

Proof of vaccine gives students a chance at a free semester

By JENNA PETERSON
News Director

Last Thursday, Minnesota State University, Mankato's Student Affairs announced their new incentive program to encourage students to receive their COVID-19 vaccine. To push this program, the University will be offering free t-shirts to everyone who shows proof of vaccination and there will be

five students who will receive a free semester of tuition and fees.

David Jones, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, was one member of the team who thought of this program.

"We decided to go with the two things students kind of respond to from our own experience."

Jones mentioned how the team wanted to include the t-shirt into the

program to ensure everyone who shows proof of vaccination wins something. The semester's tuition forgiveness was brought to attention to allow students to continue their education with one less thing to worry about, with the money coming from the HEERF federal funding program.

MNSU students seem to thoroughly enjoy this program and believe it will encourage their classmates to do their

part and get vaccinated if they aren't already.

Samantha Haeder, a freshman at MNSU, didn't know about the incentive beforehand but still believes it will be helpful.

"I think this is a good way for it because it's not them requiring it but it still gives people who are getting the vaccine a good reward."

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Campus helps to encourage students to quit nicotine

By JENNA PETERSON
News Director

Throughout the past few years, vaping and other forms of tobacco usage has become popular for college students. This habit, however, contains underlying issues that many may seem to ignore.

Mary Kramer, Advisor for the Community Health Education at MNSU, has been working to fully enforce the campus' tobacco prohibition for the past four years. One way she was able to work on this was by creating a task force to help give quitting resources to students and staff.

"We received a grant from the American Cancer Society and CVS, and we clarified and updated our tobacco on campus policy. That went into effect Aug. 1 of 2020. We also really worked on amping up our resources for students and employees and community members that would like to quit. So, we're very fortunate to have, because of this grant money, some free quit-kits, which are available to Student Health Services and the pharmacy," Kramer explained.

These quit-kits were designed to include products and resources to help smokers kick the cravings and quit. In these kits, there were worry stones, flavored tea, flavored gum and information about nicotine. QUIT on page 4 ▶

COMING OUT



MNSU student Joey Novak shows their pride on National Coming Out day celebration held on the Campus Mall. The LGBT Center on campus gave students the opportunity to "come out" on Monday.

Photo by DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

The Herd is the word: Student section gets rowdy

By JULIA BARTON
Staff Writer

When it comes to sporting events at Minnesota State University, Mankato, Maverick hockey takes the cake with the most fans and active

supporters in the arena.

While the players are ultimately the ones making the moves on the ice, the student section, also known as The Herd, plays an important role in bringing school spirit to every game, especially when it

gets the whole stadium cheering.

"We just always wanted it to be more hype at the games so I took control of that aspect and became the person who leads the student section," CJ Mathis, senior at MNSU and President of The Herd, stated.

"We have signs and we love leading the chants and chirping everyone. My favorite chant is 'Condom' which is where we spell condom and

say 'what's that spell' and it's a chant for when we are on defense," Mathis said.

The Herd also is responsible for planning the themes for the game as well as starting the chants.

This past week the men's team won both games played against University of Massachusetts, the reigning national champions of last season.

"We've already knocked off the number one team in ROLL HERD on page 2 ▶