

Mavericks move on to National Championship

ONE LAST DANCE



Courtesy Maverick Athletics

With the score tied 68-68, Natalie Bremer hit Emily Herzberg on a wide open backdoor cut. Herzberg's layup dropped in with 0.3 seconds remaining in the game leaving the Mavericks up by two. The Mavericks secured the win on a clutch defensive stop winning the final four matchup versus California St. San Marcos. The Mavs survive and advance and will play Texas Woman's University to decide the National Champion Friday.

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Jay Debertin's "fireside chat" on agriculture

By AMALIA SHARAF
Staff Writer

The College of Business invited Jay Debertin, director and CEO of Cenex Harvest States (CHS), to discuss a diverse set of career opportunities in agriculture as part of the annual Richard Schmitz Food Entrepreneurship Series.

Debertin is an expert in the agriculture industry with 40 years of experience. In 2017, he was appointed director and CEO at CHS, a global agricultural business owned by farmers, ranchers and cooperatives across the U.S. Debertin said he did not grow up on a farm but in a farming community. He started his journey as an intern in CHS's Energy Division.

"I quickly became really engaged in it and enthralled by what it can do, its potential and the fact that we help feed people around the world," said Debertin. That



Courtesy mnstatemankato Instagram

Jay Debertin, director and CEO of Cenex Harvest States discussed his diverse career in agriculture in the Centennial Student Union.

just got into me and never left, and that's how I've been at the company for 40 years now."

Agricultural business is connected to different industries and

areas of life, which gives business students a diverse set of career paths.

With the advancement of technology, many things have changed

in the agricultural business.

"Tremendous new technology has come into agriculture, including seed technology and precision farming, which uses inputs more efficiently and takes care of the land and water issues that have come so far," said Debertin. "This has really been great for agriculture and for communities that depend on it. So I've seen just a lot, and I would say much of it is led by technology."

Agribusiness and Food Innovation Program director Megan Roberts said this industry is a great option for a career path.

"It's a very important potential career path, so that's definitely one thing that I share with my students," said Roberts. "But regardless of whether a student chooses agribusiness as a career field, everyone has to eat. So one thing I try to impart with students in my courses is just an awareness of food and agribusiness and our regional

FIRESIDE on page 2►

Budget season addresses three more fees

By EMMA JOHNSON
Editor In Chief

The Student Government set three additional fee recommendations at Wednesday's meeting, all passing unanimously, rounding out the rest of the fees before heading to the ballot in a couple of weeks.

The tech fee recommendation is an 8.83% increase.

That fee contributes to all projects IT Solutions has been working on including getting new MavPrint printers around campus, replacing outdated servers and plans on expanding the Wi-Fi capabilities. Replacing computers in computer labs is also being implemented.

The Student Union fee asked for a decrease of .09%, taking the current fee from \$10.52 to \$10.43. This was due to staff and salary increase of 8% while student help decreased by almost 7%. The CSU employs about 100 students annually.

The Student Health Services fee increased by 7.40% due to contractual increases for its seven medical providers, three pharmacists and a mental health therapist. Telehealth services are also included in the fee.

Senate President Sierra Roiger said Student Health Services serves a "wide population" of students who live off campus because of the low costs.

Money to invest in mental health services, such as training with mental health first aid, was also included.

A resolution to honor graduate students' on-campus work hours was also passed. Currently, graduate students can only work up to 14 hours a week.

The resolution asked for university administration to allow graduate students to work up to 20 hours a week when school is in session and 40 hours a week during winter and summer breaks.

Students can ask questions about the recommended increases to the Student Activity and Intercollegiate Athletic fees after the candidate open forum.

The open forums will take place on April 3 at noon.

Criminal Justice Fair highlights careers in law enforcement



DAVIS JENSEN • The Reporter

Law enforcement students gathered Tuesday for the Criminal Justice fair, which featured various law enforcement agencies looking to educate graduates about potential careers.

By BIRUK MENGESHA
Staff Writer

Law enforcement students gathered Tuesday for the Criminal Justice fair, which featured various law enforcement agencies looking to educate graduates about potential careers.

Matthew Loeslie, an assistant professor of criminal justice at Minnesota State, said the event was a good opportunity for students.

"We have a career and internship fair for criminal justice every year," Loeslie said. "It's a nice opportunity for students to ask people that are in the field, whether it's law enforcement or corrections, and that's why we have these panels here."

It is important to highlight the work of criminal justice, Loeslie said, because it is about the public's safety.

There is also a shortage of officers right now.

"Our program is the biggest one in the state of Minnesota for criminal justice programs and for people that actually go into the field of law enforcement. So just having an opportunity for the students to look at potential employers and their major and to hear from them and to ask questions, and to interact with them is helpful," Loeslie shared.

Students should have a good foundation of the different parts

of the program when entering the criminal justice system.

"This includes based on classes we offer on criminal justice, including policing, but they should also know about victimology because they are going to be dealing with victims. They should know about corrections because if you're putting somebody into a facility like a police officer, you should know about the strengths and weaknesses of the current system there. So that's important," Loeslie said.

Certain experiences are welcomed for people looking to join the criminal justice system.

"Volunteer experience is really important. If you look at people that go into law enforcement or criminal justice, it's people that want to serve their community. They want to help people. One way to show that you have the right heart set for that is to be active and volunteer in your community. And that can go a long way," Loeslie said.

Law enforcement major Jackson Shild said he is interested in working in, "patrol probably in Rochester."

Shild said his parents contributed to his interest in law enforcement.

"My parents worked in FMC Rochester corrections facility, so I was always around criminal justice. So I think that's what kind of brought me to law enforcement,"

Shild said.

For students considering majoring in criminal justice, Shild said students should, "have an interest in helping people, and also to want to solve different problems, which helps in decision making."

Nolan Muellner, majoring in policing studies or law enforcement, is interested in working in a police or sheriff's department.

"I've always been interested in it. My dad's in the law enforcement field. So that's how I got introduced to it. And I've just always wanted to help protect people," Muellner said. "It's really an important field and major and people need it. There's tons of jobs out there right now and you can help people."

Nicolas Gruber, majoring in law enforcement or policing studies, explains the job prospects he's looking for.

"I would like to work in a county. I don't know the specifics yet, but I would like to work on a drug task force," Gruber said. "I always wanted to help people. Along with that, I don't like desk jobs doing the same thing day in and out. So the variability drew me in."

According to Gruber, it's a good opportunity for interested individuals.

"I think it's a great option to get out, doing something different every day," he said.

What to know about Diddy's several lawsuits filed last year



JORDAN STRAUSS • The Associated Press

Minneapolis is a nice city, and I thought of moving up there after graduation. Unfortunately, I'm a broke ass bitch and I found out that won't be possible.

By JONATHAN LANDRUM JR.
The Associated Press

In the first nine months of 2023, Sean "Diddy" Combs triumphantly performed at the MTV VMAs, released an R&B album that received a Grammy nomination and was a suitor to buy the BET network.

But several lawsuits filed late last year raised allegations of sexual assault and rape against Combs — one of hip-hop's most recognizable names as a performer and producer.

The music mogul's homes in Los Angeles and Miami were searched Monday by federal agents with Homeland Security Investigators and other law enforcement.

Officials said the searches were connected to an investigation by federal authorities in New York.

The officials spoke to The Associated Press on conditions of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss details of the investigation.

Combs' whereabouts are unknown but his attorney said Tuesday that the mogul is "innocent and will continue to fight" to clear his name.

"Yesterday, there was a gross overuse of military-level force as search warrants were executed at Mr. Combs' residences," said the statement from attorney Aaron Dyer.

"There is no excuse for the excessive show of force and hostility exhibited by authorities or the way his children and employees were treated."

Although Diddy was embroiled in one high-profile business dispute for part of 2023, it was a case filed by his former girlfriend and R&B singer Cassie that opened the door to other claims

of sexual violence.

Combs has vehemently denied the lawsuits' allegations.

It is not clear whether the search is related to any of the allegations raised in the lawsuits, which include one from a woman who claims Combs raped her when she was 17.

Here are some things to know about Combs and the investigation.

WHO IS DIDDY?

Combs is among the most influential hip-hop producers and executives of the past three decades.

He built one of music's biggest empires, blazing a trail with several entities attached to his famous name.

He is the founder of Bad Boy Records and a three-time Grammy winner who has worked with a slew of top-tier artists including Notorious B.I.G., Mary J. Blige, Usher, Lil Kim, Faith Evans and 112.

The music mogul created the fashion clothing line called Sean John, was associated with a well-known vodka brand and launched the Revolt TV network, which focuses on music and social justice issues targeting African Americans.

He also produced the reality show "Making the Band" for MTV.

In 2022, BET honored Combs with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his ability to shape culture through his career.

Combs won Grammys for his platinum-selling 1997 album "No Way Out" and the single "I'll Be Missing You," a song dedicated to the late Notorious B.I.G. who was killed earlier that year. He won another Grammy for "Shake Ya Tailfeather" with Nelly and Murphy Lee.

◀ FIRESIDE from page 1
economy."

"I think students want to be about something bigger than just what they are, that they can feel that they are working in a field or for a company that has a larger purpose," said Debertin. "And I think increasingly, students want that sense of purpose in what they

do in addition to a good job and pay. Agriculture can offer that no matter what your choice of discipline is, for example, if you are in finance, or you are in information technology, or you know human resources or in communications, or in sales and marketing or engineering."

Debertin believes it's a great

time to join the workforce and help them find solutions to issues concerning sustainability, production and other challenges. Everyone interested can watch the recording of the presentation to learn more about career opportunities in agriculture. The presentation recording is available on the MSU website.

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Creativity is just as important as academics

In a world where there are constant demands at work and our overall lives are busy, we tend to put our creative projects to the side when we may get a small sliver of “free time.” The routines we get stuck in often tend to drain us, making it more important than ever to incorporate creative aspects into our daily lives.

A lot of people think creativity happens when we dawdle or as a way to burn time. The University of Essex and Humboldt University of Berlin did a study in March 2023 to see how long-term practices impact creativity in workplaces. Brainstorming, meditation and creating storyboards were some of the most effective methods.

In 2022, the World Economic Forum said creativity was one of the top 10 skills that define the world. Creativity is becoming more celebrated in corporate practices and it shouldn’t be overlooked as a valuable asset an employee could bring to the table.

Creativity helps people solve problems more effectively as it encourages them to think outside of the box to look for ideas. It allows people to get out of their regular mindsets to come up with original ideas, therefore improving new solutions. Creativity can also help people better adapt to any type of change that may come their way. Being able to come up with a solution on the spot can help people over hurdles quickly.

Allowing your coworkers to incorporate creativity into their daily tasks allows them to show up to work excited about their tasks. The typical routines people fall into get spiced up when creativity is invited into the workplace.

It motivates them to come up with new ideas and can let them share thoughts they might not have felt comfortable sharing before. It also makes failure less likely to occur as anything could become successful.

Besides helping out in our jobs, creativity helps improve our overall health.

A lot of creative projects such as painting and writing, can lower our stress levels and help us relax. It’s a healthy way for us to express our emotions.

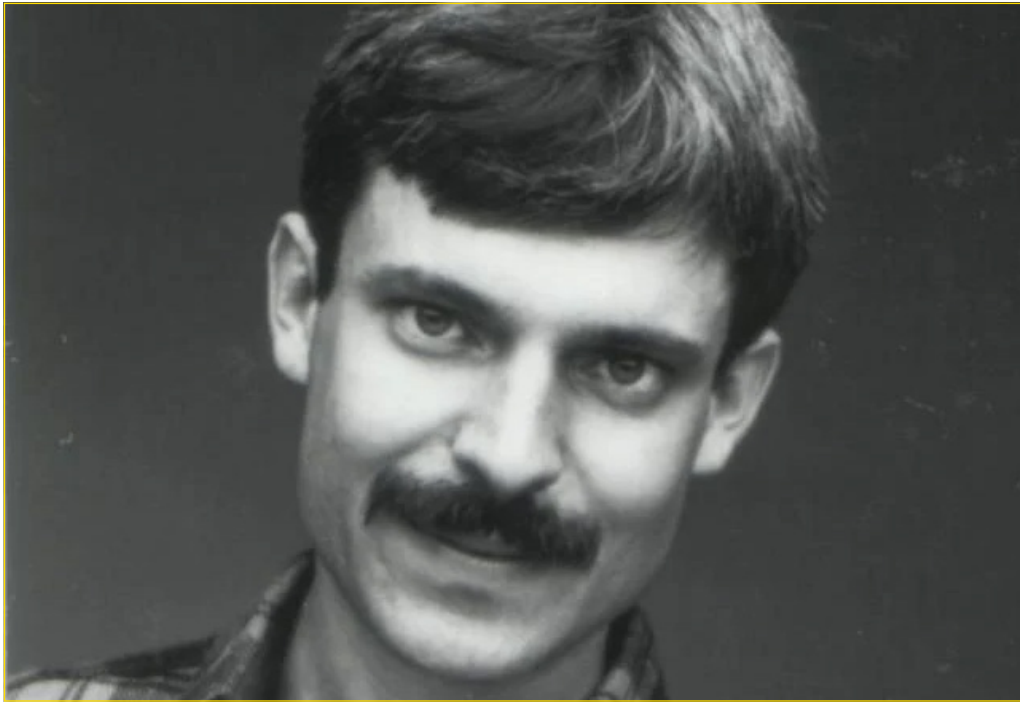
Studies have also shown when we engage in creative activities, mental health issues are greatly reduced and cognitive functions improve. When our serotonin levels are up, it can contribute to us living longer lives.

Creativity is not something we should fear, either in our jobs or recreationally.

Our minds are capable of coming up with more than we could ever comprehend, but they can’t fully work to their potential unless we seize the opportunity to utilize our creativity to the fullest.

Perspectives

The dents and poems made by Jim Chalgren



Courtesy Mankato Free Press
Pictured above is Jim Chalgren who founded the LGBT Center at Minnesota State Mankato, University.

When Jim Chalgren left Mankato in 1987, he distributed a self-published book of poetry called “Mankato Poems.” The collection ends appropriately enough with the lines, “Jim Chalgren/having made his dent/he left town.”

Of course by that point in time, Chalgren had in fact made quite the dent on Mankato.

What Chalgren is most commonly known for is founding the Jim Chalgren LGBT Center at Minnesota State, which is the second-oldest campus LGBT center in the United States. In addition to creating the LGBT Center, Chalgren was also involved with creation of the Mankato Area Gay Consciousness Group, a recognized student organization at MSU that preceded the LGBT Center. Chalgren also pushed for a local ordinance to ban discrimination on the basis

WHY NOT TODAY?

By JEREMY REDLIEN

Jeremy Redlien
Staff Writer

of sexual orientation but this never passed the city council.

In addition to being an activist, Chalgren also displayed an artistic side. He was both a passionate dancer and self-published poet.

In “On the Town,” Chalgren describes experiencing an innocent night out with an unnamed partner dancing in a series of non-gay bars:

“Feels good
ot to have to hide
eels great
o integrate.”

Of course Chalgren wrote

about more than just dancing. He also wrote about his struggles dealing with homophobia in Mankato and his efforts to fight back against discrimination.

In “Headline News” Chalgren wrote a blistering attack on the Mankato City Council after their failure to pass a non-discrimination ordinance in 1987. In a lengthy diatribe, Chalgren lobbed insults and criticism at those who voted against the ordinance.

“Headline News” is the longest poem in the collection, which is probably due to Chalgren’s extraordinary anger with the Mankato City Council at the time:

“A dark day for Mankato
City without a conscience
Town without a soul.”

A frequent topic that Chalgren returned to was the relationship with the grand-

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Pulse

“What’s been your favorite class at MSU?”

Compiled by Alexis Darkow

ABE KURNIA,
GRADUATE STUDENT

“Child Development.”

KAITLYN KUNO,
FRESHMAN

“Psychology and Human Anatomy.”

LUKE GRAPENTINE,
SOPHOMORE

“Theater for Everyone.”

MIA LAU,
FRESHMAN

“Gender Race and Popular Culture.”

RILEY PRASIL,
FRESHMAN

“Organic Chemistry.”

TYLER MRUZ,
FRESHMAN

“Accounting 100.”

783 million people face chronic hunger yet the world wastes 17% of food



PAUL SANCYA • The Associated Press
A person picks through trash for reusable items as a fire rages at the Bhalswa landfill in New Delhi, April 27, 2022

By CARLOS MUREITHI
The Associated Press

The world wasted an estimated 19% of the food produced globally in 2022, or about 1.05 billion metric tons, according to a new United Nations report.

The U.N. Environment Programme’s Food Waste Index Report, published Wednesday, tracks the progress of countries to halve food waste by 2030.

The U.N. said the number of countries reporting for the index nearly doubled from the first report in 2021. The 2021 report estimated that 17% of the food produced globally in 2019, or 931 million metric tons (1.03 billion tons), was wasted, but authors warned against direct comparisons because of the lack of sufficient data from many countries.

The report is co-authored by UNEP and Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), an

international charity.

Researchers analyzed country data on households, food service and retailers.

They found that each person wastes about 79 kilograms (about 174 pounds) of food annually, equal to at least 1 billion meals wasted worldwide daily.

Most of the waste — 60% — came in households. About 28% came from food service, or restaurants, with about 12% from retailers. “It is a travesty,” said co-author Clementine O’Connor, the focal point for food waste at UNEP. “It doesn’t make any sense, and it is a complicated problem, but through collaboration and systemic action, it is one that can be tackled.”

The report comes at a time when 783 million people around the world face chronic hunger and many places facing deepening food crises.

The Israel-Hamas war and violence in Haiti have worsened

the crisis, with experts saying that famine is imminent in northern Gaza and approaching in Haiti.

Food waste is also a global concern because of the environmental toll of production, including the land and water required to raise crops and animals and the greenhouse gas emissions it produces, including methane, a powerful gas that has accounted for about 30 percent of global warming since pre-industrial times.

Food loss and waste generates 8 to 10 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. If it were a country, it would rank third after China and the U.S.

Fadila Jumare, a Nigeria-based project associate at Busara Center for Behavioral Economics who has studied prevention of food waste in Kenya and Nigeria, said the problem further disadvantages many people who are already food insecure and cannot afford healthy diets.

◀COLUMN from page 4

mother he shared a birthday with.

From his poems it was apparent they were close. Unfortunately, his coming out as gay caused an irreparable rift in their relationship.

The poems Chalgren wrote about his grandmother indicate he was unable to speak to her or visit her during the last 12 years of her life. Even after her death, Chalgren was barred from her funeral.

“I wasn’t good enough
To carry your corpse away
But good enough
For flowers on your grave.”

Another topic he frequently addressed was HIV and AIDS. Chalgren was diagnosed in the mid-80s and his poetry reflects his complicated feelings toward the disease. In “AIDS Diagnosed” Chalgren wrote:

“I’ve been infected with
some weird new virus,
I’m a person living with
AIDS.”

Anger is a common theme throughout Chalgren’s poems. Hope is present, but at times can feel like an endangered species. I get the impression Chalgren used “Mankato Poems” to express thoughts and feelings he generally would have had to suppress as a gay activist in the seventies and eighties. In “Our Town” he wrote:

“And the people
Are killing us
In this god-forsaken town.”

While Chalgren does not have many nice things to say in “Mankato Poems” about Mankato, he expresses hope most explicitly when he talks about his experiences with the National Gay and Lesbian March on Washington. Chal-

gren wrote in “National Gay/Lesbian March on Washington”:

“We’re here
Arm in arm
Our victory is clear
I marched in front
People with AIDS
Must have been more than a thousand.”

There is a lot more I could write about Chalgren and “Mankato poems.” Reading the collection has brought forth more emotions in myself that I could ever capture in a single column.

All I can say in conclusion is that I honestly believe Chalgren would want us to ask ourselves, what’s the biggest kind of positive dent we can we make on this world?

And then we should go and make that dent.

France and Brazil announce investment plan for the Amazon



ERALDO PERES • The Associated Press
French President Emmanuel Macron, from left, Brazil’s President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Chief Raoni Metuktire, pose for photos on Combu Island, near Belem, Para state, Brazil, Tuesday, March 26, 2024.

By MAURICIO SAVARESE and SYLVIE COBERT
The Associated Press

The Brazilian and the French presidents on Tuesday announced a plan to invest 1 billion euros (\$1.1 billion) in the Amazon, including parts of the rainforest in neighboring French Guiana.

The two countries’ governments said in a joint statement the money will be spread over the next four years to protect the rainforest. It will be a collaboration of state-run Brazilian banks and France’s investment agency. Private resources will also be welcomed, Brazil and France said.

French President Emmanuel Macron and his Brazilian counterpart Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva are meeting this week to revive the relationship between the countries after years of frictions with former President Jair Bolsonaro, deepen cooperation to protect the rainforest and boost trade.

Macron started his three-day visit to Brazil in the Amazon city of Belem, where he met his long-time ally Lula. The French president then took a boat to the Combu island to meet with Indigenous leaders.

Both Macron and Lula saw a protest by Greenpeace Brazil with banners that read “No oil in the Amazon.” Brazil’s government has contemplated allowing the tapping of oil in a region close to the Para state, where Belem lies.

Lula said during a speech that Macron’s visit is part of a global effort to beef up rainforest protections.

“We want to convince those who have already deforested that they need to contribute in an important way to countries that still have their forests to keep them standing,” Lula said in a speech next to the French president.

Macron’s office prior said to the trip that a potential European trade deal with the South American bloc Mercosur won’t be on the agenda.

The French president is an opponent of such an agreement as long as South American producers don’t respect the same environment and health standards as Europeans, after farmers raised concerns during protests across France and Europe.

The French president decorated Indigenous leader Raoni Metuktire with the prestigious Legion of Honor medal for efforts at conserving the rainforest.

“You were in Europe and I promised to come here to your forest and be with your people in this forest that is coveted,” Macron told the Indigenous leader, according to French radio RFI.

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Cargo ship collided with Baltimore bridge causing collapse



Maryland National Guard vip AP
A cargo ship is stuck under the part of the structure of the Francis Scott Key Bridge after the ship hit the bridge Wednesday, March 27, 2024, in Baltimore, Md.

By LEA SKENE and
BRIAN WITTE
The Associated Press

The cargo ship that lost power and crashed into a bridge in Baltimore underwent “routine engine maintenance” in port beforehand, the U.S. Coast Guard said Wednesday, as divers recovered the bodies of two of six workers who plunged into the water when it collapsed. The others were presumed dead, and officials said search efforts had been exhausted.

Investigators on Wednesday began collecting evidence from the vessel that struck the Francis Scott Key Bridge in the previous day. The bodies of the two men were located in the morning inside a red pickup submerged in about 25 feet (7.6 meters) of water near the bridge’s middle span, Col. Roland L. Butler Jr., superintendent of Maryland State Police, announced at an evening news conference.

He identified the men as Alejandro Hernandez Fuentes, 35, who was from Mexico and living in Baltimore, and Dorian Ronal Castillo Cabrera, 26, who was from Guatemala and living in Dundalk, Maryland.

The victims were from Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, Butler said.

All search efforts have been exhausted, and based on sonar scans, authorities “firmly” believe the other vehicles with victims inside are encased in superstructures and concrete from the collapsed bridge, Butler said.

A coworker of the people missing said yesterday that he was told the workers were on break and sitting in their trucks parked on the bridge when it crumpled.

U.S. Coast Guard Rear Admiral Shannon Gilreath said at a news conference that authorities had been informed that the ship was going to undergo the maintenance. He added that they were

not informed of any problems.

The ship collided into a support pillar early Tuesday, causing the span to collapse. The bodies of two of six workers who plunged into the water were recovered earlier Wednesday.

The investigation picked up speed as the Baltimore region reeled from the sudden loss of a major transportation link that’s part of the highway loop around the city. The disaster also closed the port that is vital to the city’s shipping industry.

Officials with the National Transportation Safety Board boarded the ship and planned to recover information from its electronics and paperwork, NTSB Chair Jennifer Homendy said.

The agency also is reviewing the voyage data recorder recovered by the Coast Guard and building a timeline of what led to the crash, which federal and state officials have said appeared to be an accident.

The ship’s crew issued a may-day call early Tuesday, saying they had lost power and the vessel’s steering system just minutes before striking one of the bridge’s columns.

At least eight people went into the water. Two were rescued, but the other six — part of a construction crew that was filling potholes on the bridge — were missing and presumed dead.

The debris complicated the search, according to a Homeland Security memo described to The Associated Press by a law enforcement official. The official was not authorized to discuss details of the document or the investigation and spoke to AP on condition of anonymity.

Maryland Gov. Wes Moore said the divers faced dangerous conditions.

“They are down there in darkness where they can literally see about a foot in front of them. They are trying to navigate mangled

metal, and they’re also in a place it is now presumed that people have lost their lives,” he said Wednesday.

One worker, a 38-year-old man from Honduras who came to the U.S. nearly two decades ago, was described by his brother as entrepreneurial and hard-working. He started last fall with the company that was performing maintenance on the bridge.

Capt. Michael Burns Jr. of the Maritime Center for Responsible Energy said bringing a ship into or out of ports with limited room to maneuver is “one of the most technically challenging and demanding things that we do.”

There are “few things that are scarier than a loss of power in restricted waters,” he said. And when a ship loses propulsion and steering, “then it’s really at the mercy of the wind and the current.”

Video showed the ship moving at what Maryland’s governor said was about 9 mph (15 kph) toward the 1.6-mile (2.6-kilometer) bridge.

Traffic was still crossing the span, and some vehicles appeared to escape with only seconds to spare. The crash caused the span to break and fall into the water within seconds.

The last-minute warning from the ship allowed police just enough time to stop traffic on the interstate highway.

One officer parked sideways across the lanes and planned to drive onto the bridge to alert a construction crew once another officer arrived. But he did not get the chance as the powerless vessel barreled into the bridge.

Attention also turned to the container ship Dali and its past.

Synergy Marine Group, which manages the ship, said the impact happened while it was under the control of one or more pilots, who are local specialists who help guide vessels safely in and out of ports.

Airstrikes and rocket fire on Lebanon-Israel border



MOHAMMED ZAATARI • The Associated Press
Women mourn during the funeral procession of paramedics who were killed in an Israeli airstrike, in Hebbariye village, south Lebanon, Wednesday, March 27, 2024.

The Associated Press

The death toll from Israeli airstrikes across southern Lebanon has climbed to 16, including several militants and members of paramedic groups, according to Lebanese state media and the militant organizations.

And in northern Israel, one man was killed by a barrage of at least 30 rockets fired by Lebanese militant group Hezbollah, which said it was responding to a deadly airstrike targeting a paramedic center linked to a Sunni Muslim group.

International mediators have been scrambling to prevent an all-out war between Israel and Hezbollah amid near-daily violence, mostly confined to the area along the Lebanon-Israel border.

Hezbollah has been launching rockets toward Israel since Oct. 8, the day after Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel, triggering the war in Gaza. Some 1,200 people were killed in Israel and another 250 people abducted.

More than 32,000 people have been killed in Gaza and 74,000 wounded, according to the Health Ministry, which doesn’t differentiate between civilians and combatants in its tally.

The ministry says women and children make up two-thirds of the dead.

Currently:

- Israel and Hamas dig in as pressure builds for a cease-fire in Gaza.
- With its soldiers mired in Gaza, Israel is also fighting over drafting the ultra-Orthodox.
- They fled kibbutzim after Hamas attacked. Now, many Israelis must decide whether to go back.
- Seven Lebanese and an Israeli are killed in an exchange of fire along the Lebanon-Israel border.
- Find more AP coverage at <https://apnews.com/hub/israel-hamas-war>.

Here’s the latest:

U.N. SAYS A HOSPITAL IN SOUTHERN GAZA HAS CLOSED, LEAVING ONLY 12 LEFT

UNITED NATIONS — Two-thirds of Gaza’s 36 hospitals aren’t functioning after Al Amal Hospital in the south of the territory ceased operation amid intense military activity, U.N. humanitarian officials report.

According to the U.N. World Health Organization, Gaza now has just 12 operating hospitals — two that are “minimally functional” and 10 that are partially functional, four in the north and six in the south, U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric told reporters Wednesday.

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SPORTS

Walk-off bucket wins Final Four

By MOHAMED WARSAME
Sports Editor

In a thrilling game that came down to the final shot, the Minnesota State women's basketball team earned a trip to the Division II national title game Wednesday by beating Cal St. San Marcos 70-68.

With just seconds remaining, Emily Herzberg sunk a layup with .03 seconds remaining that sealed the win in a game that saw a dozen lead changes.

With the win, the Mavs advance to the title game Friday against Texas Women's.

"We've ran that play a million times in practice and I was the open cutter and Nat (Bremer) did a great job of getting it to me," Herzberg said in her post game interview on the court.

Cal St. San Marcos' Truitt Reilly got the opening score of the game with a jump shot on the Cougars' first possession of the game.

The Mavs tied things up with their first possession after a pair of Herzberg free throws.

Following both teams trading points in the first two possessions of the game, the Mavs proceeded to go on a 13-2 run over the next five minutes of the opening quarter.

Tha Mavs forced the Cougars to commit six turnovers during that stretch. Joey Batt, Destinee



Courtesy Maverick Athletics

The NCAA Division II Championship will take place at 7 p.m. Friday at the St. Joseph Civic Arena in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Bursch and Natalie Bremer all saw their first points of the game come during this early surge by the Mavericks.

With 4:05 left in the first quarter, Cal St. San Marcos' Ava Ranson knocked down a three-pointer to get the Cougars back on track and cut MSU's lead to 15-7. A shot by CSUSM's Charity Gallegos made the score 17-11 before two Batt free throws got the Mavs' lead back to eight points.

The Cougars roared back in the last two minutes of the quarter with a 7-0 run and the Mavs led 19-18 at the end of one.

A shot by Bremer got the scor-

ing started in the second quarter. CSUSM's Jordan Vasquez quickly responded with a layup to keep the Mavs' lead to just one.

At the 6:57 mark of the second quarter, the Cougars tied the game at 23 a piece.

Back to back buckets by Bremer got the Mavs' lead back up to four and the score was 27-23. The Cougars cut MSU's lead to two with under a minute to go in the half, but Herzberg answered with two points to give the Mavs a 34-30 lead at the half.

In the first half, MSU made 12 of 32 of their field goals, shot one for seven from three-point range and made nine of their 11 free throw attempts. They also forced the Cougars to commit 15 turnovers.

Bremer led the team in scoring over the first two quarters with 14 points on seven of 14 field goals made.

A jumper by Batt and three-pointer by Bremer helped extend the Mavs' lead to 41-34 a couple of minutes into the second half.

Over the next several minutes of the third quarter, the Cougars kept the Mavs from getting a real grip on the game and made sure to keep their deficit to no more than four points.

With 2:37 left in the third, the

DANCE on page 9▶

Record-setting win sends men's basketball to Final Four

By HAYDEN LEE
Staff Writer

Fans of the team know that the 2023-24 Minnesota State men's basketball team can put points on the board in a hurry, but their offensive prowess was on national display Tuesday night.

The Mavericks exploded for a team NCAA Tournament record 98 points as they defeated the Ferris State Bulldogs 98-70, one game after scoring their lowest point total in a win in the Margenthaler era.

"We knew we were due for one tonight. The shots weren't dropping for us last game, but we knew that wasn't us," Malik Willingham said. "It wasn't easy beating a team by that much, but we give a lot of credit to our defense and our scouting."

With the win, the Mavericks will move onto the Final Four, a stage they have been on only once before in 2011, where they lost to Bellarmine. The Mavericks have now won 33 games this year, compared to only two losses. They will get a chance to add another tally in the win column Thursday afternoon, where they will take on West Texas A&M at 3:30 p.m. in the Ford Center in Evansville, Ind.

As for the game itself, the Mavs took control early on and didn't let the Bulldogs claw their way back



Courtesy Maverick Athletics

Caption caption caption Caption caption caption Caption caption caption Caption caption caption Caption caption caption.

into it. The Willingham brothers did the heavy lifting early on as the team took a 19-13 lead with 12:16 left in the first half fueled by 13 points from Malik and six from Kyreese.

Sweet 16 hero Elijah Hazekamp was the first non-Willingham to get on the board with his first three-pointer of the night to put the Mavs up by 9. He and Kyreese helped the Mavericks build up a ten point lead that forced a timeout from FSU.

The timeout did not halt any

momentum on the side of the Mavericks, as they went on a 16-6 run to go up by 20 points with just under four minutes left in the half, 40-20. They would not let the lead slide below 17 points for the rest of the half, taking a 51-32 lead heading into the locker rooms.

The Mavs had one of their best offensive showings of the season in the first half of Tuesday's game. Kyreese Willingham was the team's leading scorer with 16, while Malik Willingham followed closely behind with 13. As a team, the Mavericks shot 56.3% from the field and an insane 63.6% (7/11) from three, while holding the Bulldogs to under 38% shooting.

"When you have Malik and Kyreese on your team, it makes my job really, really easy," head coach Matt Margenthaler said. "We're a team that is loose and free and a team that just goes out there and hoops."

The second half began with some resurgence out of the Bulldogs, but they were unable to cut the lead to single digits. Their 10-2 run cut the lead to 53-42, but the Mavs answered by retaking their 20 point lead, 67-47, with 11:56 remaining. The rest of the game was dominated by the Mavs, who led by as many as 34 points before ending in a 98-70 final score.

RECORD on page 8▶

Mavericks baseball set to take on Bulldogs



Courtesy Maverick Athletics

The Minnesota State baseball team will play doubleheaders on Friday and Saturday against the University of Minnesota Duluth in Fayette, Iowa at Robertson Woods Field.

By AHMED HASSAN
Staff Writer

The Minnesota State men's baseball team is set to take on the University of Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs in double headers Friday and Saturday.

The Mavericks are coming off a three-game series against St. Cloud State, going 2-1 on the series.

The Mavs offense was able to get it going on the weekend scoring seven runs on only 14 hits.

The Mavericks hold an 11-10 overall record and a 7-4 conference record placing them tied in third place with St. Cloud State.

The Bulldogs go into this game having struggled so far this season holding an 8-13 overall record and a 4-8 conference record placing them 13th in the NSIC.

The Bulldogs will look to juniors Jack Puder and Kade Peloquin.

Puder has reached 24 RBI on the season thus far, placing him ninth in the NSIC while also hitting eight home runs (8th in NSIC). Peloquin has 22 RBIs to his name.

Brayden Buttweiler holds a 4.94 ERA and is 2-0 as a starter. Buttweiler has a .234 batting average against and has recorded 24 strikeouts in 23.2 innings pitched.

The Bulldogs are fourth in walks allowed (105), 11th in earned run average (8.04) and fourth in walks allowed (105) in the conference.

Pitchers Louis Magers, Taisei Yahiro and Spencer Wright coming off dominant performances against St. Cloud State struck out 10 huskies while allowing only three runs on nine hits.

The Maverick pitching staff held a 3.24 ERA and went 2-1 against SCSU averaging a .226 batting average against.

Spencer Wright allowed two runs on five hits which ties him with Sean Gamble for three wins (most wins).

Zach Stroh had a great weekend leading the Maverick offense going 4-8 at the plate recording two RBI and a run against SCSU pitching. Stroh recorded a team-high eight total bases on the series, finishing with a 1.000 slugging percentage and .556 OBP.

Maverick pitchers stood their ground against SCSU leaving 26 huskies left on base compared to the Mavs 15, SCSU batted a .175 average against the Maverick pitchers.

The Mavs will look to Matthew Fleischhacker and Aidan Byrne as both players lead the team in runs.

Fleischhacker has 24 runs while Byrne has 22 so far.

Three Maverick players hold 20 plus thus far on the season- Ryan Wickman (23), Byrne (22) and Magers (20). Magers and Wickman lead the team in homeruns with 5 a piece.

The Mavs will look to Magers who owns a 2-0 record on the year while accumulating 13 strikeouts in 21.1 innings.

Mavericks hold a 10 game win streak over the Bulldogs dating back to 2019 and are 54-15 all time.

The Mavericks will play doubleheaders on Friday and Saturday in Fayette, Iowa at Robertson Woods Field.

Friday's action is set for 1:30 p.m. while Saturday's doubleheader is scheduled to start at noon.

◀RECORD from page 7

Kyreese Willingham scored a season-high 25 points (10/13 from the field) to lead the team in scoring, while Malik Willingham scored 21 and had four assists to go along with it. Hazekamp nailed four-of-five three-pointers and finished with 14 points and six rebounds. Dylan Peeters also added five steals and six rebounds.

Malik, Kyreese and coach Margenthaler all went on record saying that the team plays better when they are having fun together, and their chemistry showed on the court Tuesday night.

"These dudes are more than my teammates to me, they're like my brothers," Kyreese Willingham

said. "Having that just goes a long way within the team, just knowing that it's all love and we can hold each other to a high standard."

Despite being the National Association of Basketball Coaches' Coach of the Year, head coach Matt Margenthaler gave all of the credit to the guys on his team.

"In basketball, it's very important to have a coach, but I think sometimes it's overrated. We have just relaxed more this year and just let our guys play," Margenthaler said. "This is the most selfless team I have ever coached... we really shared the ball tonight and had a lot of fun."

Margenthaler did come back around on his statement and said

that he "couldn't be more proud to be the head coach at Minnesota State."

The Mavs shot 58.5% from the field in the win, while tying their season-high in three pointers made with 14, shooting nearly 61% from beyond the arc. Additionally, the Mavs established new program records in scoring (2,974), three-pointers made (318) and field goals made (1,095). With every win they earn, they are also setting a new record, which now stands at 33.

The next opponent for MSU will be West Texas A&M University, and it will be the first ever meeting between the two teams.

full story on website ►

Laffen swings to first at snowy course



Courtesy Maverick Athletics

Next up for the Minnesota State men's golf team is a trip to Monkey Island, Oklahoma, where they will compete at the Battle of Shangri-La.

By LUKE JACKSON
News Editor

Teeling off Monday at the NSIC Preview in Blue Spring Missouri, the Mavs started with a disadvantage.

At 9 a.m. the course was experiencing mild conditions of 5-10 mph winds.

The first group was already through nine holes when the Mavericks finally got to hit the links two hours later.

By 11 a.m. when senior Ben Laffen teed off, winds were hitting speeds of 20 and 30 mph.

Tuesday, the course was at freezing temperatures and the men's golf team battled on.

With snow hitting the fairways and temperatures of 31 degrees with a windchill of 21, the Mavericks pulled off a fifth-place finish and Laffen finished first overall individually.

Sophomore Max Brud joined Laffen on the podium in third place.

"I have been around this sport for a long time and I can say that it is the coldest golf course I have ever stepped foot on," head coach Alex Schmitz said.

Despite them taking fifth place it brings a sense of confidence to the team.

In the freezing conditions players wear multiple layers which can affect every swing differently.

In three weeks time, the team will return back to Adams Pointe Golf Course for the NSIC Championship.

If better conditions arise when they return, the team is confident that they can perform even better.

"We just had extra hoops we needed to jump through," Schmitz said.

"It will be really encouraging taking off those jackets, gloves and hand warmers. It gives us something to look forward to when we return back to sunny

skies."

Golf is a mental game and to battle 36 holes in two days of frigid temperatures is a testament to their game.

The players knew they had nowhere to go besides reaching hole 18 so they battled on.

Instead of whining, they laughed off the temperatures and embraced what was given to them.

This led Laffen and Brud to take the top spots of the tournament.

On Monday, Brud was in first place at -5 and Laffen was fighting to keep with his pace.

On Tuesday, Brud and Missouri Westerns Marius Dosiere were tied for first with Laffen right on their heels.

"I was gunning for them," Laffen said.

Laffen needed to make two birdies in a row on hole 17 and 18 to force a three-way playoff.

He did just that.

He recorded a birdie on 17 and on 18 he hit a 30 foot putt off of the green which saved his day.

In the playoff, all three recorded a par on the par-five tenth hole and Laffen won the playoff with his birdie on the par-three 17th.

Dosiere finished second as he recorded the best round of the day.

"In prior years I never played how I liked at this course," Laffen said. "This year I decided to heck with it and to play my best golf. It felt really good winning the event."

Laffen shot a 69, finishing the day with six birdies.

Over the event he carded a 72-69-141. His performance won him NSIC Golfer of the Week.

Brud shot a 67-74-141 and was tied for second in par-five scoring with a 4.50 and third in par-four scoring with a 3.95. Additionally, his eight birdies were tied for second in the event. As a team the Mavericks shot a 300-298-598.

Why Arsenal will be Premier League Champions



FRANK AUGSTEIN • The Associated Press
Arsenal's Declan Rice, left, celebrates with Bukayo Saka after scoring the opening goal against Brentford.

By MOHAMED WARSAME
Sports Editor

The 2023/24 Premier League title race has the chance to go down as the best ever.

As things stand, there is only one point separating the top three teams at the top of the table.

Arsenal currently sit at the top with 64 points, Liverpool are in second with 64 points due to having a worse goal difference than Arsenal and Manchester City have 63 points.

These three teams have great squads, have shown incredible consistency throughout the season and have world class managers leading them.

Each of them also have fascinating narratives surrounding their season which they hope will end with a bang.

They have each played 28 games, which means there are 10 to go. This is the stuff that dreams are made of.

Here's how I see the final stretch of the season going down.

After a rocky end to 2023, the Gunners have been nothing short of sensational since the turn of the year.

They have won their last eight Premier League games by a combined score of 33-4.

This includes a few maulings on the road against the likes of West Ham, Burnley and Sheffield United.

They also completely outplayed Liverpool at home in their 3-1 victory in February.

Earlier in the season there was a lot of chatter about Arsenal's lack of a clinical striker being the reason they won't win the title.

The reason they will go on to

win the Premier League is because they have hit form in front of goal at the right time.

Players like Kai Havertz, Bukayo Saka and Martin Odegaard are playing their best ball of the season.

The fact that their attack is now flowing, combined with them having the best defense in the league is a scary proposition for everyone else.

The toughest games left for Arsenal are all away games against Manchester City, Manchester United and Tottenham.

They'll beat one of them, draw to the other two and win the rest of their games which means they will finish the season on 90 points.

Games against teams like this is where the Gunners will have to show that they are worthy champions.

One of the last memories I have from Arsenal's 4-1 defeat to Man City at the end of last season where the Gunners' title hopes went up in smoke was the difference in physicality between the two teams.

While Arsenal did have some key players missing that would have bridged the gap physically, Arsenal's recruitment in the summer showed that Mikel Arteta did not want his team to be in that position again.

We saw this when Arsenal beat Man City at home and in the Community Shield at the start of the season.

Around this time last year was when Arsenal's title campaign began to fall apart.

However, I believe that Arteta's red and white army have learned from last season and the new editions will help them get over the line this time round.



KIN CHEUNG • The Associated Press

Opening day 2024: What to watch for

The Associated Press

Here's what to watch for on MLB's opening day:

THE SHO GOES ON
Shohei Ohtani already made his Dodgers debut last week in South Korea, but all eyes will still be on the two-way sensation as Los Angeles hosts the St. Louis Cardinals. The \$700 million star is trying to remain focused on the field after the firing of his longtime interpreter and friend Ippai Mizuhara, who Ohtani said Monday stole money from him to pay off gambling debts. Mizuhara was fired while the Dodgers were in Seoul last week for a season-opening, two-game series against San Diego.

Ohtani, who won't pitch this season while recovering from a second Tommy John surgery, was 3 for 10 with two RBIs as Los Angeles split the Seoul Series. Dodgers manager Dave Roberts posited



ASHLEY LANDIS • The Associated Press
Los Angeles Dodgers designated hitter Shohei Ohtani (17) stands as the national anthem plays before a spring training baseball game March 24, 2024.

Tuesday that Mizuhara's absence could be good for Ohtani, saying Mizuhara had been a "buffer" between the Japanese star and his

new teammates.
NEW IN TOWN
Several stars are set to debut with new teams.

◀DANCE from page 7

Cougars clawed their way into their first lead since the opening minute of the game and the score was 46-45.

They held onto the lead for the remainder of the quarter, and the game went into its final chapter with the Cougars up 53-51.

CSUSM's Reilly made a layup in the first eight seconds of the fourth to extend the Cougars' lead to four.

Bremer made sure to not let the Cougars get too far ahead and responded with a three-point play to cut CSUSM's lead back to one.

About a minute later, a free throw by Batt put the Mavs back in front at 56-55.

After MSU extended their lead due to a Bremer layup, the Cougars went on a quick 6-0 run and regained a three-point lead.

This nip and tuck game with a National Championship appearance on the line went down to the wire.

The game was tied up at 65 with 2:07 left in the game before CSUSM's Mina Tameilau knocked down a free throw to put the Cougars up one.

The next two minutes of basketball saw Bremer make a jumper and the Mavs miss four free throws to set up a 68-68 game with five seconds to go.

Off the back of a timeout, MSU inbounded the ball to Bremer,

who set up Herzberg with the game-winning layup with 0.3 second to go.

The Mavs would make a defensive stand on CSUSM's final possession and clinched their spot in the National Championship game.

Bremer led both teams in scoring by finishing the game with 29 points and nine rebounds.

After missing two free throws down the stretch, Herzberg was able to redeem herself by sending the Mavs to the title game.

The NCAA Division II Championship will take place at 7 p.m. Friday at the St. Joseph Civic Arena in St. Joseph, Missouri.



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VARIETY

Alumna returns to celebrate and craft

By ANAHI ZUNIGA
Staff Writer

Women's History Month has reached its final week at Minnesota State University but that doesn't stop the Women's Center from celebrating and providing aid to students on campus and celebrating women's accomplishments throughout the past, present and the nearer future.

From guided meditations to hosting a women elected panel, the center has continued to celebrate the month with this time, the craft of crocheting.

The Women's Center held a crocheting get-together for students to learn how to crochet with MSU alumna Jasmine Davilar, also known as the Crochet Gay through social media.

Davilar shared how she got into crocheting and how the craft can be helpful to not just mental health but as "an expression of yourself and art and being able to make things that you can wear."

"I started in my second to last year here actually at MSU. I was struggling with keeping up with school and needing a new hobby to kind of help with my added stress of almost being done with college. I ended up taking a semester off and I took some time to kind of reflect. I wanted to find new hobbies," Davilar said.

"I discovered crocheting just to see if I could try it out. I then ended up teaching myself how to crochet a lot of time in the Women's Center. I was practicing there or in the LGBT Center so I feel like my start in crochet is definitely tied to MSU. It feels nostalgic to come back here



Courtesy @thecrochetgay Instagram

Minnesota State alumna Jasmine Davilar, also called the Crochet Gay returned to campus for a day of crocheting with students in the Women's Center Wednesday.

and be teaching after having taught myself and now doing even more with it in Minneapolis. Now I'm making clothes and fashion shows and I'm excited to teach people what I'm doing and how I got into it and how expansive the medium of crochet is."

Having graduated MSU in 2020, Davilar has set out on running her business, selling her unique crochet pieces and having participated in Fashion Week Minnesota last year.

"The Crochet Gay kind of started out as my personal brand of just sharing what I make. Occasionally I would do art vending and go to different festivals, like I've done the

pride festivals here in Mankato and it was my very first time selling my art which was really cool," she said. "Since then it's just expanded a little bit more. I'm trying to expand my online presence. But eventually my studio space will be like a physical space where people can come and shop with my designs."

In addition to showcasing her work in art events and shows, Davilar is focused on expanding her personal artistic ventures within her own studio in the arts district in Northeast Minneapolis.

"Right now, I'm renovating and designing it so that I can eventually open it up to the public and have

a community space where people can come and do art or learn from me or shop some of my designs. I definitely want to collaborate with other artists," Davilar said. "That's my focus this year; meeting more people in the fashion industry or the styling industry, and it's just been really eye opening to see the world of possibilities that I didn't expect to find while just trying to crochet and what started out as a hobby is now becoming more of a business venture for me and being able to sell my pieces and express myself in that way."

Now having come back to MSU, Davilar shares how exciting it feels to return to her alma mater and to be able to teach students how to crochet, saying how "it just feels really full circle."

"It feels really good and inspiring to not only have made an impact while I was here in my time and just being an active participant in the Women's Center and LGBT Center and just knowing how at home I felt in these spaces," Davilar said. "It feels really nice to come back and teach people the hobby or the skills that I was able to use to be able to help myself mentally throughout my college career and helped me finish so that definitely kept me grounded and I think it just all feels really connecting to me full circle of learning to crochet while I was here in school, then graduating and spending a lot of time in the community and then leaving to now coming back."

Follow Jasmine Davilar on Instagram @thecrochetgay and for information on the Women's Center, visit www.mnsu.edu/womenscenter or visit CSU 218.

Perpetrate the perfect prank on April 1st

By MERCEDES
KAUPHUSMAN
Variety Editor

Pranks are disheartening, cruel and a deliberate act of disrespect to the victims. April Fools!

One of my favorite holidays will greet us once March comes to an end; a day of tomfoolery and tasteful giggles: April Fools Day. If you're anything like me, this day of jokes comes as no joke. It takes time, planning and creativity to execute a successful day of pranks. Fear not, for I have composed a list of April Fools pranks guaranteed to crown you the jester of the day.

Good ol' switcheroo

Whether it is a roommate, coworker or classmate, swap an everyday item they're familiar with with one of your own. This could be a chair, lamp, desk, pillow, backpack, etc., anything you have a perfect replacement for. Once they notice, replace they're original item secretly with a note admitting to the trickery.

Brownies for all

This idea came from my mother, who sent her coworkers into orbit with this prank last April Fools Day. The first step is to let everyone know you are generously bringing in a pan of brownies. They will think, "Wow. How thoughtful, sweet and kind," until you drop off the covered pan and one by one they open the lid to a bunch of brown letter E's cut out from brown paper. Then, you laugh from the sidelines while enjoying an authentic brownie.

Life is a gift

This one takes time and effort, but the reaction — priceless. Once your prankster leaves their room or office for an extended period of time, wrap everything they love in wrapping paper. Get creative with it; wrap pillows, blankets or even chairs. Make the area resemble Christmas morning, and when the subject re-enters their space, take a video. You could become a viral sensation.

Bugging your bestie

Find the person in your life that hates little critters. We all have one. Make a run to the dollar store and buy a fake replica of their most-hated bug(s), and strategically place it in spaces they will reach for. Get creative with this; you could place a faux insect in a lampshade or inside an ice cube in their water if you're feeling extra wicked.

Conversing with the inanimate

Technology is advancing and the world is gullible, take advantage of it. Place voice-activated signs around electronics like a coffee machine, paper towel dispenser, light switch, etc. and watch as everyone starts to speak

PRANK on page 11

What history never taught us but should've

By LAUREN VISKA
Staff Writer

History teachers taught us many things, but there were way more things they did not teach us.

I always thought they had taught us everything we needed to know. Still, after watching several episodes of Bailey Sarian's podcast, "Dark History," I learned many things we don't know about our history. Here are a few I wish I had learned in school.

The Radium Girls

This was a group of female factory workers who got radiation poisoning from radium. I was shocked when I learned about this because how could the workers not know something was wrong when the radium made their skin turn white?

At the start of WWI, factories were established across the United States to manufacture watches and military dials painted with radium. This radioactive element glows in the dark, so glow-in-the-dark watches allowed soldiers to see the time on the battlefield when it was dark outside.

The women were told the paint

was harmless, but it wasn't. Daily, each woman working ingested deadly amounts of radium. Some watches were so tiny that their boss told them to use their lips to bring their paint brushes to a fine point. Because they were unaware of the danger of radium, the girls also painted their nails, teeth and faces for fun.

Harrison Martland, a pathologist, created a test proving radium was the cause of death for many of the workers. The radium companies tried to discredit his findings, but the Radium Girls fought back. In 1938, Catherine Wolfe Donohue sued the company over her illness, and the issue was settled.

The Radium Girls' legacy helped push companies to take responsibility for their employees' health and safety, eventually leading to the formation of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Henrietta Lacks is in our DNA. You've probably never heard of Henrietta Lacks. She changed the face of medicine and saved many lives, but no one knows because it was kept a secret for many years.

Lacks visited The Johns Hop-



Courtesy Chicago Herald Examiner

Pictured is Catherine Wolfe Donohue, who suffered radium poisoning at the Radium Dial Company in Ottawa, Ill., surrounded by her husband and friends.

kins Hospital due to some bleeding in her lower region. Her doctor told her it was a large, malignant tumor on her cervix. She then began undergoing radium treatment for this.

Dr. George Gey received a sample of her cancer cell during her biopsy without Lacks' knowledge or consent. He was a prominent can-

cer and virus researcher collecting cells from patients treated at Johns Hopkins for cervical cancer. Each sample he had would quickly die, but Lacks' cells did the opposite; they doubled every 20 to 24 hours. Her cells were not just the first human cells to survive but the first

HISTORY on page 11

The irony of Steve Martin's life is not lost on him



LENNOX MCLENDON • The Associated Press
Comedian Steve Martin holds the Grammy Award which he won for Best Comedy Recording for the album “A Wild And Crazy Guy,” on Feb. 15, 1979. He is the subject of a new documentary “Steve! (Martin) a Documentary in 2 Pieces.”

By JAKE COYLE
The Associated Press

Steve Martin has long marveled at the many phases of his life. There's his youth as a Disneyland performer, surrounded by vaudeville performers and magicians. A decade as a stand-up before the sudden onset of stadium-sized popularity. An abrupt shift to movies. Later, a new chapter as a banjo player, a father and, a comedy act, once again, with Martin Short.

It's such a confounding string of chapters that Martin has typically only approached his life piecemeal or schizophrenically. He titled an audiobook “So Many Steves.” His memoir, “Born Standing Up,” covered only his stand-up years. In it, he wrote that it was really a biography “because I am writing about someone I used to know.”
“My life has many octopus arms,” Martin says, speaking from his New York apartment. People participate in docu-

mentaries for all kinds of reasons. But Martin may be unique in making a film about his life with the instruction of: “See if you can make sense of all THAT.” Morgan Neville, the documentary filmmaker of the Fred Rogers film “Won't You Be My Neighbor” and the posthumous Anthony Bourdain portrait “Roadrunner,” took up the challenge.
Yet Neville, too, was hesitant about any holistic view of Martin. The resulting film is really two.

◀**PRANK** from page 10
with the presumed robots.
Frozen meals
This prank requires overnight preparation, so put together a glass of water, a bowl of cereal or alternative liquid and place it in the freezer. When morning comes, set out the dish and offer it to a roommate. Watch them grow confused as they attempt to take a

drink or bite of ice.
Long-distance prank calls
For those of us with a relative or friend far away from home, a classic prank call can never go wrong on April Fools Day. You could use a voice-changing app and pretend to be someone else. You could tell them they've won a contest or free vacation, pretend to be a mysterious creeper, or talk to them in

◀**HISTORY** from page 10
to multiply outside of the human body.
They tested her cells to find cures for diseases, which was easier than testing on humans. They had thousands of Lacks's cells to test. No one knew they were hers because Gey had a code name for them: HeLa cells.
Weeks later, he went to the press and told them how he had discovered these cells alone and that they would help cure many diseases. One disease in particular had been making its way through America: polio.
Polio is a virus that attacks the spinal cord, weakens muscles over time and could potentially leave victims permanently paralyzed. Throughout the 1950s, the United States experienced regular polio outbreaks, with two major ones in 1916 and 1952. There were 3,145

deaths out of 57,628 reported cases in 1952.
Once people learned about Gey's work, they wanted their hands on these HeLa cells. They found a factory to help make more of her cells, and six trillion cells were made weekly and shipped to different scientists around the U.S.
In 1954, a batch was sent to the University of Pittsburgh, where a scientist was trying to solve the mystery and find a cure. When HeLa cells were added to the Petri dish with polio, the disease died, and the cure was found. Once word got out about this, it became available for everyone. By the 1970s, polio was practically gone.
No one credited Lacks or even told her family about this until Dr. Roland Patillo called up the Lacks family in the late 1970s. He told them what her cells did to save millions of people and helped for-

a different language. Challenge yourself on how long you can keep the conversation going before they catch you red-handed.
Whatever prank you choose this holiday, make sure you are not malicious, but rather having fun. Keep it light-hearted and take into account the person you are selecting to prank and what they tolerate. Most importantly, beware of fellow readers of this article.
ever change medicine as we know.
But when word got out, it wasn't exactly front-page news. It wasn't until 1988 when Rebecca Skloot took a biology class, and during a lecture, her professor listed names that are important to biology. One of them was Henrietta Lacks.
Skloot went to her professor after class to learn more about Lacks, but he said he didn't know anything else about her. So Skloot did some digging to find out more, which led her to Patillo's door. After a lot of asking, Patillo let Skloot talk to the Lacks family.
Skloot went on to write a book called, “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks,” which tells the whole story of how Lacks's cells contributed to science and changed the world of medicine forever.

If you don't fill an information vacuum, someone else will



ALASTAIR GRANT • The Associated Press
A montage of the front pages of some of Britain's Sunday newspapers pictured in London, Sunday, March 24, 2024. Support has poured in from around the world for Kate, the Princess of Wales, after she revealed in a video that she is undergoing chemotherapy for cancer following major abdominal surgery.

By DAVID BAUDER
The Associated Press

A media frenzy was born on Feb. 27, when the hashtag #WhereIsKate exploded online with speculation about the whereabouts of Britain's Princess of Wales. It opened a rabbit hole of amateur detective work, memes, bizarre theories and jokes — mixed with genuine concern about Kate's health — into which thousands of people descended until her announcement last week that she was recovering from cancer.
The episode offered the royal family — and everyone else — a lesson in the modern world of online media: If your silence leaves an information vacuum, others will rush to fill it. And the results may be messy.

“The royal family's mantra is never complain, never explain,” said Ellie Hall, a journalist who specializes in covering Britain's king and his court. “That really doesn't work in a digital age. It doesn't take much to get the crazy things going.”
It was, in part, entertainment for some people with too much time on their hands. Except it involved real people with real lives — and, it turns out, real medical challenges.

ANATOMY OF AN INFORMATION VACUUM
On Jan. 17, Kensington Palace announced that Kate was in the hospital recovering from a planned abdominal surgery and would not be doing any public events until after Easter. There was relatively little online chatter, or official updates, until it was announced on Feb. 27 that her husband, Prince William, would not be attending his godfather's memorial service due to a “per-

sonal matter.”
That's when the theorizing really began, noted Ryan Broderick, who writes the Garbage Day newsletter about the online environment.
Where was Kate? Was she seriously ill — in a coma, perhaps? Did she travel abroad to undergo plastic surgery? Had she been replaced by a body double? Was there trouble in her marriage? Did she leave William? Had she been abused? Unsubstantiated rumors made it all the way to American talk show host Stephen Colbert. Memes appeared that included putting Kate's picture on the face of an actress in “Gone Girl,” a 2014 film about a missing wife.
After two decades in which people have uploaded their lives to a system of platforms run by algorithms that make money off our worst impulses, “we have wondered what the world might look like when we crossed the threshold into a fully online world,” Broderick wrote on Garbage Day. “Well, we did. We crossed it.”
“Conspiracy is the Internet's favorite sport,” Sarah Frier, author of “No Filter: The Inside Story of Instagram,” posted on X, formerly Twitter. “It starts here and becomes mainstream. At one point last week, MOST of the content on my (X) feed was about her. None of it was right. This is just what people do for fun and followers now.”
Then came the grand, unforced error — the palace releasing a photo on March 10 of Kate.

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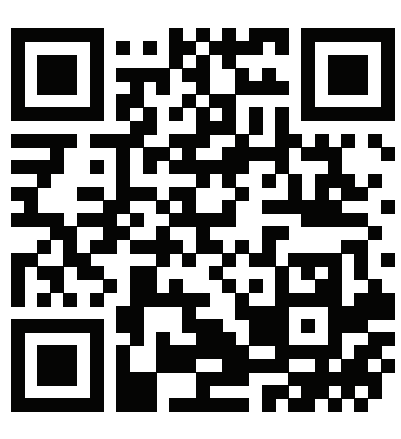


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\$161	LOT 16 LT. GREEN RES. HALL (FALL)		9AM Tuesday, August 6th - Until Gone
\$248	DK. GREEN RES. HALL (9 MONTH)	Lot 1, Lot 2, & Lot 20 Overflow	9AM Tuesday, August 6th - Until Gone
\$124	DK. GREEN RES. HALL (FALL)	Lot 1, Lot 2, & Lot 20 Overflow	9AM Tuesday, August 6th - Until Gone

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