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Narration for 100th Anniversary Program

Moorhead State University

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MOORHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY 100TH ANNIVERSARY

For a century, Moorhead State has grown on this flat and fertile Red River Valley to be a place for people who want to learn about the world, about careers, about themselves. The University has changed in a century, that's true. Now about seven thousand five hundred students study here. Compared with twenty-nine in 1888. Now three hundred fifty faculty members teach them, compared with five back then. But the attraction to Moorhead State today is the same as it was one hundred years ago: To prepare students for their futures by blending career preparation with liberal arts tradition.

Hi, I'm Doug Hamilton. I'm Maureen Zimmerman.

DOUG: I graduated from Moorhead State in (year) with a degree from the Speech and Theatre Department.

MAUREEN: I graduated for the Mass Communication dept.

DOUG: We're going to take a look at Moorhead State. How it began, how it grew, and where it is going.

MAUREEN: We will start with my department. Martin Grindelnd is the chair of the Mass Communications Department.

STAND UP--MARTIN GRINDELND personal attention, small class size, concentrations, Campus News

NARRATOR: In fact, keeping class sizes small is important to every program at Moorhead State. It's always been that way. Back in 1888, when Moorhead State's first president Livingston Lord, made a head count. He came up with twenty-nine students. Not just seniors -- that was the entire student population. It was a dream for students who wanted to get personal attention in small classes.

The core of the University's education is its stress on But the University grew, of course. And grew. And grew. But Moorhead State still clung tightly to its tradition of keeping class sizes small. You don't see arena sized classes very often at Moorhead State. And those small classes are not reserved only for graduate students. Moorhead State's student teacher ratio of nineteen to one is based mostly on its undergraduate enrollment. Moorhead State's interest in making its students effective writers and thinkers does not end at Keeping the classes small is especially important for students who need technical equipment to learn, such as here in the University's Television Production Center. Students here study in the broadcast concentration of Mass Communications, and in the Radio-Television concentration of Speech. the lifetime value of a university education.

One popular program coming from the TV Production center is "Campus News," a student produced news program broadcast over Prairie Public TV.

COMMENT BY STUDENT: explaining Campus News.

NARRATOR: Technical sophistication is an indispensable part of higher education today. But that doesn't mean traditional education is neglected at Moorhead State. The core of the University's education is its stress on good written communication skills. So students practice writing. And writing. And writing.

STAND-UP PAT HANSON: In her own words about importance of writing skills. Include: importance of good writing; how MSU teaches it; critical thinking skills.

NARRATOR: Moorhead State's interest in making its students effective writers and thinkers does not end at the door of the English Department. Humanities - Social Sciences - Communications Systems - Mathematics - Natural Sciences - These liberal arts are a cornerstone to Education at Moorhead State. And a cornerstone to these areas of study is an emphasis on high quality communications. That's the lifetime value of a university education.

DILLE: Comments on value of liberal arts. majestic and inspiring structure housing the entire academic and This Liberal Arts tradition traces its source right back to 1888, the year Moorhead State first opened its doors. It wasn't called Moorhead State University then, though, it was Moorhead Normal School. The courses at this pioneer institution were History, Science, Music, Algebra, Latin, English, and Literature, all of them designed to educate future teachers. especially at night.

DILLE'S VOICE: talks about how Comstock happened to want a Normal School, and his fight against having one in Crookston. IN FACT, LATER, COMSTOCK WROTE:

VOICE OF COMSTOCK: I had a most ticklish job on hand. There was much opposition to Normal Schools in the state. There was no possibility of getting two. Providence favored Moorhead. The Crookston Bill fell by the wayside and one of the best schools in the state fell to our lot.

Old Main, Moorhead State's grand old building and one NARRATOR: Comstock proved his commitment to his dream by donating six acres of his own land for Old Main. The Legislature appropriated sixty thousand dollars. Moorhead Normal School admitted its first students in 1888. Its first building, Old Main, towered on the

prairie at the outskirts of town, a majestic and inspiring structure housing the entire academic and administrative complex, and the library. What it did lack was housing for all the students. In fact, women students had to be put up in Bishop Whipple Hall, which later became part of Concordia College.

Separating the two institutions was Prairie Home Cemetery. Students had to pass by it on their way to school. This route tended to keep students from dawdling, especially at night.

By 1904, three hundred forty-nine students attended Moorhead's Normal School. Buildings began to stretch out on the prairie to house students, an art and music program, a gymnasium, and a model school for student teaching. In 1921, the name was changed to Moorhead State Teachers College. More and more land was purchased. Enrollment reached five hundred thirty students by 1930. But in that year, disaster struck Moorhead State.

Old Main, Moorhead State's grand old building and one of the city's finest architectural marvels, burned to a skeleton on February ninth, 1930. Students and towns people watched in the cold as firefighters fought in vain to save it. The library was destroyed. Student records were in ashes. Could Moorhead State recover?

(Recovery more cheery music) Within a week, students were back in class, attending either in Weld Hall, the dormitories, or the Moorhead Armory. Plans were made for MacLean Hall, to be built on the site of Old Main. Moorhead State proved it could survive. It was asked to prove its determination again and again, through war and depression, through student unrest and energy crisis.

Moorhead State's eight presidents have helped to build diverse programs. More than seven thousand students attend each year. The University offers ninety undergraduate programs, sixty minors, and fifteen graduate programs. Through Moorhead State's computerized card catalog, the library has access to two million titles, in libraries of Concordia College and North Dakota State University locally, and in the State University System libraries.

DARREL MEINKE: Comments on flexibility of Tri-College library system.

NARRATOR: Under the Tri-College system, Moorhead State students may choose classes at both NDSU and Concordia. About 750 Moorhead State students a year take advantage of this unusually flexible arrangement, university study.

traveling by shuttle bus from one institution to another.

Moorhead State's twenty-eight major buildings slip into a compact one hundred four acre site surrounded by a tree-lined residential neighborhood. Among those buildings are two high-rise dormitories, Neumaier Hall and Nelson Hall. These tall buildings reach easily above the rest of Moorhead to guide students and visitors to campus.

When push...comes to shove...at Moorhead State, it must be moving in time for students. About two thousand five hundred of Moorhead State's undergraduates make their homes in one of seven resident halls. And some students really do make themselves at home!

KATHY SCOTT/LOIS SELBERG: Comments on orientation, "easing the transition."

NARRATOR: Moorhead State does have selective admissions standards--students need to graduate in the top half of their high school class. An alternative for students who do not meet the admissions standards, though, is the new center. Faculty members here will help students ease the transition into the demands of university study.

But not only the demands. The entertainment too. One educational way to have fun at Moorhead State is to join a musical group, such as the University's Stage Band..... Students may try out for one or more of eleven performing groups guided by the Music Department.

MARK FASMAN: comments about department. A group rehearses in background. sparkling cider, and other conceptions.

DELMAR HANSON: Comments on theatre program. Note number of productions a year, success of graduates. Add comments on Speech Department, and of courses especially designed for speakers on TV and radio.

STUDENT ANNOUNCER: and that's the show for today. Thanks for listening.

ARTIST: In my art, I've tried to...etc. A few comments explaining the work.

The Art Department not only offers Bachelor's degrees in Art, but offers a five-year program, the Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree. The Center for the Arts stays open twenty-four hours a day for Art students who find they

are most creative at night... But that's not the only sign of life at Moorhead State after the sun goes down.

At Moorhead State, in addition to the Campus Film Series, students may attend numerous concerts, plays, lectures, and dances. One popular spot in Comstock Memorial Union is a bar called the Wooden Nickel. The night club mood at the Wood Nickel includes the usual music and dancing, but the drinks are soft: near beer, ice cream grasshoppers, sparkling cider, and other concoctions.

Fans of Moorhead State's Dragon athletic teams often watch games at night in the University's Nemzek Fieldhouse, or at the stadium. The University offers seven intercollegiate sports for men or women. Students may also choose the more informal competition offered through the University's program of intramural sports, including basketball, co-ed softball, and volleyball. Intramurals are so popular at Moorhead State that they draw about four thousand three hundred students a year for one or more sports.

JIM FRISK

Every year, Moorhead State's pre-medicine advisors guide about forty-five students such as Jim who want to become medical doctors.

Nick Kowanko: Include competition, national average, and how MSU is better than national average. Explain what pre-med students major in, etc.

NARRATOR: Science students experiment with sophisticated environment -- in nature herself. The University's Regional Science Center covers two hundred twenty acres of grassland and woods adjacent to a State Park eighteen miles from Moorhead. Here, students do field experiments in the prairie ecosystem.

MOYQ: Comment on importance of business
In addition to science study, Moorhead State also offers applied programs.

Majors in this area include Finance, Management, Accounting, and Marketing. (To find out how science may be applied to industry, talk to a student in one of the University's industrial technology programs.)

STUDENT: short explanation of the experiment he or she is performing.

The Business of America in the 1980's is being built upon a new foundation -- Computer Technology. Moorhead

NARRATOR: In this area too is one of the University's newest programs, in Energy Management. Program director, Hamid Nezhad explains its goal:

NEZHAD: Comments on goal of energy management program.

C. BRING: talks about department, include majors and

NARRATOR: Students in industrial technology often aim at a career in business. But they are hardly the only ones in business. In fact, Moorhead State's business programs are the largest on campus. Among its graduates is Mayo Christianson, who specialized in Business Administration to finish his degree through the University's External Studies Program.

MAYO: Comment on importance of business administration.

Majors in this area include Finance, Management, Accounting, Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Management, or the newest division, International Business. The department also includes a program for students who want to work in the growing field of Legal Assisting. For graduate students, the department offers a Master's of Business Administration program, the MBA.

The Business of America in the 1980's is being built upon a new foundation -- Computer Technology. Moorhead

State was the first Minnesota State University to offer a computer science major. That was in 1969. It still offers the largest number of computers per capita in the State University System.

C. BRING: talks about department. Include majors and minors, etc.

NARRATOR: Personal computers and computer terminals bloom from desks nearly everywhere on campus, including in some rather unexpected places. Places such as the Education Department, where students learn the latest teaching methods on microcomputers.

PAUL BEARE: description of education department offerings, programs, licensures, etc.

Moorhead State was first and foremost a school for teachers. Today its programs are broader, but the University's reputation for teacher education is still important. With twenty-five full time professors, this Education Department is one of the region's most comprehensive. Howard Freeberg is the education departments coordinator of the Student Teaching Abroad Program.

HOWARD FREEBERG: STAND-UP

England...France...Spain...Africa...South America...
These are only some of the homes of Moorhead State
students working and studying overseas. The University
takes a leading role in promoting world understanding
by stressing the importance of study of other cultures,
other languages. Students sharpen foreign language
skills by studying French, German, Spanish, Norwegian,
and Japanese. Foreign Language students try to bring
the world to Moorhead by hosting foreign speakers and
by organizing social events, such as the Annual German
Club Banquet.

NARRATOR: The last one hundred years have not always
been easy for the faculty, the administration, and the
students at Moorhead State University. Fire...wars...
depression...even the path across the cemetery -- All
of these have challenged Moorhead State's ability to
offer people young and old a better life, a fuller
understanding of the world through a Liberal Arts
education. But all of these challenges were met. They
were not met only by bricks and mortar and money from
St. Paul. These alone do not make a University.
Moorhead State is made by people who care about
education here in middle America -- by its president,
who saw how in frustration: By its faculty and staff,

who saw possibility in doubt: and, most importantly, by its students and alumni, who saw promise in the potential of a University perched on the flat prairie of the Red River Valley. Toward that optimistic direction, toward that exciting world, all of us at Moorhead State direct our first step to our second century.

END WITH JINGLE: "There's an exciting world..."

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MAUREEN: We will start with my department. Martin Grindelund is the chair of the Mass Communications Department.
STAFF: (MARTIN GRINDELUND personal attention, small class size, concentrations, campus life)