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The Advocate

Thursday
03.12.09
Vol. 38 No. 24

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

Staying safe over spring break

By **LISA CALL**
Staff Writer

Whether your spring break is a trip home or a tropical jaunt for some needed sun, that week of classless bliss has arrived. Time to relax and let loose, but responsibility is key to a memorable and safe spring break.

Different destinations carry different safety levels.

Mother Nature has sometimes made it difficult to travel a short distance via car. Be sure to have a full gas tank at all times. Carry some cash just in case. Always prepare for an unfortunate situation. Blankets, a first-aid kit and some food are wise items to tote along.

As the old adage goes, it is better to be safe than sorry.

Whether it be a glistening, sandy destination or somewhere closer to home, executive travel agent and MSUM alumna Jacky Biel said, "Check in with people back home at least once a day so your loved ones know you are OK. Don't trust people that you don't know."

With 15 trips to Mexico among her travel portfo-

lio, Orbitz.com travel agent Olivia Garcia agreed.

"You just have to be cautious of your areas, surroundings and who you are with," Garcia said.

While consuming alcohol is appealing to many spring-breakers, be sure to do it in a responsible manner. Traveling alone while intoxicated is an invitation

for trouble.

"Try to have a clear mind," Biel said.

Mesaba Airlines flight attendant Jenna Thompson has dealt with her share of irresponsible travelers.

"Be aware of your surroundings and depending on where you go — be smart and safe," Thompson said.

SAFETY, PAGE 7

Senate OKs banded tuition

By **BEN SAILER**
Assistant Editor

Student senate voted in favor of banded tuition March 5.

The proposal passed with an immense amount of support; 17 senators voted in favor, while two voted against it with one abstention.

Under the new banded tuition structure, students will pay a flat rate — equivalent to the cost of 15 and half credits — for 12 to 19 credits. Part-time students will continue to pay per credit.

While the original proposal called to set the top of the band at 18 credits, the administration stretched it to 19 after consulting with student senate due to concerns that those taking one-credit labs may have been pushed out of the band.

The proposal also included sections for differential tuition — charging fees for classes according to how much they cost to teach — as well as changing the way student fees are distributed.

The banded tuition system will affect students differently depending on their class load.

Students taking 12 credits will see their tuition increase about \$700 per semester, while those taking 15 credits will see a much smaller rise in costs.

Those taking between 16 and 19 credits will essentially be able to take one class at no extra cost, while part-time **TUITION, PAGE 7**

Sunshine and snowbanks



BEN SAILER / THE ADVOCATE

Students returned to classes at 10 a.m. Wednesday after school was canceled Tuesday because of a winter storm. The National Weather Service reported that 6.5 inches of snow fell in Fargo-Moorhead, in addition to the 3.5 inches Monday. A combination of heavy snowfall and strong winds made for blizzard conditions and no travel advised.

Program offers English language help

By **BEN SAILER**
Assistant Editor

ESL students seeking to improve their conversational English skills might be interested in the English Language Tutor Program.

The program, offered through the International Programs Office, is intended to help students improve their spoken vocabulary, pronunciation and listening abilities.

All international students, as well as visiting researchers and scholars, are eligible to apply. Applicants are assigned a personal tutor whom they meet with for an

average of three to four hours a week, usually on campus or another location if it's more convenient.

"What we do is we hire some of our international students that are very fluent in English and do a great job ... and we have them work with students who are struggling either from a spoken standpoint," said Greg Wymer, director of international student affairs.

The tutoring process is informal and not related to academics, focusing rather on improving vocal fluency.

The program is intended to

be temporary until the university is able to do more to help address ESL issues on campus.

Last fall, MSUM worked with Minnesota State Community and Technical College to offer a developmental English course for international students who did not test well enough on their ESL Accuplacer exam. However, that course was not offered this spring due to an insufficient number of eligible students.

The English Language Tutoring Program is only meant to cover verbal English

skills; however, students looking for help with their writing can find assistance at the Write Site, now located in the Library porch.

"I think international students benefit just as any other student does from having an outside reading," director of the Write Site SuEllen Shaw said.

Students interested in applying for a conversational English tutor should pick up an application in the International Programs Office, located in Flora Frick 153.

Sailer can be reached at sailerbe@mnstate.edu

Security Report

3.4-3.8

- 3.4 Vandalism
- 3.4 Auto boot in Lot X
- 3.4 Suspicious activity
- 3.4 Auto boot in Lot C
- 3.4 Medical call in Bridges
- 3.5 Assist personnel, Kise
- 3.5 Jump start in Lot D
- 3.5 Auto boot in Lot JS
- 3.6 Alcohol offense, noise complaint in Nelson
- 3.6 Animal at large near Holmquist
- 3.6 Jump start in Lot N
- 3.7 Grant access in Weld
- 3.7 Escort to Library
- 3.7 Suspicious activity in Lot S
- 3.8 Grant access in MacLean
- 3.8 Auto boot in Lot U
- 3.8 Accident off campus
- 3.8 Smoking violation in Snarr
- 3.8 Theft larceny
- 3.8 Unsecured door in SL

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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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. 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.

"We need to crank this baby out."
"Not an old, fat teapot."

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

MSUM to host regional history day

West Central Regional History Day will be held from 3:30 to 7 p.m. March 24, in the CMU Ballroom.

This is a free event, open to the public.

The program's goal is to promote the study of history by engaging students and teachers in the excitement of historical inquiry and creative presentation.

Concordia to hold water crisis lecture

Concordia College will host an environmental lecture on the U.S. water crisis.

The lecture starts at 7:30 p.m. on March 23 in the Centrum at Concordia College.

Symphony to perform Masterworks concert

The Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra will perform pieces by Franz Joseph Haydn and Gustav Mahler for its Masterworks IV concert this weekend.

The performances are 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at NDSU Festival Concert Hall.

Tickets are \$20 to \$24 for adults and seniors and \$10 to \$12 for students. Available at Ticket Master, NDSU box office or by calling 233-8397.

Concordia lecture focuses on protein

Concordia's Eric Peterson will present "Folding Cytochrome C Within Sol-gel Glasses: A Characterization of Compact Protein States" a Centennial Scholars Research Lecture at 7 p.m. March 19 in Birkeland Alumni Lounge.

Cheer on marathon-running 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.

Bookstore giving rebates for fall

The bookstore will be giving rebates for fall books through today.

Library program honors faculty

The seventh annual Library program to honor faculty who were promoted or tenured in 2008 will be 12:30 p.m. March 24 in the Library circulation lobby.

Those honorees attending have been asked to give a short statement regarding the book chosen in their honor.

Academic conference deadline extended

The student academic conference deadline has been extended to Friday.

This year's conference date is April 21.

Applications can be found at www.mnstate.edu/acad-conf.

Jazz, dancing tonight at Fargo Holiday Inn

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

For tickets call 218-359-4529.

Campus to hold Safe Zone training

There will be a Safe Zone training from 1 to 4 p.m. March 31 in CMU 203.

Safe Zone seeks to form a network of students, faculty and staff committed and trained to provide safe, non-judgmental and supportive contacts for all MSUM community members who may be dealing with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning issues.

Registration for the Safe Zone training will be taken until March 25.

Volunteers needed for clothing drive

Herberger's needs volunteers to assist with their annual goodwill clothing drive.

Help is needed from 1 to 3:30 p.m. today and Friday.

Please call Carol Metcalf at 233-1333 for details and to volunteer.

Author to celebrate women's history

Concordia welcomes author Stella Pope Duarte to celebrate women's history month.

She will have a lecture and reading at 7 p.m. Monday in Knutson Campus Center.

Women's history month schedule

The film "Witness to the Future: The Legacy of

'Silent Spring' & a Call for Environmental Action" will be shown at 7 p.m. March 23 in King 110.

Business seminar focuses on women

MSUM and US Bank are co-sponsoring a women's business seminar from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. March 28 at the Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead.

The keynote speaker will be Jill Blashack Strahan, founder of Tastefully Simple.

The day will start with a breakfast followed by speakers and a roundtable of experts to answer business-related questions.

Pre-registration is required by e-mailing seifertj@mnstate.edu by Friday.

The Hap

3.12 - 3.26

- 3.12 Swimming and diving, NCAA II National Championships at Houston
- 3.13 Indoor Track and field, NCAA II Nationals at Houston
Swimming and diving, NCAA II Nationals at Houston
9 a.m. Wrestling, NCAA II Nationals at Houston
- 3.14 Indoor Track and field, NCAA II Nationals at Houston
Men's basketball, NCAA Regionals
Swimming and diving, NCAA II Nationals at Houston
9 a.m. Wrestling, NCAA II Nationals at Houston
- 3.15 Men's basketball, NCAA Regionals through March 17
- 3.16 to Spring Break
- 3.20
- 3.25 4 to 5 p.m. Non-teaching interviewing skills workshop, CMU 208
- 3.26 5 to 6 p.m. Teaching interviewing skills workshop, CMU 208



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Let's talk about sex!

The Advocate has teamed up with Hendrix to answer students' questions about sex. Submit questions to advocate@mnstate.edu or slide it under the door of CMU 110.

Wellness center to open after break

The long-awaited new facility features state-of-the-art amenities

Photos by Sayward Honer



One of the most-anticipated element of the new Wellness Center is the floor to ceiling rock climbing wall.



High-tech treadmills and other workout machines sport personal TV screens.



New amenities include basketball courts and a running track.

“A part of me died that day...”

After an abortion, you may experience anxiety, depression, substance abuse, anger, isolation or other issues.

You are not alone anymore!

If you or a friend is hurting after abortion, there is healing for women and men.

**Rachel's Vineyard Retreats:
One Weekend Can Change Your Life**

Upcoming retreats: March 20-22, July 17-19, October 23-25
Contact (701) 219-3941 for more information.

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Spring break offers relaxation, time to make regrettable choices

Spring break is upon us once again.

For some, that means a trip out of the blizzard conditions of central Minnesota. For others, it means some time to work and make some extra cash. But for all, it can be used as a time to regroup and gear up for the second half of the semester.

Midterm tests seem like a thing of the past for many classes, but this break still serves as a time for students to take a step back and look at their accomplishments — or lack thereof — for the semester.

For those venturing out into the world of travel, remember that this is a time to relax but never forget that you are foremost still a student.

Making irresponsible choices now could lead to injuries, illness and even arrest. All of the consequences can negatively affect the rest of the semester and, for those seniors, graduation.

A group of classmates will travel across the Atlantic next week to take part in Eurospring. This is an opportunity to get away and experience the world, but creates an even greater importance of responsible actions.

Occasions like spring break are a great way for students to get out of their comfort zones and experience new things about the world.

Remember though, that in addition to staying safe, when traveling at home or abroad, we are all ultimately acting as representatives for the school, our hometowns and the United States.

Travel safety is also a concern. By registering your travel plans with the State Department at travelregistration.state.gov, the U.S. Department of State will be better able to contact you if “there is a family emergency in the U.S., or if there is a crisis where you are traveling.”

If you’re going overseas, be sure to remember to bring basic things like your passport and make sure you have some means of communicating with everyone in your travel group. The last thing you want is for someone to not make it home.

Also, if you’re of age and are going to drink, please do so responsibly. Not to sound like your parents, but alcohol-related deaths are a serious problem across many campuses at this time of year.

No matter what anyone does over this spring break — playing music, relaxing at home or sitting on a warm, sandy beach — be responsible and have fun.

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.

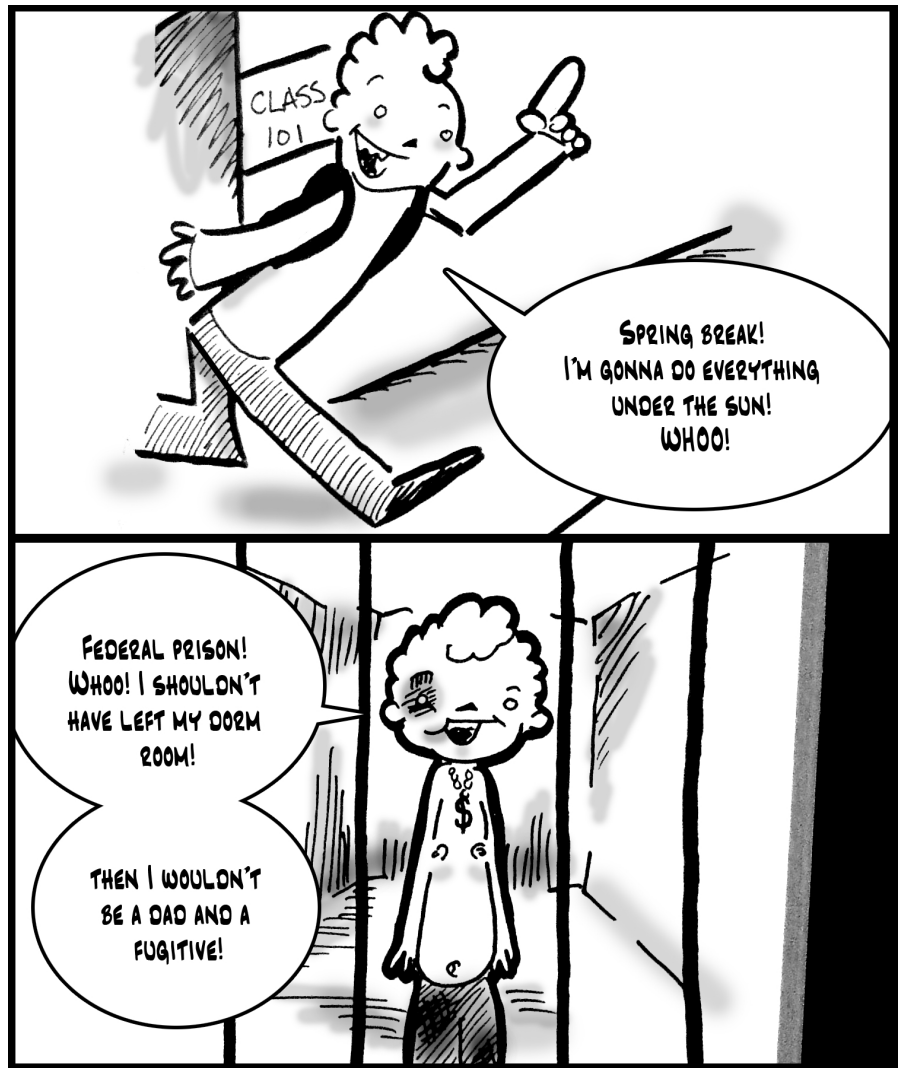


Illustration by John Berdahl / The Advocate

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Responding to stimulus

I would like to take this opportunity to reply to Lisa Call’s opinion piece titled “Stimulus that we can’t believe in.” I don’t try to read the Advocate for actual facts and solid information. However, Call’s opinion is far from accurate and it has actual inaccuracies.

Obama, in his first week of office, has:

- Frozen salaries for top White House staff members.

- Set a deadline for closing Guantanamo.

- Fast-tracked the process to apply new fuel standards to 2011 car models.

- Signed a detailed executive order to ban torture and inhumane treatment of prisoners.

- Asked the military leadership to engage in planning for responsible drawdown of Iraq.

- Signed an executive order that requires appointees to sign forms saying that they were not hired based on their political affiliations.

- Signed an order banning gifts from lobbyists.

- Lifted a ban on giving federal money to international groups that perform abortions or provide information about abortion.

So it is only the most uninformed mind that would simply say that Obama has done nothing since taking office.

Next you speak of Obama being from a corrupt state. May I remind you that to

many historians, Lincoln was the best president we’ve ever had, and he was from Illinois. Also, a recent study shows that North Dakota is the most corrupt state. Illinois actually follows these states in corruption: North Dakota, Montana, South Dakota, Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky. Illinois is hardly a corrupt state, according to www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2008-12-10-corrupt-states_N.htm

Let’s talk about the national debt. Yes, Obama has made a big stimulus package to help out the economy that we will eventually have to pay. Obama has also announced his budget, for which he will pay two-thirds during his first term in office. Republicans are notorious for increasing the national debt, so I believe your argument is hardly valid, according to www.zfacts.com/p/318.html

In regards to Wells Fargo, you should know that Bush was the one who gave them the bailout money, not Obama. Wells Fargo received \$25 billion on Oct. 28. I am sure that Obama is doing all he can to fix the error of Bush’s decisions. It is also worth noting that they did not want a bailout but were one of nine banks forced by then-Secretary of the Treasury Henry Paulson to take one.

We take on high-speed rail next. The scope of my letter doesn’t allow an in-depth explanation of the benefits of high-speed rail. For now I will speak only of your comment on the proposed train from Anaheim, Calif., to Las Vegas. This proposed route was first approved by President Bush when he himself gave money to study its advantages.

The proposed money that Obama is giving will not go to this route. You see, Obama approved it but there is no guarantee that the Anaheim-Las Vegas line will get any money. There are other corridors which are competing for the money. There are routes in the Northeast, Northwest, Florida and Midwest. Chances are, Chicago will get one before Los Angeles (Anaheim) to Las Vegas, according to www.timesleader.com/news/Vegas_Midwest_seek_8B_for_fast_trains_02-22-2009.html

You are entitled to your own opinion and you should be vocal about it.

However, your article shows inaccuracies and falsehoods. I believe this is an unethical conduct on your part as a journalist. People who read your column might not know any better and could take your words as true.

Bernardo Anderson
Senior, MSUM

Let’s talk about sex!

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

A nitrous a day takes the pain away

Nature screwed me with two traits: Teeth so soft they can be dented by cheese and dental phobia so bad I leave the office bleeding from gouging my nails into my hands to avoid screaming.

It's not my dentist's fault — he's a very nice guy. I've just always been terrified by anyone with "DDS" after their name.

During my January check-up, I joked to the hygienist about the scars on my hands from my visits. She asked, "Have you ever tried nitrous?"

I figured nothing could make my dental trips worse,

Alicia Strnad

Columnist



so why not give it a shot?

For my next visit — a root canal — I asked for the gas. They placed a little mask over my nose, making me look like one of the pig people from "The Twilight Zone." It took only moments before I began feeling light headed. My arms felt heavy and my nails dislodged from

my palms.

The dentist began his work, injecting the Novocain, drilling and tinkering with my teeth.

On a regular visit, every microsecond of this would be excruciating. I'd be trying to think of anything else to distract myself from the echoing of the machinery in my skull.

On the nitrous visit, none of this bugged me much. I was vaguely aware that my mouth was open and some-

thing was going on in there, but mostly I was just interested in the Pink Floyd song on the radio and the accompanying laser light show behind my eyelids.

When I did open my eyes, I noticed a cat ceiling decoration and thought, "That kitty looks very wise."

And so wise kitty, the assorted '70s tunes, the vague drilling sound in my mouth and I spent a very comfortable two hours in the dentist's chair.

The biggest pain of the visit came at the end when, while I was listening to the "M*A*S*H" theme, "Suicide

is Painless," I felt hands carefully lift the pig-nosed mask from my face. My time with nitrous was over.

"That went well," the dentist said. I nodded.

Just like that, the thing I'd spent decades dreading stopped seeming so horrible.

Of course, I'm not keen to visit the dentist again, but that now has less to do with the pain the root canal caused my teeth and more to do with the pain it caused my wallet. No gas is strong enough to block that blow.

Ever see the wise kitty?
E-mail Strnad
at strnadal@mnstate.edu



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

No easy laughs since Bush left

In Ryan Fliginger's opinion column "Missing George," (March 5) he laments George Bush's absence from the public eye. Despite the author's obvious disagreement with most, if not all, of George Bush's policies and "polarizing" statements, he comes to the conclusion that Bush made his job as opinion writer "easy."

Mr. Fliginger, may I personally apologize that there is nothing "easy" or simple for you to blather on about any longer. What a tough adjustment you've been forced to make. Never mind the excruciating pressures and exhausting decisions a president is forced to make every single day of his presidency; those are mere trifles in the face of your overwhelming task as school newspaper writer.

Perhaps you could steer away from the mammoth workload synonymous with opinion writing in favor of explaining how you, a student writing at the Advocate, has somehow managed to figure out, beyond a shadow of a doubt, how life began on Earth.

You state in your brilliant thesis, "Intelligent design is anything but. Evolution and the big bang happened. Get over it." I'm sure the academic masses are dying to know how you came to this cold, hard conclusion. Despite the fact that thousands of scientists far more intelligent than you or I have never been able to prove the evolutionary and/or big bang theories, I have full confidence in your collegiate-level wisdom.

Despite your advanced scien-

tific knowledge, you state that Fox News was born as a result of people who supported Bush. While opinion writing may have been simpler when you didn't need to do anything but hate on Georgie, you should probably know that Fox News was actually started in 1996, four years before Bush took office.

To reiterate, I apologize greatly for how difficult your job has become. I'm so sorry that you can no longer churn out anti-Bush columns by stringing liberal keywords together. But there's a very good chance that you will have to move on. To borrow your own words, Mr. Fliginger, "get over it." Well said.

Alex Welgraven
Senior, MSUM

Snow adventures

Miranda Hasse

Columnist



There was a storm day Tuesday, and I was able to relax and stay home. I woke up at my normal time of 8:30 a.m. and sat around the apartment all day watching movies, snacking, cleaning a bit here and there and doing some homework.

After about two hours, breakfast and a movie, I was bored. I'm used to doing a hundred chores or errands at one time and I haven't had a breather in awhile. I kind of like keeping myself busy with things; it's what I am used to. So being cooped up inside all day long was not my cup of tea.

Don't get me wrong, I like cuddling up on a stormy day to watch some movies and hang out just as much as the next person, but there are those days when I'm determined to get my errands done or I just get antsy and can't stay still.

So after cleaning everything I could think of and pacing around the apartment for a while, I got a call from my old roommates. They were feeling the same as I was and asked if I wanted to go on an adventure. I jumped right on the bandwagon.

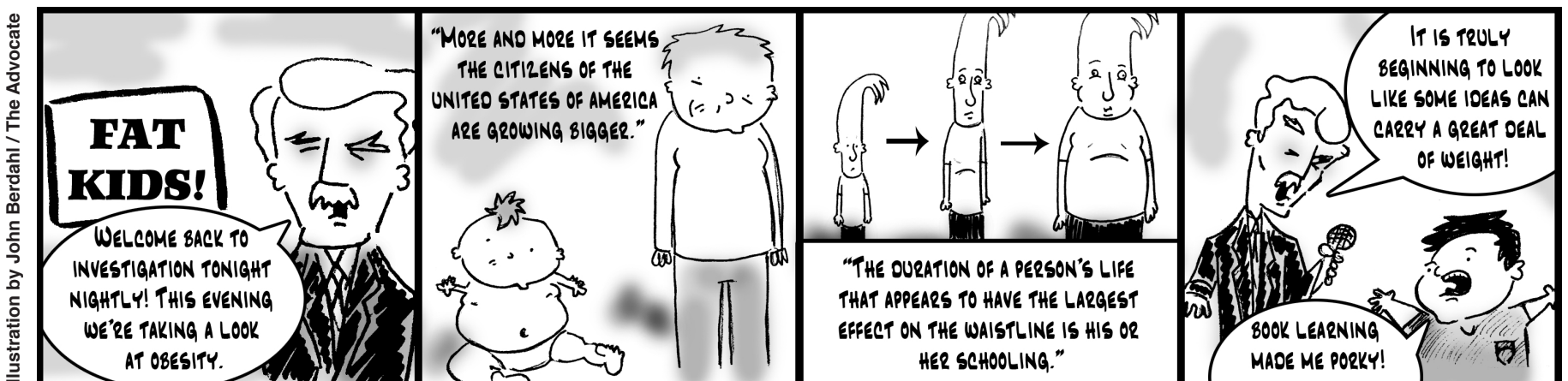
So around 7 p.m. we started our adventure. I bundled up with knee-high socks, Uggs, two pairs of pants, two shirts, a sweatshirt, coat, scarf, mittens and hat. I was ready to go. I trudged outside through knee-deep snow a couple blocks to my friend's apartment. They were all getting ready for our adventure to Hornbacher's.

Once everyone was bundled up we started out across the tundra. The wind was fierce and the snow was deep, but we made it the six or seven blocks to Hornbacher's with success. After buying ingredients for our supper we headed back out. On our way back, we stopped by a park to swing and play in the playground for a bit.

We made it back safely with red, runny noses and all. So if you ever are stuck at home on a snow day, you don't have to just sit at home and lounge about all day if you are feeling antsy.

Call up a friend close by and go on an adventure. They can be a lot of fun.

Having snowy adventures?
E-mail Hasse
at hassemi@mnstate.edu



Swing into spring style

Story: Leslie Wood
Photos: Sayward Honer
Model: Cassandra Miller



New trends shine in spring season

The spring's biggest trends are bright colors and cleaner looks.

"Bright pinks and oranges are very big this season," said Karissa Newby, owner of Lena K, a clothing boutique at 408 Broadway in Fargo.

A popular trend for women is boyfriend jeans. Newby said she has received interest from customers who have seen actress Katie Holmes wearing them. Boyfriend jeans are loose fitting and a bit longer than they should be, giving the jeans the appearance of being borrowed from your boyfriend.

Another spring trend for jeans is the return of flares.

"Super flare is coming back, a little like the 1970s," Newby said. "People are happy to see flares coming back." Flares are flattering for

many body types, making it a popular piece for wardrobes.

Other trends for women include long maxi dresses, jumpsuits and dresses that appear to be two pieces according to Newby. Accessorize monotone maxi dresses with long necklaces, scarves or gladiator sandals. Jumpsuits should be worn in neutral colors and patterns with understated hair and makeup.

Layered metal necklaces are in style for spring, said Newby. Mixing metals such as rose gold and silver is one way of implementing this trend. Dramatic pieces are also making an appearance this season.

Fringe on bags is a trend Newby has seen for the spring. Fringed purses are an easy way to update wardrobes and create fashionable outfits.

Popular patterns for spring include nature-inspired prints.

"Florals, more than before," Newby said.

Another trendy print for spring is pastel animal prints.



Large metal novelty necklaces are a popular trend in jewelry this spring.



Super '70s flares are back. The pants are flattering for many body types, making it a popular piece for any wardrobe.



Accessorizing outfits with scarves, tights and jewelry is a way to make a simple dress shine.

Newby described the female trends for the spring as being "casual chic, easy to wear and cute."

Spring trends for men differ from women's trends but continue to be clean and colorful.

"The spring trends are cleaned up, not so much graphic, bright and fun," said Samantha Larson-Frobig, manager and buyer for a.k.a., a men's clothing store at 322 Broadway in Fargo.

The color palette includes purples, greens, bright fluorescents and pastels, Larson-Frobig said. To balance these bright colors, men should wear dark-wash jeans or khaki pants.

"My favorite trend is the brighter colors; men's clothing doesn't always have good colors, something more than blue and black," Larson-Frobig said.

The trends for jeans are either much more cleaned up or distressed with holes.

"Things are getting cleaner, more basic, not so trendy," Larson-Frobig said.

Popular patterns for the spring include tie-dye, florals, stripes and plaids. A number of patterns are seen in both shirts and shorts.

Contact Wood
at woodle@mnstate.edu



Bright pinks and oranges add a pop of color to make an outfit stand out.

SAFETY, FRONT

"Let someone know where you are at all times," she said.

During her numerous trips to Mexico, Garcia witnessed dangerous alcohol-induced situations too many times.

"Don't go off with people," Garcia said. "Just because they sweet talk you, don't go off with them no matter what."

For those traveling by plane, remember the basics of airport security etiquette. It is imperative to check the restricted items for each individual airline. Many are now charging fees, separate of the ticket, for baggage.

"Pack lightly," Thompson recommended. "Take all your personal items in your carry-on, but don't forget the 3-1-1 rule."

The "3-1-1" rule, set up by the Transportation Security Administration, is strictly enforced. Any liquid or gel based substance can be no more than 3 ounces each and

must be placed into a clear, quart-size, zip-top bag. There is a limit of one zip-top bag per person.

Thompson also emphasized, "If you are bringing laptops, make sure your battery doesn't go underneath (the plane) as it could start a fire."

Upon arrival, awareness of your surroundings and caution remain important.

"Purses need to be in front of you not on the side of you," Garcia advised. "Don't put your wallet in your back pocket."

"I don't wear jewelry," Garcia said. "Everything has to be in my pockets and in my bra."

Acquiring some knowledge of the destination prior to departure can be a very powerful tool.

"If you don't know the area and you know there are crimes going on, be smart about it and stay in a safe

area," Garcia said. "Why risk your life to find some adventure?"

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TUITION, FRONT

students will pay less under the adjusted fee structure.

These affects on the student body raised concerns amongst student senate.

"I had people tell me directly that they would not be able to afford paying for everything with the additional \$650 to \$700 they'd have to pay per semester," senior Julian Dahlquist, a senator who voted against the proposal, said.

While students taking 12 credits will be adversely affected by the change, those who take advantage of banded tuition will save money in the long run. By allowing students to take more credits per semester without any additional expenses, they will be able to graduate and enter the workforce sooner.

The looming budget crisis and the need to find ways to generate revenue for the university also played a part in the decision to move to banded tuition.

MSUM has historically been the most affordable uni-

versity within MnSCU, and while that will still be the case, increasing tuition for some students was deemed necessary due to the school's \$9.2 million budget shortfall.

"We had to go to banding to allow us ... to exist without cutting as many programs," junior Jake Gysland, a senator who voted in the proposal's favor, said. "If we hadn't done banding, we'd have to do way more faculty and programmatic cuts, which are not what we want to do."

While the proposal is currently pending approval from MnSCU, it is expected to pass and take effect next school year.

"I would anticipate we would know sometime by June at the latest," said Warren Wiese, vice president of student affairs.

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PAR3030

Professor honored for ceramic project

Bachmeier recognized for exhibit completed during Master of Fine Arts program

By NICHOLE SEITZ
Staff Writer

Since the beginning of humanity, man has had a strong relationship with clay. Whether it was used to provide shelter or for the lining of wicker baskets to transport liquids, humans have been molding this earthen substance for thousands of years.

Professor of art education Brad Bachmeier is being honored for his exhibit "A Ceramic Humanity," which explores humans' relationships with clay, with the 2009 Distinguished Creative Exhibition Award from the University of North Dakota.

"It is such an intimate relationship man has had with clay. It is amazing how much

we rely on it," Bachmeier said.

The exhibit, which was part of his Master of Fine Arts program at UND, includes three series.

The first series, the primal element series, explores the relationship between the historical and physical uses of clay.

Each of the six pieces in this first series reflects a different use of clay, such as building homes, transporting food and water.

The second series, the ceramic virtues series, uses the idea of virtue to explain

the theme of shared humanity.

"This unifying theme cuts through religious, cultural and historical barriers and demonstrates the importance that man's striving for goodness has had in the past and continues to have today," Bachmeier

"Brad's range of abilities is phenomenal. He was an excellent student who consistently challenges himself."

Donald Miller
Professor of Art at UND

said.

The prophetic revelation series studies today's modern society and how it might follow the virtues identified in the second series.

"I think that is what spurred the award," Bachmeier said.

This will be the first time that a visual artist has received the award, usually called the Distinguished Thesis Award.

Bachmeier was nominated by Donald Miller, one of his former professors at UND.

"Brad's range of abilities is phenomenal," Miller said. "He was an excellent student who consistently challenges himself."

"Brad brought his knowledge and extensive readings of philosophy, history, religion, aesthetics and the arts to the table when he was asked to evaluate and solve a problem," he said.

Graduate school was not always Bachmeier's intention, but he calls his time there a growing experience where he was able to figure out who he really is as an artist.

The award ceremony will take place tonight in Grand Forks, N.D.

Seitz can be reached at seitzni@mnstate.edu



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Professor of art education Brad Bachmeier works on a clay project. He is being honored for his exhibit "A Ceramic Humanity."

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5TH AVENUE NYC

Students recognized at film festival

By ADAM HEIDBRINK

Staff Writer

The ninth annual Fargo Film Festival was hosted March 7 in the Fargo Theatre.

Of the 125 films submitted from around the world, the MSUM film department made its presence known with seven films shown.

The festival has grown since its birth in 2000, and this year films from nine countries and 19 states were represented in the competitions. The film contests are split into multiple categories including documentaries, narratives and animations.

Junior Eric Carlson directed "Perfection," which he entered in the competition through his intermediate film-making class.

"Students often work together on the films; help-

ing me in this project were Dustin Solmonson and Alex Welgraven," Carlson said.

Welgraven was the winner of the 2009 Minnesota Television and Film Board filmmaker's grant, which was announced at the festival. This grant awards \$1,500 to one student.

Applicants for this award submit an idea for a production that they will film if awarded the money, and the winner is invited to premiere their film at the following year's festival.

Many film students work hand-in-hand with the theater department to cast their productions.

To help the festival run smoothly, MSUM's Cinethusiasts Club volunteered to sell snacks and drinks.



CHRIS FRANZ / THE ADVOCATE

Junior Maxwell Heesch, film studies major, answers questions after his film "æ" at the Fargo Theatre.

"The benefit of volunteering is that you get an all-access festival pass, which gets you into every film showing, luncheon and party in exchange for a few hours of work," Carlson said.

In addition to the film show-

ing, the festival also offered luncheons each day with presentations given by working filmmakers on a variety of related topics.

"One discussed women filmmakers, and there was another on animation, then

there was more general information on how to get your foot in the door in the industry," Carlson said.

Their lectures included personal success stories on how they got started in filmmaking.

Although film festivals receive entries from around the world, MSUM film students regularly participate in three area festivals: South Dakota Film Festival in Aberdeen, Forx Film Festival in Grand Forks, N.D., and the Fargo Film Festival.

For more information about these festivals, visit www.fargofilmfestival.org.

Heidebrink can be reached at heidebriad@mnstate.edu

Seeing 'Watchmen' from a feminist perspective

By HEATHER EHRIKHS ANGELL

Contributing Writer

The latest film in a series of comic book-inspired movies offered a smorgasbord of food for thought on our cultural attitudes toward sex, sexuality and masculinity, even if the film lacked substance overall.

Like popcorn that had sizzled in the minds of each patron, you could hear the conversation popping up all around as we exited the theater; everyone was talking about the "big blue wang," as my brother put it.

Billy Crudup's portrayal of atom-modified, if not anatomically modified, Mr. Manhattan broke new ground as a mainstream Hollywood film featuring extensive male full frontal nudity.

Though he is involved in

one of the few sex scenes in the film, Manhattan's lack of preoccupation with his own nudity and sexuality is a fairly ironic twist to all of the post-movie conversations.

The character (and maybe the actor) was not offended, disgusted or even phased by his lack of clothing but the audience most certainly noted his nudity at length. Why?

The scenes with leading lady Malin Ackerman's bare breasts didn't make the cut for conversation, save the statement that neither sex scene between her character and the Night Owl, played by Patrick Wilson, added anything to the film.

Although independently the sex scenes (and their whole storyline as a couple) between Ackerman and Wilson were

superfluous to the movie and could have been easily cut, the message about his masculinity shouldn't slip off our radar.

In the first instance, he is unable to perform seemingly at the mention of Mr. Manhattan (who is also Ackerman's ex). Wilson's character swiftly regains functionality of his penis in a subsequent scene with Ackerman where her response leads the audience to believe he is in fact a capable lover.

More concerning than strange gratuitous sex scenes or the 50/50 ratio of Crudup's clothed screen time, was the dangerously murky message about rape that the movie left unresolved for its viewers. The shared mother-daughter identity of the Silk Spectre a.k.a. Miss Jupiter between

Ackerman and Carla Gugino included a storyline in which Gugino, after being beaten by fellow superhero The Comedian played by Jeffrey Dean Morgan, narrowly escapes being raped by him.

The storyline concludes with Ackerman discovering that Morgan is actually her father and that sex of some form occurred between Gugino and Morgan's characters. The seriously disturbing impression that is given that Gugino's character sought a sexual relationship with a man who previously beat her reifies the horrid idea that women secretly want to be raped.

Even worse, in this resolution Gugino's character states that she could never be mad at Morgan's character because of the resulting

birth of Ackerman's character, which makes the message: ultra-aggressive masculinity is OK if it produces a baby and tames a vampy female sexuality into motherhood.

The fact that writers David Hayter and Alex Tse tackled several serious and significant messages about our cultural attitudes toward sex, sexuality and masculinity is praiseworthy. However, the way in which it was haphazardly done makes one wonder if they knew what they were doing and what their process was in mediating such messages.

Ehriks Angell is an instructor in the Women's Studies Department.

Ehriks can be reached at heather.ehriks.angell@gmail.com

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Engineering a career out of hobby

Head swimming and diving coach Todd Peters glad he detoured into his career

By JOHN HANSEN
Staff Writer

Since seventh grade, Todd Peters wanted to be a mechanical engineer. But when he graduated from NDSU with a degree in the field, he couldn't find an engineering job.

Nearly 20 years later, the MSUM women's swimming and diving coach isn't complaining about his career detour.

"Now I never have to go to work," Peters, who spends about five hours a day in the Nemzek pool area, coaching and teaching said. "I go to my hobby and get paid for it."

After high school coaching stints at Fargo North, Moorhead and Fargo South, he was tapped to head up the Dragons' fledgling swimming program in 1997.

Peters recently fielded 10 questions from The Advocate.



JOHN HANSEN / THE ADVOCATE

Todd Peters teaches a beginners' swimming class Feb. 10 at the Nemzek pool. Peters has coached the MSUM women's swimming and diving team since it began in 1997.



Q: Can you tell me about your experience at NDSU in the last year of the program (1990)?

A: Yeah. At the time, swimming was behind me, and I was a lifeguard there. I became friends with a couple guys on the swim team and they encouraged me to join the team. I found a passion for it, and I got back to where I was in high school (in Austin, Minn.) In fact,

I (swam) a little bit faster.

Then the athletic director told us they were cutting the program. And I wanted to keep going. That's what inspired me to get into coaching swimming.

Q: You're the first coach here. How involved were you in getting the program started?

A: There had been some money budgeted and some

equipment bought, but that was about it. (Athletic director Katy Wilson) basically handed it off to me. ... It was difficult. We traveled to every meet the first three years.

Q: Does your family swim?

A: They enjoy swimming recreationally, but my two oldest children (17 and 15) are in tae kwon do, and they're both black belts.

Q: What do you do in the offseason for hobbies?

A: I like to be outdoors, spend time with my family: I like to go biking and running. I've done some triathlons.

Q: Do you enter triathlons to try to win?

A: I'm realistic about it. I know there are people who train three or four hours a day. I have fun with it. I do well in the swimming part, but when you start riding you see the true bikers go by you on their \$4,000 bikes. You can really buy speed for biking.

Q: What athlete do you draw inspiration from?

A: My best friend, Mike Murach. In high school, I was a swimmer, and he was a diver. He was involved in a diving accident and ended up being paralyzed from the neck down.

Despite having that life-altering injury, he does things a lot of people who have full use of their body don't do. He reminds me of how grateful

we should be of everything we have.

Q: Do you have a motto you coach by?

A: It's gotta be fun. If you're not having fun, you're gonna quit eventually.

Q: Do you have a good sports book to recommend?

A: I recently read Natalie Coughlin's "Golden Girl" and it really showed how when she was growing up she didn't have good coaches, and she almost quit the sport. When she found a great coach, she had her greatest success.

Q: What's your best memory from your time at MSUM?

A: The moment we first qualified swimmers for nationals (at the 2006-07 conference meet). It was something we had worked for for 10 years. It was a group of four people (in the 200-meter medley relay) who weren't necessarily as good as the teams we were competing against, but they came together for that one moment. It shows miracles do happen in swimming.

Hansen can be reached at johnvhansen@hotmail.com

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

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The Advocate

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NOTES FROM NEMZEK

Duluth defeats Dragons in tennis

U of M-Duluth exacted revenge on the tennis team for a loss earlier in the season.

The Bulldogs defeated MSUM 8-1 on Saturday after a previous 5-4 loss when the teams met earlier this season in Grand Forks, N.D.

The loss lowered the Dragons' overall mark to 4-5.

The Dragons hope to improve their record as they travel to the San Diego Mesa Tournament March 13-18.

Five wrestlers advance to Houston

Five Dragons will advance to the NCAA II National Championships in Houston this weekend.

Senior Tyler Tubbs, 184 pounds, sophomore Tallen Wald, 157, junior Jarret Hall, 174, senior Matt Nelson, 197, and heavyweight junior Tim Johnson all qualified for the national tournament.

Tubbs captured the 165-pound title at the 2009 NCAA Division II Super Region Three wrestling tournament in Marshall, Minn., on March 1. Tubbs posted a 12-5 decision over Tim Matheson of MSU-Mankato in the finals. Hall, Nelson and Johnson placed third and Wald fourth.

Dragons set for nationals

The indoor track team continues to prepare for the NCAA II Indoor Championships this weekend in Houston.

Senior Ashley Roemer, who has qualified in four events—high jump, 800 meter, pentathlon and 4 x 400 meter relay — will be joined by the rest of her relay team consisting of senior Sara Julsrud, senior Alison Streyle and sophomore Kristina Anderson. Seniors Derik Brugger and Jennifer Hensel have qualified for the men's and women's pole vault.

Dragons play Nebraska in opening rounds

By TIMOTHY STULKEN
Sports Editor

MSUM will meet University of Nebraska-Kearney at 8 p.m. Friday in the opening round of the 2009 NCAA Division II Central Regional tournament at the Taylor Center in Mankato, Minn. The Dragons are seeded fifth in the eight-team tournament and Nebraska-Kearney is fourth. Host MSU-Mankato is the top seed.

"We are expecting to go to regionals and be very competitive against Nebraska, Kearney," senior guard Katie Walden said. "They are a quality team but we are looking to give the Dragon women's basketball program its first regional win."

Eight regional tournaments, consisting of eight teams each, will be conducted at campus sites Friday, Saturday and Monday. The regional champions will advance to the NCAA Women's Elite Eight March 24, 25 and 27 at Bill Greehey Arena in San Antonio.

Nebraska finished 20-9 overall, while the Dragons finished 21-7.

The Dragons played in the NSIC playoffs, but were defeated by St. Cloud (Minn.) State in the first round with a 61-48 upset March 4 at Nemzek.

Contributing to the loss was less than perfect shooting, .306, as well as being outrebounded 43-41.

"Our performance in the conference tournament was slightly disappointing, but St. Cloud is a good team and played at a very high level," Walden said. "The game showed us we still have weaknesses that need to be fixed but luckily we have another opportunity to play in the regionals and utilize the experience of last week's game."

Walden said she is satisfied with this year's performance and hopes to do well in the upcoming tournament.

"I believe our team has surpassed many people's expectations this year," she said.



JARED WINMILL / THE ADVOCATE

Junior guard Krista Opheim goes up for a basket at a game against the St. Cloud Huskies on March 4 in Nemzek. The Dragons lost 61-48.

"We definitely would have liked to win the regular season conference championship or the conference tournament but we have played very well this season and, as a result, have been rewarded with an at-large bid in the NCAA tournament."

The team will lose seven seniors to graduation this year, but Walden believes the team will still be competitive next year.

"It's difficult to predict what the team will have to work on for next year," she said. "They are bringing in approximately

seven new players but will still have a strong base of players with a lot of experience. I have all the confidence that next year's team will be as or even more successful than this year's squad."

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Dorms wage penny war



JESSE TRELSTAD / THE ADVOCATE

Molly Hofker, director of community relations for Make A Wish in North Dakota, speaks to a group of students in Dahl.

By ANNA GEORGE
Staff Writer

The Residence Hall Association has been raising money for the Make a Wish Foundation through penny wars.

Penny wars is a competition between dorms, halls and complexes to see who can raise the most money.

"Pennies are positive points and any other money is negative," said Kira Westberg, RHA programming communication coordinator. "The point isn't necessarily to raise the most, but gain the most points."

Each hall desk has buckets for the respective floor, in each complex. The competition is to gain the most points for your floor and your complex. Halls get negative points from nickels, dimes, quarters and paper money being placed in their bucket. The negative points are then subtracted from the pennies and the floor and/or complex can end up with positive or negative points. Teams can put other coins in other team's buckets to subtract from their points.

"We started this idea back in December with our participation in the Big Give competition between organizations on campus," said Westberg. "We won the Big Give competition and decided to continue helping the North Dakota chapter of the Make a Wish Foundation."

Make a Wish grants wishes

to children facing life-threatening medical conditions. The North Dakota chapter is run on a volunteer basis and has granted more than 500 wishes.

"I think it's important to donate money even if we can't give much," sophomore Josh Werk said. "Things they do may not have affected us yet, but one day they might."

Although this year's participation in penny wars has gone down, as of March 2 Snarr complex was leading the competition.

"I think penny war is a great idea to raise money for a foundation that means something," Werk said. "I couldn't like of a

better place to donate all my pennies."

It's hard to give money being a college student, but with penny wars, it's a little bit easier to part with change that doesn't fit into the laundry machine.

"My thought is, those pennies have been sitting in that jar for over a year," Werk said. "What was I going to do with them?"

If you still want to make a donation to the Make a Wish Foundation, today is the last day for the penny war competition.

George can be reached at georgean@mnstate.edu



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Better toppings - fresh sliced green peppers, onions & mushrooms. So, for once, you can tell the folks that their money is being used wisely.

ORDER PIZZA ONLINE!
papajohns.com

Large 1 Topping Pizza \$8.99

218-236-7272


716 Main Avenue


Buy a Large Pizza Get a Medium Free

Coupon required. Per Pizza extra. Offer good for a limited time at participating Papa John's restaurants only. Additional toppings extra. Not valid with any other coupons or discounts. Limited delivery area. Charges may apply. Customer responsible for all applicable taxes.

Diamonds

DIAMONDS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS





3031 13th Ave S
Fargo, ND 58103
(701) 239-9091

Classifieds

For Rent

Three bedroom apt., 1 bath, security bldg, newly re-decorated, in a 4 plex, includes 2 off-street parking spots, 5 blocks from campus. \$610/month, heat paid. 218-233-1545

Luv of Dog Rescue needs foster and forever families for many dogs who have been rescued from area pounds. Volunteer opportunities are also available. 701-205-0190. www.4luvofdog.com

Misc.

You have options! Free pregnancy testing, limited ultrasounds - Confidential. Call 701-237-6530 or www.firstchoiceclinic.com

Are you looking for the New Testament church? The church that Jesus built (Mt. 16:18)? We invite you to come and check us out. We follow only the Bible in all that we do. The Moorhead church of Christ meets at: 123 21st South. Our meeting times are: Sun 10:00 AM & 6:00 PM, Wed at 7:00 PM. For more info call 291-1992.

Now Hiring

Looking for an On Campus Job? The Admissions Office is seeking students to work in our office starting Fall Semester. If you are outgoing, enthusiastic and a great communicator, we may have the job for you! Responsibilities include giving campus tours, communicating with prospective students and data entry. Applicants must be MSUM Students, 2.5 GPA and work study eligible. 6-10 hours per week starting pay of \$7.25 per hour. Pick up an application in the Admissions Office or the Compass. Deadline for application is April 3.

Part Time College Students Needed Fullvirtualtours.com has an immediate opening for college students to sell a variety of services including voice, video and other on-line marketing services to vacation rental property owners. If you are highly motivated, goal oriented and want to work from home we want to talk to you. Qualified candidates must have internet access a good calling plan and strong communication skills. Please apply by emailing your resume to: mike@fullvirtualtours.com

Need to build your resume? Want a chance to network with potential employers? If you are a motivated young professional or student age 18 to 30 who wants to make the community and the world a better place and have fun doing it, then come join us at Rotaract! We are an international Rotary affiliated community service group with over 7,000 clubs in over 150 countries. At Rotaract you will have the opportunity to build skills that employers desire and work side by side with local business leaders from all walks of life. Visit our website at www.fmrotaract.net for more information. Email us at: fmrotaract@gmail.com or call (218) 790-1904 (ask Shawn about Rotaract).

Honest, dependable caregivers to come into our home and care for our son with special needs. Average 20 hours per week. Requires lifting, transferring, assisting in basic living skills and community activities. Must have reliable transportation. Pay range \$11-15/hr DOE. Male or female applicants accepted. For more information call 218-287-8137 or email justmurph@aol.com.

advocate@mnstate.edu