



Minnesota State University Moorhead
RED: a Repository of Digital Collections

The Advocate

Student Newspapers

1-14-2010

The Advocate, January 14, 2010

Minnesota State University Moorhead

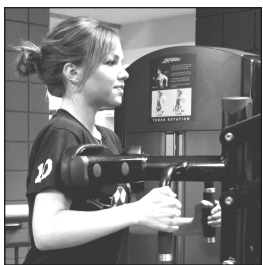
Follow this and additional works at: <https://red.mnstate.edu/advocate>

Researchers wishing to request an accessible version of this PDF may [complete this form](#).

Recommended Citation

Minnesota State University Moorhead, "The Advocate, January 14, 2010" (2010). *The Advocate*. 218.
<https://red.mnstate.edu/advocate/218>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Newspapers at RED: a Repository of Digital Collections. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Advocate by an authorized administrator of RED: a Repository of Digital Collections. For more information, please contact RED@mnstate.edu.



Healthy start

Tips to help achieve weight loss resolution

FEATURES, PAGE 3



Hip-hop hopeful

Student answers questions about his music success

A&E, PAGE 6



Pool practice

MSUM pool league competes, invites students to partake

SPORTS, PAGE 8

The Advocate

www.mnstate.edu/advocate

Thursday
1.14.10

Vol. 39 No. 16

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

Havoc in Hagen Hall

BY MICHAEL SMITH
Assistant Editor

The Moorhead Fire Department responded to a call at 7:28 a.m. Monday morning in Hagen Hall. The fire alarm was triggered when a sprinkler burst in the corridor near the south entrance.

The recent blistering cold weather is most likely to blame for the busted pipe.

"The water was a half-inch deep," said Jeff Goebel, physical plant manager.

The leak soaked the floor, carpets and office equipment but nothing in the building was ruined.

"We will have to cut down some sheetrock to let the walls air out," Goebel said.

Squeegees and fans were used to accelerate the drying process and no classes were canceled due to the malfunction, Goebel said. "Some classes had wet carpet by the doors that was extracted."

Hagen Hall was recently renovated in 2006 and previously didn't have sprinklers near this entrance. "We will have to evaluate the area to make sure that no cold air is coming in," said Goebel. "We will be doing thermal imaging to make sure."

The cleanup will be handled by MSUM staff and should be done within a couple weeks.

Smith can be reached at smithmi@mnstate.edu

MSUM head football coach resigns Athletic department names Beard as interim

BY MICHAEL SMITH
Assistant Editor

On Wednesday, Jan. 6, Damon Tomeo stepped down as the head football coach at MSUM. Tomeo was placed on paid administrative leave by MSUM Athletic Director Doug Peters in early October stemming from a complaint filed against him.

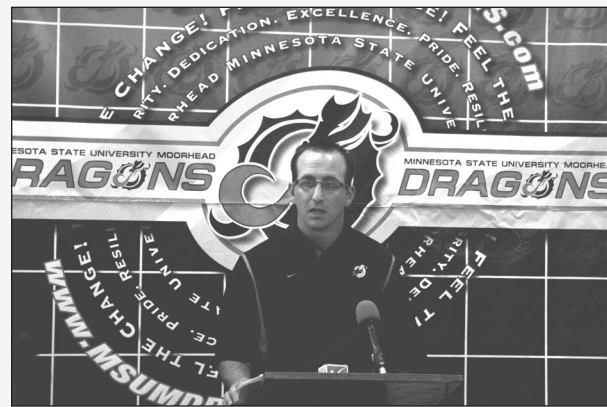
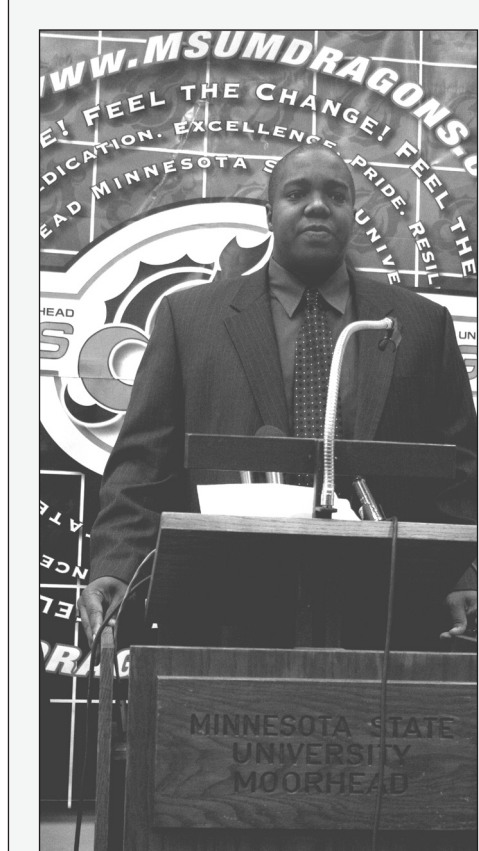
“Our goal is to win every day. We want to win in the classroom, win on the field and win at life.”

Joel Beard
Interim head coach

After serving as offensive coordinator for three seasons, Joel Beard has been introduced as the interim head coach for the 2010 season. Beard took over the Dragons football team for the last five games of the season in Tomeo's absence.

"Our goal is to win every day," Beard said. "We want to win in the classroom, win on the field and win at life."

Head coach was not the only position vacated during the off-season. MSUM lost its offensive line coach, outside linebacker coach and tight end coach. The long coaching hiatus also affected some players including former starting quarterback Zach Fry, who has left MSUM and is now attending University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.



Coach Damon Tomeo (bottom right) resigned after being placed on administrative leave by Athletic Director Doug Peters (top right) in early October. Joel Beard was introduced as interim head coach on Jan. 6, in Alex Nemzek Hall.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL SMITH / THE ADVOCATE

A total of seven student-athletes have left the team.

"I'm fairly confident that the guys we expect to be back will be back," Beard said. "Now that

this is all done, they are going to be happy and ready to go. They are going to be here wondering what the next step is to move forward."

Coach Tomeo will be reassigned within the university. "He is just no longer associated with the athletic department,"

Peters said.

With the Dragons finishing 2-9 last season, "I don't evaluate coaches on wins and losses," Peters said. "The expectations are about the everyday things that you do that lead to those wins and losses."

COACH, BACK PAGE

Students damage property, leads to further issues Financial questions arise because students have no domestic assets

BY MEGAN NITSCHKE
Editor

Earlier last spring, damages were done to a Moorhead house on South 8th Street, in which three Concordia and one MSUM student resided. Evaluating the financial consequences has led to questions and concerns about the responsibilities and liabilities from the destruction, which totaled \$28,000.

The four students, all from Ghana, were evicted from the house last May, but landlord Kathleen Hoover and agent David Deile are encountering numerous problems financially and judicially. According to the property owners, the students have little or no assets in

this country.

This makes it difficult to hold the former residents responsible for the property damages, which include broken doors, windows and ruined carpet.

Hoover and Deile wanted to claim the damages as four separate cases, but according to Deile, instead Clay County District Court Judge Steven J. Cahill chose to hear them as one case, reasoning that it involved the same property.

The court soon dismissed the case because the \$28,000 in damages exceeded the \$7,500 limit for small claims filed in Conciliation Court. The judge advised that the case be transferred to District Court to determine the proper resolu-

tion.

Hoover and Deile chose not to pursue the case due to the unlikelihood they would win or gain back any of the money.

The two have turned to the colleges to divvy out the proper punishments for their crime.

Judicial Affairs Officer Ashley Atteberry said that in an off-campus situation, consequences are determined by their specific policy violation.

MSUM's student conduct code has jurisdiction over off-campus incidents, only if they involve hazing or are committed while participating in a university-sanctioned or sponsored activity. The University

is also involved if the victim of the violation is a member of the university community, the violation constitutes a felony under state or federal law, or if the violation affects the educational, research or service function of the university.

Also included in the jurisdiction is that the Judicial Affairs Officer shall decide whether the Student Code shall be applied to conduct occurring off campus. Due to this statement, Atteberry and the school's administration has chosen not to deal with the consequences of the property damage.

"In this situation, it's more of a private relationship with students and the landlord,"

Atteberry said.

According to the rights granted by FERPA and the Minnesota Data Practice Law, Atteberry was unable to reveal the disciplinary processes for the MSUM student, Emmanuel Conduah.

Hoover and Deile find it a problem that the schools are choosing not to step up to the issue, but Atteberry said with situations like this, she still remains focused on the university's missions and values.

"It's an opportunity to talk about their behavior," Atteberry said. "It allows me to hear what is most important to a student."

Atteberry said she was **DAMAGE, BACK PAGE**

Fight the Frost

There is a need for volunteers to staff the first annual Fight the Frost Event at the Fargodome from Friday to Sunday.

This will be a fun, family event.

Minimum age required to volunteer is 14 years old. Each volunteer will get a wristband for the day they volunteer.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Aaron Hill at ahill@uwcc.net or call 701.237.5050.

Drop/Add deadline

The last day to change your spring registration is Friday. After the free drop/add deadline, when you drop a course through eServices, a "W" will appear on your transcript and you will be financially obligated for the course.

Log in to eServices with your Dragon ID and pin. Select "Classes and Registration" from the left menu and then "View/Modify Class Schedule" and

proceed to make any changes. If you are trying to add a course that is full, you will need to request a computer override from the instructor.

After Friday you will not be able to change your schedule through eServices.

On Jan. 18, classes do not meet and the university offices are closed.

If you wish to take a class for pass/fail or audit, you must process paperwork with the Records Office no later than Jan. 25.

2010-2011 FAFSA

Beginning Jan. 1, you can reapply for financial aid for the 2010-2011 academic year using FAFSA on the Web at www.fafsa.gov.

Your application should be completed as soon as possible in order to receive maximum consideration for all aid programs (Work Study, Federal SEOG and Perkins Loan). The priority date to submit the FAFSA to the Federal Processor is Feb. 15.

Homecoming coordinator application

If you have event planning skills and are interested in Dragon Pride, a homecoming coordinator position is a great way to get involved.

Applications are due at 10 p.m. on Tuesday and can be accessed at www.mnstate.edu/osa.

Homecoming is a campus wide event that builds bonds between students and the university, promotes school spirit, encourages participation in campus activities and provides a chance to show Dragon Pride.

The role of Homecoming Coordinator requires the ability to work with a large and varied number of people, energy, patience and a willingness to learn.

Contact Becky Boyle Jones, boyle@mnstate.edu or 477.2524

with any questions.

OSA job opening

Are you creative? Do you work well with others? Are you looking for a fun job for the spring semester? If so, the Office of Student Activities is looking for you!

The Office of Student Activities is hiring an administrative assistant for the spring semester and is currently accepting applications.

The Administrative Assistant provides general office support, works with student organizations, publishes and distributes the TTN, designs promotional materials and more!

So, if you are looking for a fun job to put your skills to work, check out the Office of Student Activities Web site and apply online by visiting www.mnstate.edu/osa.

All applications are due on Friday by 4 p.m.

Senior year experience

The Office of Student Activities would like to remind juniors and seniors of a great opportunity. The Senior Year Experience course is intended to address issues specific to a senior's transition from student to professional.

The Senior Year Experience consists of the following eight sessions: Successful Transition into the Real World, Careers, Personal Finance, Investment 101, Civic Engagement, Ethics in the Workplace, Dressing for Success and Dining Etiquette.

The Senior Year Experience class is a 1/2 semester, 1 credit class meeting on Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7:30 p.m. starting Jan. 20. Students may register under PDEV 310 - Senior Year Experience.

Please register soon, as it may fill quickly. If you have any questions, please contact JoDee Anderson at 218.477.2120 or anderjod@mnstate.edu.



SECURITY UPDATE

Director of Campus Security Michael Parks

BY LESLIE WOOD
Features Editor

people were in the room but no paraphernalia was found.

Empty bag

On the fourth floor of Nelson, resident assistants reported a marijuana odor at 10:10 p.m. on Dec. 30. Security found four students in the room and a clear sealed bag with marijuana residue. The students were referred to judicial affairs.

iPod stolen

A student's 30 GB iPod was stolen in the Center for the Arts at 12 a.m. on Jan. 8.

Late night theft

Several cordless drills and a flashlight were stolen from the Lommen construction area at 12:30 a.m. on Jan. 8.

Shirt thief

On the ninth floor of Nelson, there was a civil dispute between two roommates at 11:59 a.m. on Jan. 7. The dispute was over the theft of a shirt.

Stolen credit card

Security assisted Moorhead Police Department with a credit card theft at 7 p.m. on Jan. 9. A Dahl student's credit card had been stolen and was reportedly being used in Fargo.

Suspicion of marijuana

There was a narcotics/drug offense on the second floor of Ballard at 9:55 p.m. on Jan. 7. A resident assistant called campus security to report a suspicion of marijuana being smoked in a room. Three

Marijuana not found

There was a report of a marijuana smell on the first floor of East Snarr at 12:30 a.m. on Jan. 10. There was no evidence of any marijuana in the room.

Advocate meetings 4 p.m. Mondays in CMU 110

The Advocate would like to invite any interested students to its 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

Minnesota State University Moorhead
Box 130 Moorhead, MN 56563
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 or 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. 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.

"They used to call me Tippy Tim."

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

Copyright 2009, The Advocate.

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.

Kristi Monson Adviser

Megan Nitschke Editor

Michael Smith Assistant Editor
Kimberly Ehrlich Opinion Editor
Leslie Wood Features Editor
Anna George Arts and Entertainment Editor
Tim Stulken Sports Editor
Lauren Taute Photo Editor
Holly Lavecchia Copy Editor
Jenessa McAllister Copy Editor
Kelsey Roseth Copy Editor
Taaren Haak Copy Editor
Laura Posteric Advertising Manager
Dustin Brick Business Manager
Ross Peterson Distribution Manager


Columnists: Jenny Hilleren, Holly Lavecchia, Kim Ehrlich, Ross Peterson, Drew Olmen, Lucas Vonasek, Ban Anselmino

Reporters: Erica Anderson, Jenny Hilleren, Kimberly Ehrlich, Logan Grossman, Janessa McAllister, Chyanee Haley, Conor Holt, Katie Schroeffer, Taaren Haak, Andrew Jason, Ross Torgerson, Kelsey Roseth

Photographers: Jesse Trelstad, Abby Paul, Chris Franz

Illustrators: Allen Kempf, Tony Mansourian, Tate Mlady

Your Next Home Away From Home



**The Community
With Character**

**Walking
distance to
Downtown**

- All utilities paid
- Handicap accessible
- Indoor Heated Pool
- Elevators
- Garage parking with interior access

**Call 701-237-6448 for
your private showing**

Park East Apartments

One South 2nd St. Fargo

The Hap

1.14	7 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Wrestling at Dickinson State Faculty recital: John Tesch, trombone Glasrud Auditorium
1.15	All Day 7 p.m. 9 p.m.-12 a.m.	Last Day to Web Drop/Add Wrestling at Northern State University Friday Nights in the UG, CMU Underground
1.16	4 p.m. 6 p.m. 6 p.m.	Men's Basketball vs. University of MN-Crookston Women's Basketball vs. University of MN-Crookston Swimming & Diving vs. Morris
1.17	10 a.m.	Indoor Track & Field at Fargo/ Bison Classic
1.18	Holiday	No Classes
1.20	2 p.m.	Emerging Leaders, CMU 227
1.21	7 p.m.	Wrestling at Upper Iowa
1.22	All Day 6 p.m. 7 p.m. 8 p.m. 9 p.m.-1 a.m.	Swimming & Diving at Stevens Point Women's Basketball vs. Winona State Wrestling at MSU Mankato Men's Basketball vs. Winona Dragons After Dark, CMU
1.23	All Day 10 a.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.	Indoor Track & Field, Moorhead-Cobber Invite Indoor Track & Field at U of M Women's Basketball vs. Upper Iowa Men's Basketball vs. Upper Iowa
1.25	4 p.m.	Pass/Fail Deadline
1.29	All Day 5:30 p.m. 6 p.m. 7 p.m. 8 p.m.	Swimming & Diving, Dragon-Cobber Invite at MSUM Indoor Track & Field at Moorhead- Cobber Pentathlon Women's Basketball at Northern State Wrestling vs. St. Cloud State Men's Basketball at Northern State

Resolutions made attainable



LAUREN TAUTE / THE ADVOCATE

Freshman Michelle Van Camp works out at MSUM Wellness Center on Tuesday, Jan 12.

BY LESLIE WOOD
Features Editor

The recurring resolution of losing weight is again one of the top goals for many in 2010.

Marissa Parmer, wellness center fitness specialist, provided information on how to keep weight loss resolutions and achieve them safely and efficiently.

"They need to feel comfortable in the facility, and trust the opinion of their dietitian and trainer," Parmer said. Being comfortable with the fitness program and the facility is important in keeping resolutions, because it creates an environment that is enjoyable and allows for goals to be obtained.

"Weight loss is not just a couple months of change, it is a life-long process," Parmer said. "People should not expect to lose all the weight in a short period of time. It takes commitment to an entire change in lifestyle to maintain a weight that is appropriate for each individual."

An option that helps with weight loss is having a buddy system. Parmer said that working out with a partner or a group aids in the process of weight loss because each person is accountable to someone. Also, many individuals do well in fitness classes because they provide a social aspect.

If a person wants to lose a significant amount of weight, a trainer may be appropriate.

"A trainer is good for every person because they can direct a person in an efficient manner and make sure they are working out safely to avoid injuries," Parmer said.

Many people feel that they have to accomplish their fitness goal by themselves, but the Wellness Center has personal trainers available for a minimal fee.

Students can receive 12 sessions with a trainer for \$100 or three sessions with a Wellness Key system for \$15. Faculty and staff can request 12 sessions with a trainer for \$200 or three sessions with a Wellness Key system for \$50.

A person may realistically lose one to two pounds a week when eating correctly and exercising.

Healthy weight loss is also based on mentality, according to Parmer.

"Losing weight is changing a person's physical health as well as all forms of their well-being," Parmer said.

New Year's resolutions usually end shortly after making them, so it is important for students to

remain committed to their resolutions by setting goals or signing up for events. Another way to maintain weight loss resolutions is to receive incentives.

For people who want to lose weight but do not exercise on a regular basis, working out two to three days a week is appropriate.

"They need to keep it moderate and increase slowly to avoid injury," Parmer said. "They cannot jump in full speed ahead."

The results are different for every individual. Things that can affect weight loss are time, eating habits, health history and body type. Watching calorie input and output helps most individuals with losing pounds and maintaining a certain weight.

"Have any diet plans evaluated by a doctor," Parmer said. "Weight Watchers is a good program because of the support groups. Logbooks are also important because they help a person record their daily intake."

The Wellness Center also has new programs that will help with weight loss resolutions. The "Healthier You Mondays" will begin in January and will focus on wellness topics. The Wellness Center, with the help of Hendrix and nursing, will supply students and staff with new topics every month through presentations, text messages, e-mails and Facebook.

"Cycling to the Cities" is a cycling program that lasts seven weeks and will keep track of the miles completed by students. Students will receive prizes for mile markers reached. At the completion of the program a drawing will be held for a larger prize.

Another seven-week program consists of completing 2010 minutes of group exercise. There will be a drawing at the end of the program for those completing 2010 minutes of exercising in a group with an instructor.

There will be a residence hall program based on the attendance of the students in the Wellness Center and the bonus points for the group exercises attended. This program will last for seven weeks and focus on student involvement on campus.

"The main thing individuals should do is set goals for themselves and sign up for events," Parmer said, "they need to make sure their fitness plan is enjoyable."

Advertise with The Advocate 236-2365
Advertise with The Advocate 236-2365

THE SALON PROFESSIONAL ACADEMY

CLASSES STARTING NOV-JAN-MAR-MAY-JUL-SEPT

MENU OF SERVICES

Haircut	\$11
Color & Style	\$25
Highlights	\$35
Pedicure	\$21
Manicure	\$15
Cleansing Facial	\$20
Body Treatments	\$30
Signature Massage	\$26

All services performed by supervised students. Prices vary according to student level.

SHOW YOUR STUDENT ID AND RECEIVE \$2 OFF YOUR VISIT

ADMISSIONS
701.478.1772

TSPAFARGO.COM

4377 15th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103



ENDORSED BY REDKEN FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
REDKEN 5TH AVENUE NYC

COSMETOLOGY | ESTHETICS | NAIL TECHNOLOGY | MASSAGE THERAPY

Wood can be reached at woodle@mnstate.edu

Advocate **editorial** boardMegan Nitschke
EditorMichael Smith
Assistant EditorKimberly Ehrlich
Opinion Editor

Damage by international students raises questions

Recently it was reported that four international college students caused \$28,000 worth of damage to a property on South 8th street in Moorhead.

Due to the students' lack of domestic assets, the property owners are facing high charges to make up for the fines, which the students are unable to pay back.

The severe property issue now lends a new perspective to the question of whether there is or should be bias against renting to international students, who is responsible in cases like this, whether the school should be held responsible and possible negligence on the part of the property owners and landlords.

With racial profiling a hot button issue in the United States today, it seems appropriate to evaluate the arguments for and against this, especially when severe consequences can occur if there is damage or any other situation that involves money and the courts.

The property owners admitted that they in no way base their tenant decisions off of race, but after this, will it be in their best interest to do so?

There are several aspects of this story that lead to questions.

The damage had accumulated over three years and it is hard to understand how it could have gone unnoticed.

Landlords need to respect their renters, but on the other hand, it is still their property and needs to be watched over. The landlord could have at least checked in on his renters in the 3-year period.

In addition, why wasn't the landlord properly informed of the law of international students and property damage?

Most significantly and unfortunately, this casts a large shadow over all international students in the area, which could hurt the relationship between international students and MSUM.

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.

Obama in the wrong?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

One year ago, America, as well as other countries affected by the debacle that is Guantanamo Bay, were promised it would be shut down, thereby ending the reign of a disgraceful abuse of power. However, Monday, Jan. 11 will mark the eighth anniversary of Guantanamo's opening, and soon after that will come Jan. 22, the deadline to close the prison. During this time, all eyes will be on President Obama to see if he holds true to his word.

So far, the president's prospects have been less than promising. On Christmas Day, when a man attempted to blow up a plane, so began the test of the Obama administration to see whether America has improved its tactics since 9/11. However, after evidence surfaced linking the prospective bomber to Yemen, President Obama yielded to formal calls from senior members of Congress to indefinitely detain all Yemenis in Guantanamo, including those already screened and cleared for release.

By succumbing to Congressional pressure and holding prisoners on the mere basis of their country of origin, President Obama has proven that he adheres to misguided strategies of the past that have proven to be not only erroneous but unlawful. By going back on his promises to end the unlawful treatment of Guantanamo detainees, the President has proven to be inconsistent both in word and action.

Whether or not the public agrees with the use of detention and torture, public demand should be centered on the ability to trust one's president and thereby maintain a sense of security when it comes to threats such as terrorism. Regardless of their stance or tactics, all figures of authority must make it known where they stand.

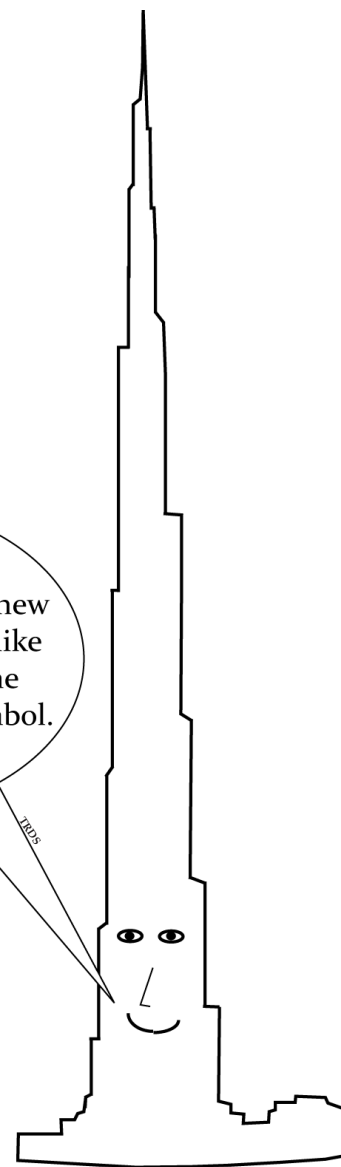
SARAH CHAMMA
MSUM JUNIOR

What do you think?

Let us know your opinion about the international student story at advocate@mnstate.edu

Illustration by Tim Stulken / The Advocate

Some people say I'm the new Burj Dubai Tower, but I like to think of myself as the world's tallest phallic symbol.



Have a question for Student Senate?

Interested about issues on campus but don't know who to ask? Submit your questions to Student Senate and see if they can answer them for you.

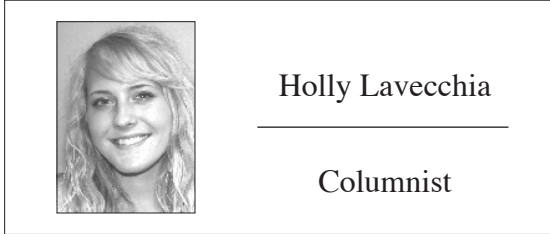
e-mail your questions to advocate@mnstate.edu for a response from Student Senate

Don't let the meanies get you down

Recently I was talking with a wonderfully frank friend of mine. He mentioned flippantly that he had been talking to a boy I had a class with once and informed me that the boy in question, in fact, dislikes me. I was slightly appalled.

Because this was a person I've never spoken a word to in my life, I suppose he isn't exactly an expert on the subject (me), and I shouldn't be offended. But something about the whole affair just bothered me. A lot.

Right after the conversation with my friend, I was sitting in a new class and I had a horrifying thought, "What if all of these people hate me? What if every tiny movement I'm making—zipping, writing, hair-adjusting—is bothering



Holly Lavecchia

Columnist

everyone somehow?" There is no way of knowing what sort of impression you're giving, though that may have been a dramatic example.

Despite how much irrational pleasure someone can derive from being a people-pleaser, it is an obvious fact that there is no human way to make everyone like you. I was surprised, because I think I operate under the naive assumption that people are going to like me. Because I like me.

It's not like I'm not being entirely hypocritical. Who doesn't stereotype strangers into categories like: annoying, arrogant, brown-noser, etc.? I do it all the time. And we all know those people who think they're so entertaining when really they're kind of irritating/sexist/Marxist/what have you. You just never expect to be one of them, and it's rare and special to be handed an unpleasant piece of truth like I was by my friend.

Perhaps this boy is one of the legions who gracelessly applauded Facebook's unveil-

ing of the "dislike button." Are these people so cynical that they really need to openly notify friends of a status update or photo comment that they find disagreeable? Why is this necessary?

If it wasn't plain old anger that caused my former classmate to dislike me, maybe it's like my mom says—he's just jealous. Of what, I have yet to ponder, but there is definitely some merit in it. For some competitive humans (me again), when it comes to someone prettier, wittier or better at math, you just don't want to like them.

A nice way to conclude would be to say that it really doesn't matter what other people think. But that would be a lie.

Caring what other people

think is what keeps society as we know it from falling apart. Those who genuinely don't care what people think of them are often serial killers and arsonists.

Because we want people to like us, we throw millions of dollars into the bottomless pit of the American economy every year to have nicer cars, jeans and teeth. But ironically, when your cars, jeans or teeth are nicer, people are more likely to be jealous and dislike you.

I say since you can't win, just try not to dwell on it.

P.S. Former classmate: I'm not all that thrilled about you either.

Dislike being disliked?
E-mail Lavecchia
at lavecchio@mnstate.edu



Illustration by Tate Mlady / The Advocate

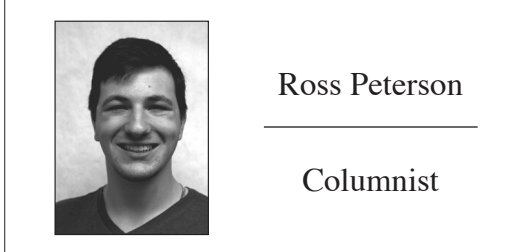
Merry whatever, love Ross

Andrew Johnston and Michael Zimmerman are two Christian high school sophomores. Before the holiday season, the two got together and decided to make a Facebook group, not expecting much of a reaction from the community.

"We're tired of being politically correct. The whole reason why we have the holiday season is because of Jesus," the administrators of the group posted.

Shortly before Christmas Eve and 220,000 Facebook users later, the group "I say 'Merry Christmas', not 'Happy Holidays!'" took the Web site by storm.

In this day and age, political correctness is regarded as essential—a necessity that must be mastered if one expects to progress in social situations or in the world of academics. Despite the group's relatively peaceful message to the community regarding the issue, it was not without controversy. A



Ross Peterson

Columnist

Facebook user known as Rick Fot comments on the group's board hourly, giving long arguments of how the real reason why the holiday season exists is because of the winter solstice. Many users refute this fact, with many other users making comments on why is it so bad to simply say, "Happy Holidays."

Both the supporters of saying "Merry Christmas" and supporters who insist on the politically correct statement of "Happy Holidays" have valid points. On one side, it's only fair to say the former on the day of Christmas. However, to say such on a day other than Christmas makes as much sense as

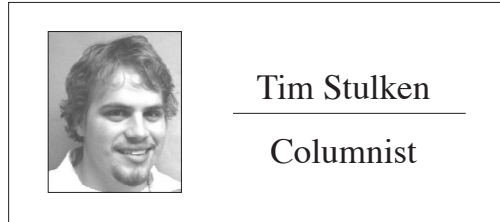
wishing someone a happy 4th of July on July 1st. This sort of behavior occurs for much of the week. Just because a holiday occurs during the week, doesn't mean people should go out of their way by saying "Merry Christmas."

The definition of a happy medium is not saying "Chrismahanukwanzakah" either; there isn't much trouble in saying both "Merry Christmas" and "Happy Holidays." As great a holiday as Christmas is for me and many others, we coexist with many people who do not celebrate Christmas, and we should respect that.

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas, and a happy holiday season.

Know what's merry?
E-mail Peterson at petersonro@mnstate.edu

How about...



Tim Stulken

Columnist

Over the past few years the administration has struggled with budget deficits. They have resorted to massive budget cuts around campus, including a hiring freeze.

These budget cuts have helped to alleviate some of the pressure of dealing with a budget deficit; however, I have a few recommendations that could help the administration save a little money.

The first area money could be saved is in the phone service provided to the dorms on campus. Our neighbors, Concordia College, recently did away with dorm phone service, saving themselves upwards of \$200,000 a year. Concordia found ways to solve the few objections raised by people; MSUM could as well. International students, one of the only groups of students to still use dorm phones could use an internet based phone system similar to Skype.

Another money-saving idea would be to implement a solution to printing costs that has been implemented by other universities in our area. NDSU's printers are all outfitted with systems that track each student's printing. Each student is allowed a certain number of pages per semester. This solution would rid MSUM of costly stupidity of students who print hundreds of pages and leave them.

The final cost-saving strategy I have to offer may not make people happy, but it would cost less if the university turned the thermostats down just a few degrees. Since, during the winter, students all wear coats to class, this would simply entail leaving your coat on during class.

I feel that applying one, two or all three of these ideas could lessen the budget deficit we currently find ourselves in. Additionally, applying these cost saving strategies could help alleviate budget pressure in future years by eliminating excess costs for years to come.

Have thrifty tips?
E-mail Stulken
at Stulketi@mnstate.edu

Talk to the Trainer

The Advocate teamed up with the Wellness Center to answer students' questions about wellness and fitness issues. Inquiries are published anonymously. Please send questions to
Marissa Parmer at parmer@mnstate.edu

Artist profile of the week: Jordan Gossman

BY ANNA GEORGE
A&E Editor

Jordan Gossman is a freshman at MSUM completing a major in international business.

Gossman was raised in Cook, Minn., where music has been a part of his life since the age of 5. He started off singing in church choir, which led to writing and producing his own music by age 12. Two years later he did his first show and has been addicted to live performance ever since.

Gossman has been playing the piano since he was 10 but is also familiar with the guitar. He creates much of his music with software like Reason and Pro-Tools.

How has music played a part in your life?

Music has played a huge role in the creation of who I am as a person today. Music has helped me get through some of the hardest things in my life, through either writing, producing or performing. Without music, I'm not sure where I would be today probably not here at MSUM.

What was the first CD you bought? Why?

The first CD I bought was probably either Nelly or Lil' Bow Wow. That was the kind of music I was hoping to do at the time. I started off rapping before singing.

Have you always been interested in R&B/Hip-Hop? Why and what is so significant about this type of music?

Ever since I started creat-



ABBY PAUL / THE ADVOCATE

Freshman Jordan Gossman has been singing since the age of 5 and has been addicted ever since.

ing my own music, I knew that I wanted to make music in the R&B/Hip-Hop/Pop genre. R&B/Hip-Hop is significant because it is a mix of soulful melodies and hip-

hop tracks. It channels many different styles of music and is a mixture of rhythm and blues. I believe that all music is significant in its own way. We all have our own

reasons for our own musical tastes.

What is your sound similar to?

It's more of a Chris Brown/Ne-Yo styled sound, but at the same time it's not like them because I want to be an individual artist. By the people in the industry I have been told that my voice sounds like a younger version of Craig David.

“ I think that my music conveys the image that through pain, there is love. The name of my debut album will be 'The Pain of Love.' ”

- Jordan Gossman

Who are you influenced by and why?

Musically, I am influenced by the King of Pop, Michael Jackson, because he had a huge career. But I am also inspired by Usher because he brought R&B into a new light by mixing it with hip hop. I am also influenced by family, friends, and everyday life.

Do you create originals or do you play cover songs?

I create original songs. I don't really like to attempt to do other people's songs, but if I were to do a cover song it would probably be "Gallery" by Mario Vasquez.

What keeps you going as far as playing your music?

Music is my therapy and the hope of being able to have a career in

music is what keeps me going.

What other hobbies do you have?

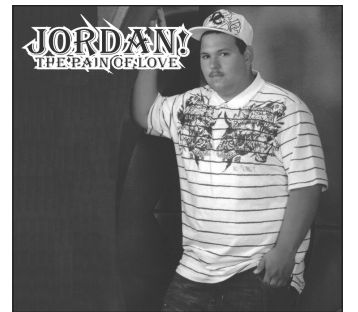
When not working on music, I just like to hang out with friends and do the normal things that college students do—and do a lot of homework!

What is one thing you cannot live without?

My friends, because they have helped me through so many situations in life. Also my keyboard and computer because I am constantly working on new music.

What type of future do you wish to have?

I really hope to work with positive people in the industry so I can keep creating music that I love and have a big enough impact so that I can get my music out there. I just want people to hear my music and actually like and relate to it.



Gossman plans to perform sometime soon in the F-M area. He has recorded multiple songs and has digital downloads available at www.boostindependentmusic.com/artist/Jordan.

George can be reached at georgean@mnstate.edu

Group presents play on teen issues

BY ANNA GEORGE
A&E Editor

A group of seven teens from western North Dakota and their adult mentors will challenge the public silence on issues surrounding adolescent sexuality, desire and mental health in a play at 7 p.m. this Saturday in the Glasrud Auditorium.

The group of teenage playwrights range from 12 to 18 years old and call themselves The Group that Opened the Box. These young women attend high school and middle school in Bismarck, Mandan and Washburn, N.D.

Five of the seven ladies, including Alexis Hellman, Michaela Miller, Rachel Patrie, Caitlyn Taix and Megan Issak, will be performing, "Shhhhhh!"

The script for their upcoming play, "Shhhhhh!," was written by all members as well as director Dr. Kathy Blohm, Bismarck psychologist and Karen Van Fossan, Archibald

Bush Artist Fellow.

Each group member created her own character, monologue, dialogue and dramatic situations. The play also contains larger-than-life photos by photographer Kristi Rasmussen.

The group explores topics like teen pregnancy, gender bending, first love, death and friendship. They seek to empower youth of various races, backgrounds, abilities, and sexual and gender orientations.

"We write about stuff that matters," Miller said.

In each performance, the young women strive to build a supportive and courageous community by sharing these topics with the public.

The group started in March 2009 as a community-based writing class taught by Blohm and Van Fossan. The class was scheduled to meet for only three weeks, but the members formed a close bond and decided to continue meeting and writing together.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Five of the seven young women, left to right, Alexis Hellman, Michaela Miller, Rachel Patrie, Caitlyn Taix and Megan Issak, will present their co-written play exploring topics such as teen pregnancy, gender bending, first love, death and former BFFs at 7 p.m. this Saturday at MSUM's Glasrud Auditorium.

"I trust everyone in the group," member Caitlyn Taix said. "And being that we're all writers, we share plenty of common interests. We have that deeper connection, on a deeper level than I have with anyone else."

The play "Shhhhhh!" premiered at Bismarck State

College in September where it received a standing ovation from a packed house. The seven teens have been invited back to premiere their next show this spring and next month the young women will perform a scene from the play at the Kirkwood Mall in Bismarck as part of "Live Art

in Motion."

"We're pursuing other tour locations as well," Van Fossan said.

The Group that Opened the Box visit is sponsored by MSUM Women's Studies department, the PFund Foundation and Open Meadows Foundation.

Admission is free and open to the public with parental guidance for children under 12.

"There is nothing graphic, violent, or even unkind in the show," Van Fossan said. "But performers do talk frankly about taboo topics, sometimes discussing words that are used against women and girls."

The Group that Opened the Box will be accepting goodwill donations which will help the group share its works in the upper Midwest.

For more information contact Dr. Laurie Blunsom at 218.477.4070 or e-mail her at blunsom@mnstate.edu.

George can be reached at georgean@mnstate.edu

"Up in the Air" meets Oscar expectations

BY MEGAN NITSCHKE
Editor

To know Ryan Bingham is to fly with him. It means rushing through the airline process, a hassle for most, but a feeling of security for Bingham. It also means sacrificing the need for creating any sort of solid human connection.

Bingham's life is far from ordinary in "Up in the Air." As a frequent flyer, his biggest goal includes reaching the 10 million frequent flyer miles needed to qualify him for an elite flyer list of only seven people.

Living a life packed into a suitcase, Bingham, played by George Clooney, works as a corporate downsizing expert. This is just a fancy title for the stranger flown into a company to fire its employees, then give them the step-by-step process of unemployment.

Within his difficult field, he breaks the bad news to long-term employees, more often than not, having to direct them to hope while tears, anger and fear dominate their emotions. Along with playing the devil's advocate to unknown employees, he also speaks at conferences across the country questioning "What's in your backpack?"

Because according to Bingham, "The slower we move the faster we die. Some animals were meant to carry each other to live symbiotically over a lifetime. Star-crossed lovers, monogamous swans. We are not swans. We are sharks."

This idea of removing any "weight" or sense of belonging from our lives is questioned when a new employee joins Bingham's company.

Natalie Keener, played by the sensational Anna Kendrick, initially marks her place in the company by proposing a more advanced form of the hiring process in which conversations are done via digital web cams. Her proposal frustrates Bingham, who fears that this digital plan will compromise the sense of connection found in face-to-face interactions.

This rationalization seems to contradict Bingham's lifestyle, where outside of work he separates himself from close relationships. It also foreshadows his ultimate need for belonging.

During his regular airline visits, Bingham encounters another frequent flyer in which he has an immediate attraction to.

Alex Goran, played by Vera Farmiga, knows the ropes of airline traveling almost as much as Bingham. After sharing their flying secrets and revealing their flyer miles, they share a night together that soon throws a curveball at Bingham, who often steers clear of relationships.

The three main characters are brought together when Keener is asked to shadow Bingham

during his hiring duties, and for one night they also meet up with Goran.

Keener, who primarily expressed herself as uptight, intelligent and uneventful soon opens up her wild, unpredictable and emotional side after a devastating break-up with her boyfriend. This leads her to cry in Bingham's arms then go out with the other two to a hotel party, in which she drinks, dances and even sings karaoke in what I think is the most humorous part of the movie.

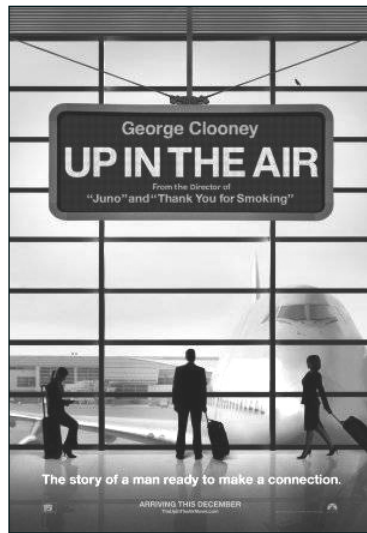


PHOTO SUBMITTED

It's this turning point when viewers discover the real emotional effect of the movie. Bingham begins to open up and express a need for Goran. He becomes more vulnerable and full of surprises when he invites her to accompany him to his sister's wedding, whom he hasn't kept in close contact with for years.

This movie meets all the expectations I encountered after hearing the up-roaring Oscar and Golden Globe buzz.

It's a charming film that ties together all the elements needed for a satisfactory plot as well as an emotional feeling towards the characters and their wide range of personality traits and life choices.

Clooney did an exceptional job of capturing the most difficult components of a solitary life separate from human connections. He allowed me to feel his situation and fly with him through the stages of finding the missing pieces to his individualistic lifestyle.

The movie includes every emotion from sorrow to happiness and love. I was intrigued by the news of the film, such as relating his life of flying, to the distance he creates with his closest peers. Even so, he challenges this by trying to establish a connection with the people he saw most often in his life yet were most unsettled: his clients and those involved in the airline business.

With a complete circle of the plot and the emotional rollercoaster puts its audience through, "Up in the Air" is sure to please even the most doubtful human connectors.

Nitschke can be reached at nitschkeme@mnstate.edu

Quote of the week: "Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right."

-Oprah Winfrey



JADEPRESENTS.com
KEEPING MUSIC LIVE!

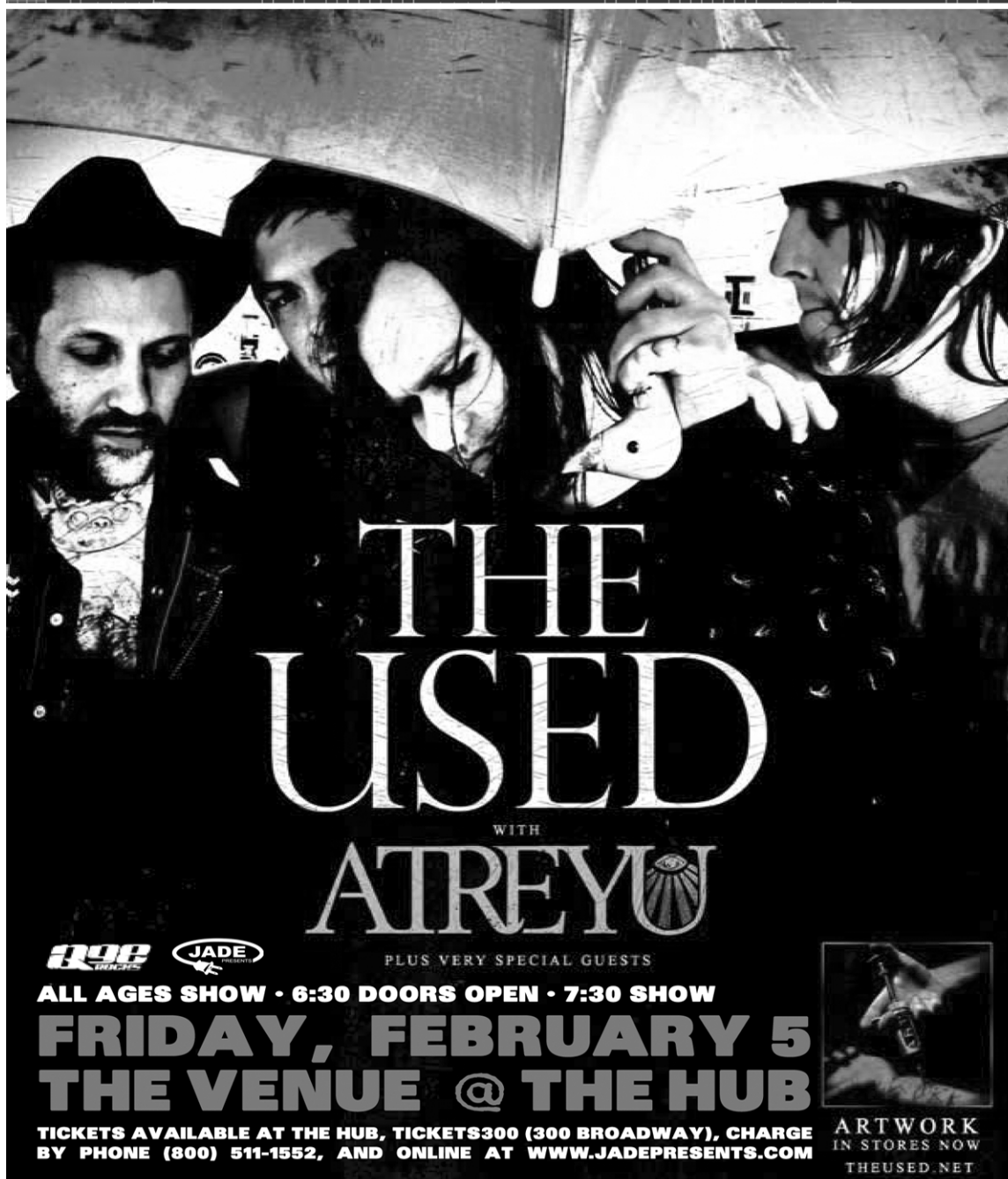
	<p>◀ TRACY LAWRENCE THE VENUE @ THE HUB FRIDAY, JAN. 22 8PM SHOW • AGES 21+ MARTIN ZELLAR ▶ MICHAEL PINK @ FM COMMUNITY THEATRE FRIDAY, JAN. 29 8PM SHOW • ALL AGES</p>	
	<p>◀ JOHNNY HOLM BAND THE VENUE @ THE HUB FRIDAY, JAN. 29 9PM SHOW • AGES 21+ STEVE EARLE ▶ HAYES CARLL @ FARGO THEATRE SATURDAY, JAN. 30 8PM SHOW • ALL AGES</p>	
	<p>◀ THE USED & ATREYU THE VENUE @ THE HUB FRIDAY, FEB. 5 7:30PM SHOW • ALL AGES HAIRBALL ▶ THE VENUE @ THE HUB FRIDAY, FEB. 12 10PM SHOW • AGES 21+</p>	

..... COMING SOON

40 OZ TO FREEDOM - THURSDAY, JAN. 28 - AGES 21+ - THE AQUARIUM
JOHN ANDERSON - FRIDAY, FEB. 19 - AGES 21+ - THE VENUE
Q FEST 2010 - WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24 - ALL AGES - FARGO CIVIC AUDITORIUM
HALESTORM - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3 - ALL AGES - THE AQUARIUM
TRAMPLED BY TURTLES - FRIDAY, MARCH 5 - AGES 21+ - THE VENUE
BRIAN REGAN - SATURDAY, APRIL 24 - ALL AGES - FARGO THEATRE
NOFX - TUESDAY, APRIL 27 - ALL AGES - THE VENUE

TICKETS FOR THE VENUE, FARGO THEATRE, FM COMMUNITY THEATRE, & AQUARIUM SHOWS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT TICKETS300 (300 BROADWAY, FARGO), FARGO CIVIC AUDITORIUM AVAILABLE @ TICKETMASTER

 ALL TICKETS AVAILABLE @ WWW.JADEPRESENTS.COM 




THE USED
WITH **ATREYU**

PLUS VERY SPECIAL GUESTS

ALL AGES SHOW • 6:30 DOORS OPEN • 7:30 SHOW
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5
THE VENUE @ THE HUB

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE HUB, TICKETS300 (300 BROADWAY), CHARGE BY PHONE (800) 511-1552, AND ONLINE AT WWW.JADEPRESENTS.COM



ARTWORK
IN STORES NOW
THEUSED.NET

Pool league gets new year rolling

League tournaments start, players enjoy competitive, fun environment



LAUREN TAUTE / THE ADVOCATE

Al Odden, member of the MSUM Pool League, plays pool with fellow league members on Monday. The pool league hosts a semester-long tournament and invites everyone to join. The league meets Monday nights in the ROC.

BY TIM STULKEN
Sports Editor

The Recreation and Outing Center plays host to a variety of different student activities, ranging from ping-pong to working on homework to shooting pool.

Walking through the ROC, one may see a group of students playing pool together or shooting trick shots.

The MSUM pool league meets Monday nights for a semester-long tournament. The league has between 15 and 25 players a night who play competitively but always enjoy the game.

"I like playing pool," sophomore Sam Jager said. "I just went down to the ROC one day and some guys asked me to join them in their game, so

I did, and it was really fun. So, I guess that's how I got involved in pool league."

Junior Rich Doane said that he started playing with the league just for something to do.

"I had a lot of time on my hands, so I joined," he said. "I made a lot of friends, and now it's more about hanging out with friends than playing pool. I come down to the ROC and I know I'm going to know half the people."

Jager said that the tournaments, while competitive, are fun and relaxed.

"We just meet up on Mondays and shoot two or three games per night," he said. "We try to play as many games as we can."

Doane agrees with Jager that the tournaments are more fun than competitive.

"If you are thinking about joining, don't be scared," Doane said. "We do like to win, but we aren't all that competitive. It's more about getting better than winning."

The league accepts new participants at the beginning of each semester and welcomes anyone with an interest.

"I really enjoy the competitiveness of the game," Jager said. "I also like that anyone can play. You don't have to be born with insane talent. With practice, anyone can learn and be really competitive."

Jager encourages people who are interested to stop by the ROC Monday night and check out a few games.


"It's a fun way to get to know people and make new friends," he said. "I think even people with little experience could have a lot of fun."

Stulken can be reached at stulketi@mnstate.edu




the
Computer
Place

Friendly, Knowledgeable Staff!
Sales and Service!
Student/Faculty Discount Available!



701-356-TECH
Located Just north of
Scheels on 45th ST




PIZZA 101

Papa John's Pizza®. It's a no brainer.


Fresh Dough that's never been frozen. Now if you can only figure out what to do with your 3 month supply of ramen.

100% Real Cheese. In fact, it's one of the lowest fat whole milk cheeses available. Pretty good considering it's your 6th meal today.



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



Better Ingredients.
Better Pizza.

Large 1 Topping Pizza \$8.99



218-236-7272
716 Main Avenue

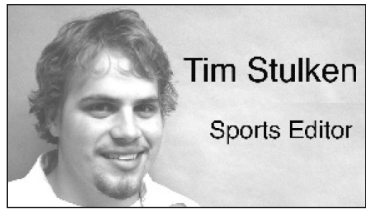
Buy a Large Pizza Get a Medium Free



Coupon required. Free 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.

SPORTS EDITORIAL

Staff changes spark advice



Tim Stulken
Sports Editor

Last week, Damon Tomeo announced his resignation from the football head coaching position. Tomeo had been placed on administrative leave in early October after a complaint was filed against him. Athletic Director Doug Peters named Joel Beard interim head coach saying, "He exemplified in his time here, the behavior that I would expect out of a head coach."

Additionally, the following day, freshman quarterback Zach Fry announced that he would be leaving the institution to seek other opportunities at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. As a true freshman, Fry completed 194 of 344 passes for 1,925 yards and 11 touchdowns starting for MSUM last season. In addition to Fry, running back Tim Hanson, kicker Jimmie Mattson and defensive end Jake Johnson have also decided to leave the team. A total of seven players are leaving the team.

The team will undoubtedly search for players to replace these players.

With these changes occurring in the football program, I thought now would be a good time to offer a little of my advice to the program as a whole.

My first bit of advice is to the players. You guys work hard and train all winter to com-

pete well during the season. So, when the season comes, do not ruin it by doing any number of inappropriate things that reflect badly on the football program and the school in general as a few of your teammates did this year.

Also, do not take previous years as predictions for the future. Let the past be the past and move on. A losing season last year and the year before does not mean that next year has to be a losing season. You can decide to try harder, work harder and succeed.

My next advice is for the new coaching staff, especially interim head coach Joel Beard. I wish you well as you begin the recruiting process soon.

Gain respect from the team early and maintain it through tough discipline. Encourage your team even when they fall. Give next season your all because as athletic director Doug Peters said, this is your "season-long audition" for (he head coach job.

After several years of disappointing seasons, it is time the football program turns things around, and I hope the team is able to do this under coach Beard's leadership.

As a whole, the program has had a few rough seasons and has had some disappointing challenges, but I have confidence in what the team has the potential to do. Dragons, you have my support.

Perhaps next year will be different.

Sports column question? Stulken can be reached at stulketi@mnstate.edu

NOTES FROM NEMZEK

Men's basketball 2-4 over break

The men's basketball team didn't have much of a break, playing six games while the rest of the school was off for the semester.

The team won two games. They beat non-conference opponent Jamestown College 79-59 and NSIC foe Southwest Minnesota State. The two wins were offset by four losses bringing the Dragons' overall record to 5-10 and their NSIC record to 2-6.

The team takes on Minnesota Crookston at 4 p.m. Saturday.

Women's basketball advances to 11-4

Over break, the women's basketball team split their six games defeating conference opponents MSU Mankato and Augustana College.

The Dragons have performed well this season, creating an overall record of 11-4 and a conference record of 5-3.

Seniors Alison Nash-Gerlach and Meghan Rettke have led the team this season putting up blocks and points assisting in wins. They combined for 40 points and 27 rebounds in the team's win against Augustana Saturday.

The team stays at home to take on Minnesota Crookston at 2 p.m. Saturday.


Indoor track and field gets under way


The team's first regular season meet took place Saturday at the University of Minnesota.

The team had several placing finishers and three of the athletes were honored as NSIC Athlete of the week.

Interested in writing for The Advocate?
Why not try writing sports stories?
www.mnstate.edu/advocate
Visit the Advocate at 4 p.m. on Mondays in CMU 110 for more information.

FREE Taps & Wells
Tuesdays from 9-close
College ID required - \$5.00 cover
ALWAYS 2-4-1 drinks
THE BASEMENT BAR
Corner of 4th Ave & 10th St N

January 15th:
Avalanche

Johnson Barn Dances
9pm - 1am / (701) 967-8912 / 2 miles North of Arthur, ND on HL81
Barn Available for Rent - Wedding Dances or Parties
Admission \$7.00 Visit Web Page at www.johnsonsbarn.com

The Advocate
Read it...

Your mom does.

...only at Union City.
Signature Pizza
Village style Meatball Pizza
Try our NEW calzones
Dollar Lunch
Stop at the Ultimate Baja for a Walking Taco- Tortilla chips, beef, cheese lettuce. ONLY \$ 1.06 (Limit 3 per purchase)

Salad
Napa Valley Chicken Salad
Chicken breast meat, red grapes, toasted walnuts green apple, fresh tarragon and carrots On a bed of field greens \$4.50

Free Fountain Soda Refills in Union City with any BK cup


SPEAK EASY
Text the word SPEAK to 46986 and receive a FREE Rail Drink or Domestic Beer.

SPECIALS
7 p.m.-midnight • Mon-Thu
MON Bucket of 4 Domestic Beers... \$7.50 Ladies Night Martinis... \$3.50
TUE 1/2 Price Bottles of Wine \$5 HAMBURGERS
WED Pitchers... \$3.95 (Amber Bock, Bud, Bud Light, Foster's, Miller Lite) FREE PEANUTS
THU 22 oz. Grande Beers... \$1.95 (Amber Bock, Bud, Bud Light, Foster's, Miller Lite) Sam Adams and Blue Moon \$2.95
FRI Pitchers... \$4.75 (Amber Bock, Bud, Bud Light, Miller Lite) After hours 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
SAT Bloody Marys... \$1.75 12 oz. draws... \$1.25 22 oz. draws... \$1.95 60 oz. pitchers... \$3.95 (Amber Bock, Bud, Bud Light, Miller Lite) BURGERS \$1.00 OFF 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
SUN Endless bowl of Chili... \$3.95 Grande Beers... \$1.95 Bloody Mary Bar \$3 Rails \$4 Calls 12 p.m.-4:30 p.m. 1/2 Price Appetizers* 7 p.m.-10 p.m. *excludes shrimp cocktail
Moorhead 1001 30th Ave. S. 218-233-1326 speakeasyrestaurant.com

Speakers spread insight through HIV presentation

BY MEGAN NITSCHKE
Editor

On Wednesday, Dragon Entertainment Group will be hosting an HIV educational presentation that includes two keynote speakers, Shawn Decker and Gwenn Barringer.

Using their relationship as a platform, these two speakers use their HIV knowledge to discuss sexual health and personal responsibility.

According to their Web site, when Shawn and Gwenn met, Shawn had HIV and Gwenn didn't. They have used their story and insight to spread HIV awareness through humor and truth to thousands of college students across the country.

Shawn, a hemophiliac, acquired HIV through tainted



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Shawn Decker and Gwenn Barringer will be sharing their HIV educational presentation at 7 p.m. on Wednesday in CMU 200F.

blood products at age 7. After facing discrimination, get-

ting kicked out of school in the 6th grade and being told

his life expectancy was minimal, Shawn felt hopeless. But after defying the odds against his disease and graduating high school, he exposed the personal details of his life in blogs, speeches and his first book, "My Pet Virus: The True Story of a Rebel Without a Cure."

Gwenn became highly involved with AIDS activist activities, where she met Shawn. They were married in October of 2004.

In their program they address issues ranging from safer sex and intimacy to communication between partners and the medical realities of HIV infection.

By applying openness and humor to their presentation, Shawn and Gwenn are known

to challenge students to open their minds and confront the stereotypes of people infected and affected by HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

"I think that it's important for students to be aware of and learn about the dangers of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases," Mikky Daub, speaker coordinator for Dragon Entertainment Group said. "We all know they exist but it's good to remind and inform students of these potentially life changing risks."

The program will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday in CMU 200F.

Nitschke can be reached at nitschkeme@mnstate.edu

Heard on campus: What's your New Year's resolution?



Allan Branstiter, Junior

"Switch to natural foods."



Cierra Abell, Senior

"To understand film photography."



Kit Cross, Senior

"Learn to do a cartwheel."



Dylan Jacobson, Senior

"Smoke more, drink twice as much and eat bacon every morning."

SUNGODS

**TANNING SALONS
2 LOCATIONS**

1617 32ND Ave S
(Across from Hair Success)
Fargo, ND
(701) 232-5433

800 Holiday Mall Dr
(Next to Little Caesar's)
Moorhead, MN
(218) 227-0652

20% OFF
any package
(Not valid with any other discounted packages)

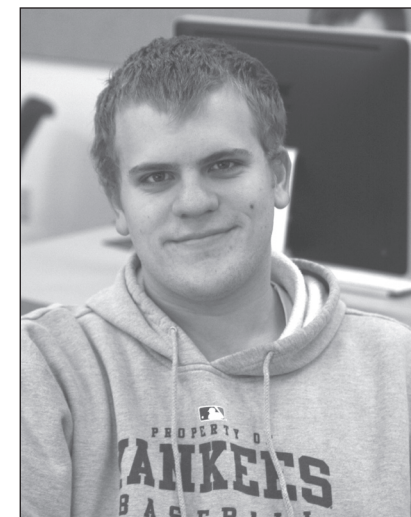
Mon - Thurs 8am - 11pm
Saturday 8am - 7pm

Friday 8am - 9pm
Sunday 12n - 8pm

 **Work one-to-one with Children and Adults with Special Needs**

- Great experience for Soc Wk, Spec Ed, Nursing, Psych, Crim Justice, and other related degrees
- Work for the agency that values individual client care
- Work every other weekend
- Paid training provided
- Part Time and Full Time hours available
- Wage DOE

Apply online at:
www.accessrrv.org
Access of the Red River Valley
403 Center Ave. Suite 512
Moorhead, MN 56560
218-233-3991
EEO/AA Employer
Current Dr. Lic/Auto Ins/Clear Bkgrd req.



Trevor Hopkins, Sophomore

"Quit smoking."

Prof. honored for book on local legend

BY HOLLY LAVECCHIA
Copy Editor

In early December, communications professor Merrie Sue Holtan found out that her book, "Power and Stride: The Nancy Burggraf Story" had been nominated for a Minnesota Book Award.



HOLTAN

The story is about a woman from Roseau, Minn., where the game of hockey is almost interchangeable with words like Lutheran, Episcopalian and Catholic. Nancy Burggraf and her hockey expertise changed the sport forever, touching the lives of thousands of hockey players from the small frozen town to the National Hockey League until she died in 1999 of Lou Gehrig's Disease. She was the first woman nominated to the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame.

Holtan first heard the story in 1999 from a freshman student in a speech about someone the student

admired. She said that the speech brought the whole class to tears and she knew it was one that needed to be told, and felt "called" to tell it.

The original choice of storytelling format was film. Holtan received a research grant and recruited students from Concordia, where she taught at the time, to help. They assisted in many facets of the endeavor, gathering interviews, photos and even originally composed

"I think it's worthy, but that somebody else thought it was worthy is exciting."

Merrie Sue Holtan
Communications professor and author

music to score the documentary.

Holtan is very careful to acknowledge the students who added their willingness and enthusiasm to the project. "I always say 'we' got a nomination," Holtan said. "I was running the show but couldn't have done it without them."

Their 56-minute handiwork won the Ruth Landfield Award at the Fargo Film Festival in 2003. The award goes to films of artistic merit that profile

women of courage, conviction and compassion, all adjectives that fit Burggraf like a glove.

Although Holtan authored a highly praised cookbook for athletes in 1992, a fresh challenge was reconfiguring "Power and Stride" the film into a biography.

The biography was her master's thesis for MSUM's Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program which she graduated from in 2004. Though often a frustrating process, Holtan used Burggraf's life and legacy as inspiration.

"Power and Stride: The Nancy Burggraf Story" was published in April 2009 by Pogo Press in St. Paul and is one of 27 others up for the Minnesota Book Award under the category "Minnesota." Four finalists for all eight categories will be announced Jan. 30 and the winners will be announced on April 17 at a gala in the Twin Cities.

The way that Holtan talks and writes about the Roseau woman who, even as a famous skating instructor, told her kids to remember, "We're in it for the puck, not the buck" speaks to a respect and awe that her story evokes from most readers. Holtan is thrilled by the prospect of more people reading the book.

"I think it's worthy, but

that somebody else thought it was worthy is exciting," she said.

More information about the Minnesota Book Awards

and the other nominees can be found at www.the-friends.org.

Lavecchia can be reached at lavecchio@mnstate.edu

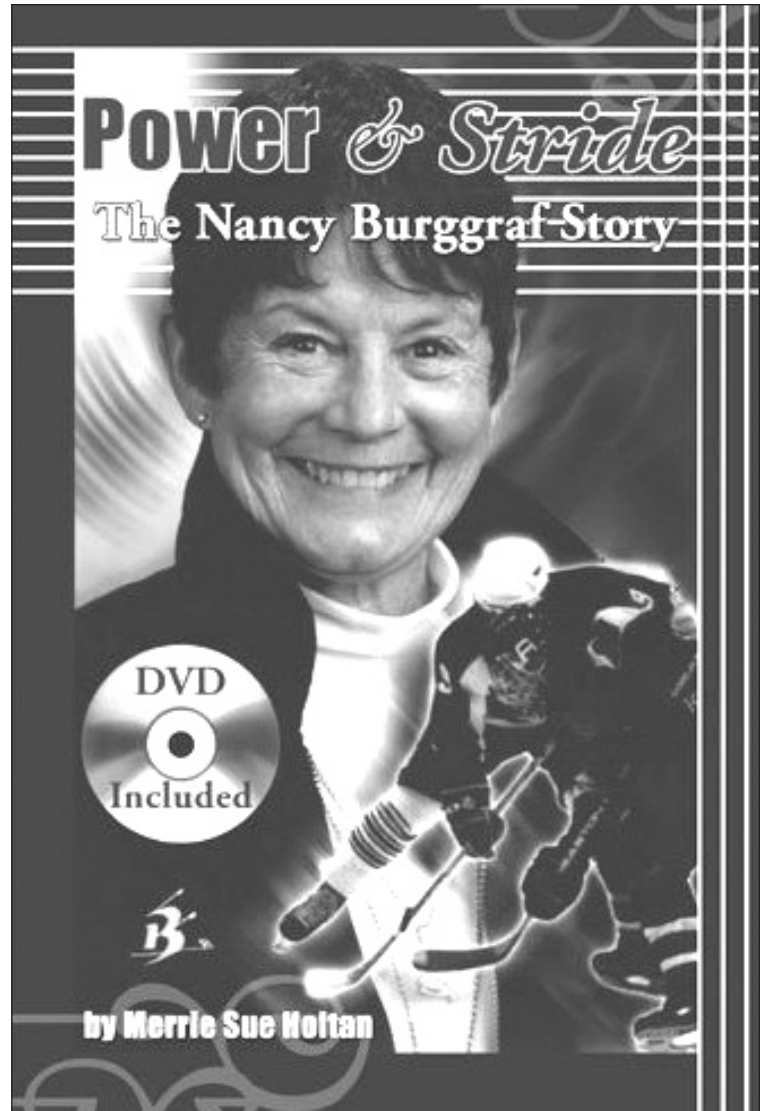


PHOTO SUBMITTED

"Power and Stride: The Nancy Burggraf Story," was written by MSUM communications professor Merrie Sue Holtan. It was nominated for a Minnesota Book Award. The winner of the award will be announced Feb. 1.

Opportunities offered to students interested in journalism

Advocate Staff Reports

Students interested in the journalism field and looking to submit their work or apply for an internship have an opportunity to do so with the Society of Professional Journalists.

SPJ's mission is to improve and protect journalism, and is always looking for ways to honor students who are pursuing a career in the profession. The Mark of Excellence Awards is a program that will give students a chance to showcase their talent.

The Mark of Excellence Awards is a nationally recognized segment of SPJ that honors the best in student journalism. The awards offer categories for print, radio, television and online collegiate journalism. First place regional winners are forwarded on to the national competition, according to the SPJ Web site. National winners will be honored at the 2010 SPJ Convention & National Journalism Conference in Las Vegas.

This year students are able to submit their work online by accessing the entry Web site at www.awards.spj.org.

The contest is open to any-

one enrolled in a college or university in the U.S. studying for an academic degree in 2009. SPJ members may enter for \$9. The non-member fee is \$18. More information and rules can be found at www.spj.org. The deadline is Jan. 27.

SPJ also offers two paid summer internships. One intern works in the offices of the Society's First Amendment legal counsel in Washington, D.C. The other intern works at the Society's

National Headquarters in Indianapolis. Interns research and write about freedom of information issues while assisting the Society's Freedom of Information Committee and First Amendment legal counsel in preparing SPJ's annual Freedom of Information Report.


Other responsibilities may include working on the SPJ Web site and assisting with SPJ programs and initiatives. This is a fantastic opportuni-

ty to learn and make money during the summer.

Students can apply for the Pulliam/Kilgore Freedom of Information Internships at www.spj.org/i-pullkilgore.asp.

If students have any questions, contact awards coordinator Lauren Rochester at 317.927.8000 ext. 210 or awards@spj.org.

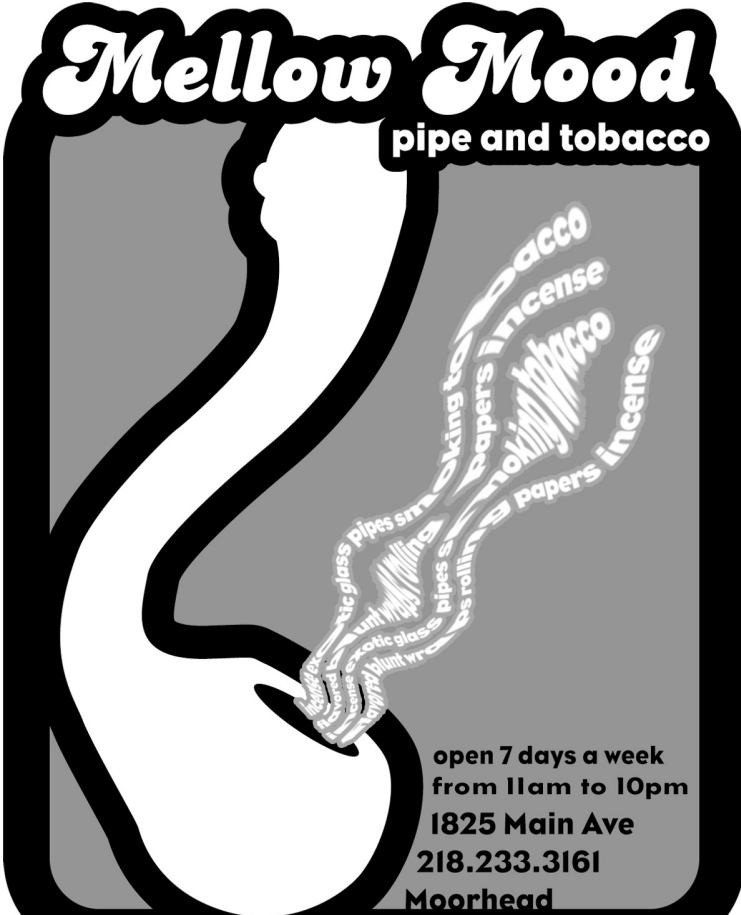
She'll say 'Yes' to a diamond from White Diamonds



3031 13th Ave S
Fargo, ND 58103
(701) 239-9091
www.whitediamondsfargo.com

Mellow Mood

pipe and tobacco



open 7 days a week
from 11am to 10pm
1825 Main Ave
218.233.3161
Moorhead

COACH, FRONT PAGE

The coaching change has brought some optimism to the program. "If I evaluate the staff between this year and previous years, we have a little more experience," Peters said. "I'm excited about that."

With time running out before national signing day "we have put in a lot of hours the last couple months," said Beard. "We were trying to keep our recruiting going in the right direction for next year."

Since Beard will be the

interim head coach with one year to prove his ability, the athletic department may conduct a national search for a head coach at the end of the 2010 season.

MSUM and the athletic department will host a Meet and Greet with the new football staff on Tuesday in CMU 101.

Smith can be reached at smithmi@mnstate.edu

DAMAGE, FRONT PAGE

unable to disclose whether or not she had met with Conduah or if there are any punishments specifically against him.

As for Hoover and Deile, they are still determined to resolve the case.

"We're trying to figure out who sponsored these individuals into the country," Deile said.

Most recently, the two have been looking into the issue of sponsorship, which they believe to be the schools, because if damages are caused, sponsors can be somewhat responsible.

As of now, the students still remain in the area, and

according to MSUM officials, which were contacted by Diele; Conduah currently resides in a house in South Moorhead.

The house in which the \$28,000 worth of damage was done to has been maintained, and since August it has been occupied.

"As agent to the property, I've invested a lot of time and effort into getting the place livable again," Deile said.

And as Hoover and Deile continue working on this case, "We're determined to get some sort of resolution to this," Deile said.

Nitschke can be reached at nitschkeme@mnstate.edu

Featured professor



LAUREN TAUTE / THE ADVOCATE

MSUM online journalism professor Reggie Radniecki speaks with friends at the opening of her gallery "Winter Images of HWY 75" on Tuesday in Nicole's Fine Pastry in downtown Fargo.

Creative writing program to showcase writers

BY MEGAN NITSCHKE

Editor

Tonight the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program will begin a series of readings by showcasing the written works of students.

The event will take place at 8 p.m. in The Spirit Room, located at 111 Broadway in Fargo.

This is the first in a series of

four spring semester readings in The Spirit Room.

Additional MFA students and faculty members will be given the opportunity to read during the open read portion of the evening.

This event will feature the writers Dan Nygard, Kari Brady and Megan Baule.

The next showcase in the series will be at 8 p.m. on

Feb. 4, and it will feature John Powers, Renee LaMie and Brooke Kramer.

Nitschke can be reached at nitschkeme@mnstate.edu

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

Large efficiency, heat & water pd, laundry, plug-ins, \$335, open now or Feb 1, 701-238-0081

Large 4 bedroom duplex, 1/2 block from MSUM, laundry, heat & water pd, open now or Feb. 1, \$975, 701-238-0081

WANTED

Looking for 1 or 2 college girls to live in a disabled man's home and work part-time hours for him. FREE RENT, INTERNET, TV, LAUNDRY, and FOOD! Please call 701-237-3959 for an interview

Wanted: Someone to tutor older gentlemen to do some simple things on computer, from picture storage to retrieval. \$9/hr 218-287-1574

SERVICES

FREE Pregnancy confirmation and counseling www.firstchoiceclinic.com or 701.237.6530

Textbooks bought and sold, new & used, online buy-backs. Buy, sell, rent at cheapbooks.com (260) 399-6111, espanol (212) 380-1763, urdu/hindi/punjabi (713) 429-4981, see site for other support lines.

To place an ad in the classifieds email us at advocate@mnstate.edu

BEARDED MEN IMPROV.com

Comedy Shows at FMCT

Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Thursday LATE NIGHT at 10:30

Only \$4 for students! (\$3 with this ad)

Hiring Immediately!

P/T Telesales 18-33 hrs/week
VARIOUS HRS Between 4pm-9pm M-F
SAT. 9am-5:30pm

Thank you college students!

PERFORMANCE CENTERS, INC
2829 S University Dr, Fargo (NW corner of American Family Insurance Building)

Apply in person or online www.pcifargo.com

Golden Needle Tattoo

★ Custom Designs & Cover-ups My Specialty
★ Traditional Tattoos
★ Licensed & Inspected Studio, Safe & Steril
★ Providing Creativity & Reliability Since 1983

B.A. Degree in Fine Arts

1825 Main Avenue Moorhead, MN 56560

ta2lady@far.midco.net
218-236-8560
www.goldenneedletattoo.com

FREE Birthday Dinner!

Fajitas, Burritos, Chimichangas...
On the day of your birthday, choose **ANY ENTRÉE** on our giant menu for **FREE*!**

*ID required.

The Chips are Free

Paradiso Mexican Restaurant
801 38th St. South • Fargo
www.paradiso.com

Busy Bubbles Super Center

\$15/mo Unlimited Tanning
3 Month Minimum Requirement

Wash & Tan
24 Hours a Day!

2102 12th ST N
Fargo, ND 298-8589
www.washandtan.com