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The Advocate, November 18, 2010

Minnesota State University Moorhead

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“Get Off My Lawn!” finds a following

BY ERIC LUNDBERG
Staff Writer

Though KMSC is not as widely accessible and propagated as it could be, there are many loyal listeners and fantastic programs which air weekly. This year has seen the explosive success of one of the now most popular radio shows offered by KMSC: “Get Off My Lawn!”

According to Station Manager Ryan Peterson, the show consistently brings in more viewers. Co-hosted by Fat Elvis (Allan Branstiter) and Ben Danzig, Jr. (Ben Sailer), with the “perpetual guest” George Jefferson (Tyler Anderson), “Get Off My Lawn!” refers to their not-quite-so-youthful age.

When co-hosts Branstiter and Sailer first aired last September, they did not realize their “one big joke” would receive the acclaim it has witnessed since then. Described as a show with “just three dudes talking,” and “a conversation with music,” the trio splices music with a wide-ranging area of topics, from neutral political commentary to the latest in current events.

Above all else, they want to make people laugh and enjoy quality music. Through dry, sarcastic humor, they dissect anything and everything that wanders into the conversation with off-the-cuff remarks.

Aside from the occasional news story, the show is unscripted, laid back, and very random. They’re not out to offend, or push any agenda, and they are committed to staying on air, Sailer said, “so long as it stays fun.” They also try and keep a steady balance between discussion and music.

From Bobby Darin to The Clash, and Murder by Death to Radiohead, “Get Off My Lawn!”

LAWN, PAGE 8



Chris Franz / Photo Editor

Russ Colson (middle) helps students Mike Herbst and Kelly He'bert read geological maps during a physical geology lab on Tuesday.

Colson wins National Professor of the Year

BY RACHEL LEINGANG
Editor

The Carnegie Foundation recognized Russ Colson, Ph.D., MSUM geology professor, for the Advancement of Teaching as the 2010 Outstanding U.S. Master's Universities and Colleges Professor today at ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Colson's hands-on approach to teaching and learning resonate with students and faculty alike. Whether it's by treating students like colleagues or taking an interest in their personal and professional success, he has proven worthy of this prestigious honor.

Colson teaches classes in geology, planetary science, meteorology and an honors seminar about science history and its relation to religion. He also developed the geosciences major at MSUM by designing courses and tailoring the program to fit

the campus specific needs. His hard work and dedication has not gone unnoticed.

“He is so full of enthusiasm and joy about science and learning that it literally spills out onto everything else he is involved with,” said Tabb Prissel, a 2009 MSUM graduate in geosciences.

“He engages your thinking through the various labs and activities, but also empowers you to question. When we did question, we were never supplied with a factoid-like answer. Dr. Colson would respond, ‘Well, let’s think about that’ as if thinking about it for the first time himself.”

A classroom experience with Colson is different than most. He regularly uses thought puzzles and activities to make students think and actively leads his classes.

“There is nothing, and I

mean nothing, like seeing your professor jump on the table and do the greatest raptor impression you’ve ever seen, and all before 9 o’clock in the morning,” Prissel said. “Dr. Colson simply found a way to captivate each class in a unique and memorable way.”

He also uses everyday problems to encourage future scientists to develop their critical thinking skills and exercise their ability to solve problems.

“He makes science relevant by encouraging students to step outside and immediately use the material from class to explain what we observe every day,” said Anthony Larson, an earth science teaching major who has taken 11 classes from Colson.

Colson refers to himself as a coach of sorts, not only providing a rulebook, but also showing them how to play the game.

“My students and I do science

COLSON, BACK PAGE



Color Guard team debuts
Team incorporates dancing with flags and rifles
See pg. 9



Rugby club loses status
Suspended for misconduct, team will look for appeal
See pg. 10

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The Advocate is now hiring copy editors for next semester.

Applicants must have taken copy editing or have applicable copy editing experience. Pick up an application at CMU 110. Must be available to work Tuesdays from 4:30 p.m. to midnight. A copy editing test will be administered to assess knowledge of grammar and AP syle. Application deadline is Dec. 2.

Budget constraints lead to culture class cancellations

BY HOLLY LAVECCHIA
Copy Editor

Although the economic crunch seems less talked about among Dragons than it was a year ago, and a higher enrollment this fall inspired much optimism, many departments are going to be seeing another round of cuts, said Dean of Arts and Humanities, Tim Borchers.

“It’s going to be even more severe,” Borchers said of the future budget restrictions, “with the Republicans taking the house and the senate (at the state level), that means we’re not going to get any new tax revenue so that means

we’re going to look at a pretty big budget shortfall going into next year.”

Two classes, Japanese 142 and Chinese 132, both introductory culture classes, will not be offered in the spring due to budget restrictions, though both are Dragon Core classes and nearly all 80 seats of both fill quickly.

Japanese 142 instructor, Chizuko Shastri, Ph.D., has taught the class for six years, both fall and spring semesters. The course is chosen by business majors, East Asian studies majors and students from all across campus to fulfill their human diversity Dragon Core requirement. It is also the

only Japanese culture class offered within the tri-college system.

Shastri said she teaches the class to “Show the difference between how we do business, how people react, and therefore the crucial part, why we do it different. So the students can start seeing that you do the same things but depending on the culture, people take it so differently.”

For her it’s an issue of preparing students for not just the real world, but the entire world.

“The major concern I feel is, are we making our MSUM students marketable so they can compete

CLASSES CUT, BACK PAGE



Ben Green / The Advocate

Professor Shastri teaches her students how to use chop sticks in her introduction to Japanese course, which was cut for spring semester.

Campus Calendar

11.18-11.24

- 11.18 6:30-9:30p.m. Cinethusiast Meeting WE 106
7-11p.m. Ping Pong League Night CMU
7:30-8:30p.m. Office Fan Club CMU
- 11.19 8:30-10a.m. Fire Up Friday OW 201
Noon-1:30p.m. Women's Studies Colloquium MA 167
7-10p.m. Korea Night CMU
- 11.20 1-2p.m. The Frog Princess CA 121
5-11p.m. MEISA Presents: Battle of the Bands CMU
- 11.21 4-8p.m. Admissions Calling Nights MA 168
- 11.22 4-8p.m. Admissions Calling Nights MA 168
6:30-8:30p.m. Criminal Justice Association CB 109
- 11.23 3-3:50p.m. ARO - College Success Workshops MA 181
4-8p.m. Admissions Calling Nights MA 168
- 11.24 4-8p.m. Admissions Calling Nights MA 168

National Briefs



Murkowski: Palin lacks 'intellectual curiosity'

Here's one hatchet that's not getting buried: U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski, who leads Joe Miller by more than 1,700 votes in her reelection campaign, said on Monday that Sarah Palin is unfit to be president because she lacks "leadership qualities" and "intellectual curiosity."

"You know, she was my governor for two years, for just about two years there, and I don't think that she enjoyed governing," Murkowski told Katie Couric. "I don't think she liked to get down into the policy."

42 million Americans on food stamps

Hunger rates in the U.S. rose sharply in 2008 to their highest levels since the U.S. Department of Agriculture started tracking the number in 1995, and they've held steady ever since. As many as 1 million American families with children were forced to go without eating at some point in the past year. The number of Americans on food stamps is up 10 million from a year ago, to 42 million people.

"I know meeting with, whether it's government offices across the country or with food pantries and food banks in all of those instances people have reflected the fact, to me, anecdotally that they are serving people who never envisioned in their lifetimes needing to turn to either a state or a county for federal assistance or to a food bank for assistance," said Mark Nord, a researcher with the USDA. And the problem is set to get worse. Economic forecasters predict a rise in food prices in 2011.

MSUM Briefs



Set your own price for tickets to see Frog Princess

Audience members get to set their own ticket prices Nov. 20, in Hansen Theatre on the MSUM campus to see MSUM's Theater Department produce the ageless fairytale, "The Frog Princess."

According to Craig Ellingson, chair of the theater department, MSUM has produced an annual children's theater show for more than 40 years. He wants to celebrate the success by offering everyone the chance to attend at a price anyone can afford.

"We want grandparents to bring their grandchildren, aunts and uncles to bring their nieces and nephews, parents to bring their kids, daycare providers to bring their charges," Ellingson said.

Showtimes are 1 and 4 p.m. For more information, call the MSUM Box Office at 218.477.2271 Monday through Friday between noon and 4 p.m.

Sigma Tau Delta is sponsoring a book drive

The Sigma Tau Delta English Club is sponsoring a book drive through Dec. 31. All books received will be donated to the National Center for Family Literacy. In addition, Sigma Tau Delta will receive \$1 for each book collected.

The money that is raised will be used to fund future service projects.

Collection bins are located in Weld, Hagen, Center for the Arts, McLean, the library and the residence halls. Sigma Tau Delta members will also be more than happy to pick up donations.



Security Update

Interim Director of Public Safety

Mitch Osland

A theft was reported from a storage room in Nemzek was reported on Nov. 8. Moorhead Police Department responded.

Vandalism was reported to the exterior door of the Center for Arts on Nov. 8.

A noise complaint was reported in Dahl on Nov. 8.

Unspent ammunition was found in Lot C on Nov. 8. The ammunition was taken into evidence by Public Safety.

Burglary of a dorm room in Holmquist was reported on Nov. 8.

Vandalism to the men's bathroom in Holmquist was reported on Nov. 8.

A male reported items being left on his car in Lot A on Nov. 9.

A male was cited at the CMU for trespassing by the Moorhead Police Department on Nov. 9.

A bottle of alcohol was found in Lot S on Nov. 11. Public Safety disposed of the bottle.

A report of a male trying to open doors in MacLean was filed on Nov. 11. The student was told the building was closed for the night.

Two males were referred to campus judicial for marijuana use in Grantham on Nov. 12.

A male was cited for minor in consumption by the Moorhead Police Department on Nov. 14. He was referred to campus judicial.

A female was cited by the Moorhead Police Department for minor in consumption in Lot D on Nov. 14. She was referred to campus judicial.

A male was referred to campus judicial for a weapons violation outside East Snarr on Nov. 14.

Campus News holds anchor auditions

Auditions for Campus News anchors for next semester will be held on Dec. 1, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.. Tryouts will be held for both news and sports anchors. Those who would like to audition should come to the Campus News studio (Flora Frick 245).

Campus News is a weekly news and information program broadcast on Prairie Public Television during

the spring semester. Campus News is produced by the television news workshop in the department of mass communications at Minnesota State University Moorhead in cooperation with Prairie Public Television.

For more information about the auditions contact Aaron Quanbeck at 218.477.2741 or quanbeck@mnstate.edu.

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.msuvadocate.com

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The Advocate encourages letters to the editor and your turn submissions. They should be typed and must include the writer's name, signature, address, phone number, year in school or occupation and any affiliations. Letters are due 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.

"Just bury me in brownie cookies."

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The Advocate is always looking for talented writers, photographers, columnists and illustrators. Meetings are held at 2:30 p.m. every Monday in CMU 110. Contact the editor for more information or come to the staff meetings.

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Rachel Leingang Editor

Kelsie O'Keefe Assistant Editor
Matt Leingang Opinion Editor
Erica Anderson Features Editor
Sadie Jones Arts and Entertainment Editor
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Interested in copy editing?
The Advocate will be hiring two copy editors for spring semester
Grab an application in CMU 110

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Pandora founder hosts meetup in Fargo

BY TYLER SORENSEN
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday morning, several dozen people filed into Babb's Coffee House in downtown Fargo for a meetup. The audience was diverse, ranging from children to retirees. For a small handful, the topic at hand was unclear and oddly cryptic. Half-whispers of "What's he going to talk about?" and "Do you know what Pandora is?" circulated throughout the assembly.

Launched in 2005, Pandora is an Internet radio service that provides users with the unique ability to customize their own radio station. By selecting an artist or a song, listeners can create a station of similar music, for which they have complete control. If a

particular track is undesirable, users can "thumbs down" to guarantee that it will never be played again. Likewise, a thumbs up will ensure a song's place in a station.

Pandora Radio currently boasts approximately 70 million listeners in the U.S. alone, with nearly 100,000 smartphone users added daily. And although Pandora offers subscription packages, the company maintains its free ad-supported service for the vast majority of its users.

Pandora meetups — or town hall meetings as they've come to be called — are informal speaking engagements held around the country by founder Tim Westergren, allowing for a direct and open

exchange of ideas with the many fans of the service.

At 11:30 a.m., Westergren, recently listed as one of Time Magazine's most influential people, quietly assumed the stage. Working without a microphone, his opening greeting was drowned out by the murmuring crowd.

Westergren's history of Pandora Radio was inspiring. A musician by training, Westergren's first job out of Stanford was working as a nanny in the Bay Area.

"I got really familiar in those years with the challenge that musicians face of how to find an audience," Westergren said. "And that is one of the missions of this company. It's very hard to build critical mass. So, I

want to harness technology to really aid musicians."

Westergren's work as a film composer inspired him to create the music genome project, the system that analyzes and organizes songs using hundreds of attributes. While watching a film with the director, Westergren would play CDs to approximate what they wanted.

"(The directors) weren't typically musicians so they couldn't actually be specific about the harmonic content or the instrumentation," he said. "They could just say, 'I like this,' 'I don't like that,' 'That's too moody,' 'That's too happy.' And I would then translate that to what was really becoming a music genome in my head."

Years later, after dazzling over 250 town hall meetings with statistics (for instance: 90 percent of the tracks in Pandora's 700,000 song database are played every month), it's clear that Westergren still sees the company as an up-and-coming endeavor.

As far as other popular Internet radio services, most notably Last.fm, are concerned, the Pandora founder employs diplomacy.

"We don't hate (Last.fm)," he said. "We don't look at them and say they're stealing market share. We're all small fish in a big pond. Broadcast radio is our true competition."

Sorensen can be reached at sorensty@mnstate.edu

Cast inspires laughter through news

BY HOLLY LAVECCHIA
Copy Editor

"Morning Glory" is perhaps the most charming movie ever made about the morning news. The movie's freshness, lively tone, complexity and empowering message make it an original take on the classic romantic comedy.

The things that identify a movie as a rom-com: an amusing plot with some endearing romantic encounters, a touch of conflict stewed in, with inevitable girl-gets-guy cheery ending, do apply to "Morning Glory." But it's so much more than that.

Inspiring underdog Becky Fuller (Rachel McAdams) opens the story by getting laid-off from the small morning news job that was her life. Devastated, she seeks out a new position and finds it as producer for the morning show, "Daybreak." The show boasts dismal ratings and even more miserable staff morale including spoiled anchor Colleen Peck (Diane Keaton) and the grumpy-is-an-understatement Mike Pomeroy, played by a shockingly old Harrison Ford.

Faced with the task of boosting the

show's ratings or losing the family she's begun to knit together, Becky has to navigate a balance between real news and entertainment on the air, knowing that most modern viewers react to sensational, highly caffeinated TV.

Co-anchor Mike Pomeroy, veteran journalist, despises being asked to risk his impressive reputation for anything that doesn't inform the public. In one scene he refuses to use the word "fluffy" in a story about Easter chicks, insisting somebody find a suitable synonym. The declining value of the news in America is one topic the film impels to the forefront.

Everything about producing television news is fast-paced and exciting, which mirrors the tone of the movie, fueled by Becky's exuberant, hardworking character. One hour and 42 minutes could feel long, but "Morning Glory" seems to be over in an instant, making it incredibly rewatchable.

The sarcastic office hottie, Adam Bennet (Patrick Wilson) humorously plays off Becky's painfully awkward and lovably naïve behavior, allowing room for comedy in their tentative

relationship. He also assists another theme of the movie, workaholicism. Becky's motivation and professional drive is staggering, but she's forced to reevaluate her identity as a career woman in order to salvage her personal relationships. Mike later offers himself as an example of how lonely an extraordinary career can be.

Except for some nasty bruises McAdams acquired tumbling comically while shooting a racy scene and Keaton's hospital-worthy bump on the head while wearing a sumo wrestler suit, the only other injury was that the film did poorly during its first weekend at the box office.

Regardless of whether it attracted people to the theater, "Morning Glory" is about empowerment, the ability to adapt, the search for a life beyond a career and the controversy between news and entertainment parading as news. Weaving several disparate themes is difficult to do but in this case, they are seamlessly melded into a worthwhile, feel-good film.

Lavecchia can be reached at laveccho@mnstate.edu



submitted photo

Bands battle in MSUM Underground

BY MARK RADCLIFFE
Staff Writer

On Nov. 20, the Music and Entertainment Industry Student Association is proudly hosting their second annual Battle of the Bands event. The Battle of the Bands is the only night of the semester where bands can duke it out on the Underground stage.

"The prizes for the winners are \$150 to Marguerite's Music for

first place, \$100 for second place and \$50 for third place," said Seth Stoxen, president of MEISA.

There is no limit to who can play and it is open to all genres of music.

"There is a wide variety of acts performing from rap, to hardcore, to metal," Stoxen said. "All the bands filled out a form letting us (MEISA) know a few things about them and sent a demo. We listened to all of this last Monday and decided who

to let through to the battle."

The Battle of the Bands is an outlet for musicians to come together and showcase their talent for each other and the public. It will be held in the CMU Underground from 5-11 p.m. The event is free to the public.

Radcliffe can be reached at radclima@mnstate.edu

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Friday, November 19 with
PERT' NEAR SANDSTONE A Night In The Box
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The Aquarium

Saturday, November 20
PAULA POUNDSTONE
8PM Show • All Ages
Fargo Theatre

Wednesday, November 24
IN THIS MOMENT with Taking Dawn
5:30PM Show • All Ages
The Aquarium

Friday, November 26
GEAR DADDIES with The BBllys
9PM Show • Ages 21+
The Venue @ The Hub

Monday, November 29
TRAPT with Since October
7:30PM Show • All Ages
The Venue @ The Hub

Wednesday, December 1
JACKYL & DMC (of Run DMC)
8PM Show • Ages 21+
The Venue @ The Hub

COMING SOON

OVATION (PRINCE TRIBUTE) • Friday, December 3 • Ages 21+ • The Venue at The Hub

CHAD CALEK (AMERICAN GHOST HUNTERS) • Saturday, December 4 • All Ages • Fargo Theatre

DEVIL WEARS PRADA • Thursday, December 9 • All Ages • The Venue at The Hub

GB LEIGHTON • Friday, December 10 • Ages 21+ • The Venue at The Hub

DEAD MAN WINTER • Saturday, December 18 • Ages 21+ • The Aquarium

PATTON OSWALT • Wednesday, January 12 • All Ages • Fargo Theatre

MARTIN SEXTON • Sunday, January 30 • All Ages • FM Community Theatre

LEO KOTTKE • Saturday, April 30 • All Ages • Fargo Theatre

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Advocate Editorial Board

Discriminatory policies may reach MN, ND

On Nov. 10, a workshop called "Identifying and Uprooting Discriminatory Policies" was held at the Fargo Public Library. The workshop, hosted by Steven Renderos and Danielle Mkali of Minneapolis' Main Street Project, analyzed the potential that discriminatory laws like Arizona's SB 1070 will be introduced in Minnesota and North Dakota and what steps can be taken to stop or hinder such laws.

Under Title 8 of the United States Code outlining the role of aliens and nationality, federal law requires some illegal immigrants to register with the U.S. government and have registration documents on them at all times. Arizona's SB 1070 takes it a step further making it a state misdemeanor for an illegal immigrant to be in Arizona without the required documents, prohibits state or local officials or agencies from restricting enforcement of federal immigration laws and cracks down on those sheltering, hiring and transporting illegal immigrants.

The workshop identified consequences of a law similar to Arizona's SB 1070 being passed in Minnesota or North Dakota. Among them are obvious instances such as an increase in racial profiling and prevalence of a divided community depending on which side of the issue one agreed with. But other repercussions are less apparent.

When considering how a discriminatory law might affect area colleges and universities, the discourse becomes more troubling. Many would consider MSUM, and most public colleges and universities, a breeding ground for ideas, intellectual conversations and new friends. But what happens when minority members of our campus community are afraid to speak to fellow classmates, conscience of the fact that people around them may support such legislation?

Discriminatory legislation would also likely lead to a decrease in enrollment of certain minority groups which would adversely affect some types of funding.

The accession of a bill like Arizona's SB 1070 will not only lead to a communication breakdown on campus, but within the community as a whole. A sect of insular individuals could lead to neighbors being afraid to talk to each other because of their stance on the issue. Within elementary, middle and high schools an amplification of prejudiced bullying would be observed.

As failing economies in various parts of the U.S. have led to an influx of people to our region, the door will suddenly be shut. A burgeoning community becoming more diversified and culturally-aware by the day will be abruptly transformed into a xenophobic and paranoid region.

It is our responsibility as young adults and culturally-conscience community members to fight discriminatory laws or to organize to have them eradicated if they are passed. For more information about what can and is being done, contact the Main Street Project at info@mainstreetproject.org or Jessica Arneson at connect.learn.share@gmail.com.

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 any 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.

Looking forward to the end

BY RACHEL LEINGANG
Editor

I am graduating in May with two majors, international studies and mass communications, and one minor, Spanish. And then I'm not planning to do anything concrete. I don't have a career path I want to take or some stellar internship I'm dying to get. I'm looking forward to floundering. I'm looking forward to not having to look forward anymore.

When I told my dad this, he asked why I'm so afraid of succeeding. And I think a lot of people would maybe agree that what I want to do isn't a clear-cut path to success. I'm getting really tired of answering these same questions over and over.

As long as I've been in school, people have gotten the false notion that I enjoy it. I get good grades, I participate in activities and I'm a student leader. I understand how that could give the wrong impression. Truthfully, I feel most unlike myself when I'm inside a classroom. My mind wanders or my brain just shuts off. I feel stifled.

I came to college because everyone said I had to. And I'm not mechanically inclined or good at any trade jobs, so my options were limited. The Army probably wouldn't even have wanted me. And while I've been here, I've made the best of it. I studied abroad, got involved in things off-campus and found my favorite watering holes.

It's just that my notion of success is a lot different than most would probably assume. I don't want to get an internship or low-level position at a newspaper and work my way up, finally getting that ideal reporting job. I want to live my life the way I want to live it. I want to work as a server on a cruise ship and nanny for some bratty kids in a different city. I want to work odd jobs until I'm that one person who's way too old to be doing it. Most of all, I want adventure. And I haven't found it in school and won't find it at a desk job.

Maybe this sounds like every artist's complaint about "society not accepting his or her lifestyle or way of finding success." But I'm no artist. It took me 15 minutes to get up the courage to color a hand turkey last week. I'm a nerdy kid who likes to read, write and talk. It's a common misconception that everyone who is good at school likes going and that if you're smart, you have to go to college. It's just not always true.

There is an image of success in the minds of academics that pictures a graduate with a great job or an amazing grad school fellowship. The ideal graduate is a picture of perfection that the university can write about in alumni magazines and tell prospective students about. But I am not that picture.

Leingang can be reached at leingara@mnstate.edu

A memoir from Scotland

BY BILLIE KITZMAN
Columnist

"...blah, blah, Scotland?" was all I remember hearing Al Sheets say as he advised the arrangement of my first semester at MSUM. Transferring from small-town North Dakota, at the mention of a graphic design summer school session in Scotland, my ears finally perked up. I officially joined the adventure. These are a few of my memories:

1. I had never flown internationally; therefore, the eight-hour flight overseas was unlike any previous travel experiences. My undiagnosed narcoleptic tendencies caused me to fall asleep often and miss snack times, but I did happen to wake up in time for dinner (beverage carts crashing into my skull helped). I chose the "pasta" over the "chicken." Starving, I tore into the box, grabbed my fork, and, to my horror, extracted the entire serving of goo in a single forkful. After I plopped the rubbery rectangle back into its box, I found my knife. Success. Sort of.

2. At Hospitalfield House in Arbroath, the strongest Internet connection was on the narrow, stone staircase. At one point, nearly every one of us was crammed onto it, facebooking on our Macs. We looked like an Apple advertisement.

3. During our stay on the Isle of Harris, we spent an evening photographing the countryside. We walked by a house with a fenced-in yard containing a fluffy little sheep that was bouncing about. We stopped to baaa at it and wave at its owner who was standing at the window. As we turned away to

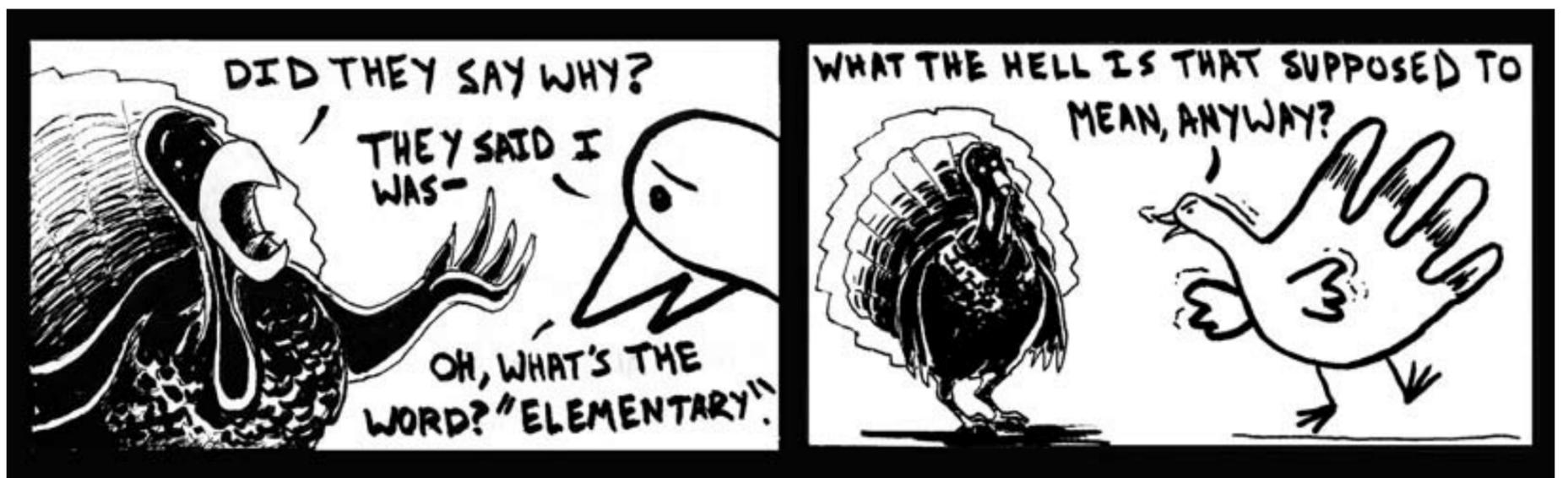
continue our journey, in my peripheral vision, I saw the sheep's owner leap outside and run toward us with something in his hand. I immediately thought, "Sweet Jesus, this man is running at us with a gun!" I was wrong. He was actually carrying a bottle, and asked me if I wanted to feed his sheep. Relieved, I agreed. The bouncy little ball of wool hopped over to the edge of the fence, and I leaned over to feed it. Coincidentally, the sheep's name was Tillie. My name is Billie. We rhymed. It was meant to be.

4. One afternoon, we hiked for countless kilometers to an old, abandoned lighthouse. I was so absorbed in documenting every inch (er, other metric measurement) of it, that I failed to notice everybody leave. Suddenly, taking note of how quiet it had grown, I realized that I was alone. I panicked and ran down the hill upon which the lighthouse stood, then up a giant hill, scaring a flock of sheep, then finally found my group. Upon reuniting with them, I explained to Al, "When I said I'd be fine with you leaving me in Scotland, I didn't mean at an abandoned lighthouse in the middle of nowhere. Somewhere closer to civilization would be more ideal."

5. I studied for a month in a beautiful country with a group of some of the most talented and fun people I have ever met.

Desire to hear more? Buy me a coffee. Cheers, thank you.

Kitzman can be reached at kitzmanbi@mnstate.edu



Comic by Tate Mlady

And everyone you meet

BY TYLER SORENSEN
Columnist

A few weeks ago, a social anomaly sought me out. And it happened as I was handling bratwurst buns, but that's pretty much negligible.

I work part-time in a bakery where stocking white brats – as we call them in the biz – is routine. What was unusual was how I was greeted by someone. And that's just it. I was simply greeted, and nothing else.

It was approaching the end of a weekday evening shift, sometime before nine o'clock. I had made my final pass through my end of the store. Table: sanitized. Floor: swept. Glass: cleaned. The only thing left to do was fill the shelves.

I pushed a tall rack of white and wheat buns through the double doors out onto the sales floor. With the exception of the muffled music over the intercom, it was quiet. Hardly anyone was around. Unlike the mid-morning rush, there wasn't a barrage of grocery carts to weave through. Relaxed, I settled next to the

Coneys (that's hot dogs for the uninitiated) and began rotating through the day's yield of brat buns.

Absorbed in my work, a single syllable startled me from behind. "Hi."

I turned around. It was a young girl, no older than 10. She clutched a pale pink balloon and rocked rhythmically in her shoes. I stood up instinctively and summoned a friendly tone. "Hello! Do you need anything?" I asked. I anticipated the usual, "Can I have a sample cookie?"

"No." Her answer was plain but endearing.

Half a second passed. I didn't know what to do. I had just stood up and turned around to say hello to a ten-year-old girl. Where was the precedent?

I picture a romantic montage where the girl with the pink balloon skips around the grocery store, greeting everyone she encounters. "Hello!" she says. The butcher puts down his meat cleaver and smiles. The dairyman tips his hat. The florist waves from behind a bouquet. And then I – unwitting idyllic bakery clerk

– muck it up by assuming the girl actually wants something.

I'm reminded as the holiday season creeps nearer, that the music in my workplace could radically shift at any moment from Phil Collins to Christmas. For several weeks, I'll hear the unmistakable Burl Ives croon, "And when you walk down the street/Say hello to friends you know/And everyone you meet." But no one does that. I won't. It's schmaltzy. Mostly, it's weird.

But before long, the girl with the pink balloon will be properly socialized. Middle school will set her straight. She'll learn that it's not okay to say hello to everyone she meets. That she can't just greet strangers without an ulterior motive. She can't just greet.

It's okay now – she's young, it's cute. Nothing incurable. She'll grow out of it. Maybe next year, she'll append an appropriate demand to her greeting. And maybe that's lamentable.

Sorensen can be reached at sorensty@mnstate.edu

Letter to the editor

To the Advocate Editorial Board:

It occurred to me today when I read both columns concerning the "bonus" President Edna received from MnSCU that somehow The Advocate's Editorial Board managed to make things worse rather than shine a light on a perceived injustice. I don't expect the editorial staff to be experts on administrative procedure, complex budget initiatives, or salary structures in a large organization which services several thousand students, educators, and staff. I do, however, expect the editorial board to live up to its commitment to effective, ethical journalism. As students and citizens we consume information at a never-ending 24/7 pace that would be dizzying to us only ten years ago. Through the maze of information and sound bites, we must find our way. A free, diligent press is more vital than ever in order to preserve the institutions we treasure and shed light upon those elements we find to proffer injustice.

As a citizen I am also tired of the excesses of bonuses for the oligarchs on Wall Street and the exorbitant profits of corporations that think they can pollute our oceans and air at will. I am sickened by corporations who extinguish promised health insurance benefits to millions of our fellow Americans because their bottom line matters more than any human life. I understand these are macro issues that may not be on the minds of a typical MSUM student. However, a gubernatorial candidate in our state actually endorsed a plan to cut \$300 million from higher education's budget for the next biennium. This election is undecided. Where is that story? Why isn't the editorial board shining a light on the fact that the huge budget deficit facing this state will be negotiated by a Republican party in both houses of state legislature that is hostile to higher education and a yet unknown individual in the governor's mansion? Tuition increases could reach 8 to 12 percent. Where is your outrage? Where was it during the election? You chose to write of a "bonus" that you show little understanding of. Instead of the sky falling, your Chicken Little mantra decided to elucidate the student population of the dreaded bonus epidemic. It was as if you were hoping to wallow in the sclerotic public debate of the uninformed, intellectually unengaged sound-bite driven media fog.

I expect more from the journalists at MSUM. President Edna does not deserve criticism over a negotiated term of her contract. If you really want to know, she would not be automatically fired for returning her performance pay. A little research and a few questions posed to a professor who teaches contract law at MSUM would have shown you that contracts are binding on both parties. If she would have not accepted the consideration for her performance of the contract (her pay), then MnSCU would have been left open to liability claim on their end of the contract. The contract could be considered to have been made in bad faith. President Edna is the largest individual financial contributor to our university. She has navigated tough budget decisions without laying off any educators. We are in a better place financially than almost every other MnSCU institution. We have much work to do in this next budget cycle. And, I hope the editorial board decides educate the students on what is at stake rather than just be another echo chamber for small ideas.

Brent Jaenicke
118 9th St S. Apt 2
Fargo, ND 58103
218-242-3916
jaenickebr@mnstate.edu
Senior at MSUM

Wanted: citizens, not lemmings

BY BRENT JAENICKE
Columnist

On the crisp November morning of the recent midterm election we awoke to a new opportunity to mold our country with our most sacred possession in democracy, our vote. The pundits and politicians had their chance to convince us to keep the status quo or vote the bums out. Many thought it would be another change election like 2008. Others thought a depressed turnout amongst those who voted for our president would hand the reigns of congress to the Republicans. I was convinced that the House of Representatives would fall, but the Senate would remain in the hands of the Democrats.

I was right of course. So what is left to prognosticate about? Throw the bums out and all will be well. Right? Like many with an unhealthy obsession for politics, the broader view pitting party against party created enough drama for me to stay up late into the night reading the huffingtonpost.com or politico.com.

It occurred to me, however, when I asked several people on campus that day if they voted or were going to vote, the answer was all too commonly: why? A million reasons presented themselves to me and would fall off my tongue until the look on some of those poor peoples' faces indicated their disinterest. So, I stopped. Was this the attitude of the new generation? All of that enthusiasm about electing President Obama fell away as if 2008 was a distant memory and the mantra of "politics as usual" created an excuse for not staying engaged in the political process. What was it about Obama that

made 18 to 30-year-olds turn out in droves? Did they just want anyone other than President Bush? Was it excitement that we might mitigate the effects of two centuries of racial discrimination in one election? Did we think that changing the way our system works would be instantaneous?

I could go on and on about political processes and civic engagement. Or, I could accuse this generation of the fallacy of instant gratification coupled with a technology-driven, short attention span. But, the simple truth is your vote matters. The wisdom of our fellow citizens of Minnesota put Republicans in control of both houses of congress. Republicans are historically hostile to funding higher education at levels that maintains quality and acceptable costs to students.

If you did not vote on election day because you think that your vote doesn't matter or because you feel that the process is too confusing or annoying, then you get the legislature you deserve. You get higher tuition, less choices in classes, program cuts, less funding for sports teams and a bleaker future in this state.

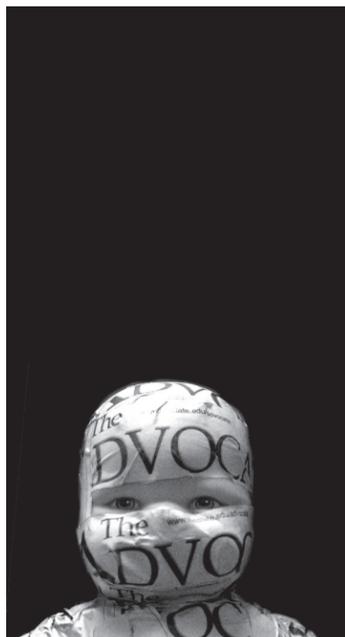
If you did vote, then please convince your friends that didn't to get involved and make sure your interests are represented in the future. Something like 12 of the elections in the state were decided by less than 400 votes. That is a majority. We need students and young people to vote their interests. We need citizens.

Jaenicke can be reached at jaenickebr@mnstate.edu

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Flu vaccine: 'It's about others,' director said

BY KAYLEE OSOWSKI
Staff Writer

Soon students will be preparing for final projects, papers and exams. Getting influenza could interrupt studying for up to a week.

If students get the influenza vaccine, they can help prevent getting sick and spreading the virus.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that all people age six months and above receive the vaccine. It is important for the elderly, infants, pregnant women and people with compromised immune systems to get vaccinated. Close contact of people with a high risk of severe influenza should also get vaccinated so the health of those at a higher risk is not jeopardized.

"It's about others," said MSUM Director of Health and Wellness Carol Grimm.

MSUM junior Samantha Santaella gets the flu shot every year, but this year she felt it was particularly important she get the vaccine because the early childhood education major works with kids throughout the week.

College students spend much of their time around other people: classmates, friends and roommates. Anyone can contract the virus that is spread by coughing and sneezing.

During flu season, which runs from November until May, peaking

in January and February, students should be conscious about their health and others' health.

Grimm said college students are at a high risk for contracting H1N1. The virus for this flu strain is included in this year's seasonal flu vaccine along with two other flu strains.

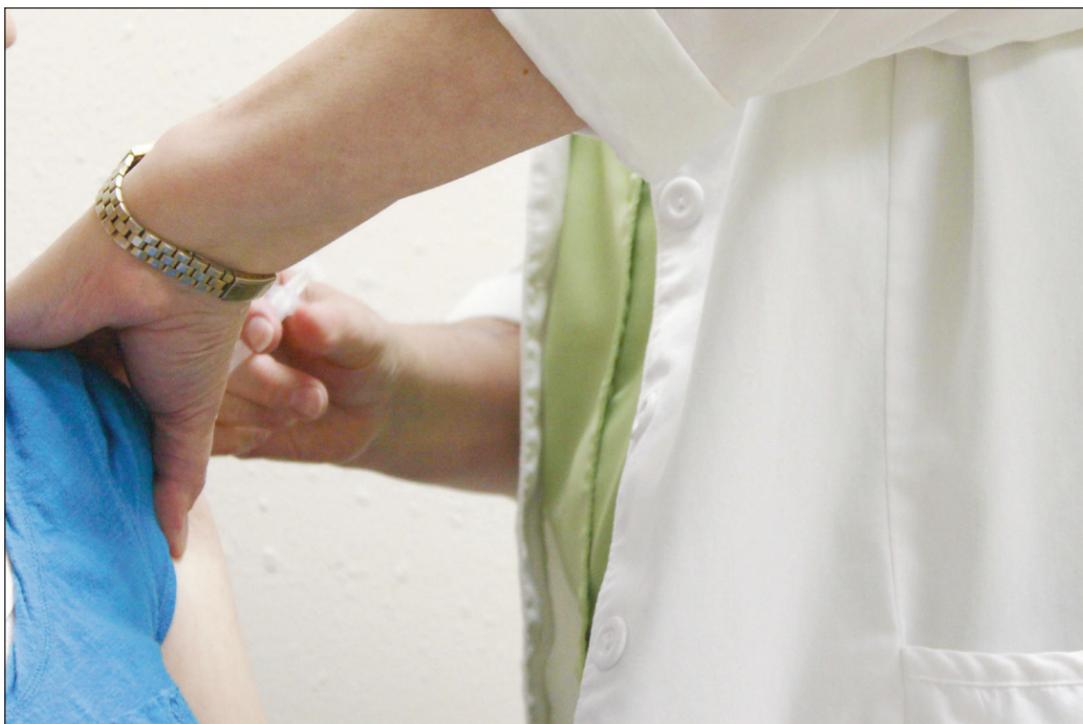
Influenza viruses change. Every year scientists determine which viruses are most likely to cause the flu that year. This means there is a possibility of getting a different type of flu, even if the vaccine has been administered. Grimm said there is a 5 to 10 percent chance of getting one of the strains of influenza in the vaccine after receiving the shot.

Since the vaccine is different every year, people should get vaccinated every year. There are two types of vaccine. The nasal spray contains a live, but weakened virus. The shot is a dead virus injected into the muscle.

Santaella got the flu shot at the first student clinic that was offered this semester.

"It was really fast and easy," Santaella said. "I got in and got out."

Only the flu shot is offered at MSUM's student flu clinics. This is because the shot is more readily available. There was a clinic yesterday at the Center for the Arts. Vaccines are still available at Hendrix Health Center for \$20 to anyone who missed the clinics. Vaccines are also available at



Physician Marilyn Ek gives a flu shot at 7-Day Clinic in Moorhead.

Melissa Muehlbauer / The Advocate

Walgreens and other pharmacies.

There are some people with certain health conditions that shouldn't get vaccinated or should wait. People who are moderately or severely ill should postpone receiving the vaccine until they are well again. The virus for the vaccine is grown in eggs so people who have an egg allergy should not get the vaccine.

Healthcare providers should be informed of severe reactions to past influenza shots and of any past diagnoses of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS). They will recommend whether or not the vaccine should be administered.

Some mild side effects can occur soon after the shot. These problems

include: soreness, redness or swelling at the injection site, hoarseness, coughing, fever, aches and sore, red or itchy eyes. If these side effects occur, they usually last only one to two days.

Symptoms of influenza, fever, cough, sore throat, headache, chills, muscle aches and fatigue, usually last just a few days, but the virus may still be in a person's system after symptoms have subsided.

Grimm said students who contract influenza should rest, drink a lot of fluids, take pain reliever to reduce the fever, cover their cough and stay away from others to prevent the spread of the virus. If symptoms are more severe or persist beyond five days,

students should visit a doctor because they may have a different illness with similar symptoms to the flu.

To avoid catching the flu, Grimm said students should get vaccinated, eat healthily, get plenty of sleep and stay away from people who have the flu. Grimm also said that proper hand washing, 15 seconds with warm, soapy water is very important.

This flu season hasn't been as severe as last year's season, but anyone can get and spread the flu without taking the proper precautions.

Osowski can be reached at osowskika@mnstate.edu

International education events take new approach

BY MATTHEW BECKMAN
Multimedia Editor

Ludmi Herath, international student programming coordinator, and the rest of International Education Services have worked hard to produce International Education Week, a week of events and platforms for international students to represent their respective countries.

"My goal for this event is to provide opportunities for international students to perform, represent their country and culture by educating U.S. students and to get U.S. students who have travelled abroad to talk about their experience about traveling and studying abroad," Herath said.

Events range from presentations and discussion panels aimed at specific topics, like "The Space

Age and India," to teaching traditional dance moves or even a passport drive, to get U.S. students jumping across the ocean.

Janet Haak, the director of academic engagement and study abroad, said the passport drive generates a lot of interest, since it helps students that are looking to study abroad, but have to take those first steps.

"We want to keep studying

abroad on students' radar," Haak said. She said the week is a great resource for curious students, as there are many sources of information, and many opportunities for questions.

Despite the week-long lineup of activities and student participation, Herath hopes to increase student numbers from previous years.

"Historically it has been hard to get students to attend and participate," Herath said. "But we are conducting events different this year and we are hoping that we will have more student participation for this event and the coming years."

Even though the week is almost over, there are still several events lined up for any interested students, including the international bazaar on Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the CMU Ballroom. The international bazaar will feature several different information tables aimed both at international students and at domestic students looking to study abroad.

The remainder of the International Education Week schedule can be found at: <http://www.mnstate.edu/intl/iew.cfm>

Beckman can be reached at beckmanma@mnstate.edu

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Student awarded for senior capstone paper

BY MEGAN BLUML
Staff Writer

At the Northern Great Plains History Conference, senior Allan Branstiter was awarded \$200 in honor of a paper he wrote titled "The Specter of Intervention."

Branstiter wrote the paper independently as part of his senior capstone that he worked on with professor Margaret Sankey. The award was then presented to him on Oct. 15 at the conference's banquet in Grand Forks. It was chosen for the award by Dr. Donald Bittner of the Marine Corps Command and Staff Command. The prize awarded included \$100 from the Society for Military History, as well as \$100 from the First Division Museum at Catigny in Wheaton, Ill.

The paper was about Great Britain's policy towards the American Civil War. According to Branstiter, a longstanding belief about the war is that the British almost intervened on the side of the South, which, according to many, would have won the war.

"I wrote my paper to prove that this was false; that Britain had no desire to intervene because they had just gotten through fighting two unpopular and expensive wars," Branstiter said.

The process of writing this paper began for Branstiter in the fall of 2009 during an internship with the U.S. State Department at the American Embassy in London. While there, he was able to begin some of his research at the British National Archives. After returning to

MSUM, his research continued. He was in Sankey's British history class at the time. She helped him work on it and was impressed by his dedication to the subject.

"You can make suggestions based on your own professional work and knowledge, but it is up to a student to take that along with his own initiative and learning and turn it into something exceptional," Sankey said. "I think Allan really did that."

Much of Branstiter's research for the paper was gathered from a variety of sources in London, including personal correspondence, transcripts of debates in Parliament, newspapers and British military histories.

Bittner, who selected Branstiter for the award, was

also inspired by the paper.

"Mr. Branstiter's paper reminds us that indeed the four elements of national power are indeed interconnected," Bittner said. "...and if one becomes involved in a war, there is a price to pay: in dollars, pounds or francs; in human cost; and possibly, at the electoral polls or judgments of the those who make and unmake governments."

Branstiter is a history major and hopes to get his Ph.D. in history. This award will likely help Branstiter get one step close to receiving that Ph.D.

"I plan on using it to help with my graduate school applications," Branstiter said.

Sankey also sees this award benefiting Branstiter in many ways in the future.

"Allan is bound for history

graduate school, so this really proves what his (resume) has said all along — he is an exceptionally bright, motivated student with the analytical skills, patience and strong writing that will make him a successful graduate student," she said. "I really look forward to Allan being a colleague and hope I have the pleasure to see him present some of his students someday."

Branstiter would also like to thank Sankey.

"None of this would have been possible without her mentorship, encouragement, and personal investment in my academic development," he said.

Bluml can be reached at blumlme@mnstate.edu

Mr. and Ms. MSUM promote school spirit

Event proceeds donated to Big Brothers Big Sisters foundation

BY CHARLY HALEY
Copy Editor

On Nov. 10, Mark Radcliffe and LaurelLee Loftsgard were crowned Mr. and Ms. MSUM in the CMU Ballroom. The event was sponsored by Delta Zeta and the Dragon Entertainment Group, with help from the LEAD 301 class. Proceeds were donated to the Big Brothers Big Sisters foundation.

According to Aisha Mohamed, Outreach Coordinator for the Dragon Entertainment Group, the proceeds of Mr. and Ms. MSUM are donated to a different cause every year.

"I really wanted to do something for kids this year," Mohamed said. "We thought Big Brothers Big Sisters would be a good cause to go to."

There was a \$1 entrance fee to the event, all of which was donated to BBBS.

Additionally, each contestant was nominated to represent a student organization, and each organization donated \$5 per nominee.

The nominees were: Loftsgard for the Dragon Entertainment Group, Radcliffe and Justin Nistler for Nemzek Noize, Tyler Anderson and Kimberly Hyatt for Student Senate, Lora Boice for Delta Zeta and Chris Anderson for After Dark.

"I think the event went really smoothly," Mohamed said. "The contestants were amazing on stage — very, very enthusiastic."

Mohamed said that having students represent their organizations helps promote school spirit and leadership on campus.

"Apart from the philanthropic side of this event," Mohamed said, "it does build school spirit."

Mr. and Ms. MSUM themselves are both very involved on campus.

Radcliffe has been involved in Nemzek Noize, Advertising Club, Dragon Entertainment Group, The Advocate and has helped with campus tours and Dragon Days.

Loftsgard is involved with the Gamma Phi Beta sorority, Dragon Entertainment Group, pep band and The Advocate.

"(Being involved) gives you a lot of fun experiences and memories while you're in college," Loftsgard said.

"The more school spirit we have," Radcliffe said, "the happier people are on campus."

Haley can be reached at haleych@mnstate.edu



This year's Mr. and Ms. MSUM, Mark Radcliffe and LaurelLee Loftsgard



Radcliffe hugs his mother who was in the crowd cheering him on.

Photos by Jesse Trelstad



Judges (left to right) Billy McDonald, Chris Lubarski and Megan Nitschke have a good time as the contestants show off their skills at this year's Mr. and Ms. MSUM.

LAWN CONTINUED FROM FROM FRONT

offers a variety with a mix of punk, indie rock, alternative, classic, noise-rock and whatever else comes to mind. They play new and old, and each selects music for upcoming shows. They strive to keep it diverse.

Branstiter said his aim is for others to discover new songs, and he “hope(s) the audience will say, ‘I’ve never heard this before, but it’s great!’” They are always open to requests and callers any time, and encourage listener participation.

Neither Branstiter nor Sailer had concrete plans to start a radio show. The idea was there, but it did not materialize until they ran into each other outside the KMSC station and decided then and there they would see what it took to start a program. Since then, they have turned “Get Off My Lawn!” into an

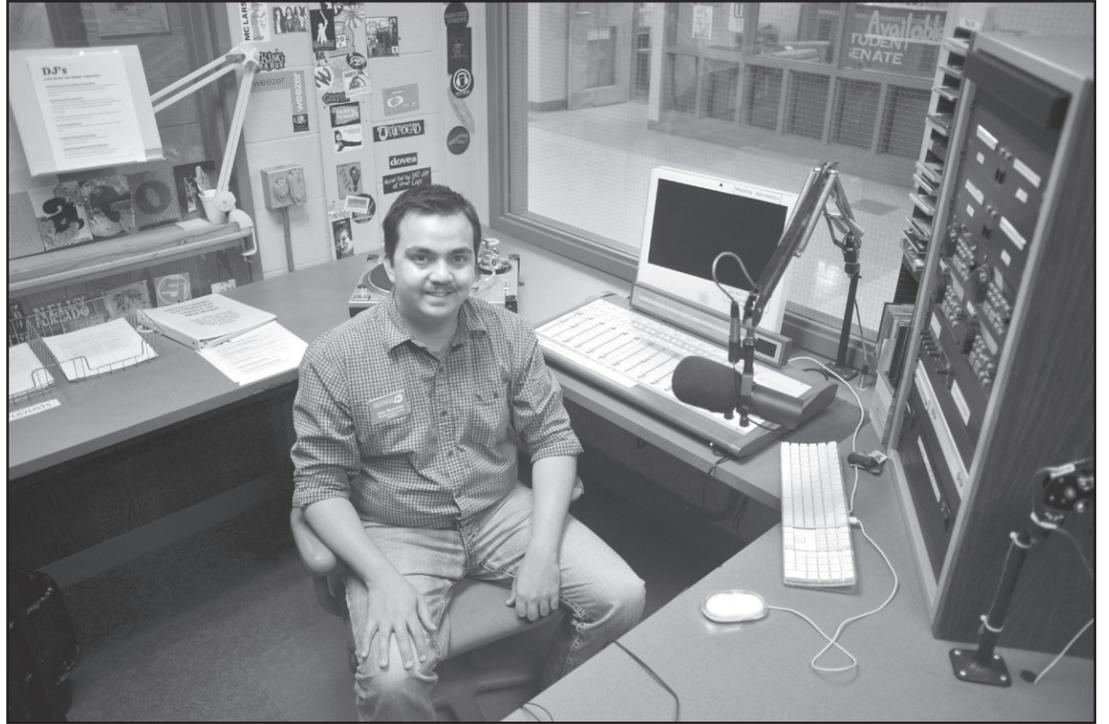
incredibly popular show for KMSC.

It has taken them by surprise, and Sailer explained he originally “thought only friends would listen.” They had little to no experience in radio, went in blind, and created a program listened to by many. The show exemplifies the creativity students are capable of when left to their own devices.

For more information about “Get Off My Lawn!”, visit their blog or Facebook page. Their show airs every Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. and can be listened to on the KMSC website. They also host podcasts on their blog for those who have missed out.

For more information, visit <http://getoffmylawnradio.blogspot.com/> or <http://dragonradio.org/>.

Lundberg can be reached at lundbeer@mnstate.edu



Jesse Trelstad / The Advocate

Allan Branstiter’s show “Get Off My Lawn!” airs Wednesdays from 6 - 8 p.m. on the Dragon Radio station. Ben Sailer (not pictured) co-hosts the program.

Students cope with stress in varying ways

BY CRYSTAL SMITH
Staff Writer

With semester finals only a few weeks away, college students are starting to feel the pressures of projects due and tests to be studied for. Different types of students experience varying forms and levels of stress.

Heather Sorenson is a junior biology major with an emphasis in health and medical science. She said that she finds it extremely stressful when her professors decide to have their tests on the same day. She finds the homework to be overwhelming at times, and to add to that, she is also very involved in several organizations on campus.

Another stressor at this point in her college career is deciding what to do after graduation: for instance, whether to go to

medical school or a different medical path.

Sorenson said she tends to get very stressed out and so to relieve herself of the anxiety, she listens to the band Lifehouse and colors in a coloring book, or will just try to get alone time.

Another student, Rob Ross, is a senior film production major with a minor in English. He explained that stress for film majors differs from other majors in that it comes in several stages.

“There is the build-up stress leading to production of the film project, then a two to three week lull while waiting for it to be returned, and finally the stress of getting it back and having it edited in two weeks,” he said.

Portfolio reviews and theory presentations are also common stressors for senior film majors.

Ross said that at this time he has no stressors outside of school except for financial concerns.

“I play a lot of guitar and listen to very violent music to relieve stress,” Ross said.

Alyssa Pietruszewski is a freshman at MSUM this year, and has within the past several weeks changed her major from psychology to early childhood education. She said that tests stress her out a lot and that she is still trying to figure out a good study habit that works for her. She also has a hard time remembering Online assignments and becomes frustrated when she misses one.

For relieving that stress, she said, “It helps to talk about it, and I have great family and friends to go to. I pray about it as well, and when I pray, God shows me something in the Bible that goes right along with

what I’m dealing with.”

Non-traditional students, such as single parents, also experience stress. Steven Slaubaugh is a 29-year-old criminal justice major who plans to graduate in 2011. This is his second time at MSUM and he said that one of the biggest school stressors is that it’s taking much longer to finish, compared to his first time at MSUM. He also said that trying to meet deadlines, fulfill credits, and worries about what kind of job he is going to find after graduation are stressful as well.

Slaubaugh said that school is relaxing because he has two kids, an ex-wife, stressful finances and works 35 hours a week.

He said that societal stress in general is a factor.

“I’m an older student,” he said. “When I see all the younger

ones, it makes me wish that I had done things differently when I was younger.”

Slaubaugh has several stress relievers he utilizes as well.

“When it’s really bad, I just pray,” he said.

He said that when he experiences mild to medium stress, he hangs out with or calls someone, calls his mom or goes to the gym. Being with his kids also helps him relax.

Everyone experiences different forms of stress. It is important to identify what the stressors are, and how they are able to be relieved in a way that is best fitting to you as an individual.

Smith can be reached at smithcr@mnstate.edu



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MSUM Staff contributes to Combined Charities

BY CONOR HOLT
Staff Writer

Every year, Deb Lewis and her team of volunteers hand out an information packet to every teacher and staff member at MSUM. These packets are reminders about the annual Combined Charities Campaign, in which the MSUM staff, alongside all MSUM employees, donate to charities across the state. Lewis is the campaign coordinator for MSUM.

Donations are accepted during the entire year, but the actual campaign takes place during the month of October. As of right now, MSUM raised \$44,909 in donations, which is 7 percent of this year’s \$63,000 goal. To reach that goal, Lewis is extending MSUM’s deadline to Nov. 29.

When employees donate to the campaign, they can choose one or more of the 4,000 affiliated charities as the recipient of their donation, from the Minnesota Environmental Fund to the Peace Maker Foundation.

Lewis has been MSUM’s campaign coordinator for 14 years now, and it has become as much a part of her job as any of her other responsibilities in the human resources office.

“I think I would always have to be a part of it,” Lewis said.

Her work with the campaign is made possible through her team of volunteers, who range from secretaries to deans. They go through training on the specifics of the campaign, and are in charge of getting an information packet to every employee.

To donate, employees can

use the link on the MSUM homepage, or follow the instructions on the back of the information packet. Donations through payroll deductions are preferred, but checks are also OK. MSUM didn’t meet its goal last year, so Lewis and her team of volunteers are really hoping to achieve it this year.

Even when donations are slow to arrive, Lewis remains hopeful about achieving their goal.

“Every dollar that I get is one more dollar that I didn’t have before,” Lewis said.

If employees have any questions about the campaign, they can contact Lewis in human resources at lewisd@mnstate.edu.

Holt can be reached at holtco@mnstate.edu

Colorguard flips rifles and flags



Charly Haley / The Advocate

The girls practice colorguard in the racquetball courts in Nemzek. (from right) Georgi Rowe, Rachel Nezeaux, Kaylie Kracht, Ashley Haugen, Caroline Juel.

BY KIMBERLY KRESSIN
Staff Writer

People will see rifles around campus this year, but think twice before dialing Public Safety. There's a new organization in town, and the students involved are dancing, swirling and twisting their way onto the campus radar. They are the Firestar Winter Colorguard and they're ready for action.

"We basically put together a routine that incorporates dance and then we also use flags and rifles," said Tiffany Reichard, founder of the organization.

Reichard said that her love for the sport began in high school, where she competed for three years and later instructed. Reichard was disappointed when she discovered that MSUM didn't have a colorguard team and decided to take action.

"It's just kind of been something in my life for a long time, and I really wanted to return to it," Reichard said.

Last spring, the junior looked into starting the organization and just a

semester later, it's a reality.

"It's been fun being able to lead this first group of people, but at the same time it's a lot of pressure," Reichard said, adding that so far it has been worth all the hard work.

Two nights a week, the 12-member team gathers up their wooden rifles and purple flags to work on fundamentals for upcoming events and competitions. Currently, their practices are held in the racquetball courts, where every time a flag or rifle is dropped, a loud echo is sure to follow.

"Most of the other areas were already taken, but it works," Reichard said.

Flicking wrists and quick reaction time are two crucial components of the activity, and Reichard said that it all takes practice. The various routines they perform appear to be graceful and effortless, but like many things in life, members say colorguard is much harder than it looks.

"I think the hardest part is getting over the fear of your flag and rifle — it's kind of scary knowing that

when you throw something up, it must come down," said first-timer, Georgi Rowe. "You have to be unafraid of bruises."

Even though the bruises may look like battle wounds on many like Rowe, there are some physical benefits.

"I was just sitting there the other day and I felt my arm, and thought whoa, I'm getting muscles," said team member Nicole Anderson.

The group performed at the variety show earlier this year and Reichard said that they hope to perform again at several halftimes during the basketball season. They will also compete against other schools, ranging from elementary to college level, during February and March.

"Competing is my favorite part. Even though everyone is competing against each other, they are still best friends," Reichard said.

Kressin can be reached at
kressinki@mnstate.edu

Students make big plans for Thanksgiving

BY MATTHEW BECKMAN
Multimedia Editor

While everyone loves coloring turkeys and learning about the Native Americans' and the pilgrims' big feast together, Thanksgiving boils down to real excitement for students.

Thanksgiving is a time for astonishingly amazing levels of gluttony, a nap time that has almost become a de-facto national holiday in its own right and football. It's also known as "the last speed bump before the deluge of Christmas music."

"I'll go home the night before, wake up, help prepare the meal, my grandparents will come over. Maybe we'll have some pie?" said Jordan Houselog, business management major, laying out his elaborate plans. "Then I'll probably watch some football," he said, before laying on his explosive finale, "then probably take a nap."

Meghan Feir, English and mass communications double major, almost seemed to double Houselog in the extreme plans department.

"On Thanksgiving day, I watch the parades in my jammies," said Feir, who was particularly excited for Thanksgiving for what most Americans know if for these days. "It's the day we can officially start listening to Christmas music," Feir said.

Feir said the remainder of her Thanksgiving days usually consist of playing games with her family, watching the Thanksgiving-centric

film series "The Lord of the Rings" (or "Star Wars") and buying the family Christmas tree on Black Friday.

Josh Sartorius, a construction management major and Florida native, plans on flying back home to be with his family for the first time in a while.

"I will fly home Sunday night, enjoy a visit from my grandparents and my other family and proceed to kick back and watch television all week," Sartorius said, showing Houselog and Feir what "Thanksgiving excitement" really means.

"Thursday will arrive and I will tune into the Macy's Parade in the morning time and NFL during the afternoon. The feast will proceed around 3 p.m. and will finish roughly Saturday night at 12 a.m.," Sartorius said, apparently dead set on setting the gluttony-or-death record.

"Be thankful for what you have my dear students, there are many people in this life who are less fortunate than you," Sartorius said. "Be thankful for family and true friends who are actually not too stuck up for you and be thankful that there is sunshine on another day. This life may not be a paradise for you but there are many people around the block, around the area, around the country and around the world who would give their life to enjoy a day in this beautiful place I like to call home."

Beckman can be reached at
beckmanma@mnstate.edu

Chess in the CMU



Jesse Trelstad / The Advocate

Multiple students fill up the chess tables located in the basement of the CMU.

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Submitted photo

Rugby future remains uncertain

BY KATELYN WIGMORE
Staff Writer

The MSUM men's rugby club has received a three-year suspension from the Student Organization Advisory Council.

The AmericInn in Rogers, Minn. complained of damages in a couple of the rooms after the team spent the weekend there. An excessive mess was left and alcohol containers were found in garbage cans after the two-day stay for the All-Minnesota Rugby Tournament in September.

"The cardholder who paid for the rooms was charged for the damages and he went to seek reimbursement from the Office of Student Activities and they began to investigate," president

of the club, Joe Jacobson said. "We were told on Nov. 5 about the suspension."

"The individuals who caused the problems we are in now don't even play rugby anymore," Captain Billy "Chia" McDonald said. "None of the students involved in the incidents have been punished. The men's team received all the punishment."

The OSA charged the team with hazing but the charges were later dropped when students testified against the allegations. This is the second time in two years the rugby team has had trouble with the OSA.

A year ago, four students on the team were caught bringing alcoholic beverages on a trip to Wayne State College for a

tournament. The four students involved were kicked off and suspended from the team for one year.

The rest of the team also received a one-year suspension, but appealed the suspension to Vice President of Student Affairs Warren Weise, he overrode it, and the team was able to play again but was watched carefully by the OSA.

Sanctions for organizations in violation of the policies on alcohol and other drugs states that: "If a second violation occurs within three years, university recognition will be suspended for a period of not less than three years. The university reserves the right, based on the severity of the incident, to revoke university recognition of the organization."

The suspension, according to MSUM, means for three years

the team is no longer allowed to request or use school funding through the student activity budget and the team cannot play or host other teams under the MSUM name.

Assistant Director of Leadership and Organizations JoDee Anderson said she is not allowed to talk about the specifics of the case and was not able to answer any questions due to confidentiality. Warren Weise was also unavailable for comment due to confidentiality agreements of the committee.

"We plan to appeal to Warren Weise once again; if we are still suspended after the appeal, we will go to President Edna Szymanski and ask her to override the suspension," McDonald said. "If we still receive a no, we will become a city club team like we once were and seek sponsorships through

local businesses. MSUM made an unworthy judgment of our team. I'm very sad and disheartened by this call."

"All the players are passionate about this sport, so it's hard to see it all taken away," sophomore Frankie Barth said. "I'm friends with people I would never have been friends with had it not been for rugby... the three-year suspension is going to take away chances for new freshmen and returning players who love the sport."

The last couple of seasons, the men's team only lost two games, this year they went 1-3. The season for both men and women ended in October. Both teams compete at the Collegiate Division III in the Minnesota Rugby Football Union.

Wigmore can be reached at wigmoreka@mnstate.edu

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Bowling makes positive impact on student's upbringing

BY MICHAEL SMITH
Sports Editor

With ups and downs, strikes and gutters, bowling has helped shape the life of one MSUM student.

Junior Carl Rottman, 20, has been bowling in league play for 11 years.

"I had a lot of friends that bowled," Rottman said. "It kind of sets me apart; this was something I could excel at."

Rottman started bowling when a friend in his hometown of Maple Grove, Minn. needed another player for a league team.

When in full competition mood, Rottman was bowling five days a week. He bowled

for his high school team, a Saturday morning junior league and a Sunday travel league.

"I love it, if anyone asks me to go bowling, I'm grabbing my stuff and saying 'let's do it,'" he said.

Since coming to college, he has had to slow down and currently he only participates in a Thursday night mixed league as a substitute.

"Consistency is the huge thing," said Rottman, who bowled an averaged of 200 in two games played Friday in Fargo. "If you cannot consistently hit your mark over and over again, while adjusting to different lane conditions you're (in trouble). Every year

you notice something else (that you can improve on), whether it is your step count or trying to put hook on the ball."

Consistency and practice can bring good results and Rottman has had plenty of individual and team success throughout his time on the lanes.

During his senior year of high school, he led his team to the state championship and was named to the All-Conference team at the end of the season.

After graduation and the departure of one of the team's coaches, Rottman stepped in and helped coach the Maple Grove senior high bowling team for two seasons.

"The absolute best part was

seeing the improvement that the kids would make," he said. "Just seeing little improvements here and there, nothing is better."

Rottman also came close to the ultimate individual bowling achievement.

"I did bowl a 300-game in practice," he said. "The closest I came in league play was I bowled a 296, which is getting the first eleven strikes and getting a 6-count on my last ball. If you want to call me a choke-artist, that's fine."

Other than a positive and focused mindset, the equipment a bowler brings is one of the most important things.

"I brought four bowling balls, one spare ball and three strike

balls to use depending on lane conditions," Rottman said.

He also brought his own shoes and a rosin bag all tightly packed into two bowling ball bags. One of his strike balls even had the pleasant smell of cinnamon.

"They do it so your bowling bags don't reek of oil," he said.

Bowling, like other sports, can have its hills and valleys but at its core, it is intended for fun.

"Sometimes after a rough day it is like 'why do I keep bowling?' But like a week later, I'm like, 'I can't wait for bowling.' It's almost sick," Rottman said.

Smith can be reached at smithmi@mnstate.edu

MSUM sports recap

Football - Nov. 13

The Dragons football team honored its seniors as they ended the season with a 42-16 defeat at the hands of No. 18 St. Cloud State Saturday at Alex Nemzek Stadium. The Dragons finished with an overall record of 2-9 and 2-8 in conference.

Player stats

Passing

Kevin Koch 23 - 31 for 186 yards with 2 interceptions and a touchdown

Rushing

E'boni Lucious-West 34 yards on 12 rushes

Receiving

Nick Scharpf 68 yards on 6 catches and a touchdown catch

Wrestling - Nov. 13

Six members of the Dragons wrestling team finished in the top four of the Bison Open in Fargo.

Top 4 finishers

Trent Sovde (2) Tallen Wald (3) Corey Ulmer (4) Evan Forde (4)

Jacob Bruns (4) and Gerald Fugleberg (3)

Volleyball - Nov. 12 and 13

Volleyball finished the regular season with a 4-game winning streak, beating both Winona State and Upper Iowa last week. The team finished with a 16-12 mark and they were 12-8 in conference play.

Player stats Nov. 13

Leigh Splittstoesser 2 kills, 13 digs and 61 assists

Heidi Lensing 25 kills and 18 digs

Laura Tvrdik 16 kills, 4 digs and 6 assists

Men's Basketball - Nov. 14

Men's basketball started the seasons with a win under new Head Coach Chad Walthall. The dragons defeated Dickinson State 81-68 on Sunday.

Player stats

Charlie Chapman 12-24 for 20 points and 3 rebounds

Alex Novak 7-10 for 16 points and 11 rebounds

Dennis Williamson 7-10 for 15 points and 9 rebounds

Sporting ideas needed

The Advocate is looking to do stories featuring people who participate in non-traditional sports such as but not limited to:

- Bowling
- Video game competitions
- Boxing
- Auto racing
- Taekwondo
- Horse racing
- Mixed Martial Arts
- Rodeo
- Skateboarding
- Dance
- Cross country skiing
- Paint ball

Please contact sports editor Michael Smith at smithmimnstate.edu if you or someone you know participates in a non-traditional sport and would be interested in a story.

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COLSON, FROM FRONT

words there are “do” and “together” – science is not something that you know, it’s not a batch of facts that you learn, it is in fact a skill that you learn to do. The second word, together — I like to create an environment where we’re colleagues, we’re discovering things together, learning how to think together.”

Colson believes strongly in field experiences for all of his students. To date, he has taken over 1,400 students on field trips, to places like Theodore Roosevelt National Park and caves in southern Minnesota.

“You don’t learn about geology by reading a textbook, you learn about geology by reading the Earth itself,” Colson said. “And we can talk about it in the classroom and solve those little puzzles together, but it’s hard for the light bulb to go on until you’ve gone out there and seen the layers of rock and figured out what they’re really telling you.”

Colson is the ninth professor at MSUM to be recognized by the Carnegie Foundation and the first professor of a four-year university in Minnesota to be selected for the national honor.

“I am absolutely thrilled for Russ, for our students who benefit from his passion for teaching and

for MSUM,” said President Edna Szymanski.

For those interested in taking a class from a nationally recognized professor, be prepared to work hard.

“Students can expect me to be pretty enthusiastic,” Colson said. “They can expect me to like their questions. They can expect me to want to work with them and want their success. They can probably expect me to be pretty tough.”

But the expectation of hard work comes with a true desire for students to succeed and find a place in the professional world.

“I believe Dr. Colson’s key to success is simple, yet rare,” Prissel said. “He continually dedicates his time to knowing each and every student as a person. Dr. Colson is more than a professor, academic adviser and research adviser; he is a friend and mentor to all of his students. He not only cares about the academic and professional careers of his students, but also their personal goals and happiness as well.”

A reception for Colson will be held on Monday from 11:45 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the CMU Ballroom.

Leingang can be reached at leingara@mnstate.edu

CLASSES CUT, FROM FRONT

compete with other institution’s graduates?”

She illustrated her case of distinctly different cultures with a story she tells her students each semester.

As a Japanese student attending college in the U.S., Shastri went on her first date with an “American fellow.” After dinner he offered to take care of the bill and when she suggested that she should instead, he said, “OK, you’ll pay it,” Shastri said. “And for a long time, I thought, ‘this guy is a terrible guy.’ Because even if I’m willing to let him pay, I can’t say yes the first time.”

In a Japanese setting, the woman would decline the offer until the third time the man suggests it and then “graciously accept,” she said.

“It’s something about going back and forth as a culture,” Shastri said. “These can be very simple things, small examples, but can be a big misunderstanding. Knowing the culture is important.”

Though Shastri is confused by the decision to not offer her class in the spring, she said that she isn’t offended by it.

“It’s not at a personal level, I’m just concerned the kind of direction of the university,” she said.

Other faculty, some that teach classes in international studies, have also expressed worry over the decision. According to Shastri, people agree that the move seems to be contrary to a modern climate of heightened cultural awareness and education. She said that China and Japan are becoming louder voices in the global economy, and

as far as standards for a global emphasis in education, she said, “we are missing it.”

Borchers said this was not a decision he made lightly.

“Departments propose their schedule to the dean and the dean looks to make sure that we can fund it,” he said. “And with this one we couldn’t fund everything that they wanted to do so I had to make a choice about what got cut and what stayed.”

Due to a restricted budget for his college, there was only enough financial room for both Japanese language I and II and Chinese language II, taught by Tsuo-Wen Chao, a class that was the dean’s priority for the spring.

“We need to be able to offer those courses regularly enough so students can go through their Chinese language sequence,” Borchers said. “Last year the students had to go to Concordia to take Chinese.”

A large factor in the cuts was the variety of other Dragon Core classes offered in that area.

“There are many seats available elsewhere within Dragon Core seven,” Borchers said. “To throw in 160 more seats, from an efficiency standpoint, it just doesn’t make any sense to the university to offer that many courses in that area, at this point.”

“We’ve got some budget issues that we need to deal with, so offering courses that don’t seem to serve the students in a department, serve the department curriculum, or serve the university, those are the kind of courses we need to look to reduce. Not cut, just reduce the amount that we offer them.”

Japan 142 will be offered in the spring through the continuing studies office, rather than the college of arts and humanities. It will be held seven Saturdays from 2:45 to 5:15 p.m. and have 25 seats.

“It seems like a win-win situation,” Borchers said, “The instructor is teaching, the course is offered, it’s being paid for out of continuing studies so it’s a different budget. We’re able to offer this course, we’re not able to overload a section that doesn’t need any more seats.”

Borchers also wrote a grant to the federal government to try and gain funding to support those areas.

“Clearly I think that demonstrates my commitment to these programs,” he said.

Borchers said that it’s often difficult to explain decisions like this one.

“It’s a big puzzle, our budget is, and so it’s moving the pieces in the right way to get it to work for most of the people.”

Lavecchia can be reached at lavecchio@mnstate.edu

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