

## Headed to the BIG DANCE

### New digital journal started by MSU student

By AMALIA SHARAF  
Staff Writer

A new digital journal, Local Lost Stories, was launched recently by Minnesota State senior Alexandra Tostrud. The journal publishes local historically based stories written by students and alumni.

Tostrud said the journal started as a passion project for one of her communications and media classes at MSU. The project advisor, Amy Lauters, encouraged students to look into different kinds of formats to share stories based on local history.

“One student did a documentary about the punk music scene in Mankato, another student wrote an epistolary story, based on the actual journal of a World War II soldier that was found at the local library archives,” said Tostrud.

The original focus of Local Lost Stories was focused on Minnesota history. However, Tostrud said they have changed the focus of the journal for it to cover more aspects.

“Now we are more opening it up to rather than just Minnesota history, to whatever is local or lost to Minnesota State University students and alumni,” said Tostrud. “This will not only encompass more of an international representation of the university but also a broader community aspect.”

Local Lost Stories is encouraging publishers to use multimedia. Tostrud said they will publish documentaries, podcasts and other interactive media on the website.

“Art photography, podcasts, just anything that students are creating or thinking of creating in their spare time,” said Tostrud. We would love to see it applied to our theme. While we would really like more of a focus on historical stuff and community ties, we also want to see what people are drawn to as a result of their experiences growing up into themselves.”

According to Tostrud, the journal accepts stories from current MSU students, alumni and those who spent some time in the university. While the journal is focused on the historical topics of the area, Tostrud encourages publishers to share their creative works. Additionally, Local Lost Stories wants to have more inter-



Pictured above is Kyreese Willingham (1) who averages 14.3 points per game on 54.8% shooting. The first-seeded Mavericks were crowned NSIC Tournament Champions and now begin the regional tournament on Saturday as they take on eighth-seeded Arkansas Tech on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. in the Taylor Center. This year's NSIC Championship run is the fifth in program history and it is the 15th time the men's basketball program has headed to the NCAA Tournament. Their most successful run was in the 2010-11 season when they won four straight until they lost in the finals. This year the team hopes to bring the trophy home.

DANCE on page 14▶

## ‘Miracle man’ Harrington retires after 33 years

By LUKE JACKSON  
News Editor

Minnesota lives and breathes hockey, and if there's anyone who represents that it is Minnesota State's women hockey coach John Harrington.

From growing up playing hockey as a little kid in Virginia, Minnesota to winning a gold medal with the “Miracle on Ice” hockey team in 1980 to joining the Mavericks nine years ago, Harrington has done it all in the world of hockey. He has embodied the state of hockey's culture and is now retiring after 33 years of doing what he loved.

Harrington spent the majority of his life on the rink. As soon as he was able he laced up his skates and started playing.

“That's all there was to do,” he said.

Before his time as a Maverick, Harrington's career spanned var-

ious facets of the sport, including coaching at high school, Division I and III collegiate levels and coaching international teams in Italy, Switzerland and the Slovenia olympic team. He also scouted professionally for the Colorado Avalanche.

All his experience was only with men's teams and he only had one area left to mark off his list — coaching women's hockey. That's what brought him to Mankato in his finale with the sport.

“I've done a lot of different things, but I never coached women's hockey at that point and it kind of intrigued me,” Harrington said. “During the interview process I told them, I've been at high school, Division I, Division III and in Europe but only with men. Once I got the job, I had a tremendous time coaching the girls.”

As the fourth head coach in

MIRACLE on page 9▶



Courtesy Mavericks Athletics

The Minnesota State's women hockey team head coach John Harrington is retiring after nine years with the team and 33 years of coaching hockey.

JOURNAL on page 9▶

## Communication is the key to understanding more about life



DYLAN LONG • The Reporter

Minnesota State's Maverick Diversity Institute offers a 'Cultural Understanding Workshop' to help students explore new skills and, eventually, intercultural collaborations.

By LAUREN VISKA  
Staff Writer

Maddie Duffield attended the second Cultural Understanding Workshop for her culturally diverse family systems class. But she learned so much more than she thought she would.

"The biggest thing is talking about how different people in different cultures do different things. In my class, we're learning about people's values. If you work with them in a medical setting, it changes how they feel about it," said Duffield. "I think taking what we learned about communicating with people and their different values can be applied to my class. It was helpful to learn."

Minnesota State's Maverick Diversity Institute offers a 'Cultural Understanding Workshop' to help students explore new skills and, eventually, intercultural collaborations. The second workshop, Communication and Conflict Resolution, took place Tuesday in the CSU.

Zeke Sorenson, Director of the LGBT Center, gave a presentation on intercultural communication. One topic they discussed was Hofstede's cultural dimensions, a tool to introduce people to intercultural communication and how to understand how culture can affect communication. Other

models would have been too advanced for students just learning about this topic.

"It's one of the models that is best to introduce the topic and help folks to start to understand those pieces. With the particular audience I had today, I knew it was a majority of students, so more than likely, they were coming into it with little knowledge of how culture actually impacts communication," said Sorenson.

Sorenson said learning about intercultural communication is important because it helps people understand one another and become more of a community.

"It's important to be able to work through conflict so we can solve problems. Without communication, you tend to spend the majority of your time trying to prove who's right, and nothing gets done," said Sorenson. "Especially when it comes to problem-solving or trying to solve a problem. Communication is absolutely key. But it also helps to build relationships."

Thomas Carlson, NtaisNag Vang and Brandt Nye, three graduate intern students from the Counseling Center, gave a presentation on conflict resolution. Nye said learning about this topic is important for college students as it's a significant time in their

**COMMUNICATION on page 9**

## MSU Swing Dance Club teaches students all the right steps



Courtesy of the MSU Swing Dance Club

Minnesota State's Swing Dance Club is formed by students interested in sharing their experiences. The club meets at 8 p.m. on Mondays in the CSU Ballroom.

By BIRUK MENGESHA  
Staff Writer

Minnesota State's Swing Dance Club is formed of students interested in sharing their experiences. The club accepts students with any background in dance — even no background.

Regular meetings occur at 8 p.m. Mondays in the CSU Ballroom.

When not there, they usually change to the flexible programming space found in the same building on the basement level floor.

"The idea of the club is to have a place that's welcoming for all different types of people to kind of learn how to dance," said Joseph Albright, co-president of the club. "It's easy to learn so a huge advantage in space that we create is that it's welcoming for new people to come in."

Albright said the focus of the dances is partner dancing. A type of dance consisting of two individuals with different roles.

"We try to focus on the Six Step East Coast Swing Dance because that's really our bread and butter," Albright added. "You'll notice all of the types of dances are partner dances."

So traditionally that's your lead that's traditionally a male that follows traditionally a female and we get to do all the fun spins and dips."

Ben Baumgardner, acting as co-president with Joseph Albright, mentioned his experience since joining the club.

Working with the club for about two years, he mentions the different changes that have occurred in the club.

"The community has changed a lot since I first started, there were a lot of juniors and seniors and since then, Joseph and I became co-presidents. We had similar students for one year and the next year pretty much changed to another group," Baumgardner stated.

"I like seeing it because, within the group, everyone has their own micro group based on their friend

groups."

A typical week for a co-president is different, commonly communicating through group chat.

Baumgardner mentions that people spend a week to plan for teaching a lesson. At some meetings "you can notice the difference between lessons that are planned and one's that are not."

Baumgardner explains what students commonly learn from a typical session.

Going on to mention the different groups they get to interact with at a meeting.

"The big thing students learn from the club is to be social. They are in an environment with someone they probably don't know and dance with them for maybe about an hour. And then send them forth after our lesson to free dance with the mini groups of friends."

Club member Noah Gould commented on his first experience when joining the club.

"I initially joined the club because all my other friends were

**SWING on page 10**

 MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO

GREAT JOB, MAVERICK MEN'S  
& WOMEN'S BASKETBALL!

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PRESIDENT INCH

# Students spend spring break giving back

By EPHRATA BEZUAYENE  
Staff Writer

Twelve students traveled to Kansas City, Missouri, on an “alternative spring break” to engage in community service. The trip lasted five days, from Saturday, March 2nd, to Wednesday, March 6th.

“Alternative Spring Break is pretty much what it sounds like. It’s a trip during spring break where students travel to another city to volunteer and learn about communities and systems that are social justice oriented,” said Crystal Watts, interim Assistant Director for Community Engagement and lead advisor and planner for the trip. “They get to have all the fun, but they get to do it in a cost-effective way and in a way that is helpful to other communities.”

This trip is the third consecutive trip to Kansas City in five years. The choice of destination was made primarily for its warmer climate and its geographical location. The Village Presbyterian Church hosted the volunteers in their youth loft, which helped keep costs down.

The goal of the trip was to give students the chance to work with nonprofits, volunteer for up to 20 hours in three days, and give back to the community while also taking advantage of the city’s attractions with fellow students.

“I would say it’s a great opportunity to get to know people that are at your school that you might not know. Because there was someone in one of my classes last year that I had never talked to. But on the trip, I got to know more about him and learn where he was from. I also got to learn how privileged I am to be a college



JASON ASTEROS • The Associated Press

Over spring break twelve students traveled to Kansas City Missouri for alternative spring break to engage in a number of volunteering opportunities including helping out Habitat for Humanity.

student,” said Pria Wills, a student volunteer.

Every year, volunteers work with different types of organizations. This year, students collaborated with a variety of organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, a nonprofit that builds homes for low-income families.

“Habitat for Humanity was a lot of fun because many of the students have never used regular tools, let alone power tools. They got to learn how to measure and cut; they got to learn that whole process. They worked on two separate houses within the same neighborhood; they were literally putting walls together,” said Watts. “They got to see parts of historic neighborhoods in Kansas City get revitalized.”

They volunteered at Kanbe’s Markets, a nonprofit food rescue and redistribution program that delivers fresh and affordable meals to individuals facing food insecurity.

“I experienced a different view on things,” said Wills. “When we were doing the food community service, they told us that grocery stores were removed from half of the town, so they didn’t have any way to get fresh groceries unless it was from a gas station. That made me think of how accessible it is for me to get fresh groceries because I can just go to Walmart, but they must drive halfway across the state to get something.”

The group also worked with the Humane Society of Greater Kansas City, a nonprofit that oversees the nation’s biggest shelter for abandoned animals.

“Students really loved the Humane Society. When we were done, they released puppies into the yard, and they got to play for a good 45 minutes, while others were allowed to go into the cat habitats to play with the cats and kittens,” said Watts.

The team also revisited Kansas

GIVING on page 9▶

# Muslims around the world observe holy month of Ramadan



BINSAR BAKKARA • The Associated Press

Students perform a prayer during the first day of the holy fasting month of Ramadan at Ar-Raudlatul Hasanah Islamic Boarding School in Medan, North Sumatra, Indonesia, Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

By The Associated Press

Muslims around the world are observing the holy month of Ramadan, with worship, charity, dawn-to-dusk fasting and nightly feasts.

Muslims gather for prayers inside mosques in Indonesia, Kashmir, Pakistan and Turkey. They gather outside at New York’s Times Square and in the Gaza Strip.

Messages recognizing Ramadan light the sky in Turkey and Germany.

Volunteers distribute food to people breaking their fast in Pakistan.

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Muslims eat a sunset meal at a mosque.

In Rafah in southern Gaza, Palestinians buy food for a pre-dawn meal. Ramadan this year

comes as the Middle East remains inflamed by the ongoing Israel-Hamas war in Gaza, and many in the enclave are going hungry. Even where food is available, there is little beyond canned goods, and prices are high.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar and begins with the sighting of the crescent moon.

For many of the world’s 1.8 billion Muslims, fasting began Monday, after an announcement from officials in Saudi Arabia, which is home to the holiest places in Islam.

Muslim communities may start Ramadan on different days, due to declarations by multiple Islamic authorities around the globe on whether the crescent has been sighted or different methodologies used to determine the start of the month.

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MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO

# ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING

## Parking & Transportation Policies, Budget, and Capital Improvements

**Thursday, March 14, 2024**  
**CSU 201 • Noon - 1:30 P.M.**

**Face-to-Face Meeting**

Please email your comments or concerns to: [david.cowan@mnsu.edu](mailto:david.cowan@mnsu.edu) by 10 a.m., March 14, 2024.

### Hearing Docket

- 1) Parking permit rates to increase overall by 5.5% over this year's rates to address predicted personnel cost increase for 10 FTE financed in whole or part by the Parking Fund. Recast of FY'25 \$1.743M overall revenue forecast includes residence hall permit sales surge and predicted fine collections increases.
- 2) Citation fines to increase by \$3 on a \$35 ticket, and \$3 on a \$30 citation. First change in 8 years and should act as a better deterrence. No ticket quota exists but income estimates assume a certain non-conforming spirit to contribute to generate the expected 9,000 tickets. Compromise includes a warning ticket for 1st time violators during 1st week of Fall Semester.
- 3) Free parking privileges would continue to be provided in Lot 23 ("Free Lot"), which is a high priority of Student Government. In lieu of this no permit stance, the fine increase for tickets was viewed as a compromise.
- 4) Personnel increases mandated by recent collective bargaining unit settlements are reflected within \$1,622,500 spending plan along with other inflationary driven triggers. A 6/30/25 year-end balance of \$121,444 is hope for to further reduce the \$1 million internal interest-free 2022 loan which will have been reduced by half since Lot 1 underwent extensive repairs.
- 5) Sustainability Fee to Replace Existing Green Transportation: A proposed \$1.44 per credit hour Sustainability Fee would be put in place but with a similar reduction of \$1.44 per credit hour when measured in this year's Student Activity Fee. Fee committed exclusively to busing operations traditionally known as the "U-Zone" and may generate the hoped for \$409,200, the same amount allocated for this year from Activity Fees. No net gain in fees.



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Constituency	Parking and Transportation Advisory Committee	Parking Citation Appeals Board
Administration or Excluded or MAPE (Minnesota Association of Professional Employees)	David Cowan, Advisory Committee Chair	Casey Boone, MAPE
Classified Employees	Mike Hulscher	Not Applicable
I/O (Inter-Faculty Organization/Faculty Association)	Matthew Loeslie	Mary Hadley
Student Government On-Campus Res. Community	Reed Boeckermann	Jacob Glogowski
Student Government Off-Campus Res. Community	Roshit Niraula	Vacant
MSUAASF (Minnesota State University Association of Administrative & Service Faculty)	Greg Wilkins	Jeremy Riesenber and Lindsay Henderson
Ex-officio Nonvoting - Parking & Traffic Services Coordinator; Parking Citation Appeals Board Liason	Adam Kruger	Appeals Board Liason
Ex-officio Nonvoting - Planning & Construction Department Liason	Nathan Huettl	Not Applicable
Ex-officio Nonvoting - Office of Residential Life	Matt Burns	Not Applicable
Ex-officio Nonvoting - Residence Comm. Assoc. President	Sammy Higgins	Not Applicable
Ex-officio Nonvoting - Grounds Maintenance Department	Adam Morris	Not Applicable
Ex-officio Nonvoting - AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees)	Vacant	Deb Sanford
Ex-officio Nonvoting - University Scheduling	Jane Kolars	Not Applicable
Ex-officio Nonvoting - Student Government President	Sierra Roiger	Not Applicable

<https://www.mnsu.edu/spring-2023-parking-hearing>

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# Plan to install new leaders in Haiti crumbles

By DANICA COTO and EVENS SANON  
The Associated Press

A proposal to install new leadership in Haiti appeared to be crumbling Wednesday as some political parties rejected the plan to create a presidential council that would manage the transition.

The panel would be responsible for selecting an interim prime minister and a council of ministers that would attempt to chart a new path for the Caribbean country that has been overrun by gangs. The violence has closed schools and businesses and disrupted daily life across Haiti.

Jean Charles Moïse, an ex-senator and presidential candidate who has teamed up with former rebel leader Guy Philippe, held a news conference Wednesday to announce his rejection of the proposed council backed by the international community.

Moïse insisted that a three-person presidential council he recently created with Philippe and a Haitian judge should be implemented.

"We are not going to negotiate it," he said in a loud voice as he wiped his forehead with a handkerchief. "We have to make them understand."

His ally Philippe, who helped lead a successful revolt in 2004 against former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and was recently released from a U.S. prison after pleading guilty to money laundering, said no Haitian should accept any proposal from the international community.

In a video posted Tuesday on social media, Philippe accused the



ODELYN JOSEPH • The Associated Press

Pedestrians and commuters fill a street in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

community of being complicit with Haiti's elite and corrupt politicians and urged Haitians to take to the streets.

"The decision of Caricom is not our decision," he said, referring to the regional trade bloc whose leaders presented the plan to create a transitional council. "Haitians will decide who will govern Haiti."

Other high-profile Haitian politicians declined to participate in the proposed transitional council. Among them were Himmler Rébu, former colonel of Haiti's army and president of the Grand Rally for the Evolution of Haiti, a party that is

part of a coalition awarded a spot on the transitional council.

He said in a statement that the party prefers that a judge from Haiti's Supreme Court assume the reins of power.

Rébu added that the party is "ashamed and angry" upon seeing "the search for positions of power that do not take into account the responsibilities attached to them."

Meanwhile, a former senator, Sorel Jacinthe, and a young politician, Jorchemy Jean Baptiste, both supporters of Prime Minister Ariel Henry and the Dec. 21 coalition that backs him, called Radio

Caribes separately Wednesday to argue why their choice for the transitional council was the best one.

Caribbean leaders who announced the plan for the transitional council did not respond to messages for comment.

The plan emerged late Monday following an urgent meeting involving Caribbean leaders, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and others who were searching for a solution to halt Haiti's crisis of violence.

Hours after the meeting, Henry announced Tuesday that he would resign once the council was in

place, saying that his government "cannot remain insensitive to this situation."

Henry remains locked out of Haiti because gang attacks have shuttered the country's airports.

He is currently in Puerto Rico.

The gang attacks began Feb. 29, when Henry was in Kenya to push for the U.N.-backed deployment of a Kenyan police force. The deployment has been temporarily suspended.

"My concern is that the longer there is a power vacuum and an effort to figure out a way forward on the political side, every day that delays resolutions, many, many people are dying," said William O'Neill, the U.N.'s independent expert on human rights in Haiti.

Armed men in the capital of Port-au-Prince have set fire to police stations and stormed the country's two biggest prisons, releasing more than 4,000 inmates.

Among those who fled are gang leaders of at least seven communities, according to a new report by the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti, known as BINUH.

As of March 10, gunmen attacked, looted or torched at least 30 state institutions, more than 600 homes and private businesses and nearly 500 public and private vehicles, BINUH said.

Gangs also have attacked neighborhoods in a rampage that has left scores dead and more than 15,000 homeless.

More than 130 people were killed between Feb. 27 and March 8. Meanwhile, at least 40 gang members were killed between Feb. 29 and March 10, according to BINUH.

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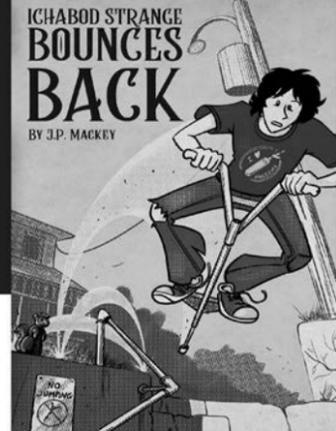


## Author Talk with James Mackey

1st floor Memorial Library  
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7:00 — 8:00 pm  
Light refreshments are provided

James Mackey. Author and illustrator of *Faster than Speed*, *Bernie and the Deadbeats*, *The House of Ichabod Strange* and *Ichabod Strange Bounces Back*.

The event is free and open to the public. Free parking available after 6:30 p.m.



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# Biden and Trump clinch nominations

By STEVE PEOPLES  
AP National Political Writer

President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump clinched their parties' presidential nominations Tuesday with decisive victories in a slate of low-profile primaries, setting up a general election rematch that many voters do not want.

The outcome of contests across Georgia, Mississippi and Washington state was never in doubt. Neither Biden, a Democrat, nor Trump, a Republican, faced major opposition. But the magnitude of their wins gave each man the delegate majority he needed to claim his party's nomination at the summertime national conventions.

Not even halfway through the presidential primary calendar, Tuesday marked a crystalizing moment for a nation uneasy with its choices in 2024.

There is no longer any doubt that the fall election will feature a rematch between two flawed and unpopular presidents. At 81, Biden is already the oldest president in U.S. history, while the 77-year-old Trump is facing decades in prison as a defendant in four criminal cases. Their rematch — the first featuring two U.S. presidents since 1912 — will almost certainly deepen the nation's searing political and cultural divides over the eight-



AP File

This combo image shows President Joe Biden, left, Jan. 5, 2024, and Republican presidential candidate former President Donald Trump, right, Jan. 19, 2024.

month grind that lies ahead.

In a statement, Biden celebrated the nomination while casting Trump as a serious threat to democracy.

Trump, Biden said, "is running a campaign of resentment, revenge,

and retribution that threatens the very idea of America."

He continued, "I am honored that the broad coalition of voters representing the rich diversity of the Democratic Party across the country have put their faith in me

once again to lead our party — and our country — in a moment when the threat Trump poses is greater than ever."

Trump, in a video posted on social media, celebrated what he called "a great day of victory."

"But now we have to get back to work because we have the worst president in the history of our country," Trump said of Biden. "So, we're not going to take time to celebrate. We'll celebrate in eight months when the election is over."

Both candidates dominated Tuesday's primaries in swing-state Georgia, deep-red Mississippi and Democratic-leaning Washington. Trump also won Hawaii's Republican caucus.

Despite their tough talk, the road ahead will not be easy for either presumptive nominee.

Trump is facing 91 felony counts in four criminal cases involving his handling of classified documents and his attempt to overturn the 2020 election, among other alleged crimes. He's also facing increasingly pointed questions about his policy plans and relationships with some of the world's most dangerous dictators. Trump met privately on Friday with Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, who has rolled back democracy in his country.

Biden, who would be 86 years old at the end of his next term, is working to assure a skeptical electorate that he's still physically and mentally able to thrive in the world's most important job. Voters in both parties are unhappy with his handling of immigration and inflation.

## GOOD LUCK MAVERICK MEN'S & WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAMS!



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PHONE: 507-625-8005

# Putin is set to win six more years in power

The Associated Press

Vladimir Putin is poised to sweep to another six-year term in this week's presidential election, even though Russians are dying in Ukraine in a war grinding through its third year and his country is more isolated than ever from the rest of the world.

The all-but-certain outcome comes through his rigid control of Russia established during his 24 years in power — the longest Kremlin tenure since Soviet leader Josef Stalin.

Putin, 71, has silenced virtually all dissent through harsh new laws that impose heavy fines or prison on independent voices.

Critics have succumbed to unexplained deaths or fled abroad. The ballot features three other token candidates who publicly support his policies.

How is the war affecting the election?

Putin has focused his campaign on a pledge to fulfill his goals in Ukraine, describing the conflict as a battle against the West for the very survival of Russia and its 146 million people.

In a state-of-the-nation address last month, he charged that the U.S. and its NATO allies "need a dependent, waning, dying space in the place of Russia so that they can do whatever they want."

Putin has repeatedly argued that he sent in the troops in February 2022 to protect Russian speakers in eastern Ukraine and prevent Kyiv from posing a major security threat to Moscow by joining NATO.

Ukraine and its allies describe the Russian invasion — the largest conflict in Europe since World



MIKHAIL METZEL • AP File

Russian President Vladimir Putin meets with residents following a visit to the Solnechniy Dar greenhouse complex, part of the ECO-Culture agro-industrial holding, outside Stavropol, Russia, on Tuesday, March 5, 2024.

War II — as an unprovoked act of aggression by the major nuclear power.

He says Russian forces have the upper hand after the failure of Ukraine's counteroffensive last year, arguing that Ukraine and the West will "sooner or later" have to accept a settlement on Moscow's terms. Putin praised his troops fighting in Ukraine and promised to make them Russia's new elite.

Ordinary Russians know little of their military's many setbacks in the war, with casualties out of view and state-run media carrying ac-

counts only of Moscow's successes.

How is the economy affecting the election?

The economy's resilience in the face of bruising Western sanctions is a big factor behind Putin's grip on power in Russia, a major player in the global energy sector. The economy is expected to grow 2.6% this year, according to the International Monetary Fund, compared with the 0.9% expansion predicted in Europe. Inflation is forecast at more than 7% but unemployment remains low.

Military industries have become

a key growth engine, with defense plants churning out missiles, tanks and ammunition. Hefty payments to hundreds of thousands of men who signed contracts with the military have helped boost consumer demand, contributing to economic growth.

In his campaign, Putin has promised to extend cheap mortgages subsidized by the government to help young families, particularly those with children, boosting his popularity and energizing the booming construction sector.

He also pledged to pour more government funds into health care, education, science, culture and sports, while continuing efforts to eradicate poverty.

What impact is the crackdown having?

Putin has methodically tightened control on Russian politics since becoming president in 2000, pushing through constitutional changes that can keep him in power until 2036.

The Kremlin's crackdown on dissent reached unprecedented heights after the invasion of Ukraine, leaving a scorched-earth political landscape ahead of the vote.

A repressive new law approved days after the invasion criminalized any public criticism of the war, and protests have become effectively impossible with police swiftly dispersing unauthorized gatherings.

The number of arrests, criminal cases and trials has soared, and long prison terms are more common.

Putin has denigrated opposition activists and war critics as spoiled Western stooges, once describing them as "foam washed away" by his "special military operation."

His biggest critic, Alexei Navalny, was serving a 19-year sentence on extremism charges when he died at age 47 in an Arctic penal colony.

Other leading opposition figures also got long prison terms comparable to those given to "enemies of the people" during Stalinist repressions.

Prominent Kremlin foe, Vladimir Kara-Murza got the harshest sentence of 25 years on treason charges over an anti-war speech.

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# Editorial

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## Get out and support your school

Within the first few hours of being on campus, college students are encouraged to get involved with a variety of clubs, study hard and most importantly, attend as many events as they can thrown by their school. Whether it's recreational, artistic or sporting events, it's important for students to show up and support their school.

Going to as many school events as possible opens students' eyes to new opportunities. By attending events we wouldn't normally go to, we can find new hobbies and interests we never would have considered in the first place. A lot of school-related events on campus are free or cost very little. Opportunities to go to sporting events, concerts and plays are harder when we're working a full-time job and have other responsibilities. Going to school events can also allow us to meet new people who may turn out to be our best friends or even significant other. We should get out of our comfort zones and try something new. Getting involved on campus also helps boost school spirit and the sense of community on campus. Plays and concerts are other students showing up to support the talents of their friends and classmates. Sporting events allow students to yell and cheer as a collective student body against the rival schools. It doesn't matter what major students are, where they came from or what they do in their free time. They're all there to support what their school has to offer and show off their pride.

When we take time to get out and do fun activities, it can help benefit ourselves. Attending these events allow us to step away from the stressors of school and enjoy other aspects of campus. Some organizations on campus, such as playing intramural sports, can get us up and moving, giving us much-needed exercise after sitting and studying all day. Doing activities with our friends can boost our energy and mood. We need reminders every now and then that we aren't just strictly students; we're allowed to have fun as well. The easiest part about supporting your school is there the plethora of clubs, organizations and events suited to fit every student's interests. If students don't see anything that pertains to them, they can start their own club. Whether their interests are athletic, academic or getting involved with local organizations, they can join one or several to fit their schedules. All students should be encouraged to join at least one organization as it can open many doors for them. If students don't want to get involved, going to events that support clubs and organizations on campus can still help them show their Maverick spirit.

Students are in college for a few short years. Living a lifestyle where we can attend several free events and go to numerous events, games and concerts is something that should be taken advantage of. We should go to as many school-related events as we can while we're a Maverick. It's better to go to an event and leave early due to disinterest than to not go and think about what could have happened.

# Perspectives

## Oscars too white and too straight



Flickr photo

In 2015 April Reign started the hashtag #OscarsSoWhite on the social media site X, formerly (and currently) known as Twitter. The hashtag was intended to draw attention to the lack of racial diversity among Oscar winners and nominees.

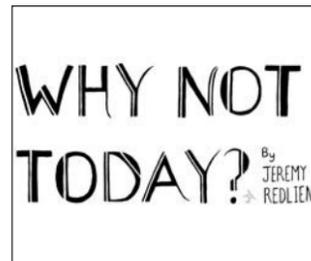
"#OscarsSoWhite they asked to touch my hair," wrote Reign.

The tweet started trending and soon many other people started using the hashtag to mock Hollywood and point out various examples of racism in the film industry.

If I might riff off of Reign's hashtag, I would say, "Oscars-SoStraight, they've started multiple forest fires with all their gender reveal parties."

With that said, the Oscars do have a problem when it comes to giving awards to either people of color or queer filmmakers.

While there has been progress, this problem was



still present during the 2024 Oscars.

For example, while it is possible to justify Emma Stone's win over Lily Gladstone in the best actress category, it doesn't change the fact that only two women of color have won best actress in a leading performance ever.

A Lily Gladstone win would have also been nice to see, given Gladstone uses they/them pronouns.

Although I haven't found anything where they specifically identify as non-binary, Gladstone has spoken out about why they use they/them pronouns.

"I remember being 9 years

old and just being a little disheartened, seeing how often a lot of my boy cousins were misgendered because they wore their hair long," Gladstone told The Hollywood Reporter.

"It happens to a lot of kids, I think, especially Native boys leaving a community where long hair is celebrated [and then] just kind of getting teased for it. So I remember back then being like, everybody should just be they."

Thus far, there has never been an openly gay man to win Best Actor, a fact Ian McKellen testified to when he was nominated in 1999.

"No openly gay man has ever won the Oscar; I wonder if that is prejudice or chance," Ian McKellen remarked at the time.

In other words, "#Oscars-SoStraight, their stud finder has its own man cave."

Furthermore, there has **COLUMN on page 11**

# Pulse

### "What do you do for St. Patrick's Day?"

Compiled by Dylan Long



NIANA GALMESSA, SENIOR

"Like to go out with friends"



ETHAN WALTERS, JUNIOR

"I don't go out of my way to celebrate."



ANJIE GUZIK, JUNIOR

"I go to St. Paul's Patrick's Day Parade."



ARIANNA MOORE, SOPHOMORE

"I don't do much but my favorite color is green."



DYLAN AUSET, SOPHOMORE

"I hang out with friends."



JERREN GIESE, SOPHOMORE

"I don't go out of my way to celebrate."

# Miracle: 'The game cemented itself in sports history'



**AP File**  
The U.S. hockey team humps on goalie Jim Craig after a 4-3 victory against the Soviet Union in the 1980 Olympics, as a flag waves from the Lake Placid, N.Y., crowd

## ◀Miracle from page 1

MSU women's hockey history, Harrington finished with an 85-198-25 overall record, second in all-time wins. Harrington said that some of his favorite memories were playing against the top teams in the world.

In his 2015 inaugural year the Mavs took down No. 3 Minnesota Duluth and in 2018 they defeated the South Korean National Team.

In 2019, they had a 3-0 shut-out win versus No.6 Ohio State. Harrington captured his first win against the No. 1 ranked Wisconsin Badgers. He also beat the Minnesota Gophers in Mariucci Arena in 2022 and at Ridder Arena this year.

He also cherishes his memories off the ice.

"For me it's been fun to just get to know the girls and be able to not only coach them in hockey but also in life," Harrington said. "I tell them to become a champion you have to be champions in other areas of your life. You've got to approach academics like a champion, you have to behave socially like a champion. And if you do that, you're going to be a success wherever you choose to go when you leave Mankato."

As he steps away from his coaching duties he will remain in Mankato as he takes on the role of Special Assistant to the Athletic Director before his full retirement from the University June 30.

"We are profoundly indebted to Coach Harrington for his many years of outstanding and dedicated service to Maverick women's hockey," said Athletics Director Kevin Buisman in a press

release on the Maverick Athletics site. "John is an iconic figure in the game of hockey and will long be remembered for his role as a member of the 1980 Miracle on Ice Olympic gold medal team. I believe that experience helped inspire his desire to give back to the sport. We are fortunate that he was so deeply invested in sharing that passion with others. We will miss having him on the bench in the years ahead, but we wish John, Mary and his family nothing but the best in his retirement years."

In college Harrington joined the University of Minnesota Duluth's hockey program as a walk-on. After four years on the team he was selected as one of 12 Minnesota hockey players to play for the 1980 olympic hockey team coached by Herb Brooks. Harrington made every cut and was placed on the olympic roster for the 1980's game at Lake Placid, New York.

The team went on to defeat the highly favored Soviet Union team 4-3 in the heat of the Cold War. Harrington assisted on Mike Eruzione's game winning goal in the third period. Two days later, the team took home gold in a 4-2 victory against Finland.

The game was coined the "Miracle on Ice."

"When we joined we were just trying to impress Herb Brooks," Harrington said. "We had no idea the impression our game against the Soviet Union was having on the country and even around the world of hockey."

"When we got home so many people were talking about us and so many were anxious to see our team and tell us how much we

meant to them and to our country after winning the Olympic Games."

The game cemented itself in sports history so much that Disney wanted to capture the underdog story. In 2004, the blockbuster film "Miracle" hit theaters to tell the story of how a group of college kids took down one of the best hockey teams to date.

"I think it was good," Harrington said. "There were a few things that were Hollywood-ized or dramatized but it showed a good story. I've had players from all levels that tell me they watch that movie before big games and that's exciting to me knowing our story meant that much to them."

As Harrington approaches retirement he is not fully done with hockey. He says that he and his wife are excited to go watch his six grandkids play the sport and look forward to cheering them on and buying them whatever they want from the concessions.

He will also hit the golf course more and play pickleball with his wife.

"I look forward to staying connected and being a fan of Minnesota State University athletics," Harrington said. "I will continue to be supportive of Maverick Women's Hockey and cheering on the team's accomplishments. After 33 years of college coaching along with seven years of professional coaching and scouting, it is time to experience other things in life with my wife Mary, and enjoy watching our grandchildren in their school events and sports. I am certain I will be coaching from the seats and the sidelines."

aged, or at least better handled, if there were more people with communication skills."

One thing Duffield said surprised her was when Sorenson showed a picture of an iceberg where the whole iceberg was showing. It showed 20% of the iceberg is visible, and 80% is invisible. Sorenson chose to use this photo because it shows communicating with people is more than just verbal; it's also nonverbal.

"I didn't realize such a big number is kept inside and only a small amount, as shown, because I feel like a lot is shown. It was just very surprising to see," said Duffield.

The third workshop will be held from 5-6:30 p.m. April 9 in CSU 245. The topic for this workshop is Stereotypes & Collaboration. Students can register for this free workshop on Mav Central under events.

## ◀GIVING from page 3

City Parks and Recreation, an organization they had worked with in previous years. They helped prepare the Laura Conyers Smith Municipal Rose Garden for the summer season. Schedules were switched up for this year's trip to ensure that students could effectively use their spring break. In previous years, the trip would have lasted longer. This time, the trip was shortened by leaving early and returning early, giving students the chance to fully plug into the experience and use the rest of their break to catch up with schoolwork or enjoy a few extra days to relax and unwind.

The group had a "fun day" devoted to doing thrilling activities like going to the Kansas City wheel and viewing the city light from a giant Ferris wheel at night. During the day, they went to the Missouri River, shopped at several city plazas, and visited

the Kansas City markets, which are open-air marketplaces with a wide range of foreign delicacies.

"I got to try Ethiopian food for the first time, it was fantastic," said Watts. "For a lot of students, that market really reminds them of home because they come from places that have those types of open-air markets," said Watts.

The trip was designed to be a reflective experience. Reflection periods were implemented after each volunteer work, where they discussed the things they saw, did, and people they worked with. How humans cause problems, but how humans can also come together and help solve those problems.

"It's a cost-effective way to travel, but at the same time it is service learning, so that we don't just show up and have an Instagram moment and leave. We go, and we learn about the organization," said Watts.

## ◀JOURNAL from page 1

People can find us at local-stories.com. The link will take you directly to the page that has the current stuff and then some things do take you to external links, for example we host our documentaries on YouTube," said Tostrud.

International students and students out of the Midwest area are encouraged to submit their stories as well. The first issue was published this month. It is available for readers on the website.

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# Winter storm washes away \$600k of protection in Massachusetts



PETER PEREIRA • The Associated Press

The remnants of East Beach Road are damaged after heavy overnight winds and surf battered the coastline, Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2024 in Westport, Mass. Salisbury, Mass.

The Associated Press

A Massachusetts beach community is scrambling after a weekend storm washed away mountains of sand trucked in for a nearly \$600,000 dune that was meant to protect homes, roads and other infrastructure.

The project, which brought in 14,000 tons (12,701 metric tonnes) of sand over several weeks in Salisbury, was completed just three days before Sunday's storm clobbered southern New England with strong winds, heavy rainfall and coastal flooding.

The Salisbury Beach Citizens for Change group, which facilitated the project and helped raise funds, posted on social media about the project's completion last week and then again after the storm. They argued the project still was worthwhile, noting that "the sacrificial dunes did their job" and protected some properties from being "eaten up" by the storm.

It's the latest round of severe

storms in the community and across Massachusetts, which already suffered flooding, erosion and infrastructure damage in January.

Sand replenishment has been the government's go-to method of shore protection for decades. Congress has long appropriated money for such work, arguing it effectively protects lives and property and sustains the tourism industry.

But critics say it's inherently wasteful to keep pumping sand ashore that will inevitably wash away.

Climate change is forecast to bring more bad weather, such as hurricanes, to the Northeast as waters warm, some scientists say. Worldwide, sea levels have risen faster since 1900, putting hundreds of millions of people at risk, the United Nations has said. And erosion from the changing conditions jeopardizes beaches the world over, according to European Union researchers.

Salisbury is also not the first

town to see its efforts literally wash away.

Earlier this year, after a storm destroyed its dunes, one New Jersey town sought emergency permission to build a steel barrier — something it had done in two other spots — along the most heavily eroded section of its beachfront after spending millions of dollars trucking sand to the site for over a decade. The state denied the request and instead fined North Wildwood for unauthorized beach repairs. The Department of Environmental Protection has often opposed bulkheads, noting that the structures often encourage sand scouring that can accelerate and worsen erosion.

State Sen. Bruce Tarr, who is working to secure \$1.5 million in state funding to shore up the Salisbury dunes, says the efforts will protect a major roadway, water and sewer infrastructure as well as hundreds of homes — which make up 40% of Salisbury's tax base.

## Swing: 'There are many different reasons for joining'

◀SWING from page 2

doing it. I hadn't danced before in my life. I wasn't good at it at first, but the more I did it, the better I got. That just motivated me to come back and keep trying to get better."

Gould mentioned that there are different reasons for joining the club.

"Meeting new people" and fostering a "unique chemistry with everyone" were motivating reasons for him.

Sophomore Abby Skwira said she joined because her friends did.

"I like going to the dance club, it's good for the exercise and it's also good to meet new people," Skwira said. "I unlocked a bit of a passion for sure."

Skwira said there are many reasons to join the club. More importantly, students who are interested in joining the club can get more out of it other than meeting new people.

"I say just have fun with it and don't be afraid to go dance with other people. I was kind of stuck with the same two or three partners the first couple of times because I was afraid to go talk to other people," Skwira mentioned. "But it's nice to learn new skills from different people because everybody's been going there for a different number of times."

Mady Sellner, currently enrolled as a PSEO, with experiences in theatre and dance mentions her experiences and why she joined the club.

"I joined because my friends were in it. It's just a new way to expand our skills. I would say it's a great thing to look forward to on a Monday, with a great community and environment."

Sellner added that there may be different reasons to join the club. People who want to join should be "open minded" as there are many interesting things in the club, it just requires following through with it.

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# The House passes a bill that could lead to a TikTok ban



SCOTT APLEWHITE • The Associated Press

Devotees of TikTok cheer their support to passing motorists at the Capitol in Washington, before the House passed a bill that would lead to a nationwide ban of the popular video app if its China-based owner doesn't sell.

By KEVIN FREKING, HALELUYA HADERO and MARY CLARE JALONICK  
The Associated Press

The House on Wednesday passed a bill that would lead to a nationwide ban of the popular video app TikTok if its China-based owner doesn't sell its stake, as lawmakers acted on concerns that the company's current ownership structure is a national security threat.

The bill, passed by a vote of 352-65, now goes to the Senate, where its prospects are unclear.

TikTok, which has more than 150 million American users, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Chinese technology firm ByteDance Ltd.

The lawmakers contend that ByteDance is beholden to the Chinese government, which could demand access to the data of TikTok's consumers in the U.S. any time it wants. The worry stems from a set of Chinese national security laws that compel organizations to assist with intelligence gathering.

"We have given TikTok a clear choice," said Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Wash. "Separate from your parent company ByteDance, which is beholden to the CCP (the Chinese Communist Party), and remain operational in the United States, or side with the CCP and face the consequences. The choice is TikTok's."

House passage of the bill is only the first step. The Senate would also need to pass the measure for it to become law, and lawmakers in that chamber indicated it would undergo a thorough review. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said he'll have to consult with relevant committee chairs to determine the bill's path.

President Joe Biden has said if Congress passes the measure, he will sign it.

The House vote is the latest example of increased tensions between China and the U.S. By targeting TikTok, lawmakers are tackling what they see as a grave threat to America's national security — but also singling out a platform popular with millions of people, many of whom skew younger, just months before an election.

A TikTok spokesperson, Alex Haurek, said in a statement after the vote that the bill was jammed through as part of a secretive process.

"We are hopeful that the Senate will consider the facts, listen to their constituents, and realize the impact on the economy, 7 million small businesses, and the 170 million Americans who use our service," Haurek said.

In anticipation of the vote, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesman, Wang Wenbin, accused Washington of resorting to political tools when U.S. businesses fail to compete. He said the effort would disrupt normal business operations and undermine investor confidence "and will eventually backfire on the U.S. itself."

Overall, 197 Republican lawmakers voted for the measure and 15 against. On the Democratic side, 155 voted for the bill and 50 against.

Some Republican opponents of the bill said the U.S. should warn consumers if there are data privacy and propaganda concerns, but the final choice should be left with consumers.

"The answer to authoritarianism is not more authoritarianism," said Rep. Tom McClintock, R-Calif. "The answer to CCP-style propaganda is not CCP-style oppression. Let us slow down before we blunder down this very steep and slippery slope."

Democrats also warned of the impact a ban would have on users in the U.S., including entrepreneurs and business owners. One

of the no votes came from Rep. Jim Himes, the ranking Democratic member of the House Intelligence Committee.

"One of the key differences between us and those adversaries is the fact that they shut down newspapers, broadcast stations, and social media platforms. We do not," Himes said. "We trust our citizens to be worthy of their democracy. We do not trust our government to decide what information they may or may not see."

The day before the House vote, top national security officials in the Biden administration held a closed-door briefing with lawmakers to discuss TikTok and the national security implications. Lawmakers are balancing those security concerns against a desire not to limit free speech online.

"What we've tried to do here is be very thoughtful and deliberate about the need to force a divestiture of TikTok without granting any authority to the executive branch to regulate content or go after any American company," said Rep. Mike Gallagher, the bill's author, as he emerged from the briefing.

TikTok has long denied that it could be used as a tool of the Chinese government. The company has said it has never shared U.S. user data with Chinese authorities and won't do so if it is asked. To date, the U.S. government also has not provided evidence that shows TikTok shared such information with Chinese authorities.

Republican leaders moved quickly to bring up the bill after its introduction last week by Gallagher and Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, D-Ill. A House committee approved the legislation unanimously, on a 50-0 vote, even after their offices were inundated with calls from TikTok users demanding they drop the effort. Some offices even shut off their phones because of the onslaught. Supporters of the bill said the effort backfired.

## Column: 'Like I said things are slowly changing'

◀COLUMN from page 8  
never been a Black director who has won Best Director. Nor is the list of out LGBTQ directors who have won Best Director all that lengthy either. According to Wikipedia, the last time an out gay director won was in 1969 when John Schlesinger won for directing *Midnight Cowboy*.

I personally have never cared much for the Oscars, despite considering myself a film buff for years. I remember seeing films like "The Hours" and "Brokeback Mountain" be nominated only to lose on awards night.

#OscarsSoStraight, they seem to think the only reason to include lesbians in a story is to have hot lesbian sex scenes.

There are a lot of problems when it comes to diversity in

film and awards shows. From able-bodied actors playing disabled characters or cisgender actors playing transgender characters to white actors playing people of color. Yeah there's a pattern there.

Someone also needs to tell the Academy that it's okay to nominate more than one woman for Best Director per year.

#OscarsSoStraight, they think the film "Cruising" is about drag races and that drag races involve actual cars.

Like I said, things are slowly changing.

Maybe someday, they'll have to make a hashtag to highlight the lack of diversity in the institution.

#OscarsSoDiverse sounds like a nice problem to have. Maybe that will finally make me interested in them.

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# SPORTS

## Women's basketball to begin NCAA journey against Missouri Western

By MOHAMED WARSAME  
Sports Editor

The Minnesota State women's basketball team begins its NCAA Region Conference journey with a showdown against Missouri Western State University at the Sawyer Center in Bethany, Oklahoma Friday.

The Mavericks head into the tournament after winning the NSIC Tournament, and bringing home the first conference title in the program's history.

The Mavs' path to becoming conference champions included going through Minnesota State University, Moorhead in the quarterfinals, Southwest Minnesota State University in the semifinals and the University of Mary in the championship game.

The NSIC Championship game was neck-and-neck for a good chunk of the first half. The second quarter was where the Mavs seized control of the game and never looked back. MSU went on an 11-0 run and, with 2:16 left in the half, held a 44-29 lead.

The Mavs went into halftime with a 47-33 lead. The Marauders made an attempt to cut into the Mavs' lead by going on a 6-0 run early in the third quarter. Emily Herzberg and Ava Stier each made a bucket to quell the Marauders' run.



DYLAN LONG • The Reporter

The Minnesota State women's basketball team looks to add to their historic season. They have already won the first conference title in school history. Now they will try to make a run in the NCAA Central Region Tournament.

The fourth quarter began with MSU up 63-53, and a Herzberg three-pointer kick-started an 11-2 Mavs' run. The Mavs would go on to defeat the Marauders 89-74.

MSU had five players score in the double digits. Joey Batt led

the way with 16 points, Destinee Bursch had 14 and Herzberg got 13. Natlie Bremer and Mackenzie Schweim each scored 10 points.

Head coach Emilee Thiesse said she believes the team winning this tournament came as a result of the

chemistry that they have.

"We're so locked into each other, that it's like all of these things have just become a byproduct of just our chemistry and staying locked in with each other. It's not like we've been chasing those things, but it's

been great to see how those great successes have come as a result of our team's chemistry and love for each other," Thiesse said.

Selflessness is a quality that has helped them achieve the triumphs that they have enjoyed this season.

"They celebrate each other's successes more than they ever are out for theirs. This is a system built on that. We play a lot of players, we have great depth, but we have so many different players that bring so many different strengths," Thiesse said.

Blocking out the outside noise was a point of emphasis for the Mavs before they began their conference tournament run, and that is the same mindset they will be heading into the regional tournament with.

"I thought our team was probably as locked in as I've ever seen them in the conference tournament," she said. "Probably one of our first comments coming back after the weekend was, you know, a lot of talk and discussion about regional rankings and where we were going to be and why we were here versus there and what does that mean.

"We nip that right away with just, none of that means anything, it's just outside noise and if we want to go where we believe we can go, you're going to have to beat three

**NCAA on page 17**

## No. 1 seed Mavericks look to defend their home court in NCAA Tournament

By HAYDEN LEE  
Staff Writer

For the fifth time in school history, the Minnesota State Mavericks will host the NCAA Central Region Tournament.

This opportunity comes off the backs of their incredibly successful men's basketball team, which was able to capture the No. 1 seed in the tournament after their 29-2 season. Most recently, the team defeated the University of Minnesota Duluth in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Tournament Championship, 97-77.

This Mavericks team has been rolling all season, led by NSIC Player of the Year and Tournament MVP Malik Willingham, who led the team in points, (19.1) assists (4.4) and steals (1.5) per game in his senior year at MSU.

Kyrese Willingham joined him on the All-NSIC First Team after a junior campaign that saw him average 14.3 points and 5.3 rebounds, while also forming a great connection with his brother Malik. Dylan Peeters, Justin Eagins and Elijah Hazekamp round out the starting five for your Mavericks, and each of them are in their first year with the team.

For the graduate students Peeters and Hazekamp, it will be



DYLAN LONG • The Reporter

The Mavericks begin the regional tournament on Saturday as they take on eighth-seeded Arkansas Tech on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. in Taylor Center.

their last, and what a season it has been for them. Peeters was named to All-NSIC Second Team for his presence in the paint, averaging 10.5 points, 7.1 rebounds, 2.1 as-

sists and over a steal and a block per night.

Hazekamp was the only member of the Mavs' starting lineup to not make an All-NSIC Team, but

his presence as a floor-spacer is one that really opens up the Mavericks offense. He and Eagins each shot around 40% from beyond the arc on the season. Eagins played the

most amount of minutes for the Mavericks this season, and was their third leading scorer in his junior year. He also led the team in three-point percentage (min. 10 attempts) with a 40.7% success rate from three-point range.

Off the bench, Harrison Braudis, Brady Williams and Malcolm Jones all have contributed to winning and don't miss a beat when their starters need to come out of the game. At the helm of the roster, creating gameplans, plays, lineup combinations and so much more is this year's NSIC Coach of the Year, Matt Margenthaler. Now in his 23rd season with the Mavs, he has led the team to eight conference championships and been named NCC/NSIC conference Coach of the Year seven times, both accomplishments including this year.

Concerning their opponents in the upcoming tournament, the Mavericks will first take on the Arkansas Tech Wonder Boys in the first round. The only other time these two teams faced off, the Mavericks took home an 81-65 victory. The Wonder Boys have a 25-6 record, including an 18-4 record in the Great American Conference, the conference in which they have advanced from after winning their

**DANCE on page 15**

# Mavs hockey to battle Michigan Tech in semifinals of CCHA playoffs



DYLAN LONG • The Reporter

The Minnesota State men's hockey team will travel to Houghton, Michigan for their matchup with Michigan Tech. The game will take place at John MacInnes Ice Arena.

By AHMED HASSAN  
Staff Writer

After sweeping Northern Michigan in the CCHA quarter finals, the No. 4 seed Minnesota State men's hockey team travels this weekend to Michigan to face the No. 3 seed Michigan Tech Huskies in the semifinals in a single game series.

The Mavericks are the defending CCHA champs and will look to advance to the championship for the fourth straight season.

The last time these two teams met, they split the series.

The Huskies beat the Mavericks 3-1, but the Mavs won 4-2 the next day. The Huskies are 3-1 against the Mavs this season.

The Mavericks go into the series with a 18-14-4 overall record, while the Huskies have a 17-14-6 overall record.

Seven Maverick players have accumulated over 20 points so far on the season: Sam Morton (34), Evan Murr (27), Lucas Sowder (26), Brian Carrabes (22), Adam Eisele (22), Kaden Bohlsen (21) and Josh Groll (20).

Defenseman Evan Murr con-

tinues his impressive rookie year as he was recently named to the ALL-CCHA Second Team and the ALL-CCHA Rookie Team.

Murr led all CCHA defensemen with 18 points. He has scored six goals and dished out 21 assists (third in CCHA).

Captain Sam Morton was recently named to the ALL CCHA First Team. After scoring two goals against Michigan Tech, Morton brought his goal tally to 24 leading the CCHA and ranking seventh in division 1.

Morton and Sowder will be the duo that the Mavs will look for to get it going as both have combined for 60 points so far.

Goaltender Alex Tracy recently won his second CCHA goaltender of the week after saving 58 shots against Northern Michigan.

Tracy averages 21.97 saves per game (5th in CCHA) and holds 0.911 save percentage (4th in CCHA).

The Huskies are coming off a series sweep against Bowling Green in the quarter finals beating them 5-0 Friday and 6-5 Saturday.

The Huskies have been on fire lately winning five of their last six games.

Isaac Gordon will be the player the Huskies will look to as he's scored 18 goals and dished out 18 assists for a CCHA leading 36 points so far this season. Gordon was named CCHA rookie of the year after putting up these stats.

Gordon won CCHA rookie of the week after his performance against Bowling Green scoring two goals and providing two assists.

Husky goaltender Blake Pietila is a candidate for the Mike Richter Award, and is one of the best in the CCHA. Pietila averages a league leading 25.82 saves per game and shutouts (4).

Senior forward Ryland Mosley has had a solid season so far for the Huskies scoring 17 goals and dishing out 13 assists for 30 points (2nd on Huskies).

The Huskies lead the league in shots on goal (32.46) and goals allowed per game (2.51).

If the Mavericks get a win against the Huskies, they will face either No.1 seed Bemidji State or No.7 seed Lake Superior State.

Saturday's game will be held at the John MacInnes Student Ice Arena 6:07 p.m.

## ◀DANCE from page 14 tournament.

Taelon Peter is the leading offensive threat for the Wonder Boys, averaging 19 points per game, 5.9 rebounds and has 81 made three-pointers this season.

Behind him are Cassius Brooks (12.9 points, 3.5 rebounds per game), Tommy Kamarad (12.3 ppg, 5.1 rpg) and Kade Shaffer (7.6 ppg, 4.7 assists per game).

As a team, the Wonder Boys average 73.5 ppg on 46.3% from the field and 38.9% from downtown, force 12.7 turnovers per game, dish out 13.7 assists per

game and collect 34.1 rebounds per game.

Their first round matchup will take place on 5 p.m. Saturday at the Taylor Center.

If the Mavs are victorious, they will take on the winner of the No. 4 seeded MSU Moorhead and No. 5 seeded Pittsburg State 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

The championship game takes place 7 p.m. Tuesday, where this year's NCAA Central Region Tournament Champion will be crowned.

Tickets have been on sale since

Monday, March 11 and are available online at msumavericks.com/singlegame.

The tournament tickets available are for general admission seating, where it is \$10 for adults, \$5 for youth (ages 5-17), senior citizens, and college students with school identification.

The ticket office and pass gates will open 90 minutes prior to the start of the first game of each daily session and the arena will open 60 minutes prior to the scheduled start of each game.

NFL considers rule changes that include challenges for penalties at end of halves



ADRIAN KRAUS • The Associated Press

Referee Land Clark reviews a play during the second half of an NFL football game between the Buffalo Bills and the Atlanta Falcons in Orchard Park, N.Y., Jan. 2, 2022.

By JOSH DUBOW  
The Associated Press

The Indianapolis Colts are proposing a rule change that would allow for challenges of penalty calls in the last two minutes of the half.

The NFL released a list of several rule change proposals on Wednesday made by teams that included an option to run a fourth-and-20 play in lieu of an onside kick, the moving of the trade deadline and giving teams an additional challenge if they are successful on one of their first two tries.

The competition committee will make its own rule change proposals next week and owners are scheduled to vote on them at the league meetings later this month with 24 votes needed for approval.

The most consequential

change would allow for challenges of penalty calls at the end of each half, giving coaches or replay officials the chance to correct egregious mistakes.

Penalties could be challenged by coaches or the replay booth, but would be limited only to penalties that were called on the field and could not impose a penalty when it wasn't called.

Replay review is currently not used for most penalty calls outside of too many men on the field or whether a ball was touched before a pass interference penalty occurred.

Replay is limited to aspects of a play such as whether a ball was caught or dropped, whether a player reached a first down or touchdown, whether a player fumbled before being down or whether a play was inbounds or out of bounds.

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# A special European night at the Emirates Stadium

By MOHAMED WARSAME  
Sports Editor

Arsenal are through to the quarterfinals of the UEFA Champions League. Those are words that haven't been said since 2010, and words I have never said in my time supporting the Gunners. After several years of heartbreak and humiliation in the round of 16, to missing the competition for the past six seasons, I don't care about fans of other teams mocking Arsenal fans for "overcelebrating" this achievement.

Yes the Gunners have "only" advanced to the quarterfinals of the Champions League, and there is a long way to go if they are to win this competition, but Tuesday's penalty shootout victory over FC Porto meant a lot more than just a ticket into the next round.

Mikel Arteta's vision to improve the Emirates Stadium's atmosphere

For most of the Emirates Stadium's lifespan, it has been a place where plenty of opponents have had great moments, a place where the atmosphere can be described as subdued and even a hostile environment for its own players at times.

A lot of that can be attributed with the lack of success that Arsenal have had since the stadium opened its doors in 2006.

Ever since Arteta took charge of



ZAC GOODWIN • PA via The Associated Press

Arsenal's David Raya, Martin Odegaard, Ben White, Bukayo Saka and Declan Rice celebrate after winning the penalty shoot-out during the Champions League round of 16, second leg soccer match between Arsenal and Porto.

Arsenal, one of his main missions has been to make Arsenal's home into a positive environment for his players and a hostile one for their opponents. A little over four years into his reign, and his vision has come to fruition.

From before kickoff to well after Arsenal goalkeeper David Raya made the game-winning save in the penalty shootout, the stadium is rocking.

The Emirates Stadium is now a place where Arsenal fans stick be-

hind their team through thick and thin. A place where the fans make things uncomfortable for opponents. It has become a place where the relationship between the players, staff and fans has never been stronger.

### Captain fantastic

Arsenal captain Martin Odegaard has shown time and time again throughout his young career that he is a brilliant player. On the ball, his qualities are undeniable. The world of soccer knew how special of a talent he was when top clubs across Europe were battling for his signature when he signed for Real Madrid at the age of 16.

Things didn't work out for him at Madrid, but since his move to Arsenal, he has blossomed into the player he was destined to be. Apart from his quality, it's his leadership that has impressed.

Before his move to Arsenal became permanent, he had a six-month loan at the club, and Arteta was desperate to have him become an Arsenal player after his loan was over. This had a lot to do with who Odegaard was as a person as well as a player.

He was named Arsenal captain in the summer of 2022. He always carried himself with class and was led by example, but now you can see him leading vocally on the field. He also sets the tone with how he presses and tirelessly runs when he's on the field. Everything that makes him brilliant as a player and person was on display against Porto Tuesday.

David Raya's big moment  
Raya's move to Arsenal sparked  
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# Kirk Cousins looks to build his postseason legacy with the Falcons

By PAUL NEWBERRY  
The Associated Press

Kirk Cousins has a single play-off victory in his long career.

Even so, the Atlanta Falcons are betting at least \$100 million that he's the quarterback who can lead this star-crossed franchise to its first Super Bowl championship.

Cousins was introduced Wednesday evening by the Falcons, who made a huge financial commitment to land one of the biggest prizes of NFL free agency.

"When the owner, general manager, head coach and quarterback are on the same page, that's when you really have a chance to go win a Super Bowl," Cousins said at the team's suburban training facility.

"As I look at the Atlanta Falcons, I believe strongly that the owner, head coach, general manager and quarterback can all be on the same page. That's exciting for me and why I'm thrilled to be here."

The 35-year-old Cousins knows there's one big knock hanging over him: an inability to win the big game. Of his four career playoff starts, his only victory came in the wild-card round during the 2019 season.

"Winning is what it's all about," Cousins said. "I just want to win."

The Falcons believe Cousins is a perfect fit for their offense, which seems to have plenty of weapons



MIKE STEWART • The Associated Press

Atlanta Falcons quarterback Kirk Cousins speaks during a news conference Wednesday, March 13, 2024, in Flowery Branch, Ga.

but was plagued by inconsistent play at the most prominent position on the field the last two years.

Marcus Mariota was a stopgap in 2022 after the team cut ties with longtime starter Matt Ryan, and Desmond Ridder failed to hold the

job he was handed last season.

Atlanta hasn't had a winning season or made the playoffs since 2017, so going with Cousins — who is recovering from a torn Achilles tendon — appears to be the best hope of turning things

around quickly.

The Falcons are no longer in rebuilding mode. They believe it's time to make a run at a championship, which has eluded this franchise since it entered the NFL in 1966.

As for his personal legacy, Cousins knows a big piece is missing.

"Quarterbacks will always be evaluated not just from September to December, but for January and February," he said. "That's where you want to get to. And once you get there, you want to have meaningful wins."

Cousins will have plenty of weapons at his disposal. The Falcons used their last three first-round picks on tight end Kyle Pitts, receiver Drake London and running back Bijan Robinson. All five starters return on an offensive line that is largely locked down with multi-year deals.

"You got to go prove it in the fall," Cousins said. "But I certainly believe the pieces are here that we can do that."

The Falcons showed how much confidence they have in Cousins by giving him an \$180 million, four-year contract that includes a \$50 million signing bonus and \$100 million guaranteed.

Not bad for a guy whose final season with the Minnesota Vikings was cut short by the Achilles tendon tear.

Cousins said his recovery is right on schedule, and he hopes to be at full speed well before the start of training camp.

"I'm feeling great," said Cousins, wearing a gray suit and showing no signs of his injury.

### ◀NCAA from page 14

teams anyway, it doesn't matter what order they're in," Thiesse said.

The seventh-seed Mavs aren't looking past their opponents who are the No. 2 seed.

"Our mindset heading into the tournament is really no different

than we've had the rest of the season.

We are looking at it game by game so we don't get too ahead of ourselves.

The team knows the impact that we could make in this tournament and seeing how good we are gives

us the utmost confidence," Bremer said.

Playing at a fast pace will be something the Mavs use to their advantage.

"Missouri Western hasn't necessarily seen a press like ours or played at the type of pace that we

like to play at.

Controlling those two things will play a big part," Bremer said.

Thiesse said she believes the two teams' similar playing styles will produce a great matchup.

"If we can control that tempo. Make sure they're not playing com-

fortably fast and getting us on our heels, and instead playing uncomfortably fast to where they may be making some mistakes, rushing into shots and those kinds of things that'll play into our hands," Thiesse said.

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# NBA power rankings: A month before the playoffs

By AHMED HASSAN  
Staff Writer

It's coming down to the latter end of the NBA Regular Season, and playoffs are only one month away.

This means that it's time to rank the top 10 current best teams in the NBA.

## 10. Dallas Mavericks

The Western Conference is tight right now, and the Mavericks find themselves on a three-game winning streak.

Luka Dončić is proving he's one of the best in the league, and Kyrie Irving is proving his worth.

With the two of these guys, the Mavericks are cooking, and could find themselves in the top six of the Western Conference.

## 9. Phoenix Suns

The Suns are on a roll right now, having won three of their last four games. This puts them at sixth in the western conference.

Kevin Durant has scored over 30 points in his last four games, while Devin Booker has scored over 20 in his last four games. The Suns are a force to be reckoned with, especially with their two stars firing on all cylinders.

## 8. New York Knicks

After trading for OG Anunoby and Bogdan Bogdanovic, the Knicks were on fire and were seemingly the best in the NBA, but injuries have halted them recently.

They remain fourth in the Eastern Conference still, and after a dominant showing against the 76ers. The Knicks are still one of the best, with their stars returning soon before playoffs.



REBECCA BLACKWELL • The Associated Press

Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic (15) shoots defended by Miami Heat center Thomas Bryant (31) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, March 13, 2024, in Miami.

## 7. Cleveland Cavaliers

Cleveland went on a tear in the month of February. Donovan Mitchell and Jarrett Allen led the way for the Cavs which has helped them remain third in the Eastern Conference.

They've gone 31-15 since December 1st.

Mitchell's injury means that Allen and Darius Garland need to step up if they want to maintain their spot and form.

## 6. Los Angeles Clippers

Ever since Russell Westbrook decided to go to the bench, the Clippers have gone to fourth in the Western Conference.

Ever since December 1st, the Clippers have the second best record in the league (33-12). With James Harden, Kawhi Leonard and Paul George playing great basketball, it makes them a team no one wants to face.

## 5. Milwaukee Bucks

Ever since the all star break, the Bucks and Doc Rivers have appeared to have figured it out.

The Bucks are 7-3 since the break, and are second in the Eastern Conference.

## 4. Minnesota Timberwolves

The Timberwolves are currently third in the Western Conference, but are tied with the Denver Nuggets and the Oklahoma City Thunder with 45 wins.

The Wolves lost Karl-Anthony Towns for the rest of the regular season due to injury, and were predicted to start losing.

However, they've defied the odds, winning three of their last

five games.

Anthony Edwards has stepped up big time, scoring over 20 points in three of his last four games.

After a big time win against the Clippers, where they came back from a 22-point deficit on the road, the Wolves have proven they're the real deal, and a team to be reckoned with.

## 3. Oklahoma City Thunder

One of the youngest teams in the league, yet they play like they're one of the most mature.

The Thunder are first in the Western Conference.

They've won three out of their last four games, and their star Shai Gilgeous-Alexander shows no signs of slowing down, averaging 31.1 point per game this season.

## 2. Denver Nuggets

The defending champs are yet again the favorites to win the Western Conference, having won four of their five games in March.

You can never bet against the Nuggets, and they've dominated ever since the all star break.

With the two-time MVP Nikola Jokic almost averaging a triple double, along with the return of Jamal Murray, the Nuggets might just win it all again.

## 1. Boston Celtics

The best team in the NBA with the best record (51-14), and arguably the best starting five.

The Celtics are firing on all cylinders, dominating their opponents and showing no signs of slowing down.

The Celtics have won their last three games, and are sitting comfortably at the top. As of now, they're the favorites to win it all this year.

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# VARIETY

## “Men on Boats” challenges traditional roles

By ANAHI ZUNIGA  
Staff Writer

Spring break has ended for students at Minnesota State and the theater department is ready to continue its 2023-2024 “Journey to the Past” season with the opening of “Men on Boats,” an adventure dramedy written by Jaclyn Backhus.

This main stage production, led by guest director Jay Dolo, tells the true-ish story of the 1869 all-male exploration of the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon, but is told with an ensemble cast of all non-male performers.

Filled with humor, adventure and heart, “Men on Boats” challenges the traditional beliefs of gender and history and also celebrates the power of the human spirit to explore the unknown.

Senior and theatre arts acting major Natalie Suarez is part of the cast and shared how all the cast members prepared for their roles and performances and what type of characters are involved in the production.

“We did a lot of cast bonding and character work before we started the actual rehearsal process, so we got to know each other really well with a lot of improv games and just had fun. And then we sat and we read through the whole script, and then we read through it again, and we like blocked it out. We did a lot of character analysis, script analysis and a lot of research on our own individual characters to help us understand what each of them are going through, but also what they’re going through as a whole and as a collective, as a brotherhood,” Suarez said.

“The characters, they all didn’t know each other. They all come from different places. A lot of them served in the Civil War together, and then some of them they knew from other things. There’s a lot of



Courtesy Corrie Eggimann

Minnesota State’s theater department is putting on, “Men on Boats,” in the Andreas Theatre at the Performing Arts Center from March 13-17 at 7:30-10 p.m. The play tells a story of men with an ensemble cast of non-male performers.

different kinds of characters. My character’s kind of not quite right in the head and some of them are way more serious and are taking the expedition way more seriously. Some of them are there just for fun. Some of them are there because they feel like this journey means a lot to them. Some maybe saw that the journey is not what they expected it to be when they went to just have fun. It turned into something completely different.”

Suarez portrays John Wesley Powell, leader of the expedition. She shared the characteristics of Powell and how it’s like to play him as a determined leader.

“He was a major in the Civil War. He is the leader of the expedition. He’s the one that knew President Grant personally, and got all of the men together. He only has one arm so I’m doing the whole show

with one arm, which is a challenge. He is very dedicated to the journey. He has a lot of loyalty for it and it’s also kind of a way for him to prove himself after the war, being like ‘I have a physical disability, but I can still do all of these things just as well and I can still lead all of these men just as well,’” she said. “He’s kind of all over the place opposed to being comedic and serious but he’s super fun. There are things that happen on the expedition that really test him and some of the crew question his ability to be able to lead and he is able to stand up for himself and prove himself as a leader. That’s the thing about the show is that there are lots of characters and they all have a really strong arc.”

March marks Women’s History Month, where all women’s contributions to history, culture and society are celebrated.

Suarez said that putting on “Men on Boats” during this notable month is important as it can help break gender barriers that many women have faced in the past and are currently facing today.

“I think it’s a good show just to highlight men and women’s differences, because even though we’re women telling men stories, we’re not trying to hide our womanhood, or femininity or anything. We’re just trying to show like ‘Hey, women can tell these stories and do these adventures,’ but we’re also honoring the real people and the men that went on the journey,” she said. “And we’re not trying to say that we can do it better or they can do it better. It’s just kind of a celebration of people and we can all do these things and it should also be something that we can share.”

**BOATS on page 20**

## Iranian artist Ziba Rajabi stitches her native tongue

By MERCEDES  
KAUPHUSMAN  
Variety Editor

During somber moments away from home, some may find comfort in poetry to soothe a homesick heart.

Iranian artist Ziba Rajabi brought poetry from her homeland to life through fiber-based paintings in the exhibition, “Recite a Poem When Feeling Hopeless,” displayed in Minnesota State’s Conkling Gallery through March 21.

“Throughout years of living outside of my homeland, Iran, Persian language and poetry has been my sentimental shelter,” Rajabi said.

Persian or Iranian art has one of the richest heritages in world history through numerous types of media such as painting, calligraphy, architecture, weaving, pottery, metalworking and sculpture according to Iran Safar Tours.

To translate her native language to art, Rajabi used Persian calligraphy as a source of imagery, and Iranian book art to inspire the compositional structure for her paintings.

Rajabi’s work reconciles her relationship with Iran and the United States — the place she came from and where she is today.

“This series of work investigates matters of relocation and distance through use of language and specifically, poetry,” Rajabi said.

Rajabi executed domestic art practices and material for alternative texture; she stitched brightly colored fabric on unprimed muslin rather than ink on paper to showcase her female ancestors’ art-making techniques.

While memories slowly fade while living in a country far from home, Rajabi is able to find familiarity through her art inspired by abstract pieces of her past, and hopes viewers can form rapport by uniting different cultures with art.

“Art can help us to make sense of the world and its events in an unorthodox way and provides an opportunity to look at things differently,” Rajabi said.

Rajabi sees art in her everyday life with her current studio practice, focusing primarily on painting, drawing and textile-based installation.

Prior to her work in the studio, Rajabi received her bachelors of fine arts in her home country of Iran at Sooreh University in Tehran, and her masters in studio art from the School of Art in the University of Arkansas in

**ZIBA on page 20**

## Imagine, create and rise together as women



ALEXIS DARKOW • The Reporter

In celebration of Women’s History Month this March, the Women’s Center and the Women Empowerment group its Rising Freedom Festival titled, “Imagine, Create, Rise For Freedom,” in the Centennial Student Union Ballroom yesterday from 3-6 p.m. “We are in a state of war. A war against our bodies. Our minds. The earth. Our freedom now depends on our coming together in unity to imagine it, create it, and rise for it,” they said in a statement about the event.



ALEXIS DARKOW • The Reporter

Iranian artist Ziba Rajabi created stitched designs in the exhibit, "Recite a Poem When Feeling Hopeless," in Conkling Gallery at Minnesota State. The fiber-based paintings are available to view inside the exhibition until March 21.

#### ◀ZIBA from page 19

Fayetteville. She also attended an art high school, graduating with a graphic design degree.

"It has been more than 20 years that I am learning, working and teaching in the field of art and design," Rajabi said.

Paired with her many years of experience, Rajabi's work has been displayed internationally in museums, galleries and institutions of higher education. She was also the recipient of the Jerome Foundation Fellowship for Early Career Artists, the Artist 360

Grant, a program sponsored by the Mid-America Arts Alliance, and many other awards.

"It is always a pleasure and privilege to be able to share my work and story with audiences," Rajabi said.

## The do's and don'ts of student housing

By JACK HARDING  
Staff Writer

Finding a good place to live near your campus can be daunting.

For most student's freshman and sometimes sophomore year they live in the dorms on campus. Living on campus in the dorms has many amenities like being so close to everything like classes, the dining hall and the library. It also gives residents a strong sense of involvement within the community as all your neighbors are likely freshmen as well and can be met through community activities. So what's the catch? The price. Dorms are often expensive, especially compared to apartment rent. This is why students usually live in them for just a year or two.

After you've experienced the dorms it's time to look for housing off campus. There are some things to consider like how you plan on getting to campus, how often you're planning on going to campus and of course how much you're willing to spend on housing.

Mankato offers several apartment properties near campus to students. University Square is the closest one to campus, which is nice if you need to go to campus often. But be ready to empty your pockets because you live directly above food places like "Chipotle," "Noodles and Company," and "Cold Stone." Other solid apartments that are walking distance to campus include The Lofts, Highland Hills, The Edge, and Jacob Heights (if you want more of a



DAVIS JENSEN • The Reporter

Mankato offers several properties suitable for college students, but the process of renting can be difficult. Local property managers visited Minnesota State's campus in the CSU Mav Ave Tuesday to inform and draw in potential tenants.

townhome feel). Apartments like College Station (has 5-bedroom units), College Town (very active and busy community), and The Quarters (has an amazing pool area) are a little further away. You may need to drive to campus, but their amenities may be worth it to you.

It really just comes down to how often you need to go to campus and how much you're willing to spend.

In my opinion, I would say Preska is the best dorm hall and The Summit/Jacob Heights is the best apartment property. It's close to campus, has a good community, has frequent events in the clubhouse, and Kwik Trip is just a few steps away.

The process students go through when renting off cam-

pus is pretty easy. Start by doing some research and touring. Don't be afraid to ask your friends or family for help/recommendations. Then, once you've picked an apartment and figured out your roommates, it's time to sign a lease and move in. I would recommend signing individual leases instead of joint leases because if one of your roommates decides to move out early, you won't have to worry about paying their rent.

Remember, the earlier you sign a lease, the cheaper it will be. Do not wait until the last minute to find roommates and/or sign a lease. Although I think it's a good idea to take your time choosing a place to live and roommates (since you'll be living there with them for at least a year) don't take too much time.

## BBNO\$ set to preform at MSU

By EMMA JOHNSON  
Editor in Chief

The Student Events Team announced Monday BBNO\$ would be the headliner for the spring concert. BBNO\$ will be playing April 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bresnan Arena.

The Canadian singer is best known for his songs "edamame" with Rich Brian and "wussup" with Yung Gravy which were featured on his fifth studio album "Eat Ya Veggies."

The album garnered over one billion streams. He was also named a "Breakthrough Artist of the Year" in 2020.

Opening for BBNO\$ is local Mankato band Irie Minds.

Alumni of Minnesota State, the band is most known for reggae music. Their most popular songs include "Unbreakable," "People Talk" and "Midnight Lover."

The band has toured around the Midwest including Minneapolis and Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Student tickets are \$15, student guests are \$20 and staff/public tickets are \$40.

VIP tickets, which include early access into the event, a signed poster and a pre-party before the concert, are \$75.

Tickets are currently on sale at [mnsueventtickets.universitytickets.com](https://mnsueventtickets.universitytickets.com).

#### ◀BOATS from page 19

Men on Boats will be showing in the Andreas Theatre at the Performing Arts Center from March 13-17 at 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm.

For more information on upcoming theatre productions, performances and tickets, visit <https://hss.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/theatre-arts/performances-tickets/>

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# “Apples Never Fall” shakes up a family

By ALICIA RANCILIO  
The Associated Press

There’s a scene in the new Peacock drama “Apples Never Fall” in which Annette Bening’s character weeps after having too much to drink at a family party. “Nobody can break your heart like your own children,” she laments.

Bening, a mother of four with husband Warren Beatty, understands something about parent-child relationships. She emphasizes her character’s emotions with a line from Shakespeare.

“Sharper than a serpent’s tooth it is to have a thankless child,” she said in an interview. “We are so vulnerable to our children for sure. Our children also have their own fate. And as a parent, you want to protect your kids.”

In the show premiering Thursday, Bening plays Joy Delaney, a wife and mother with four adult children. She and her husband, Stan, played by Sam Neill, are the retired owners of a tennis academy and are now trying to fill their days with purpose. Chaos ensues when Joy goes missing and the Delaney children become suspicious of their father. Long-kept secrets are revealed.

The show is told in two time-lines: present day, and the past that led up to Joy’s disappearance. Bening said that’s when we really

see the Delaneys as an authentic family.

“You know how just the look from one person to another can be enough to either signal a problem, piss you off, or make you really want to die of laughter? I mean, I’m one of four, and I still do,” she said.

“My mom is 95. I can still make my siblings laugh imitating my mother. We all have these unspoken things that go on in a family. And that’s really what this is about. What’s unspoken, what’s unearthed and what lies are revealed.”

Neill found the complications of his own character compelling. “I’ve seldom played a character as complex as this,” he said.

“I found him wonderful to play with, although he’s dangerous. He’s capable of anything. He has these rather alarming alpha male tendencies, but he’s also vulnerable and ridiculous. He’s very reactive to what’s going on. I wouldn’t want to be married to him,” he joked.

Allison Brie plays Amy, one of Sam and Joy’s daughters. Just because the children immediately question their father’s behavior after their mother’s disappearance, she said, doesn’t mean it’s an open and shut case.

“I think the audience will find, as I found reading episode to episode and reading the book, that minute to minute, episode to episode, you think it’s one person, then you maybe think it’s another

person,” Brie said.

“Apples Never Fall” is based on a novel of the same name by Australian author Liane Moriarty, who also wrote “Big Little Lies” and “Nine Perfect Strangers.”

If you’ve read the book, don’t assume you know how the story will end, said Essie Randles, who plays daughter Brooke Delaney.

“I don’t think it’s a secret that our series is slightly differently than the book,” she said. “When we first received episode six and seven, I went down to the beach where we were staying and read them, and I burst into tears and cried and cried because I was struck by how much hurt there is in this family, without giving anything away. I found it really, really touching.”

Despite the Delaneys’ dysfunction on screen, the cast — who filmed the series in Queensland, Australia — says they bonded on set to a degree that is rare in showbiz.

“If you’re all stuck in a foreign land together, that’s what you do,” explained Neill. “In this case, there were some of the funniest people I’ve ever worked with or met. It was a kind of riot. I find actors — for all this ridiculousness — to be the warmest, smartest, funniest people around. They’re my people.”

Brie added: “Sometimes you meet people and you have true, immediate chemistry. We all felt that as a family. I’m sure it really does



REBECCA CABAGE • The Associated Press

Georgia Flood, from left, Conor Merrigan Turner, Jake Lacy, Annette Bening, Alison Brie and Essie Randles pose for a portrait to promote “Apples Never Fall” on Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024, in Los Angeles. The plot centers around the Delaney family, whose world flips upside-down when a wounded, young woman arrives on their doorstep. It is set to premiere today.

start with Sam and Annette.”

Neill arranged movie nights for the actors, including an Annette Bening Film Festival where they would screen her films.

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Cleaning Staff	2-6	25-40/week	5/6 - 8/21	\$12.00
Painter	22	40/week	5/6 - 8/16	\$12.25

# The New York Times is fighting off Wordle look-alikes



MICHAEL DWYER • The Associated Press

A Wordle game is seen on a mobile phone, July 15, 2022, in Boston. The New York Times is fighting off Wordle “clones” — arguing that numerous games inspired by the mega-popular word-guessing game infringe on its copyright protections.

By WYATTE GRANTHAM-PHILIPS and GAETANE LEWIS  
The Associated Press

The New York Times is fighting off Wordle “clones” — arguing that numerous games inspired by the mega-popular word-guessing game infringe on its copyright protections.

Hundreds of copycats have emerged since Wordle skyrocketed to internet fame less than three years ago. And now the Times, which purchased the game in 2022, is sending takedown notices to people behind some of the look-alikes.

The Times has filed several Digital Millennium Copyright Act, or DMCA, takedown notices to developers of Wordle-inspired games, which cited infringement on the Times’ ownership of the Wordle name, as well as its look and feel — such as the layout and color scheme of green, gray and yellow tiles.

In a prepared statement, a New York Times Co. spokesperson said the company has no issue with people creating similar word games that do not infringe its Wordle “trademarks or copyrighted gameplay.” But the company took action against one user on software developer platform GitHub who created a “Wordle clone” project that included instructions on how to create “a knock-off version” of Wordle, and against others who shared his code.

“As a result, hundreds of websites began popping up with knock-off ‘Wordle’ games that used The Times’ ‘Wordle’ trademark and copyrighted gameplay without authorization or permission,” the spokesperson said.

GitHub gave the user an opportunity to alter the code and remove Wordle references, the spokesperson added, but he declined.

The Times’ DMCA takedown notices were first reported by tech

outlet 404 last week. Numerous impacted developers have also taken to social media to share their frustrations. Many said that their games, which range from Wordle-like offerings in other languages to more guessing games, would be taken down as a result.

Vignesh Venkat, a California-based software engineer, said he built his variant of Wordle several years ago, when the game first gained popularity. His game, Hardle, was initially created for a friend’s gender reveal event — where guests encouraged him to put it online for public consumption.

Venkat said he had since forgotten about his game, only playing it sporadically in recent years when reminded by friends.

“I don’t know what they’re really going to get out of this,” he said. “I mean, (the Times) probably have like millions of people (playing) their game, and there’s like hundreds or thousands of people playing mine.”

Robert Brauneis, a professor of intellectual property law at George Washington University’s Law School, added that a German-language Wordle spinoff that he and his wife used to play, which was once found at “wordle.at,” appeared to have been removed in the last week or two — suggesting that it may have also received a takedown notice.

As of Monday, a message on wordle.at’s site, now named “Gridgames,” says the game was voluntarily removed after receiving a “complaint with reference to US trademark law.”

The Times’ spokesperson told The Associated Press Monday that the company first contacted GitHub on Jan. 2 about the infringement issues — noting that hundreds of people have been notified through GitHub since.

In a statement to the AP, a GitHub spokesperson said the platform reviews “all DMCA takedown requests thoroughly” and

gives affected users an opportunity to make changes before processing them.

DMCA notices act as a tool for copyright holders to get content that infringes on their intellectual property taken down. Impacted users can still fight to keep what they published up, but that opens up the possibility for costly litigation. As a result, many don’t dispute takedowns.

Still, Brauneis said he believes the Times’ arguments for Wordle copyright infringement are on “a little bit shaky ground” for several reasons. Rules of a game, for example, are not covered by copyright — and that can include the layout of the game itself, he said.

“If you’re using that six by five grid to implement game rules (of correctly guessing a word) ... I think that grid is not copyrightable,” Brauneis, who specializes in intellectual property law, told the AP. “It is dictated by the rules of the game.”

That brings us to a game’s color scheme, which some media companies have successfully copyrighted in the past. Still, Brauneis notes that Wordle’s registration with the U.S. Copyright Office just lists its computer code and specific text instructions — but not colors or graphics.

Copyrighted code “doesn’t protect you against anybody who would just write their own code to implement a similar game,” said Brauneis. And while it’s possible a filing to expand Wordle’s copyright is on the way, the current absence of color or graphics in the registration means potential litigation “is a little more tenuous,” he said.

Brauneis added that the trademark to Wordle’s name, while enforceable, does not belong in a DMCA notice because copyright law is separate from trademark law.

Software engineer Josh Wardle created the daily puzzle game and made it public back in 2021.

## The stars leading the CMT Music Award nominees



The Associated Press

This combination of photos shows country music stars Megan Moroney, left, Jelly Roll, center, and Kelsea Ballerini, right.

By MARIA SHERMAN  
The Associated Press

Jelly Roll, Kelsea Ballerini, Lainey Wilson, Megan Moroney, and Cody Johnson are the leading nominees for the 2024 CMT Music Awards, celebrating the best in country music videos.

On Wednesday, CMT announced the nominees for their fan-voted awards show, where

the five artists are tied with three nominations apiece.

Ballerini will also host the show, live from Austin, Texas’ Moody Center on Sunday, April 7 beginning at 8 p.m. EDT/PDT.

All — save for Moroney — are up for the night’s biggest honor, video of the year, which has 16 contenders, not including featured artists.

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# Q&A: Kristen Stewart, Rose Glass and Katy O'Brian



CHRIS PIZZELLO • The Associated Press

Rose Glass, center, director/co-writer of the film "Love Lies Bleeding," poses with cast members Kristen Stewart, left, and Katy M. O'Brian at the Four Seasons Hotel, Monday, March 4, 2024, in Los Angeles.

By LINDSEY BAHR  
The Associated Press

Kristen Stewart knows that not everyone should make movies. She also knows that Rose Glass should.

The 34-year-old English director and screenwriter is one of those rare original storytellers with daring things to say and the vision to do them justice. In other words, definitely not "everybody." Glass' first film "Saint Maud," was a chilling picture of faith and madness. Her second, "Love Lies Bleeding" (expanding in theaters this weekend) is also kind of about madness but of different sorts — that of love, of power and of strength (the literal kind).

"I wanted to make something kind of fun and sweaty and violent," Glass said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Moviemaking may be a risk-averse business, but Glass and her collaborators are not. Set in the American West in the 1980s, Stewart plays Lou, an introverted gym manager and daughter of a local conman (Ed Harris) who gets swept up in the fever dream of new love with an aspiring bodybuilder, Jackie (Katy O'Brian), who's passing through town.

"I loved that it felt a bit like mythology, like a comic booky, throwback '80s," said Stewart. "I can't finish any of these sentences but the movie is good."

"(Rose) made this audacious and singular, unique experience personal for us and let us be our own individuals and just, like, traipse all over her thing," Stewart added. "It's so fun to work with people who are like cuckoo birds but also really concerted."

Glass, Stewart and O'Brian spoke to The Associated Press in an expletive-filled and slightly R-rated conversation about the twist on the idea of "strong female characters," their aversion to a certain overused shorthand and

"Showgirls."

Remarks have been edited for clarity and brevity.

AP: What were some of the things that really excited you about "Love Lies Bleeding"?

STEWART: I guess, like, in your dreams, you don't always do the right thing. And in movies, somehow girls are kind of expected to make everyone feel really comfortable. I think that's a very default setting for women in general. And in this case, it was like, yeah, but what if I'm (expletive) and my rage is boiling out and bubbling over? And it also really turns me on to share that with another person?

O'BRIAN: It wasn't like just about resilience or just about one thing. There's so much that you can read into it if you want to, which I think is cool. Or you can just watch it and have fun.

AP: Why do you think it's subversive to make a movie about female power that's also literally about bodybuilding?

GLASS: Maybe it's just something you haven't seen. I don't know many films which have female bodybuilders in it.

STEWART: You said something recently about looking at a female body like that, like there's something kind of punk about it. Because when you think of feminine qualities, unfortunately, we defer to like demure, or soft or elegant or sort of like something languid. And you're like, well, she's a woman, so she's inherently feminine. That's just not the shape that you're used to. But it is definitely female strength.

I think also just playing with toys that we're not usually allowed to play with in a petulant way. I'm like looking at Rose and going, "because you're a brat and you're (expletive) hilarious that's why you wanted to do this."

The idea of the strength, it must have come from annoying conversations that you were hav-

ing in rooms with people who fund movies. And I could be wrong, but that's my take.

GLASS: Like, "Oh do something with a strong female character"? I'll make her really muscley.

AP: It sort of makes me think about women being described as "kick (expletive)" which always makes me wince.

STEWART: Like "bad (expletive)."

O'BRIAN: The words "bad (expletive)" together.

STEWART: We've had it a lot today. And I don't mean to diminish anyone who used it, because it was really nice for them to say and it came with good intention. But it makes my toes curl so far into my body that I no longer have an (expletive). AP! Let's go.

AP: We'll put a demure "expletive" in there. Katy, how did Jackie come alive for you?

O'BRIAN: What really helped me was everything else around: The wardrobes and the hair and makeup. Then getting to see Jackie next to Lou and see Jackie in the gym. I was trying to tell the costumers, I was like well people wouldn't really work out in this. And she's like, "Katy, people also don't grow to be 35 feet... We're going for the magazine vibe, the sexy vibe." And it's 100% what Jackie needed. Even the workout equipment that you got from the '80s, it's made for men because women didn't work out (that way). They did aerobics, Jane Fonda. You had to adjust your own height to try to figure out how to get the right muscle because it's bigger equipment.

AP: I read that Rose had the cast and crew watch Cronenberg's "Crash" and "Paris, Texas" and "Showgirls." Were any of those new to you, or did you find different dimensions as they related to this

STEWART: I had never seen "Showgirls."

## Karl Wallinger dies at 66



KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH • The Associated Press

Karl Wallinger from World Party, right, with Gary Kemp from Spandau Ballet, left, Joe Strummer from The Clash, second left, Keith Allen from Fat Les at Tower Records in Piccadilly, central London, Sept. 14, 2000.

By BRIAN MELLEY  
The Associated Press

Karl Wallinger, the multi-instrumentalist and solo force behind the band World Party and former member of The Waterboys, has died.

Wallinger, 66, passed away Sunday, his publicist said. No cause of death was announced.

Wallinger had worked as musical director for a production of "The Rocky Horror Show" in London's West End when he was recruited on keyboards for The Waterboys in 1983, playing syn-

thesizer and singing backup vocals on their most commercially successful song, "The Whole of the Moon."

Waterboys founder Mike Scott called him "one of the finest musicians I've ever known" in a post Monday on X, formerly Twitter. "Travel on well my old friend," he said.

Creative differences with Scott led Wallinger to go his own way in 1985 to start World Party, where he created a sound infused with influences of the Beatles, Bob Dylan, Van Morrison and Sly Stone.

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# ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING

## Parking & Transportation Policies, Budget, and Capital Improvements



### Thursday, March 14, 2024

### CSU 201 • Noon - 1:30 P.M.

Face-to-Face Meeting

Please email your comments or concerns to: [david.cowan@mnsu.edu](mailto:david.cowan@mnsu.edu) by 10 a.m., March 14, 2024.

### Hearing Docket

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1) Parking permit rates to increase overall by 5.5% over this year's rates to address predicted personnel cost increase for 10 FTE financed in whole or part by the Parking Fund. Recast of FY'25 \$1.743M overall revenue forecast includes residence hall permit sales surge and predicted fine collections increases.</p> <p>2) Citation fines to increase by \$3 on a \$35 ticket, and \$3 on a \$30 citation. First change in 8 years and should act as a better deterrence. No ticket quota exists but income estimates assume a certain non-conforming spirit to contribute to generate the expected 9,000 tickets. Compromise includes a warning ticket for 1st time violators during 1st week of Fall Semester.</p> <p>3) Free parking privileges would continue to be provided in Lot 23 ("Free Lot"), which is a high priority of Student Government. In lieu of this no permit stance, the fine increase for tickets was viewed as a compromise.</p> | <p>4) Personnel increases mandated by recent collective bargaining unit settlements are reflected within \$1,622,500 spending plan along with other inflationary driven triggers. A 6/30/25 year-end balance of \$121,444 is hope for to further reduce the \$1 million internal interest-free 2022 loan which will have been reduced by half since Lot 1 underwent extensive repairs.</p> <p>5) Sustainability Fee to Replace Existing Green Transportation: A proposed \$1.44 per credit hour Sustainability Fee would be put in place but with a similar reduction of \$1.44 per credit hour when measured in this year's Student Activity Fee. Fee committed exclusively to busing operations traditionally known as the "U-Zone" and may generate the hoped for \$409,200, the same amount allocated for this year from Activity Fees. No net gain in fees.</p> |
|---|--|



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Classified Employees	Mike Hulscher	Not Applicable
IFO (Inter-Faculty Organization/Faculty Association)	Matthew Loeslie	Mary Hadley
Student Governemnt On-Campus Res. Community	Reed Boeckermann	Jacob Glogowski
Student Government Off-Campus Res. Community	Roshit Niraula	Vacant
MSUAASF (Minnesota State University Association of Administrative & Service Faculty)	Greg Wilkins	Jeremy Riesenbergs and Lindsay Henderson
Ex-officio Nonvoting - Parking & Traffic Services Coordinator; Parking Citation Appeals Board Liason	Adam Kruger	Appeals Board Liason
Ex-officio Nonvoting - Planning & Construction Department Liason	Nathan Huettl	Not Applicable
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Ex-officio Nonvoting - AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees)	Vacant	Deb Sanford
Ex-officio Nonvoting - University Scheduling	Jane Kolars	Not Applicable
Ex-officio Nonvoting - Student Government President	Sierra Roiger	Not Applicable

<https://www.mnsu.edu/spring-2023-parking-hearing>

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