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THE ADVOCATE

online at msumadvocate.com

Tuesday, November 26, 2013

MSUM's weekly student newspaper

Moorhead, Minn.

Vol. 43 Issue 11

Bioscience professor credits award to his department

BY JESSICA JASPERSON
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For bioscience professor Brian Wisenden, receiving the 2013 Minnesota Professor of the Year, is more of a collective accomplishment than individual one.

Wisenden found out about the accomplishment after receiving a letter in the mail in late September. The tough task for him and his wife, bioscience professor Patricia Wisenden, was keeping the secret until the Nov. 14 ceremony in Washington, D.C.

All of the attention, including a random person who stopped and congratulated him in the courtyard and his face on a billboard in Fargo, is a struggle since Wisenden considers himself an introverted person.

Three faculty in the bioscience department have received Minnesota Professor of the Year in the last eight years.

"We're nationally up there, and that's not an accident," Wisenden said. "We have this culture that exists on this campus, and this department especially, for excellence. So, we kind of keep each other going 'cause we're always pushing each other."

A big part of being a bioscience professor is not only doing the day-to-day jobs of a professor, but also being a mentor to students. Wisenden helps students at the undergraduate level publish papers in peer reviewed journals to help them in their application to professional schools, graduate schools or just launching their careers as biologists.

"Our collective attitude is that there's nothing special about being a senior or a graduate student," he said. "There's no real reason for waiting. We have great facilities here, so it just takes time."

Two full time jobs are what teaching and research mentoring add up to for bioscience department faculty. Wisenden said it's a heavy investment, which is why many people don't do it at institutions.

Superhumans are what come to mind when thinking of Wisenden and his colleagues, but it's much simpler than that.

"We have strategies, and we use them to balance all that stuff," Wisenden said. "I'm a family man. I don't want to cheat myself out of those parent experiences just because I'm supposed to be doing two jobs at work."



BEN GUMERINGER • gumeringbe@mnstate.edu

Professor Wisenden helps John Reynolds (left), biology and pre-veterinary sciences sophomore, and Aielyn Larson (right), art freshman, during a science lab.

In the thick of MSUM's buyouts, deficit and layoffs, MSUM's faculty and education seems to get lost in the muck and mire. The bioscience department's enrollment numbers have increased in the sea of decline. "It's a well-kept secret," Wisenden

said. "There's a lot of really great things going on here at MSUM, in the biosciences in particular. We should be recognized."

"I am proud of Brian and of every faculty member in our department for their dedication to providing an

educational experience that competes with the best private colleges in the nation, while maintaining the access provided by a state university," bioscience professor and past Minnesota Professor of the Year winner Mark Wallert said.

WISENDAN, BACK PAGE

Korea Night broadens minds

BY BECKI DEGEEST
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안녕하세요 pronounced – "ahn n-yawh-ng ha seh yo" means hello in Korean. Learning Korean was just one of the many fun things that event-goers took away from Korea Night last Saturday.

Put on by the Korea Club, Korea Night furnished variety for all who attended with one objective in mind: to educate about Korea while having a bit of fun.

"The purpose of the event is to show the people things about Korea, like the pop-culture, traditional culture and expose a country they might not be familiar with," said Conor Lee, president of Korea Club. "I think we had a good turnout, for being that time of the year and being cold out. So I'm really happy with it. The food was good, performances were good and the booths were all good."

Opening their doors at 7 p.m., club members encouraged people to check out all the booths. This year's booths included Korean

games, calligraphy, k-pop, tae kwon do, Korean food and recipes, Korean post cards and Korean superstitions. Each booth offered a variety of information and gave viewers a "little chunk" of Korea to take with them.

"I really loved learning about the superstitions at the booths," Telia Rattliff-Cross, MSUM senior said, "Learning all about

Korea was great."

The night took off when the performances began. The first performance was given by Lee and club member, Jenny Wiebesick. It was an acoustic rendition of a popular song in Korean, titled "Don't Cry" by Park Bom. Following the acoustic "aweing" song was a demonstration given by the TaeKwonDo Club.



BECKI DEGEEST • degeestre@mnstate.edu

Authentic Korean dishes were served at 7:30 p.m. One was a rice dish and the other a wheat dish with various meats and vegetables.

KOREA NIGHT, BACK PAGE

MSUSA Lobby Corp plans future lobbying

BY BECKI DEGEEST
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Last year, MSUM students successfully lobbied and met with legislators at the Minnesota Capitol building as part of the student-led organization Minnesota State University Student Association (MSUSA). This year they hope to do the same and plan for a great outlook ahead.

"Last year, MSUSA was able to effectively fix the part-time state grant, which was very odd with the amount of credits to the amount of funding you received," said Yannis Tomko, MSUSA Legislative/MnSCU specialist. "There were a few odd numbers where if you took nine credits you would get something like \$1,000, whereas if you took 10 credits you would get only \$800 as an example. We managed to fix that formula, so the amount of money to students is now proportionate to how many credits you have taken. We also have worked with MnSCU to help

get open source textbooks."

Open source are textbooks made available online to be used by students, teachers and members of the public for free. Textbooks can be distributed in print, e-book or audio formats.

"It's kind of like a big textbook Wikipedia," Yomko said about open source textbooks. "Where a professor can either create or edit a textbook, and when they do that, it goes to the open source textbook program where other professors at other universities can use it, and students can access the books for free and so we were able to lobby affectively that the legislators tasked to MnSCU to do some research on open source textbooks."

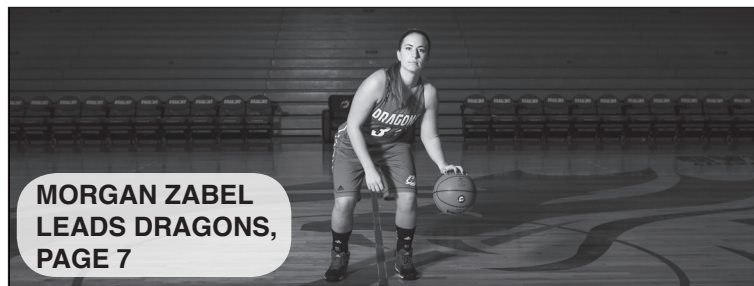
This year, as well as last year, the organization continues to push for lower costs of tuition and textbooks and continues to work with MnSCU on open source textbooks. They are also hoping to make students more aware of what the legislature is up to and have high hopes for the future.

"This year we've been trying

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Briefs

Campus calendar 11.26 - 12.8	
11.27	No class, fall break
11.28	Thanksgiving
	12-2p.m. Thanksgiving Meal, Trinity Lutheran Church
12.2	9: 30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m PRSSA blood drive, Robinson room, Flora Frick
12.5	7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Piano, cocoa and art, CMU Ballroom
12.6	7:30 p.m. All choirs and orchestra concert, First Presbyterian Church
12.8	1 - 4 p.m. “Holiday Tours & Treats,” Comstock House



Story idea?
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The Advocate

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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.

“I don’t really want to go to jail for my secret Santa gift.”

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The Advocate is always looking for talented writers, photographers, columnists and illustrators. Contact the editor for more information

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World News

Storm kills eight in Western US
A powerful winter storm is being held responsible for eight deaths on Saturday in California, Texas, Arizona and New Mexico as the storm headed east. In New Mexico, a four-year-old girl was killed in a rollover accident due to nearly five inches of snow that caused white out conditions on the major roadways. A crash involving nearly a dozen cars caused three deaths on the Texas Panhandle, officials said. An additional three deaths in California were attributed to flooding from the storm, and firefighters found the body of a man swept away by high waters in Arizona. The storm headed eastward on Sunday toward the southeastern U.S., while wintry conditions are expected on the Texas Panhandle through Monday morning.

Egypt passes a new anti-protest law
The Egyptian government has reportedly passed a “repressive” new law to curb protests, which will reportedly require police permission before any group can assemble. The law was signed Sunday as thousands of supports of ousted former President Mohamed Morsi gathered in Cairo and several other cities— amid reports of tear gas being fired onto protesters. Human rights groups in Egypt already rejected the law, saying it will “criminalize all forms of peaceful assembly.” However, government sources said the law would be watered down from seven days’ notice for protests to three days’ notice.

Palin calls Bashir’s comments evil
In a bizarre back-and-forth, Sarah Palin might have the final word against MSNBC host Martin Bashir. Earlier this month, Palin made a speech comparing the U.S. deficit to slavery, saying the country will be “ beholden to a foreign master.” Then last week, Bashir called Palin a “world-class idiot” and managed to suggest she should be punished by invoking an 18th-century slave punishment of eating human feces. “I don’t have to accept his words, his vile, evil comments, so they don’t have to affect me. I move on and I charge forth,” Palin responded on Sunday.

‘Doctor Who’ breaks simulcast record
Being the most successful sci-fi series ever isn’t enough for “Doctor Who.” The 50th anniversary special broke the simulcast record as it was broadcast in 94 countries at more than 1,500 movie theatres. It is now the world’s largest simulcast of a TV drama, according to the Guinness Book of World Records. “For years, the Doctor has been stopping everyone else from conquering the world. Now, just to show off, he’s gone and done it himself,” said series head writer Stephen Moffat.

World news from [dailybeast.com](#)



MSUM Briefs

Fall break this week
Fall break is scheduled for Wednesday through Friday. Day and evening classes will be held today, but there will be no classes tomorrow.

PRSSA hosts blood drive
MSUM PRSSA will host a blood drive sponsored by United Way from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Dec. 2 in the Robinson room in Flora Frick. Anyone interested in donating can contact PRSSA at msum.prssa@gmail.com.

Exit loan counseling available
Fall 2013 graduating students: Now is the time for all graduating borrowers to complete the required exit loan counseling. Go to studentloans.gov to get connected with the loan servicer, find out repayment options, learn how to qualify for loan forgiveness and more while completing exit loan counseling. If anyone has questions about loans, they are encouraged to attend an exit loan counseling session from either 1 to 2 p.m. or 4 to 5 p.m. on Dec. 11 in Owens Conference Room 207. No pre-resistration is needed.

Fifth annual Power in Diversity Leadership Conference now taking applications
The Office of Diversity and Inclusion is accepting student applications to attend the fifth annual Power in Diversity Leadership Conference hosted by St. Cloud State University. Please complete the application and return to Karim Ahmath, coordinator of multicultural affairs. Applications are also available in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Cost for attendance per student is \$25, and space is limited to 25 students. Students will depart MSUM on Jan. 23 and return on Jan. 26.

Mahraun invited to present in Des Moines
Dr. Daniel Mahraun, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities, has been invited to present at the biennial conference of the North Central Division of the American Choral Directors Association in Des Moines, Iowa, in March 2014. His interest session “‘What Language Shall I Borrow...?: Singing In Translation,” focuses on the issues involved in selecting an English translation for foreign language pieces and the associated performance concerns.

MSUM briefs from [Dragon Digest](#) and submitted at [advocate@mnstate.edu](#)

Security Update

Director of Public Safety

Greg Lemke

11.15 Suspicious backpack in Bridges, gone on arrival	11.18 Juvenile complaint in the CMU, transported off campus
Suspicious activity in G-2 Lot	Theft in MacLean
Theft from vehicle in R-6 Lot, Moorhead Police Department responded	11.19 Requested welfare check in Grantham, contact made-subject okay
11.16 Marijuana odor and noise complaint in East Snarr, one referred to Campus Judicial for narcotics, eight referred for noise	Motor vehicle crash in G-6 Lot
Noise complaint in East Snarr, one referred to Campus Judicial	11.20 Suspicious activity in West Snarr, unfounded
Theft in the CMU, Moorhead Police Department responded	Alcohol violation in G-6 Lot, one referred to Campus Judicial
Hit and run crash in G-1 Lot	Suspicious activity in King, gone on arrival
Suspicious activity in the CA, one referred to Campus Judicial	Theft in Nemzek
11.17 Intoxicated individual in the CMU, transported off campus by friend	Marijuana odor complaint in Grantham, two referred to Campus Judicial
Juvenile complaint in CMU, contact made and juveniles left the building	11.21 Fire drills in all residential halls
Alcohol violation in South Snarr, one referred to Campus Judicial	Missing juvenile located in CMU, Moorhead Police Department responded and transported juvenile off campus
	Vandalism in Grantham

Safety Tip of the week

Traveling in winter weather

When traveling during the winter, plan ahead to stay safe. Inform someone of your travel plans with the route you will take, your cell phone number and your estimated departure and arrival times. Also make sure you have your cell phone charged, and check the weather and travel advisories for the route you plan to take. Have a shovel, blanket, water and other basic survival supplies in your vehicle in case you get stranded. Dress appropriately, and always ensure you have a hat and gloves in the vehicle since the wind chill temperature can be extremely dangerous in this part of the country during winter months.

To report a problem contact Public Safety at 218.477.2449

Now Hiring!

The Advocate is seeking a copy editor for the spring 2014 semester. Individuals must possess a strong knowledge of AP style and have a meticulous eye for detail. Interested applicants can pick up an application from The Advocate bulletin board in the CMU or inquire at [advocate@mnstate.edu](#) by Dec 4.

dra•gon vo•cab

Dragonista - A Dragon with a great sense of fashion, one who usually dresses up for classes.

Dragon Day - One of those days when class seems too unbearable to attend.
ex. “What did I miss in class Monday? I took a Dragon Day.”

Photography major discusses online presence through BFA exhibit

BY ELLEN ROSSOW
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Like many excited MSUM students, photography major Ashley Strazzinski will be graduating this December.

In part of saying farewell to her MSUM life, Strazzinski's work, along with some fellow art majors, are currently being displayed in the Roland Dille Center for the Arts Gallery.

According to Strazzinski, the exhibition is a part of the degree requirements.

"Everyone that is enrolled as a studio art major will have to create work that will be in an exhibition," Strazzinski said.

Strazzinski is very passionate about her work. Her collection in the exhibit is titled "Social Objectification" and discusses a plethora of ideas.

"I started examining identity and internet culture in 2011," Strazzinski said. "I was looking at people who share the same name as me - Ashley - and I became interested in the various associations people have with names and stereotypes."

Strazzinski used one example in particular that helped her spark another interest.

"Oftentimes, the name Ashley is used to depict the popular cheerleader type in TV shows and movies - whereas a name like Agnes generally has a negative connotation of a 'homely nerd,'" she said.

Strazzinski then began scanning various social network services for images of people named Ashley, which

is what helped spark her interest in "the notion of public and private information, as well as the way photography is used in social media to construct one's identity as per the user."

"I began working with selfies and hashtags... and eventually found myself trolling through a sea of images that all tend to fit into a handful of categories, and then found myself sifting through subcategories of images," she said. "It was/is neverending..."

It was this idea that gave Strazzinski inspiration for the collection she has been shown in the exhibit. As she began work on the collection in 2012, she narrowed the focus of her research to look at people's portrayal of themselves on Facebook.

"Specifically looking at the quality and quantity of photographs online, as well as the desire to share photographic information with others and the public or private environment it is shared in," she said.

The way people choose to display themselves to others is very interesting to Strazzinski.

"I find it interesting that people have a choice to make certain things public or private, and even in some situations damning images can still end up online without one's censorship," she said. "I didn't have Facebook for almost four years, and I knew that I was in my friends' albums and that I had an online presence even if I didn't want one. I think that's something people need to be aware of and acknowledge."

Through her education, Strazzinski began to become aware of formal aspects of the images she found online,



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Ashley Strazzinski stands with her collection of photographs entitled "Social Objectification" at the BFA reception on Nov. 21.

which further inspired her collection.

"After studying art and creating images myself, I found that I had taken my art education for granted. From things like composition to the ability to edit images in order to strengthen your portfolio (or in the context of this work - to strengthen ones personal narrative) ... it blew me away to see some of the images that are posted," she said.

Strazzinski's collection not only shows her obsession with these images, but also the fact that many images like them are found only

online.

"Also, as someone who studies and creates photographic images, I am concerned with the fact that many of these photographs (if any at all...) do not exist in in our physical world," Strazzinski said. "Most images on Facebook, especially mobile uploads, exist purely as data online. If there were to be a devastating technological failure of some kind, our photographic culture, as prevalent as it is today, would be greatly reduced as the number of images actually produced and printed are less and less."

Non-art major works as freelance cartoonist

BY ELLEN ROSSOW
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Double majoring is not a simple task. For senior Jade Choung, this is true, but she still finds time to do what she loves: drawing.

Choung, when she isn't busy with schoolwork, works as a freelance artist.

"Let's say you have a character, and you are creating a story," Choung explained. "You'd contact me, and

I'd draw it up for you. I also am offering drawing lessons right now, more coloring lessons actually."

Choung, although she has enjoyed drawing since her childhood, has been drawing digitally for only around three or four years.

"I used to do it all by hand," Choung said, "but it's a lot faster, so I'm leaning towards digital work. I'm not going to have it as my actual career, but it's my hobby, and it makes money, so I do it."

While it isn't what she plans to do as a career, Choung still takes her artwork very seriously.

"I actually have about 60 drawings to do by Dec. 17," she said.

Choung's freelance work is based on the popular website, Deviantart.com.

"Deviantart.com is kind of my like home, my art community," she said. "It's a really popular site, where I can go and upload my art and get feedback. Based on my feedback, I got, I guess you can say, fans or people who really support me."

Deviantart users are artists of all types.

"They can be photographers, writers, all sorts of people," she said. "So they will have characters that they already made, and they will want you to draw them, or redraw them."

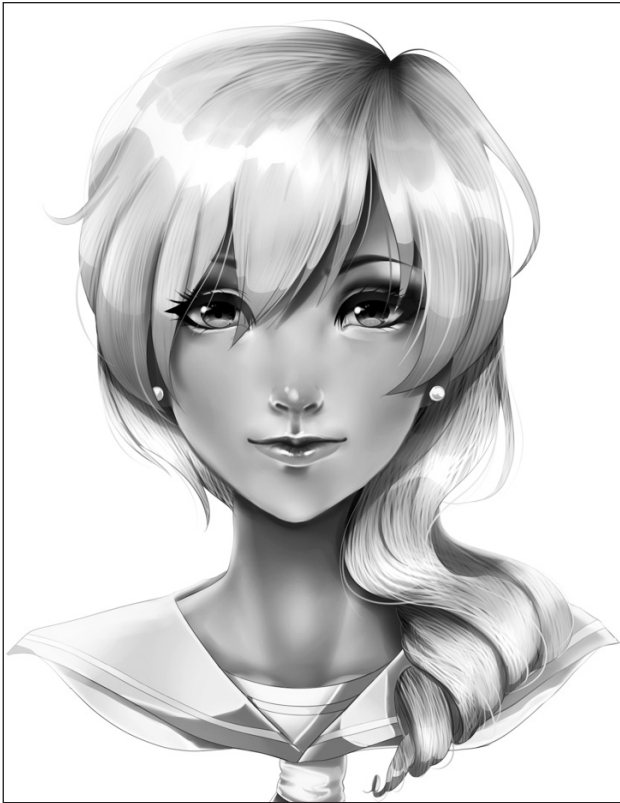
Choung's "fans" are what drive her to continue drawing.

"I produce what they want to see," she said.

One of Choung's current projects is for one of her supporters who is in need of a bookcover.

"I have a supporter who is writing a series, and she is going to have it available to the public so she wants art with it," she said.

Being a teaching English as a second language and Spanish education major, Choung also has a great interest in other



Submitted photo

Choung's images such as this one, can be found on mzzazn.deviantart.com.

cultures and travels a lot, but that isn't a problem for her work.

"I travel a lot, but I can work anywhere," she said.

Choung brings her 256 GB drawing tablet with her everywhere.

"It's my life," she laughed.

Choung plans to continue drawing and traveling the world as much as she can.

"I'm young, and I can," Choung said. "If my hobby makes me money while I'm on the go, I have a way to make money while I travel, why not do it?" she laughed. "I don't need a cane right now, so..."



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Features

MSUM students stalk, hunt, kill their prey

BY SAMANTHA STARK
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MSUM may not be experiencing a post-apocalyptic state, scavenging for the last piece of bread or offering tributes to fight until death in an arena. Even with the \$5 million budget deficit, MSUM isn't in their "Dark Days." However, this didn't stop the MSUM Residence Hall Association from holding the first "Hunger Games." There were originally over 125 students participating in the game.

"I decided to participate because it is a chance to partake in a program based on dedication and skill rather than luck," Matt* said. "Most programs involve random name drawings for prizes."

The "tributes" are students that live on campus who volunteered and brought one canned food item to the meeting on Nov. 11. The event has taken to MSUM like wildfire. Students all around campus take hasty measures to get a chance to be one of the four courageous young men or women representing MSUM's first Hunger Games' victors. In addition, the top four victors can win one of four prizes: A PS3 bundled with Grand Theft Auto V; a Blu-Ray player and \$100 in movies that you pick; up to \$500 in books from the bookstore and two Justin Timberlake tickets.

MSUM's Hunger Games is comparable to a giant game of tag where students pretend they are "killing" their tributes. Each tribute is given a "life ribbon" that they carry with them around campus. It represents the tribute as life and active participation in the game. Each tribute is assigned a name of someone else they are supposed to "kill." It's their job to track that assigned tribute down, steal their ribbon and eliminate other tributes from the game. Once a tribute is declared

"dead," they have to give the "killer" their target. The idea is to "kill" as many tributes as possible until there are only four standing. Everyone is a target, and everyone is at risk of being eliminated from the games.

"Once we tag them out, they provide us with the name of the person they were chasing, and that becomes our new target," Matt said. "On the flip side, there is always one person looking to tag us out."

If there are multiple tributes left or the final four tributes appear before Dec. 10, the game holds a reaping. They put all final tributes' name into a lottery for each kill they get. Then they randomly pull names for prizes.

There are safe zones that the tributes can hide out in without the stress of other tributes killing them. The safe zones are located in bedrooms, bathrooms, Kise Commons, classrooms, the Wellness Center, work and anywhere off campus.

"It's extremely tense. I felt paranoid pretty much every time I left a safe zone," said elementary education junior Josh Schmitz.

Tributes go through extreme measures to hide their identity, protect their ribbons and hunt down their targets. They have changed their profile names and pictures on all social networks, tracked targets' class schedules, stalked tributes around campus, found

where they live, hide out in their rooms for days, and even ran across campus dodging other tributes.

"I fished around and learned where he lives, when he eats, where his classes are, etc. It's actually rather creepy," Schmitz said.

MSUM Residence Hall Association Facebook page posts updates on which tributes are eliminated in the games. Tributes can check how many remaining tributes are to be killed.

"I got caught because my killer found out I give campus tours and must've followed me at the very end of it without me knowing, then waited right outside of admissions for when I walked outside," art education senior Amanda Olson said. "I don't know how she found out, but she did and got me."

The latest Facebook post was on Nov. 21 stating that there is only 54 tributes remaining.

The Hunger Games will continue until Dec. 10, unless only four tributes are declared finalists before then.

Watch out challengers, because you never know when you last meal as a tribute will be.

Happy Hunger Games, and may the odds be ever in your favor.

* Information omitted due to the nature of game.



Adv Eats

Advocate staff tries new local restaurants

Nichole's Fine Pastry offers sweet treats in downtown Fargo

BY BREANN LENZMEIER
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As the snow begins to fall, and the temperature drops outside, hop inside Nichole's Fine Pastry to warm up on a cold day. If you are in downtown Fargo and looking for a study place, coffee shop or fine pastry, Nichole's is the place.

In business since 2003, Nichole's was recently voted the Best of 2013 by The Forum for "Favorite Place for Best Dessert." With freshly baked goods everyday, customers will leave with their taste buds satisfied.

Ranging from cheesecakes to pies to specialty pastries, Nichole's offers a wide range of choices to pick and choose from. Gluten free options are also available for selection as well. I had the pumpkin bar, and it put me in the Thanksgiving mood. It had just enough spice to balance the perfectly delectable frosting.

When I walked into Nichole's, the first thing I noticed were the glass cases with more options for the end of my meal than I could even begin to imagine. Then I smelled the soft aroma of coffee, and it had the same feeling of

being in grandma's kitchen, who always had fresh treats and a pot of coffee on.

Nichole's has two different sides; you can order on both, but one has desserts and the other features sandwiches, salads and soups. All main course items are made fresh daily, and no matter what you choose, you can't go wrong.

I had the smoked turkey, bacon, pepper jack panini with spicy sundried tomato and mayonnaise. It was the perfect balance of all the ingredients. Paired with an old-fashioned Coke-Cola, I was very satisfied with my meal choice.

Nichole's is locally owned and features local artists artwork on the walls and brings a hometown feel to downtown Fargo. Nichole's has a cozy atmosphere, and has fast service.

Customers have the chance to order their favorite coffee drinks. The restaurant gives customers a more personal feel when they are there. Endless choices and options will not disappoint when you go to Nichole's.

While you may not think the combinations will satisfy your taste buds, Nichole's puts together the right combinations that won't

disappoint you. With different bread choices and sides, Nichole's offers choices for almost everyone that walks through the door.

Whether you are out shopping for the last minute holiday gift, cramming for finals, wanting to try something new or get together with friends, Nichole's is a great spot to do it in downtown Fargo. No matter what you fancy, you will be able to walk away with a satisfied experience.

Overall, the prices are reasonable for the homemade items you are getting. The food will make you want to come back again; and try something new. I know I want to go back already.

Nichole's is located at 13 Eighth St. S., in downtown Fargo, and is open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. They are closed Sundays and Mondays.

I recommend stopping in to Nichole's the next time you are in downtown Fargo. Whether it is for lunch or to grab specialty drink, you won't be disappointed with your choice to stop in, especially with the friendly staff and the chance to get out of the cold and warm up with a soothing visit at Nichole's Fine Pastry.



Turkey, bacon, pepper jack cheese with sundried tomato sandwich



Red velvet cupcake



Gluten-free pumpkin bar



Photos by BREANN LENZMEIER • lenzmeiebr@mnstate.edu

Outside of Nichole's Fine Pastry where anyone can drop by for a warm treat on 13 S. 8th St. in downtown Fargo.

Feelin' Like a Turkey?

College not what you expected?

Check out M State.

Enroll in a program or take just one class.

Small class sizes. Personalized instruction.
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Features

Film student finalist in international competition

BY MARIE VEILLETTE
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Miah Detjen, film production junior, didn't consider the video she made last fall for a personal documentary class to be an award winner. "When I first made it, I didn't think much about it. It ended up turning into something bigger," she said.

However, her initial inklings about the film entitled "Daddy" would be proven wrong when it was chosen as the best non-fiction video in MSUM's 2012 juried exhibition. This September, her film again showed its true merit when it was chosen as the official selection of the South Dakota Film Festival.

The awards didn't stop there. After her promising showing at the South Dakota Film Festival, some of Detjen's professors encouraged her to submit her film to the My Hero International Film Festival.

Just before fall break, Detjen received an email informing her that she was a finalist in the competition. Detjen and her parents

flew out to California on Friday to attend the film festival and meet the other finalists. The screening and other events were held at the University of Southern California.

Going to California is not just a vacation for Detjen. She has relatives living in the state and will be visiting them. Detjen said none of her relatives in California have seen her film yet, so she is excited for them to attend the screening.

Whether or not Detjen will be watching the film with everyone is a different story. When her film was screened in South Dakota, she initially sat down to watch it with

the audience. Just before it began, she ducked out and ended up listening to the movie from outside the theater. "I was nervous about seeing it because it is so personal and close. I wouldn't be able to survive through the whole movie. It's too emotional,"

Detjen said.

Also on the itinerary for her trip is a visit to the Los Angeles Film Study Center where Detjen will be studying next semester. She plans to check out the campus and "figure out where to go, and where not to go." She also has an internship



in the area as well. "It's kind of a multitasking trip," she said.

Detjen said choosing to make the film about her father was an easy decision. The assignment was to "create a film of us relating to something important, like a place or thing," she explained.

Detjen's film is unique because it is silent and all in sign language. The entire video is close captioned to make it accessible to both a hearing and deaf audience. This aspect fits with her video perfectly because it centers around what it was like for her to grow up hearing but live with a deaf father. In the

video she explains in sign language that she feels as if she is caught between two worlds, and she is not sure which one she is in sometimes.

Part of her video was filmed during a sign language class. Her father is a teacher of the language in her hometown, and Detjen commented on how much fun it was to film the class. She mentioned how excited the students were to be on camera.

Even more important was her father's opinion. Detjen said he was impressed and surprised at what she had created, and that he enjoys watching it and the attention

it brings to his daughter, himself and the daily connections and collisions between the hearing and the deaf.

The My Hero International Film Festival has been going on since 1995. There are a multitude of different categories, including some animation shorts, documentaries, music videos and public safety announcements. Winning entries of the festival are collected and put on to a DVD for schools and teachers to use as educational tools. Anyone wishing to view Detjen's film, the other finalist's submissions or past winners can go to myhero.com.



Miah Detjen

Spring courses offer short affordable study abroad experiences

BY ELLEN ROSSOW
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Jeremy Carney, associate professor in the School of Social Work, is eagerly planning two trips overseas for the spring.

His trips, one to Asia and one to Argentina, will be focusing primarily on human rights and sustainability in these areas.

The trip to South America, which will take place over spring break, is a university studies class, while the May trip to Southeast Asia, is a class for students of the social work department.

Besides traveling to their destinations, the students will be partaking in seminars before their travel, which will, according to Carney, accomplish three things.

"First, these groups will be spending a lot of time together so, getting to know each other," Carney said. "Also, the education on what the cultures we are going to be experiencing, and third is preparing for international travel."

Carney has had a lot of experience traveling abroad, as he has brought students to various countries over the past few years.

"I have gone to Denmark, Norway, Ireland and Spain," Carney said.

According to Carney,

preparing for international travel is very important, especially since many students who go on these trips may not have had these experiences before.

"We have had many students who have never even been on a plane before," Carney said.

While students with various experience levels are signed up to travel this spring, these students all share something: their passion for human rights.

"It is for anybody that really

"It is for anybody that really has passion for human rights"

- Jeremy Carney, social work professor

has passion for human rights," Carney said. "Really, if we look at that list, there are over a dozen majors that are going to be participating."

Now for those going to Argentina this spring, the focus will be a lot on the human history of the area, which has a history of what Carney said has been called a "dirty war."

"Many citizens 'disappeared' and there is still no accounting for that," Carney said. "So what happens in Buenos Aires is, every week, they have what they call the 'Madre March,' where the mothers of these people march and demand answers."

Besides human history, Carney's students will be looking at sustainability efforts in the area.

"There are families that have family wine operations that have banded together to kind of compete with the big corporations," Carney said. "We will go to some of those places."

Carney's trip to Southeast Asia, which will go to Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand will also be focused on human rights.

"While in Vietnam, we will be visiting the American war museum," he said. "We will look at how the history of war has effected Vietnam, we will look at the genocide that took place

there."

Students will also learn about the issue of human trafficking that takes place in that part of the world, and work with a Fargo-based organization, Unseen Ministries, that funds efforts in that area.

While abroad, both trips will be dealing with destination universities, to learn from faculty and students there.

While many students worry about not being able to afford traveling abroad, Carney encourages students to consider signing up for courses such as these.

"We try to do things relatively inexpensively," Carney explained. "In my experience here, most students that go got MSUM aren't able to study abroad for an entire semester

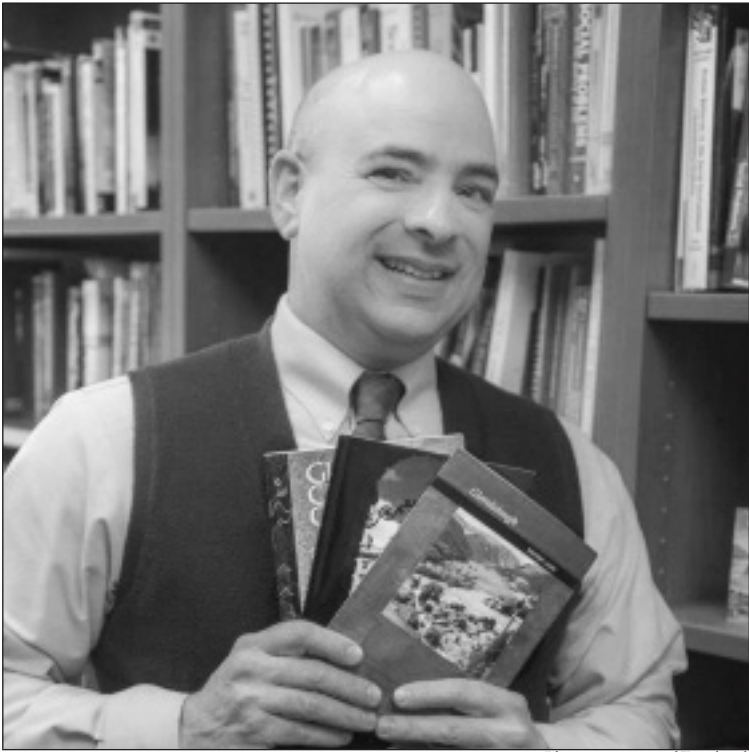


Photo courtesy of Facebook

Jeremy Carney, associate professor in the School of Social Work, has traveled to various countries with students over the past five years.

or an entire year... It's very expensive, so for students to be able to study abroad, it has to be something like this with a shorter travel period."

Carney believes opportunities like the two trips he will be going on are perfect for students not only because of their affordability, but also because of the timing.

"The truth is, it is the perfect time in your life to do it," Carney said. "Before you know it, you are going to be starting your

career path, or maybe a family, and it's going to be difficult to get away for weeks at a time. It's a good time in people's lives to travel."

Both of Carney's courses for this spring are full, but Carney sees this as good news.

"The good news out of this, though, is that we are showing the administration that these are viable programs," Carney said. "So, there will be more of them in the future."

Opinion

Advocate Editorial Board

Consumer greed trumps Thanksgiving spirit

Thanksgiving is no longer the holiday to relax, eat plenty of pumpkin pie and be thankful for friends and family—at least not for retail stores and their employees.

The day has taken the turn for the worse, as a consumerist holiday. Remember Black Friday as the day of shopping deals? Not anymore. Stores continue to push the boundaires of being the earliest to open.

The “bottom line” has become a higher priority for companies especially during the holiday season, because they know consumers will spend money for material items when good deals are presented to them.

Sears and K-Mart opens at 6 a.m. on Thanksgiving day. While Kohl’s and Target open at 8 p.m., along with more than 40 stores at the West Acres Mall in Fargo.

During this holiday season, take a moment to reflect on the year and all that you are thankful for rather than taking all that you

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? The Advocate wants you!
Contact Jessica at jaspersoje@mnstate.edu

Letter to the Editor

MSU Moorhead students, faculty and staff are directly impacted by efforts to reduce a budget deficit that threatens to grow to \$6 million by 2016. News coverage in The Advocate about this process is important and appreciated. In a story in the November 19 edition, there were some assertions made that deserve clarification.

- The article stated that there were 135 “buyouts” offered in the first round. There were 97 offers to faculty who qualified for early separation incentives.

- The article stated that we will need to cut \$3 million by FY15 and another overall \$7.5 million during the next three years. The total reductions will be \$6 million by the end of FY16.

- The article stated that the second round of buyouts will be offered Nov. 20 and will provide retiring faculty with two full years of pay. The incentives actually provide one full year of pay, deposited in the health care savings account. These will be offered in December.

- The article implied that faculty will be re-rostered based on whether they are qualified to teach in a given area. Rosters are based on the programs in which faculty have their primary teaching assignments.

- The article implied that layoff notices would result in immediate termination. Any tenure-track or tenured faculty member who receives a notice of layoff during this academic year will have continued employment at MSUM until

May 2015. For any faculty with 20 or more years of employment, there is a longer period of continued employment.

- The chart on page 8 omitted one department where an early separation incentive was accepted: The School of Teaching and Learning.

University budgets are inherently complex, as are the contractually guaranteed conversations we engage in when reducing faculty or staff ranks. We want to thank The Advocate for their continued coverage of this important process.

Anne Blackhurst, Provost and VP Academic Affairs
T. Gracyk, Faculty Association President

A plea for retail workers this holiday season



KRISTEN MILLER
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There’s a scene in one of my favorite Christmas movies, “Home Alone 2,” right before Macaulay Culkin’s character throws a brick through the front window of a toy store. While pondering his decision, he utters one of the best lines in the movie: “This is it. No turning back. Another Christmas in the trenches.”

The brick is thrown. The window shatters. Mayhem ensues.

Somehow, I can’t help but feel this is a sort of sad metaphor for my job. I work in a retail sales position, and the holidays are undoubtedly our most stressful time of year. While we’ve never actually had a brick go through our window, anyone who has worked in a store around Christmas knows, at times, it can share some distinct similarities with trench warfare.

There are harried parents, bargain hunters, husbands carrying lists written by their wives and perhaps the most frightening of all: those who begin lining up outside the store hours before we open our doors on Black Friday. The rush of holiday spenders coming in and out all through November and December is a seemingly endless bombardment of customer complaints, crying children and bad attitudes.

Now, before I get ahead of myself with complaints, I will admit no one is forcing me to work this job. I can seek employment elsewhere. A big part of

me is extremely thankful we do get so many shoppers, because it means I’ll be able to keep my job and work as many hours as I need.

That being said, I have a plea to make on behalf of all retail workers this holiday season: please remember that we are people, too.

Yes, we expect to deal with difficult customers on a daily basis. Yes, we understand that our job description is to make ourselves flexible to the needs and attitudes of customers, not to our own wants. Yes, we are expected to keep our cool even if we’re berated, condescended to or even occasionally yelled at. No, that doesn’t make it any less dehumanizing.

There’s a terrible juxtaposition of being surrounded by cheerful holiday ads, colorful hats and gloves and listening to upbeat seasonal music while simultaneously being slapped around (metaphorically) by an angry customer. I am a huge fan of the holidays and all things merry and bright, but there’s a limit to even my Christmas cheer.

In the mad rush of holiday preparation, it seems easier to put on a “take-no-prisoners, all-for-one” attitude. Try to remember, though, the cashier you’re being short with has no influence over how long the line was. The sales associate who just told you the item you had your heart set on is out of stock doesn’t have any control over the inventory. They might seem like convenient targets for your frustration, but for a moment, attempt to put yourself in their shoes.

In the time I’ve been working retail, I’ve seen many people come and go from our staff, some before I’ve learned their names. The tasks we’re charged with such as running registers, folding clothes and addressing customer concerns, aren’t particularly complex or strenuous, but most who leave aren’t quitting because of that.

Dealing with difficult customers

takes a certain set of people skills, stress management and a large dose of good humor. After a while, it can definitely get to be too much for some.

However, I won’t attempt to paint all of our customers with the same brush. Working in this position, I’ve met and helped out some extremely kind, courteous and good-spirited shoppers. I’ve gotten plenty of smiles and “thank you’s,” and I am always grateful for the kind souls who have made a horrible day at work a little brighter.

Something else to consider is the behavior of the associates themselves. As I’ve been out doing my own holiday shopping, I’ve encountered salespeople who have no interest in helping me. They seem annoyed that I’d consider asking for assistance. These negative attitudes from employees seem to make it more acceptable on the part of the customer to treat them badly.

No matter where it starts, everyone has the responsibility to practice a little kindness. We as employees can be just as guilty of not doing our part to keep morale high. We have to keep in mind the fact that we might sometimes, in fact, be to blame for the treatment we receive at work.

So, if you’re hitting the stores this season, whether to shop or work, keep the golden rule in mind. Each retail worker you encounter has had to deal with more customer service nightmares than they can count, and you have an opportunity to brighten their day.

Smile a little, try not to treat them like your personal servants and keep in mind that under the nametag or company uniform, they’re probably just a college kid trying to save money for school.

After all, it’s the most wonderful time of the year, and by keeping a little good cheer you can help ensure everyone has the chance to enjoy it.

msumadvocate.com

Sports

Zabel a leader for Dragons in her final season at MSUM



Zabel, a four-year starter for the Dragons, aims to leave her mark on the MSUM women's basketball program.

BY CARLY LEHMKUHL
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Women's basketball senior forward, Morgan Zabel is no stranger to basketball. It has been a part of her life since before she could remember. "My dad was a big basketball guy. He always coached me growing up. My family is very passionate about the sport," Zabel said.

She began playing organized basketball at five-years-old. Growing up, it had always been a dream of hers to play college basketball.

Head coach Karla Nelson first noticed Zabel's skills when she had her try out for the team. Zabel impressed her right away with her knowledge of the game and how well she did on the court.

"You don't look at Morgan and think, 'Oh, great athlete,'" Nelson said. "You look at Morgan and think, 'What a

great basketball player.'" When Zabel joined the team, she brought a certain mentality to the court. She can make plays and make her teammates better.

Nelson said any time you get a player that comes in and makes her teammates better, you have something special.

But it wasn't just her great skills that Zabel brought to the Dragons' team. It's her work ethic that really makes her a team leader.

"There is no doubt that not many people will outwork her," Nelson said.

As a double major in finance and business management, Zabel works as hard off the court as she does on.

"It's being student athlete," Zabel said. "You're here for education too."

She said being a three-sport athlete in high school helped her with time management skills.

So far in the season, Zabel

is the highest scorer for the Dragons with 57 points. She is shooting at .833 percent from the free-throw line, .442 percent FG and .300 percent 3FG.

She was recently named MVP of a basketball tournament at Concordia - St. Paul. Zabel said the award was definitely an honor and felt good to achieve.

But that wasn't the first time she had been awarded for her skills. Last season she was named Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference player of the week, all-conference second team and named to the NSIC all-academic team. Zabel was also second on the team in scoring with 12.9 points per game and shot a team best of 46.2 percent from the three-point line.

"A lot of it's due to my teammates," Zabel said. "It's a team sport ... you can't do it on your own."

She said the team aspect of basketball is one of the things she loves the most. Zabel said she loves the friendships that are created and the family feel.

The women's basketball team is off to a strong start in their season, opening with three straight wins. Zabel's goals for the season are to, first and foremost, contend for conference champions and defend their home court. She said she hopes for the team to continue to get better everyday and play their best in basketball.

Zabel and the Dragons open up conference play at 4 p.m. on Saturday when they host Northern State at Alex Nemzek Fieldhouse.

What are your favorite winter sports to watch and play? Tweet @MSUMadvocate #wintersports #playwintersports #winterolympics

Dragons 'shuck' Cobbers

BY TURNER BLAUFUSS
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The MSUM men's basketball team played host to their non-conference and cross-town rivals Concordia College on Friday night and ran all over the Cobbers in a 102-55 rout. The Dragons had a balanced offensive attack with every team member scoring.

The Dragons and Cobbers were tight early on, and the Dragons strung together a strong 24-5 run to close out the half up 49-25 with seven different players who pitched in points. The Dragons didn't take their foot off the gas as they returned to the court outscoring the Cobbers 53-30 in the second half.

Ben Figini was key in the Dragons' first 100-point showing since 2004, as he turned in his best game for MSUM with 16 points. Figini shot 4-6 from the field, as the Dragons finished the game

with an efficient 59 percentage, compared to the Cobbers who were held to 33 percent shooting. Figini sank all eight of his free throws to lead the team's 24-29 shooting from the charity stripe.

The Cobbers attempted to shoot their way out of their slump, finishing 3-20 from behind the arc. The Dragons made sure to make good on their three-pointers, knocking down 8-17 from deep with seven different players getting in on the long shots.

Malik Wood (12), Tyler Vaughan (11) and Urbane Bingham (11) joined Figini in double figures.

The Dragons (3-0) finish their non-conference schedule at 7 p.m. tonight hosting Jamestown College at Alex Nemzek Fieldhouse.

The Dragons open conference play at 6 p.m. on Saturday when they host Northern State in their opening game in Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference action.



Freshman forward Matt Nelson goes for a layup on Saturday in the Dragons game against Concordia. Nelson tossed in seven points in the Dragons' victory.

Wellness is more than just exercise

M Russell & Ann Gerdin
WELLNESSCENTER

Upcoming Dragon events:

Tuesday, Nov. 26

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

Saturday, Nov. 30

- Women's basketball: 4 p.m. vs. Northern State, Nemzek Fieldhouse
- Men's basketball: 6 p.m. vs. Northern State, Nemzek Fieldhouse

Friday, Dec. 6

- Women's basketball: 6 p.m. at University of Mary, Bismarck
- Men's basketball: 8 p.m. at University of Mary

Saturday, Dec. 7

- Wrestling: 9 a.m. Dragon open, Nemzek Fieldhouse
- Women's basketball: 4 p.m. at Minot State University
- Men's basketball: 6 p.m. at Minot (N.D.) State University
- Swimming and diving: 9 a.m. at Rochester (Minn.) Invite

Sunday, Dec. 8

- Swimming and diving: 5 p.m. at Rochester Invite

News

Get to know your student senators



Shane Kelly, campus affairs chair
Fun fact: Is the president of the Dragons Paranormal Society



Dang Pham, student affairs chair
Fun fact: Ultimate dream is to be an astronaut



Johnny Cunha, diversity chair
Fun fact: Has two children



Matty Rezac, academic affairs chair
Fun fact: Doesn't like cheeseburgers but eats regular burgers



Clay Schwartzwalter, legislation and internal affairs chair
Fun fact: He didn't get his license until he was 18 years old



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WISENDEN, FROM FRONT

Wisenden continues to understand the bigger picture of a MSUM bioscience professor being awarded Professor of the Year out of 1.5 million eligible faculty in the nation.

"It's really a feather in my cap personally, but I hope the larger narrative is about MSUM and biosciences in particular," he said. "I didn't do this in a vacuum. I've had really strong administrative support."

The design of the science lab

building is an example of funds made available by administration. The building was built explicitly to provide research facilities for the faculty-student mentored research.

"So it's no accident, and not something I did by overcoming barriers," Wisenden said. "I had this whole team of people here. That's why there are three winners; we've got Ellen Brisch, Mark Wallert. I think that's the larger story about this celebration. Here you've got one more."

KOREA NIGHT, FROM FRONT

Other exciting events included a k-pop dance done by the group calling themselves, "AV8TRX." Following that was the Korean Club fashion show, where students wore traditional clothing from Korea.

Lighting up the show with excitement and action was the variety show – dance competition. Anyone who attended was allowed and encouraged to sign up to do a "dance off" type competition. Competitors were split up into teams of three, each team individually taking the stage. Next the teams watched 15 seconds of a k-pop video and were told to mimic the dance routine the next time it was played back. Whichever team did the best representation of the

video won. This was the event that definitely got the most laughs.

"I absolutely loved the performances," Rattliff-Cross said. "They interacted well with the audience and danced well together."

Ending the night in tradition, the Korean Club members took the stage to sing the most popular Korean folk tune, "Arirang."

All students are invited to come to meetings put on by Korea Club. They meet on a weekly basis and are always open to new members.

"I really think that you should come if you want to learn about Korea or interact with Koreans," Lee said about the club. "You get a different experience and learn more about a different culture."

MSUSA CORP, FROM FRONT

to get the word out about what MSUSA does, we have tables set up, class wraps, where we go and talk to a class about what we do, and we also are trying to get students to sign up for legislative updates, which, if there is a topic brought up that concerns students, we just want to make sure they are aware and are knowledgeable about what is going on," Yomko said.

Beginning with a slow start, the group is trying to get people interested and involved in the Lobby Corp and MSUSA.

Because the group receives 43 cents per credit from each student who attends MSUM as part of their tuition/activity fees, they stress the importance of being aware of the issues brought up by Minnesota legislature.

"This year is a bit of an off year. Last year there was a lot of energy and momentum to get students to go vote, and also we had lots of activities in the spring, which will be happening again this spring, because that is when legislators meet."

Because of MSUSA's "off year," Yomko, along with others in the organization, are pushing harder to make it a "bonding year" and are hoping students will become involved with lobby corp. Students who are interested in Lobby Corp or MSUSA have the opportunity to lobby at the capitol.

MSUSA lobby corp members were able to apply in the fall until November and will meet and train in January. They then will go down to the capitol and lobby to the legislators over issues and concerns brought up by students.

"I think a lot of politicians make decisions knowing that college students don't care or aren't paying attention," Yomko said. "I recall a Moorhead councilman said once, 'Students don't matter; students don't vote,' and I want to change that."

Board members and certain delegates just returned from the Fall Delegates Conference in Saint Paul. While there, they worked on new platform issues for MSUSA.