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## The Advocate, March 5, 2009

Minnesota State University Moorhead

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**Bartending 101**  
Class teaches  
cocktail basics  
and serving etiquette  
  
FEATURES, PAGE 3



**On-air**  
MSUM alum hosts  
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on Y94  
  
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**Diving in**  
Six swimmers, diver  
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# The Advocate

www.mnstate.edu/advocate

Thursday  
03.05.09  
Vol. 38 No. 23

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

## Recruitment looks to Twin Cities

**BY BRIANNA BRICKWEG**  
Staff Writer

Students from all over the country and the world attend MSUM. But recruiters have turned their focus closer to home.

The number of students from the Minneapolis-St. Paul area attending MSUM has increased over the last few

years.

This region has the largest MSUM applicant pool. Out of 1,622 freshman offered enrollment so far for fall 2009, about one quarter are from the Twin Cities, compared to about 10 percent five years ago.

MSUM's enrollment has been generally steady. The goal for enrollment is 1,200

freshman. Last year there were 1,268 freshmen and 650 transfers.

There are many contributing factors to the shift in applicants' region, one being a decrease in students from North Dakota and South Dakota.

"Both North and South Dakota have been working really hard to keep their stu-

dents in state," director of admissions Gina Monson said. "They've been increasing their scholarships to keep students in-state, and we just can't compete with that."

"I think they have started coming to (MSUM) because they have found us to (be) such a great alternative to what is available in the Twin Cities

area, which are mostly private four-year colleges and universities and the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities," urban admissions counselor and transfer specialist for MSUM Ann Buesgens said.

"We offer a private college-like environment at a public college cost," Buesgens said.

**RECRUITMENT, PAGE 10**



Junior Al Odden won a regional pool tournament and will travel to West Virginia for nationals in July.

CHRIS HUBER / THE ADVOCATE

## Junior aims for national pool tournament

**BY ANNA GEORGE**  
Staff Writer

Pool guru Al Odden won a regional tournament in February and will represent MSUM at nationals in July.

Odden, a junior studying earth science education,

spends around 20 hours a week in the ROC practicing pool.

"When I was younger, I used to play 10 to 12 hours a day, every day," Odden said. "With classes, 20 hours is plenty."

If Odden needs to practice a particular shot he will play alone, but otherwise he practices with friends.

"It's more productive than me trying shots over and over again," Odden said. "I love being around other people, so I like getting people together to play pool."

Odden started playing when he was 12 years old. He grew up on a farm and when his dad

went into town for parts, his day would drop him off at the pool hall to play with friends.

"I felt gravitated towards the pool table," Odden said. "I just loved pool from the beginning."

Winning regionals was a bit of a surprise for Odden. The competition included four states and two Canadian provinces.

"There were some good players down there and I don't always play my best game," Odden said. "I don't know if I went down there mentally prepared to play my very best pool."

Regionals was not Odden's first pool tournament. He has played in other regionals and a high stakes national tourna-

ment in Las Vegas a number of years ago. For these competitions, rules are strict. Each player has their own chair where they must sit down during the opponents turn.

"You cannot make a noise," Odden said, "You sit down and shut-up."

Although pool seems to be all about skill and talent, it is also a mental game.

"Everybody that plays pool in the ROC knows exactly where to hit the ball to knock it in," Odden said. "It's being able to stay mentally focused enough so you can do it constantly shot after shot."

Building model cars, woodworking, reading and learning another language are other

**POOL, PAGE 11**

## Study abroad opens doors

### Semester in Peru changes grad's perspective

**BY JENESSA McALLISTER**  
Staff Writer

A new car, electronics or a fun getaway would probably be the first thing on most students' minds if they had \$5,000 to spare. But for MSUM graduate Thomas Hill, it bought a life-changing experience.

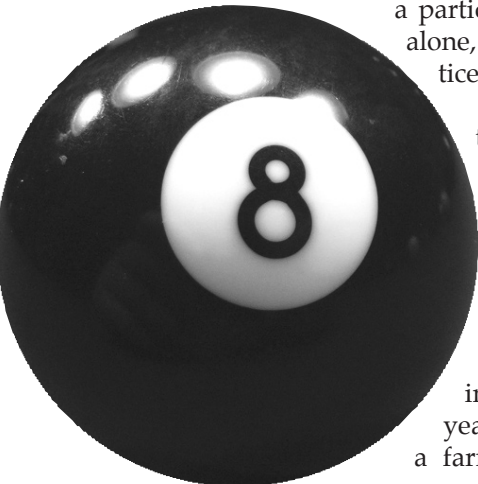
Hill graduated May 2008 with a double major in communication studies and Spanish. After graduation, he wanted to do something different with his summer, something that would make a difference. That experience ended up landing him a job right here in Fargo with United Way.

"An International Studies Abroad representative visited my Spanish class and talked about volunteer opportunities. It sounded interesting so I looked into it," Hill said.

ISA offers many study abroad programs, one of them being Experiential Learning Abroad Programs. According to the ISA Web site, ELAP is a division of ISA that arranges and prepares students for volunteer and occasional internship placements.

ISA-ELAP is an enriching experience for proficient Spanish speakers who are seeking to contribute to an organization's responsibilities and mission while learning

**STUDY ABROAD, PAGE 11**





Security Report

2.24-3.2

2.24 Escort in library

2.24 Jump start, off campus

2.24 Parking complaint in Lot N

2.25 Suspicious activity, in MacLean

2.25 Auto boot in Lot V

2.25 Jump start in Lot S

2.25 False fire alarm in MacLean

2.26 Grant access in Owens

2.26 Medical call in Bridges

2.26 Theft/larceny in Grantham

2.27 Smoking violation in Snarr

2.27 Jump start in Lot S

2.27 Jump start in Lot N

3.1 False fire alarm in Snarr

3.2 Drug/narcotic offense, smoking and weapons violation in Snarr

3.2 Vehicle towed, off campus

3.2 Suspicious activity in Owens

**Advocate meetings 4 p.m. Mondays in CMU 110**

The Advocate would like to invite any interested students to their weekly meetings in The Advocate office. Pick up an application today and apply to be a sports writer, staff writer, cartoonist or photographer. Photographers meetings are at 4:30 p.m.

The Advocate

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Located on the lower floor of Comstock Memorial Union  
Room 110  
News Desk and Editor’s Desk: 218-477-2551  
Advertising: 218-477-2365  
Fax: 218-477-4662  
advocate@mnstate.edu  
www.mnstate.edu/advocate

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 by 5 p.m. Monday 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.

“There’s no point in stabbing someone just a little bit.”  
“I just wanted some soup.”

The Advocate is prepared for publication by Minnesota State University Moorhead students and is printed by Davon Press, West Fargo, N.D.

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The Advocate is always looking for talented writers, photographers, columnists and illustrators. Meetings are held at 4 p.m. every Monday in CMU 110.

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

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Illustrators: John Berdahl, Chris Fried

**Circuit benders come put on performance**

Dragon Entertainment Group presents Beatrix JAR, a duo out of Minneapolis, who will give a circuit bending workshop.

The event is free but limited to 25 people, so sign up now in CMU 231.

The workshop is at 6 p.m. in CMU Ballroom. A performance will be at 8 p.m. on Tuesday in CMU Ballroom.

**Concordia to hold student art exhibit**

Concordia will present the Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition from Tuesday to April 5 in the Cyrus M. Running Gallery.

A public reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday.

Admission is free and open to the public.

The gallery hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays.

**Author of “Cockeyed” to speak Wednesday**

Ryan Knighton, author of “Cockeyed,” will share his story of his descent into blindness.

The event begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Glasrud Auditorum.

**McGrath Series features Harrington**

The Tom McGrath Visiting Writers Series is hosting Janice Harrington today.

There will be a talk on the writer’s craft at 4 p.m. in CMU 208, with a reading at 8 p.m. in CMU 101.

BY LESLIE WOOD  
Staff Writer

**Slip and fall**

A female student slipped and fell outside Bridges at 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 26. Security officers and medical assistance were contacted. The student felt pain in her elbow and back, but transport to hospital was not required.

**Laptop stolen**

A laptop was reported stolen from Grantham at 1:50 p.m. on Feb. 26. The dorm room door had been left unlocked by mistake. The laptop is valued at approximately \$2,000.

**Falling down the stairs**

A female student fell down the second floor steps of Flora Frick at 3:07 p.m on Feb. 26. Security officers and an ambulance were called to the accident. The female’s right ankle was in pain, but no ambulance was needed.

**Cheer on fellow friends and Dragons**

Join the Fargo Marathon Dragon cheering section. Come cheer on the marathon runners from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on May 9 at the Wellness Center.

Participants will receive a free T-shirt.

**International women’s day**

The Heritage Hjemkomst Center is celebrating women all over the world.

The event is called “Soup and Substance.” “Soup” symbolically honors and remembers women who have no voice. The “substance” is performances and readings on the subject of home by local female artists.

Donations of food or non-perishable items welcomed.

The celebration is free and open to the public. It is from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday at the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead.

**Pershounin performs concert in Gaede**

There will be a jazz and classical bass recital featuring Alexander Pershounin at 7:30 p.m. Saturday on Gaede Stage.

The concert is free and open to the public. For more information, call the music office at 477-2101, or go to [www.mnstate.edu/music/per-shouninrecital.cfm](http://www.mnstate.edu/music/per-shouninrecital.cfm).

**Book award winner speaks in library**

Doug Hoverson will speak about his book “Land of Amber Waters: The History of

The Advocate’s YouTube clip of the week

Mario: Game Over

This video received four and a half stars and was nominated for Best Comedy Video of 2007 in the YouTube Awards. Real life Mario and his addiction. Check it out at <http://tinyurl.com/2a8c5n> .

Brewing in Minnesota.”

The presentation will take place at 4:30 p.m. today in CMU 101.

**Springin’ for jazz**

There will be wine tasting, hor d’oeuvres, silent and live auction, live jazz with jazz arts big band and dancing. The event goes from 5:30 to 10 p.m. March 12 at the Holiday Inn in Fargo.

For tickets call 218-359-4529.

**CSA Scholarship application**

The deadline for the CSA scholarship at 4:30 on Friday.

Application materials and instructions are online at [www.mnstate.edu/csa/scholarships.cfm](http://www.mnstate.edu/csa/scholarships.cfm).

Submit completed applications to Sumi Lehman in the Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid, Owens 107.

The Hap

3.5 - 3.13

3.5 4:30 to 6 p.m. Teaching Resume Workshop, CMU 208  
4:30 p.m. Livingston Lord Library lecture, Doug Hoverson, “Land of Amber Waters: The History of Brewing in Minnesota,” CMU 205  
7 to 8 p.m. Debbie Goddard, CFA Speaker, CMU 207  
7:30 p.m. String Studio Recital, Gaede Stage  
8 p.m. Janice N. Harrington, Tom McGrath Writers Series, CMU 101

3.6 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dragons After Dark, CMU

3.7 Women’s basketball, NSIC Tournament  
Men’s basketball, NSIC Final Four  
7:30 p.m. Classical and jazz faculty recital featuring bassist Alexander Pershounin, Gaede Stage

3.8 Women’s basketball, NSIC Tournament  
Men’s basketball, NSIC Final Four

3.9 Pre-Registration Advising Begins  
Summer Registration Begins  
Center for the Arts Gallery Exhibit, Annual Juried Student Exhibition

3.10 Swimming and diving, NCAA II National Championships in Houston  
Noon to 1:30 p.m. Afternoon Delight, CMU  
Beatrix Jar, Concert & Circuit Bending Workshop, 8 p.m. CMU Ballroom

3.11 Swimming and diving, NCAA II National Championships in Houston  
7 p.m. “Ryan Knighton, Out of Sight,” Glasrud Auditorium

3.12 Swimming and diving, NCAA II National Championships in Houston

3.13 Swimming and diving, NCAA II National Championships in Houston  
9 a.m. Wrestling, NCAA II Nationals in Houston  
Indoor track and field, NCAA II Nationals in Houston



# Features

## Students get crash course in bartending

University VP serves up fun course on drink making and responsible serving

By MATT LEINGANG  
Staff Writer

With the reopening of the I-Beam in Moorhead fall 2008, one of the most interesting courses offered at MSUM has resumed sessions. Forget about spending four years pursuing a bachelor's degree because this course could land you a job within days of its completion.

Vice president of student affairs Warren Wiese, the instructor of the one-credit beverage management course, said the class functions to provide students with "valuable information about the basic things needed to obtain a job as a bartender."

Wiese explained that the class informs students of the responsibilities of a bartender, and helps to expose a difficult job that is sometimes glamorized, but is often tedious.

The course has existed in various forms since the mid-'90s. It began as a lab as part of the now defunct hotel/restaurant management department, but has since been included as part of the MSUM's continuing studies program.

The course meets five times per semester, and focuses on essential information about the history of alcohol, customer relations, legal liabilities involved with serving alcohol, health considerations, mixing and serving alcoholic drinks, and other practical skills involving the subject matter.

Students are allowed to taste the drinks they make, so anyone taking the class must be at least 21 years of age.

MSUM senior Sarah Crawford is taking the course this semester. She noted that

the class is not a safe haven for those looking to party.

"Alcohol usually receives a bad rep by individuals who like to drink to get smashed," Crawford said.

"By taking this class, I wanted to pursue the proper ways of ordering drinks, mixing drinks and being able to distinguish between the different types of alcohol," she said.

Consumption of the mixed drinks is highly regulated since 15 to 20 drinks may be sampled each session. Students commonly sample drinks by inserting a bar straw into the drink and capping it to trap the air and beverage inside the straw. Food is also

provided to impede intoxication during the session.

Since of-age students are allowed to sample drinks during the course, a conundrum exists concern-

ing on-campus regulations.

"My classmates and I joke that when we go home after class, we could be caught by security and be given violations for being on campus while having alcohol in our systems," Crawford said.

"Even though we all must be at 21 years of age to be in the course, following the rules of the campus, we cannot go back to our on-campus apartments. This needs to be fixed," she said.

The beverage management class will be hosting a bar night, where anyone 21 or older can come and taste the drinks made by the students. The exhibition will be from 7:30 p.m. to midnight Wednesday at the I-Beam.

Leingang can be reached at leingama@mnstate.edu



CHRIS ERICKSON / THE ADVOCATE

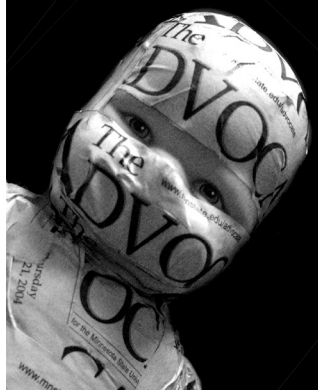
Warren Wiese, vice president of student affairs, teaches the beverage management class at the I-Beam. The class serves to teach the responsibilities of bartending.

### Bar night

7:30 p.m. to midnight  
Wednesday  
at I-Beam, Moorhead  
Students 21 and older  
invited

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### Let's talk about sex!

The Advocate has teamed up with Hendrix to answer students' questions about sex.  
Send your questions to [advocate@mnstate.edu](mailto:advocate@mnstate.edu)



## Advocate editorial board

Heidi Shaffer  
EditorBen Sailer  
Assistant EditorChris Erickson  
Opinion Editor

## Faltering job market seems hopeless, but don't get discouraged

The economy seems to be on everyone's minds. Each day, we read headlines of layoffs, business closings and home foreclosures.

Not only are businesses not hiring, they're laying people off, leaving some wondering whether they should bother with a graduation, or any part of a college education.

While it's hard not to listen to the "gloom and doom" talk coming from seemingly every direction, it is important to remember that the economy cannot stay in a down state forever.

Fluctuations happen within the job market, and the current state of the economy could likely result in entrepreneurs creating opportunity through new businesses, which will need to be staffed.

We're here to tell you, regardless of the dreary forecasts from economists and sometimes even our own professors, it is worth it.

Though these next couple of year will be tough, college students will come out of it better than many others already in the work force.

Most students don't own a house or have children, so going into foreclosure isn't a worry; nor is paying for dependents.

Retirement funds are still a thing of the future. Student loan repayment can go into deferment if graduates are unemployed or facing hardship.

Jobs might not be easy to find, but it's not impossible. Hard work now will pay off later.

Students today are more technologically savvy than most people in the workforce. As technology changes, our skills gain importance. Our generation has an advantage since most of us have grown up with things like computers and it's easier for us to learn the skills needed to use new technology products.

Once the economy settles down and the job market picks itself back up, recent college graduates should be in an excellent position to dominate the job market.

If you're graduating soon but are worried you won't be able to find a job, it might be a good idea to try to find something else you can do in the meantime while job hunting. Internships and volunteer opportunities are a couple good ways to gain experience.

Just know it's not the end of the world, and we're all in this together.

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).



Illustration by John Berdahl / The Advocate

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Grad school costs add up

Certainly during the past few years we have all felt the effects of the deteriorating economy and job market as unemployment rates continue to rise.

After college graduation the big question, of course, is one of two options: Now do I try to find a job or do I apply to graduate school?

At this point in life, with some, the answer is quite clear. With others, it could be grayer.

I am currently a graduate student at MSUM. Since I was 11 years old, I knew that I wanted to go as far as one could go in school.

Granted, I did not quite fully understand the debt load I would carry, for a number of reasons. However, now I have accumulated the debt equivalent to buying a 2010 Mercedes E Class E63 AMG Sedan or purchasing a small home fully equipped with a white picket fence and Irish setter, but it is the choice I made.

I know I will have to pay for my choice over the next 40 years. As a result, I will never be the owner or even renter of that Mercedes or home. But I never really wanted the traditional life.

I have unfortunately experienced the "overqualified"

response in my job searches. I assume part of that is because people coming out of school with a master's or doctorate would expect to be paid more, and some companies simply cannot afford such salaries at this time.

You are also correct in your statement, "depending on your field of study, going to graduate school right away after finishing your undergraduate degree could actually hurt your career prospects." ("Finding options", Page 5, Feb. 26)

This is very true. I have quite a few friends with doctorate degrees that are stocking shelves overnight in retail stores because they can't find jobs in their field. I even work with several people who have master's and doctoral degrees who have to live with their parents at 30 years old because they can't even afford to pay rent.

I have spoken to numerous people on why this occurs. I am sure it is a result of many factors, but in the end we all have to face our choices. Some days I feel very angry and abandoned but I keep going for what I want to accomplish.

Perhaps it is just because those of us who have, well, stable-paying jobs can't afford

to lose our jobs so we can't quit.

Therefore, pushing back the retirement age and making jobs more scarce for newcomers entering the job market.

I do fully also agree on your statement, "if you're considering going to grad school, I would urge you to figure out what you actually plan on doing with a master's degree first." What students have to understand is that going to graduate school to just escape the economic and job crisis is probably a bad idea.

On the other hand, students who attend grad school because it is a life goal and/or because they need to for their careers, be prepared to face the high cost of education; unless you have the opportunities to have your education fully funded or have the debt paid off by your employers down the road.

What I plan on doing with my master's is to literally pay for it for the rest of my life, whether or not I actually attain the career I aim for.

But that is a fact that I have grown to understand and live with.

And yet I still remain optimistic.

Käri Brady  
MSUM graduate assistant  
English department

## Let's talk about sex!

The Advocate teamed up with Hendrix Health to answer students' questions about sexual issues. Inquiries are published anonymously.



# Opinion

## World full of awkward conversations

Lately I've been ending up in situations that hit me over the head with one of the most woeful constants of human-kind. This being, of course, that people are awkward. Seriously.

My family and I spent the final hours of February 2009 skiing. Since my most recent foray into anything considered remotely athletic was midway through track season in eighth grade, it's always amusing to me that I can stay coordinated long enough to be pulled down a frozen hill by gravity.

Also amusing is asking the random individual in line for the chair lift behind me, "Want to ride up together?"

The response to such a ques-

Holly Lavecchia

Columnist



tion is usually a slow, unblinking nod and a quick pang of terror on my part, as I realize that the other person does not consider him or herself a completely willing participant of the interaction, temporary though it may be.

The four strangers I sat next to for 90 seconds each that day all appeared to be experiencing miniature aneurysms when I

posed small-talk questions about their affinity for gravity in conjunction with slippery hills. Whether this logically leads to the conclusion that most people are socially inept can be debated. For the sake of my point, it does.

Don't be fooled into thinking that people who are visibly in pain when socializing are all alone in the "awkward people" category. Personally, my criteria for qualifying someone as awkward are quite broad and often contradictory, and can be

noticeable in conversation.

Besides the obvious "awkward" attributes: twitchy, monotone, prone to intense, predator-like staring, but also someone who physically cannot make eye contact with you, and seems to keep glancing from the ceiling to just above your left eyebrow, there's a person who cannot comprehend sarcasm as opposed to one who speaks it like a dialect.

This last kind of exchange is similar to dealing with a language barrier and often both people spend the entire conversation thinking subconsciously that the other is dumb.

Which leads to my favorite, the conversation dominator:

who assumes that they are so mind-bogglingly interesting that it strikes people speechless. This charming characteristic is especially horrifying during a first date situation, where awkwardness tends to run delightfully rampant.

According to my generalization of humanity (based on a valid, reliable sample of four people), you are likely an awkward person yourself. In which case, avoid skiing alone. If you're not, trapping yourself 40 feet in the air with a stranger is always an interesting experiment.

Felt awkward lately?  
E-mail Lavecchia  
at lavecchio@mnstate.edu

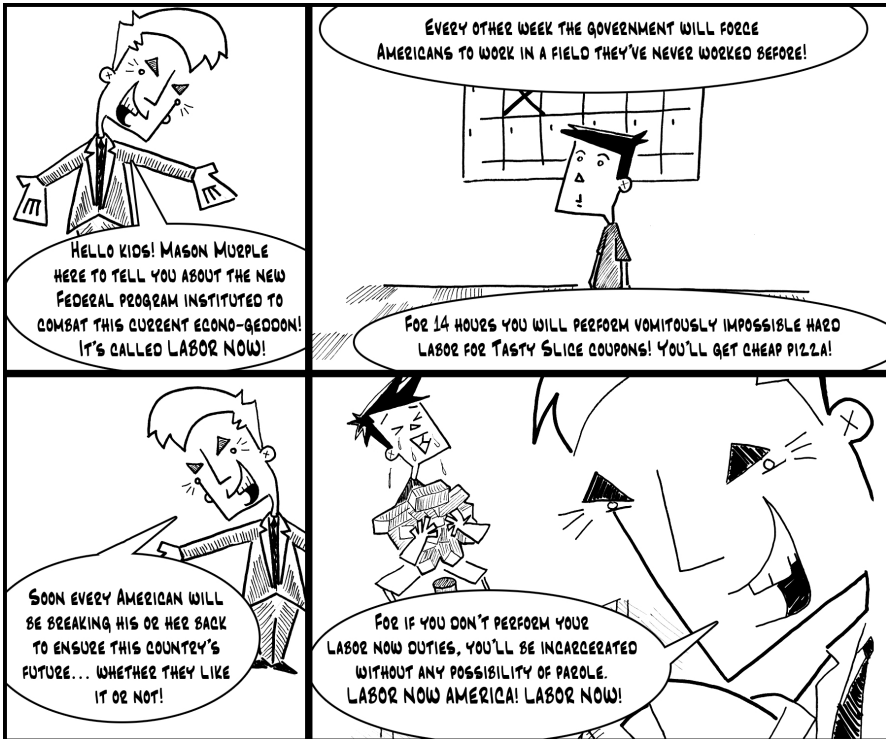


Illustration by John Berdahl / The Advocate

## Getting along after breakups

Sometimes things don't go the way you plan. You meet some wonderful person, and then suddenly one day you realize they're not the person you thought they were, and you don't want to be with them (or they don't want to be with you.) So, your relationship is over. How do you bow out gracefully?

If you're not living together, the first step is to cut the cord. Take a week and reconnect with the other people in your life. Unless you have their backpack, keys or cell phone, they don't need any of the stuff at your house. He'll live without his favorite sweatshirt for one week.

Liz Johanson

Columnist



After the week is over, you'll both be cooled down and ready to have a conversation about who gets what (if you were sharing things) and what to do next.

If you are living together, things can be more complicated. Finding someone to take part of a lease or fill a room isn't usually easy. If getting out of a lease is impossible, you might have to be roommates for awhile.

The best step here is to stop acting like a couple. Don't snuggle, don't sleep next to each other and definitely stay away from one another in the bedroom. If your relationship is definitely over, any of those things will just make the leaving process more difficult for both of you.

I'm not a relationship expert, but my information comes from experience.

Drawn-out breakups are much more painful than clean-cut ones. Just tear off the Band-Aid.

Getting over a breakup?  
E-mail Johanson  
at johansel@mnstate.edu

## Missing George

Ryan Fliginger

Columnist



If this is the first time you've ever read one of my columns, let me get something out of the way. I am a liberal.

On fiscal issues, I tend to lean conservative. I favor smaller government. I think we should try to reduce government spending. Like many, I have reservations about the bailout and the stimulus package.

However, when it comes to social issues, I take a sharp swing to the left.

Marriage, regardless of sex, is a civil right, period.

Every person should have access to reproductive and family-planning resources. This includes contraception and abortion.

Intelligent design is anything but. Evolution and the big bang happened. Get over it.

Suffice it to say, I have well-established liberal street cred. Before I bought the "hope" and "change" in November, I voted for Hillary in the primaries. I was a Democrat before it was cool.

So why then of all people do I miss former President George W. Bush? I don't think that the two of us could find one thing we could agree on. The exception to this might be our great mutual love of Mexican food.

Simply put, he kept things interesting. He made the job easy for people like me, opinion writers.

Whether you were for or against the man, if you were writing an editorial he made your job simple.

If you were against him, all you had to do was counter his very polarizing opinions, actions or statements.

If you were for him, you had an ample body of media against the man to rail against. Thus, Fox News was born.

George W. Bush was listed as the 36th-worst president of the 42 who have completed their term by historians. In the principle of "Scrubs" character Dr. Bob Kelso, he united us all by giving us someone to hate.

Do you miss Bush too?  
E-mail Fliginger  
at flingirgy@mnstate.edu



Illustration by John Berdahl / The Advocate



# Acclaimed author speaks tonight

By ALICIA BERNDT  
Staff Writer

Award-winning children's author and poet Janice N. Harrington has some valuable advice that anyone can heed: "I celebrate the small victories, the little steps that add up to make a large difference."

The business of being creative can be a difficult path.

"Right now, my goals are simply to write every day and to read at least one poem every day," Harrington said.

"Basically, we defeat ourselves by making grand goals. We find it difficult to accomplish them and so we quit. But if you set a little goal, accomplish it, and then set another, ... over time you can make the impossible possible."

Getting work published is a challenge in itself.

"Right now the publishing world is reeling from the same economic woes that have hit everyone else. That's the big story," Harrington said.

It can't hurt to master your craft. For any aspiring authors out there, Harrington has some simple yet inspiring tips.

"Read as many books as you can and then read 10,000 more," Harrington said. "After you have read and studied as many models as possible, sit down and write your own book. Don't give up."

This tenet has certainly worked for Harrington. She has had many of her poems published in literary magazines, and in 2007, she received the prestigious National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Poetry.

She received numer-

ous awards, including the Ezra Jack Keats New Writer Award, for her 2004 book "Going North," which, based on her own experiences, tells the tale of a 1960s African-American family journeying from Alabama to Nebraska in hopes of a better life.

Harrington later published "Roberto Walks Home," an acclaimed Ezra Jack Keats-inspired picture book.

Keats was among the first American authors or illustrators in children's literature to use multi-cultural characters and urban settings.

Harrington's rural childhood gives a vibrant setting to her poems and stories.

"The Chicken-Chasing Queen of Lamar County," which uses colorful and onomatopoeic language, finds its inspiration in her childhood desire to successfully catch one of her grandmother's speedy hens.

The book, which features vivid mixed-media illustrations by Shelly Jackson, is praised by Blair Christolon of Prince William Public Library System in Manassas, Va. as a "marvelously delicious read-aloud, accompanied by 'prucks' and 'squawks' from the audience."

Harrington currently instructs creative writing at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

"It's a challenge to juggle teaching, writing, reading and scholarship. But that's the writing life," Harrington said.

Harrington worked as a librarian before becoming a teacher and professional story-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Award winning author Janice N. Harrington will present on the craft of writing at 4 p.m. today in CMU 205, then read from her works at 8 p.m. in CMU 101.

teller, performing twice at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tenn.

This lifetime of commitment to literature led Harrington to believe that quality literacy programs are crucial for a strong education.

"We need to become a reading nation committed to literature," Harrington said.

She aspires to develop a love of reading, writing and storytelling in children.

Currently, Harrington is

working on several projects, but she's "not ready to tell the world yet."

Students and faculty will have the chance to hear Harrington talk about the craft of writing at 4 p.m. tonight in CMU 205. Then at 8 p.m. in CMU 101 she will read selections from her works as a feature of the Tom McGrath Writers Series.

Berndt can be reached at [alicious84@hotmail.com](mailto:alicious84@hotmail.com)

## Fargo Film Festival 9

This weekend, be sure to check out a few of the great films featured at the 9th annual Fargo Film Festival at the Fargo Theatre, 314 Broadway.

The festival features a variety of flicks, special guests,

informative panels, award announcements and more.

The box office opens at 9 a.m. today and Friday and 8:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Tickets start at \$5 and can be purchased at the box office

or online.

For a full schedule of play times, locations and detailed information visit [www.fargo-filmfestival.com](http://www.fargo-filmfestival.com).

Next week's Advocate will feature festival highlights.

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# 'Zero' hosts popular radio show

## Mass comm. graduate finds success on Y94 Morning Playhouse

By **ANDREW JASON**  
Staff Writer

Corey Schaffer is well known in the Fargo-Moorhead area but few people have heard his name. Schaffer is better known as "Zero" from the Y94 Morning Playhouse radio show.

Schaffer graduated from MSUM with a degree in mass communications. He discovered Y94 through an internship. After realizing how much fun working at Y94 was, he decided to pursue a career in the radio business. Initially, he started at BOB 95 FM before settling at Y94 in the summer of 2008.

If you listen to the Morning Playhouse it sounds like Schaffer has the most fun job in the world, but it requires much work and time.

Schaffer arrives at Fargo-Moorhead Radio at 4:30 a.m. and goes on the air live at 5:30 every morning.

"It's fun on the microphone and you get to fool around but it's still a business," Schaffer said.

The rest of Schaffer's day is spent preparing for the next day's show. He readies mate-

rial and gets an idea of what they're going to do the next day.

Not only does he have to go on air, but once in a while he has to go out on assignments in the field.

"It doesn't feel like work when you go to work when you're going to bars late at night," Schaffer said.

Schaffer and his co-anchors, Megan and Rat, get along very well.

"There is nothing better than working in the morning with your friends, and working on the Morning Playhouse is exactly that," co-anchor Megan Zayic said.

The news and celebrity gossip that listeners hear are from a news service but, "all the bad jokes that you hear are us," Schaffer said.

"Zero is such a creative guy that it always amazes me the ideas that come from him and how quick-witted he can be at the drop of a hat," Zayic said.

During his college years, Schaffer lived on campus and grew into the personality he is today.

"I was the guy that stayed up until 5 and decided to go

to class and then fell asleep in class," Schaffer said.

Despite his late night escapades, Schaffer was a resident assistant for Holmquist and Grantham, even winning National Residence Hall Honorary RA of the year in 2004-2005.

"I learned as much living in dorms as I did in class," Schaffer said.

This successful DJ was repeatedly denied for a job on Dragon radio.

"I find that kind of ironic," he said.

Schaffer has much advice to offer to future graduates.

"You have to know what you do before you leave," Schaffer said. "I didn't think that I was going into radio, but then I started interning and said 'this is kind of fun.'"

The reason that he was able to discover this job was through interning.

"I highly recommend internships for credits," Schaffer said.

Jason can be reached  
at [jasonan@mnstate.edu](mailto:jasonan@mnstate.edu)



MARK KELLER / THE ADVOCATE

Mass communication graduate Corey Schaffer can be heard from 6 to 7 a.m. weekdays on the Morning Playhouse on 93.7 FM.

# Alumnus returns to campus, shares career advice

By **JENNY HILLEREN**  
Staff Writer

MSUM alumnus Dave Filipi was back in Moorhead last week to discuss with students his achievements in his career since graduating in 1990.

Filipi graduated with a bachelor's degree in mass communications, but thanks to one of his former professors, Ted Larson, Filipi became very interested in film studies.

"Professor Larson was a very influential person in my life," Filipi said. "He instilled in me the great love and appreciation of film history."

After graduating, Filipi went on to get his master's in film studies from the University of Wisconsin. He

later moved to Minneapolis where he volunteered for an intern position at the Walker Institute in the Film Department.

Eventually, his internship paid off and he was able to work up the professional ladder at the Walker. His experience there helped direct him to where he is today.

Since 1994, Filipi has been the Curator of Film and Video at the Wexner Center for the Arts at Ohio State University in Columbus.

Over the years, Filipi has had the chance to work with directors and producers such as Martin Scorsese, Gus Van Sant and Spike Lee.

He attended film festivals across the globe, including the Rotterdam Film Festival,

Toronto Film Festival and the Karlov Vary Film Festival in the Czech Republic.

"I had no idea my profession existed," Filipi said. "I really encourage people to get out and travel and experience what the world has to offer."

This was the main reason Filipi was back talking to students and faculty last week.

"Professionally, Ted Larson was one of the two most influential people in my career and I wanted to come back and offer my experience to other MSUM students," Filipi said. "Hopefully I was able to help make a few of the students more aware of what is out there in film."


Filipi still uses skills from his degree.

"In general, your degree should be the bare minimum and you should be doing other things to prepare yourself for your career," he said.

Hilleren can be reached  
at [jennyhilleren@hotmail.com](mailto:jennyhilleren@hotmail.com)

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## SWIMMING AND DIVING

# Swim team send seven to Houston

## Six swimmers, one diver qualify for NCAA II national championships

By JOHN HANSEN  
Staff Writer

Seven MSUM swimmers proved they have the physical skills to get to nationals. But now — after qualifying with their times at the Northern Sun Championships — they are entering the part of the season where psychology takes over.

“When I get there, I’ll probably be a little freaked out,” junior Lisa Black said about the national meet, which runs Tuesday through March 14 in Houston. “Everyone’s been going really fast this year, so that’s going to make me a little nervous.”

Coach Todd Peters is trying to calm his athletes’ nerves.

“We’re trying to make them realize it’s just like any

other meet they’ve been to,” he said. “They don’t need to be intimidated, because they’re as good as (the competition).”

The team took fifth overall at the NSIC Championships with 808 team points.

The Dragons’ best hope for a national title is junior Ann Gusewelle, who made the “A” cut in the 100- and 200-meter breaststroke. Also earning “A” cuts were the 400 medley relay of Black, Gusewelle, freshman Claire Caron and senior Lauren Baalman; the 200 medley relay of Black, Gusewelle, sophomore Karena King and junior Amy Roness; and one-meter diver junior Sarah Wilker.

The swimmers will also enter individual events if they earned “B” cuts.

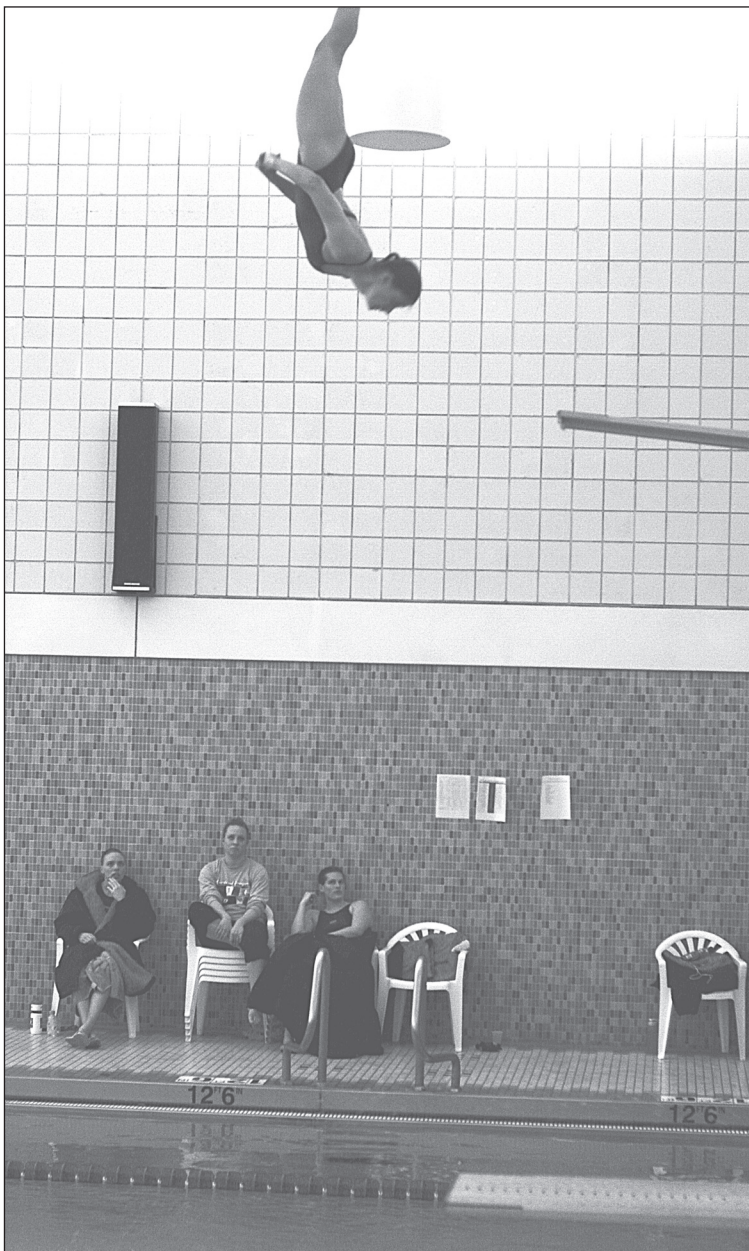
Junior Heather Harris did not qualify, but did break the school record in the 1,650 freestyle with an eighth-place finish.

“Everyone wants to place in the top eight,” Baalman, who is making her second nationals trip, said. “Everyone wants to place better than they have before and at least swim their time from conference.”

Peters said it’s difficult to follow up one good performance with another, but that will be everyone’s goal.

“The majority of teams don’t repeat what they’ve done in the past because you lay everything on the line just to get there, then two-and-a-half weeks later you have to repeat that,” he said.

As a squad, the Dragons finished fifth out of six teams at the NSIC meet Feb. 18 to 21 in Omaha, Neb., the same



CHRIS ERICKSON / THE ADVOCATE

Junior Sarah Wilker dives during Saturday’s last chance meet. Wilker and six swimmers qualified for the national meet in Houston.

place they finished last year.

But MSUM doubled their point total, and Peters said this has been a stronger year — 17 of 18 school swimming records were broken.

King, who went to nationals last year, is glad to have six teammates to lean on.

“If I were the only one, I would go into the com-

petition way different,” she said. “I’ll focus more on the team with seven people. I’ll be relaxed as long as I focus on them.”

Hansen can be reached at [johnvhansen@hotmail.com](mailto:johnvhansen@hotmail.com)

## NOTES FROM NEMZEK

### Szymanski goes Dragon red

President Edna Szymanski promised last fall that if the women’s basketball team hits the 20-win plateau, she and her cabinet would dye their hair red.

The women won their final regular season game at home against Minnesota Crookston on Saturday.

This win brought their overall record of 21-6 this year, so Monday, Szymanski and members of the cabinet enjoyed a Dragon makeover and left CMU dyed Dragon Red.

### Men’s basketball rounds off season

The Dragons closed up their season at home against Minnesota Crookston on Saturday.

The team fell 77-65, bringing their overall record to 10-16 overall and 6-14 in the NSIC. Senior Justyn Burgess led the team in scoring with 17.

The loss followed an 80-79 upset of Northern State on Feb. 25 and marked the last home appearance for seniors Burgess, Grant Fossum and Kyle Price.

### MSU-Billings destroys Dragons

The women’s tennis team was defeated by the Yellow Jackets in a 9-0 loss on Monday at Courts Plus, in Fargo.

MSU-Billings swept all six singles matches and went on to win all three doubles matches.

The non-conference-loss brings the Dragons record to 4-3 overall and 3-1 in the NSIC.

The Dragons hit the road Thursday to take on Bemidji State at 1 p.m.

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## Veteran coach mentors young Dragons

### Stu Engen scours videotapes looking for a competitive edge against opponents

By JOHN HANSEN  
Staff Writer

Stu Engen, who just wrapped up his 19th season as a college head basketball coach, doesn't watch a lot of basketball in his free time. That's because he watches a lot of basketball at work — tapes of his Dragons and their opponents.

The Minneapolis native has seen a lot of scrappy basketball since taking over at MSUM in 2002. This season, they were the youngest team in the NSIC.

Engen, 45, recently fielded 10 questions from The Advocate.



JOHN HANSEN / THE ADVOCATE

Head coach Stu Engen speaks to his MSUM men's basketball players during a timeout against Southwest Minnesota State on Feb. 6 at Nemzek.

## Q&A

**Q: How did the MSUM job — your first Division II coaching job — come about?**

A: I actually interviewed for this position back in 1998, so I was familiar with the administration here. Then a few years later, when the position came open again, it was a fairly easy transition. They went through an emergency-hiring phase in May, so it was a quick turn-

**Q: Had you always wanted to be a head coach?**

A: No, I didn't know quite what I wanted to do. I went to Augsburg College (in Minneapolis) and pursued a degree in physical education. I stayed around and coached

around from Wisconsin-La Crosse to here. We had just come off a successful year at Wisconsin-La Crosse, which is in a strong Division III league.

the junior varsity program for a couple years, then our head coach (Dave Boots) ended up getting hired at the University of South Dakota, and I went with him to pursue my master's degree there.

**Q: What do you do in the offseason for fun?**

A: (My family and I) do a little camping in the Boundary Waters every August. And I enjoy (my four children's) activities — they're involved

in basketball, swimming, volleyball and soccer.

**Q: What's your typical day like?**

A: I teach classes in the morning, then I watch videotape most afternoons. In the NSIC, we usually play Friday and Saturday nights, so you spend three or four days preparing for two opponents.

**Q: Do you have a motto you coach by?**

A: Total responsibility. As coaches and student-athletes, I think there's a lot of things you can control, and we try to instill in our guys, "Hey, what could we have done individually to better our situation, as opposed to pointing to outside sources?"

**Q: If you weren't a coach, what would you be doing?**

A: With the economy the way it is, you wonder what if I had to go into a new profession, what would that be? A lot of coaches go into sales, because you're constantly selling your program.

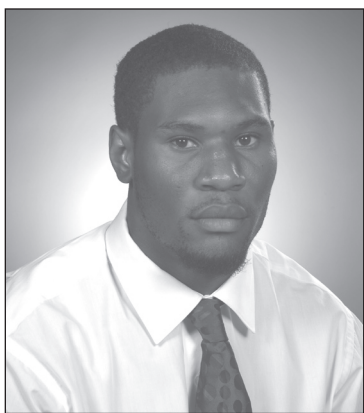
**Q: What's your best memory of your time coaching the Dragons?**

A: There are a lot of small ones. My first year we were a seven seed in the conference tournament and we knocked off the two seed and the three seed — it was a heck-of-a run. Last year we knocked down 16 threes in a game to break the school record — that was fun.

Hansen can be reached at [johnvhansen@hotmail.com](mailto:johnvhansen@hotmail.com)

This is the third in a weekly series profiling Dragon coaches.

## Wide receiver Jabari Taylor charged with felony marijuana possession



JABARI TAYLOR

By JOHN HANSEN  
Staff Writer

Dragon junior wide receiver Jabari Taylor was charged with felony fifth-degree possession of marijuana with intent to distribute Monday in Clay County District Court.

Taylor, expected to be a key contributor to the football team in the fall, was arrested Friday after police officers searched his Moorhead apart-

ment and found marijuana and drug paraphernalia, Lt. Tory Jacobson of the Moorhead Police Department said.

The next court date has not been set. If a guilty plea or guilty verdict is returned,

the judge would have wide leeway on sentencing for this crime, Jacobson said.

In the search warrant initiated search Taylor's roommate was charged with possessing a small amount of marijuana,

a petty misdemeanor.

MSUM head football coach Damon Tomeo did not immediately return calls from The Advocate on Tuesday.

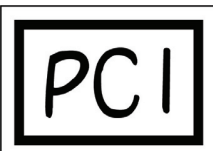
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# Job shortage forces long commute

## St. Cloud student drives to Fargo for work on the weekends

By CAMMIE WRIGHT  
Staff Writer

Former MSUM student Scott Campbell knows that it's 177 miles from St. Cloud, Minn., to Fargo.

He also knows that west of Alexandria, Minn., anything but talk radio is hard to find on the dial, and one of his two Jack Johnson CDs needs to be put in.

Campbell knows all of this because every weekend he makes the road trip from St. Cloud to Fargo to work as a server at Mexican Village. To Campbell, the weekly commute is measured in mile markers and billboards.

"It's really sad that I know most of the billboards between Fargo and St. Cloud," Campbell said.

"I know I'm getting closer by the time I see the second 'We Do Cows' billboard."

The noticeable Stearns Veterinary Outlet Store advertisement means there's 138 more miles to Fargo. And that means two more hours until Campbell is at work.

Campbell moved from Fargo to St. Cloud in July 2008 to go to school. After a couple of months and dozens of unsuccessful applications, the 24 year old was unable to find work.

"The St. Cloud job market is very competitive. Any job

is hard to find. Even though I have experience in the service industry, I just couldn't find anything," Campbell said.

But Campbell knew one place he could definitely find a job. Unfortunately, that place is 177 miles from his new home in St. Cloud.

"I decided to come back to Fargo and work at Mexican Village on the weekends because I really moved to St. Cloud to prove I could make it on my own, and I definitely wasn't going to make it on my own if I couldn't find work," Campbell said.

So Campbell, who grew up in the Fargo-Moorhead area, began to commute to Fargo every weekend in order to make enough money to afford to live in St. Cloud. Although the two cities are separated by only four counties, the difference in the local economies is very clear to Campbell.

"The economy in Fargo is more secluded. Business here has not slowed down nearly as much as business in St. Cloud. More families are struggling in St. Cloud," Campbell said.

According to latest Department of Labor data, Fargo's unemployment rate is 3.4 percent, while St. Cloud's unemployment rate



ALEC WINMILL / THE ADVOCATE

Scott Campbell helps a customer at Mexican Village in Fargo. Campbell drives from St. Cloud, Minn. to work at the restaurant every weekend.

is 6.5 percent. These numbers are not surprising to Wade Jensen, Mexican Village's bar manager and Campbell's boss.

"I really think Fargo is behind the rest of the country as far as the recession goes," Jensen said. "This area never really got itself in the economic pinch that other areas did."

Jensen said that business has been steady at the south Fargo restaurant. While some believe that Fargo's economy has been sheltered from outside variants, Jensen believes

some of Fargo's economic fortune is coming from the inside.

"We have definitely seen more business on the weekends since the Urban Plains Center opened," Jensen said.

The Urban Plains Center, located less than a half a mile from Mexican Village, hosts Fargo Force hockey games on weekends as well as youth games during the week. The \$4 million, 5,000-seat arena is just one example of Fargo's continued growth.

"I've watched Fargo grow for years now," Campbell

said. "It's just strange that I have to rely on work in Fargo to be financially stable enough to live outside of Fargo."

Although Campbell finds himself driving more than 170 miles to work every weekend, he has learned a couple of things along the way. Stearns' Veterinary Outlet Store definitely does cows, and when it comes to jobs, there's no place like home.

Wright can be reached at [wrightca@mnstate.edu](mailto:wrightca@mnstate.edu)

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### RECRUITMENT, FRONT

Advertising is being done in the Twin Cities in order to keep these numbers up.

"Our marketing department has done what they can with the very limited dollars that have been allocated for adver-

tising for the metro and these other areas," Buesgens said.

Monson also notes that MSUM has done advertising in high school student newspapers because they are fairly inexpensive.

"Over the last three years, MSUM has increased (advertising funds)," Monson said.

Buesgens' regional admissions office makes over 200 visits to the high schools and two-year colleges in the area, and attends college fairs and other events that are held at high schools and colleges.

"More and more students and families are learning about us through our recruiting efforts, and family, friends and high school counselors connections," Buesgens said.

While there have been changes in enrollment trends and numbers are up in the Twin Cities, Monson still notes that enrollment is not where it could be.

"There are just fewer students out there in the region," Monson said.

Another significant way to get the word about MSUM to students is through word-of-mouth.

"MSUM is a jewel," Monson said. "I talk to so many transfer students who compare MSUM to their previous institution and they are just in love with it here."

Brickweg can be reached at [brickwegbr@mnstate.edu](mailto:brickwegbr@mnstate.edu)

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# News

## STUDY ABROAD, FRONT

about themselves in an unfamiliar and, at times, challenging environment.

Cecilia Mafla-Bustamante, one of Hill's Spanish teachers, recommends studying abroad to any student.

"I definitely believe that living abroad is a must, not only to improve the foreign language, but to understand other cultures and people," she said.

Although Costa Rica was Hill's first choice destination, he found out their volunteer projects were geared toward eco-tourism. He wanted something more along the lines

of human resources. Lima, Peru ended up being his destination, and originally he was assigned a project translating a Spanish Web site.

"One day I got a phone call asking if I had any teaching experience. I said no, but they told me that the Web site had run out of funds, and was no longer in need of translation. I figured I could give the teaching job a try, and I thought to myself, 'What's the worst that can happen?' " Hill said.

Hill ended up working with a non-profit organization called "Sonrisas de Esperanza" (Smiles of Hope) teaching

English to two groups of children, 7 to 11-year-olds and 13 to 16-year-olds.

"I thought I would be working in a classroom, which didn't seem too challenging. But it was night and day how wrong I was. I taught in a shack on the edge of town, in the areas of urban development that they call the slums," Hill said.

Hill got plenty of time to explore the land of Peru in all its beauty.

"It was crazy, in four days we got to see desert, wildlife and one of the great mysteries of the world. One day we'd be

on a boat heading down the river and the next we'd be riding buggies around the sand dunes," Hill said.

Hill stayed in Lima with a host family, something he recommends to anyone traveling abroad.

"If you want to party in a hostel you might as well have stayed here to blow your money," Hill said. "Staying with a host family is a great way to immerse yourself directly into the language and the customs of the country."

As different situations arose, Hill realized that flexibility is a good quality to have, espe-

cially in a different country. The teaching situation, the bus and traffic system and something as simple as ordering food became everyday challenges.

"Fargo-Moorhead is getting more diverse; when you experience this culture and different languages it makes you more sellable in the area," Hill said. "Volunteering abroad is something everyone should do. It's one of the best experiences I've had."

McAllister can be reached at [mcallistje@mnstate.edu](mailto:mcallistje@mnstate.edu)

## POOL, FRONT

hobbies of Odden. He is learning Sinhala, a language from Sri Lanka, from a friend.

"It's more than just a pastime," Odden said. "It's actually become a hobby."

For people who are just learning or want to learn pool, patience is the key. Also, find somebody who can show you a few things.

"Always play people better than you," Odden said. "You don't improve unless you get beat."

Odden is excited to go to nationals, which will be held in West Virginia. He will be traveling with another qualifier, a man from Mankato, Minn.

Pool is a large part of

Odden's life and has given him thousands of hours of enjoyment and social activity.

"I want to do that until the end of my life," said Odden.

George can be reached at [georgean@mnstate.edu](mailto:georgean@mnstate.edu)

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Misc.

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advocate@mnstate.edu



## Grad expands women's gym Xtreme Measures gets grand reopening

By JOHN HANSEN  
Staff Writer

Mariah Prussia has always wanted to help people. But the former Dragon volleyball player needed a bit of help to realize fitness was the field for her.

The 2001 MSUM graduate opened her own women's fitness center, Xtreme Measures, in 2007. The south Fargo facility will host a grand reopening today as it expands its square footage.

"I went through so many different phases," Prussia, a former defensive specialist and outside hitter with the Dragons, said. "I wasn't quite sure what direction I wanted to go into when I first went to school. I went from thinking of going into health and (physical education) to thinking about nursing, and I finally went into exercise science because of my passion for fitness and helping individuals see their personal growth."

Prussia saw her volleyball

coach, Tammy Blake, lose two family members to cancer. Then, when Blake's child was born seven weeks prematurely in 2001, Prussia coached the team briefly after her playing eligibility was over.

"She's gone through so much, and I really learned a lot from her," Prussia said. "She had a lot of faith in me. My parents were great influences on me, but also very strict."

"Tammy was the one that said come out and try for the team again. I hit a roadblock, but I chose the right way, and it led me to where I'm at now," Prussia said.

Prussia might have needed a nudge in the right direction, but her work ethic has never been a problem. In addition to playing volleyball, she was also on the Dragon basketball and softball teams.

After college, she got a job coaching volleyball, basketball and track and field at her hometown school, Norman County West in Hendrum, Minn.

Upon moving back to Fargo-Moorhead, she was working two fitness jobs when she got the idea of opening her own place in early 2007.

"She knows what she wants, she has a lot of ideas and we work real hard to attain all of them," athletic trainer and physical therapist at Xtreme Measures Jenn Johnsrud said.

Prussia points to key personnel like Johnsrud, a 2005 MSUM graduate, and Lori Hill.

"It's like everybody came together at the right time. It was meant to be," Prussia said. "In less than five months, I had my business ready to go."

Prussia's ultimate goal is to make Xtreme Measures so successful that she can actually work less and spend more time with her 2-year-old son, Antonio. In the meantime, she's working hard at helping people.

"She knows every person that walks in that door," Johnsrud said. "If she doesn't, she'll make an effort to know them."

Hansen can be reached at [johnvhansen@hotmail.com](mailto:johnvhansen@hotmail.com)



JOHN HANSEN / THE ADVOCATE

2001 MSUM graduate Mariah Prussia opened Xtreme Measures in 2007. The fitness center will celebrate its grand reopening for its expanded facilities today.

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