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## The Advocate, September 16, 2014

Minnesota State University Moorhead

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# THE ADVOCATE

online at [msumadvocate.com](http://msumadvocate.com)

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

MSUM's weekly student newspaper

Moorhead, Minn.

Vol. 44 Issue 2

## Livingston Lord celebrates renovation

BY KRISTIN MILLER  
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Walking into the Livingston Lord Library, it's impossible not to notice the changes which have taken place over the last couple years.

Gone are the days of dim, outdated study spots, replaced by light, open spaces with interactive furniture, state-of-the-art technology and an overall improved atmosphere.

To celebrate all the changes, a week of events has been organized to take place in conjunction with MSUM's homecoming. Students, staff and prominent members of the community have been invited to make the re-launch of the library an event to remember.

Events will include a ribbon cutting, a unique scavenger hunt and a visit from an award-winning author.

Brittney Goodman, who serves as executive director of library services, said plans for the celebrations have come as a joint effort between library staff, the **LIBRARY, BACK PAGE**

## Blackhurst poses for a presidential portrait



CRYSTAL BRANDEN • brandencr@mnstate.edu

"The experience was unnerving, yet kind of fun," President Anne Blackhurst said about having her portrait painted and drawn by art majors. "Letting them [the art students] create my portrait was a way to participate in students' educational experience - to be involved with the practicing of their craft. As an administrator, you don't get to do that as often."

## MSUM continues efforts against sexual violence

BY MAUREEN MCMULLEN  
mcmullenma@mnstate.edu

The weeks following an alleged sexual assault in Grantham have yielded what President Anne Blackhurst described as an "outpouring of emotion" from the MSUM community.

"The overwhelming response was that we do not want a campus where sexual assault happens," Blackhurst said.

The campus-wide call for action against sexual assault on campus came as a response to an alleged assault by MSUM wrestler Angel Mario Vega, 23, who was charged Sept. 3 with one felony and one misdemeanor after reportedly filming his assault on an 18-year-old woman.

The week of the alleged assault, Blackhurst, along with 25 MSUM students, attended a meeting in the Women's Center to discuss thoughts, concerns and the steps being taken to prevent future assaults on campus.

Shortly after the meeting, Blackhurst sent an email to students outlining the steps she plans to take against sexual violence on campus, including a sexual assault task force.

"We're really excited by the president taking leadership on matters pertaining to sexual violence on our campus," said Kandace Creel Falcón, director of Women's and Gender studies and the meeting's organizer. "We're happy with the ways she has moved the conversation from this singular incident, which we know is actually very pervasive on our campus, to a larger framework to address how sexual violence affects our campus."

**ASSAULT, PAGE 3**

## Snarr renovation revamps 'community hub'

BY MARIE VEILLETTE  
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A cozy fireplace, a comfy couch and a big-screen TV are three luxuries college students would expect to leave behind when moving into a residence hall. The new West Snarr remodel offers residents all that and more.

Anyone who spends time on campus probably noticed the construction that has been going on for a year - from last May right up until the first day of classes this August. Though the \$4.9 million project only included the west wing of the Snarr complex, it was time consuming, and the finishing touches are still being added.

Small details, like a metal "M" to hang over the fireplace, are still being completed. "I'm trying to

make sure everything is paid for to see if there are any additional funds because I'm hoping to add some outdoor seating," said Heather Phillips, director of housing and residential life.

There were many major changes to the layout of the floors. "The first floor was completely gutted and reconfigured to be much more open," Phillips said. "We wanted to make a friendlier gathering space for students."

With new windows to let in more natural light, an added multipurpose room, a large kitchen area and the relocation of the hall desk and area directors' offices, the first floor is much more student friendly.

Student rooms also saw some improvements such as the removal of built-in furniture replaced with the movable furnishings other residence halls currently



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Snarr's remodeled common area features a half-circle sofa in front of a fireplace.

**SNARR, PAGE 3**



# Briefs

## CAMPUS CALENDAR 9.16 - 9.22

<p><b>9.16</b>  <b>All Day (9.16-9.18)</b>                  "Poster Sale," campus mall</p> <p><b>9.17</b>  <b>8 p.m.</b>                  "MSUM's Talent Show," CMU</p> <p><b>9.18</b>  <b>5 to 9 p.m.</b>                  "Take Back the Night," campus mall</p> <p><b>9.20</b>  <b>11 a.m. to 11 p.m.</b>                  "Alley Fair," downtown Fargo</p> <p><b>1 p.m.</b>                  "Soccer game vs. Univ. of MN Duluth," soccer field</p>	<p><b>9.21</b>  <b>1 p.m.</b>                  "Soccer game vs. St. Cloud State Univ.," soccer field</p> <p><b>9.22</b>  <b>5:30 - 8 p.m.</b>                  "Community Block Party," campus mall</p> <p><b>8 p.m.</b>                  "Pep Rally," Nemzek</p> <p><b>After pep rally</b>                  "Dragon Royal Casino Night," Nemzek</p>
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## SECURITY UPDATE

- 9.5:**
- Suspicious person in G-3 parking lot
  - Suspicious activity/disorderly conduct in Wellness Center, one referred to OSCAR
  - Lost property reported in the Center for the Arts.
- 9.6:**
- Suspicious activity in South Snarr
- 9.7:**
- Simple assault in Kise Commons, one referred to OSCAR
  - Theft of bicycle from rack outside John Neumaier, Moorhead PD responded
- 9.8:**
- Requested welfare check in Holmquest, one referred to OSCAR for disorderly conduct
- 9.9:**
- Suspicious email reported by student at Public Safety building
  - Medical in Maclean, escorted to Hendrix Health
  - Smoke alarm going off in Ballard, housing notified
  - Driving complaint on Campus Spine
- 9.10:**
- Suspicious person in Ballard, one arrested by Moorhead PD and transported to jail
- 9.11:**
- Harassment report taken at Public Safety Department
  - Suspicious activity reported from 9/8/14 in G-1 parking lot
  - Residential building fire drills conducted

### Safety Tip

#### Keep Valuables in Vehicles Safe

Keep your valuables out of sight, under the seat, or in the glove compartment or trunk of your car. Make sure to lock your vehicle doors and roll up all windows.

To report a problem contact Public Safety at 218.477.2449

## 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](mailto: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.

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 Anna Soderholan, online editor  
 Kristin Miller, copy editor  
 Zana Pommier, copy editor  
 Ethan DeGree, ad manager

# MSUM Briefs

### Poster sale at campus mall

A poster sale will be held between Bridges and Hagen, on Sept. 15 through Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The sale will have a wide range of posters including music, movies, nature, photography, humor, fantasy, science, and art prints.

### Reminders for student org. officers and advisors

Each student organization needs to send at least one student officer to one of the Student Organization Officer Fall Summits at 7-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 17 or 4:30-5:30pm Thursday, Sept. 18. In addition, remember to complete your 2014-15 Annual Student Organization Registration. All currently recognized student organizations need to complete the registration by Friday, Sept. 19.

### Trinidad study abroad trip information meeting

Jan. 2 - 12, MSUM is offering MUS 316 "World Music" in Trinidad. An information meeting will be held this coming Wednesday, Sept. 17 in Center for the Arts room 144 at 7 p.m.

### Presidential inauguration during #DragonPride Homecoming

Alumni and friends are cordially invited to celebrate the installation of Anne Blackhurst as MSUM's 11th president Friday, Sept. 26 at 2 p.m. in the Roland Dille Center for the Arts Hansen Theatre.

Share reasons for having Dragon Pride on Twitter by using #DragonPride.

### U.S. Naturalization Ceremony to welcome 50 new citizens

The United States District Court, District of North Dakota will welcome 50 new citizens from 25 countries to the United States during a Naturalization Ceremony on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 11 a.m. in MSUM's Comstock Memorial Union Ballroom.

Interim Provost Michelle Malott and CASE Professor of the Year Brian Wisenden, both naturalized citizens from Canada, will be addressing the new U.S. citizens. U.S. Magistrate Judge Karen Klein will be presiding over the ceremony.

All MSUM faculty, staff, students, retirees, and Fargo-Moorhead community members are invited to attend this historic cultural event.

### Alum covered GameDay

It's no secret that ESPN's Saturday morning "College GameDay" returned to downtown Fargo, N.D., for the second year in a row. NDSU is one of four non-FBS schools to host "College GameDay" since 1993 and the first to do it twice. Bob Mikkelsen, a '72 mass communications graduate and President of Winged Vision, covered GameDay as well.

His company is a pioneer in aerial sports broadcasting and has covered events like the NFL's Sunday Night Football, the PGA Tour, the World Cup finals, Triple Crown racing, Super Bowls and the Olympics. Mikkelsen has won two primetime and four sports Emmys and was featured in the 2008 CBS sports special "The Best Shot in Golf."

### Volunteer opportunities at both Herberger's locations

Volunteer for Herberger's fall clothing drive at the two local stores in Fargo and Moorhead. The dates are Sept. 17 through Oct. 7 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Shifts run two or three hours.



## World News

### American Sentenced to Hard Labor in North Korea

The North Korean Supreme Court sentenced U.S. citizen Matthew Miller to six years of hard labor on Sunday. "He committed acts hostile to the DPRK while entering the territory of the DPRK under the guise of a tourist last April," read a short statement published through the state media. The trial of Miller, a 24-year-old from Bakerfield, California, lasted about 90 minutes, and he waived the right to a lawyer. While North Korean media had reported Miller tore up his passport and sought asylum in the country, Miller refuted that claim during the trial. When he was sentenced, the court announced it would not hear any appeals of the decision. Miller is now the second American serving a hard labor sentence in the country.

### Bernie Sanders: 'I May Run For President'

Liberal Vermont senator Bernie Sanders may be the first Democratic candidate to challenge the expected run of Hillary Clinton. "I am thinking about running," he said on NBC's "Meet The Press" on Sunday. He said he will head to Iowa to help

determine if he should run as a Democrat or an Independent. Sanders has hinted at a possible run before and could cause some bumps in Clinton's likely road to the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination. "The issue is not Hillary," said Sanders, who added that he has "a lot of respect" for her. Even if Sanders makes a run and doesn't win the nomination, he could potentially force Clinton to go to the left in the primaries or take votes away from her as an independent candidate in the general election.

### Cameron: We Will 'Hunt' Haines' Killers

British Prime Minister David Cameron said the U.K. would "hunt down" the ISIL members who beheaded British aid worker David Haines. "Step by step, we must drive back, dismantle and ultimately destroy ISIL and what it stands for," he said at Downing Street following an emergency meeting on Sunday. He vowed support for the U.S. fight against ISIL, as well as to work with the Iraqi government. "We will not do so on our own, but with working with our allies, not just in the United States and in Europe, but also in the region," he said. However, he

did not commit British forces to a major military role. "This is not about British combat troops on the ground," Cameron said. "It is about working with others to extinguish this terrorist threat."

### Al Qaeda: We're Not In Decline

Al Qaeda has roundly rejected U.S. assessments that the terrorist organization is currently in decline, though it also failed to acknowledge a major challenge to its global leadership: ISIL. "Whatever slip-ups or errors (regional branches) may have committed are limited in number in the midst of mountains of good deeds and successes," said Al Qaeda veteran Hossam Abdul Raouf in an online message released Sunday. Though the message boasted that Al Qaeda has been "expanding horizontally and opening new fronts," references to ISIL were noticeably absent. In its annual terrorism report, the U.S. State Department said Al Qaeda's "core's leadership has been degraded, limiting its ability to conduct attacks and direct its followers." Counter-terrorism experts also say the aging Al Qaeda leadership is struggling to compete with ISIL for young recruits.

# News

## SNARR, FROM FRONT

have, such as Dahl and Grantham. New carpet and windows were also added.

Every floor is now equipped with a large lounge area with a kitchen, reconfigured bathrooms and recycling and trash rooms.

One of the more unique features of the renovation are the floor bathrooms.

Each floor now has “gender neutral” bathrooms, meaning there is one bathroom shared by both men and women.

“It wasn’t something I had actually seen before, but our students really liked the idea,” Phillips said. “It’s different than a traditional community bathroom, whereas compared to having stalls, there’s actually several small rooms.”

MSUM is not the first campus to implement this particular bathroom style.

“One of the options the architects showed was a bathroom layout very similar to what we have previously done at Bemidji State University,” Phillips said.

She explained this particular bathroom layout is advantageous in many ways.

The gender neutral bathroom gives students a different option and increases their privacy, as well as leaving more space to construct larger lounge and laundry room areas. Only having to allocate space to one bathroom rather than two left more room to designate to community spaces.

“It really did offer some things to us that we couldn’t have otherwise had,” Phillips said.

Along with increased privacy and space

saving design, the new bathrooms offer some added comfort to transgender students, who no longer need to make the decision of whether to use the men’s or women’s bathroom.

“It may not be for every student,” Phillips said. She added West Snarr is a small residence hall housing about 100 students, so while the option is there, the

don’t have any qualms about where they ended up.

Many people may be wondering why West Snarr was renovated when other buildings on campus, such as Weld, are due for a renewal as well.

Phillips explained residence halls and academic building remodels are not funded from the same source. “Housing and

for example,” Phillips said.

Compared to the recent Dahl renovation, closing West Snarr was easier to work around.

“We were in a position that we were able to still house all students who needed housing,” Phillips said. “It was good timing to do it to be able to take a building offline for a year in comparison to when we renovated Dahl.”

Due to higher occupancy rates and the size of Dahl, the project had to be done over two summers.

With the completion of West Snarr, the revamping and renovations are not over yet.

“We’re starting a refresh of the first through 12th floors of Nelson right now,” Phillips said. “We’re looking to give students some amenities and freshen up some of those spaces that we know are so important to community building.”

The east and south wings of Snarr will not be neglected either.

Architects have been hired to do a predesign of the rest of the complex.

After the predesign is finished, it will be available for students to view and give their feedback.

“It’s less of a commitment to do anything and more about we need the data so that we can strategize on how we want to move forward and at what level,” Phillips said.



CRYSTAL BRANDEN

Each floor in Snarr includes a newly-renovated kitchen and common area.

traditional bathroom style is available as well.

The addition of the extra common space on every floor has created a greater sense of community between residents.

“I love this floor; we’re a really close knit floor,” said Sommer Wilde, elementary education and theatre freshman.

“We had a floor breakfast, and we’ve baked cookies for our floor,” said Jeanna Zenz, theatre freshman.

Wilde and Zenz are roommates in the newly renovated residence halls, and even though Dahl was their first choice, they

residential life is considered a revenue fund area, so we don’t get state appropriations,” she said.

She went on to explain housing and residential life is its own entity.

“We’re responsible, then, for all of our expenses; we pay for our own utilities, for example,” Phillips said.

While the Snarr project was funded from the sale of revenue bonds, non-residential building remodels look to other sources for money to complete projects.

“It’s different from the process that campus would go through [to renovate] Weld,

Ballard and Holmquist are also on the table. Though there are no plans for those residence halls in the near future, all of the residential buildings will get some sort of facelift. With many of the halls having been built in the ‘60s, the main goal is to open up the boxy spaces to get rid of underutilized community rooms.

“We wanted to start with West because, even though it is sort of its own building, it’s sort of the hub of the community space between West, East and South,” Phillips said.

“So far, the feedback has been positive.”

## ASSAULT, FROM FRONT

Blackhurst’s planned task force include a team comprised of faculty, staff and students.

“I’ve worked on college campuses enough to know that what goes on in the student culture is another layer of the institution and it’s often hard to get down into that layer if you’re an administrator and really understand it and intervene,” said Blackhurst.

“I think that’s why having student voices on the task force is absolutely essential.”

Blackhurst said that charges for the task force will involve re-evaluating policies and procedures surrounding sexual violence on campus, improving student accessibility to those policies, and addressing issues that are “not so tangible that all add up to culture on our campus.”

“I think culture is a slippery concept, so it might be harder to address,” said Blackhurst. “It will be easier to address policies, procedures, standards, communication and education programs, and hopefully all of that adds up to some changes in culture.”

Seeking further student input,

Blackhurst offered office hours last Wednesday, encouraging students to voice their concerns and offer suggestions.

Some of the suggestions included bystander training, improving the clarity and accessibility of MSUM’s sexual assault policy, and establishing educational programs for men that discourage assaultive behavior rather than offer suggestions to women for how to stay safe.

The actions taking place against sexual assault at MSUM occur in the midst of conversation and evaluations of campus sexual violence on a national level.

Days before the alleged assault at MSUM, the NCAA announced increased efforts to fight sexual violence on college campuses, releasing a handbook outlining new standards for how to handle cases of sexual assault.

Vega qualified for the 2013 NCAA Division II national wrestling tournament after studying at Sacramento City College last year. His suspension from the MSUM wrestling team depends on the outcome of legal and university investigations.

He could face up to 16 years in prison and a \$30,000 fine. His first court appearance was scheduled for Sept. 12.

Kris Nelson, Dragon wrestling coach, declined to comment on university or legal proceedings but said in an email that he regards the situation as a “very serious matter.”

The U.S. Department of Education has also shifted its focus to the issue of sexual assault on campuses.

They currently list more than 60 campuses nationwide for non-compliance with Title IX, a gender equality law that requires universities to investigate all reports of sexual assaults on campus.

Devon Payne, Vice president of The Campus Feminist Organization at MSUM links the frequency of reports of sexual violence on college campuses to a larger societal issue.

“I think specifically on our campus, the issue of sexual assault is getting more recognition because of the horrendous incident that happened,” said Payne. “It’s unfortunate that that’s what it takes to direct attention to such a

pervasive issue.”

Payne and Falcón agree that education plays a key role in the prevention of sexual violence, particularly on college campuses.

Though Falcón emphasized the importance of educating students about sexual issues such as consent, she said the topic of sexual violence can be difficult to address in educational settings.

“[Women’s and gender studies faculty] have the tools, language and theoretical frameworks to understand how it is that sexual violence is so pervasive in our culture,” said Falcón.

“But for faculty members who don’t come from that disciplinary background, it can sometimes be very scary to bring that topic up and it can sometimes be hard for people in the moment to be able to facilitate a conversation that doesn’t end up in victim-blaming, slut-shaming or somehow making it seem like it’s women’s fault.”

Despite the difficulty establishing discussion around sexual violence, Blackhurst emphasized that education, along with strengthened policies, are key

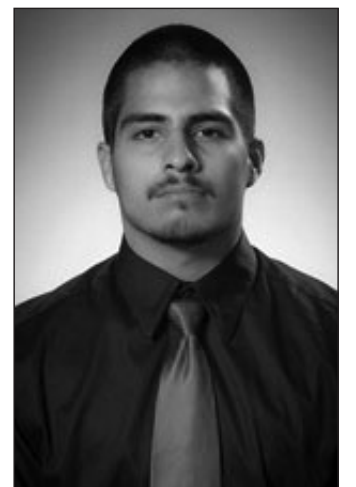


Photo credit www.msundragons.com

Angel Mario Vega, an MSUM wrestler, was charged with a felony and misdemeanor after allegedly filming himself assault an 18-year-old woman.

to appropriately addressing the issue.

“Our focus should be partly on education and partly on our commitment as a university to not tolerate these things,” said Blackhurst.

“We’re not fulfilling our mission as an educational institution if we’re not teaching students how to behave and treat people with respect and dignity.”



# A&E

## Award-winning children's author to visit MSUM library

BY KRISTIN MILLER  
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Award-winning author Candace Fleming will be visiting MSUM as a part of the grand opening events for the Livingston Lord Library.

Fleming is set to visit on Sept. 30, which will cap off the schedule of events for the library. During her visit to campus, she will be giving a presentation entitled "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Bookshelf." The talk will address her journey as an author, both the high points and the low.

"We'll be having a Q&A, and she'll also be doing a book signing," said Pam Werre, curriculum materials center librarian at Livingston Lord Library.

"We thought it would be a nice way to celebrate both events," Werre said.

She added that anyone who wants to read some of Fleming's works can stop by ahead of time and check one out from the library.

A prolific author, in her biography

Fleming describes a life-long love of writing.

"I have always been a good storyteller. Even before I could write my name, I could tell a good tale," she writes.

Her books include selections from a wide range of genres and age groups. These include biographies, novels, picture books and historical picture books aimed at kids.

"She is very excited to come here," Werre said.

And library staff members are just as excited for the visit.

Fleming is the 2014 winner of the Comstock Read Aloud Book Award for her book "Papa's Mechanical Fish."

"There's so much humor in this story," Werre said.

She added that unique and colorful illustrations helped capture the attention of children, leading to the decision the committee made to give the award to this book.

The award program is run through MSUM, with the aid of current students.

"At MSUM we're really unique to have a program like this," Werre said.



Candace Fleming



KRISTIN MILLER • millerkr@mnstate.edu

"Papa's Mechanical Fish" and "Oh, No!" earned Candace Fleming a Comstock Read Aloud Award and honorable mention for the Wanda Gág Book Award, respectively.

The award, part of the Comstock Reading Aloud Initiative, supports the idea that it's still important to read aloud to children, especially in an increasingly digital society.

Books which pass an initial committee are placed in the hands of students from the School of Teaching and Learning, local teachers and librarians, who do readings with elementary students. Books that get the best response from the kids through an engaging story, imaginative images and an overall memorable experience are selected as annual winners.

The award also stands out among the numerous annual book honors awarded nationally.

"This was a little niche that didn't really

have any awards," Werre explained.

Another of Fleming's works, "Oh No!" was previously chosen as an honor book for the Wanda Gág Book Award, taking home the honor in 2012.

"She's the only one who has won both awards," Werre said.

As a part of her visit to the area, Fleming will be visiting local schools to do readings for students, as well as visiting a creative writing class on campus to give some advice to other aspiring authors.

"She really has a wide range of talent," Werre said.

More information about the library's grand opening can be found on MSUM's website, or on the library's Facebook page.

*"I have always been a good storyteller. Even before I could write my name, I could tell a good tale."*

-Candace Fleming, award-winning author



MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD

# Homecoming & Inauguration Week Activities

SEPTEMBER 22-28, 2014

#DragonPride Homecoming ~ Something for Everyone!

- ▶ Johnny Holm Band
- ▶ Hypnotist Frederick Winters
- ▶ Dragon Volleyball, Soccer & Football
- ▶ Livingston Lord Library Ribbon Cutting
- ▶ Burning of the M & Fireworks
- ▶ Parade
- ▶ Dragons from the Past: Alumni Panel
- ▶ Tailgating
- ▶ And much more!

Event details: [mnstate.edu/homecoming](http://mnstate.edu/homecoming)

Leading for the Long Run ~ Inauguration of MSUM's 11th President Anne Blackhurst

- ▶ Academic Symposium
- ▶ Community Block Party
- ▶ Laps for the Long Run Fundraiser
- ▶ Presidential Installation & Reception

Event details: [mnstate.edu/inauguration](http://mnstate.edu/inauguration)



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## Volunteers, artists reinvent downtown Fargo

BY SAMANTHA STARK  
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Downtown alleyways are congested and underutilized space. They're home to garbage bins and lonely streetlights.

On Sept. 20, nine local volunteers will transform downtown Fargo's forgotten alleyways into a community event steeped in urban Midwest culture. As an enriching

public gathering, Alley Fair weaves together the very people and things that make downtown Fargo distinct, further shaping the identity of the area.

Alley Fair encourages the FM community to rethink and reinvent the way they approach urban landscapes. It creates awareness for the vast diversity the FM area offers.

Volunteers and artists look at downtown Fargo's alleys as an empty canvas and attack it with vast colors of culture and passion. It's an event to show others that downtown can still capture the artistic beauty it had years before. As years pull forward, downtown will always be a time

capsule for those inventive individuals who see the deserted alleys of Fargo as an artistic opportunity.

"Alley Fair is a day-long community event that activates and transforms an alleyway of downtown Fargo with local food, music and art," said Simone Wai, Alley Fair organizer and one of the nine local volunteers. "We create an incredible destination with painted cement, plant

*"Alley Fair is a day-long community event that activates and transforms an alleyway of downtown Fargo with local food, music and art."*

-Simone Wai, Alley Fair organizer

life, artists and live performers."

Alley Fair is committed to promoting three fundamental focus areas: food, music, and art. By drawing attention to these local

cultural assets, Alley Fair revamps downtown Fargo alleyways into a vibrant community event that opens people's eyes to the possibilities awaiting them in urban neighborhoods.

The event originated in March 2013 and carried two later events in June and September. This will be its fourth consecutive event hosted in downtown Fargo. The event is estimated to be attended by roughly 800 people during the day with



Submitted photo by J. Alan Paul

Alley Fair's harvest market gathers together all the local goods and flavors of fall - from apples to pumpkins. In addition, delectable items from gourmet sandwiches to premium cupcakes will be available for those with a sweeter tooth.

350 attendees at the evening concert.

"Families with kids, college students, and young professionals have all come out to some part of our event," said Wai.

Daytime activities, from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., include live art demonstrations, such as glass blowing and dumpster painting, delectable foods from restaurants and food trucks, and acoustic performances. Daytime performances are by John Narum, Ethan Rooney, Erik Hedman, and Randi Kay Olsen. Daytime performances are free and family friendly.

Guests can also buy local goods at the events Artist and Makers Market and Harvest Market.

Evening activities, from 7 p.m. - 11 p.m., include featured performances by Boots and Diane Miller (MSUM alumni) and the Silver Daggers. The concert is for all ages with a 21-plus beer garden. There is an \$8 charge for that portion of the event.

Alley Fair is a temporary event, meaning all remnants of the event will be cleared the next evening besides the decorated dumpsters.

"All of the plants, art, and performers that we bring in appear for the day and are gone the next, so we were looking for something that would make more of a permanent impact," said Wai. Since the

main function of Fargo's alleyways is trash collection, Alley Fair coordinators found dumpsters are an inevitable part of the urban landscape.

"We thought, why not make something that we have to look at all the time into something beautiful," said Wai. "It's just something a little quirky that makes people smile when they're walking down the alley."

Alley Fair commission local artists to paint them during the event. Last year, they selected a few well-known spray paint artists to kick off the project. This year, they are working with an artist and a designer to paint two more.

Alley Fair will be held in the alleyway south of Main Ave., between 9th and 10th St. South - enter on 9th St.

Volunteers are currently prepping the alleyways of downtown for the event.

"We have had an incredible amount of community support for the event," said Wai. "I think people really see the potential and want it to succeed."

Find more information about Alley Fair at [alleyfair.com](http://alleyfair.com) or [facebook.com/alleyfairfargo](https://www.facebook.com/alleyfairfargo).

Alley Fair is a community event that relies on volunteers for its success. If interested in sending a helping hand email [info@alleyfair.com](mailto:info@alleyfair.com).



Submitted photo Dan Francis

The alley grounds are covered in bright paints, lights hang from building to building and music fills the air during this FM community event.

## Turtle Island Quartet and Nellie McKay to visit MSUM

BY DARIAN VERDOUW  
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The Gaede Stage in the Roland Dille Center for the Arts will be hosting a unique music performance on Sept. 18 including the two-time Grammy winners Turtle Island Quartet with guest Nellie McKay.

McKay spoke highly of the upcoming performance. With her quirky personality, the show should prove to be whimsical and enticing.

A "phone number in a bar on a lucky day" is how she became acquainted with the Turtle Island Quartet. Her colorful personality and intriguing musical background are projected powerfully in her performances. She studied jazz voice at the Manhattan School of Music, but did not graduate. She showcases her talents through her use of piano, mallets and ukulele.

Her music includes different genres, from jazz to rap to disco and funk. In her performance with the Turtle Island Quartet, the music of Billy Holiday, Billy Strayhorn, and the Weimer cabaret of the 1920s will be included on the set list.

McKay has a history as a stand-up comedian as well as an actor. Many may be familiar with her roll in P.S. I Love You as Ciara Reilly, sister of Holly Kennedy, played by Hilary Swank.

She is also an active member of PETA and in her song "Columbia is Bleeding," issues of animal cruelty are brought to light. When asked what the perks of her



Photo credit modlin.richmond.edu

Two-time Grammy-winning Turtle Island Quartet joins Nellie McKay for music of Billie Holiday, Billy Strayhorn and others.

success are, she said that she has the pleasure of being able to afford "an indulgence of vegan peanut butter cookies."

"I imagine the seats will be filled and I'm sure the show will be enjoyed by many because this sort of band commands the audience's attention," said MSUM student Joseph Schwartz, a theater major excited to see Nellie McKay and the Turtle Island Quartet.

Schwartz is most looking forward to seeing how Nellie will incorporate her use of the ukulele.

MSUM music major Kyle Sperle said he loves that the university hosts a range of different cultural entertainment

for the student body because the events are so diverse.

"It allows students to broaden their horizons. As a musician, watching people perform helps me look at music in a new way by helping me evaluate myself and it gives me inspiration," Sperle said.

He most looks forward to how they are going to balance all of the different instruments and how they will blend together to create one sound.

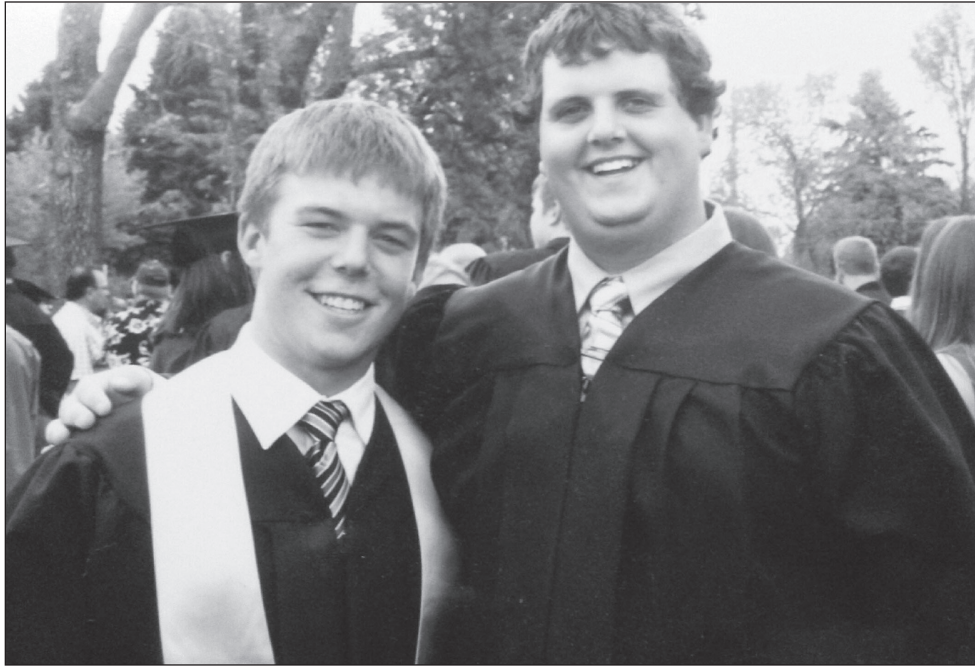
Tickets to the event are only \$6 for MSUM students with an ID and can be purchased at the Gaede Stage desk. Tickets will also be available at the doors if the show does not sell out prior to the event.



# Features

## Suicide impacts loved ones and community;

### Student shares his story after loss of best friend



Submitted photo

Taylor Peterson poses at his 2009 high school graduation with his best friend Marc Anderson.

BY ONIZE OHIKERE  
ohikereon@mnstate.edu

It was 2:30 a.m. on April 9, 2013, and Taylor Peterson was still asleep. It was just an hour before he had to wake up and get ready for work when his phone rang. The caller ID showed it was Marc Anderson, his best friend. When he answered the call, Marc's brother was on the other end. He had bad news: Marc had shot himself.

"That was the single hardest moment of my life," Peterson said.

Peterson, mass communications senior and local celebrity (Pike of Big 98.7) had been best friends with Anderson since junior high school. He remembers in high school—when everyone else was out drinking and doing crazy stuff—he and Anderson and another friend would hang out down in the basement at Anderson's home.

"We'd make funny videos and cry laughing until 4 in the morning," Peterson said.

Anderson, 23, was a sophomore at M State majoring in computer science.

Like many who take their own life, Anderson had shown some signs of his intentions. Four years before committing suicide, Anderson told his friend it was something he had thought about.

Peterson also said he noticed some changes in Anderson's behavior and said he did not seem as happy as he used to be.

After attending a basketball game with Peterson and some other friends in March 2013, Anderson had mentioned he was going to kill himself. Peterson thought he said that in jest because of how the game turned out, but thought it wise to check.

"I called him to make sure he was okay, and he was," he said.

Two weeks later, he committed suicide.

"It was very hard," Peterson said. "My initial reaction to it was pure shock."

It may have been hard to get through it all, but Peterson said it was even more painful to watch Anderson's family pull through his death.

Supportive friends, pastors and counselors are some of the resources that Peterson said helped him and his friends through the grieving process.

Peterson said that it was not until after Anderson's death that he found out his friend had sought help when he was 17.

"He told his parents that he had depression and he wanted to see somebody, so he had started to see a psychiatrist," Peterson said.

While Anderson's death took an emotional toll on his loved ones, his passing was used to bring about good in the community. The spring after his death, Anderson's parents set up The Marc Anderson Scholarship in his honor. The scholarship targets high school seniors at Dilworth - Glyndon - Felton High School, where Anderson attended.

When Anderson's parents approached Peterson and some other friends of Anderson about raising money for the scholarship, they knew just what to do.

"We thought it would be a good idea to start a golf tournament since it would be a fun way to raise money for the scholarship and also get everybody together to remember him," Peterson said.

Peterson said they were able to raise over \$3,000 from the tournament on July 12, 2014. Some of the money went towards the scholarship while the rest was donated to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

According to the American College Health Association, the suicide rate among young adults ages 15-24 has tripled since the 1950s, and suicide is currently the second most common cause of death among college students.

"We are all just more concerned about suicide now and doing something about it," Peterson said. "We have taken part in Out of the Darkness Walks and have made ourselves more aware on mental health and suicide."

Taylor Yliniemi, another friend of Anderson's, agrees.

"It helps us do some good out of a bad situation," Yliniemi said. "What we are doing may help someone who really needs it."

On MSUM's campus, wellness educators have organized a Suicide Awareness Day for the past two years, the most recent was last Wednesday, Sept. 10.

"We want to raise awareness and reduce the stigma regarding suicide," Lynn Peterson, coordinator of the wellness educators' program, said.

Lynn Peterson also said that while Hendrix Clinic offers psychiatric and mental health services to students, FirstLink, a nonprofit human service agency in Fargo, also offers services like a 24-hour suicide lifeline, suicide education outreach, suicide prevention training, among others, to the community.

The 24-hour helpline is 2-1-1, or 701-235-7335.

With the football season already kicking in, Taylor Peterson's loss is undeniable as he recalls how they used to watch football games together and how it would not be possible this year.

"I still think about it everyday," Peterson said. "Anyone who's gone through it would tell you that not a day goes by when you don't think about it."

Being personally affected by a suicide, Peterson has advice for those who may be having suicidal thoughts.

"There's absolutely people that want you here," he said. "As hard as it is, it's so important to talk to somebody close to you about it because if nobody knows, nobody can help you."

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MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD



# Features

## Take Back the Night to confront sexual assault

BY JOSIE GERESZEK  
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An annual event which has worked nationally to confront sexual and domestic violence since the 1970s returns to campus next week.

The Women's Center, women's and gender studies, and the Campus Feminist Organization are sponsoring MSUM's annual Take Back the Night rally on Sept. 18. The event includes a BBQ, starting at 5 p.m., music, speakers, and ends with a march around campus.

Take Back the Night is organized to bring intersectional identities together to address the personal experience of rape and other forms of sexual assault, as well as the role sexual violence maintains in institutional and cultural settings.

"I would really like to stress the fact that rape is not an isolated incident, it is embedded in our culture," said Jennifer Seviour, event organizer and Campus Feminist Organization member. "Rape culture exists and it's perpetuating itself and we have to interrupt it."

A recently reported rape on campus has been sparking conversation about the issue of sexual violence and Take Back the Night aims to discuss the ways the campus community can prevent similar situations.

Seviour said she hopes the event will highlight Anne Blackhurst's promise to create a coordinated, collaborative, and sustained effort to interrupt rape culture on campus. There are plans to display a poster at the rally where students will be able to write comments and ideas they have to confront sexual violence at MSUM.

The rally will have numerous speakers, including Dee Dushane, matriarch of Tri State Transgender and Lynn Peterson, coordinator for sexual assault services at Hendrix Health. Attendees will also see performances by Diversity Dance Crew, Diane Miller, and ska outfit No Thumbs Up.

"Take Back the Night really embodies what feminism is all about. It's putting theory into practice - the theory and firm understanding that we need to interrupt oppression and oppression of women," Seviour said. "This is an action that we take in making that happen."

The event is a coordinated effort between MSUM, NDSU and the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center, despite the organizations hosting independent rallies throughout the FM community. Coordinators will encourage attendees to use the hashtag #FMTBTN to connect across the different locations.

"The hope is to have media coverage in all three places so that people can see there's a unified movement to address violence against women, rape, and sexual assault," Seviour said. "It's unified, but it's all over, I think is the best way to think of it."

Events like these also help to discuss what is often the root of the problem.

"We need to start talking about how we are socialized into this entitlement to women's bodies from a very young age, and we need to start interrupting that and have conversations about it and have workshops about rape culture," Seviour said.

Seviour added that for many, there's a misunderstanding of what consent actually means - that consent is an affirmative statement rather than a lack of dissent.

"We live in this idea that you dissent from unwanted contact. You say no, but really we should focus on saying yes before anything happens," Seviour said. "We should live in a consent culture, not a 'dissent at the moment' culture."

Coordinators hope the event will further planning for the implication of programs on campus for both faculty and students. Another Campus Feminist Organization member, Kate Lucero,



courtesy of Women's and Gender Studies at MSUM's facebook page

Participants of 2011's Take Back the Night event walked campus sporting homemade signs in efforts to address the issue of sexual assault.

mentioned one that may be in the works.

"We've been talking about having some colloquial workshops on consent, even around things like hugging, in the Women's Center because sometimes people will do things that don't seem like abuse, like touching somebody when they say they don't want it," Lucero said.

Seviour said brainstorming about potential programs is especially important considering that as of yet it is still unclear exactly what educational opportunities Blackhurst plans to offer regarding rape and consent.

She added that although First Year Experience professors have been discussing issues regarding rape culture in light of the recently reported sexual assault on campus, they may remain somewhat unsure about what should specifically be addressed.

"I think teachers and faculty members as well as students need to go through training on how to address sexual assault because I'm not entirely sure that every faculty member grasps the severity of the issue," Lucero said.

Take Back the Night promises to be an opportunity for students and faculty alike to address what changes they'd like to see implemented to interrupt rape culture on campus. The event will take place Thursday, Sept. 18 from 5-9 p.m. on the Campus Mall.

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# Sports

## Distinguished Alum Bob Mikkelson visits campus to share his birds-eye view of "College GameDay"

BY KYLE WAHLBERG AND THOR THOMPSON  
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thompsonth@mnstate.edu



CHRIS WALKER chris.walker@mnstate.edu

MSUM Students Jared Eischen and Thor Thompson met with Mikkelson in Fargo to see his plane before taking off for College GameDay Coverage.

It's not every day you get to meet a legend.

For those in the mass communications department that legend is Bob Mikkelson. Mikkelson, who attended MSUM from 1968-1972, owns his own business, Winged Vision. Winged Vision is a company that Mikkelson started in the '80s through which he uses military equipment to help control the stability of his cameras.

"My claim to fame within the business was [that] I was the first one who really brought to the industry a successful, reliable, stabilized camera platform," he said.

Mikkelson has been in the business ever since, shooting video for golf, soccer, skiing, football, and even the olympics. His planes can do what no others can - get those hard to reach spots all while staying steady and focused. He is the guy who shot the overhead moving shot for ESPN's "College GameDay" last year in Fargo.

"You don't realize how lucky you are until you see what being unlucky is. I have lived unlucky and I prefer lucky better," Mikkelson said about his past experiences.

Mikkelson started out after college as a political appointee for the Federal Aviation Association, and worked with Hubert Humphrey in Washington D.C. He would work during the day at the office and then go to grad school at night. This led him to making many contacts, ultimately leading to him finding out about the military equipment.

"I got a call from a guy at the FAA. So I became a special assistant to the administrator for the FAA, and the two of us traveled all over the United States and Europe together in a private government plane."

When Mikkelson started his company back in 1983, he said it was successful because of the equipment and because of his education.

"When I started my own deal, I had credibility. I have a degree in communications, so I was able to talk about it."

For now, Mikkelson spends almost half the year on the road, doing something he always dreamed about. For example, on Saturday Mikkelson was in Fargo shooting aerial shots for ESPN. On Sunday he was in Denver, providing coverage for the Kansas City Chiefs vs Denver Broncos football game.



CHRIS WALKER • chris.walker@mnstate.edu

Mikkelson shared his wisdom and a laugh before takeoff.

"I'm on the road 150-160 days a year, that is just normal to me."

Mikkelson said he appreciates coming back to the university, adding that support from the school and students is what brings him back.

"I still come back, I enjoy coming back to the school. I have great memories, I enjoy talking to you guys."

For Martin Grindelund, a mass communications professor at MSUM, seeing Mikkelson again is something he is thankful for, citing his time, money, and energy and for students, someone they can look up to.

"Bob has shared so many things with students over the years. He also has given us equipment which is something we find invaluable."

## Dragon volleyball leans on experience

BY MEG KEIM  
keimme@mnstate.edu

The MSUM volleyball team is back and ready to roll. With the new NSIC conference season starting Tuesday, the women finished up the pre-season in Sioux Falls this weekend going 1 for 2 beating Northwest Missouri State and falling to Missouri Western.

The team is excited to finally get to play in their own gym after traveling to South Dakota and Colorado in recent weeks.

"We know these teams now," said center Sam Sullivan, a senior at MSUM. "We know how they play and though we have a tough schedule to start the season with, it's going to be fun."

Getting back into it and coming out on top is important to right side hitter Abby Wolpern, a junior at MSUM.

"I'm excited for rematches with Minot and Sioux Falls for sure," Wolpern explained.

Sullivan laughed and agreed saying, "we might still be a little bit bitter about those."

As a senior, Sullivan is very excited for her last chance and final year as a Dragon. At the end of her 11-year career she is ready to "leave it all on the court and make the most of her last year." She is excited to play with this group of girls and thinks that there is definitely something special about this group.

"Our ability to play as a team and play all of the positions really is cool," Sullivan explained.

Wolpern agrees with Sullivan about the team being special.

"The thing about our team is that there isn't just one stud. We are very versatile; it could be anyone, any night," she explained.

The junior hitter knows first-hand that being able to excel at every position is important.

"We get to play all the way around which makes it easier to be a leader on the court when you're in all of the rotations," said Wolpern. She is only in her third year of the team but is a natural leader and is "excited about being older on the court with experience and being able to step up as a leader."

Becoming leaders on the team is one of the goals the girls have for the season. While hoping to get redemption against a few teams in the NSIC, the Dragons hope to make the conference tournament and think a season of second chances is on the horizon for the Dragons this year.

"Outside of the win/lose record we hope to keep improving every day," Sullivan said.

Wolpern is focused on making the conference tournament and explains that they "miss it every year by one or two slots" and hopefully this year, they make it.

The players are not the only ones with goals, however. One of Coach Tammy Blake's goals is to get some more students to the matches and said she "would love to see more people come out and have some fun."

In her 20 years of coaching volleyball Blake still loves to coach and would love future support for the Dragons.



Photos credit msundragons.com

Sam Sullivan (left) and Abby Wolpern (right) look to lead from experience.

*"The thing about our team is that there isn't just one stud. We are very versatile; it could be anyone, any night."*

-Abby Wolpern, MSUM Junior, Middle Blocker



# Sports

## Dragons can't slow down Mavericks in home opener

BY TURNER BLAUFUSS  
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With the Dragon offense putting up circus numbers in their season opener, many were anxious to see how they'd fare against the Minnesota State University Mankato Mavericks and their highly touted defense.

The Dragons couldn't repeat their offensive showing and were dominated in every facet of the game in a 69-13 home loss to the number four nationally ranked Mavericks. In Coach Steve Laqua's fourth year holding the Dragons' reigns, this is the highest ranked team MSUM has faced.

"Obviously we had higher expectations than what we showed today. This is a very good football team we're playing on both sides of the ball," Laqua said.

The Mavericks started the game with the wind at their back and used a balanced attack to put up 20 points in the opening quarter. The wind was a major factor disrupting the pass game for the Dragons as well as their punting.

"Wind was huge to the start of the game. That's where our special teams was really exposed," Laqua said. "The wind was critical and kept us from getting the start we needed. It was a big factor."

The Dragons put together an efficient drive with a steady run game with Jake Hodge hooking up with Cory Ambrose on three plays. MSUM got on the board with Ambrose running a corner route and creating separation making the Hodge pass a 15-yard score.

"Cory didn't quite have the game he wanted to have last week so I thought it was nice to have them find a rhythm," Laqua said.

The Mavericks' wide receiver Dorian Buford had a field day with the Dragon defense and scored three of his four touchdowns after the Dragons took the goose egg off the board.

"Obviously a great game. (Buford) made some phenomenal catches. He had a good day and that whole offense was having a great game," Laqua said.

MSUM's final touchdown was a fade route from two yards out from Hodge to Adam Jiskra. The Mavericks secondary had Jiskra on an island all game, limiting the star receiver to three catches and 20 yards.

The Dragons were missing the big play ability of Preston Prince, who has been a productive player for the Dragons in the past.

"Hopefully we get him back in the next couple weeks. He's a playmaker and as dynamic as Cory (Ambrose) is," Laqua said.

Hodge lead the shaky Dragon ground game with 75 yards on 12 carries. The Dragons fumbled six times and only landed on two of them.

"We called a spade a spade and acknowledged we played a team that hasn't lost a conference game in three years. They're a great football team and we didn't play like a great football team," Laqua said.

The Dragons' (0-2) next opponent is a road matchup with Wayne State, Neb., and kickoff is set for 1 p.m. Laqua stressed the importance of a short memory and turning their focus to Wayne State.

"The Mankato game is done and we need to start focusing on Wayne State as fast as we can," Laqua said. "We need to move on and pick ourselves up, dust off and get ready to compete again next week."



TURNER BLAUFUSS • blaufusstu@mnstate.edu  
Junior Quarterback Jake Hodge takes off from the pocket.

## MSUM homecoming: Aiming to be best yet

BY KENNY BUCK  
buckke@mnstate.edu

With homecoming just under a week away, the MSUM homecoming crew has high expectations for this year's festivities.

MSUM student athlete Jamison Gehrig is one of two homecoming coordinators hired for event planning and asks students to prepare for a week of events like they've never seen before.

"It's going to be the best homecoming in MSUM history," Gehrig said.

Being a member of the cross-country team, Gehrig knows how important the student body is to supporting athletics.

"It's real motivation to see a lot of people get involved and to see people pumped up for the games," Gehrig said. "It's always nice to see as much support as possible."

There is much to support with over 40 events lined up, ranging from the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Livingston Lord Library to a Glow in the Dark Fun Run, which has never been done in past homecomings.

MSUM is kicking off homecoming week with the Dragon Blood Drive starting at 10 a.m. Monday and will end the day with a pep rally at 8 p.m. in Nemzek followed by Dragons Royale Casino Night.

Tuesday will be the start of a week's slate of games as the Dragon volleyball team takes on Minot State University in Nemzek. Dragon volleyball will take to the courts again Friday night at 7 p.m. preceding Coronation, the burning of the M, and fireworks starting at 9 p.m.

MSUM President Anne Blackhurst has her inauguration ceremony to prepare for on Friday, but for a warm up on Wednesday, the avid runner will be doing Laps for the Long Run at Nemzek Stadium. President Blackhurst plans to run 50 laps and pledge \$1000 for each lap towards scholarships.

The Johnny Holm Band will be performing Thursday night of homecoming week at 8 p.m. in the CMU ballroom. Students can spend their Friday morning recovering from Thursday night's concert until 2 p.m. when President Blackhurst, fresh off her 50 lap performance, attends her official presidential inauguration at the Hansen Theatre in the Roland Dille Center for the Arts.

Saturday will mark the busiest day for Gehrig and the homecoming crew with nine events leading up to three games for Dragon Athletics.

Dragon Soccer starts at noon and will be followed by Dragon Football when they'll take on the Wayne State Wildcats.

MSUM football player Wade Youngblom says they need more students to come support the Dragon football team.

"It definitely gives us an advantage," Youngblom said. "It's usually where we have the most attendance."

As for why students should come to support the team, Youngblom believes the way they play is enough for fellow Dragons to fill the bleachers at Nemzek Stadium.

"Our team is different," Youngblom said, "We're fun to watch and we put on a good show."

Students can pregame at Dragon Zone tailgating outside Nemzek from 11:30 a.m. all the way up to game time starting at 2 p.m.

Dragon volleyball and soccer will round out the weekend's games as Youngblom says students should be prepared to attend anything and everything during homecoming week.

"It's a fun atmosphere and everyone seems to enjoy it."



Dragon Pride on display at this past week's football game against Mankato.

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# Opinion

## This is not okay; Vega's punishment inadequate



**ALEXANDRA TOLLEFSON**  
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I am outraged. I am utterly flabbergasted.

Two weeks. It hasn't even been two weeks since my fellow freshmen and I moved into the dorms here at MSUM. I'm still having to fight off the anxiety over my new classes. I can't imagine how my fellow freshman Dragon is feeling right now after being so terribly and horrifically violated.

In case you were unaware, there was a rape in Grantham. A freshman girl was assaulted earlier this week by 23-year-old Angel Vega, another student here, according to police reports. I can't imagine what this girl must be feeling. My heart sincerely goes out to her. The mindset of a rapist baffles me completely, and it is never something I wish to understand.

What baffles me equally, however, is the sentence this sexual offender could be facing. "Could" is the operative word here. A WDAY article said that Vega could face up to 15 years in prison and a \$30,000 fine.

"Up to?"

"Could?"

Am I missing something here? Did this man not just commit what is arguably the most absurd and terrible crime one can commit? Rape isn't something that someone does once for fun. Rape isn't something that someone does once because they just really need to have sex right then and there. Rape is something that neither the victim nor the predator will ever forget. For the rapist, the act of sexually assaulting someone is a powerful one. It's about dominance. It's about them being powerful and getting what they want. That feeling will never go away. If a person knows that they have the ability to get fifty dollars from someone with just a

little effort, what is stopping them from collecting fifty dollars from every one they can? Criminals—and yes, that is what he is, a criminal, not a "student athlete", not a "wrestler"—such as these need to be put away for, in this writer's humble opinion, at least fifteen years. If it were up to me, this kind of behavior would never be tolerated in the slightest and the punishments doled out for it would be far more severe than they are now.

RAINN, the Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network, reports on their site that only three out of every 100 rapists will ever spend a single day in a prison cell. The rest will simply walk free.

Most of this is due to a staggering number of rapes going unreported. However, even when a rape is reported, it doesn't always lead to an arrest, and when it does, there's only a 25 percent chance of it leading to a felony conviction and incarceration.

There are also plenty of examples of rapists walking free even if they've been sentenced. Look at the Steubenville rapists. I read not too long ago on MSN that one of the two men found guilty of raping a 16-year-old girl was allowed back on his high school's football team for his senior year. He and his friend raped a girl and recorded the act and yet only faced one and two years in juvenile detention (one of the offenders faced two years because of the video of the rape found on his phone).

This is a prime example which shows just how easily these criminals can get off. Fifteen years is just the tip of the iceberg Vega should be sailing into, but in reality, he's more likely to run into an ice cube. I would be overjoyed to hear that this man received the full sentence he was allotted and had to serve every second of it. Do I think that will actually happen? No.

This is a tragic, awful thing that happened. This young woman's life will never be the same. The circumstances don't matter. Yes, there was alcohol involved. Yes, she was underage. Yes, she was still drinking. But none of that—I repeat, none of that—is an excuse or a valid reason for doing what this offender did. This was a sick act by a sick man, and unfortunately, it is something that is likely to happen again. The statistic is one in four. One in four of us will face some form of sexual assault.

I will be honest; that scares me. Knowing a statistic and having it put into action in front of me are two very different things. After this tragedy, rape isn't just a concept to me anymore. It is a real, tangible problem. More importantly, it is a problem we can combat.

MSUM offers a great course for all women. Rape Aggression Defense, or R.A.D., is a class offered to

women free of charge. It isn't a martial arts class, but it does teach women how to defend themselves.

Personally, I've already signed up for this class. The email I received stated, "RAD draws from a combination of different martial arts and fighting systems to develop physical techniques that are both easy to learn and remember and also effective when used in real life, high stress situations. RAD students are able to put their skills to practical use, through simulation training with a trained aggressor.

Along with learning physical techniques, RAD students will discuss topics such as date rape, domestic violence, stalking, online safety, self-defense and the law, and the use of pepper spray and other personal weapons. MSUM's certified RAD instructors hope to not only empower their students with the confidence needed to defend themselves physically, but also to develop in them an all-around mindset of personal safety in their daily lives.

The classes are completely free to female students, faculty and staff, and are private and confidential. The program is suitable for women of all ages and abilities." If anyone is interested in signing up, it isn't too late! Just contact Marc Baetsch (baetsch@mnstate.edu) and he will send you more info.

The class will be held on Tuesdays, starting Sept. 23 and going through Oct. 28.

Victims of rape can also fight back. One of the most important things to do is report the assault. Get a rape kit done. Secure your case by writing down anything and everything you can remember and by preserving all the evidence you can. Don't let anyone talk you out of it, convince you it was an accident or tell you that you were asking for it any way. You were assaulted. This was no accident. You have every right to seek justice.

Most importantly, however, you must remember that you are not alone. There are many women who have been through this same thing. There are support networks out there to connect to, along with your own friends and family. Never feel like it is you against the world. I promise you, someone out there cares.

Rape is a serious issue, and it's an issue we don't take seriously enough. This heinous crime that takes away a person's right to their own body should be taken more seriously.

It shouldn't be justified. It shouldn't be swept under the carpet. It shouldn't be forgotten about. It is something that should be talked about, discussed, and acknowledged as a true problem with our society.



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

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](mailto:advocate@mnstate.edu).

## MSUM absent from local bike share



**ZANA POMMIER**  
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As fall in the Minnesota tundra is finally beginning, students without cars are bundling up outside Matbus stops and experiencing the feelings of numbness in their toes, boisterous purple fingers, and the awakening sensation of frostbite on their ears.

Meanwhile, NDSU and Concordia students are encouraged to stay warm by keeping their blood circulating and using bike share programs available on or near their campuses.

Students at MSUM are tough enough to go without a bike share program to keep their little piggies warm.

After all, who needs the stress-relieving benefits of a cardiovascular workout on a bike when you can just opt out of feeling your body at all and limp to class on numb feet?

NDSU students will have to take the time to swipe their student ID's

before grabbing a bike and heading into Fargo.

MSUM students know what a waste of time that is. They enjoy frantically tracking down friends who have cars, and hoping to catch a ride to replenish their stash of ramen. Even better, MSUM students like to test their wits by memorizing diverse bus schedules.

It's always a lovely surprise when you're sitting in a blizzard at a bus stop for 15 minutes and having a stranger come up and inform you that the bus doesn't stop there on Sunday.

In fact, MSUM students get to experience real treasures by waiting in bus stops. True friendships are formed while sitting stagnantly next to strangers in 20 degree weather. These are where the best kinds of friendships are formed: cuddle-friends. You get the chance to understand that this is where true friends are made, by sitting next to the people who will nonchalantly scoot next to you for warmth despite the fact that unruly icicles are forming from your nostrils.

That's right, MSUM students don't need to get in on this local phenomena of bike share programs. Although Moorhead is a flat town that is geographically perfect for a stroll on two wheels, some MSUM students still love to own cars. Why not, when after all, buying gas and insurance is a cheap addition to any plentiful student bank account?

After all, students love to show off their grandpa's old station wagon. They treasure the moments when they get to gather up groups of friends (they probably met at the bus stop) and blast "Ridin'" by Chamillionaire through their manual roll-up windows while cruising down Broadway. They love to slide on sunglasses, sink into their leather seats, and whisper sweet nothings to their air conditioner with high hopes of it actually blowing cold air.

However, students really don't need to get anywhere faster than they can walk. In fact, Dragons enjoy proving their ferocity by walking across campus and getting into class as fast as possible, all while dodging large strips of ice like a fun, vintage arcade game. In fact, students will often brag to their friends and keep score for not having slipped on ice that day. Five points for Janice.

Student athletes will happily test their physical endurance in the chilly months by scampering from Nemzek to Hagen in the quickest time possible. The swimmers are put to the ultimate test, as they get to experience the refreshing chill of frozen hair on their scalps, eyebrows, and eyelashes.

Don't worry Moorhead. Take your time installing bike shares in our community. The Dragons will invest in ice skates.



# Opinion

## Time management, aiming for success



**CRYSTAL BRANDEN**  
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Common to the beginning of the year, students begrudgingly return to their studies. Though the interest is there, the habit to adopt the inevitable routine of studying and doing homework is not.

I am one of those people; I enjoy the break from education despite my love for what I study.

In the first few weeks, students have to adjust to doing class work

yet again. Contrary to their fun-filled summer, the school year brings many things, but students lose the excessive amount of free time they get during summer break.

Like always, I begin the school year wasting my time doing things that can wait. With the number of highly distracting websites and services that have risen over the years, such as Netflix and Facebook, getting homework finished is always a struggle. Despite telling myself I am just going to go online to look up a term for an assignment, I always find myself an hour later scrolling through my newsfeeds.

This is where time management and self-control need to show their faces. We all know that getting homework done and studying to do well should be our number one priority, but knowing it is a priority is different than making it a priority. If students want to have a balance of work and fun during the school year, they have to figure out how to make

room for projects, assignments, studying, relaxing, socializing, eating, going to go to sleep and waking up, etc. A lot of things have to be sorted out to be able to actually accomplish managing your time.

I am one of those people who have a difficult time practicing what they preach. The time I schedule to study is a very loose timeframe with wiggle room, and because of that, I usually end up changing my plans to accommodate everything but my studies. I tell myself that I can go hang out with friends for an hour or so and then go study, but when I actually get to completing my work, it is 2 a.m., and getting enough sleep is no longer a possibility.

Do not do this. If you are like me, and find yourself up late because you decided to watch a season of your favorite show on Netflix before you started your homework, consider this and learn from my own mistakes. If you are procrastinating now, at the beginning of the year, it

is only the beginning of trouble. If you are staying up late and nodding off in class because of this, think of the consequences when you really start to burn out. We all know as students that sometimes finding a balance is hard, but it is necessary to make the best out of our college experience.

Schedule specific times to do homework and stick to that schedule. Learn to manage your time wisely and reap from the rewards of your own success. Treat your schedule like an obligation. If you plan on studying at 4 p.m. and a friend asks if you want to hang out then, remember your prior commitment to yourself.

Do not let yourself down – as students, college is a commitment that requires active participation, time management, and determination that is just as important as socializing, networking, and simply enjoying your time on campus.

## MSUM - A dry campus, or a dry attitude toward alcohol?



**WILLIAM PRYER**  
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As an international student, I found the very concept of MSUM's 'dry' campus intriguing, having experienced a predominantly 'wet' campus back in England. So wet in fact that it is arguably soaking.

I am used to walking through campus passing bars, pubs and clubs on the way to a 9 a.m. class, accompanied by friends struggling with hangovers from the night before. At MSUM however, there is not a single alcohol-related establishment to be seen.

I can't say that I wasn't expecting this, knowing full well that the U.K. has a slightly lower drinking age than the U.S., providing alcohol access to students at age 18.

Personally, the eradication of alcohol as part of the university experience has taken a while for me to adjust to. In England, there is a whole drinking culture surrounding university life. Many British universities actively promote alcohol consumption by hosting numerous events at bars and clubs around the campus and nearby cities.

For example, 'Freshers Week' is a weeklong event at the beginning of the semester during which a variety of alcohol fuelled parties are hosted

by the university, resulting in excess alcohol consumption, hordes of blind-drunk students and thousands of excruciating hangovers. As appalling as it seems, it is all part of the university experience.

Looking back, I think that being exposed to the drinking culture at university forced me to become responsible and respectful of alcohol, something that I don't think would've happened had I not had access to alcohol on campus. I also became aware of the dangers of alcohol consumption, especially regarding students. Vandalism, fighting and sexual assault were prevalent and common problems as a result of intoxicated students. Therefore, I can understand and appreciate why MSUM chose a 'dry campus' policy to protect students and the environment.

But how much protection is too much protection, to the point where it prevents students from learning responsibility? I interviewed Emily, a sophomore student, for her opinion: "The problem is not stopping students drinking alcohol, but teaching them responsibility instead."

I can understand Emily's point. In my opinion, allowing students to have access to alcohol in a controlled, safe environment could teach students responsible drinking in preparation for the outside world. Abstinence can be dangerous, as it creates naivety and shelters individuals.

However, if alcohol was permitted on campus, it would be harder to control underage drinking, but you have to be realistic. Students are going to drink alcohol regardless of whether it is permitted or not, and whether they are underage or not. Educating students to actually understand and respect alcohol would be far more beneficial to

their relationship with it, rather than expecting them to already have a sense of alcohol awareness.

Of course, I cannot speak for everyone and some students may have already had alcohol awareness classes prior to university. But there is always a minority and it is this minority which will usually cause the issues.

But what do MSUM's students think about the dry campus status? I surveyed twenty MSUM students to find out what they really think of the policy. Interestingly, 75 percent of the students felt safer having a dry campus compared to a wet one. This statistic is unsurprising, considering the alcohol-related rape incident which happened on campus last week. However, I doubt that the statistics would've been drastically different if the unfortunate incident didn't happen; if MSUM was a wet campus, intoxicated students would probably hang around on the campus. Anti-social behaviour would be created, making many students feel uncomfortable and insecure. Therefore, I can understand why students prefer having a dry campus for the sake of security.

Also, 65 percent of the students believe that the 'dry campus' policy is successful and I agree to some extent too. Since being here I have not encountered any anti-social behaviour whatsoever in comparison to my British university and I am actually enjoying MSUM events without the dependency on alcohol to have a good time, or feeling pressured to drink.

Whatever the policy is, alcohol should be respected and regulated. Students should be able to feel safe and secure on campus and I hope that MSUM continues to maintain this, even if it means having dry campus policy.



Story idea?  
advocate@mnstate.edu

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# News

## LIBRARY, FROM FRONT

IT department and Student Senate, with everyone hoping for a good turn out from the campus community.

“We want to get as many students here as possible,” Goodman said, to help mark this milestone in the library’s history.

### “The big shebang,” all invited

The ribbon cutting ceremony will be the centerpiece of the grand opening events.

“That’s the big shebang,” Goodman said about the ceremony, set to take place on Sept. 25 at 1 p.m. in the main body of the library.

The event marks the culmination of the project, which has been ongoing since designs were proposed in 2008. Over \$19 million in funding went into the renovations, with construction on the library beginning in January 2012. President Anne Blackhurst will be speaking at the event, as well as Associate Vice Chancellor Brian Yolitz and Student Government President Cody Meyer.



Livingston Lord’s main body will host the ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 25 at 1 p.m.

CRYSTAL BRANDEN • brandencr@mnstate.edu

The ribbon cutting is set to be officiated by the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of commerce, and all in attendance are invited to stay for an open house

staff have come up with a unique scavenger hunt.

“It’s not really a hard one,” Goodman said with a laugh, but it’s designed to get people out and about, exploring the library and all the new features it has to offer.

Question forms are available at the library’s main desk, and after filling out each item, participants are asked to take a selfie in their favorite spot in the library.

Staff members are planning to post the photos on Facebook and the library’s homepage to get more students interested in coming in to take a look for themselves.

Students and staff who complete the form can turn it in to be entered into a drawing which will take place during the ribbon cutting event.

The drawing prizes include a one-year subscription to Amazon Prime, wireless speakers and commemorative library renovation t-shirts.

### Author visits to round out tour

Candace Flemming, an award-winning children’s author, will be doing an author-talk to round out events, with her presentation taking place on Sept. 30 at 4:30 p.m. in the Library 103 auditorium.

“I like to think of it as our capstone,” said Pam Werre, curriculum materials center librarian.

Flemming was the 2014 winner of the Comstock Read Aloud Award, and had previously been an honor recipient in the Wanda Gág awards, both given through programs based at MSUM.

It Flemming’s first visit to campus and she plans to speak about her personal journey as an author, as well as visit a creative writing class here on campus to pass on some wisdom to students who one day may follow in her footsteps.

More information on events connected to the library’s grand opening can be found on their page on MSUM’s website.



SAMANTHA STARK • starksa@mnstate.edu

Livingston Lord’s renovations opened up new spaces for students to study.

with refreshments and the opportunity to tour the library.

Tours will also be given on homecoming Saturday, when students, alumni and community members will all be visiting campus for the parade and football game.

“It will be nice for them to see,” Goodman said, especially for MSUM alumni who spent their student years studying in the pre-renovation library.

Some of the features they’re most excited to debut include technology upgrades and new spaces for students to study, do group work and access computers.

MSUM students are equally happy with the changes.

“It seems like there’s so much more space to do your homework,” said MSUM senior Madeline Cameron, “I was in there three times today and sat in three different spots.”

Another project staff hope to have ready to showcase during the

week’s events is the 24-hour student lounge, which will be located on the side of the building facing the campus mall.

“That lounge is going to have a fireplace and a lot of comfortable seating,” Goodman said.

The lounge will complement the 24-hour computer lab, which opened last semester, and to which students have access with the use of their Dragon ID cards. There will be moveable furniture to make a dynamic, interactive space, “possibly for poetry readings or other events,” Goodman said.

### Snap a selfie, score some swag

To get students and staff familiar with these changes, library



CRYSTAL BRANDEN • brandencr@mnstate.edu

With more windows and open space, renovations brightened Livingston Lord’s lobby and study spaces.

# EXTRA HOURS

## What will YOU do?

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