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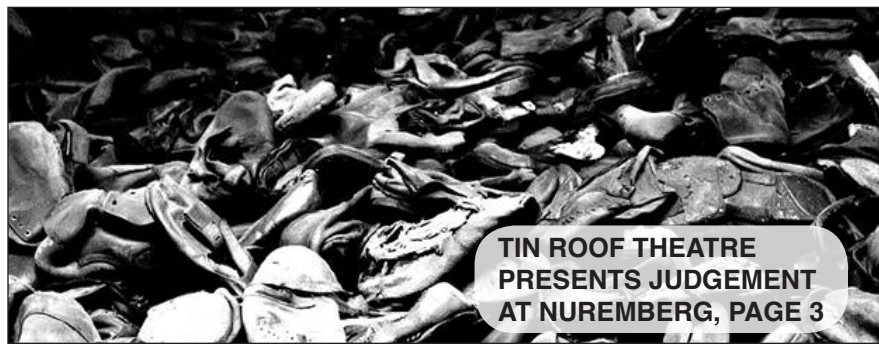
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NFL REACTS POORLY TO ABUSE CHARGES, PAGE 7



TIN ROOF THEATRE PRESENTS JUDGEMENT AT NUREMBERG, PAGE 3



WELCOME HOME, DRAGONS!

THE ADVOCATE

online at msumadvocate.com

Tuesday, September 23, 2014

MSUM's weekly student newspaper

Moorhead, Minn.

Vol. 44 Issue 3

Walking event encourages campus to get active in October

BY KELSEY KETTERLING
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October is a month mostly defined by the changing colors of leaves, carving pumpkins, and preparing for the coming winter. However, October is also the month for MSUM's annual Walktober event.

Though it officially begins Sept. 29, pedometers and registration forms are available for pick up starting this week. For years, Hendrix has been organizing Walktober as a free event for the whole community.

Walktober participants are encouraged to walk 10,000 steps or more four times a week, though the Center for Disease Control recommends walking that many steps every day. If walking to improve one's health isn't enough incentive, participants are also eligible to

WALKTOBER, BACK PAGE

Students and faculty "Take Back the Night" from perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence



ETHAN DEGREE • degreet@mnstate.edu

Students dance to music by No Thumbs Up on the campus mall at MSUM's annual Take Back the Night event, a rally which combats the issues of domestic and sexual violence.

Naturalization ceremony inducts 50 new American citizens

BY MARIE VEILLETTE
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In a ceremony last Wednesday in the CMU ballroom, MSUM faculty, staff, and students helped to welcome 50 new citizens to the U.S. Inductees originated from more than 25 different countries spanning five continents - the only ones not represented were Australia and Antarctica.

"Of course, we've never had anyone from the continent of Antarctica become naturalized," joked U.S.

Magistrate Judge Karen Klein, who officiated the ceremony.

President Anne Blackhurst was also in attendance.

"We thank you for the opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a United States citizen," Blackhurst said.

Student Senate president Cody Meyer shared similar sentiments. Meyer, a specialist in the U.S. Army, spoke to the room dressed in full uniform.

"It is a privilege for me to welcome you into the ranks of the free,"

Meyer said. "Collectively, you represent the strength and beauty of this great nation."

Interim Provost Michelle Malott and Biosciences professor Brian Wisenden both shared stories of their own paths to becoming naturalized citizens.

Malott, a past citizen of Canada, lived in America as a permanent resident for many years before deciding to go through the process of becoming a citizen. As a permanent resident, Malott could not do many things citizens can, like voting or

holding political office. She eventually decided she wanted to be "fully invested" in the country she had called home for so long.

Recounting her own naturalization ceremony 10 years earlier, Malott's voice was filled with emotion. "I was proud to have become, and still am very proud, to be a U.S. citizen."

Reminding the inductees that their new citizenship came with responsibilities, she asked them to "build good will as a resource for the future."

"I would also like to just wish you all the best as you begin your journeys as U.S. citizens and resources for all of our futures," Malott said.

Wisenden, also previously from Canada, settled in the United States after living many places.

"I went through many address changes through my own career training and pursuit of degrees," he said.

After getting his first job interview at MSUM, Wisenden has remained at the university ever since.

CITIZENS, BACK PAGE

Teacher of the year alumnus returns to campus to accept award

BY TOMI THOMPSON
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It was 1994 when Scott Staska received his masters and specialist degrees in education administration from MSUM. This homecoming week, he is being honored as a distinguished alumni.

"He is very deserving of this honor," said Robert Littlefield, a communications professor at NDSU. "There are certain students that stand out in your mind as the special students of your life, and Scott is one of them."

Having known him since eighth grade, Staska recognized Littlefield as one of the

most influential people in his education.

"I knew the first time I saw Scott that he was a very talented young man, but he was very quiet," Littlefield said. "He was the kind of student who I believe was empowered by his involvement in speech and debate activities. When he got involved in forensics, it gave him a way to show what a bright young man he was. He found his voice."

In high school and college, Staska competed under Littlefield's guidance.

Staska said that being involved in speech and debate gave him skills that

continue to help him analyze situations, talk to a groups and individuals, shape and understand messages, read people and expressions, and organize resources.

In 2011, the Minnesota Association of School Administrators named Staska "Minnesota Superintendent of the Year."

Though he hadn't originally considered a career path as a teacher, Staska grew up with an appreciation for educators. His family, many of whom were teachers themselves, made a point to emphasize the importance of education.

"My grandma Staska always valued edu-

cation and made it very clear that getting an education and going to school were critically important to succeed," said Staska. "I kind of landed in education because on my grandma's side of the family there were several teachers, and I ended up thinking I could probably pay folks back for the things that I've gotten and received."

One thing his family couldn't provide however, was preparation for Staska's entanglement in two shootings.

While serving as superintendent in Barnesville, Minn., Staska faced one of the most difficult moments of his career when

AWARD, BACK PAGE

Briefs

CAMPUS CALENDAR

9.23 - 9.29

<p>9.23</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Hypnotist Frederick Winters, Hanson Theater</p> <p>9 p.m. Battleship H2O, Nemzek</p> <p>9.24</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Laps for the Long Run, Nemzek Stadium</p> <p>9 p.m. Glow in the Dark Fun Run, Nemzek</p> <p>9.25</p> <p>1 p.m. Livingston Lord Library Ribbon Cutting, Library</p> <p>8-11 p.m. Johnny Holm Band, CMU ballroom</p>	<p>9.26</p> <p>2 p.m. Presidential Inauguration, Hansen Theater</p> <p>9 p.m. Coronation, Burning of the "M" & Fireworks, Nemzek</p> <p>9.27</p> <p>11 a.m. Parade, circles campus</p> <p>11:30 - 2 p.m. Dragon Zone Tailgate, Nemzek</p> <p>2 p.m. Dragon Football, Nemzek</p> <p>9.29</p> <p>4:30 p.m. "Lucky: A Documentary Film," Langseth</p>
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SECURITY UPDATE

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>9.12:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alcohol violation in Dahl, four cited by Moorhead PD, referred to OSCAR - Criminal damage to state property in lot G-6 and G-10, Moorhead PD responded - Medical in Lommen, not transported <p>9.14:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist residential life staff in Holmquist <p>9.15:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist personnel in Public Safety lobby, Moorhead PD responded - Trespass notice delivered in Ballard - Suspicious activity in lot G-1 - Assist library personnel | <p>9.16:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suspicious activity in Ballard, referred to OSCAR - Theft in Nemzek <p>9.17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medical in Grantham, one escorted to a personal vehicle <p>9.18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suspicious person in the 1400 block of 9th Ave. South - Squirrel reported in the Comstock Memorial Union, unable to locate - Fire alarm in Grantham, burnt dryer belt, Moorhead Fire Department responded - Suspicious person on campus mall - Assist personnel at daycare |
|---|---|

Safety Tip

For an extra feeling of safety, learn self-defense techniques. Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) classes are offered at MSUM. Email baetsch@mnstate.edu for further information.

To report a problem contact Public Safety at 218.477.2449

The Advocate

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Opinions expressed in The Advocate are not necessarily those of the college administration, faculty or student body.

The Advocate encourages letters to the editor. They should be typed and must include the writer's name, signature, address, phone number, year in school or occupation and any affiliations. Letters are due by 5 p.m. Friday and can be sent to MSUM Box 130, dropped off at The Advocate office in CMU Room 110 or emailed to us at advocate@mnstate.edu. The Advocate reserves the right to edit letters and refuse publication of letters omitting requested information. It does not guarantee the publication of any letter.

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The Advocate is always looking for talented writers, photographers, columnists and illustrators.

Contact the editor for more information or attend staff meetings on Sunday evenings.

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MSUM Briefs

Correction: Photo Credits

In last issue, The Advocate incorrectly credited two photos to Crystal Branden instead of their photographer, Samantha Stark. The photos were of Anne Blackhurst posing for her presidential portrait and an image of the Livingston Lord Library. The Advocate apologizes for the errors.

New online collections offered by the Livingston Lord Library

Students are encouraged to check out three new online collections offered by the Livingston Lord Library:

- 1) Ambrose Digital, a collection of 500+ educational videos;
- 2) LearningExpress Library, a package of career, skills training, and test-preparation tools;
- 3) Very Short Introductions, online version of popular book series by Oxford University Press.

Access them from libguides.mnstate.edu/new

Contact refdesk@mnstate.edu to get started.

iGoEco Challenge runs now though November 2

The iGoEco Challenge 2014, sponsored by MATBUS, has officially begun. Students can walk, carpool, bike, rollerblade or ride MATBUS for free with student ID to participate in the yearly challenge.

Participants can log their trip at iGoEcoChallenge.com, and become eligible to win a prize package worth \$500. If a participant completes each of the four two-week challenges, they will be eligible to win the grand prize 50" flatscreen TV and Blu-Ray player donated by Gate City Bank.

Interested students can go to iGoEcoChallenge.com to get started. Just for registering, participants will receive a free premium glass water bottle.

Participants must log their first eco-friendly trip by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 21 to qualify for prizes.

Battleship H20 nears

Battleship H20, a lifesize game of the popular board game, will take place Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 9 p.m. at the Nemzek Pool. Teams of four are required for participation.

Dragon pride celebrated at homecoming and presidential inauguration

MSUM will celebrate Dragon pride during its annual homecoming celebration Sept. 22-28 with a wide variety of student, alumni, and community events to coincide with Anne Blackhurst's inauguration.

For details on homecoming events, visit mnstate.edu/homecoming. For details on inauguration events visit mnstate.edu/inauguration.



World News

Ashraf Ghani to be Afghan President

After months of bitter disputes, Ashraf Ghani will become the President of Afghanistan. He and his opponent, Abdullah Abdullah, signed an agreement to form an Afghan government in unity on live television on Sunday. Under the unity deal, Abdullah will still get a significant amount of power. He will get to nominate a national CEO (including, potentially, himself) who will effectively serve as a prime minister. Both men shook hands and embraced in a clear attempt to unify a country after a rancorous election, during which both candidates accused the other of fraud. Outgoing President Hamid Karzai thanked both men for agreeing to deal for the sake of "the progress and development of this country."

7,800 firefighters battle CA wildfires across state

More than 7,800 firefighters are struggling to contain fires across the state of California. The fire has blazed through the Tahoe National Forest and even threatens a UC Berkeley facility, the 4,270-acre Blodgett Research Forest. Some 2,800 people have had to evacuate their homes due to the blaze. The worst of the fires is the King Fire in El Dorado

county. It was ignited over a week ago, and police are holding the man suspected of starting it on \$10 million bail. The fire spread six miles over one night, and firefighters from Florida were needed to help combat it. It is only 10 percent contained at the moment.

U.S. won't launch Syria strikes alone

The U.S. ambassador to the U.N. said other countries have agreed to launch air strikes against ISIS in Syria. "We will not do the air strikes alone," Samantha Powers said on CBS's Face the Nation on Sunday. She made it clear that the U.S. has received confirmation from other countries that they will launch air strikes in Syria, but refused to specify which ones. "We're going to leave it to other nations to announce for themselves what their specific commitments to the coalition are going to be," she added. The U.S. has already launched air strikes against ISIS militants in Iraq, and Obama has authorized strikes in Syria. On the other hand, France launched air strikes in Iraq, but President Hollande ruled out Syrian involvement. However, Powers reiterated her belief that the U.S. will not go it alone with air

strikes in Syria. "I will make you a prediction. We will not do the air strikes alone if the president decides to do the air strikes," she said on ABC's This Week.

Ex-Titan Rob Bironas Killed in Car Crash

Former Tennessee Titan Rob Bironas died Saturday night after a car accident less than a mile from his home. The former kicker lost control of his 2009 GMC Yukon Denali after 11 p.m. Saturday night. He was speeding when his car ran off the road and crashed into several trees before coming to a stop upside down. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Vanderbilt University hospital. Bironas played nine seasons with the Titans, holding the record as their second all-time leading scorer. He was also the fourth most accurate kicker in NFL history. Bironas has trained with the Detroit Lions and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the off-season. In June, he married Rachel Bradshaw, the daughter of Hall of Fame quarterback Terry Bradshaw. "Rob made a significant impact as a player in his nine years with the team and more importantly touched many lives in the Nashville community off the field," the Titans said in a statement.

Dragons act in Holocaust drama; raise awareness of atrocity

BY SAMANTHA STARK
starksa@mnstate.edu

A quick survey of the MSUM Confessions page on Twitter reveals under the anonymity of this media, MSUM students still hold racist and bigoted views. Modern media gives people the ability to anonymously voice their intolerance to those who don't share their own beliefs, lifestyle, or appearance.

The page is cluttered with 140-character insults targeting MSUM students, in some cases including a student's name or organization, assumedly in attempts to feel superior to those they are targeting.

Nowadays, one can harass others over multi-media and still ignore their own negative impact. However, the lasting affects of the racism, sexism, homophobia, psychophobia, and bigotry of Nazis is unforgettable. More than 17 million people were murdered as a result of the Holocaust: 1.1 million children, six million Jews, and an additional 11 million Ukrainian, Polish, Soviet, Romani, mentally or physically handicapped, queer, politically opposed, and other religiously oppressed people, and countless others who didn't fit the "Aryan race."

From Sept. 26 to Oct. 5, Tin Roof Theatre Company will present "Judgment at Nuremberg," a play based on Abby Mann's 1961 dramatic film addressing the Holocaust, non-combatant war crimes against civilian

populations, and the post World War II geopolitical complexity of the Nuremberg Trials.

"Abby Mann does a great job at creating an environment that puts you into an uncomfortable situation," said Karla Underdahl, director and MSUM alumna. "He talks about the immortal justice in the world and how if you stick up for the right things, worse things can be prevented later down the line."

Mann writes about several different characters who are based on actual cases from the Nuremberg trials that took place after WWII. Held by Allied forces in Nuremberg, Germany, the Nuremberg trials were a series of military tribunals known for the prosecution of prominent members of the political, militant, and economic leadership of Nazi Germany.

In the play, Mann writes about four German judges and prosecutors accused of crimes against humanity for their involvement in the atrocities committed under Nazi regime. Even before Nazism spread across German borders, the inhumane laws passed by Hitler's government condemned its own citizens who didn't meet the "ideal" – whether for religious, political, or physical reasons – resulting in unfair trials and punishments enforced by courts throughout Germany. Nothing is simple, as Germany, and the world, must face morality and personal responsibility post-World War II.

"Judgment at Nuremberg" will include a collaboration of clips from the actual

Nuremberg trials and Holocaust in the production.

"The video images of the Holocaust appear in an early scene in act two," said Reid Strand, casted as Oskar Rolf, defense attorney.

On Oct. 5, Steve Hunegs, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, will be doing an opening speech about the current importance of the Nuremberg trials and its relevance to modern day.

"He [Steve Hunegs] is a real advocate for awareness of what happened during the Holocaust," Strand said.

The council works for Tolerance Minnesota, an award-winning education program of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas, another partner that promotes tolerance for communities in the upper Midwest.

"The play is about tolerance for those who are different than you; if they are a different race, religion, sexual orientation, or have a medical disability," said Underdahl. "It's a standard courtroom drama with several different situations from actual Nuremberg trials."

The two-act play consists of 19 actors and runs for a little more than 2 hours. Five of the actors are MSUM alumni and a current professor and student. They are Molly Berg, theatre arts sophomore; Daniella Maria, bachelor of arts in theater degree with an emphasis in design and stage management;

Steve Poitras, bachelor of arts in theater, speech and English; Patrick Carriere, professor of theatre arts and director of MSUM's spring production of "Romeo and Juliet."

"This is our last full rehearsal [Sept. 19] until we start technical rehearsals this coming Sunday," Underdahl said.

The group moved onto the stage in Island Park on Sept. 21 with added lights, costumes, videos and sound. The first weekend of performances take place Sept. 26-27 at 7:30 p.m. and Sept. 28 at 2 p.m. The second weekend is Oct. 2-4 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 5 at 2 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the box office at 701-235-6778. Regular ticket prices are \$17, seniors (ages 60 and up) and students are \$12, groups of 10 or more are \$10 each, and student rush (arriving 15 minutes before curtain) tickets prices are \$7 (exclusive to students).

"Judgment at Nuremberg" shows the FM community the negative impact of racism, homophobia, bigotry and general intolerance. The cast is hoping the play will not only open their audience's eyes and inform them of the effects of the Holocaust, but also encourage them to take a look at themselves and make a change toward accepting others for who they are not what they feel they should be.

For more information, visit thestageatlandpark.org or contact Reid Strand at strandactor@gmail.com.



SAMANTHA STARK • starksa@mnstate.edu

The cast of Judgment at Nuremberg acts in their last full rehearsal before performing at Island Park.

"Lucky" offers rare representation of queer women of color

BY JOSIE GEREZEK
gerezekjo@mnstate.edu

Though representations of queer women of color in mainstream film are still hard to come by, a documentary centered on a Puerto Rican lesbian mother comes to campus this Monday.

After spending six years embedded in Lucky Torres' world, filmmaker Laura Checkoway has released her first documentary film, expounding Torres, a struggling mom from the South Bronx. The film's subject had a tumultuous start, having grown up in foster homes until she ran away and wound up homeless. She has two children, a daughter who was taken from her at age 14, and a young son who stays with her as she travels between homeless shelters and transitional housing.

Critics have called the film "intimate and jarring." Director of Women's and Gender Studies Kandace Creel Falcón said portrayals of this manner are critical.

"It is vitally important for media consumers to gain access to representations of complex, diverse identities because of the way that corporate, dominant media often relies on tired stereotypes and tropes about people of color, women, differently abled, and LGBT folks,"

Falcón said.

The shortage of adequate representation is one of the many reasons the film was brought to MSUM by the Campus Feminist Organization, the Social Justice Committee, and Women's and Gender Studies.

"It's important for individuals who see themselves reflected in media all the time to see marginalized people in diverse and varying ways."

"Often times individuals of marginalized identities have a singular story told about them," said Student Coordinator of the Women's Center Jennifer Seviour. "Going to this documentary is going to combat that singular story. It's going to offer an in-depth personal narrative about Lucky's experience and what's distinctly unique about that, as well as how that's connected to larger systems of oppression."

Seviour added that perspective films like "Lucky" offer an uncommon opportunity to people of less marginalized groups.

"It's important for individuals

who see themselves reflected in media all the time to see marginalized people in diverse and varying ways," Seviour said. "It's important to see that there are a lot of people with complex, interesting narratives of their lives - of survival and of being strong."

To better interpret the film, following the screening will be a panel discussion composed of Torres and Checkoway, as well as Falcón, Phyllis May-Machunda from Multicultural Studies, and Liz Kuoppala from the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless. The panel is to connect Lucky's experience to homelessness, poverty, and child welfare systems in both general and local contexts.

The following day, a colloquium and luncheon will take place. Seviour said the setting will offer a less formal atmosphere, as well as an opportunity for filmgoers to process the documentary and return to have a more personal dialogue with the film's subject and director.

"A story like Lucky's is of even more importance because of the ways that complex intersectionalities of identity can be better understood by the viewer," Falcón said. "The ways that class, gender, sexuality, and racialized experience come together helps us to make sense of a much more complex

world. Especially for those who may occupy positions of privilege and power."

The film's screening takes place Sept. 29 at 4:30 p.m. in Langseth 118. The colloquium and luncheon is the following day at 11:30 a.m. in

the Women's Center. All events are free and open to the public.

For more information, or to view the trailer of "Lucky: A Documentary Film by Laura Checkoway," visit luckythedocumentary.com.



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Features

Donation drive aims to keep area families warm this winter

BY KRISTIN MILLER
millerkr@mnstate.edu

We all know the feeling of walking to class when the mercury dips below zero and the wind chill makes even the most hardy among us wish we'd used one of our "unexcused absences" and stayed in bed.

One local organization is reaching out to the campus community to help gather donated winter gear, ensuring that those in need don't go without valuable protection from the elements in coming months. They have been doing so with the aid of students from the social work program here on campus.

The Salvation Army will be setting up drop-off spots around campus this week in Lommen, Owens, the CMU and Murray Commons. They are encouraging students to donate not just coats, but hats, mittens, boots, scarves and snowpants for children as well as adults.

"We've seen a lot of community support," said Kimberly Wagner, volunteer and public relations manager at the Salvation Army in Fargo.

Last year alone, they were able to furnish 1,300 people with warm winter coats. Still, Wagner said, the organization was more than 500 coats short of meeting the number of people who came in to utilize

the service.

"Historically it's been a fall collection and a fall distribution," added Tai Clark, family services director at the Salvation Army.

However, this past spring the organization set up a second drive, taking place during Fargo-Moorhead's clean-up week, which brought in even more winter gear. All of the donations will be distributed to families in the FM area in upcoming months.

"Purchasing new hats, snowpants, boots and coats for two or three children can be a big expense," said Clark, adding that some of their clients are new to Fargo-Moorhead and unfamiliar with the weather conditions we face each winter. "They have no idea what they'll all need, what it all entails," she said.

The Salvation Army took over the program, formerly called "Coats for Kids" in 2011. Before that, news station KVLY had been responsible for the collection of coats. The Salvation Army has been working to re-brand the program, letting people know that they serve all individuals, not just children.

"We have always served adults, but we never have marketed it that way," said Clark.

So far this fall, they've seen

a generous response from the community, who have been donating via bins placed at Hornbachers grocery stores.

"We've had a lot of calls that the bins are full," Clark said.

The organization has also tapped students from the social work program at MSUM to aid them in their efforts. One participant, senior Jordan Spooner, said that the project has opened students' eyes to an under-served need in Fargo-Moorhead.

"I do see a big need in the community; there are many people who struggle to get by day to day," Spooner said.

Spooner and other students in the program have been aiding in efforts to organize the drive and get word out to the community.

"The social work students have been great," said Clark.

If you've got a coat or other piece of winter wear you'd like to donate, the boxes will be on campus until Friday, Sept. 26. Monetary donations for the program are also accepted at the Salvation Army office on Roberts Street in downtown Fargo or by donating online through their website.

They know their clients will be thankful for the donations.

"My favorite part is knowing I will be making a difference for people in our community," Spooner said.

Homecoming week to be a memorable experience

BY ELLEN ROSSOW
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Every year, homecoming week is one of the most memorable and exciting times MSUM has to offer students. According to seniors and homecoming coordinators Nikkie Nouwen and Shelly Sommers, this year promises to be one of the best.

This year's theme is "#DragonPride" which serves as not only a foundation for the week to be full of school spirit, but also gives people a way to connect via social media.

"Anyone can hashtag that," Nouwen said. "It's a cool way to see the students involved and to look at what everyone is doing."

This year is also special because of President Anne Blackhurst's involvement.

"There's a lot of specific events geared toward Anne," Sommers said. One of these is Laps for the Long Run, a fundraising event in which students and organizations are able to run alongside Blackhurst as she completes 50 laps around the track. A variety of donors have already been established, which excites organizers.

Blackhurst's inauguration will be celebrated on Friday. During the ceremony there will be a viewing party for students on the campus mall. These added events make this year's homecoming unique.

"It's once-in-a-lifetime," Sommers said. "College presidents stay for a long time, so the fact that we've gotten to experience her stepping into the role is pretty special."

According to Sommers and Nouwen, Blackhurst deserves to be celebrated.

"She legitimately cares," Sommers said. "Having a president that's so involved is really important."

The events celebrating President Blackhurst are not the only cause for excitement, though.

"There is so much to go to," Sommers said.

Homecoming was kicked off last night with a block party in the campus mall, a pep rally, and a "Casino Royale" event in Nemzek. The week will continue with nearly 50 other events including everything from a chili competition to a handful of sporting events.

A popular homecoming event in past years has been the 5k. Last year the event was a color run. This year the 5k will be a Glow-in-the-Dark Fun Run.

"I think people should be excited," Sommers said. "I know the color run was a lot of fun."

Nouwen and Sommers, along with their fellow homecoming coordinators have been working for months to put this week together.

"All of us have worked countless hours to make this one of the best homecomings ever," Nouwen said.

The homecoming committee isn't the only group responsible for the week, though. Collaboration with Dragon Entertainment Group makes events such as tonight's performance by hypnotist Frederick Winters possible. The week also is made possible by the help of volunteers.

"It's been such a blessing to work with everyone I have," Nouwen said.

According to Nouwen and Sommers, homecoming this year will have an event for everyone and the best way students can show their support is to participate in homecoming events.

"If you can get out and support the school, do it," Sommers said.

Overall, Nouwen and Sommers both believe homecoming and the rest of the year are going to be great.

"I just have a feeling this is going to be a great year," Nouwen said.

"This week is setting the tone for what direction our school is headed," Sommers said. "It's like a new era."

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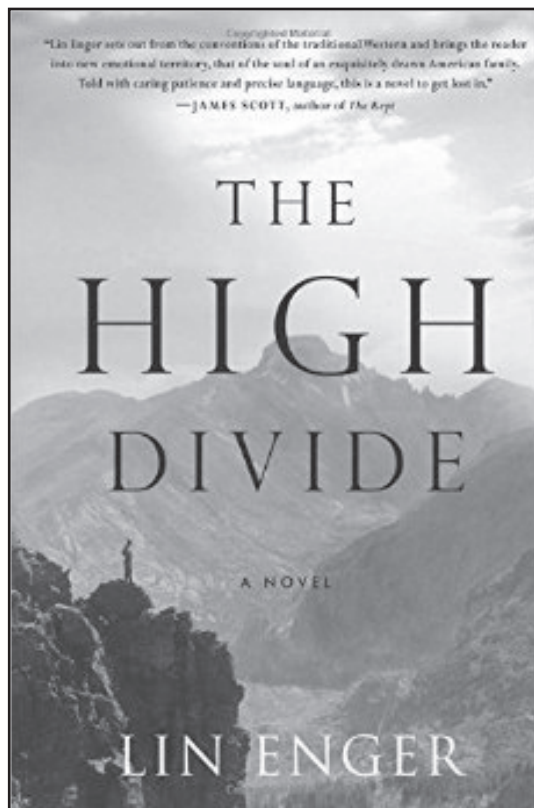
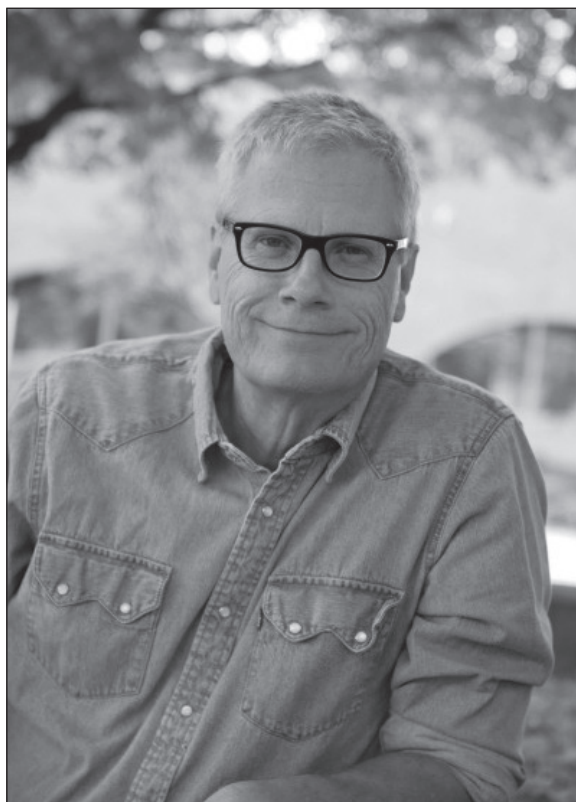
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Features

Professor launches second novel, "The High Divide"



Professor Lin Enger's novel "The High Divide" debuts tonight at 7 p.m. at Zandbroz Variety in downtown Fargo.

BY MARIE VEILLETTE
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Four and a half years after the release of his first novel, MSUM English professor Lin Enger is celebrating the debut of his second, titled "The High Divide."

At 7 p.m., Zandbroz Variety, located in downtown Fargo, is hosting one event of many in Enger's book tour. The author will read a passage from the novel, answer questions and sign books for attendees.

Enger is currently on sabbatical for the school year, and has similar launch events across the nation planned all the way through November. The author is not planning to take any time off from writing – this sabbatical was originally planned to allow time for Enger to begin work on his third book.

"Once I get back from [my] book tour, I'm going to be working like a mad man on my next book," Enger said.

He admitted he prefers to remain out of the spotlight. "I'm more comfortable all by myself – writing," he said.

Enger noticed many differences between the writing and publishing processes of his first and second novels. The first, "Undiscovered Country" took a total of six years to complete, compared to the four and a half allotted to Enger for writing "The High Divide."

"For me, I learned I need to know where the book is going to end before I start," Enger said. He explained he did not know the ending of "Undiscovered Country," which led him to many side-trails in his writing. "I got lost," he said.

"The High Divide" was different. "I knew where I wanted to end up, and I just wrote there," Enger said.

Though four and a half years may seem like a long time to commit to one project, Enger said he feels he writes "pretty fast." Often writing many drafts of the story, he spends most of his time on revision.

"It's like sanding a floor. You don't sand once; you sand it with rough sandpaper, medium and then fine, and then the grain starts to come out," Enger said. "It's like that with writing. It starts to take on the sheen that you hope it should."

The start of any big project is always the hardest part, but Enger said he doesn't struggle with it too much anymore. "I have written for so long that, once I'm in the writing mode, I just do it."

When the task is genuinely enjoyable, it's not really work at all.

"I know a lot of writers say 'I like to have written, but I don't like to write,'" Enger said. "I like to write. To me, it's a pleasure."

Spending up to 15 hours a day on writing and revision is an average day for the author, who admits "the problem is just stopping."

Fellow English professor Kevin Zepper can attest to Enger's commitment.

"When Lin and I talk about writing, I am continually amazed at the writing stamina he has," Zepper said. "Novel writing is not an easy literacy form, but

somehow he makes it look easy."

Enger said publishing his second book was a little easier.

"The longer you work, the more people you meet, and so it helps," Enger said, adding that a friend directed him to an agent who loved the book and easily found a publisher.

The concept for "The High Divide" grew from an obsession Enger had with the time period of the novel, as well as its major historical events.

"The way it works for me is that I don't really think up the idea for a book, but over time ideas kind of follow me around," Enger said. "I knew I would write some kind of a book like this even 15 years ago."

The concept for the next book has been with him for 20 years.

"The ideas that won't leave me alone are the ones I write," he said.

"The High Divide," set in 1886, covers topics such as the destruction of the bison population and the Native American wars and relocation to reservations. The main focus is on a family dealing with the mysterious disappearance of its father, who has been harboring secrets from his wife and sons.

"At its heart, it's a story of a family that's been fractured, and the question is if they will come back together again," Enger said.

The title of the novel was chosen based on a specific historical event Enger was interested in. The curator of the Smithsonian Museum, who also happened to be a conservationist, realized the bison were going extinct and he did not have any specimens in his museum. He organized a hunt in 1886 in Montana and shot 25 bison.

"That was really the story that launched me into the story in the first place because it's so ironic," Enger said.

It seemed a fitting title for the book for metaphoric reasons as well. There are all kinds of divides: between husband and wife, between father and sons, and between Native Americans and white oppressors.

"It just seemed like the right title," he said.

Enger has advice for those looking to have their own work published. He explained reading a lot and practicing writing are what make the best authors.

"Most of us become good writers because we have read good writers," he said.

He said his own road to being published took a lot of time and effort.

"There's no shortcuts," Enger said. "It takes a long time to learn how to write work that's publishable."

As for his own influences, Enger said a big one for this novel was James Welch, a Native American novelist and poet.

"Any number of writers have been important to me, and it changes over time," he said.

The work one chooses to read can have a major impact on what sort of writer he or she becomes.

"Every writer is standing on the shoulders of other writers, and you can't escape those influences," Enger said.



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Opinion

Coffee and tea: good or bad?



BY KIT MURRAY
murrayki@mnstate.edu

How many of you have heard that coffee stains your teeth? Or that it causes higher blood pressure, spinal bone loss and tearing apart our stomach lining? As harsh as this may sound, we continue to consume it on the daily. Each day, over 600 million cups of coffee are consumed in America alone.

But is coffee all bad? I'd like to think that the positives outweigh the negatives. Many of my fellow college students will probably agree that when it comes to drinking coffee, without it, we'd be miserable. It helps wake us up, keeps us focused and smells delightful.

The long-term effects of coffee may astonish you. Keep in mind though that these statistics are based around moderation (no more than 300mg per day). Coffee beans are seeds, and like any seed, it contains protective compounds and acts almost like a superfood.

A few of the benefits associated with coffee include but are not limited to: lowering risks of Alzheimer's disease as well as Parkinson's disease, cutting suicide risk, lowering risk of oral cancers as well as strokes, and it may even help you live longer.

Although studies have shown that coffee can lower your risk of disease, it does not mean that other factors aren't included. For example, people who drink coffee tend to be more social and active. This is also beneficial to a person's life, as human interaction and staying active provides countless health benefits.

Before I came to college I never drank coffee. My family is crazy into tea. Even my brother calls us "tea-aholics." It's true. Tea has healing powers, according to my family, and even though there is indeed caffeine in it, there is something deeper behind why it keeps us going.

Tea has proven itself when it comes to having many benefits. The antioxidants within unprocessed green tea can help to burn fat, prevent clogging of arteries, and even counteract oxidative stress on the brain. Antioxidants do a good job of ridding our bodies of free radicals that can lead to future health issues.

Black, white, and oolong tea are also packed with benefits. Nutritionists have even said that there is no bad kind of tea. Black tea is similar to black coffee; it is the strongest and most caffeinated. Studies show it also may protect lungs against damage caused by cigarette smoke. White tea and oolong have been shown to lower cholesterol.

Like I mentioned before, I think there is something deeper as to why we enjoy our favorite caffeinated drinks so much. Starbucks coffee mugs have a saying from Oprah who sponsors a few of their drinks that says something similar to "Have your own steep time." This is crucial in our fast-paced, crazy lives. We are constantly running from one errand to the next. Even a simple cup of coffee or tea in the morning helps us step back and put our life into perspective. It gives us a few minutes to meditate, just breathe, and enjoy the aroma. That alone is the greatest benefit to me.

Scramble on, Dragons



BY KRISTIN MILLER
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This summer, when she was speaking to the Detroit Lakes Kiwanis club, university President Anne Blackhurst described students here at MSUM using a word which has really stuck with me. She called us 'scramblers,' as in scrambling between classes, work, internships, campus activities, and busy social lives.

Blackhurst said that it wasn't uncommon for her to speak with students who were juggling a full course-load and multiple jobs, sometimes with as many as three different employers. She spoke about the need of our university to recognize the busy lives students lead, and to consider all the ways MSUM can reflect that in the educational opportunities it affords to students.

I would definitely consider myself a scrambler. This semester, as I'm working an off-campus job, writing and copy editing for The Advocate, slogging

through a full schedule of upper-level courses and trying to assemble a social life befitting my senior year of college, I am so thankful to have the choices which make organizing a busy schedule a little easier.

The options I've utilized include taking an online class offered through the English department, signing up for night classes that allow me to work during the day, and using one of my previous jobs, a marketing position, for elective internship credit through the mass communications department.

These kinds of options were just a few among the many Blackhurst mentioned for students who are trying to balance their education with everything else in their lives.

In addition, she stressed the benefits of having partnerships with other universities in the area, M State in particular, but also NDSU and Concordia through the Tri-College system.

Students can utilize all these institutions as complements to classes offered at MSUM. For M State, especially, many students decide to attend that campus for generals and transfer to MSUM later to finish up a bachelor's degree. The partnership between the two schools ensures the transfer of credits, which may not always be the case for other community and trade schools.

It's this type of flexibility that is allowing students more and more freedom when it comes to signing up

for and attending classes, making it much easier to complete a degree.

One of my biggest challenges is realizing my limitations when it comes to putting a cap on my schedule. Call it a go-getter, type-A mentality or the energy of being young and ready to take on the world. But being a part of a campus and community that offer so many diverse opportunities makes it difficult to set limits.

And I know my situation isn't unique. During my time here at MSUM I've met many other students who face the same kind of crazy busyness. Especially in departments like mass communications, where it's tough to get a job after graduation without previous experience gained through internships (which are oftentimes unpaid), it's not uncommon for students to try to balance that on top of school and work.

For students of any major, with the cost of education and living higher than ever, it's a rarity to meet someone on campus who doesn't have at least one part-time job on top of their course-load. We're scramblers, one and all, just trying to make it to graduation, when all our scrambling will pay off big time as we enter the working world.

So scramble on, Dragons. There will always be enough coffee to keep you going. And don't forget to take a moment of appreciation for attending a school which has worked to give you the options which might make it possible to get that degree you've always dreamed of.

Advocate Editorial Board

Abuse is wrong; NFL players are no exception

Imagine having a job that tolerated virtually any antisocial behavior; no matter how many times you'd been arrested or how violent, abusive and depraved your crimes were, the prospect of losing your job was never a concern. You've just entered the dismissive reality of employment in the NFL.

An archive of NFL player's arrests compiled by USA Today reveals a chilling trend: since 2000, NFL players have collectively racked up 85 charges related to domestic violence. This means that domestic violence is the NFL's third most common reason for arrest, following DUIs (28 percent of arrests) and assault and battery (about 12 percent of arrests), and accounts for about 11 percent of NFL player arrests. As one of the leading reasons for arrests among NFL players, the frequency with which violent behavior is demonstrated, particularly towards women and children, is not a coincidence.

The league's recent handling of several domestic abuse charges against players makes it clear that the safety and well-being of women and children is secondary to the financial gains made from star players. Delayed reactions and laughable suspensions convey that the league will only take action when their pocket books are in danger. In doing so, the organization has continued its growing reputation of sexism and violence.

So, what is the common denominator amongst NFL players that leads these men to believe that incapacitating their spouses like Ray Rice or in Adrian Peterson's case, splitting open a young child's genitals with a tree branch is tolerable conduct? Perhaps it has something to do with the NFL's pattern of mildly punitive responses toward the violent crimes of players. Felony charges often result in the loss of jobs for non-celebrity peasants like the rest of us. However, as an employee of the NFL, players enjoy the reassurance that, beat their children and wives as they may, the most punishment they'll ever face is a vacation, a minor depletion from their multi-million dollar annual salary, or, in especially brutal cases, some therapy. This is not how to deter violence from entitled men with extraordinary physical capabilities.

Though the organization's legal history is spattered with arrests for violent crimes, some of the NFL's better-known violent criminals still appear on its team's rosters. Michael Vick, charged with animal abuse for torturing dogs and forcing them to fight to death, currently serves as quarterback for the New York Jets. More recently, Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice faced a petty suspension for beating his wife unconscious before the NFL indefinitely suspended him. Clearly undeterred by the 2013 death of his two-year-old son

as a result of domestic violence, Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson was recently arrested on charges of child abuse. Though Peterson was accused of beating his four-year-old son with a tree branch, and covering the child's back side with lacerations, he faced a mere three-game suspension.

All three of these men have made the world a more terrible place. Their notable assaults are awful enough on their own, but what's worse to consider is that they are in a position that kids look up to - in particular, young boys who risk growing up to think the abuse of animals, kids, women, and other people in general is okay.

Provided the league is the recipient of enormous tax breaks and subsidies from our government, it has every responsibility to stand up for oppressed demographics, in particular those it has shown itself to overlook and continually demean (women). Beside the handling of domestic violence charges, the league is notorious for objectifying and taking advantage of its female employees. Cheerleaders for this multi-billion dollar franchise had to fight to be paid even minimum wage, as well as play an outdated role in the hyper-hetero culture the NFL instills.

The fact of the matter is that the NFL has every single right and ability as an incomprehensibly successful franchise to remove stumps like Rice and Peterson from it. There is no reason as to why this has not happened, as no minimally ethical or compassionate human being would place football and surplus funds above the safety and health of others.

Those in charge of the NFL are hell-bent on their own undisputed success at the cost of women and children. They do not care about you; they care about the money you give them. They do not care if your father perversely assaults you, they do not care if your partner nearly beats you to death without a second thought. It means nothing to them, so long as they can still profit.

Abuse is an issue that terrorizes and ends thousands of lives, regardless of race, social status, gender, wealth or religion. There is nothing that justifies assaulting your kid, your partner, or anyone else. It's wrong. It's not ok, no matter who you are. It's uncivilized, it's crude, and it's inhumane. This is not up for debate and this is not controversial.

Be a smart consumer. Give up your fantasy football team. Turn off your television on game day. Make a statement that the NFL is a bully whose actions and words need a change of heart. Boycott the NFL. Boycott CoverGirl and other companies which refuse to forfeit partnership with it. Boycott abuse. It's the NFL vs. the good of mankind. Whose team are you on?

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.

Sports

For NFL, responsibility increases in new media age

THOR THOMPSON
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Since the beginning of professional sports, professional athletes have been branded heroes by fans and kids across the world. The kids grow up imitating their favorite players in ways that only the most avid fan can replicate. From batting stances to touchdown dances, the most impressionable minds watching these nationally televised sports are watching some of the most talented and athletically gifted human beings on Earth and saying to themselves, "that is how I have to do it in order to be great."

However, in the dawn of our new media age, being a role model on the field of play is no longer enough. As the money flows in from advertising and attendance revenue, the media realizes the potential of these sports to achieve juggernaut status. Not only do we see coverage of the games, but now we feel the need to see what is going on in these athletes everyday lives. Which is what leads us to today.

These heroes and role models routinely turn out to be worse than anyone could ever imagine. With domestic violence becoming an increasingly visible occurrence, we finally reached the straw that broke the camel's back.

On Feb. 15 this year, Ray Rice and his then-fiancee Janay Palmer were arrested and charged with simple assault. The charges did nothing to shed light on what actually happened, besides Rice's lawyer saying it was a "minor physical altercation," while the videos released showed something completely different.

The first video released showed Rice dragging an unconscious woman out of the elevator. This should have been enough to warrant immediate action by the NFL, but when the

punishment was handed down it was a mediocre two game suspension. The ensuing backlash was loud, but nowhere near what would come after the second video, from inside the elevator, was released about two weeks ago.

Rice and Palmer both looked intoxicated and were verbally sparring on the way into the casino elevator. After Palmer said something to Rice and came at him, he knocked her off her feet with a left hook without hesitation. Palmer then hit her head on the elevator railing, possibly contributing to her being unconscious. This is when the public had had enough.

The backlash from fans, advertisers, and concerned women and men everywhere was felt immediately as the worlds of sport and national news collided. There were and still are calls for the Commissioner of the NFL to resign or be fired. Still more believed that Rice should be charged criminally, not just suspended indefinitely from the NFL and enrolled in a pretrial intervention program.

As the public microscope was fixed on the case of Rice, the next "hero" was being brought down to Earth.

Adrian Peterson, Minnesota Vikings running back, was being indicted in Houston, Texas for child abuse. This came as a shock to almost everyone. Not only had he used a "switch" on his son and left open wounds and bruises on his arms, legs and back, but when questioned Peterson believed that this was an acceptable form of discipline for his four-year-old, stating that he was disciplined the same way as a child.

Three days later, another case was reported of possible child abuse of another one of Peterson's children. This prompted the NFL to finally take action and place him on the ex-

empt/commissioner's permission list, which bars him from team activities until his legal obligations are finalized.

These are only two high-profile instances of the NFL's long rap sheet that includes domestic violence, DUIs, and now child abuse.

Now with heightened media attention focused on these athletes, there will no longer be a case that is swept under the rug or settled out of court that we do not hear about. This is leading us to believe that corrective actions must be strong and meaningful both financially and criminally.

Perhaps the best course of action for the NFL would be to make an example of these individuals, no matter how important or popular they may be. The time for hiding behind an increasingly measured due process is over. As the individual franchises of the NFL have shown to be incapable of making the correct decisions on these disciplinary actions, the league has to assume the responsibility of cleaning up its own house and making sure that these players understand the consequences of their actions.

Roger Goodell has failed in this task and though they have changed the league protocol to call for a first time offense involving domestic disputes receiving a six game ban, the change has come too little, too late.

The damage to the brand is already done and until the league follows through on their stricter policy, the general public will continue to see their former heroes fall by the way side.

Not only do these punishments need to be just, they need to be quick and decisive. No longer can they hide behind the false ceremony of due process. It's time for the NFL to become a leader and advocate for social change - whether they like it or not.



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News

WALKTOBER, FROM FRONT

receive an array of prizes. "The first week the prize is a CamelBak water bottle," Lynn Peterson, coordinator of sexual assault services at Hendrix, said. The prizes for the second, third and fourth weeks are a Dragon t-shirt, hat, and sweatshirt. The grand prize is a Nike+ Fuelband. Participants win prizes by turning in a slip with a record of their steps every Monday in October by 4 p.m.

at Hendrix. From these slips, names are drawn randomly and emails sent to that week's winner. "It's very important to all of us to get active for our health," she said, adding that for some it might be very easy to get 10,000 steps a day walking back and forth to classes, but for others it can be more challenging. "Now in my case, if I don't work out, no 10,000 steps for me," Peterson said.

"Walking 10,000 steps in one day can seem impossible, but just changing a few things about your daily routine can get you there," Jenna Perreault, chair of the committee for Walktober, said. Perreault listed some examples like walking to class instead of driving, walking during breaks, taking a fitness class, and opting for stairs instead of elevators. "I definitely plan to participate.

This is my favorite program that the wellness educators plan every year," Perreault said. "October is National Walking Month and what better time to get outside and walk when the leaves are changing, temperatures are cool and the colors are amazing?" Health 110 professor Wendy Frappier has similar ideas about Walktober. She is offering extra credit to her students for participat-

ing in the event. Her 10:30 and noon classes will also be competing to see which class gets the most steps. Her classes alone will involve almost 100 students. "I think Walktober is a fabulous idea to promote fitness and movement," Frappier said. "I have participated in the past and may do so this year also to be a role model for my students and help motivate them

CITIZENS, FROM FRONT

"I have no regrets, and I'm proud to be an American citizen," he said. Wisenden admitted the transition to becoming a citizen was a hard one to complete. "Coming from a different place, we have a much different perspective on what it means to be American," he said, adding that one of the greatest aspects of his citizenship is the possibilities it

has provided. "I had the opportunity to build my own life, and that's what I've done," he said. "It gives me the opportunity to provide opportunities for others." The "others" Wisenden referred to are the many students who've enrolled in his classes. Not only does his citizenship allow him to provide opportunities to other Americans, but also

to the numerous international students studying on MSUM's campus. After the motion was made and the oath taken, the new citizens were congratulated by President Obama in a specially recorded video message. MSUM students Emma Allen, Nicole Ward and Amanda Ward also sang the national anthem and "America the Beautiful." While Sept. 17 will be remembered

by each of the inductees as the day they became an American citizen, it is also celebrated as Constitution Day, a coincidence that fit the occasion. Klein closed out the ceremony with some final remarks and congratulations. "I feel very honored to be a part of your special day; the day you become an American citizen," she said.

AWARD, FROM FRONT

four students targeted his home in a drive-by shooting. They fired seven shots into the house, one narrowly missing his two-year-old son. "A drive-by shooting doesn't happen in a small town all that often," Staska said. "A lot of those lessons that we learned in that are applied in many different situations — how students are impacted by things, how com-

munity responds to things, how schools and institutions need to work through situations like that." After Barnesville, Staska served as principal and superintendent at Yellow Medicine East Public Schools in Granite Falls. Following, he was hired as the superintendent of public schools in Cold Spring. Less than a year into Staska's role as superintendent in the new

location, a freshman shot and killed two other students at the high school. Staska was faced with the task of helping a damaged community recover, and looking at the impact a shooting has on a school district. "The traumatic impact — and the extensive recovery — have afforded insights and experiences that I would hope others would

never experience," Staska said. "Turning to good resources, other people that have been through things, learning what other people have done, those things have helped us get through stuff," he added. Throughout his experiences in education, Staska says his family has been the best support group. "I'd say we're a pretty strong and good family, we always sup-

port each other, always encourage each other and we're there for each other no matter what happens," Staska said. Staska's oldest daughter, Becky, agrees. "He is always so strong no matter what he faces," said Becky. "He is always putting others above himself and willing to do whatever he needs to make others happy."



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News

Liddy's Lessons promotes earth-friendly transportation

BY ONIZE OHIKERE
ohikereon@mnstate.edu

Liddy is a lady who grabs the attention of many. "She reminds me of my grandma," MSUM student Laura Braegelmann said. "She looks really sweet."

With her smile and sense of humor, Liddy serves as the "old wise woman" who advises the community to use more earth-friendly transportation through tips under "#LiddysLessons".

The concept of Liddy's Lessons is an effort by the MATBUS public bus service to encourage college students to use eco-friendly transportation. This is the fourth year the company has organized the iGoEco Challenge, with Liddy as a twist to the challenge this year.

"We are trying to encourage people to leave their cars at home at least once every two weeks and try other means of transportation that are more ecofriendly," said Moorhead transit manager Lori Van Beek.

The iGoEco Challenge is a statewide challenge sponsored by a government grant.

The challenge, which began on Sept. 8, runs until Nov. 2. Participants are asked to walk,

carpool, rollerblade, or take the bus once every two weeks. They register at the iGoEco website and log in at least once every two weeks to show they have completed the challenge.

Those who complete the challenge have their names put into a biweekly drawing for different prizes valued at \$500 each. Some of the prizes are an NDSU game day package, a Fargodome ticket package and a 50-inch flat-screen TV with a Blu-Ray player as the grand prize.

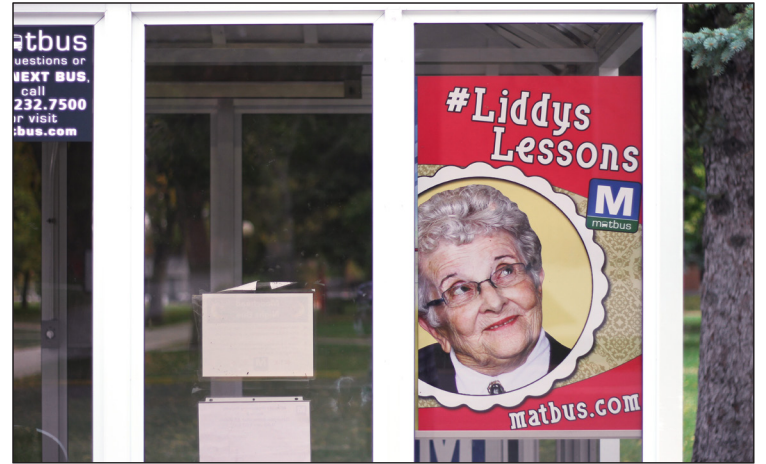
"It's all an incentive to be friendly to the environment while winning prizes," Van Beek said.

Though the challenge has been on for three weeks, some MSUM students still have no idea who Liddy is.

"I've seen her face on posters, especially at the MATBUS station, but I don't really know much about it," said MSUM senior Narjes Al-Bakshy.

Al-Bakshy, who takes the bus to school every day, said although she knows about the iGoEco challenges that have taken place in previous years, she had no idea that the one for this year was ongoing.

"I just wish there was more information about



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Liddy, the face of #LiddysLessons, encourages community members to choose more earth-friendly methods of transportation.

it," she said.

Van Beek explained that they have posters around the bus shelters as well as other means of advertisement.

"We have TV and radio commercials, billboards, and we also sent out emails to colleges to send to students," she said.

More than 400 students have registered for the challenge, but Van Beek said they are hoping for even more.

"Last year we had a little over 600, so we are hoping to get a little more than that," she said.

MATBUS serves the communities of Fargo, West Fargo, Moorhead and Dilworth, and 51 percent of its riders are college students.

"That's good, but it could be a lot more," Van Beek said.

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