of education would decline.

But what some professors are overlooking is that many students already have a great deal of discretion in what electives they take. If students want to "sluff off" when they near graduation and take lower-level classes to meet degree requirement sooner, they're going to.

But if students want to challenge themselves and take extra upper-level coursework, they will do so regardless of what number is set for graduation.

Many students currently exceed 128 credits with ease. MSUM students who earned a bachelor of arts degree in spring 2002 graduated with an average of 138.5 credits. Those with a bachelor of science degree graduated with an average of 147.56.

Of the students who go over 128, many do so because they changed majors. But as tuition continues to rise and financial aid continues to decrease, students will likely have to develop a more efficient plan for graduation so they don't spend money on credits they don't need.

For those students who can complete requirements for a major, liberal studies and electives without hitting 128, MSUM should be flexible. After four or more years of college, those last eight credits won't take away from the quality of the degree.

Each academic department should strive to prepare students as much as possible before they complete the program. But professors must also realize that students aren't going to stop learning once they hit the target for graduation. Many will go on to graduate school, return for an additional undergraduate degree or find other ways to continue educating themselves.

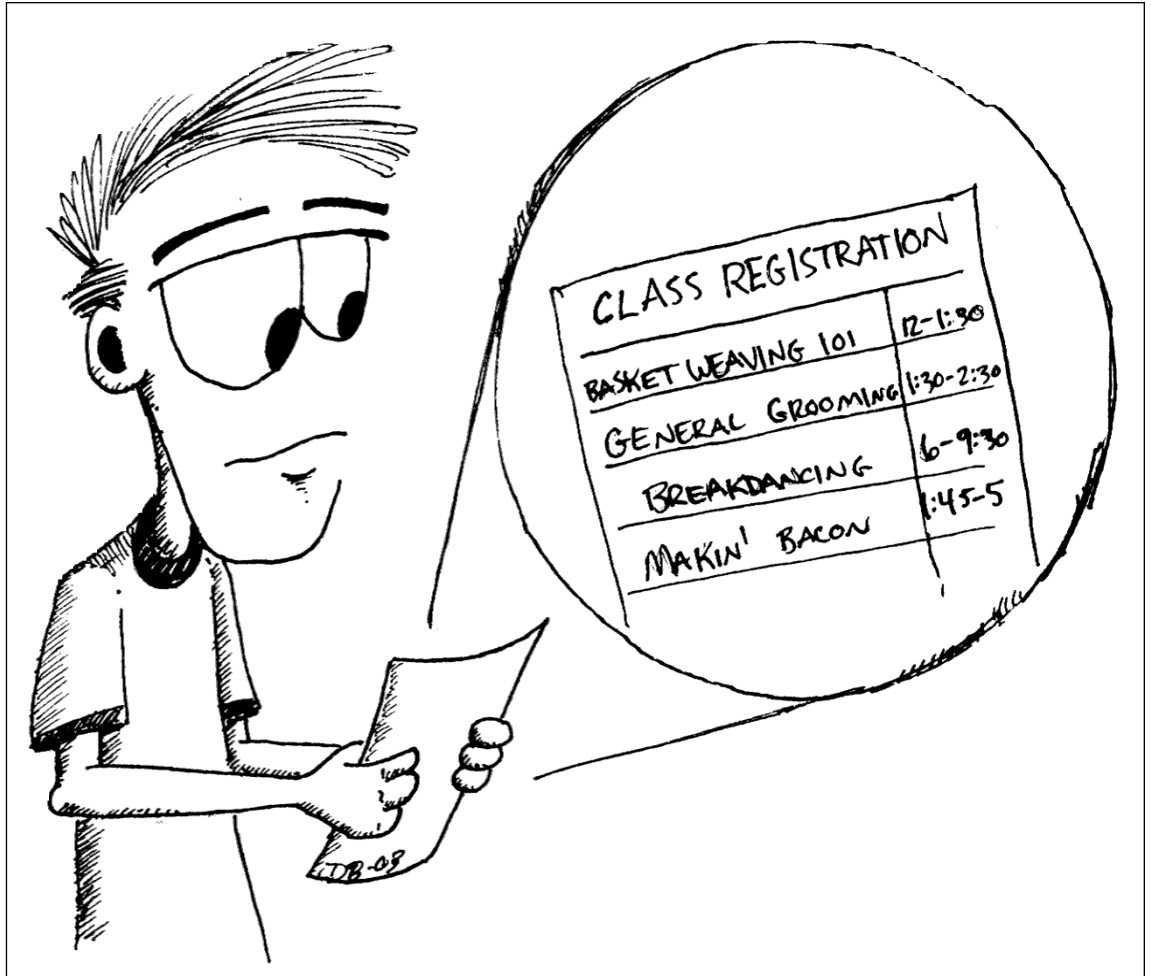
MSUM would not be out of line with other universities by reducing the requirement. Many universities, including the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin, have adopted the 120-credit policy.

The reduction of the requirement does not translate to a reduction in quality. It simply makes things more efficient.

Students will have an opportunity to give feedback to committee members before they make their final decision. Take advantage of the online survey that will be released soon or discuss it with your professors.

Although faculty should have considerable input as to what MSUM's academic requirements are, they can't make those decisions without first hearing from students.

The opinions expressed in The Advocate are not necessarily those of the college administration, faculty or student body. The Advocate encourages letters to the editor and Your Turn submissions. They should be typed and must include the writer's name, signature, address, phone number, year in school or occupation and any affiliations. Letters are due by 5 p.m. Monday and can be sent to MSUM Box 130, dropped off in The Advocate office or e-mailed to advocate@mnstate.edu.



Mideast peace possible by abandoning Zionism

To bring about a lasting and just peace in Palestine and Israel, Jewish and Muslim people are going to begin an external and internal dialogue about racism, ethnicity, identity and sacrifice. I would like to start a dialogue here as well as to look internally and suggest what Jewish people must be willing to change to bring about a just peace. For Jewish people, the hardest part will be the abandonment of classical political Zionism and the development of a new political movement to unify Jewish people and justify Israel.

Traditional political Zionism started in 1897 as an international political movement to create an independent Jewish state. A Jewish leftist-socialist intellectual and journalist by the name of Theodor Herzl founded it. Growing up in the late 1800s, Herzl saw firsthand the widespread anti-Jewish discrimination and violence that prevailed in Europe and even the United States. A person must understand how Zionism has become a unifying philosophy among Jews. Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Jews disagree about religion. Jews on the political left, right and center disagree about politics, but since the creation of the State of Israel all Jews are united behind the basic idea of a Jewish homeland to keep Jewish

Letters to the editor

people safe from violence and discrimination. The political and religious system in that homeland is up for grabs. As such, my suggestion that my Jewish brothers and sisters should abandon political Zionism as we know it today and create a new political philosophy to keep Jewish people safe is radical and largely unprecedented in the Jewish community. Yet we must abandon the classical political Zionism, because Herzl was wrong.

Part of the original thesis of Herzl - that Jewish people must create a move to a separate Jewish state to find peace and justice - is no longer accurate. Today, Jews and Christians live together in the US and Canada with little discrimination or bias motivated violence. Similar situations can be seen in Western Europe.

This suggests that people of different races and religions can live together in peace through a dedication to the values of liberalism, i.e. democracy, toleration, freedom, equality, and pluralism.

We should not blame Herzl too much for his mistake. He grew up in a world where most people were bitterly racist to the core, and he personally witnessed some of the worst pre-Holocaust

anti-Jewish bigotry with his reporting on the French Dreyfus Affair. Yet his assumption has been proven to be false. Why is it important?

First of all, Israelis must be prepared to sacrifice land, perhaps going back to pre-1967 borders, in order to create a Palestinian state and move toward Muslim acceptance of the state of Israel. Changing the borders of a Jewish, Christian or Muslim nation is sacrilegious, but changing the borders of a secular, liberal democracy is possible if the United Nations was involved as a fair third party. Israel can not be a Zionist state, a liberal democracy and be at peace with its Muslim neighbors.

The realization that the key to Jewish people finding safety is the promotion of liberalism shall define the goal of the new political Zionism. A modern Zionist shall be committed to the normative values of liberalism while developing the scientific means to bring about these values into reality. This will make new Zionists a rare item in political science circles. More importantly, it will help to bring peace, freedom and democracy to the Middle East.

Edward TJ Brown
MSUM junior

Phi Sigma Kappa won't haze

Your turn

My letter is in response to the article "On the eve of entering drunken adulthood," where Adam Quesnell compares a person's "Power Hour" to "... as silly as serious hazing at an MSUM fraternity." As former president of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity here at MSUM, I would like to stamp out any negative stereotypes or perceptions one might have of "hazing" that goes on at fraternities at MSUM.

We do not haze, period. I can tell you that one, we don't want anybody in our chapter who thinks that hazing is valuable, and two, we recruit people who have enough self-confidence that they don't need to degrade others or tell them what to do. We are adamantly opposed to hazing, and you will never be asked to do anything that would compromise

the respect of the individual, MSUM or the fraternity.

In recent years, Phi Sigma Kappa chapters internationally have taken the lead in the Greek world with some of their progressive educational programming. The "Passages" program, the fraternity's "no pledging" initiative, was implemented to provide membership education for all undergraduate brothers throughout their collegiate career, as well as to end any hazing practices in some of our chapters.

"Passages" is based on a standard of mutual respect between existing brothers and newly initiated brothers. No longer are rushees or new initiates treated

like second-class citizens as in older, traditional fraternity pledge programs. Instead, all brothers share equal privileges beginning from the time our candidates take the first steps toward initiation.

The Phi Sigma Kappa chapter at MSUM aims to follow these goals and ideals set forth for us to end "unsafe" practices for our members. Hazing of any kind is detrimental to our organization's principles, its members and integrity as a student organization. If any member of the MSUM community has any questions, comments, concerns or fears concerning hazing in Phi Sigma Kappa, we would kindly discuss those issues with you.

Ryan Affolter
Former president
Phi Sigma Kappa

Uninformed voters lead to uninformed leaders

Financial cuts to public services raise 'Pawlenty' of problems

No one has ever accused me of being a Republican. The closest I ever came to that title was in the third grade when I voted for Ronald Reagan in elementary school, and that was only because his was the only name I recognized.

Looking back now, I realize that I was just like most of the voters in the United States: uninformed and voting only for the name I recognized. My excuse is that I was only 8 years



JENEL STELTON-HOLTMEIER

Advocate columnist
"No one has ever accused me of being a Republican."

old. What was everyone else's? Nowadays, I'd like to think that I've shaken off the "uninformed" part of that title which leads me to vote for something other than a name. I do my research. I look at issues. I try to figure out, in the words of my late father, "which one is lying least." More often than not, that title goes to a non-Republican, but the party label isn't what makes up my mind. In a non-election year, it's no different. I pay attention to at least some of the issues and what's going on.

This is why Tim Pawlenty scares me. Not because he's a Republican, but because he doesn't seem to understand the economics of government. Even as a North Dakotan, the decisions he makes affect me. One of the most obvious ways is the fact that I am



This is why Tim Pawlenty scares me. Not because he's a Republican but because he doesn't seem to understand the economics of government.



a student at this institution. Beyond that, my husband is employed by an organization that relies on state funding to operate. I take the MAT bus into Moorhead. I spend time in the parks. I drive on Minnesota roads. I listen to Minnesota Public Radio. The list goes on and on.

If Tim Pawlenty gets his way, every item on that list is in danger of having its funding cut in some way.

Those of you who will still be at MSUM next year have the possibility of spending 15 percent more on tuition. That's the figure that Pawlenty generously put as a cap on tuition increases (Note the dripping sarcasm on the "generously").

MAT is already planning on cutting one of the bus routes in Moorhead. This when they claim that student ridership is beginning to increase.

Those wonderful parks for which Minnesota is so well known? Say goodbye to the level of service you're used to.

Heaven forbid that you should be a high-functioning disabled adult relying on programs to assist with basic needs rather than a "normal" student. Pawlenty's proposal includes a plan to make access to these pro-

grams more difficult and qualifications stricter. Tell that to the individual who didn't know how to change a light bulb and sat in the dark for a week before someone realized this. Tell them that they don't qualify for help.

There are reasons why these programs don't tend to make it in the private sector. They aren't high-profit ventures. Anyone who has taken basic economics has been introduced to the concept of "public goods." Obviously Tim Pawlenty missed that chapter.

Why should this be important to you? Everything that is done now affects your future. Either you can take a stand now or clean up the mess later. Take time to look at what's going on and be informed. It's your future.

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Questions need to be answered on war with Iraq

People throughout history have uttered the line, "War is hell." I have no reason to doubt its accuracy, especially after watching reports of what some of our troops have gone through over the last week or so.

Another statement - "War is bewildering" - doesn't receive quite as much face time, yet is equally as viable. And sometimes



CHRIS RAUSCH

Advocate columnist
"Another statement - 'War is bewildering' - doesn't receive quite as much face time, yet is equally as viable."

— especially when the state of the world is roughly equivalent to rocking a crack pipe and winding up in a David Lynch film - you end up with a knapsack full of questions. So, in the spirit of general inquiry, a few notes to ponder.

I know it's nice to have a scapegoat, and it's not like France has ever been our first pick to use our shower when their pipes are frozen, but isn't it a little misguided to lob so many tomatoes at them when so many others are just as opposed to war as they are?

Take a peek at these recent poll numbers: in Britain, favorable views of the US have plummeted from 75 to 48 percent since mid-2002; in the last six months, Poland's positive views of Americans have dropped from 80 to 50 percent; and in Russia and



After spending several weeks trying to fix it, and only finding a few friends that would be seen with us during recess, we reverted to offering other countries our lunch money.



Turkey, favorable views now sit at 28 percent and 12 percent, respectively. Oh, and, on the other side of the coin, in France 73 percent actually see the Iraqi people benefiting from this war.

And even though our country is arguably the most powerful nation in the world, doesn't it make us look a little like the picked-on kid in

school when we have to bribe other nations to be our friends? After spending several weeks trying to fix it, and only finding a few friends that would be seen with us during recess, we reverted to offering other countries our lunch money.

After Turkey said it wasn't positive if it would allow U.S. forces to use its air bases, we announced we were revoking an offer of \$15 billion in economic aid and instead ran over to Pakistan, waving around hundreds of millions of dollars to a country we once blocked aid from because we weren't thrilled about the military coup that brought Gen. Pervez Musharraf into power. He's still in charge, by the way, but suddenly, for some reason or another that I can't quite put my finger on, he's good enough to be our pal, and his people are good enough for us

to aid with support.

And one last thing. About three weeks ago, The Guardian Observer (a London newspaper) reported that a memo from the NSA was intercepted discussing U.S. intentions to bug the U.N. Security Council and tap into the phone lines and e-mail of the countries that were on the fence about whether they would support us in a war on Iraq. Countries were outraged, a woman was arrested, and newspapers all over the world covered the story.

So what in the hell is wrong with our country's major media outlets, and why the hell do we have to resort to reading foreign publications to find out about huge accusations against our country's government?

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Abundant litter alludes to underage drinking problem

Yesterday, when I was walking from lot K to the front door of Nemzek (less than 600 feet), I picked up 25 pieces of crap including one diaper, 12 pop tabs from beer cans, one whiskey bottle, one package of cigarettes, two pop bottles, one pair of women's thong panties, one cardboard car-

ton and six junk food containers. I didn't even go inside the fence where several cans were visible. There are older-than-average students on campus, but for most of the students, the activity represented by the alcoholic beverage cans would be illegal.

In my day, if we broke the law,

Your turn

we did not flaunt it. In my day, if we had a baby, we took care of it and its needs. In my day, we called cigarettes coffin nails (which they still are today). Every

litter bit hurts; every little bit helps. Maybe if plants and grounds had less to pick up, they could fix more of the potholes.

Please take the campaign to curb underage drinking seriously. Please keep all alcoholic beverages off campus as simply an attempt to follow the underage

drinking law. Please put the statistics on alcohol consumption in front of everyone, not just the athletes. The law should be followed whether in statute or the 10 Commandments.

Patti Roach Kratky
Moorhead resident



Arts and Entertainment

The Stuff of Dreams ...

Guthrie tour brings classic plays to life

By JEREMY CHURA

Staff Writer

Characters from famous plays by Sophocles, William Shakespeare, Edmund Rostand, Henrik Ibsen and Arthur Miller are coming to MSUM.

Scenes from each play will be performed by the characters, while the mysterious host turns the characters against each other in hopes of finding the most compelling, play-worthy life among them as part of the Guthrie Theater's touring production of "The Stuff of Dreams," which will play at 4 p.m. Friday



in the Glasrud Auditorium.

Antigone from Sophocles' play of the same name will perform the scene between Antigone and her sister, Ismene, from the beginning of the play, along with the confrontation between Antigone and King Creon from near the end of the play.

Cyrano from Rostand's "Cyrano de Bergerac" will perform the Christian/Cyrano date scene and his Act I monologue about his large nose.

Nora from Ibsen's "A Doll's House" will perform the opening and closing scenes between Nora and her husband, Torvald.

Willy Loman from Miller's "Death of a Salesman" will perform the beginning of the play when he comes home and the scene with his son, Biff, at the end of that play.

At the end of the play, the host reveals



himself and performs scenes from his own play.

"The Stuff of Dreams" was written by Bill Corbett for the Guthrie Theater and is directed by Jef Hall-Flavin. Corbett lives in Minneapolis. He received his master's degree in playwriting and screenwriting from Yale. His other plays include "Heckler," "Ridiculous Dreaming," "Hate Mail" and "Cash Karma." He also won a Cable ACE Award for best comedy writing for his work on "Mystery Science Theater 3000."

This play was created to provide communities and schools with an opportunity to explore the art of theater in an in-

teractive and professional environment. After the hour-long play there will be a discussion workshop with the cast.

Touring has been part of the Guthrie Theater since the 1971 production of John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men." More than 25 Guthrie productions have gone on tour including "The Glass Menagerie," "Foxfire," "Great Expectations" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Far left: Nora from Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll's House." Left: Cyrano de Bergerac (right) from Edmund Rostand's play of the same name engages in a sword fight. Above: Willy Loman from Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman" talks to his son Biff.

'Modern Egyptians' displays Fargoan's work

By KATY NAGEL

Staff Writer

Between class, work, extra-curricular activities and all of the homework, most of us need a break from the stress. The only hard part is trying to find something to do to fill that break time. To try something new, check out John Scott Postovit's latest exhibition at The Rourke Art Museum, "Modern Egyptian."

A collection of 38 pastel drawings, "Modern Egyptian" exhibits portraits, animals, scenic and everyday life situations of the present day with an Egyptian twist. For example, a particular drawing illustrates the scenic plains of North Dakota; however, in the midst are numerous Egyptian pyramids.

"The drawings play tricks on the eye," said Cameron Peterson, the front desk manager at The Rourke Art Museum.

Another drawing illustrates four men at a bar. The twist: the men are not dressed in contemporary clothes but rather ancient Egyptian fashion.

"I have always put people I know in my drawings," said Postovit. "I will often even do myself because I don't care about being put into weird roles."

In "Modern Egyptian," Postovit puts himself in the role of a mummy, dressed in bandages.

"I think he had actually dressed himself in bandage," said Eric Swenson, director's assistant, in reference to the mummy drawing.

Swenson is also featured in a portrait drawing in the exhibition.

"He [Postovit] took a picture of me and later did the drawing," Swenson said. "I didn't even see it [the drawing] until the show opened."

Another well-known trait of Postovit's shows is the costumes worn by people attending. Postovit invites people attending the exhibition to dress up in costumes based on the theme of the exhibition. In this case, any Egyptian costume is suitable.

"The Rourke used to do the costumes, but it doesn't anymore," Postovit said. "I have always liked costumes so I decided to adopt it to my show."

The tradition is unique to The Rourke and started at Postovit's second show in 1990. Postovit has had multiple shows at The Rourke between 1989 and 2000.

Fargo native Postovit didn't start on his artistic ability until late in his school career. As a student at Fargo North High School, Postovit concentrated on photography and participated in a competitive creative arts program. He graduated from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks with a degree in painting and a degree in physics. It wasn't until his final year of college that he discovered his love for pastel drawings.

"The photography and painting evolved into drawing," Postovit said.

Still, with his love and talent, Postovit pursued a different career. He used to work in engineering with a company that made night vision goggles, but is no longer with the company.

"The industry died out and there were no more jobs," Postovit recalls.

Waiting in his future was Stanford University. He received his master's degree in education and decided to become a teacher. Currently, Postovit teaches mathematics in a California high school.

"My favorite subject to teach is geometry," Postovit said, "but I enjoy teaching whatever is available."

However, in his spare time, Postovit concentrates on his artwork. Postovit primarily does one-man shows but has been featured in duo and group shows. His artwork has been displayed in California, New Jersey, Seattle and Minneapolis.

"I enjoy showing my artwork at The Rourke," said Postovit. "It is rare for a gallery to stay around as long as The Rourke has."

Postovit had this to say about "Modern Egyptian:"

"I don't have any serious message to get

across. I just want people to look at my drawings and be able to have a good time at the show and enjoy whatever it is about art."

"Modern Egyptian" runs through April 6 at The Rourke Art Museum. Public exhibition hours are on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. or on Wednesday and Thursday by appointment. The cost is \$2 for students with ID and \$3 for adults.



JASON PROCHNOW/PHOTO EDITOR

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"Portrait of a Mummy" (above) and "Anubis at the Scales" (below) are both featured in Postovit's "Modern Egyptians."



Arts and Entertainment

Festival celebrates international films

By TERI FINNEMAN

News Editor

From Nazi propaganda to a Japanese master swordsman, past cultures will come alive through cinema as the MSUM international film festival opens in Glasrud Auditorium this weekend.

Rusty Casselton, an MSUM professor and film studies specialist, said the showings have a great deal to offer to the whole campus community.



Casselton

"Thirty years ago, when film showings were more prevalent in terms of public film showings, there was a lot of campus programming of film," Casselton said. "Seeing films from [other countries] and seeing storytelling and characters that represent the culture they come from ... that rich heritage needs to be seen and really cherished in some ways."

He said that's exactly what MSUM has tried to do in the 29 years it's offered the international film festival.

"We try to select films that are representatives of various national cinemas and give a wide variety of international approaches and cultural approaches," Casselton said. "I'd like to see us go back to a little more of the open showings. Movies were meant to be seen in the theater."

Although the point is to include a diverse mix of national identities rather than focus on just one country, Casselton said similar themes among movies — such as war — do emerge. However, many international films investigate topics more than American films do.

"It's a rash generalization, [but they] look at a subject in a more adult fashion or a more mature fashion than a lot of American pictures had done and still do," Casselton said.

Female filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl's film, "Triumph of the Will," is a showing that Casselton said he particularly recommends.

"She was famous and notorious because of her association with that film and Hitler's Germany," he said. "It's powerful cinema. Whether it's

propaganda or not will be debated forever, but it documents in a powerful way."

Junior Jen Hasbargen, who Casselton calls "one of the movers and shakers" of the festival, said film students chose movies that they thought people would be most interested in at this time.

"We also looked for films that we thought would work well together as a group of films," Hasbargen said. "It [the film festival] is an opportunity to see films that [students] haven't seen or, if they have, to be able to see them on a big screen in a theater setting."

She said the festival also offers a chance to learn a bit of history. Film students involved with the project researched 20 to 30 films and directors before selecting the seven films to be shown.

"As part of the major, we focus on various aspects of film," Hasbargen said. "It's just a way to broaden our interests and experiences as well as see films we also wouldn't otherwise see."

Once the films were chosen, she said working out a schedule and publicizing the event were the next orders of business.

"I really find being involved in setting up these festivals is an opportunity," Hasbargen said. "In the future when we find ourselves at a theater and they want to do a program, we've had some experience setting up the elements."

She said subtitles for the films may scare some viewers away, but they shouldn't.

"Once you get in the mode of reading the subtitles, it's like the character is speaking in English."

Casselton also said American audiences aren't always accepting of international films due to the subtitles, and she said the film festival is an opportunity to find out that it isn't that bad.

"There's a lot they can get from having done it and [the festival could] orient them toward opening up their viewing habits. It's amazing how many people have never watched a film with subtitles," Casselton said. "We're challenging students to come out and maybe take a risk. I think they'll find taking that risk will be well rewarded."

Finneman can be reached at crusher69@hotmail.com

Films to be presented during international film fest

All films will be shown in Glasrud Auditorium. Admission is \$2 for each show or \$3 for Sunday double features. The following films are part of the 2003 film series:

"Triumph of the Will,"(1934) 1:30 p.m. Sunday. This documentary catalogues the Nuremberg Nazi Party rally of 1934. Directed by Germany's most influential female director, Leni Riefenstahl, it was commissioned by the Nazi Party Propaganda Ministry. German with English subtitles.



"Shame"

"Shame," (1968) 3:30 p.m. Sunday. This film is Ingmar Bergman's story of two musicians desperately in love during a civil war. Some contemporary viewers claim the film is comparable to "Saving Private Ryan." Swedish with English subtitles.

"Women in the Dunes," (1963) 7 p.m. April 3. This Hiroshi Teshigahara film was nominated for two Academy Awards and is the tale of a man trapped in a gigantic sandpit with mysterious women. The film is frequently interpreted as an allegory of how an arid society could overcome primal eroticism. Japanese with English subtitles.



"Yojimbo"

"Yojimbo," (1961) 7 p.m. April 4. This Akira Kurosawa film is a classic samurai movie with powerful images and martial arts scenes driven by master swordsman Toshiro Mifune. The film is a story of a wandering samurai whose motives change from greed to goodwill when he happens upon a town infested by two warring factions. Japanese with English subtitles.



"Closely Watched Trains"

"Mon Oncle," (1958) 7 p.m. April 5. This Jacques Tati film is an Academy Award-winning slapstick comedy featuring Mr. Hulot, a comic personality of the era who is notably confused by the terrifying gadgetry of modern society. French with English subtitles.

"Closely Watched Trains," (1966) 1:30 p.m. April 6. This Jiri Menzel film explores coming of age anxiety in a world of political unrest. The film won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film in 1968 and covers the story of a young man's quest to lose his virginity and his alienation under a German occupation. Czechoslovakian with English subtitles.



"Umberto D"

"Umberto D," (1952) 3:30 p.m. April 6. Directed by Vittorio De Sica, this film is the story of a retired government official who believes there is nothing to live for but unexpectedly finds new hope. Italian with English subtitles.

Film list compiled by Teri Finneman

Day of Percussion strikes Concordia

By BRITTA TRYGSTAD

Staff Writer

Sounds of drums will be resonating from the campus of Concordia College April 5 when they host the 14th annual Day of Percussion. From lessons on African bongo drums to classes on classical marimbas, the day will be packed full of clinics, workshops and concerts.

Preceding the Day of Percussion will be an April 4 concert by the Britain/Moore Duo. Featuring music for Marimba and steel drums, the Britain/Moore Duo weaves elements of jazz, Latin, calypso, classical, and improvisation into their performance. They will be performing in the Christiansen Recital Hall at 8 p.m.

Performing with the Concordia Jazz ensemble will be drummer Peter Erskine. Erskine, who has played in ensembles such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic and with musician Diana Krall, is a Grammy-winning musician with an honorary doctor of music degree from Berklee School of Music. Along with the Concordia Jazz ensemble, Erskine will play at 3 p.m. in the Memorial Auditorium.

Featuring new music for their 2003 tour, the percussion group NEXUS will be a returning ensemble to the Day of Percussion.

"[NEXUS] was requested to come back again through the great demand of past attendees," said David Eyler, director of percussion studies at Concordia College.

The group, which has spent over 30 years performing together, created and

performed the music for the Academy Award-winning film, "The Man Who Skied Down Everest." They will perform on Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Memorial Auditorium.

Tickets for the Britain/Moore duo, Peter Erskine and NEXUS concerts can be bought through Concordia Cultural Events and cost \$10 for students.

The MSUM percussion ensemble will present a performance at the Day of Percussion. They will perform at 8:30 a.m. in the Memorial Auditorium.

Throughout the Day of Percussion, clinics will be conducted by the featured musicians and others.

Eyler expects 300 to 500 people to attend the daytime activities and 1,200 to attend the concerts.

"Last year's evening closing concert had over 1,500 people attend. It's a major event in the region," Eyler said.

All clinics and workshops are free and open to the public.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of MSUM's percussion ensemble (from left) junior Andrew Lutgen, grad student Kevin Jahn and senior John Kapla practice.

According to Eyler, one doesn't need to be a percussionist to enjoy the day.

"The clinics may get a little technical, but it's still fun to watch the performers perform," Eyler said.

All events for the Day of Percussion will be held at Concordia College in Moorhead.

"[People can expect] great music, insights into music techniques and styles that range from fife and drums to drum set, mallets and world percussion," Eyler said.

Trygstad can be reached at shadowedfire@hotmail.com.

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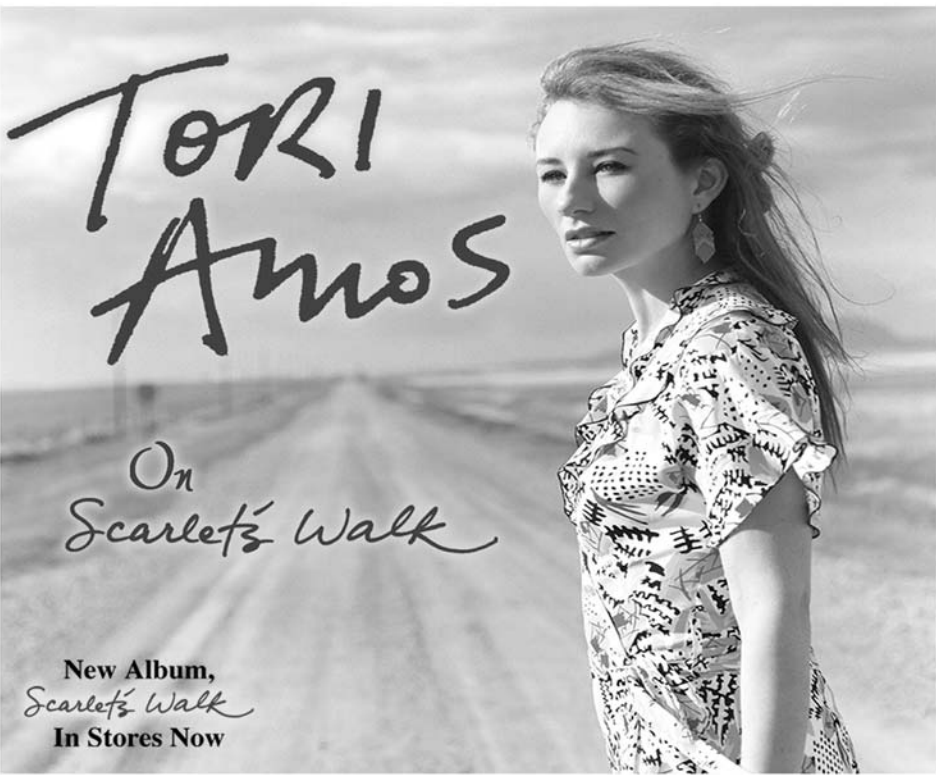
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1/2 price appetizers (excludes shrimp cocktail)

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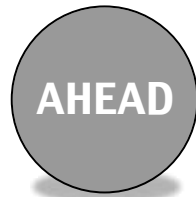
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AHEAD

SOFTBALL

The Dragons, who have only six home games this spring, host cross-town rival Concordia in their home-opener at 3 p.m. Tuesday.

TRACK AND FIELD

Track and field kicks off the outdoor season with the NDSU Bison Open April 4, 5 or 6 (weather pending).

MEN'S LACROSSE

The Dragons travel to Iowa State University, Ames, for a weekend tournament. Their first game is against Marquette University, Milwaukee, on Saturday.

TENNIS

Women's tennis travels to St. Cloud, Minn., for two matches this weekend, beginning with Southwest State University, Marshall, Minn., at 4 p.m. Friday.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The Dragons host a seven-team tournament April 5-6. On April 5, the Dragons have two matches, beginning with Augsburg College, Minneapolis, at 9 a.m.

TRIVIA

1. Besides senior Chris Nulle's national weight-throw championship March 14, who was the last male Dragon to win an individual national title in track and field?

2. How old is U.S. soccer phenom Freddy Adu, who has already been offered a six-figure contract by the Italian soccer giant Inter Milan?

Answers:
1: Greg Zahalka, who won the NAIA indoor 3-mile title in 1993.
2: 13 years old. The Ghana native Adu, who turned down Inter Milan's offer at the tender age of 11, is a star with the U.S. under-17 national team.



SPEAKING



I wasn't surprised Nulle won. He worked really hard, and he's been consistent all year.

MSUM head track and field coach Keith Barnier on senior Chris Nulle's indoor national championship.

TRACK AND FIELD — INDOOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Three earn All-American honors

By JOE WHETHAM

Sports Editor

In a testament to a newly rejuvenated track and field program under head coach Keith Barnier, three Dragons earned All-American honors March 14-15 at the Division II indoor national championships in Boston.

Not since the 1991 NAIA indoor national championships, where MSUM captured five individual All-Americans, have the Dragons reached such prestige at a national level.



Nulle



Salter



Eastlack



Wilkinson

Senior Chris Nulle won his first national championship in the weight throw (63 feet, 3 3/4 inches), outthrowing Indianapolis University's Damieon Smith 62-1 3/4.

"I wasn't surprised Nulle won," Barnier said. "He

worked really hard, and he's been consistent all year."

Nulle became only the sixth MSUM male track and field athlete to win a national title.

Greg Zahalka, who won the NAIA indoor three-mile in 1993, was the last Dragon to

win a national title.

Sophomore Tanya Salter, a Fargo North grad, earned All-American honors with a third-place finish in the high jump, setting a personal best by nearly two feet with a height of 5-7 3/4.

She nearly cleared 5-8 3/4, Barnier said, but the bar fell to the ground after she had landed on the foam high jump pit.

Maresa Cadienhead of Abilene (Texas) Christian placed first with a height of 6-0.

□ TRACK, page 13

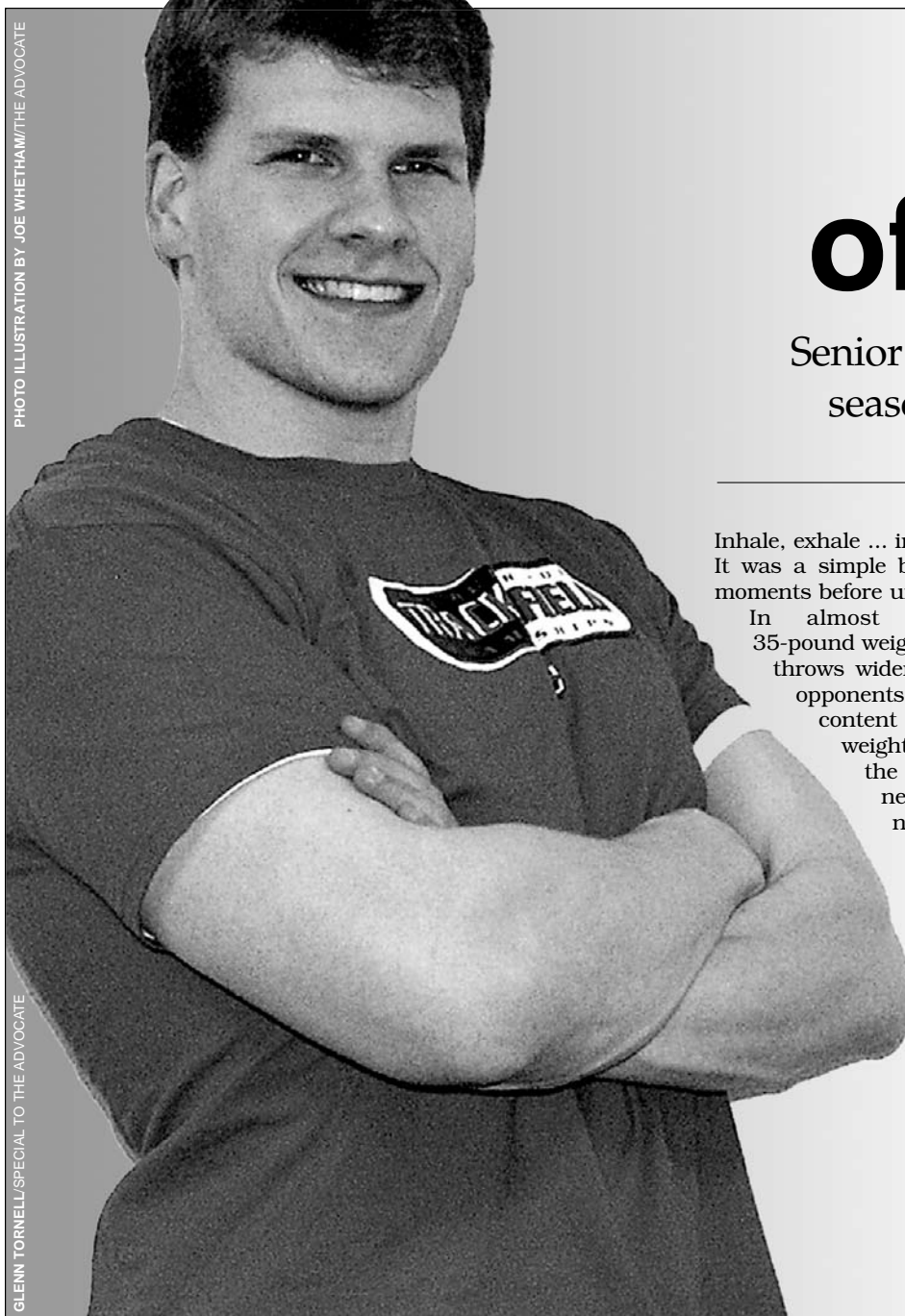


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JOE WHETHAM/THE ADVOCATE

GLENN TORNELL/SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

KING of the ring

Senior Chris Nulle caps undefeated season with coveted national title

By JOE WHETHAM

Sports Editor

Inhale, exhale ... inhale, exhale.

It was a simple but calming routine for senior Chris Nulle just moments before unleashing every thunderous throw.

In almost business-like fashion, he tossed the 35-pound weight toward the outskirts of any throwing area. His throws widened the eyes of spectators and teammates and opponents. But the Moorhead High School graduate wasn't content with an undefeated regular season (7-0) in the weight throw. He wasn't content with the fact he held the nation's No. 1 mark (61 feet, 1/4 inches) for nearly six weeks leading up to the Division II national championships March 14-15 in Boston.

So, entering his third national championships more than five feet behind the No. 1 qualifying mark (66-2 1/4), Nulle threw his best when it counted most, recording a personal-best throw of 63-6 3/4 in topping Indianapolis University's Damieon Smith (62-1 3/4).

"It's weird to get such praise," Nulle said. "I don't know what else to say but thank you. I had a great day, praise the Lord. But I'm still the same guy. I didn't receive a check."

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

- Nulle became the first Dragon to win a NCAA Division II national track and field title. Five other Dragon men earned NAIA individual titles from 1979-1993.
- Nulle went undefeated this season in the weight throw, winning by an average of nearly 3.5 feet. Twice he placed first in the weight throw by more than 6.5 feet.

WRESTLING — NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dragons stumble in championships

By JOE WHETHAM

Sports Editor

Ideally, Mitch Jackson pictured a reigning, All-American performance at the Division II national championships in Wheeling, W.Va., March 14-15.

Instead, the 141-pound senior capped his five-year collegiate wrestling career with a 1-2 record at nationals, earning the only victory among three MSUM participants.

"All of us were pretty disappointed," said Jackson, who was a two-time junior college national qualifier at Minnesota West Community and Technical College.



Jackson

"We all expected to place at least in the top eight."

After a loss to Ronald Paterniti of Gannon University, Erie, Pa., in the first round, Jackson earned some retribution against South Dakota State University's Jeremy Roe in the first round of consolations. In their only other meeting of the year, Roe escaped with a 7-5 overtime victory Jan. 23 in the Jackrabbits' 19-16 victory.

This time, Jackson needed only three minutes to secure a victory, sprinting to a 4-1 lead at the end of the first period.

He never relinquished his lead, easily defeating Roe 12-3.

"I knew I could take him down like I did in our first match," Jackson said. "I took advantage of him taking chances."

In the second round of consolations, Jason Nestor of the University of

Pittsburgh-Johnstown defeated Jackson 2-1, ending his attempt at an All-American placing (top eight).

Junior Desmond Radunz, who had the highest MSUM placing (third) at the Midwest Regional championships on March 2, lost two matches at 125.

Junior Ryan Kopiasz, a two-time national qualifier who finished 11th at last year's national championships at 184, dropped both of his matches.

Kopiasz lost his first-round match to eventual runner-up Tyler Jones of SDSU, who pinned the Alaska native in 4 minutes, 13 seconds.

Kopiasz then fell to Mark Dubrovich of the Colorado School of Mines, Golden, 7-4 in the second round of consolations.

Whetham can be reached at whethajo@mstate.edu.

SOFTBALL PREVIEW

Optimistic outlook

Success rests on seasoned upperclassmen in 2003

By **TERI FINNEMAN**

News Editor

With a large crew of rookies and a warmer climate for ball playing, the Dragon softball team returned from its spring break series in Arizona with high hopes for its high-paced season.

Dina Kangas, head softball coach since 2000, said the biggest factor this season will be upperclassmen Leah Davis, Kristin Kirsch and Jessica Steinle. Davis, the catcher, hit .257 with a team high of 44 total stolen bases last year, and Steinle hit .260 and led the team with 17 RBI.

Kirsch, a junior, had a .210 batting average and 43 starts as a sophomore.

"Those are our team leaders. I look at those guys as being the backbone of our team," Kangas said.

Sophomores Rachel Werk and

Sheena Nelson return to the lineup as well. Nelson, the lone returning pitcher, finished last season with a 3-12 record.

Sophomores Kolena Lang and Kylie Rogalla, along with rookies Sarah Altermatt, Megan Bemboom, Jenny Doyle, Liz Gee, Kendra Halling, Kayla Huiras, Michelle Preston and DaLee Wilkinson, also join the ball team this spring.

The Dragons finished 3-6 in the tournament in Tucson, Ariz., but Kangas said she was satisfied with how her team played.

"That was our first time being outside [this season], so I didn't expect us to play error-free," she said. "It's hard when you go from practicing inside [to] outside. Defensively, we had a couple of breakdowns, but for the most part, I thought our kids did pretty well."

The Dragons finished 13-30 overall and 6-12 in the NSIC last year, and Kangas said this year's

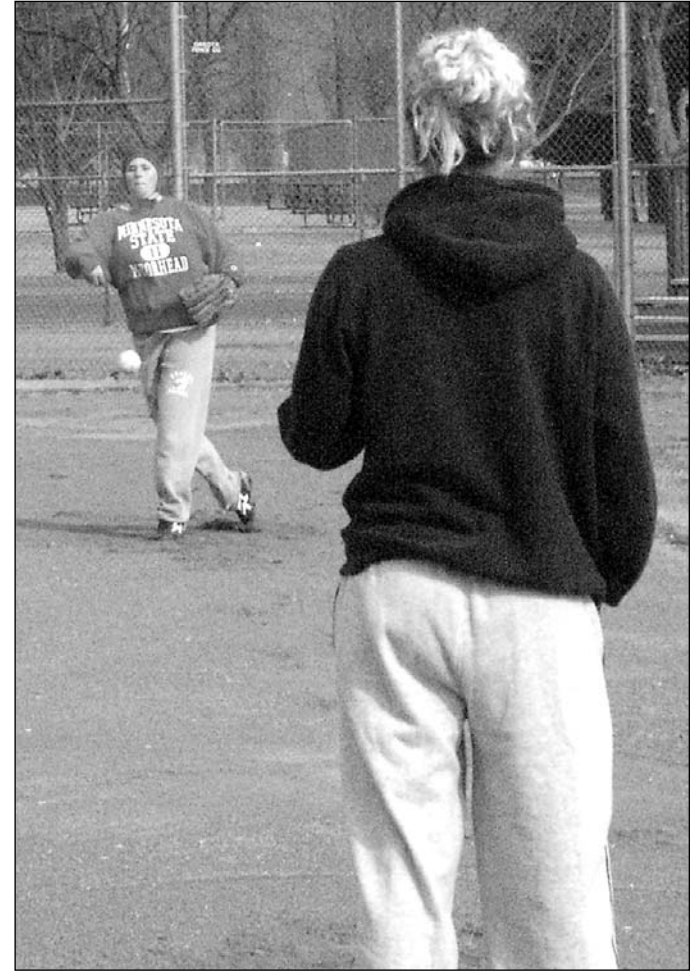
pre-conference schedule looks just as challenging with the University of Minnesota-Duluth remaining the top competitor.

Kangas said the team needs to work on hitting a bit more, as well as adjust to new positions. With an intense April schedule, she said she's hoping for good weather.

"It will come around when we play more," she said. "Even though we're pretty young, I think that we play well together. Our two freshmen pitchers have really stepped up and took on some really good leadership roles when we were in Tucson."

The Dragons will slide into a busy week with the South Dakota tournament at Vermillion this weekend and home meets at 3 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday against Concordia and NDSU.

Finneman can be reached at crusher69@hotmail.com.



GLENN TORNELL/SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

Two Dragon softball players warm up before practice Monday. The Dragons were 13-30 overall last season. They placed seventh in the NSIC with a 6-12 conference record.

□ **TRACK**, from 12

"She competed really well in the three meets leading up to nationals," Barnier said. "I wouldn't be surprised if she won a national title herself someday."

Junior Belinda Eastlack earned All-American honors in the weight throw (55-9), placing fifth.

She entered the championships with the No. 4-ranked qualifying throw of 58-2 1/2 and finished third in the same event last year.

But Adriane Blewitt of Ashland University, Ohio, won with ease, recording a toss of 66-10, only six inches from setting a national championship record (67-4 1/4).

"[Eastlack] worked hard enough where she could have an average day and still finish fifth in the country," Barnier said.

Junior DaLee Wilkinson finished 12th in the pole vault, clearing 11-3 3/4.

She qualified for nationals with a height of 12-2. Clearing

“

I wouldn't be surprised if she won a national title herself someday.

Keith Barnier

Head track and field coach

that height would have placed her first March 15.

But in a closely contested field, Jenny Simmons of Northwest Missouri State, Maryville, prevailed with a height of 11-11 3/4.

Five other athletes cleared 11-11 3/4 and three others cleared 11-7 3/4, but Simmons had the least amount of misses at prior attempts.

"[Wilkinson] did not have her best day," Barnier said. "We'll chalk it up for experience."

Whetham can be reached at whethajo@mnstate.edu.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Page 15, The Advocate

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SAC, from 4

military organizations. "I'm always obsessed with things going on internationally, especially in third world countries," Stewart said. "I saw a lot of footage on CNN and how police were treating child soldiers and I thought it was really moving."

Senior Angie Lohse, a cultural anthropology major, will offer a presentation of the data she's collected regarding the MSUM student body and recycling habits.

"My interest in this topic began last semester when I was informed that there were no recycling bins in the residence halls on campus," Lohse said. "Since then, I've learned that most of our campus's waste is accumulated in the residence halls."

However, Lohse said the majority of her presentation won't center around the problem of getting a recycling program going. Instead, she will focus on how students feel about recycling.

"I will be giving out information (to) interested students about how to take care of their recyclables, where drop sites are and why they should start the habit of recycling," Lohse said. "Students should attend the conference to see what other students are learning from their experience at MSUM."

Finneman can be reached at crusher69@hotmail.com.

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The Advocate

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The Advocate



MINDY NIEMELA/THE ADVOCATE

Balancing act

Instructor Stephanie Ahlfeldt (center) demonstrates yoga techniques to seniors Amanda Kroshus (left) and Heather Ehrichs at the women's health fair Monday in the CMU.

UNITY, from front

on the conference. Sophomore Raul Fernandez has been involved in much of the preparation. "This conference is very healthy for the campus and community," Fernandez said. "It gives them an opportunity to learn more about the Latino culture."

The Unity Conference was started in 1995 by associate director of Student Support Services Abner Arauza. The conference has gone from 100 people in attendance to more

than 400 in eight years. Arauza said he'd like to see that number even higher.

"Here is your opportunity to see the real thing; Latino life as Latinos see it," Arauza said.

Arauza said he encourages people of all ages to attend.

Admission for MSUM students is free. For other students the cost is \$25 and \$45 for non-students. To register, contact Arauza at 236-2721.

MacMurchy can be reached at db_mac@hotmail.com.

CREDITS, from front

Representatives from the economics department also opposed the idea because they thought students would lose the opportunity to take a variety of courses.

New Center professor Jarilyn Gess disagreed, saying students will take electives they're interested in regardless of the degree requirement.

"If students want the content, they'll take the class," Gess said.

Biology professor Mark Wallert said he didn't see much difference between 128 and 120 credits.

APAC is specifically looking at bachelor of arts degrees, which represent general liberal arts degree with a major in the liberal or fine/performing arts areas.

Approving a similar policy for bachelor of science degrees would be more difficult, however, because many fields have licensure or other requirements, Midgarden said.

MSUM registrar John Tandberg said although many private schools require the equivalent of 128 credits for a degree, most state universities require 120.

Most MnSCU universities require 128 credits despite the policy that permits 120.

The board requires at least one-third of the credits to be in non-major areas of general education. The policy also includes at least 40 upper-

level credits and 30 credits in a major.

The remaining credits fall under the category of free electives. Majors with fewer credit requirements allow students to choose more electives.

For example, philosophy majors are required to take 36 credits. After filling their liberal studies requirements, those students are left with about 50 credits of electives.

Meanwhile music majors, who have to fulfill nearly twice as many credits as philosophy majors, would be left with about 14 free electives.

APAC recently approved a change in the liberal studies policy that will go into effect summer session, Midgarden said.

Students will now be able to apply one course in their major toward a liberal studies requirement. Previously no overlap was allowed.

Barden said the main academic concern is getting stu-

Graduation requirements

University	Credits required
MSU Mankato	128
Bemidji State	128
U of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts	120
U of Wisconsin Madison College of Letters and Science	120
Kansas State College of Arts and Sciences	120
U of Nebraska College of Arts and Sciences	125

dents prepared in their field. Allowing one class to overlap still meets learning objectives, he said.

To get student input on the credit reduction proposal, Midgarden said the committee will ask student senate for a recommendation. An online survey and discussions among student advisory panels will also provide feedback, she said.

APAC members will continue discussing the issue at their April 15 meeting.

"This is, for some people, a straightforward question," Midgarden said. "For other people, it's a very difficult question."

Dalrymple can be reached at dalrymam@mnstate.edu.

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