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## The Advocate, October 27, 2005

Minnesota State University Moorhead

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# The ADVOCATE

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

## Competitive speaking axed

By SARA HACKING

Arts and Entertainment Editor

Competitive public speaking at MSUM will be silenced when the communications studies department cuts the forensics program at the end of this school year citing low team numbers and a re-evaluation of the program.

It's a decision that has disappointed members of the team whose competitions include persuasive, informa-

tive and impromptu speeches. "I'm upset mostly because I have a year of eligibility left and I can still compete," junior Ian Hopkins said. "And also because it's such a valuable program."

Kyle Thilmony, senior, has been involved in forensics since he was a freshman and disagrees with the decision to cut the program. He said he does not believe the communication studies department made an effort to build the program.

"They say 'if it ain't broke, don't fix it,'" he said. "Well it's been broke for awhile, but no one is bothering to fix it."

Thilmony said the department should do everything possible to build the program before they cut it.

Tim Borchers, professor of communications studies, said an opportunity to hire a new faculty member and lack of student interest led to the decision to cut the program.

"We came to the decision that

we would not like that faculty member to do forensics," he said. "But that we would like that faculty member to develop a program for our students that teaches them communications skills while also serving the university and community."

Borchers said examples of community involvement would be students working with new Americans, teaching job interviewing skills and alcohol training on campus.

☐ FORENSICS, back page



### Using their heads

Professors show off their skulls as part of evolution symposium

FEATURES, page 3

## Haunting lessons Lit class goes to the ghosts

By GLENN TORNELL

Special to The Advocate

Keziah Keller reads the assignments for her MSUM literature class at night by candlelight.

"The unknown creates fear, and darkness breeds uncertainty," she says. "It makes it more fun."

She'll probably ace the class because fear and fun are the basic themes in most of the literature required for her fall semester course "Ghost Stories," a literary analysis of the classic English Gothic and ghost tales of the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

"Some students are disappointed when they discover ghost stories aren't as graphic or gory as modern horror movies," says Katherine Meiners, an MSUM English professor who teaches the class. "It takes awhile to get used to their atmosphere and characters, as well as the experiences that inspired fear in earlier times."

But Keller, a senior English major, doesn't mind. She says



GLENN TORNELL / SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

English professor Katherine Meiners is teaching this semester's class on ghost stories.

the images the stories create in her own mind are far more frightening than anything Hollywood can produce.

Ghost stories, wildly popular in Great Britain at the peak of its empirical power, gave birth to some spooky tales that still resonate in the 21st century, Meiners says, including

Mary Shelly's "Frankenstein" and Bram Stoker's "Dracula."

It was a time when science and spirituality were clashing, and the stolid Age of Reason was being questioned by an emerging new movement called Romanticism.

☐ GHOSTS, back page

## MSUM eats Ded Walleye

By LEE MORRIS

Staff Writer

MSUM has to pay Ded Walleye \$1,500 for a concert that never happened.

The athletics department hired the local rock band to play a Sept. 3 concert, but cancelled the show because the Labor Day weekend would keep students from the show and the band was playing other venues around the same date.

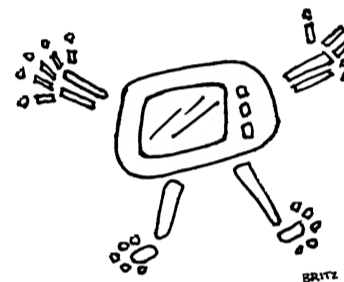
The band offered to cancel their other shows in favor of MSUM's, but the concert was postponed. Athletic director Alfonso Scandrett said he then decided to cancel the show altogether due to homecoming celebrations.

Scandrett also said the band wanted \$500 more than originally agreed on.

Another grievance the department had with the band was ticket prices. Tremont Veale, an athletics intern who helped organize the show, said the band charged \$1 a person for other gigs but wanted \$8 a person for the MSUM show.

When Bitzer Entertainment Agency, Ded Walleye's management, learned the show was being cancelled, they threatened to file legal claims for contract violations.

☐ CONCERT, page 2



### Bring it on

Being open to debate is good, no matter your personal position

OPINION, page 4



### Hero's return

'Andromeda' and 'Hercules' star Kevin Sorbo returns to MSUM

A&E, page 6

## 'XXX Drink' emulates party behavior

By LEE MORRIS

Staff Writer

Students moved and grooved at a keg party with a stripper, body shots and plenty of drink—and became enlightened on alcohol's perils by the masquerade's end.

Snarr Hall's residents kept rhythm to blaring music on Oct. 19 in an event advertised simply as "XXX Drink."

The strobe light-speckled

students swallowed Jell-O shots, indulged in root beer from a keg and played root beer pong while intermingling in a crowd of more than 60 people.

The students frolicked, unaware that the bash was a guise used to demonstrate liquor's effects.

Snarr's 12 resident assistants contrived the event, with the sole purpose of warding off alcohol-related incidents, as

four Snarr residents have already visited the hospital due to alcohol this year. The dorm also initiated an Oct. 5 zero-tolerance policy for its residents.

RAs played characters during the party, acting as angry, annoying, depressed and binge drinkers, while another represented a rapist, all unknown to the students.

RA Deidra Dick, said, "The point was to get residents to

realize they need to watch out for friends if they drink and realize the consequences of their actions."

The roles the resident assistants played egged on the students, encouraging them to act just as they would at a typical party, spouting whipped cream and gyrating shirtless on top of a pool table. They did so for about 40 minutes, until the police showed up.

☐ PARTY, back page



### Leaders of the pack

Cross country teams take home top honors at NSIC Championship

SPORTS, page 8



# NEWS BRIEFS

## Security Report

10.19 — 10.23

- 10.19 University alcohol violation in Lot N.
- 10.20 Faculty concern in MacLean.
- 10.20 Suspicious persons in Lot A-1.
- 10.20 911 hang-up in Annex building.
- 10.20 Theft in Nemzek.
- 10.21 Agency assist in Snarr So.
- 10.21 Student concerns outside CMU.
- 10.22 Fire alarm sounding in Grantham.
- 10.23 Suspicious activity in Lot S.

### Davis to read work at the Spirit Room

MSUM English professor Al Davis will read his work at 7 p.m. Nov. 11 in the Spirit Room.

Davis has also authored two short fiction collections: "Rumors from the Lost World" and "Alone With the Owl." He also co-edits the annual anthology "American Fiction: The Best Short Stories by Emerging Writers."

The event is free and open to the public.

### International photo contest begins

The MSUM office of international programs will be holding an international photo contest. The contest is open to any MSUM student who has studied, taught, volunteered or traveled abroad in the past three years.

Prizes will be awarded for first and second place. For more information and applications for submission, please visit their Web site at [www.mnstate.edu/intl/iew/photo.cfm](http://www.mnstate.edu/intl/iew/photo.cfm), or stop by the office of international programs, Flora Frick 151.

### Roc Da Mic tonight in the Underground

The CMU is holding Roc Da Mic at 8 p.m. today (Thursday).

The event has local hip-hop artists rapping against other local artists.

### Tri-college career fair workshop set

Career Services is holding a workshop from 4 to 5 p.m. today (Thursday).

The event will be held in CMU 207.

### Dragon Fire divas luncheon buffet set

MSUM Dragon Fire and Women's Athletics will hold a Divas Luncheon Buffet at noon, Nov. 7. The event will be held at the Days Inn and Conference Center in Moorhead.

The cost is \$15 with all proceeds benefiting Dragon Women's Athletics.

Guest speaker Ann Dolence will talk about "Attitudes—Energy and Motion." She is a certified recreational therapist and professional wellness speaker and trainer. Dolence also owns The Leisure Connection, is a wellness facilitator for Lakes Country Service Cooperative. She has self-published books and produced educational wellness videos.

MSUM women's basketball head coach Karla Nelson will also speak.

For more information, call 477-2556

### Annual Baroque Festival dates set

NDSU's Annual Baroque Festival will be Nov. 12 and 13 with a special holiday performance of Handel's "Messiah" on Dec. 11.

The festival begins at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 12.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2 for students and seniors.

The Baroque Chamber Concert will be at 2 p.m. Nov. 13. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and \$8 for students.

The festival ends with a special performance at 2 p.m. Dec. 11. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and \$8 for students.

### Women in Action symposium set

The fifth annual Women in Action "Health as a Feminist Issue" symposium will be held from 3 to 8 p.m. Friday in the NDSU Memorial Union.

To register, e-mail your name, address and phone number to Deb White, [whitede@mnstate.edu](mailto:whitede@mnstate.edu)

### Alcohol and drug survey sent out

Every other year MSUM gathers survey data from students regarding alcohol and other drugs.

The survey results guide researchers in ongoing work to enhance the university's response to student use of alcohol and other drugs.

The survey will be distributed via e-mail on the student\_dragonews listserve.

Completing the Web-based survey takes 10 to 15 minutes. Individual responses are completely confidential.

Every student that completes the survey will be eligible for a free, small cup of coffee or 20 ounce fountain soda, courtesy of Sodexho. Every student will also be eligible in a drawing for a \$200 cash prize.

### Nominations sought for keynote speaker

Nominations are being solicited for a keynote speaker for the 8th Annual Student Academic Conference to be held April 12, 2006.

Nominations can be sent to professor Andrew Conteh. The closing date for nominations is Nov. 18.

### CONCERT, from front-

The band said they should still be paid although there were no signed contracts. Veale said all communication with the band was done through emails and over the phone.

Sandy Schob, activities business manager, said it is "pretty rare" for the university to hire a band, cancel the show and still have to pay them.

Schob said, "The ones I've worked with I haven't ever seen a cancellation."

Scandrett said, "It's a done deal, we're moving on with our programs. I have no animosity toward (the band)."

Ded Walleye's management declined to comment.

Morris can be reached at [morrisle@mnstate.edu](mailto:morrisle@mnstate.edu).

## ADVOCATE

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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](mailto: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.

"You should make a note for the next person who's editor to hire, you know, grown-ups."

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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 110.

Contact the editor for more information or come to the meetings.

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### Tri-College to hold internship fair

The Tri-College Career and Internship Fair will be from 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday at the Ramada Plaza Suites, Fargo.

Students who have not pre-registered for the fair with Career Services need to bring their MSUM student ID card.

For more information, go to their Web site at [www.mnstate.edu/career](http://www.mnstate.edu/career).

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## It's time to meet your ancestors

### Anthropology professors share stories of famous skulls

By **BARBIE PORTER**

Features Editor

MSUM anthropology professors Rinita Dalan and George Holley have dug up bones and artifacts throughout the United States.

Dalan's interest in anthropology began in third grade. Her mother's friend was working on an excavation on the river valley in Seattle, near her home. She toured the site and saw them digging. That was the moment Dalan recalls becoming enthralled with the profession.

Holley's interest in the field developed from his fascination with ancient civilizations. "So, that's a natural sort of stumble into anthropology," Holley said.

After graduating from their respective universities, they worked at one of the largest archeological sites in the country, the Cahokia mounds. The mounds were home to the Cahokia people from 800 to 1400 A.D.

Dalan and Holley worked more than ten years on the 2,200-acre, just eight miles east of downtown St. Louis, Mo.

"They (the Cahokia people) actively engaged themselves into transforming the land. It's not just a land form, it's a created land form," Holley said.

"So they borrowed and reclaimed, filled in and smoothed out," Dalan said. "It was this huge city."

Skulls belonging to fallen civilizations will be the main topic of Dalan and Holley's presentation during the two-week evolution symposium. The event consists of six lec-



PHOTO BY BARBIE PORTER/ADVOCATE

Rinita Dalan and George Holley will share the stories of the "celebrated skulls on halloween."

tures designed to take a closer look at evolution. Their topic will be, "Famous Skulls and their Stories: Learn to Identify Your Ancestors," at noon

Monday, in Lommen 98. "We're going to use celebrated cases, skulls," Holley said. "We're going to look at the story of human evolution

chronologically and how that illuminates our growing awareness of what happened (as part of human evolution)." One of the cases they will

discuss is Lucy, the skeleton of a 4-foot, 20-year-old female, found in Africa in 1974. She lived more than 3 million years ago and her brain was the size of an orange.

Dalan says, they will tell the story of seven skulls and will give the story of who found the artifacts and how they were found. The professors will start in the early 1800s and move to the early 1900s, showing how as time progressed, more people understood the theory of evolution.

"The first couple finds of human ancestors had relatively large brains, so there was this idea that we're looking for a large-brained ape," Dalan said. "And then, someone found an ancestor that didn't fit that. It had a small brain on the order of a chimp brain. When they said, 'this is a human ancestor,' people said, 'wait a minute, you're crazy. It couldn't be one of ours.' It took decades for people to get this idea, that the first human ancestors don't have large brains."

The anthropology duo will also discuss the frauds and fakes that emerged as people fought to hold the claim of owning the oldest human bones. One such case they will discuss is the Piltdown man, a skull found in England in 1911.

"They found this skull and it really fit with what people thought," Dalan said. "What it ended up being was a fraud. What people did was take an ape jaw and filed down the teeth."

Porter can be reached at [porterba@mnstate.edu](mailto:porterba@mnstate.edu)

#### Event schedule

Thursday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m.

"Evolution and the Fossil Record: Examples from Agnatha and the Invertebrates" in the Science Lab 118.

Monday, Oct. 31 at 12 p.m.

"Famous Skulls and their Stories: Learn to Identify Your Ancestors" in Lommen Hall 98.

Monday, Oct. 31 at 7 p.m.

"Why Do Butterflies Have Wings? Lessons from Evo-Devo" in Science Lab 118.

Thursday, Nov. 3 at 7 p.m.

"Organs of Extreme Perfection: The Design Argument meets Evolution, Then and Now" in the Science Lab 104.



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# MSUM profs no boneheads: Dalan and Holley give symposium

It seems like everywhere we turn these days, people are arguing about something. Does MSUM have a problem with alcohol? Should porn be a topic covered by The Advocate?

Let's face it, people like to argue.

Fortunately, thanks to some MSUM professors, we now have something educational to discuss.

Rinita Dalan and George Holley are among those speakers who will be conducting a symposium for students and staff discussing the theory of evolution. The symposium began Monday and will continue with five subsequent talks, ranging from the age of the world to why butterflies have wings.

The symposium is sponsored by MSUM's biosciences department and raises new questions surrounding the theory of evolution. One new suggestion is the idea of intelligent design. This theory suggests that the complexity of living things means they must have been created by an intelligent being. Each talk will cover a different topic under the theme of evolution and will feature guest speakers from MSUM, Duke University and Michigan State University.

One of the key talks will be given by Dalan and Holley. It is titled "Famous Skulls and their Stories: Learn to Identify Your Ancestors," and will include several skulls the professors have found on anthropological digs.

Now there's something to talk about.

OK, maybe anthropology isn't your thing. But the theory of evolution is something that affects us all. We've all wondered how and why we were put on this earth. It only makes sense to know all we can about our ancestors, and how they affected who we are today.

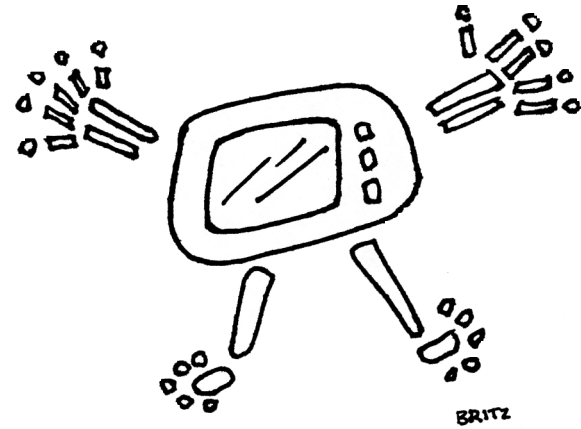
We all have our own opinions on evolution, and chances are this symposium will not change our beliefs. But it is important to discuss, debate and learn from one another when it comes to educational topics.

So no matter what you believe, attend one of the talks. You might find out that you agree, or disagree. You might learn something new. And even if you don't, I bet you'll see a really cool skull or two.

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](mailto:advocate@mnstate.edu).

Scientists discover new fossils that finally prove it.



We evolved from toaster ovens!

### Letters to the Editor

## The great porn debate

### Pornography damaging, degrading to women

After reading the recent article about porn, I was surprised and a little bit saddened. This was not because of the comments made but by the results of the survey. Well over half, 65 percent to be exact, of those who responded were female, why then did the results come out positive or wishy-washy at best?

I was surprised that such a large percentage of women did not object to pornography. I thought we were living in post-feminist times, not before. I think that if porn is seen as harmless by women there will never be any progress made toward equality.

How can you demand equal rights and treatment if you feed into the attitude of women as objects? If this type of media is accepted by women, it's one giant step backward. What's important here is not morality,

because that is completely relative, but the cultural impact that pornography has on Americans.

I agree with Derrick Hall that porn doesn't create violent rapists, however, it most certainly affects people on the streets. Mr. Kohler hit the nail on the head when he said that "society is the victim." I think the more important issue here is not violence, but negative and demeaning attitudes toward women.

With porn as an accepted part of our culture, people are led to believe that it's OK to belittle women and use them as sex toys, thinking of them as just a body.

Not only is this attitude disrespectful, but very damaging toward females, as well as males. Such chauvinistic attitudes make it difficult to have meaningful relationships and for women to have positive attitudes about themselves and their bodies. In

addition to this, it also creates unattainable fantasies about sex, which end up disappointing people.

I completely agree that pornography is free speech. People should have the right to express their beliefs. However, this doesn't mean that it must be allowed to be part of the mainstream culture. White supremacists are using free speech when they preach hate, but that doesn't mean that people have to accept it and allow those they love to participate in it.

My hope is that women, as well as men, realize that although it may be just a means to an end, pornography is more damaging than it may appear on the surface and should not be accepted and condoned.

**Meagan Barbie**  
MSUM sophomore

## Senate sub-committee illogical

I am writing to clarify to the student body some misinformation that is floating around our campus. Many students have been e-mailing myself and other fellow senators about their frustrations with the senate on the stance against making the cultural diversity committee a standing senate committee instead of a senate sub-committee.

In order to make this a committee, we need more senators. The motion that was presented at last Thursday's senate meeting states that "The Leg/Internal proposes an amendment to this body's constitution that reduces the number of students that each senator represents to increase effective student representation, as well as further the feasibility of creating a standing Diversity Committee by allowing MSUM Student Senate members to be appointed to the committee without diminishing the membership of current standing (senate) committees within MSUM Student Senate." Readjusting these districts would add six

more senators, which is ridiculous. Our senate is the second largest out of the seven state universities, yet we are the fifth largest in student population, does anyone else see this problem? Adding six more senators makes us the largest.

Also, one of the e-mails I received from a student read "...I have recently been made aware that several student senators are working to move the student senate diversity committee back to full committee..." This is also a total inaccuracy, not one senator is trying to do this! The president and his executive board presented the motion to us.

Next, I would like to explain to the students at MSUM that we already have a standing university cultural diversity committee, so forming a standing senate committee is complete redundancy. This university committee already exists with more power than any senate committee will ever have. Plus, senate currently has a campus affairs committee which in its definition includes cultural diversity: "Campus affairs' focus is in pol-

icy areas, including but not limited to, academic affairs, administrative affairs, alumni relations, cultural diversity and student affairs..." The current senate cultural diversity sub-committee is a branch of campus affairs, so a diversity committee already exists!

This attempt is completely redundant and needs to end. This attempt also occurred last year and failed for the very same reasons: we have a senate sub-committee, campus affairs committee and a university committee, and we don't need another one! Let us worry about the things we don't have and need and not get caught up in tedious things. I hope this clarified any misinformation that may have been presented to you. I encourage any and all of you to attend the senate meetings at 5 p.m. on Thursdays in CMU 205, where you can hear the debates and not just the results.

**Adrian Welle**  
Business/Industry Senator  
Tuition and Fees Oversight  
Committee Chair



# Resist peer pressure, stay true to yourself

The way I see it I am like no other. I have my own clothes, family and house. But does that really set me apart from everyone else in this crazy mixed up world? I don't think so. What sets one person apart from another is their character and their individualism. I think character is what makes you who you are. For example, why you act the way you do and dress the way you dress.

Many people claim to be individualists, but are they really? To me, an individualist is someone whose primary importance is the virtue of self-reliance. Much of society is now referring to such individuals as "problem children" because they choose to express themselves. This may include a particular choice of clothing, a tattoo or piercing.

Growing up in a town of 230 people has brought both positive and negative aspects to my attention. After attending Northome High School for the



**Sarah Winkle**  
Columnist

previous four years and MSUM for the past three years, I feel that I have truly found my own character. I no longer feel the need to be someone that I am not to be accepted into a particular social status. I know now that as great as those things may have seemed in high school, they mean nothing now that I am out on my own and facing day to day challenges head on.

I believe that I owe a lot of my knowledge to my instructors at NHS. They helped mold me into the person I am today. Although, I didn't realize it at the time, I learned many lessons along the way which have helped me come to this conclusion:

People have the incorrect perception that since a town is small

there aren't cliques. All you need is a class of a few people or a group of co-workers and you are guaranteed to have cliques. I repeatedly see premature judgments of individuals on a day-to-day basis. For example, a student walking into a

classroom where they are automatically given the once over and right then and there are judged simply on their appearance. I sometimes catch myself doing this, but it's almost as if it is engrained in my system when I don't mean to be judging him or her like that.

It sounds simple, but in actuality it's the hardest hurdle to overcome and accept that it is "OK to be you." When you are younger, the biggest dread throughout school is the fear of rejection. I believe that rejection is a huge hurdle for those children who aren't sure as to where they fit in. It's sad to see what one may do to gain others approval. Many times their

behavior is against all they know to be right. And all of this is done in order to be "one of the group," instead of the loner looking in from the outside.

Another important lesson that I am working on is peer pressure. Regardless of how ridiculous it may sound, throughout all of life you will be bombarded with different forms of peer pressure. I try to deal with this hurdle by not lowering myself to the person's level that is pressuring me, whether it is with stealing, drugs, sex or whatever else may come along.

The main reason I have been able to overcome peer pressure as much as I have is because of the morals and values I was raised with. I feel that if you have to perform a task to get people to like you or accept you, they are not true friends at all. A true friend would love you no matter what and would help support your decisions and not join the rest of the crowd in pressuring you into doing something that you might later regret.

I've learned many things from experiences that I have had and the experiences that my friends have had to overcome. One of my very good friends has taught me how to handle difficult situations. He told me that whenever I get upset with someone to remember that tomorrow is another day and you never know whether they will be present. He also said to look for the good in people instead of dwelling on their faults. What he said got me thinking and when laid out it all seems so simple but to initiate these ways is a constant challenge.

I know that it will take a lifetime to perfect these qualities. I am also thankful to know that the one who made me and to whom I go with my trials will always be there to help me. I've got a lot to learn and a lifetime to continue to be educated.

How have you overcome peer pressure?  
E-mail Sarah  
at sarah.winkle@gmail.com.

## Pornography article disgrace to university

It disgusts me that The Advocate features a porn picture. A college newspaper is the university's communication to the students and a representation of the university to the world outside the college, i.e. to prospective students and their families, legislators, benefactors and the community. What message does a picture like this porn shot send to the public? This trashy attitude further desensitizes a university population and that's really too bad.

Dorothy Orts  
Oriska, ND

## Course bulletin offers raw deal to students

I officially detest the bureaucracy at MSUM and the people who decide what classes to offer. Tell all your friends. I went to talk to a department because the classes I needed for my major aren't being offered. I need to take two classes for my major in order to graduate on time. The classes are restrictive electives, but not offered in my department; they are in a different department. According to the all-knowing Bulletin they are supposed to be offered this spring. They aren't. I wanted to find out why. So I went to talk to the head of said department.

This is what I was told:  
1. It's my fault the class isn't offered 'cause I am not that major

and therefore I only get to choose from classes offered as an "afterthought" for non-majors.

2. Talk to my adviser.
3. It's my adviser's fault.
4. They don't have any money for adjuncts so they can't hire anyone to free up teaching loads (which it must be noted that the teaching loads at this university are very high indeed).
5. It's my fault.
6. My adviser can fix it if I talk to him (at this point I had already told the chair three times that I had talked to him).
7. It's my adviser's fault 'cause he is the only one who teaches these two classes. (Apparently everyone else is incapable of teaching those classes. How convenient and yet odd.)

8. It's my fault.

Oh yeah and 9. They have no obligation to teach classes that are scheduled in the Bulletin cause it is not updated.

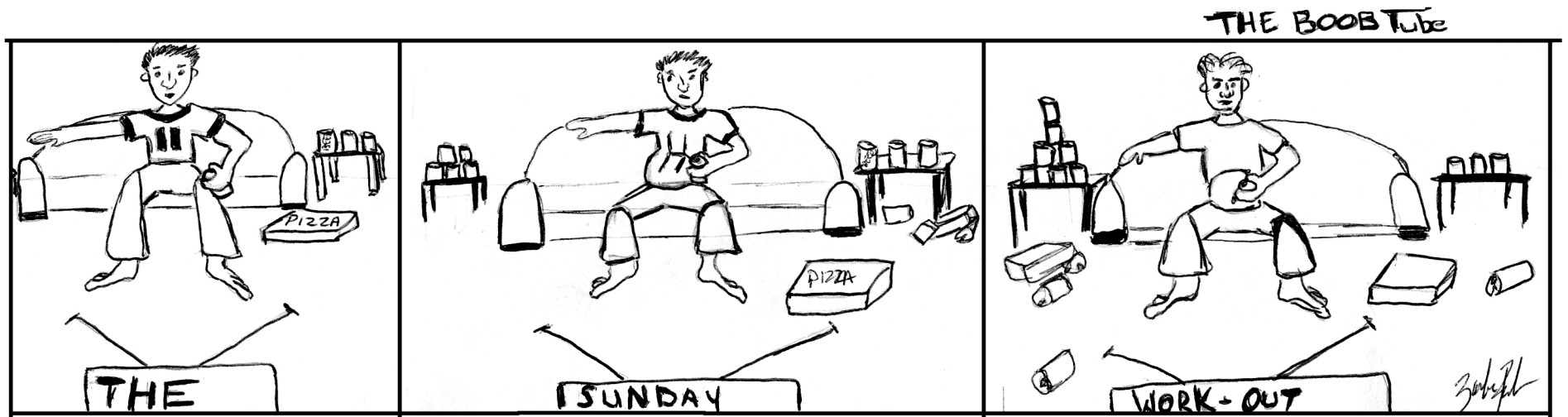
What?!?!?  
Apparently the 2005-2006 version is not the most current and updated version. It is supposed to be updated and kept current every year. However someone (the finger was pointed at the administrators by the chair of this particular department) is supposed to update the bulletin every year and for the past several years this has not been done. And that too is my fault. I should know better than to trust the Bulletin even though it is what I

am supposed to use to plan my classes and academic career at this fine institute.

Silly me, I should know better than to trust something everyone tells me to trust. What was I thinking?

Apparently I am not alone in this predicament. The Bulletin in all its glory has given a "raw deal" to many people just like me. Perhaps this is my fault also...

**John K. Sannes**  
Candidate for everything that is wrong in the world and possible 5th year senior (even after carrying more than a full load of courses for 4 years)





# Hercules comes home

Actor Kevin Sorbo returns to MSUM, where he was once a student

By ALEXA ORTS  
Staff Writer

"It's like an out of body experience for me!"

With these words and a large grin Kevin Sorbo, famous for his starring role in "Hercules: The Legendary Journeys" began a nostalgic tour of MSUM. Sorbo, currently known as Dylan Hunt, starship captain on the sci-fi drama "Andromeda," attended MSUM for three years during the late 1970s.

Sorbo, back in the Fargo-Moorhead area for ValleyCon, the annual science fiction festival, took time to retrace his collegiate steps with a campus tour and appearance.

Many architectural changes shocked Sorbo.

"I spent half my life in Nemzek," he said. I used to go in there and play hoops every day. I hardly recognized it!"

Upon entering Kise Commons Sorbo joked, "We called it 'Queasy Commons.' I remember that it was very good food."

As the tour progressed the actor pointed to a spot in the CMU saying, "I remember the lady I was dating. We'd have conversations over there."

After the tour a group of 60 enthusiastic fans greeted Sorbo for a question and answer session in the Center for the Arts.

Sorbo matter-of-factly recounted his rise to fame. He studied business at MSUM for three years and transferred to the University of Minnesota, which he attended for a year. Sorbo then dropped out, yearning for an acting career.

Shortly thereafter he moved to Europe, living in places like Paris, Milan and Zurich,



JAY PICKTHORN/PHOTO EDITOR

Doug Hamilton introduces actor and former MSUM student Kevin Sorbo who waits anxiously in the hallway. The "Andromeda" star was in town for ValleyCon, an annual science fiction festival.

“College to me is about getting to be around people. It's meeting those people and hanging out with those people in your classes.”

**Kevin Sorbo**

Actor, MSUM alumnus

Switzerland. While in Munich, Germany, Sorbo formed his own theater group. He wrote and performed plays for a year.

Sorbo then moved to Los Angeles and booked a commercial two days after arriving. The advertiser gave him a ticket to Australia, the shooting site.

Sorbo stayed in Sydney for six months after discovering the return ticket was valid for a year. He appeared in seven

Australian commercials.

Sorbo eventually moved back to Los Angeles where he was cast as Hercules. The show ran for five years. Filmed in New Zealand, it became the top-rated syndicated program in the world.

Sorbo admitted that the often 16-hour workdays were grueling. But he succeeded in keeping a light mood on the set. Once a friend visiting the set said to Sorbo, "Wow! You're in your fifth year and your crew still likes you."

The star says he learned from example not to mistreat his co-workers.

"I worked with some big names. I won't mention any names. And they were jerks. I wasn't gonna be like that."

Sorbo also directed the series occasionally.

"Andromeda," launched in 2001, is filmed in Vancouver,

British Columbia.

Sorbo and his family divide their time between Canada and a home in Nevada.

His wife Sam gave birth to their third child, Octavia, last week. Octavia joins two brothers, Braeden, 4 and Shane, 13 months.

"I feel very fortunate," Sorbo said of his success. Actors rarely land roles in programs that run for five years, back to back.

Aspiring actors from the audience asked about the star's inspiration.

"It really comes down to just believing in yourself," he said.

Kevin Costner once spoke at one of Sorbo's acting classes. He sat down and told the room, "None of you are gonna make it." Sorbo went up to Costner after the class,

looked him in the eye and said, "I'm gonna make it."

Years later, after "Hercules" success Sorbo spotted Costner at a celebrity golf tournament and repeated their conversation. Before he was finished

Costner exclaimed, "You're the guy!"

Sorbo encourages aspiring actors to tap into their dreams and ignore the taunts of negative on-lookers. Sophomore Meagan Pasquier, one such student, beamed about Sorbo's words. "He was funny, charismatic, but really down-to-earth, too. He gave really good advice."

Theater minor Charles Slininger appreciated Sorbo's practical advice.

"He's very well rounded," he said. "He really explained how hard it is to get in the business."

Though Sorbo knows his business, he also makes time to give back. George W. Bush appointed him as Chairman of the President's Council on Physical Fitness. He is active in the Afterschool Alliance, which supports after school programs across America. Sorbo's own foundation, A World Fit for Kids provides drug and violence-battling mentorship programs.

When asked about the best things he gained from MSUM Sorbo answered, "It has to do with interaction with those you meet on campus." He stressed the importance of meeting diverse individuals. "College, to me, is getting to be around people. It's meeting those people and hanging out with those people in your class."

Sorbo closed the session with complimentary words.

"You have a good university. Remember that."

Orts can be reached at [bushwonha@hotmail.com](mailto:bushwonha@hotmail.com)

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# The Underground rocks Thy Ween

By LINDSEY YOUNG  
Managing Editor

It's no trick, and it's definitely a treat for MSUM. The annual Hallowed Be Thy Ween concert is back on campus.

At 6 p.m. on Monday, local bands Venus in Furs, The Decoys, The Decomposeurs, North To Emerson, Poets & Thieves, York & Lancaster, The New Instructions (formerly Capture the Flag) and special guest Any Living Thing will perform at the Underground.

The annual Halloween concert promoted by MSUM junior and Venus In Furs band member Adam Bursack is in its fourth year of entertaining the community on the traditional night of ghosts and goblins. Previous shows have been held off campus, but Bursack decided to bring the bands back to the Underground this year.

"All of the bands think it's a really great venue to play at," he said.

This year's show has been dubbed "The Underground gets plugged back in," referencing the Underground's many "Underground, Unplugged" nights.

"There's a lot of acoustic shows, and we're all for that, but there aren't a lot of opportunities for full, electric rock bands to play at the Underground," Bursack said.

This year Bursack wanted the show to focus on MSUM, so he and co-promoters Clint Kliewer of The Decoys and Blake Plankers of The Decoys and The Decomposeurs, both freshmen, scouted out bands whose members were students.

"We wanted to show the bands that are on campus," Bursack said. "Give them some exposure."

At first, they had a hard time finding willing participants, but eventually word got out and seven bands with members from MSUM were committed. The only band at the event with-



PHOTO COURTESY ADAM BURSACK

Local band Venus in Furs performs at last year's Hallowed Be Thy Ween concert at the Fargo VFW. Adam Bursack sings while Corey Cook plays guitar.

out MSUM students is special guest Any Living Thing.

Hallowed Be Thy Ween is a concert for any type of music fan, Bursack said.

"We've got a really good mixture," he said. "We've tried to make sure this is

a really good variety of bands."

Hallowed Be Thy Ween Version 4.0 is 6 p.m. Monday in The Underground. The cost to get in is \$5 before 7 p.m., or if arriving in costume, \$6 otherwise.

Young can be reached at [youngli@mnstate.edu](mailto:youngli@mnstate.edu)

# Taylor shares the 'beauty of the brain'

By SABRINA WHITING  
Staff Writer

Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor, a published neuroanatomist, will speak at MSUM today (Thursday).

Taylor will highlight the "beauty of the brain" and her personal experiences in brain development. In the recent past, she suffered a hemorrhage in the right side of her brain causing a stroke.

"I couldn't walk or talk," Taylor said, "but now have completely recovered from my experience."

Taylor also has an older brother who was diagnosed with schizophrenia when she was in college. These experiences are what motivated her to learn more about the brain and how it functions.

"The more students understand about their own brain and how their brain works the more they are aware of they are of their choices," said Taylor.

Anyone interested in the brain and its ability to recover from catastrophe will benefit from experience.

Taylor is the national spokesperson for the Harvard Brain Bank, one of three similar organizations in the United States. She also teaches at Indiana University.

Whiting can be reached at [Breena85@hotmail.com](mailto:Breena85@hotmail.com)

### Oct. 27 Events:

Novelist & Poet Jack Driscoll, Library porch 4 p.m. & 8 p.m.

ROC DA MIC freestyle competition CMU Ballroom 8 p.m.



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## CROSS COUNTRY- NSIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

# Moreland claims men's NSIC title

## Women finish first overall, Dolence places fourth



PHOTOS BY JAY PICKTHORN/ADVOCATE PHOTO EDITOR

An exhausted junior Dane Moreland crosses the finish line in first place at the men's NSIC Cross Country Championships on Saturday.



Senior Kerry Plath finishes in eighth place at the women's NSIC Cross Country Championships on Saturday at the Ponderosa Golf Course in Glyndon, Minn. with a time of 23:11.42.

By **STEVE HARTMAN**

Staff Writer

Dane Moreland won the men's Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Cross Country Championship on Saturday at the Ponderosa Golf Course in Glyndon, Minn.

Moreland, a junior, crossed the line with a time of 28 minutes, three and a half seconds. "He works hard everyday," head coach Keith Barnier said. "He trains like a champion."

Moreland now has his eyes set on nationals after two dis-

appointing seasons.

"This summer I put in the miles and time," Moreland said.

The coaching staff, along with Moreland, speculates a top 20 finish will get him to the national meet in California.

Freshman Kyle Eckhoff earned an eighth place finish with a time of 29:07.68.

Both Moreland and Eckhoff earned all-conference recognition.

Freshman Scott Egeberg missed the all-conference mark finishing just over 20 seconds shy of 10th place.

"They chase Dane around everyday," Barnier said on the underclassmen's affect on Moreland.

Sophomore Dustin Lillegaard placed 13th for the Dragons while junior Tim Nesheim crossed the line in 18th place.

The men's team also finished third overall with a total time of 2:27:48.09.

The Dragon women's team took a liking to the 5K home course and brought home a first place finish with a total time of 1:56:39.40.

Leading the way once again for the Dragons was junior

Kristin Dolence with a time of 22:44.14, which was good enough for a fourth place finish.

"(Dolence) is a good team leader," Barnier said.

Senior Kerry Plath also placed in the top 10 crossing the finish line at 23:11.42 in eighth place.

Dolence and Plath were awarded all-conference honors based on their top 10 finishes.

Just missing the all-conference distinction were freshman Sara Rebenitsch, senior Angie Kveene and sophomore Holly Farwell, each

placed 11th, 12th and 15th respectively.

"They ran real strong," Barnier said. "Holly came through for us. She solidified the team's victory."

Up next for the Dragons is the regional meet on Nov. 5, in Fort Hays, Kan.

With three of the top five times for the Dragon men and women completed by underclassmen, Barnier looks for continued improvement from both of his young teams at the regional meet.

Hartman can be reached at [hartmast@mnstate.edu](mailto:hartmast@mnstate.edu)

## FOOTBALL

# Interceptions, tough defensive spots hinder Dragons

By **JEREMY CHURA**

Sports Editor

Scott Peters and Brian Hynes both had two touchdowns for Winona (Minn.) State in its 54-7 win over the Dragons in Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference football Saturday at Maxwell Field.

The Warriors are currently undefeated and ranked No. 1 in the NSIC going 5-0. They are 7-2 overall.

"Not very good," head coach Chad Eisele said about how

the game went. "You can't turn the ball over seven times, even to the top ranked team."

Junior Casey Kannel had the only touchdown for the Dragons on an 81-yard interception return at the end of the first half; freshman Tyson Bonkoski kicked the extra point.

Mike Salerno got the Warriors on the board first with a 43-yard field goal at the 11 minute, 46 second mark of the first quarter. Salerno also had a 26-yard field goal at the

same time in the third quarter.

Peters' first touchdown came at the 5:42 mark of the first quarter on a 35-yard pass from Drew Aber. The second was a 5-yard pass from Aber with 51 seconds left in the third quarter.

Hynes' first touchdown was a 15-yard pass from Aber at the 14:53 mark of the second quarter; the other touchdown was scored on an 8-yard pass about 13 minutes later.

"We put our defense in some tough situations," Eisele said.

The Warriors stopped the Dragons to 88 rushing yards on 40 carries.

Senior Yvan Salazar ran for 29 yards on 14 carries for the Dragons.

The Dragons had 79 passing yards while the Warriors threw for 352 yards.

Sophomore quarterback Eric Frost threw eight complete passes for 75 yards on 17 attempts with four interceptions for the Dragons.

Senior Derek Blackburn had 42 receiving yards on four

catches for the Dragons while Peters had 117 yards on six receptions for the Warriors.

The No. 6 Dragons (1-7, 1-4 NSIC) will travel to No. 3 Bemidji (Minn.) State on Saturday.

"On the road we don't come out ready to play like we do at home," Eisele said. "We have to come out and play our game. If we do that then we can win our next two games."

Chura can be reached at [churaje@mnstate.edu](mailto:churaje@mnstate.edu)



WOMEN'S SOCCER

# Dragons win one, tie in double overtime

By BRITTANY MOEN

Staff Writer

The Dragons defeated Southwest Minnesota State 1-0 in Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference soccer Sunday.

Freshman Hila Anderson scored the only goal of the game at the 54 minute, 50 second mark of the second half.

"I think we deserved to win," freshman Abby Barker said. "We've been practicing hard all week and it showed on the field. Things are starting to go our way."

Michelle Gilbert had nine saves for the Mustangs while Dragon goalkeeper Morgan Landwehr had six saves.

"Landwehr came up with a huge, big-time save in the last minute of the game," head coach Rollie Bullock said. "She got her first shutout."

The Mustangs are now 4-10-

4 overall, while the Dragons improved to 4-14-1 overall.

"It's a well-deserved win," Bullock said. "We flat out beat Southwest."

On Saturday the Dragons tied Wayne (Neb.) State College 2-2 in a competitive double overtime conference game.

"The game went well, overall," senior Corina Monin said. "We worked really hard, probably the hardest we've worked all year."

"This is one of our rivals so that's OK that we came out with a tie."

On the Dragons side, sophomore Kimberly Hinga scored on a penalty kick at the 43:20 mark and freshman Richelle Ross scored on an unassisted goal at the 52:00 mark.

The Wildcats' Sarah James scored on an assist from Kate Gross at the 57:30 mark while Mary Anne Liebenritt scored

on an unassisted goal to tie the game with less than four minutes left remaining in regulation play.

"It was disappointing because we had a two goal lead," Bullock said. "Particularly when we out-shot and outplayed them the entire game."

Jamie Anderson had 14 saves for the Wildcats while freshman Andrea Pearson had 11 saves for the Dragons.

"We played really hard all the way through," junior Danielle Reid said. "We had lots of chances. It was a good game."

Wayne State is now 7-8-3 overall and 5-5-2 in the NSIC.

The Dragons (4-14-1, 2-10-1 NSIC) will host Northern State (Aberdeen, S.D.) on Saturday at 1 p.m. at Alex Nemzek Field.

Moen can be reached at [Brittany.Moen@hotmail.com](mailto:Brittany.Moen@hotmail.com)



JON LAMBERT/ THE ADVOCATE

Junior Danielle Reid (left) fights for the ball with Wayne (Neb.) State's Gwen Galloway during Saturday's NSIC soccer game at home. The Dragons and Wildcats played to a 2-2 tie after two overtimes of no scoring.

VOLLEYBALL

## Dragons continue conference domination with weekend wins

The MSUM volleyball team won two Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference matches over the weekend.

On Friday the Dragons started their winning weekend with a 20-30, 30-24, 30-26, 30-25 win over Wayne (Neb.) State.

Junior Jesseca White led the Dragons with 20 kills. She also added 25 digs.

Freshman Calla Oftedahl tallied 34 digs for the Dragons while sophomore Julie Vancura had 58 assists.

Freshman Megan Brandon added 14 kills while junior Becky Anderson had 11 kills for the Dragons.

On Saturday the Dragons traveled to Southwest

Minnesota State where they came from two games down to defeat with Mustangs 22-30, 28-30, 30-24, 30-28, 16-14 in NSIC play.

Brandon and senior Sigourney Schaffer both tallied 20 kills for the Dragons while Oftedahl added 28 digs. Vancura added another 58 assists for the Dragons.

With Saturday's win the Dragons move to 21-3 overall and 8-3 in the NSIC.

At 7 p.m. on Friday the No. 2 Dragons will host No. 6 Winona (Minn.) State followed by No. 1 ranked Concordia-St. Paul at 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Advocate staff reports


UPCOMING GAMES

**Oct. 28:**  
Volleyball vs. Winona State, 7 p.m.

**Oct. 29:**  
Football at Bemidji State, 12:30 p.m.  
Volleyball vs. Concordia-St. Paul, 4 p.m.  
Women's swimming vs. MSU-Mankato, 1 p.m.

**Oct. 30:**  
Women's soccer vs. Northern State, 1 p.m.

**Nov. 1:**  
Women's soccer, NSIC First Round play



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# CLASSIFIEDS

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Page 11, The Advocate

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## FORENSICS, from front

"What it's really going to come down to is who we can hire and what kind of expertise they have," he said about what the new program will be.

Craig Ellingson, chair of communication studies, film studies and theater art department, said students will become better at communications through civic engagement because they won't just create and perform speeches but communicate with people.

"We believe it will enhance their ability to go out and become better and more effective communicators in their real jobs," he said. "And strengthen their ability to put into practice the theory we're teaching them in class."

Borchers said the legislature is interested in universities becoming involved with the community.

"We think we can better serve more of our students in a new

program instead of spending all this time on a few students," he said. "We feel that we are trying to be very ethical in how we are using resources."

He said students' busy schedules and the extensive travel involved decreased student participation in the program.

He said forensics is an excellent program, but not the best one they can provide for their students. Borchers said the communications studies major has grown more sophisticated and career-orientated. The 45 to 50 students who are in the major now do not have the same interest in forensics as they used to.

David Tschida, director of forensics, said three students typically comprised the team in recent years. He said many universities are facing the decision to cut forensics teams.

Borchers said, "Even programs that are consistently



JAY PICKTHORN / PHOTO EDITOR

Senior Kyle Thilmoney looks at some of the awards the forensics team has won in past years. This is the team's final year.

national champions are asking 'What value is this to us?'"

Thilmoney said students often underestimate public speaking skills. He said a college forensics team is the best way for students to get public speaking experience because

every job requires those skills.

Thilmoney said forensics tournaments are a great opportunity to travel and network. "You can meet a lot of cool people," he said. "It's not as stuck up or stuffy as people think."

The forensics team provides

travel, hotels and a meal allowance to members. Thilmoney said the expenses are the same as any university team.

"We're a small team, but we're a good team," he said. "Unlike the football team."

Thilmoney said the team won several awards at the state tournament last year. Thilmoney recently qualified for the national tournament.

Hopkins said the success of the forensics team is one reason why he chose to attend MSUM.

Thilmoney would like to rebuild the team even though the decision to end the team has been made. He said anyone interested in joining forensics can contact him at thilmoky@mnstate.edu.

"It's a lot different than any speech class you'll ever take," Thilmoney said.

Hacking can be reached at sarahacking@hotmail.com.

## PARTY, from front

Moorhead police officer Shawn Griego arrived, as was arranged, to put an abrupt end to the commotion and to the surprise of the students.

Freshman Ajay Rife said when he saw Griego, "It was like, 'Whoa, it's over.'"

The students sat down and the RAs told them the true intent of the party, to teach the dangers of alcohol, using statistics to convey the effect of

alcohol on college students. During the party, a black marker branded students' hands to keep track of how many root beers they consumed. One student had 19 marks.

At this time, one role-playing RA revealed he slyly slipped skittles into the drinks of others, the skittles being symbolic of roofies, or date rape drugs. More than half the

students looked into their cups to find skittles, not knowing how the candy arrived there.

Dick said, "If you decide to drink, watch your drinks."

Student Alex Vigil said, "I looked in my cup and I saw a skittle and was like, 'What the hell?'"

Vigil said the event was "unique," a belief corroborated by student David Juarez.

Juarez said, "It was different, in a really good way."

Student Alison Streyle said teaching students the risks of alcohol through a party was unique. She said, "I've never seen anyone do it this way before."

Dick admits although the party may not fully stop people from drinking, "it will help people be more aware when they drink."

RA Liz Kalinowski, said the event "is an annual thing." A similar event is expected next year.

Because there was no actual liquor at the party, Juarez said, "It just proves you don't have to be drunk to have fun."

Morris can be reached at morrisle@mnstate.edu.

## GHOSTS, from front

"Ghost stories became a viable way of expressing fears about death in a world where spirituality was often challenged by scientific discoveries," Meiners says. "Some people feared that science would take the mystery out of the natural world. Far from being silly, the stories stretched the imaginative powers of the human mind. They encouraged readers to explore the unknown and the mysterious in life."

While ghosts have been part of folklore since the invention of the camp fire and part of literature from Homer and The Bible to Shakespeare, Meiners says the supernatural didn't become a central aesthetic focus of fiction until the late 18th and early 19th centuries, specifically in England.

It all began with a book by Horace Walpole, "The Castle of Otranto," a short novel published in 1764, Meiners says. "It included a tyrannical prince, a haunted castle, and a dark brooding atmosphere. Walpole's fascination with all things medieval set the stage for the Gothic novel, and his influence is still felt today."

But Walpole and his followers—including some literary heavyweights like Robert Louis Stevenson, Edgar Allan Poe, Charles Dickens, Edith Wharton and Emily Brontë—found something exciting in

the gloomy dungeons, misty moors, torture chambers, and supernatural spirits that flourished under the superstitious shroud of medieval Europe.

Fear, they discovered, was among the most powerful emotions of all, one that led to the ultimate experience of being alive.

"The more wild, fanciful, and extraordinary the horror scenes were, the more pleasure readers found in them," Meiners says. "Gothic writers channeled fear into an imaginative, aesthetic experience."

And what better element to

explore the limits of life, death and terror than ghosts, these ethereal souls of dead people who appear to the living?

Put in historical context, Meiners says, Gothic stories were also political allegories. "England was engaged in the French Revolution at the time, and many people feared the return of earlier political and religious tyrannies. The Middle Ages became a convenient target for Gothic fiction."

Some of those medieval influences linger today, the most obvious being youthful

Goth subculture, a post-punk offshoot noted for black clothes, pierced body parts and expressions of gloom. It's not surprising that many of these modern Goths are also fans of the best-selling vampire romancer Anne Rice. "As long as life is limited by death," says Meiners, "ghost stories will always haunt us."

Does she believe in ghosts? "I want to," she said. "But you don't have to believe to enjoy these stories. You do, however, have to be willing to understand people who are haunted."

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Sun, Oct 30....."Devils Night Out" w/My Big Empty

Mon, Oct 31.....Johnny Holm Band  
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.....(Pavilion) Kottonmouth Kings (All Ages)\*\*\*

Thu, Nov 3.....Club Go-Go (Go-Go Girls)

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Fri, Nov 4.....Subzero  
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Sat, Nov 5.....Holiday  
.....(Pavilion) GWAR w/Devil Driver (All Ages)\*\*\*

Sun, Nov 6.....Holiday

Wed, Nov 9 ... (Pavilion) Bright Eyes (All Ages)\*\*\*

Sat, Nov 12 ... (Pavilion) MxPx/Relient K (All Ages)\*\*\*

All details subject to change. Unless noted otherwise, events are welcome to those age 21+.  
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