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ART
STUDENT
SELECTED
FOR NORTH
DAKOTA ART
AUCTION

THE ADVOCATE

online at msumadvocate.com

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

MSUM's weekly student newspaper

Moorhead, Minn.

Vol. 43 Issue 9

Buyouts fall short, layoffs more likely

BY BRYCE HAUGEN & MEREDITH WATHNE
advocate@mnstate.edu

Ninety-seven professors faced a Friday deadline to accept or decline the early retirement offers MSUM mailed to them last month.

University officials were willing to grant about 35 buyouts to help solve next year's projected budget deficit of \$4.9 million – and potentially another \$3 million the following year – through voluntary departures. In a Saturday email, Provost Anne Blackhurst indicated 19 professors accepted buyouts, as did two staff members.

“Given the small size of some of the departments, I cannot name the departments where (buyouts) were accepted because it would, de facto, identify some of the individuals who accepted the offers,” Blackhurst wrote.

“We would have come very close,” to eliminating the deficit without further reductions, “if

DEFICIT, BACK PAGE

Dragons bring ‘Battle Axe’ back to campus



BREANN LENZMEIER • lenzmeibr@mnstate.edu

Scoring 28 unanswered points in the fourth quarter propelled the Dragons to their third straight win and fourth of the season. An all-around team win on Saturday over the Bemidji State Beavers, the Dragons improved to 4-2 in the North division of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference. This is the first time the Dragons won the “Battle Axe” since 2008.

GAME RECAP, PAGE 11

Army reverses ROTC closure

BY ALISON SMITH
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Following a brief scare of a Tri-College legacy being shut down, the Reserve Officers' Training Corps program that serves NDSU, MSUM and Concordia, the “Bison Battalion,” will be given a two-year probationary

period to prove their importance to the U.S. Army in hopes that the program will remain open.

On Oct. 2, the U.S. Army announced closure of 13 ROTC programs over two years. The “Bison Battalion” was targeted because it didn't produce the average 15 graduate officers per year.



Submitted photo

Brady Holte, an MSUM student and member of the Bison Battalion, provides security during tactical training at MB Johnson Park in north Moorhead.

When the closure was announced, MSUM President Edna Szymanski said, “we're not going down without a fight.” She recognized the importance of the ROTC program for students who would like a career in the military and said individuals should be able to enroll in the program and be students at MSUM.

Since the decision, Szymanski contacted members of Minnesota's congressional delegation, urging them to fight for the battalion, and also stayed in regular contact with NDSU's President Dean Bresciani.

Less than a week after the announcement was made, representatives from North Dakota and Minnesota wrote to John McHugh, secretary of the U.S. Army, urging reconsideration and asking for clarification on the decision. The letter stated: “these programs offer a value to their communities, students and

ROTC, PAGE 5

Moorhead elects first female mayor

BY BRYCE HAUGEN
haugenbr@mnstate.edu

Del Rae Williams' house a few blocks south of campus is a bit of a shrine to Moorhead. Whether it be a local artist's renderings of Dairy Queen and Atomic Coffee or her newest acquisition, a throw pillow with “56560” printed on it, the retired CPA and long-time community volunteer effuses pride for her adopted hometown.

A first-time candidate, Williams made history last week when voters elected her as the first woman Moorhead mayor. She defeated three challengers, including two sitting council members, with 37 percent of the vote. In January, she will replace Mayor Mark Voxland, who declined to run for reelection after serving 12 years.

“It's cool to be history,” she said in an interview Thursday at

her home. “It's just a bonus.”

After promising friends she would consider it and failing to convince a few other people to join the race, Williams decided to run just before the filing deadline, while lying in bed one August morning.

“I thought we needed another choice,” she said. “I've always regretted the things I don't do, not the things I've done.”

When she whispered, “I'm going to do it,” to her husband, MSUM construction management professor Ron Williams, he knew exactly what she meant.

“I won't have anything to wear at the inaugural ball,” Ron Williams remembered joking to her.

The Williams' daughter, MSUM archaeology sophomore Lyndi Williams, said she was not surprised, and was glad she

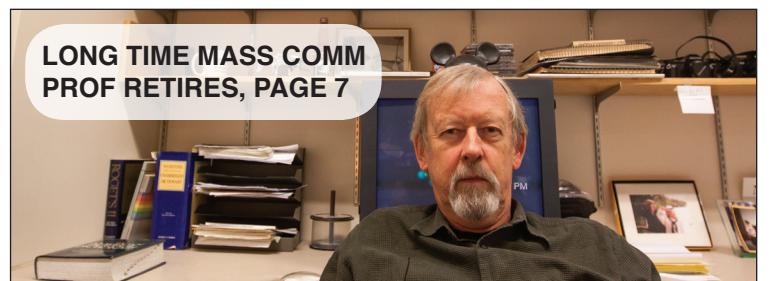
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ONLINE EXCLUSIVE:
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
SYMPOSIUM



LONG TIME MASS COMM
PROF RETIRES, PAGE 7

Briefs

Campus Calendar 11.12 - 11.17

Communications Week

- 11.12 **7:30 - 9 p.m.** Help pack Christmas gifts for children around the world, ROC
- 7:30 p.m.** Home Free Acapella, Gaede Stage
- 8 p.m.** MEISA Open Mic Night, CMU Lounge
- 11.13 **12 - 4 p.m.** Tri-college Career and Internship Fair, Fargo Ramada
- 11.14 **7 p.m.** "Creating your Brand," CMU 101
- 11.16 **9 p.m.** Science Night, Science Lab



Story idea?
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The Advocate

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The Advocate is published weekly during the academic year, except during final examination and vacation periods. Opinions expressed in The Advocate are not necessarily those of the college administration, faculty or student body.

The Advocate encourages letters to the editor. 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. Friday and can be sent to MSUM Box 130, dropped off at The Advocate office in CMU Room 110 or emailed to us at advocate@mnstate.edu. The Advocate reserves the right to edit letters and refuse publication of letters omitting requested information. It does not guarantee the publication of any letter.

"We love you, Bryce. We will miss you."

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The Advocate is always looking for talented writers, photographers, columnists and illustrators. Meetings are held at noon every Friday in The Advocate office, CMU 110. Contact the editor for more information or come to the staff meetings.

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Kayla Van Eps, online editor
Alison Smith, copy editor
Marie Veillette, copy editor
Alecia Hupperts, ad manager
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World News

Iranian deputy minister killed

An assassin shot and killed Iran's deputy industry minister on Sunday in Tehran, according to the state news agency. Police believe someone traveling with Safdar Rahmat Abadi shot the well-known government figure twice in the head and chest as he was getting into his car. The attacker is still unidentified, and no group has claimed responsibility. It's been a bloody week in Iran—last Wednesday, a gunman killed an Iranian state prosecutor in a region near the Pakistani border.

Richie Incognito claims that he is not racist

After a week of allegations of hazing, racist and bullying against former teammate Jonathan Martin, Miami Dolphins guard Richie Incognito asserted in an interview that he is not a racist. Martin left the team at the end of October, and his attorney alleges he was forced out by "daily vulgar comments" and "a malicious physical attack on him by a teammate." Incognito said he is embarrassed by a voicemail where he uses a racial epithet, but says his relationship with Martin is being misrepresented. "[A]s his best friend on the team, that's what has me miffed—how I missed this. I never saw it," he said.

Two shot in NYC's Bryant Park

A 16-year-old boy has been taken into custody after he allegedly shot two people Saturday night in New York City's Bryant Park, a famous tourist destination in midtown Manhattan. Police say the gunman had told Javier Conteras, 20, of the Bronx, to hand over his coat, and when he was refused, the suspect left and returned with a gun. He shot onto the rink packed with around 150 skaters, hitting his intended target—and an innocent 14-year-old boy, Adonis Mera, of Manhattan. Mera's family said he had "no feelings from the waist down." Witnesses described the scene afterward as "mayhem," as the gunman reportedly fled the scene afterward.

Miss Venezuela wins Miss Universe pageant

Christmas already came and went in Venezuela, but there is something else for the country to celebrate. Miss Venezuela, Gabriela Isler, won the Miss Universe contest in Moscow on Saturday night, taking the crown from 86 other contestants.

Some Americans were onstage with Isler such as pageant owner Donald Trump and judge Steven Tyler from Aerosmith.

"I have a lot of emotions," Isler said. "I cannot describe all the things I feel at this moment, because I am shaking."

Beauty pageants are considered a great source of pride in Venezuela.



MSUM Briefs

Take the Lead presentation today

The next Take the Lead presentation is today and, it's called "How to use Social Media as a Professional Leader." It will be from 4-5 p.m. in CMU 203. The workshop will be presented by Bobbie Delaney from the Career Development Center.

Another Take the Lead held Dec. 4 is called "Taking Your Leadership to the Next Level." It will be from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in CMU 101. In this Take the Lead there will be a panel of people who are involved in the MSUM campus and people involved with the community.

Free memory and hearing screenings offered next week

The Speech-Language and Hearing Sciences department is offering free memory and hearing screenings in Murray Hall on Nov. 19 from 10-11 a.m. and 12:30-2:30 p.m. The screening will take 15 minutes or less. You can walk in or call the Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic to schedule an appointment at 218-477-2330.

Krajewski presents lecture at national conference

Dr. Michael J. Krajewski, music professor, presented a lecture/demonstration at the national Association of Technology in Music Instruction (ATMI) and College Music Society (CMS) conference in Cambridge, Mass., in October. His lecture titled "Developing Interactive Course Material" received rave reviews. In addition Krajewski chaired a session at the conference titled "Big Sound, Small Devices."

Dance team fundraises at Crave Burger

Students are encouraged to support their dance team at Crave Burger Co. in Moorhead to help the Dance Team get to the 2014 nationals.

Those who bring in flier which can be found on the MSUM website will receive 10% off.

This will take place until Thursday.

Guest speaker Dr. Greenfield to present tomorrow morning

Tomorrow from 8:30 to 10 a.m. in the CMU Ballroom, guest speaker Dr. Derek Greenfield will be speaking on the topic of "Creating a Culture of Service" at MSUM.

A nationally requested speaker on a range of topics, from cultural diversity to motivation to youth empowerment, Dr. Greenfield has successfully worked with clients ranging from Hilton Hotels to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks.

Event explores doing business in China

A unique event at MSUM explores doing business in China. This free event is Tuesday from 3

Security Update

Director of Public Safety

Greg Lemke

- 11.1** Suspicious person north side of Lommen, Moorhead Police Department responded- one cited for urination in public
- Suspicious odors in South Snarr, report made for information only
- Fire alarm in Flora Frick, false - mechanical
- Lockdown drill performed at the Wellness Center
- 11.2** Missing juvenile located in the CMU, Moorhead Police Department responded and transported juvenile off campus
- Medical in CA, refused medical attention
- Suspicious people outside Dahl, gone upon arrival
- Theft in the CA, Moorhead Police Department responded
- 11.3** Suspicious person in Grantham, gone upon arrival
- Fire alarm in Dahl, false - burnt food
- Alcohol container in Nelson, disposed of by Public Safety
- Suspicious activity on campus, multiple containers of spoiled milk disposed of by Public Safety
- 11.4** Suspicious activity in G-10 lot, note left on vehicle
- Marijuana odor in Nelson, three referred to Campus Judicial
- 11.5** Suspicious activity near Maintenance Building, vehicle alarm activated
- Auto boot placed in D-1 Lot for outstanding parking tickets
- Fire alarm in John Neumaier, false - burnt food
- 11.6** Medical in Science Lab Building, one transported by FM Ambulance
- Theft of bicycle from bike rack south of Weld
- Vandalism to bicycles in rack by East Snarr
- 11.7** Stolen bicycle recovered near Nemzek, Moorhead Police Department responded
- Fire alarm in Nelson, false - burnt food

Safety Tip of the week

Rape or sexual assault can happen to anyone, male or female and it's never the victim's fault. You may not be able to prevent all sexual assaults, but you can lessen the risks by following some simple tips.

- Always keep your cell phone charged and on you. You never know when you'll need it. Always carry enough money to take a taxi home.

- Trust your instincts. Be clear about what's okay for you. Don't expect the other person to read your mind. If something doesn't feel right to you, leave and get to a safe place immediately. Trust your gut. If you feel uncomfortable, leave or yell 'STOP', 'HELP' and continue to yell until the person stops. Many perpetrators of sexual assault are someone the victim knows.

- Stay in control. Alcohol is the most common date-rape drug. In fact, alcohol may be involved in almost 75 percent of all sexual assaults reported. If you are going to drink, don't drink too much where you can't make good decisions. Avoid being alone with someone who has been drinking.

To report a problem contact Public Safety at 218.477.2449

dra•gon vo•cab

Dragon Caves - living arrangements of most baby dragons, also known as dormitories.

Caver - A Dragon who never comes out of his or her room

to 6 p.m. in the CMU ballroom. Since China's market is continuing to grow, it's important to understand its business objectives," said Dr. Ruth Lumb, professor in MSUM's school of business.

This year a special addition to the event will take place in the Center for Business from 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

China has the second largest economy in the world. This event is open to the world beyond our borders.

Art senior has work chosen for Autumn Art Auction

BY SAMANTHA STARK
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Meghann Hlibichuk, art senior at MSUM, was chosen to show one of her paintings at the North Dakota Museum of Art's Fifteenth Annual Autumn Art Auction in Grand Forks last Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

The Autumn Art Auction is an annual live auction celebrating artists from the region. The auction was created in order to develop a buyer's market for artists living in North Dakota and the surrounding region. In addition, the auction's goals are to exemplify local artists, help them sell their work and get their name known.

Hlibichuk's piece is an abstract oil and acrylic painting titled "Athazagor."

"My paintings are random and vary a lot depending on my mood," Hlibichuk said. "I would describe my work as a mixture of figurative and abstract."

Laurel Reuter, director for North Dakota Museum of Art, each year asks Zhimin Guan, art and design professor at MSUM, to select a talented student whose work will be shown at this year's auction.

"I am looking for a cross of work and artists varying in ages," Reuter said. "Hlibichuk had a beautiful piece and is a talented artist."

Hlibichuk felt beside herself when she was chosen and didn't expect such an extraordinary privilege. This is the first auction in which Hlibichuk's work has ever been presented.

"The director selected a few pieces from the ones shown, and she said, 'These are the ones that I want to put in the auction,'" Hlibichuk said. "I was the only one from MSUM that was chosen, but a few other students' work from other colleges were chosen too."

In the auction, artists set their minimum prices on their work and then the live auction is held for buyers to bet on the artists' pieces. "I don't know if my piece was sold since I had to leave early because my friend was feeling sick," Hlibichuk said. "But I think it was sold because everyone was making a big deal about my piece when I was at the auction, and I haven't heard otherwise."

According to Hlibichuk the auction was busy, and the small room showing the artwork was packed with several artists, art collectors and other art enthusiasts.

In addition, some of Guan's paintings are sold at the auction almost every year.

"He is a really great professor," Hlibichuk said. "He really helped me develop my talent ... before I didn't know how to paint as well but he taught me how to really open up my ideas and push me further."

At the auction, there were 45 individual artists and 56 pieces of artwork represented. Every piece at the auction was sold including Hlibichuk's painting.



Submitted photo

Hlibichuk intently paints on a canvas. She claims her paintings are usually "random" and vary depending on her mood.

Education prof shares history through books

BY ELLEN ROSSOW
rossowel@mnstate.edu

Campus wide, news has been spreading about MSUM's 125 year anniversary. While this history of the school is new to many students, there are those that have been enveloped in this history before, regardless of the anniversary.

One of these people, professor Steven Grineski, of the school of teaching and learning, has quite an elaborate knowledge of MSUM's history, as he has dedicated time to producing books exploring this topic.

"Baby Dragons: The Story of Moorhead's Campus School 1888-1972" was written in 2007 and is just one of Grineski's many published works.

During the production of the book, Grineski was inspired to write "We Were Pretty Darn Good," a book which explores the school's history even further, specifically the history of the school of teaching and learning, since

that is where MSUM originated from. The title for this book was inspired by one of the interviews Grineski had during its writing.

"I was interviewing this lady who had been a student teacher in 1950," he said. "She said, 'Steve, I don't know if people knew, but we were pretty darn good.'"

According to Grineski, this woman's words are accurate.

"Moorhead State Teachers College had a national reputation for preparing rural teachers," he said. "There is a wonderful, wonderful rich history, both here in the campus school and in the rural areas."

Grineski was very inspired by the people he had the opportunity to talk through throughout working on these two books.

"I talked with about 50 people, mostly women, some men, between the ages of 70 to 95, who were either teachers, supervising teachers or students,"

he said. "I'm really glad I had the chance to capture their voices and their photographs and some of their stuff."

Grineski feels that it is important for students to know where the MSUM they know today came from.

"Most of the students here don't know the legacy of all the stuff that has gone on before them, and I think that is really important," Grineski said. "I'm glad that I had the chance to do that."

While Grineski takes pride in his books exploring MSUM's history, he also has a wide variety of other published works.

His most recent publication is titled, "Talking about Race: Alleviating the Fear" and was written in conjunction with Grineski's friend Julie Landsman among others.

This publication was inspired by Grineski's friendship with Landsman, which was brought about by their cooperation when Grineski would use Landsman's book, "A White Teacher

Talks About Race" while teaching his courses, following up with his students having a conference call with her.

Grineski is currently working on a project that will discuss lives of impoverished children.

"I've been working with children over at Church's United for the Homeless here in Moorhead," he explained. "Last January, I said, 'I'm going to go over to this homeless shelter and do some stuff with kids who are homeless,' and I had three amazing students volunteer and we met once a week to go over there. This next project will go along with that."

Grineski also has around 80 articles published in journals, covering a wide variety of topics.

His articles, because of the amount of work that goes into writing each one, are something that Grineski feels helps make him a better teacher, as the new knowledge he obtains can be recycled into his teaching.

Casting Call

Actors wanted for
an experimental short film
for a senior capstone project.

All are welcome!

Nov. 13 from 2-4 p.m. in CMU 208.

Nov. 16 from 2-5 p.m. in CMU 208.

Nov. 20 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in CMU 207.

'Piratical' children's show opens Thursday

BY ELLEN ROSSOW
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This Thursday, baby dragons of a new kind will be on campus. Instead of breathing fire or studying in preparation for finals, these kids will be watching MSUM theatre's children's show, "Swashbuckled! A Piratical Adventure."

The show follows the adventure of a technologically dependent young boy as he gets swept away by a band of pirates who need help finding their leader, Blackheart the pirate king.

Along the way, the boy and his new friends, Pirate Gray, Pirate Quick-Silver and Pirate Larry, sing and dance along their way as they encounter creepy creatures and pretty ladies.

This exciting show, filled with colorful characters and silly songs, will open this Thursday for students from elementary schools around the area. Performances will

continue throughout the next two weeks, and there will be free public shows on Nov. 23 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

While this show was no doubt written for young children, writer and director Craig Ellingson insisted that it is also for "the young at heart," and is a great opportunity for MSUM students to bring their young siblings, as well as for members of the community, to bring their whole families out.

With cast members in the show having to miss class for performances throughout the next weeks, the show has been double cast, meaning audience members will have opportunity to see the show with two different ensembles.

Ellingson also encourages students to, if their schedules allow it, see the show during one of the day performances as the reactions of the elementary school kids will make the show that much more fun to watch. If students want to take advantage of this, they should simply go to the box office and ask if there are any open seats.

Like all shows at MSUM, "Swashbuckled: A Piratical Adventure" is free for MSUM students.

News

Businessman ousts incumbent, joins council

BY BRYCE HAUGEN
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Back in May 1969, Jim Haney loaded up his Pontiac GTO in the Snarr parking lot and zipped the 300 miles to Zap, N.D. He didn't participate in the rioting at the legendary "Zip to Zap" gathering that drew about 3,000 people – and the North Dakota National Guard – to the 271-person town, but Haney said he would never forget the "frat brat beer bash with fights."

Forty-four years later, voters elected the zany Moorhead businessman and Celtic bandleader to represent Moorhead's 2nd Ward, which includes MSUM, on the city council. He defeated one-term incumbent Mark Altenburg in last week's elections 51 percent to 49 percent and will take office in January.

"I was quite flabbergasted," Haney said last week in a phone interview as he prepared to leave town for a deer-hunting trip. "I'm not a political professional by any stretch of the imagination. I'm elated of course."

"There was no question that people were ready for change in Moorhead."

Altenburg, who had not responded to an interview request by press time, is a "good man and an able competitor," Haney said. "He's



Jim Haney

given Moorhead four good years of service, and this is not the end of the line for this guy."

MSUM President Edna Szymanski wouldn't comment specifically on the council election results, but said, "The university tries really hard to work with all of our elected officials."

Kevin Struxness, the Student Senate president, said he was "bummed out" that Altenburg lost.

"He would listen to students' concerns and bring them to council," Struxness said. "(Senate hasn't) reached out to Mr. Haney yet. For all we know he'll care as much as Mark did about students."

Haney spent less than a year at MSUM before transferring to a technical college in

central Minnesota, but he returned to Moorhead to start a photography business, where two of his three sons now work. His wife, Bonnie Haney, runs a dance studio. They have six grandchildren and two more are on the way.

It's good to have people with business experience in elected office, said Chuck Chadwick, executive director of the Moorhead Business Association, which counts Haney as a member.

"We need concerned politicians and concerned citizens to help build the business community in Moorhead," Chadwick said.

Haney said his priorities are developing the downtown area, reducing blight, improving city services, finishing the 20th Street South underpass project, and being a responsible steward of tax dollars.

"I've got a sound fiscal background," he said. "I will bring that to the council."

MSUM sociology senior Clare Palmer, whose late mother represented the 2nd Ward in the mid-'90s, said she worries that, unlike Altenburg, Haney won't focus enough on his student constituents.

"(Altenburg) was ousted by a landlord and business owner who cares about those things, not people," Palmer said.

But MSUM art photography alumnus Julian Dahlquist who

lost by a wide margin in his own race for city council in the 3rd Ward, said he's had "nothing but good interactions with Haney."

"Obviously, I wanted to see Mark win, but that's the problem with having friends in elections. I have no reason to believe that Haney will be anything but good for Moorhead."

The key to serving students, Haney said, is making sure there are more recreational and job opportunities this side of the river.

"I hope (students) can find that this is a great community and choose to live here after school as I did," he said. "I love this town. It's a great place to live. I hope they stick around and help us build this town."



BEN GUMERINGER • gumerinebe@mnstate.edu

Only 67 students voted at the CMU poll site in last Tuesday's city election. Student Senate President Kevin Struxness said it's always tough to get people interested in an off-year election. "We always hope for a large turnout," he said. "But we aren't disappointed."

MAYOR, FROM FRONT

jumped in.

"I have a very high opinion of my mother," Lyndi Williams said.

Until that point, Del Rae Williams' political activity had been behind the scenes, serving as treasurer for nearly a dozen campaigns. But that work, and her other involvement over more than 20 years living in Moorhead, including at the F-M Coalition for Homeless Persons, League of Women Voters, Moorhead Human Rights Commission, Moorhead Healthy Community Initiative and the Friends of the Moorhead Library, meant she had a vast network of friends to help her in her first bid for office.

"Having that foundation of involvement will really bring her a long way during her tenure as mayor," said Williams' friend Julian Dahlquist, a MSUM art photography alumnus who lost his race for a 3rd Ward city council seat last week.

Williams quickly launched a website and depended on others for the "mechanics of the campaign."

"I needed to focus on the issues and talking to people," Williams said.

She tapped Moorhead writer, singer and activist Athena Gracyk to be her campaign manager.

Williams, Gracyk said, is "smart. She's well-informed, she pays attention and she's able to reach beyond herself for ideas and bring other people into the conversation."

"That's why I chose to work



Del Rae Williams

with her – I believe in her ability to work with others. I'm excited for the kind of changes that are possible."

Edna Szymanski, MSUM's first female president, said she was "tickled" at Williams' election.

"She has my support," Szymanski said. "I am just absolutely thrilled."

Student Senate President Kevin Struxness said he also looks forward to working with the new mayor.

"I would like the city as a whole more connected to the college," Williams said.

Student concerns have been on her radar for a while, she said, noting she joined Facebook to keep track of parking issues a few years back. She's also made frequent visits to campus, including early in her campaign when she attended the Sidewalk Café event.

That's where she met MSUM sociology senior Clare Palmer, whose mother, the late Cindy Palmer, ran unsuccessfully for Moorhead mayor in 1989 before serving a term on the city council.

"(Williams) really does care about the people of Moorhead – temporary residents included," said Palmer, who marched in parades and distributed buttons on campus.

She said if her mother were still alive she "would have been campaigning for (Williams) right along side of me."

Mayoral terms usually last for four years, but because last week Moorhead voters approved moving city elections to even years, Williams will be in office for an additional year.

During that time, she said she will focus on improving city services where that's needed, improving the city's arts, cultural and business environment and making sure citizens with great ideas get the support at City Hall to make them a reality.

There are lots of ideas out there ready to go, such as Theatre B moving to Moorhead, she said, "as long as somebody doesn't stand in the way."

Voters, Williams said, seemed to be expressing a wish for a "fresh look at things, not the status quo."

"They are excited about the possibilities for Moorhead, and they see

me as someone who will help things happen."

Williams is going to hold listening sessions in each ward and also host regular "Coffee with the Mayor" meetings to keep in touch with constituents.

"As I door-knocked, you could tell people felt disconnected from the city," she said. "I felt like I could be accessible that way."

She emphasized that she's the mayor for the whole city, not just the people who voted for

her. She said she looks forward to working with the diverse group of council members – including former mayoral opponent Mike Hulett, who represents 3rd Ward – even if they might disagree on some issues.

"We all have a common goal," Williams said, "to have Moorhead be the best place to work and play. If we all have that common goal (working together) shouldn't be that hard."



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News

Dragon Caller position turns students into fundraisers

BY KRISTEN MILLER
millerkr@mnstate.edu

After a slump during the economic crisis of 2008-09, the MSUM Alumni Foundation is seeing increases in donations. In his report for the 2012 fiscal year, Corey Elmer, president of the foundation, reported that total assets grew by more than \$3.4 million.

That money is benefitting the university, with 76 percent of the Alumni Foundation's assets being invested in student scholarships.

"We fundraise primarily for scholarships, but also academic program support; a variety of different things," said Anna Miller, Director of Annual Giving, "A lot of funding will go to a specific department or just general scholarship funds."

Much of this funding comes directly from MSUM alumni as they give back to current students who are following in their footsteps. When gathering donations, the Alumni Foundation utilizes students through their Dragon Caller program.

"Alumni are very interested in new things on campus, like renovations or new resources," says Ashley Aurdahl, a former Dragon Caller who now works as a student supervisor. "They like sharing their experiences with my callers and, the callers like getting advice from them."

Students who work for the

Dragon Caller program are in direct contact with MSUM alumni. They work both to maintain the relationships between graduates and the university and collect donations.

"It's kind of a unique job," said Miller. "The alums enjoy the conversation, but the students really get a lot out of it. The nice thing about the Dragon Caller position is that it's some actual skill building that you'll use in your career... this job will teach you to overcome objections and strengthen your negotiating skills."

"Alumni offer great advice to us as student," Aurdahl agrees, adding, "many students ask for advice and some have even made some connections that could help them after school."

However, some recent grads struggle with being asked to donate so soon after leaving MSUM. While dealing with first jobs and paying back student loans, they often don't have the means to donate to their alma mater.

"I feel like it's a waste of time to call new graduates. We're still getting on our feet and trying to figure out how the real world works now with loan payments and such," said Danielle Krolak, a 2013 graduate.

"I think the Alumni Foundation should start asking new alumni for money one year after they have graduated and not before then," adds Justin McDowell, another

2013 MSUM grad, though he says he would consider donating in the future, "I want to give back to MSUM since MSUM has given a lot to me."

Asking for donations is not all the Alumni Foundation is interested in, and both Miller and Aurdahl say the attitude from the alumni they contact is generally positive. There are differences in the way calls are received depending on the length of time alumni have been out of school, and the callers try to adapt to that.

"We are not just calling to ask for donations," says Aurdahl. "When talking to recent grads, it's easier to talk about things like how they transitioned to life after school. When talking to older graduates, it's easier to talk about new things on or about campus. Callers have to be aware of who they are calling and adjust to that."

Whether through asking for donations or building relationships with alumni, the Dragon Caller program offers unique experience for students. Currently staffed with around 18 student workers, Miller says they are always looking for more.

"We run shifts Sunday afternoons and Sunday through Thursday evenings," she says, adding that they are flexible to accommodate the schedules of busy students.

Interested students can contact the foundation to learn more about applying.

Education group aims to help students find jobs

BY KRISTEN MILLER
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Education Minnesota Student Program, also known as EMSP, offers education students valuable experience as they prepare for their future careers. The student-driven organization has been active both on and off campus this semester, giving students the chance for hands-on involvement.

"We like to gear our programs toward educating the future educators," says Lindsay Eide, president of MSUM's chapter of EMSP.

EMSP aims to help current education students gain insight into their future jobs. Additionally, membership in the organization comes with the added benefits of liability insurance while in practicum classrooms, access to learning materials and access to student functions and conferences.

It is also a branch of Education Minnesota, a statewide union that offers advocacy for Minnesota educators, professional support and mentorship for new teachers; all of which will be valuable as students move into their careers.

EMSP operates at the university level, and is a student-focused and driven organization. Students have the opportunity to assume leadership roles and give input to the direction of the group.

"The members bring the ideas to the table," says Rebecca Theisen, faculty advisor to the group, while explaining some of the many events the group has been involved with. "In past we've done some tutoring and worked with homeless shelters."

Currently, EMSP is looking forward to a principal panel to take place today.

"Area principals from both

Fargo and Moorhead will be on the panel to talk about what they like to see in teacher candidates and answer questions our guests and members have," says Theisen.

The emphasis on pre-professional development is another unique aspect of the program. Events such as the panel give students an idea of what their future employers will expect from them after graduation.

All are welcome to the event, which is at 7 p.m. in Lommen room 203, and Eide hopes the attendance numbers will give them a better estimate of student interest in EMSP this semester.

"We had about 15 people at our (first) meeting," she says, "And hopefully the principal panel, our first big event, will show us who is actually involved and interested in our organization."

Another take-away students can gain from involvement with EMSP is an enhanced resume.

"Resume building and trying to find out how they can prepare themselves to be a strong candidate for hire," Theisen says in regard to what students in the group are learning, "I think it's just really beneficial, and it's also really helpful for the students to become involved and active. It's something they can put on their resume."

Eide encourages all education students to consider getting involved.

"It's worth looking into, especially for having your eyes peeled to what's going on," she said, "and this is a great way to do that because it has that professional development aspect outside of the classroom."

Eide recommends looking into the EMSP Facebook page as a good place to start getting involved.



Submitted photo

The unique position of Dragon Caller brings students together, while building positive relationships between prospective, current and past students of MSUM.

ROTC, FROM FRONT

to the Army that has not been accurately calculated."

MSUM's student senate also decided to take action, creating the ROTC task force. The task force planned to start a student petition against the closure and write to representatives for their support. However, the announcement to keep the program open, "came as a surprise, before the task force could take action," Joao Cunha, diversity chair of the student senate, said in an email. Instead of rallying for support, the task force will be writing thank you letters to Senators (Heidi Heitkamp and (John) Hoeven and Representative (Kevin) Cramer for their support.

Senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken and Congressman Collin Peterson said in a letter to McHugh that the Bison Battalion ranked third in the Third Brigade covering the Midwest. The letter went on to say that 43 percent of cadets earned excellence ratings in 2013, a rate 21 percent above the national average.

Heitkamp said in an interview with WDAY, "NDSU ROTC has an incredible tradition." To her, quality of the program counts most.

Justin Johnson, a criminal justice senior and ROTC member, has been in the Army for almost six years and said he is excited the Army has reversed their decision. "I am sure we will utilize this opportunity to grow and improve the Tri-College program to ensure it is around for years to come."

Now the program needs to boost its numbers to avoid getting closed after the probationary period. "We need to make sure people know about it," Szymanski said. She noted the university was responsible for telling the story about ROTC and how it helps pay for college.

"It's important to me that it's an option for students," said Szymanski, whose husband went through the Air Force ROTC program during his college career.

Features

Give a warm 'Howdy' to Mr. and Ms. MSUM

BY BRIAN ASHBURN
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Step aside Clint Eastwood – the real cowboys have arrived at the rodeo.

The Dragon Entertainment Group held its 7th annual Mr. and Ms. MSUM mock pageant last Wednesday in the CMU Ballroom. The theme was Western, making the night a hoedown for both contestants and spectators.

The program was emceed by “Cowboy Mike,” who wound up being the ultimate entertainer of the night. Three judges presided over the event to choose the winners: Becky Boyle Jones, assistant director of student activities; Annie Wood, assistant direction of communication and student engagement and Briana Schepper, executive director for the Dragon Entertainment Group.

The night opened up with the introduction of the cowboys and cowgirls, who sported formal wear with a Western undertone. Jenna Polley, Jenae Olson, Calanthea Mazoyo and Sirine Barrah competed for the title of Ms.; Kasey Anderson and Pat Richard battled head-to-head for the Mr. crown.

Each contestant had to answer five questions as part of the Q-and-A section of the night:

-Would you rather have a trusty steed or a trusty dog as a sidekick?

-Your cowboy rival rolls into town and challenges you to a duel – how do you respond?

-If you were a prairie wind, which way would you blow?

-While you sit around the campfire, would you play the guitar or harmonica?

-What does the coyote say?

The talent portion was the highlight of the night,

though unfortunately none of the contestants used bull riding to showcase their abilities. Among the talents were piano playing, dancing, singing, lip-synching and trumpet playing.

“I hadn’t played the trumpet in five years,” Anderson said. “I didn’t know how it would go.”

The night wrapped up with a fashion show, with the contestants showing off their country-western ways of style. The audience roared in applause when Richard pulled out a lasso as he strutted his stuff.

After a long deliberation, the judges crowned Jenae Olson and Pat Richard Ms. And Mr. MSUM.

“I’m extremely humbled and honored to represent the amazing student body,” Richard said. “The pageant was so fun, jumping around, being crazy.”

“I’m so ecstatic,” Olson said. “My favorite part was being backstage with everyone, laughing about the night. This will be one of my favorite memories of senior year.”

Although the judges said it was a close vote, they had standout moments from the pageant that sealed the deal for Olson and Richard.

“My favorite part was when Pat pulled out the lasso,” Wood said. “That helped him clinch the title.”

“I loved Jenae’s crowd interaction,” said Schepper, referring to Olson’s talent act in which she sang and danced through the aisles of the audience.

All in all, the Group considered the night a huge success.

“People were so excited during the show,” said Kelsey Metz, outreach coordinator. “In the end, that’s what its all about.”



Mr. MSUM, Pat Richard, sings with country passion on the CMU Ballroom stage. His arms thrown up to the sky during the talent portion of the pageant in hopes of being crowned the new Mr. MSUM.



Jenae Olson tears up after being proudly crowned Ms. MSUM. To her right, Mr. MSUM smiles to the crowd after his cowboy hat gets replaced with a crown.

Photos by BRIAN ASHBURN • ashburnbr@mnstate.edu

Film portfolio reviews held this week

BY ELLEN ROSSOW
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This week, while the majority of students are stuck in their daily routines, students of the film department will be out of class. This vacation from coursework is actually anything but that, as film students will undergo the first of the year’s portfolio reviews. Students that are starting off their senior seminar projects, or are just finishing up their fundamental courses will be involved in this process.

Film professor Thomas Brandau has been involved in the portfolio review process at MSUM since the program first came about four years ago.

Like any form of assessment, these reviews can be somewhat stressful for students, he assures students that it is to be a supportive and positive experience.

“We use portfolio review as an opportunity to assess how we are doing and how the students are doing,” he said. “It is supposed to be all positive.”

According to Brandau, the reviews are a “two-way street” for students and professors.

“It is how we assess how well our students are doing in our program how well we are serving them in the curriculum we offer,” he said.

Students involved in the review process have specific information that they are expected to share with professors depending on how far along they are in the program.

Students who are taking part in their first portfolio review are expected to share something from their first three production classes. Meanwhile, students in their senior year will share their senior seminar project or the thesis of their project.

“It’s not just them showing work,” Brandau said. “It’s also them tying in some of the history, criticism and theory that they have learned.”

According to Brandau, many students have a hard time with this aspect of the reviews, but he encourages students to, even though they may not want to, integrate these ideas into their presentation, as it is “really important” that students ask how what they have learned in their history courses have changed their own production.

Besides integrating what they have learned in their courses into the presentations, Brandau has other advice for students.

“There is no reason to lose sleep over it,” he said. “It is all supposed to be a positive, beneficial experience.”

Brandau also encourages students to remember that it is a professional event.

“It’s almost as if they are coming to a job interview, or as if they were presenting to a grant organization,” he said. “We take it seriously.”

Students are encouraged to, like their professors, take the reviews seriously and also make an effort.

“Prepare,” Brandau said. “If you prepare there is nothing to worry about.”

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Features

Mass Comm prof retires after 25 years of accomplishments

BY ALISON SMITH
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After the fall 2013 semester, MSUM will say goodbye to an integral professor from the mass communications department, Wayne Gudmundson. Gudmundson, an MSUM alumnus responsible for bringing New Rivers Press and the Lincoln, England exchange program to MSUM, as well as publishing 15 books through the "Prairie Documents Photographic Book Series," has been a professor at the college for 25 years.

From the Navy to teaching

While in the Navy stationed in Guam, Gudmundson took up photography as a hobby. Upon returning to the states, he enrolled at MSUM and spent the winter in Aspen at a photography class.

After graduating MSUM in 1974 with a BA in mass communications and a BS in education, Gudmundson student taught at a high school in Copenhagen, Denmark. It was there that he met his wife, Jane, who was teaching at an elementary school in Copenhagen at the same time.

The two were married in England and Gudmundson took a summer teaching job at MSUM. He later took a job for the Plains Art Museum, which led to an artist in residency position and eventually Gudmundson became the director of visual arts for the Fargo school system.

He later decided he needed a change in his life, which led him to continue his schooling to receive a MS in educational administration from the Tri-College University and a MFA in photography from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, so he would be qualified to teach at a university level.

A career as a professor

For Gudmundson, "Teaching has always been the most important thing... there's nothing like seeing the lights go on for someone."

Dave Arntson, a current adjunct professor in the mass communications department and an MSUM alumnus who had Gudmundson as a professor, said he's taken note from how Wayne interacts with his students. "You realize that there are students that you're leaving a lasting impression on and you're giving them the skills they need to function out there in the world."

Jessica Fleming, mass communications senior with an emphasis in photojournalism, has taken three classes from Gudmundson and said: "Wayne will be a seriously missed pillar of the mass communication photojournalism program... he looks at every photo you take, so he can see how your mind works and get a feel on how you see things."

Gudmundson hasn't only brought his teaching to MSUM, but will also leave behind a couple other legacies. He helped bring New Rivers Press to campus with Al Davis, MSUM English professor.. He suggested starting a literary publishing house and became the director of New Rivers Press with Davis being the senior editor.

Gudmundson also started the exchange program with the University of Lincoln, England, about 12 years ago. He received the offer to have a class waived if he looked into the possibility of an exchange program with another school. He made several trips to England to set up the program and along with Nigel

Morris, a senior lecturer at Lincoln, drafted the statement of agreement between the two universities. He oversaw the program up until last year.

Accomplished work

Gudmundson said, while some people don't like the academic notion of "publish or perish," he thrived in that environment and was able to do what he loved. "Left to my own, that's what I would do is projects," he said. "Teaching has freed me from having to make photographs that sell, I don't have to live by my sales. I can do exactly what I want."

Gudmundson has published nine books, was the editor for 15 student-published books through the "Prairie Documents Photographic Book Series," has work in 16 permanent collections and more than 36 exhibits and was involved with four public television documentaries.

"There's always a number of projects going on at the same time... it's a real privileged environment and for me it's been a good gig," he said.

Currently he is working on two to three book projects, one to two television efforts, researching for an upcoming trip to the Sonoran desert, working on a project on the White Earth Reservation and also one on the role of post offices in rural North Dakota. He also is preparing for a show at the Plains Art Museum in May 2014 where he will exhibit his work documenting sunrises from summer solstice to winter solstice from a specific point at his lake cabin in Minnesota.

Forever a student

While most know Gudmundson as a photographer or professor, he could also be considered a student for life.

"I always tell people you gotta know what's in front of the camera," he said. "The research is a very important thing for me... you can't tell someone something interesting if you know nothing about it."

Gudmundson's research has led him to collaborating with individuals in creating a few books. Both "Minnesota Gothic" and "Affinities" were collaborations of Gudmundson's photographs and the poems of Mark Vinz, an English professor at MSUM during that time.

When looking for inspiration for a new project, Gudmundson says it usually falls together quite nicely. "One project will kind of point me in the direction of another project," he said. When working on his first book on the North Dakota oil boom in 1981, which he considered a social phenomenon, he and his wife were approached to photograph German-Russian grave markers in North Dakota, which he considered folk art.

While working on those two projects, "I discovered that I really liked the North Dakota landscape and photographing it with the large format camera," he said.

Gudmundson considers himself a cultural landscape photographer. "When I look at the land, it's not just for scenery or beauty," he said. "It's the history, it's the culture, all layered together there on the land."

Looking forward

"I will continue to teach and make photographs and golf," Gudmundson said. "And I love building stuff."

Eventide nursing home just bought a collection of photographs for their south Moorhead facility that was hung this last Sunday. Gudmundson's late mother spent some time at the facility, his father

still spends time there and it was close to where he grew up.

His suggestion for aspiring photographers stresses the importance of knowing how to write. "Writing is so important because it forces you to finish the sentence, the paragraph, the story," he said, "helping you to think more clearly."

"Newspapers are dying, if you think you're going to get a job for a newspaper or 'National Geographic,' I think you're deluded," he said. "But, there's a lot of places where you can get jobs where you can use some of your writing and visual skills."

A retirement party will be held to celebrate Gudmundson's career and contributions to MSUM on Nov. 18 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the mass communications lounge and is open to all students, faculty and staff.



ALISON SMITH • smithal@mnstate.edu

Gudmundson reflects on student work in his advanced photography class last Wednesday.

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Opinion

Advocate Editorial Board

Best wishes to Bryce

The journalism field can be a hard industry to break into. The members of The Advocate would like to say congratulations and farewell to one of its hard working employees and friends, Bryce Haugen.

Haugen worked professionally and diligently as the managing editor, and this issue is the last week the paper will be graced with his name.

Haugen will continue using his talents as a reporter at the Wadena Pioneer Journal. Though we are sad to see him leave, we are excited for his new endeavours.

He is someone we always looked up to for his in-depth reporting and ease of creating captivating headlines. His loveable sarcasm always brought humor to even the most trying of times, and his bright smile and distinctive giggle were a staple of the MSUM newsroom.

Best of luck, Bryce, visit often and never forget your roots. Once a Dragon, always a Dragon!

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. Friday and can be sent to MSUM Box 130, dropped off in The Advocate office or emailed to advocate@mnstate.edu.

Connect with us



Interested in being a columnist? or a cartoonist? The Advocate wants you! Contact Jessica at jaspersoje@mnstate.edu

Changes to improve America's education



ANDREW THOMASON
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America could be a leader in education if a few steps were taken to improve our public schools.

The end of private schools is the first step. Every child in America should have a public elementary school education.

If every child attended public school, every parent in America would be invested in public schools. Imagine all students receiving the same education; the same standards addressed at every school and no division between students because of private or public education.

Erasing the lines drawn by social economic status would help children learn about the world. Private schools

would no longer distance more privileged children from the struggles of their peers.

The next step is embracing character education in our schools. It is education of the character that teaches children we are all on this world together. We need to teach that actions carry real consequences for other people on the planet.

Whether it is not recycling or failure to express empathy for another person, children need to think about the people with whom they occupy this world. Teaching children about the outdoors and letting them discover nature would enrich the child's life and understanding of the world.

A funding model for schools would be a step in the right direction.

Local property taxes should be collected to pay for local schools. The battle cry that more money does not mean a better education for students is worn out.

Money can buy real facilities for students, pay teachers competitive wages and fully fund special education.

The public and schools need to enter into a social contract. They need to fully fund schools with a blank check.

The schools will act responsibly with our money and provide a top

notch education to our students.

Early childhood education should be a priority for schools. The earlier we start, the more children benefit. Having a solid plan for children, even beginning at age one, will help children become learners when they enter school.

Exposing children to literature and teaching them simple basic numbers early would help them have a solid start when they entered public schools.

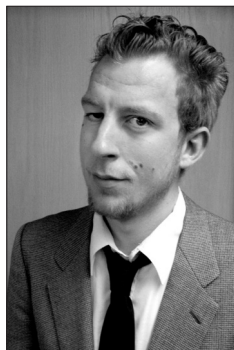
Education also needs to be taught year-round. We need to move from the model of summers off, to a more progressive model that will not allow the summer slump to occur.

The school calendar should be rotation of six weeks in classes, two weeks out of classes.

Schools need to be the center of the community. The buildings need to be a place where the community can come, and be involved in the education of the students.

The resources of people in the community need to be tapped to help shape the education of students. Expertise of community members could be used to shape children who are ready for real jobs, ready for college and ready to contribute to society. Attending to the needs of every child equally will require a lot of work, but it is achievable.

Jokes to ease the semester slumps



JOHN GOERKE
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Two weeks ago, I wrote a little piece criticizing some bad thinking concerning the health care law.

I was pleased to read the responses and had planned to use these column inches to offer a rejoinder to my critics and an affirmation to my allies. But, I have been walking around campus these past few days, and you all look as tired as I do.

We've reached the point of the year when the semester has begun to overstay its welcome.

I recalled the words of Winston Churchill, "A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject."

I haven't changed my mind concerning the health care law, but for the sake of my sanity (and yours) I plan to change the subject. In place of my usual column, I am here offering up a few choice jokes and witticisms which I turn to for mental renewal.

If you find them as amusing as I do, great. If not, at least you'll understand where I'm coming from.

Tim Hawkins:

"Good friends are like fine wine. That's why I keep mine locked in the cellar."

"Whenever I want to be left alone, I go to the mall and hold a clipboard."

John Branyan:

"Hamsters are like cigarettes; perfectly harmless until you stick one in your mouth, and light it on fire."

G.K Chesterton:

"Do not enjoy yourself. Enjoy dances and theaters and joy-rides and champagne and oysters; enjoy jazz and cocktails and night-clubs if you can enjoy nothing better; enjoy bigamy and burglary and any crime in the calendar, in preference to the other alternative; but never learn to enjoy yourself."

"The first two facts which a healthy boy or girl feels about sex are these: first that it is beautiful and then, that it is dangerous."

"Bigotry is an incapacity to conceive seriously the alternative to a proposition."

"Religious liberty might be supposed to mean that everybody is free to discuss religion. In practice it means that hardly anybody is allowed to mention it."

Johnnie W:

"Do dermatology conferences have breakout sessions?"

"'Jolly Rancher' is a weird name for a candy. If you meet a rancher who is jolly, chances are, he's growing pot."

Demetri Martin:

"Employee of the month is a good example of how somebody can be both a winner and a loser at the same time."

"The worst time to have a heart attack is during a game of charades."

"If I ever saw an amputee getting

hanged, I'd probably just start calling out letters."

"A drunk driver is very dangerous. So is a drunk backseat driver, if he's persuasive."

Mitch Hedburg:

"Last week I helped my friend stay put. It's a lot easier than helpin' 'em move. I just went over to his house and made sure that he did not start to load shit into a truck."

"I want to hang a map of the world in my house, and then I'm gonna put pins into all the locations that I've traveled to. But first I'm gonna have to travel to the top two corners of the map, so it won't fall down."

"The depressing thing about tennis is that no matter how good I get, I'll never be as good as a wall."

"What am I drinking? NyQuil on the rocks, for when you're feeling sick but sociable."

"I didn't go to college, but if I did, I'd taken all my tests at a restaurant because the customer is always right."

Winston Churchill:

"I am fond of pigs. Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals."

"The best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter."

"The truth is incontrovertible. Malice may attack it, ignorance may deride it but in the end, there it is."

"Ending a sentence with a preposition is something up with which I will not put."

"A joke is a very serious thing."

Jokes are indeed very serious things, which may make this the most serious column I have ever written. Have a good week.

msumadvocate.com

Opinion

Yoga pants: From the girl and guy perspective

With yoga pants becoming extremely trendy among college students in the past year, it's been the topic of many people, fashionable or not.

There are many arguments that occur when yoga pants are brought up. While many say women should be allowed to wear whatever they wish, others disagree and say that this idea is damaging to our society and is just another way for women to get attention.

So, looking at it from a guy and girl perspective, we will go through the "Do's and Dont's," what we think and if this is a long-staying trend or just another phase we will see through the ever-changing fashions of time.

From a girl perspective

I, like many girls on our campus have yoga pants. I have one pair exactly. I will admit they are quite comfortable, but I still don't wear them very often. The reason I don't wear them often is because they essentially are still sweatpants, so what's the difference between the two?

The difference is pretty simple in my eyes and many girls of whom I have talked with about yoga pants. They make you look better by exposing your "assets." By assets, I mean, they show all your curves and shape of your bottom.

In my eyes, yoga pants are pretty much another way for girls to grab the attention of others, guy or girl. While I agree that women should be able to wear whatever they want, I think that girls need to think about the consequences and causes that occur when wearing these semi-revealing pants.

If you wear yoga pants in today's society, women can expect to get more

stares at their legs or bottoms.

I have also heard many girls who think that wearing these pants with a dressy shirt is considered professional/dressy attire. I've even heard a girl say that she would wear her yoga pants to a job interview.

I have interviewed people for jobs, been interviewed for jobs, and I know that one of the main things employers watch for at interviews is how you present yourself, attire being part of that. If someone stepped in my office wearing yoga pants, I would not take her seriously, unless they were leggings, and she was wearing a dress or something covering her bottom.

I don't really like this new trend, mainly because it seems lazy, but it also has a sort of bad effect. The other day I overheard a guy talking to his friend saying, "Yeah, I only go to the Wellness Center to see the girls bending over in their yoga pants."

I think that says enough.

From a guy perspective

Yoga pants can either be a "yay" or a "nay" in my book. Agreed that they can show off a ladies "assets" well, they can also show them off not so well. If you got the curves go for it ladies! "Ow ow!"

But just be sure that is the kind of attention you want to receive. Do you want a man who will treat you right or a man who just wants to see more of your behind? I personally enjoy a more dignified classy girl over one who wears her yoga pants just to show off her booty.

But don't get me wrong; a little booty is never a bad thing in a guy's book. Just find a way to make it look classy, not trashy.

Yoga pants are quickly replacing sweatpants because they are comfortable,

and now women believe they can wear them with other outfits, and they are considered fashionable. But ladies, unless you got a skirt or something to cover up your now amped up behind, it is just going to look awkward.

Yoga pants are exercise clothes, not dress clothes. DO NOT wear them to interviews. Women think just because they are black, they are considered dress pants. But that is not the case.

Yoga pants are not professional in the slightest, unless you have something to pair with them, so they come off more as tights. Yoga pants alone never convey a sense of dignity and poise.

Yoga pants are becoming so common now a days, I feel I've grown immune to their "charm." You see five out of 10 girls in them now, it seems, and they are quickly losing their sex appeal. A bottom is a bottom, no matter what kind of pants you put it into.

Guys are fickle, hormonal creatures by nature, and if you want to keep our attention, don't wear yoga pants all the time; because if we constantly see what you're working with, we won't be too impressed if you decide to show us the rest.

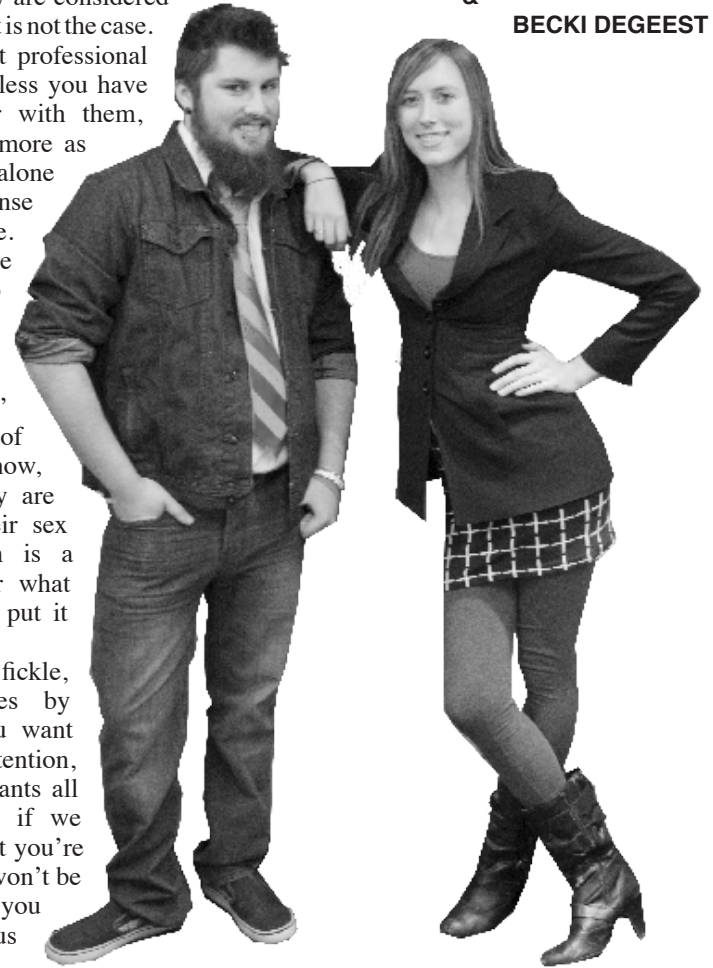
Keep those yoga pants in the closet, and take them out maybe two to three times a month. It's hard to make a guy's jaw drop when he sees what you got going on every day.

Don't fight for attention. Make us fight for you.

COLE HOLVID

&

BECKI DEGEEST



Moorhead's snow removal plan oppresses the community



JOEL KROMER
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With the weather getting colder, I think everyone in Moorhead is anticipating when the first snow will fall. Everyone knows with snow, comes hot beverages, curling up in blankets and, of course, terrible road conditions.

One would assume with how much snow Moorhead gets in a winter there would be an efficient, well-thought out snow removal plan. However, Moorhead could not be further away from this.

Last year Moorhead put into effect the Blue Snow Removal District. Judging by the name, one would believe this to be a snow removal plan. I, however, believe it was created for another reason: making money.

After having my car towed last year, I decided to do some research, and I found this snow removal plan to be oppressive towards college students in the community and persons who live within the Blue Snow Removal District.

Here are the problems with this snow removal plan: While the city placed signs on every block, informed local news stations, sent out letters and notified both Concordia and MSUM, there seemed to be some terrible hiccups when this plan went into effect.

First, let's look at the Blue Snow Removal

map. The snow district stretches between Fourth and 20th street South and from Main to 16th avenue South. Within this region is MSUM, Concordia and Romkey Park, which contains a large amount of college residential properties as well as low-income families. The Blue Snow District covers the largest commuted area in Moorhead.

Next, let's discuss the signs. They are 10 by 8-inch signs that read, "Snow Removal District Subject to Tow Schedule: cityofmoorhead.com/snowdistrict." Nowhere on the sign does it read what day or time your car is subject to tow. The only information given is a website.

While many people have smartphones now a days and are able to hop right online, not all people do. The sign should list more than a website. Not only is the sign not clear, the website is extremely unclear as well.

When I explored the web address, it gave me four options: Sign up for notifications, snow district brochure, snow district removal map and other snow removal information. In the snow district brochure, it explains what the snow district is and that after a heavy snowfall, routine snow removal will take place and cars are subject to being towed.

The website says nothing about what side of street one can park on or what time one can park on the street. The only place I could find a time when cars are towed is under the snow district removal map. The time listed for snow removal in the legend of the map is incorrect.

It reads no parking from 1 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursdays. The actual time is from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The day of towing also depends on when the city decides to put the Blue Snow Removal District into effect. The only beneficial thing on this extremely outdated and poorly created website is being able to sign up for notifications through email, Facebook and Twitter.

Creating a snow removal policy where all of the rules and notifications are located on

the Internet is good, but it also assumes that everyone in the city has access to Internet all day, everyday. This is simply not true; many college students and families of low-income cannot afford Internet and have to go somewhere to use it.

The other problem is the snow removal plan does not go into effect after every snowfall; it is up to the city to decide, and the city decides daily. Because of this, putting the notifications and rules online means people will need daily Internet access.

Another major hiccup in creating this policy is, while both universities were notified as well as local news stations and newspapers and letters sent out, all these forms of communication seemed to fail when 130 plus cars were towed on the first day the plan went into effect.

MSUM sent out the notification just before 9 a.m., after cars had already started to be towed. The letters sent out by the city, from my knowledge, only went to residential properties that were within the snow district.

I find this ridiculous considering the majority of students that commute to campus most likely do not live in the snow district. Another reason it was oppressive to college students is the fact that, while local news stations and newspapers were informed, not all college students have Internet, television or receive a weekly paper.

The week after 130 plus cars had been towed, the student senate held a public forum in the MSUM ballroom with city council members Mark Altenburg and Heidi Durand. They were there to explain the Blue Snow Removal District, and hear any complaints or suggestions to make it better.

In the meeting they explained that city council did not know the city would keep about half of the \$95 towing fee, with the other half going to the towing company. I have a problem with this considering, when I went to get my car, the police officer told me I was ignorant of the law.

If I cannot be ignorant of the law, why can

the city council members be ignorant about where the money in their own snow removal plan goes?

My answer is simply that the city council knew from the beginning that the city would be keeping half of the towing fee. In addition to this, both city council members said they would make a motion to reimburse students the money that the city of Moorhead kept.

This sounded fair enough to me. However, at the next city council meeting, besides Altenburg and Durand, the rest of city council voted no.

What you need to know about the Blue Snow Removal District is this: the city will decide after a snowfall whether or not to put the plan into effect. The first day it goes into effect, cars can park on either side of streets or avenues.

On day two, cars cannot park in front of even numbered residential areas (north and east sides of streets) from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. On day three cars cannot park in front of odd numbered residential areas (south and west sides of streets) from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

You should also go to the website cityofmoorhead.com/snowdistrict and sign up for email notifications, and follow the city of Moorhead on Facebook and Twitter for notifications.

Overall, even though I truly want to believe that the city council created the Blue Snow Removal District with only good intentions of an efficient way of removing snow, I cannot help but think this law was created to make money.

I cannot understand why the city would keep a law so oppressive to college students who rent housing and supply business both by working and consuming within the community.

After living in Moorhead and attending MSUM for five years, I will be leaving this town after I graduate if poor policies and laws like this continue. Who knows, maybe the grass is greener on the other side, other side of the river that is.

Sports

Dragons' basketball teams tip off the season

BY TURNER BLAUFUSS
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The MSUM men's and women's basketball teams prepare to make a run this season, and both teams return a solid core to build on with young Dragons.

For the boys' squad, MSUM head coach Chad Walthall is happy with the performance of his team thus far and believes his team has the potential to have an even better year than last season.

"I think the key component to our season will be how our veterans and our new guys interact with each other," Walthall said. "Our goal is to have a better year than last year. We had a good season but not a great season, and you always want to have a great season."

Redshirt junior, and the lone captain, Jordan Riewer, will lead the Dragons this season. Riewer is ready to lead and has the right attitude for the role.

"Jordan is a great player and a great person. That's why he's our lone captain. We're going to rely on his leadership skills just as much as his playing," Walthall said. "He knows the system as far as the program's expectations and the coaching staff's expectations. He's at that point where he has to

make that jump from a different guy to a leadership guy."

Leading the group of newcomers is Moorhead native Aaron Lien. The young Moorhead High School alumnus will be thrown into the fire right away to help the Dragons and his coaches believe he's ready physically and mentally.

"We were really excited to get him to commit to our program. He is an extremely hard worker, arguably the hardest worker in our program. His basketball IQ is very high, so he picks up on stuff very fast for a freshman," Walthall said.

On the women's side, MSUM coach Karla Nelson is excited for the season's start and has a great group of seniors to lead. Seniors Megan Strese, Morgan Zabel and Haley Thomforde are all heading into their third year as starters.

"Those three can be good leaders and get us going on the right foot. We're still relatively young and not as mature as where we need to be, but those three will help us there," Nelson said.

MSUM has some new faces on the roster and will likely help the Dragons move up from their projected seventh in the conference ranking.

"I would say Drew Sannes

will see plenty of playing time. Natalie Van Wyhe will play, and we're not sure about our other girls," Nelson said.

The Dragons look to their frontcourt as a major strength with their dominance on the boards. Once the defense improves, they could make some noise in the conference.

"We like to hang our hat on our rebounding and we want to be able to say defense is one of our strengths, but we have some work to do there," Nelson said.

Nelson and her squad are anxious for the season's start and hope to surprise some teams in the conference.

"I'm just looking for another exciting year of basketball," Nelson said.

Both teams opened their respective seasons with wins against Mayville State on Saturday.

The men take to the court at 7 p.m. on Saturday when they play host to Northland College.

The women play at 5 p.m. on Friday against University of Wisconsin - Parkside, St. Paul.

Both the men's and women's teams open up conference play when they host Northern State on Nov. 30 at Alex Nemzek Fieldhouse.



BEN GUMERINGER • gumeringbe@mnstate.edu
Freshman forward Matt Nelson goes for the dunk in the Dragons home opener. The Dragons defeated the Comets on Saturday 84-51.

Student body needs to support sporting teams through good and bad times



BY BREANN LENZMEIER
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It's an exciting time to be a Dragon. With the fall teams finishing up their seasons and the winter ones starting theirs, great things are happening in the athletic department.

The football team is having their best season in years, winning their last three games, all of which were conference games. The team has made strides each year under the leadership of head coach Steve Laqua and his coaching staff. Just this year alone the team has won two out of their three trophy games. The team held on for the win against University of Mary for "The Paddle" and defeated Bemidji State on Saturday for "The Axe." The Dragons have never held both at the same time. With the team still being relatively young, it is refreshing to see the team find success and look to build off of this season for next year and beyond.

Another strong season is wrapping up for the volleyball team; right now they are tied for eighth in the conference to make the conference tournament. The team returns home to finish out the season after defeating nationally ranked Wayne State on Saturday in five sets. Being on the cusp of the tournament, they will host another nationally ranked

team on Friday when Southwest Minnesota State comes to play.

The women's soccer team had a tough season. The team was in each game it played, but fell short in them. I see good things coming for the soccer team, as the program has great leadership and many players that will be returning next season.

The men's and women's cross country teams finished their seasons at the NCAA Central Region Meet, with the women finishing eighth and 16th at the meet. The teams placed well throughout the season and competed against tough Division II opponents.

The women's golf team has a short season. Each tournament is crucial, with the team finishing at the NSIC Championships in October. Playing in a tough conference, the Dragons are improving each time they step on the course.

The swimming and diving team is off to a stellar start in their young season. With both veterans and new swimmers and divers on the team, they have won five straight and look to return back to nationals in March.

The wrestling team brought in 10 new recruits this year, and many of the wrestlers have won state championships at the high school level. With most of the team returning, the Dragons are looking to take down their opponents in a region that has expanded the last three years. A competitive practice room is preparing the Dragons for when they take to the mat in tournament action and in dual action. The team will have to wrestle well to contend in the stacked NSIC.

The basketball teams opened their seasons on Saturday. Both earned decisive wins, starting their seasons on the right path. Both the men and women are

picked to finish high in their respective leagues. With the teams losing only a handful of starters, both squads return experienced players that will need to lead the teams if they hope to return to the NSIC tournament.

The track and field teams will be powerhouses when they start in the spring and will look to continue the success of past seasons. The teams have had national champions in the past, and there will be a number of athletes that will contend again.

The softball team will look to rebound after a rough season that found challenges with the team not having the chance to practice outside at all last season and wasn't able to play a game at home.

With the teams finding success, the student-athletes are putting in hard work and dedicating themselves to the sports they love and representing MSUM to the best of their ability. Between practice, meetings, games and preparation for the games, the amount of time they spend is unmeasurable, and most of it goes unseen to the student body. It is time that changes, and the MSUM student body supports the student athletes. Yes, there are a number of students, staff and faculty that go to every game and support the Dragons. That is great, but it is not enough.

Seeing the stands almost empty for a home sporting event is sad for a Division II school, and it doesn't set the atmosphere for a college sporting event. It doesn't show school spirit and we aren't supporting our student-athletes, coaches or athletic department.

When someone says to me, "Why would I go when they are just going to lose anyway?" I get very discouraged because the student-athletes are giving 100 percent each time they play.

Why isn't the student body more encouraging and supportive of our sporting teams?

What I see is that it is okay to go to the game when the game matters or there is nothing else to do. I believe that needs to change. Each game is important, and MSUM competes in one of the toughest conferences in the country. Each time our teams play, they are going up against the best of the best in Division II and competing hard.

I know we aren't all into sports and that is okay, but that doesn't mean we can't have school spirit or bash our teams, whether it is in conversation or on social media.

When an opponent comes to Moorhead and there are more fans for them than MSUM, I believe that is a problem.

How can this be fixed? For one, students can show more school spirit at all sporting events, not just the ones that "matter." Get involved with Nemzek Noize and be a part of the student section. Encourage others to go to the games, you get free admission with your student ID, and there are often great giveaways at games.

We are a Division II school, and we as a student body need to continue to support our student-athletes and sporting teams through the good and bad times.

Our student body needs to show more school spirit and set the atmosphere of attending a college sporting event. Setting the atmosphere will carry over, not only at the game, but throughout campus and will promote change for years to come.

We as a student body should be excited about what is happening with our sporting teams and support them no matter what the outcome is.

Support can start this weekend as both the volleyball and men's

basketball teams are at home. The volleyball team has two games to finish their season and advance to the conference tournament, and the men's team looks for their second win. As a student body we should support our teams, and show how proud we are to be Dragons.

Upcoming Dragon events:

Thursday

- Wrestling: 6:30 p.m. at Jamestown College, Jamestown

Friday

- Women's basketball: 5 p.m. vs. University of Wisconsin - Parkside, St. Paul, Minn.

- Swimming and diving: 6 p.m. at College of Saint Benedict, St. Joseph, Minn.

- Volleyball: 7 p.m. vs. Southwest Minnesota State University, Alex Nemzek Fieldhouse

Saturday

- Wrestling: 9 a.m. at Concordia College Cobber Open, Moorhead

- Football: 1 p.m. at St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud

- Women's basketball: 3 p.m. vs. Michigan Tech, St. Paul

- Volleyball: 4 p.m. vs. University of Sioux Falls (S.D.), Alex Nemzek Fieldhouse

- Men's basketball: 7 p.m. vs. Northland, Alex Nemzek Fieldhouse

Sports

Dragons earn third straight victory, win 'Battle Axe' for first time since 2008

BY BREANN LENZMEIER
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In a tale of two halves, the MSUM football team didn't let a halftime deficit deter them from earning their third win in a row and fourth overall in the season.

Bemidji State controlled most of the first half on both sides of the ball, but the Dragons scored late in the second quarter on a 10-yard pass from quarterback Jake Hodge to wide receiver Adam Jiskra to put the Dragons on the board. The teams went into halftime with Bemidji leading 10-7.

At the end of the third quarter, the Dragons trailed by 10. That's when Hodge and the offense took control of the game and didn't look back.

Scoring the first of four touchdowns for the Dragons in the fourth quarter, Hodge ran in for a 37-yard touchdown and after the extra point, the Dragons were within three.

"Hodge's run really turned the momentum in our favor," head coach Steve Laqua said.

After Hodge's run, the defense came up big forcing a three-and-out for the Beavers and setting up a great field position for the Dragons.

"We played really good defense, and in the second half the offense really kicked into gear," senior defensive lineman

Mike Mann said.

With the Dragons within three, they continued their scoring with a 3-yard run by sophomore running back Zayne Medhaug. Wes Kramer kicked the extra point, and the Dragons had their first lead of the game.

The team didn't look back once they had the lead. The Dragons scored 28 unanswered points in the fourth quarter to seal the victory, 35-17.

"Our defense made a lot of big plays and gave the momentum to the offense. And the 'O-line' played big, picking up the blitzes and twists, which gave me time to throw the ball," Hodge said.

Hodge was one of the leaders on offense for the Dragons. He threw for 286 yards and two touchdowns. He also ran for 144 yards and two touchdowns.

Playing in their third trophy game of the season, the Dragons came in with a 1-1 record in the games thus far. With the Beavers controlling almost three-fourths of the game, the axe looked like it was going to go back with Bemidji, but the Dragons weren't going to let it leave Moorhead.

The axe, dating back to 1929, had been won by the Beavers the last four years, but the Dragons showed the hard work that they have been putting in throughout the season and offseason.

"This win is encouraging, and



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Sophomore wide receiver Myles Montplaisir catches a reception for the Dragons in the game against Bemidji State. Montplaisir had two receptions for 43 yards in the win for MSUM. The team prevailed for their third straight win.

it shows we are making progress. We have really worked hard and filling our program with men of character, doing the things that winners do," Laqua said. "It's a cause and effect world. We are at the point where the men are starting to reap the benefits."

All aspects of the game were clicking for the Dragons, leading them to their third straight win in Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference action. Hoping to finish the season on a four game winning streak, the team will travel to St. Cloud to finish out

the regular season.

"Next week when we play a playoff team, how close we are to the hump... we aren't over it yet but it is the closest we have been," Laqua said.

The team has a 4-2 record in the NSIC north and is in third place. Laqua said the team went out to chase the teams around them in the conference, and that they are getting closer to where they need to be.

With the team having both the "Paddle" from the game against the University of Mary and the

"Axe" from Saturday's game, the Dragons are riding the momentum of strong play.

"We had a complete game, and it was a total team win," Mann said.

With strong play from everyone on the team, Hodge pointed that the team has confidence to make the big plays in the games and to keep moving forward.

The Dragons final game of the season is at 1 p.m. on Saturday in St. Cloud when the team takes on the Huskies in NSIC action.

Wrestling team has strong showing at Bison open

BY BREANN LENZMEIER
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MSUM wrestling competed as a team on Saturday at the Bison open in Fargo and had a number of wrestlers place in the tournament.

Leading the way for the Dragons were seniors, Angel Vega and Matt Lewellen; they both placed third.

At the 125-pound weight class, true freshman Steve Novak went 0-2, while true freshman Blake Bosch went

1-2. Bosch's win came against Novak in the second consolation round, winning by decision 6-2.

At the 133-pound weight class, freshman Tyler Tensen went 2-2, earning victories over Mitchell Dunlap of Northland Community and Technical College and Jacob Knudsvig of Minot State.

At the 141-pound weight class, sophomore Mario Tuccitto went 0-2 while senior Angel Vega went 4-1 to earn third place. Vega, who is using his redshirt year, will compete

in open tournaments for the Dragons. Vega earned two pins on the day and finished with a fall over Justin LaVelle of NDSU.

At the 149-pound weight class, senior Connor MacGregor went 2-2, MacGregor earned a tech fall over Nathaniel Rykerd of NDSU, winning the match 15-0. MacGregor also defeated Kyle Leet of SDSU, winning by decision 12-4.

At the 157-pound weight class, redshirt freshman Dan Murakemi went 0-2 for the Dragons on the day.

At the 165-pound weight class, junior Shawn Porter went 0-2 in the tournament.

At the 174-pound weight class, junior Michael Joseph went 4-2 on the day and

took home fifth place for the Dragons. Joseph defeated Blake Lundgren of Northern State 15-5 to claim fifth. Also competing at 174-pounds for the Dragons was junior Conner Monk. Monk went 1-1 on the day. Freshman Dylan Bowen wrestled in the tournament and went 0-2.

Senior Matt Lewellen competed at the 184-pound weight class, earned third place for the tournament and went 4-1 on the day. Lewellen won three of his four matches by decision and finished with a 7-6 decision over Ben Schwery of SDSU. Freshman Jorge Munoz-Pederson went 0-2 for the Dragons on the day.

At the 197-pound weight class, junior Chris Bascon went

1-2, earning a decision in his victory over Mitchell Eull of Minot State.

In the heavyweight class, freshman Kyle Johnson went 1-2 in his matches for the day.

The Dragons travel to Jamestown on Thursday to face the Jimmies in the team's first dual match of the season.

The Dragons will take part in the Cobber open on Saturday and will take to the mat for the first time at MSUM on Dec. 7 when they host the Dragon open.

The team won't wrestle their first conference dual until January when the team travels to Aberdeen, S.D., to wrestle Northern State in Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference action.

Wellness
is more
than just
exercise

 Russell & Ann Gerdin
WELLNESSCENTER



BREANN LENZMEIER • lenzmeiebr@mnstate.edu

True freshman, Blake Bosch wrestles for the Dragons on Saturday. Bosch lost the match by decision 7-2, against SDSU's Isaac Andrade. Bosch went 1-2 in the tournament. This was the first tournament for the Dragons as a team.

News

MSUM celebrates American Indian Heritage Month

BY JESSICA JASPERSON
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Throughout the month of November, American Indian Student Association, their adviser, Jody Steile and various community groups have organized a series of events for students and people in the community to experience the culture of American Indians.

For the AISA president, Cera Swiftwater, a criminal justice junior, the events bring normalcy to her life at MSUM. Having grown up at Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, roughly 10 hours from MSUM, Swiftwater gets homesick with the lack of opportunities to practice her culture.

“Being here, it’s diverse, but not Native American diverse, and so I come from a reservation where things like this are normal,” Swiftwater said. “Everything that we’re doing these couple of weeks I do on a daily basis.”

Sweats are something Swiftwater does weekly when at Pine Ridge Reservation. A sweat lodge has been built between the Sustainability House and the Center for Business.

Laidmean “J.R.” Fox Jr., a Spirit Lake Nation spiritual leader, has over 30 years of lodge construction experience. Since constructing the lodge on Wednesday, people have been able to participate in sweats, which Fox explains as a cleansing

American Indian Heritage Month Events:

Tuesday Nov. 12
Dreamcatcher Craft Workshop
CMU 216
1:30 p.m.

Monday Nov. 18
Traditional Native Handgames
CMU 101
4 p.m.

Tuesday Nov. 19
Dokota POW letters
CMU 101
1 p.m.

Wednesday Nov. 20
Film: “Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee”
CMU 101
6:30 p.m.

opportunity for natives and non-natives.

Swiftwater said it’s exciting to have the sweats and other events throughout November because she doesn’t have to go home to practice her culture, and she can teach others.

“It makes it a whole lot easier, and it makes me feel so much better bringing that awareness to other people,” she said. “We’re letting them know, ‘Yes we’re here and we do this.’”

Both hands-on workshops and listening events are integrated throughout the events said



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Spiritual leader JR Fox said the sweat lodge provides “a spiritual, mental, emotional and physical experience” all in one. “It’s kind of a cross between going see a psychiatrist, going to a health spa and going to a church.”

Swiftwater. The result is a mixture of speakers and participation from the audience that creates a welcoming atmosphere for people who want to learn.

The Opening Pipe Ceremony, which took place last Thursday allowed Fox to teach how and why people use the pipe through stories and through participation.

“I was looking forward to the opening pipe ceremony because it’s something I grew up with,” Swiftwater said. “So it’s nice to see

other people learn, because some people have such a like an image of the things we do.”

Traditional Native handgames is one of the events in November Swiftwater will lead. For her it is a hobby comparable to basketball, her favorite hobby that is played at many of the tribal colleges that have their own teams and practices.

“It’s something that I just love doing ... Not being able to play it is kind of like, that’s just one thing I really missed,” Swiftwater said.

“So, every chance I get I try to bring it.”

Swiftwater stresses all events are free and open to everyone, with refreshments available at some events.

“You don’t have to feel out casted or anything because you don’t know,” Swiftwater said. “We want you guys to be aware. We want you to know. We want you to learn. And at the same time it’s who we are and we want to let people know who we are and we’re here.”

DEFICIT, FROM FRONT

every department had accepted a (buyout),” the provost said in a Wednesday interview. Now, deans and administrators will evaluate each department to determine where to, as Blackhurst put it, “invest, sustain or reduce.”

Faculty members will learn buyout details, including how big of a “hole there still is in the budget” at their monthly meeting with administration Thursday, said Faculty Association President Ted Gracyk, a philosophy professor.

Over the past month, a 10-member Deficit Reduction Advisory Group (DRAG), made up primarily of professors, met to develop the criteria administrators will use to prioritize departments. The quantitative factors – enrollment, cost and productivity – will be balanced with four other factors that Blackhurst listed on her blog Nov. 1. They are: How departments fit into “the university’s new strategic plan, potential curricular efficiencies, mission centrality and program quality.”

DRAG’s work is finished, Blackhurst said.

“They were happy to advise on the process ...,” she said. “But when we get to the point where we make decisions about where to reduce or eliminate, that’s not their role as faculty, that’s our role as administrators.”

According to the posted schedule, deans will meet with each department through next Tuesday to discuss programs in detail. The next day, Nov. 20, administrators will release a list “with clear identification of those programs/departments where reductions are likely.” Departments

have until Nov. 26 to respond to that document. At the faculty union’s next meeting with administrators on Dec. 5, officials will reveal, “specific plans for personnel reductions.” The faculty union has until Dec. 20 to offer any objections to the plan.

Last week, MSUM officials released a fact sheet comparing each department by enrollment, cost per full-year student, number of student credit hours per full-time faculty and revenue generated during summer session.

While the physical sciences have experienced steady to explosive enrollment, some social sciences have had dramatic declines. Overall, the 11.5 percent enrollment decline since 2010 is blamed for the bulk of the deficit. Without additional context, the raw data falls short of fully telling each department’s story – its value to the university.

But President Edna Szymanski said it’s clear “our resources aren’t necessarily in the places that most make sense in terms of our enrollment patterns.”

“The bottom line is – it’s all about students. We’re accountable to you.”

Blackhurst emphasized decisions won’t be all about the numbers. For instance, mass communications enrollment is down 23 percent over the past four years, but it received a \$1 million gift in September to start a new Center for Innovative Journalism.

“If mass communications can take advantage of strategic opportunities, that’s a factor in our decision making,” Blackhurst said.

Besides the buyouts, MSUM might solve a large chunk of the

remaining deficit by not renewing some fixed-term (there are 54 non-athletic related professors) or adjunct faculty (368) contracts. That’s not considered a layoff.

“There is absolutely no basis (for the union) to challenge that decision,” Gracyk said.

In fact, the faculty union’s position, he said, is to eliminate all adjunct and fixed-terms before cutting any probationary or tenured faculty.

“Of course, we’re a union, and we project full-time jobs,” he said. “You can’t run a university with adjuncts. Adjuncts have their role.”

Spending on adjunct faculty each year in the School of Teaching and Learning, the music department and the mass communications department totals \$800,000; more than the rest of the programs combined.

Blackhurst said, “cutting across the board hurts everyone.”

“It is not in the best interest of the university to cut all adjunct and fixed term faculty in order to avoid laying off permanent faculty.”

In mass communications, adjuncts teach 30 out of 50 courses offered during the fall semester, said CT Hanson, DRAG member and department chair.

“Most of our adjuncts have been with us for 12 to 20 years,” Hanson said. “It’s a real asset because we get better continuity that way.”

The administration isn’t obligated to cut equally throughout the university; it just has to prove its case.

“We can’t stop them from laying anybody off, they just have to show us clear reasons why that program has to be downsized when they are not downsizing elsewhere,” Gracyk said.

Most professors The Advocate approached for comment either didn’t feel comfortable being quoted or said they thought it was premature to offer an opinion. In informal conversations, one theme recurred: professors said they hoped the cuts don’t affect their own department.

History department chairman Paul Harris, a faculty union board member, wrote in an email that he believes the quality of his department will overshadow its enrollment decline – 32 percent over four years.

“We weren’t in a panic about the prospect of retrenchment, but I feel certain at this point we are out of the woods,” he wrote. “We are involved in some new initiatives ... that align well with MSUM’s new strategic plan.”

Music department chairman Thomas Strait said the consensus among his faculty is to not come up with a specific budget plan.

“We are afraid that if we said we can do without this if we have to, that it sends an unintended message of ‘we really don’t need this,’” said Strait, whose department’s enrollment is down 7.5 percent over four years. “And we really do need what we have, and we’re doing with less now.”

No one besides student senators came to a student budget forum Thursday afternoon in the CMU that was scheduled,

in part, to respond to an ad hoc student group’s request for more information.

“Interest will increase when actual reductions are announced,” Blackhurst predicted to the assembled student leaders, who chatted about the budget situation.

Student Senator Sarah Danielson said the deficit “sucks, but what else can we do? I don’t see a better option. The biggest thing for me is we don’t lose the faculty-to-student ratio.”

At previous meetings, Blackhurst has said that even after reducing the faculty workforce, MSUM would still have the lowest ratio of any comparable Minnesota university.

On Thursday, she said other universities in MnSCU are now starting their own deficit reduction processes, while MSUM got a several month head start.

“It doesn’t make it any easier, but it lessens the impression that it’s only happening here and not elsewhere,” Blackhurst said.

Szymanski, who retires June 30, said enrollment declines and the associated cuts are not just a statewide trend but also a national one.

“The further ahead you start, the more degrees of freedom you have,” she said.

She took a proactive approach, she said, to take care of as much of the problem under her watch as possible.

“It’s not fair for a new president to make hard decisions,” Szymanski said. “It also makes the presidency less attractive.”