

'STAND WITH HUMANITY'



Members of the Tigray Student Association stand together holding the Tigray flag. These students all have ties to Tigray with family or friends who live there experiencing the unimaginable. TSA hopes to conduct outreaches around campus to increase their presence.

Tigray students at MSU support each other amidst crisis.

By JULIA BARTON • Photo by MANSOOR AHMAD • Reporter staff

The Tigray Student Association, a newly formed group on Minnesota State University, Mankato's campus, aims to educate and bring awareness to a forgotten war happening in a region of Ethiopia called Tigray.

TSA was formed in March by about 30 international students at MSU who are either from or have family in Tigray. They have gathered to support each other while their homeland is torn apart by war.

Yafet Gebregziahber, president of the TSA, is a junior at MSU. His parents, who are currently in Ethiopia, said the conditions they're dealing with are brutal.

"The situation is the most severe that it's ever been," said Gebregziahber. "To

"The situation is the most severe that it's ever been."

Yafet Gebregziahber,
president of the TSA

get cut off from the world. No communication, no banking, no humanitarian aid going on. A lot of people are facing famine conditions."

TSA members have felt ignored as recent conflicts in Ukraine have been in the spotlight for the past several months.

While the conflict in Ukraine — and

the support Ukraine has seen around the world — has grabbed news headlines, TSA members say they've felt the war in their country has been neglected and forgotten by the media.

"This war has been going for almost a year and a half and no one notices what we are going through," said Makda Tesfaye, a member of the TSA and senior at MSU shared. "Most people are really focused on the Ukrainian region."

Starting in November 2020 Tigray, located in northern Ethiopia, has been isolated from the rest of the country due to a conflict between the federal government and Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). This has resulted in widespread abuse against Tigray civilians.

TIGRAY on page 4

MSU's new provost now announced

By JULIA BARTON
News Director

An email Wednesday afternoon by Minnesota State University, Mankato's President Edward Inch announced the new Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs David Hood effective as of July 1 of this year.

His role as provost and senior vice president entails "Providing vision and direction to strengthen the University's academics while advancing the strategic goals of the University," as stated in the email.

Hood has been the associate provost for undergraduate education & founding deal of University College Montclair State University since 2018 and has 14 years of a higher education administrative experience throughout his career.

This position serves as the senior academic officer of the University and reports direct-

PROVOST on page 5

Feast your eyes onto new dining options

By JENNA PETERSON
Copy Editor

Minnesota State University, Mankato students and visitors will have a new and improved dining experience in the Centennial Student Union this upcoming fall.

As stated in the announcement from the CSU last week, four of the current dining options will be replaced with Peking Plate, Hissho Sushi, Firehouse Subs, Starbucks, and a relocated Chick-fil-A. The facilities leaving the campus are Jazzmans, Erberts and Gerberts, Star Ginger, and Sandellas. Mark Constantine, director of Centennial Student Union and Student Activities at MSU, explained what new restaurants will be coming in and how these decisions were made.

"There's a 10-year contract we have with Dining Services, they're part of Sodexo, and we just finished our five years of the 10. At

FOOD on page 7

Greek life funding debate heats up at senate meeting

By MAXWELL MAYLEBEN
Editor in Chief

The tense stand off between Fraternity and Sorority Life and Student Government continued last night, with two senators attempting to bring a motion for one time funding to offset the cut in the budget from FSL by the

senate. During the budget hearing this year, the Student Government decided to cut the FSL budget from \$15,000 to \$10,000, citing a decrease in enrollment, as well as a yearly leadership convention that was deemed by the Student Allocations Committee (SAC) as nonessential.

STU GOV on page 4



MAXWELL MAYLEBEN • The Reporter

Media Day features photojournalist Crawford

By ALEXANDRA TOSTRUD
Staff Writer

The Mass Communication Department at Minnesota State University Mankato held its annual Media Day event Tuesday, April 19.

This year's guest speaker was photographer Johnny Crawford, who spoke about his journey to photojournalism and his experience with his "Vietnam Black Soldiers Portrait Project".

The lecture started at 7 p.m. in the Centennial Student Union, at Ostrander Auditorium, and was free for students and community members. Last week, large banners were put on display featuring his Vietnam veteran project in Nelson Hall and the CSU.

For the majority of Crawford's photography career, he worked as a photojournalist for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Though his focus was on sports in the past, in recent years Crawford has found an affinity for portraits and has taught at a variety of high schools and colleges.

While Crawford has seen success with his work, he did not shy away from describing his hardships to the audience, whether it was rejections, illness, or layoffs.

He also discussed the challenges with his keynote project,



AJAY KASAUDHAN • The Reporter

Johnny Crawford is a photojournalist who shared his "Vietnam Black Soldiers Project" at this year's Media Day. Crawford has worked for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution for 28 years and has photographed several Olympics.

such as the difficulty of finding veterans willing to revisit long-buried war memories.

"You do, you learn, you teach," Crawford said. During his lecture, he placed a strong emphasis on his own perspective on life. Crawford witnessed death firsthand at an early age

with the passing of parents, relatives and peers. His grandparents, who raised him, were resilient people, and he passed their wisdom onto the audience at Tuesday's event.

As of 2022, Crawford has photographed Vietnam veterans in 19 states, beginning

with Georgia veterans from his church community. He will add Florida and South Carolina to the project in the future.

Jen Tiernan is a professor from the Mass Communication Department who organized this year's Media Day.

"We've had a break from it

for a couple of years. It's not only a day to recognize our students. It's about being able to bring in a speaker who not only gives this lecture at night but sits in on classes. We have an informal student hour where they can actually learn one-on-one about the industry our speaker is in, they get to ask questions about their experience, and they get really excellent advice—it's a great opportunity to bring somebody here that the students might not normally experience," Tiernan said.

As a teacher himself, Crawford is in a unique position to educate and inspire students of any major here at MSU, something he hopes he accomplished that night.

"What I always want to do is to give someone something so they can do better than I do to help young photographers and writers," Crawford said after his lecture.

He also emphasized the importance of documenting the experience of war veterans, and spoke to a few of the attending Vietnam veterans in the audience after he finished speaking.

A group of students from the art course Introduction to Visual Culture attended the lecture. "I think I got the most out of it was to be persistent and work hard to get what you want," said a student in attendance.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE



CAREGIVERS

Competitive earnings, valuable benefits, ongoing training, and a great team!

APPLY ONLINE OR
CALL 507-508-4559!



www.birchwoodcottagesmn.com/careers



MOVERS

Flexible schedule, great pay!
Full-time and part-time positions available!

APPLY IN PERSON!



417 Poplar Street • Mankato, MN 56001

Shares plunge, Netflix takes aim at password sharing, ads



MATT ROURKE • Associated Press

Netflix is confronting a reckoning that will result in new barriers to prevent its video streaming service's subscribers from sharing their passwords beyond their households and possibly inject ads into programming.

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE and MAE ANDERSON
Associated Press

An unexpected drop in subscribers sent Netflix shares into freefall Wednesday, forcing the company to consider experimenting with ads and -- hold onto your remote -- cracking down on millions of freeloaders who use passwords shared by friends or family. The surprising net loss of 200,000 subscribers rattled investors, who had been told by the company to expect a gain of 2.5 million subscribers. Netflix shares sank 35% on the news, falling to their lowest level since early 2018. The Los Gatos, California, company estimates that about 100 million households worldwide are watching its service for free by using the account of a friend or another family member, including 30 million in the U.S. and Canada. "Those are over 100 million households already choosing to view Netflix," CEO Reed Hastings said during a shareholder call Tuesday. "We've just got to get paid at some degree for them."

That may not hurt much at first. Netflix has already been experimenting in Latin Amer-

ica with programs to convince the unsubscribed to sign up. In Costa Rica, for instance, Netflix plan prices range from \$9 to \$15 a month, but subscribers can create sub-accounts for two other individuals outside their household for \$3 a month. On Tuesday, Hastings suggested that the company may adopt something similar in other markets. Some current subscribers, though, say even that relatively gentle nudge might push them to sign off.

Alexander Klein, who lives near Albany, N.Y., has subscribed to Netflix since 2013 and shares his account with his mother-in-law. While he likes the service, a string of price increases and the loss of licensed shows annoyed him — and any password-sharing crackdown might be the last straw.

"If they start cracking down on password sharing and I'm stuck paying the full \$15 for one person watching at a time, that's frustrating," he said. "If they decided to do that I'd likely cancel."

Despite some fears that a Netflix crackdown on password-sharing could encourage other streaming services to follow suit, experts say that's not likely.

SAAM raises awareness on campus

By HAFSA PEERZADA
Staff Writer

The Violence Awareness and Response Program at Minnesota State University, Mankato in collaboration with the Fraternity and Sorority Life on campus organized the Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention program Tuesday.

The event took place in the Centennial Student Union Ballroom. Members from fraternities and sororities gathered to raise awareness and partake in discussions around topics pertaining to sexual assault and violence.

Members collaboratively participated in activities that aimed to help students' consciousness around the meaning of consent and discussed tactics to prevent assault scenarios from unfolding. One of the main highlights of the night was the "In Her Shoes" activity. This scenario-based experience where members, divided into small groups, walked through different sexual assault scenarios that were based on real-life experiences of teens.

Members essentially walked through storylines by creating their own paths and predicted how the victim would have potentially handled the situation.

"We are using the activity to bring awareness to survivor stories because they are real experiences. The main point is that it lets people put themselves into the victims' shoes and understand their pain on a different personal level," added Molly Nhean, a junior at MSU and the current president of Gamma Phi Beta. "It's a great activity to open your eyes and



EMILY LANSMAN • The Reporter

Fraternity and Sorority Life partners with the Violence Awareness and Response Program to educate students on sexual assault prevention.

really understand and listen to true survivor stories in a more engaging way."

The activity encouraged members to view unfolding sexual assault situations from the perspective of the victims themselves and understand how they can use those scenarios to help people currently in unhealthy relationships as well as gain some insight on how to be in healthy relationships themselves.

Following the conclusion of the "In Her Shoes activity" the attendees participated in a game of Kahoot where they tested their knowledge about sexual assault while learning more about available resources and prevention strategies.

"Not everyone knows what sexual assault looks like. They think it's the societal definition of it where you have to say no or fight off your assailant and have bruises and be the perfect victim, but really it happens in

so many different ways," Shadow Rolan, the interim director of VARP, said when explaining the need for sparking discussions on sexual assault and raising awareness about its prevention. "Sexual assault is like a taboo, we all know it happens, but people shy away from these discussions. I believe it's important to bring awareness and educate students on this so they can know what sexual assault really means since it's a broad umbrella term."

To further educate the campus community and raise awareness about sexual assault, VARP will also be hosting a "Take Back the Night" event on April 27.

The event is a way of giving voices to victims and survivors of sexual assault and standing in solidarity with them. Denim day will also be celebrated on the same day. Participants are encouraged to wear jeans to show support for rape victims.

NOW HIRING!

CNA-NOC Shift

We are looking for a hardworking individual who is CNA certified

- Sign-On Bonus at Laurel's Peak
 - \$2,000 Bonus for Full-Time
 - \$1,500 Bonus for Part-Time
- Full Benefits & Tuition Reimbursement



LAURELS PEAK
REHABILITATION CENTER

700 James Ave., Mankato

507-345-4631

APPLY NOW! Monarchmn.com

VERY CLOSE
TO CAMPUS!
Just down the hill

ELKS CAMP GRASSICK

Now Hiring
Summer Camp Staff



Camp Grassick is a summer camp serving children and adults with physical and intellectual disabilities. We offer therapies in addition to traditional summer camp activities making this the perfect job to gain experience in education, healthcare, therapies and related fields.

For More Information or To Apply:
www.elkscampgrassick.com
campgrassick@gmail.com
701-327-4251

Available Positions:
Counselors, Recreation Staff, Craft Instructors, Lifeguard, Reading Instructors, Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy Staff, Camp Nurse



TOGETHER AMIDST CRISIS

◀TIGRAY from page 1

The groups Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International say they've documented war crimes and crimes against humanity, recorded by Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, have charged in a new report.

"More than 90% of Tigray's 6 million people require humanitarian assistance including 115,000 children who are severely malnourished," according to U.N figures.

Ethiopian federal authorities have refuted allegations they have intentionally targeted Tigrayans for violent attacks. They say their objective was to disarm Tigray's rebellious leaders. Banking services, phone lines and road networks have been severed and the United Nations has described the situation as a "de facto blockade" imposed by Ethiopia's federal government.

Freshman Kidus Asgedom, and member of the TSA, recalled when the war first started in 2020. "We heard gunshots, no one is telling us what is going on. The radio was working so turned on the radio tried to listen what happened. All the news kept telling us that we have been invaded. There, the war has begun. Within one week heavy airstrikes began. Jets came in, you can feel it flying over your head, not knowing which direction it's coming, maybe hitting spots where civilians are located. Those situations make you question why is this happening?"

Many TSA students say they are scared for their loved ones back in Ethiopia as they are left in the dark when it comes to the status and well-being of their family members.

"My father has been in prison twice within the first two months of the war. Our house has been raided five times in which they didn't find anything, but they kept on coming back and raiding it without any lawful procedure," Gebregziahber said. "My mother has also been in prison for a day. She works an hour outside of the capital [of Ethiopia], she owns a pharmacy there, but business rivals are using this chance to pressure her. They're threatening to kill her."

With the communication "blackout" many of the students are unable to connect with their family to see how they are doing.

"I don't know if they're going to be OK in the next week, two weeks, a month. We don't know what's going to happen," Gebregziahber said.

Other members of the TSA have had similar experiences.

"I had a cousin that was in prison for about three months. Not because he did anything, just because of his identity. They kept him in prison for almost three months. Families couldn't visit him, he wasn't allowed to talk on the phone. So we did not know if he was alive," Tesfaye said. "He's our age, so you can imagine how difficult it must be for him to be in jail and be experiencing all those things."

The students say that, mentally, this has been a strenuous time.

In addition to juggling classes and work, they're thinking about the unknown.

"It gives you anxiety thinking what your family is going through, if they're alive, if they're getting food or they're being tortured," Tesfaye said. "We don't know anything, because there is



MANSOOR AHMAD • The Reporter

Members of the TSA were in attendance during the "Walk for Peace" at the mall on MSU's campus to protest war.

a communication blackout. It's been over 500 days and we don't know if we're going to be seeing them or even talking to them in the next few months."

On the other hand, some TSA students were lucky enough to leave the country before the conflict erupted. Sophonias Aregawi, a freshman seeking his second bachelor's degree in computer science, said he was lucky his family was able to flee before the war broke out.

"My family had the chance to leave Ethiopia two weeks before the war. We had the chance to go to another country and they're actually still living there. But that itself is an impact. You don't have the freedom to go back to your own country to live in your own house," Aregawi said.

International students are only allowed to work a maximum of 20 hours per week on campus while being a full time student. With the minimum wage at MSU being \$12 it can be implied that having able to pay for housing, groceries and tuition is unattainable.

Meklit Naizgi, a biomedical major has struggled with having to pay to stay.

"For someone who is Tigrayan, learning is a luxury. I think about what if I cannot pay for school and then I am supposed to go back home? That is what I am scared of," Naizgi stated.

Multiple of the TSA members voiced how MSU could improve raising awareness around campus about this issue.

"I would love for the school

to raise awareness about the situation and provide resources to help students get through this tough time. I'd say and for the students, I would love for them to educate themselves more about the situation understand more about it," Gebregziahber stated.

"I would also love for the counseling center on campus to work with our organization, to help students that are being emotionally affected by this situation. And stand with humanity is what I would say, raising awareness about what's going on."

The TSA aims to establish themselves as a group first, then reach out to the Counseling Center as well as raise awareness on campus.

◀STU GOV from page 1

In protest to their decision, FSL showed up in droves at a meeting on March 6, accusing the Student Government of bigotry against their organizations. Presidents Tim Tuchek and Lauren Wojack of the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council argued that statements made during the budget hearing were untrue.

During open forum at last night's meeting, Senators Abi Saha and Zahara Osman stood with eight members of various fraternities and sororities standing behind them to propose a surprise resolution to the senate.

The resolution as written, would provide one time funding to FSL, adding the \$5,000 that was cut from their request.

Senator Osman, who was the chair of SAC, co-motivated and co-seconded the resolution with Senator Saha.

"We definitely heard, we definitely did hear what FSL had brought to us," said Saha, referring to complaints from FSL, "me as a senator, took this opportunity as a public platform to address some of the issues that happened." The senator then proceeded to read the motion to the senate, which called for the

reverse of a previous decision made by the Student Government, adding a \$5,000 one time payment to FSL's budget. Osman, though initially voting for the budget cut, spoke to the senate, stating why she changed her mind on the funding for Greek life.

"At the budget meeting, there were a lot of things that happened, a lot of things were exchanged," said Osman, "It is not fair that some departments got way more than they requested, though we still overlooked the FSL."

Speaker Minahil Khan did not accept the resolution as an item to vote on, stating procedures that resolutions need to go through before being brought to the senate.

"A resolution can not be brought forward like this," Khan said, urging this to be brought to next year's Student Government, "none of the senators here have heard about this, and they did not have a chance to talk about this."

The Student Government advisor, Emi Menk, then went on to inform the senators that, as written, the resolution does not follow the Minnesota State Sys-

STU GOV on page 5 ▶

Proud of the classwork you did this semester?

Submit your research paper or project to the Journal of Undergraduate Research!




Accepting submissions through May 10, 2022



MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

LIBRARY SERVICES

“A RESOLUTION CAN NOT BE BROUGHT FORWARD LIKE THIS”



MAXWELL MAYLEBEN • The Reporter

Senator Abi Saha (center) takes the podium, standing in front of several members of Greek Life to present a resolution that, if passed, would give the community a one time payment in order to offset recent budget cuts.

◀STU GOV from page 4

Even if this was brought in, voted, and approved, it would be dead in the water,” said Menk to the senate, “this is part of why we ask senators to bring this forward ahead of time.”

President Reauna Stiff then stepped in, stating that Saha and Osman were both aware of the proper procedure.

“It seemed that they were not willing to listen to the advisor as to the correct path forward,” said Stiff, “We as Student Government, don’t have the purview to give you a one time allocation, it has to go through SAC again.”

Stiff claimed that this perspective should have been brought forward much sooner, specifically from Saha and Osman.

“You were on SAC, you got to decide some of these things, you recommended these things,” said Stiff to the two senators.

Saha and Osman and the executive team continued to toss back and forth heated interruptions and disagreements on the procedure for bringing forward resolutions.

Khan, as speaker, asserted that the two senators needed to bring the resolution to committee prior to it being brought to the senate table.

The meeting continued to get personal, with accusations being thrown back and forth referring to attendance at

meetings, as well as statements made in previous meetings.

CSU Director Mark Constantine stepped in more than once attempting to keep the peace.

“A discussion is a great thing to have, personal attacks are not the right thing to be doing right now,” said Constantine.

The boiling point of the meeting came with Saha and Osman intentionally going out of order and Khan forcing them to take a seat, threatening them with removal from the chamber. The president and vice-president removed themselves from the chamber at that time.

Khan proceeded to apologize to the members of FSL, restating her reasons for the lack of procedure following.

Wojack, representing the Panhellenic Council, expressed to the senate that she would be interested in following the correct procedure with the next senate.

“I will be back, and I am willing to have these conversations,” said Wojack, who was hopeful for change to come from the next senate.

In an effort to alleviate some of the tension of the meeting during her report, Khan tried to bring back peace to the senate.

“Let’s just have a Hallmark happy ending,” said Khan, attempting to flip the mood of the room, “because I really need that.”

◀PROVOST from page 1

ly to the President. Hood will also be a member of the President’s Cabinet, and represent the University in the President’s absence.

Hood has earned a Doctor of Education in Administration and Supervision, Concentration in Higher Education, an Education Specialist and a master’s degree in Administration and Supervision from Ten-

nessee State University.

He has also earned a Bachelors of Science in Secondary Education, Biology and History from Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University.

As stated in the email, “Hood’s diverse experience equips him to provide critical insight into some of the most challenging problems facing higher education through data-driven solutions.”

Depp testifies he never hit back

By MATTHEW BARKAT and BEN FINLEY
Associated Press

Actor Johnny Depp scoffed at the notion during court testimony Wednesday that his constant quarrels with ex-wife Amber Heard would ever prompt him to hit her, and instead portrayed Heard as an abusive partner who threw bottles at him, faked domestic violence and became so volatile that Depp would retreat into the bathroom to hide.

“Violence isn’t necessary,” Depp said from the stand during his libel lawsuit against Heard, his second day of testimony. “Why would you hit someone to make them agree with you?”

Heard has accused Depp of physically and sexually assaulting her on multiple occasions before and during their brief marriage. Depp sued after Heard, who is also an actor, made an indirect reference to those accusations in an op-ed piece she wrote for The Washington Post.

Depp began to address Heard’s accusations in detail Wednesday. Heard has said the first time she was assaulted was when Depp slapped her in 2013 after she made fun of a tattoo he had — one that used to say “Winona Forever” when he was dating the actress Winona Ryder that he altered to “Wino Forever” after they broke up.

“It didn’t happen,” he said of the alleged assault. “Why would I take such great offense to someone making fun of a tattoo on my body? That allegation never made any sense to



EVELYN HOCKSTEIN • Associated Press

Actor Johnny Depp testifies during a hearing in the courtroom at the Fairfax County Circuit Court in Fairfax, Va., Wednesday, April 20, 2022.

me.” Later, he addressed an alleged assault on a private plane flight in 2014 from Boston to Los Angeles. Heard has said Depp became blackout intoxicated and assaulted her on the plane ride.

Depp testified he took two oxycodone pills — an opiate to which he admits he was addicted at the time — and locked himself in the plane bathroom and fell asleep to avoid her badgering. Depp testified he drank only a glass of Champagne as he boarded the plane. But according to evidence introduced at a similar trial in England where Depp sued a British tabloid — a lawsuit he lost — Depp texted his friend, actor Paul Bettany, and referenced drinking half a bottle of whiskey, “a thousand Red Bull vodkas” and two bottles of Champagne before the flight. Depp also discussed a violent argument in 2015 — shortly after they were married

— in Australia that resulted in the tip of his middle finger being cut off. He said Heard was irate that Depp’s lawyers had asked her to sign a post-nuptial agreement.

He said she threw two vodka bottles at him, the second of which exploded where he had placed his hand on a basement bar, severing the finger to the point where bone was exposed.

“I don’t know what a nervous breakdown feels like, but that’s probably the closest I’ve ever been,” he said.

Depp said he began to write on the walls in his own blood to recount lies in which he had caught Heard. Depp told hospital doctors he had injured himself, and contemporaneous text messages introduced as evidence refer to Depp injuring himself. Depp testified he lied about the cause of the injury to protect her.

NOW HIRING IN THE NURSING DEPARTMENT!

Opportunities for Full-Time, Part-Time, and Nursing Assistants



- Shifts include every other weekend & holidays.
- Competitive wages
- Benefits
- Opportunity to work with exceptional teammates

MAPLETON
communityhome

Apply online at: www.mapletoncommunityhome.com
or call Rachel at 507-524-3315 for more information

Editorial

Editorials represent the opinions of The Reporter editorial board. The opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the college, university or student body.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Maxwell Mayleben Editor In Chief | Julia Barton News Director | Mansoor Ahmad Media Director |
| Kole Buelow Sports Editor | Emma Johnson Variety Editor | Jenna Peterson Copy Editor |

New food options could've been local

Last week, Minnesota State University, Mankato announced that over the summer new restaurants will be transitioning into the MavAve. In the fall semester, Jazzmans, Sandellas, Star Ginger, and Erberts and Gerberts will be replaced with a Starbucks, Firehouse Subs, Peking Plate, and Hissho Sushi. The current Chick-Fil-A will be relocating downstairs with a larger menu.

While most students are excited about the possibility of having new restaurants to choose from, having locally owned restaurants in its place would greatly benefit the campus and its community. With the traffic the Centennial Student Union at MSU attracts, using local restaurants would greatly benefit them.

While there are barriers to having local business options within the CSU, including potential deals with Sodexo, the food provider, it also provides a unique opportunity for growth and community partnership at the University.

One of the benefits of having local restaurants in the MavAve would be allowing local businesses to expand their customer base. It would not only allow businesses to have a larger student demographic, but let students who might not have originally considered visiting the restaurants get a chance to see what they offer for food and drinks.

This also opens the door for potential experiential learning opportunities. Similar to the Integrated Business Experience and other programs MSU offers, classes could potentially try and run one of these food businesses as a real-world learning opportunity. Giving students the opportunity to run a business can be highly beneficial, especially while at a college campus where the motto is 'Big ideas, real-worlds thinking'. One of the bigger assets of having local restaurants in the MavAve is that it would benefit overall student fees in the CSU. A portion of the profits gained from food sales of the CSU food and drink purchases goes directly to the CSU. Having local restaurants in the CSU that students enjoy would drive more traffic to MavAve, increasing the profits.

Many college students also don't have access to a car, relying on their friends to take them places around town to get groceries or to work.

Replacing chain restaurants in the CSU allows students who don't have cars to still support local businesses while also experiencing a little bit of Mankato's local hot spots.

While it may be difficult, it is worth it for students to pursue local options for restaurants in the student union, as it would bring culture to the campus, as well as foster a strong community.

Perspectives

We want you (but not if you're queer)



JEREMY REDLIEN • The Reporter

JEREMY REDLIEN

WHY NOT TODAY?

Recently, Hennipen County Sheriff David Hutchinson plead guilty to DWI, resulting in calls for his resignation from the Hennipen County Board and Governor Tim Walz. While Hutchinson at this point has not resigned, he has announced that he will not run for re-election.

Personally, I was disappointed in Hutchinson as I remember finding his winning election after coming out as gay and being open about his identity.

I do not disagree with those who have called upon him to resign, but there are aspects to this story that I think have been overlooked.

Being an openly queer cop, arguably means being subjected to two forms of alienation. On one level, you are part of a profession that has historically been

involved in the oppression of the LGBTQ community, which would mean likely being alienated from your own co-workers.

At the same time, because of law enforcements involvement in oppressing the LGBTQ community, many LGBTQ individuals do not trust or respect law enforcement, leading to an LGBTQ police officer being alienated from the LGBTQ community itself.

I know many LGBTQ individuals who have experience discomfort with and have expressed distrust towards law enforcement.

I know individuals for whom even being near a uniformed police officer can in-

duce near panic attack levels of anxiety, even in a casual setting.

At the same time, I have also experienced alienation as a law enforcement student. Most recently, I found myself at a leadership panel for one of my classes, which featured a retired police chief and a member of the Minnesota State Patrol.

The retired police chief, while talking about the need to be approachable as a leader in law enforcement, talked about how one of the ways he did this was by changing into his uniform in the locker room with the regular patrol officers during shift changes.

I immediately found myself putting this tidbit into the ever growing list of "advice that does not apply to me as an LGBTQ person".

I cannot imagine a gay police chief who did such a thing as changing in the

COLUMN on page 7

PULSE

"What was your first job?"

Compiled by Dylan Long



MITCHELL NELSON, SENIOR

"Mom & Pops Manessti Pizza Shop. It was good."



ANNE-LYSE NONNO, SOPHOMORE

"High School teaching assistant. It was fun."



NOAH WALL, SENIOR

"Jimmy John's. It wasn't too bad."



MARIANA DERMENJI, SENIOR

"Food court on campus. I liked it."



WALEED EL SAADI, SOPHOMORE

"Dining Center. I did not like it after a few weeks."



KAI WINFIELD, JUNIOR

"Dollar General. I hated it."

Climate change, big agriculture combine to threaten insects



DARKO VOJINOVIC • Associated Press

A bee searches for pollen on a flower during a spring day in Belgrade, Serbia, Friday, April 8, 2022. The journal Nature says habitat loss from big agriculture and climate change are combining to threaten the world's insects.

By SETH BORENSTEIN
Associated Press

Climate change and habitat loss from big agriculture are combining to swat down global insect populations, with each problem making the other worse, a new study finds.

While insects may bug people at times, they also are key in pollinating plants to feed people, making soil more fertile and they include beautiful butterflies and fireflies. Scientists have noticed a dramatic drop both in total bug numbers and diversity of insect species, calling it a slow-motion death by 1,000 cuts. Those cuts include pesticides and light pollution.

Big single-crop agriculture that leaves less habitat and leafy food for bugs plus higher tem-

peratures from climate change are huge problems for insects, but a new study in the journal Nature Wednesday based on more than 750,000 samples of 18,000 different species of insects says it's not just those two threats acting on their own. It's how habitat loss and climate change interact that really smashes bug populations.

In about half the cases where numbers of insects had plummeted, researchers found climate change and habitat loss from agriculture magnifying each other. In more than a quarter of the cases of biodiversity loss, meaning fewer species, the same dynamic was at work.

"We know insects are under threat. We're now getting a much bigger handle on what they are threatened by and

how much," said study author Charlotte Outhwaite, an ecologist at the University College of London.

"In this case, the habitat loss and climate change can often be worse than if they were acting on their own, as one can make the impact of the other worse and vice versa," Outhwaite said. "We're missing part of the picture if we are only looking at these things individually."

For example, monoculture agriculture often reduces tree shading, making it hotter in a given spot.

On top of that comes climate change, she said. Then insects that need heat relief or need to move north for cooler climates can run into problems with lack of proper habitat from large farms.

◀COLUMN from page 6

locker room regularly when he did not have to, would in fact end up being described as "approachable".

At this leadership panel, another problem that was discussed was the shortage of applicants to police departments. Minnesota lawmakers recently proposed a \$65 million dollar package to help recruit and retain law enforcement professionals.

What I see absent from the proposals to address this shortage is anything that involves fixing the active discrimination currently faced by police applicants in Minnesota.

For example, Minnesota law requires that to get accepted into a college law enforcement program, one must take and pass a psych exam.

This inevitably means that applicants will most likely find themselves taking the Minne-

sota Multiphasic Personality Inventory.

Which means that applicants will be taking a test that not only includes an array of questions on ones gender identity and sexuality, but was designed by psychiatrists who thought a question about whether one wanted to be a florist, was a perfectly reasonable way to determine a test takers sexuality.

While I was able to pass a psych evaluation and get accepted into the law enforcement program here at MSU, I still wound up getting a letter describing me as confused about my gender.

As a non-binary individual, I cannot tell you how insulting it is to be described in such a negative, stereotypical way by a psychiatric professional.

Ever since I started taking classes here, I fought to make sure that course content includ-

ed LGBTQ issues, something that many classes here are lacking. While I believe I have made some progress on these issues, I still feel that necessary and relevant material is lacking.

Some days I feel exhausted just trying to get professors to stop using the terms "homosexual" or "homosexuality".

Ultimately, discrimination against the LGBTQ community is real and exists both beyond and within the field of law enforcement.

What I will admit to being genuinely confused about is why it was ever an issue in the first place.

In any event, the crisis of discrimination against the LGBTQ community and other marginalized groups must be better addressed.

Until such a day has come that we no longer face discrimination, we will continue to ask, why has it not ended today?



JENNA PETERSON • The Reporter

◀FOOD from page 1

the five year time there's money that can be reinvested back to the University in some way," Constantine stated. "So, we take a look at what's gone well, and in some of our retail spaces what hasn't gone so well."

Choosing which retail locations will replace the old ones required some critical thought on what dining places would drive up numbers, as Constantine wants to encourage more students to eat on campus.

"Sandellas has been underwhelming. We liked the concept when we first started the contract with Sodexo, but it's never really hit a home run. And looking we don't have a sandwich concept once Erberts and Gerberts goes away, we're bringing Firehouse Subs in where Sandellas [currently] is," Constantine stated. He also pointed out how other colleges are bringing Firehouse Subs to their campuses, and thought they should do the same.

"Sodexo has brought some of those [Firehouse Subs] into college campuses. We decided to bring the Firehouse Subs in," Constantine commented. "There's other ones you can go in for, there's Erbert and Gerberts and Subway, but to bring in something different, that's what we decided."

Before finalizing the decisions to bring in new food choices, the CSU met with the Student Union Board to receive some student input.

"When this is happening, we as administrators work with the Student Union Board.

I started talking with the students last year when we were first talking about this a little and said, 'Hey, this is what's going on, what do you think,' and got some input along the way," Constantine stated. "That's sort of my student eyes and ears along the way when we talk about a couple of these different changes."

MSU freshmen Cassi Jarmusch and Pa Yang are looking forward to the fresh choices they'll have starting in the fall, as they're not fans of the current options.

"I love it. I'm not really about the current options," Jarmusch explained.

Yang pointed out the love both of them have for Starbucks, "I'm excited about the sushi and I'm very happy about Starbucks. We go there a lot, so that'll be nice."

With students already excited for the new options they'll have starting in the fall semester, Constantine is confident more students will prefer to eat on campus.

"I think Starbucks will bring some attention that typically hasn't [been there]. Jazzman's done great, they've always done well because of their location. I think Chick-fil-A will, even though we've had it, be at a higher level and [having] a few more options will bring more people."

The remodeled Chick-fil-A is expected to reopen in the lower level of the CSU in June, with the four new dining options planned to open during welcome week in August.

HOUSE FOR RENT

LOCATED IN WEST MANKATO

3+ BEDROOMS, 2.5 BATHROOMS

- LARGE GARAGE WITH DOOR REMOTE
- WASHER/DRYER IN UNIT
- CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING
- AVAILABLE AUGUST 1ST, 2022 (MAYBE SOONER)
- \$1,500/MO. + UTILITIES

507-327-4008
- ASK FOR MARK -



PLAYING WITH FIRE

Local craftsman and ceramic artist Jon Nibbe offers his kiln to MSU art students and other individuals who wish to learn about the wood firing process when completing their ceramic artwork. “I created the kiln in a way to bring in community and that is shown in the group of people who come and rotate shifts to support the fire,” Nibbe says. Wood firing uses dried and split wood logs as a fuel source rather than gas and propane, requiring constant attention for multiple days to maintain the fire in the kiln. Artworks are strategically positioned in the kiln to ensure maximum capacity. The process carefully increases the temperature to ensure a balanced firing rate and to not overheat its contents. A required temperature properly called “Cone 11,” or approximately 2,350-2,400 degrees Fahrenheit, is the maximum temperature necessary for this process. One of the final stages is called “reduction cooling,” which uses an addition of charcoal to draw out and reduce the heat. This stage ends with a cascade of sparks and flames before the final cooling off period.

Photos by DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

SPORTS

Jackson is a runner, she's a track star

By KARSON BUELOW
Staff Writer

It doesn't seem that long ago that former MSU track and field star Dana Collins encouraged her daughter to lace up her shoes and try basketball. And if Makayla Jackson felt at any point that she didn't want to play anymore, then Dana would be supportive of her decision. "I tried basketball when I was in fourth grade," Makayla said. "I stopped my sophomore year of high school and realized this wasn't something I wanted to go forward with. My mom wasn't upset or anything, it just wasn't for me."

Fast-forward several years later, Jackson has traded out her basketball shoes for a pair of spikes that have helped her win several titles including: NCAA Division II Track and Field National Champion. And yes, this was the same kid whose mother put together a remarkable career at Minnesota State before taking her talents to the Olympics.

"For me, it feels good being able to follow in my mom's footsteps," Jackson said with a smile. "Whenever I hit a road bump in track, I always go to her because it feels like I'm running in her footsteps again."

Despite her mom's evident influence in her track and field career, Jackson remained adamant in saying her mom wasn't the reason she chose Minnesota State. "It was kind of on me to decide to come here," Jackson said. "And honestly Mankato was the only school that was reaching out to me and really pressing me to come here."

It's safe to say that Makayla's decision to come to MSU has turned out to be a good one, as earlier this season she was crowned National Champion for 60m and long jump. But while many athletes would be overjoyed to call themselves champions, Jackson looks back on that distinct moment with a smirk.

"Heading into the championships,



DYLAN LONG • The Reporter

Sophomore Makayla Jackson has made her mark early in her collegiate career, most recently winning the individual national championships for the 60m dash and long jump. Jackson succeeds her mom, Dana, at MSU and hopes to follow in her shoes at the Olympics someday.

I set expectations for myself," Jackson said. "Once I crossed the finish line in the 60m and looked up at the time, I was upset because that wasn't the time I wanted to run."

"It messed up my emotions," Jackson continued. "In my head I realized that I won, but it wasn't the time that I wanted

to win with. 10-15 minutes later after my coaches talked to me, I just accepted that I was a national champion."

While many star athletes of different sports have smaller superstitions that help them get focused, Jackson is quick to say she isn't one of them. "I do have routines that I like to go through how-

ever," Jackson said with a laugh. "The night before a race I like to do this imagery thing where I think about how everything will play out. That way once the race day comes, I know how everything is gonna play out."

With only two more years left of her **JACKSON on page 10**

Baseball tops Concordia-St. Paul twice for top spot in NSIC



DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

Junior Nick Altermatt leads the Mavs' bats this season with a .405 batting average. Altermatt has also collected a team-leading 51 strikeouts and is 7-0 on the mound.

By KARSON BUELOW • Staff Writer

The Minnesota State University, Mankato baseball team extended their win streak to seven games this past Tuesday with a double-header sweep against Concordia-St. Paul. With their wins on Tuesday, the Mavericks have also claimed sole possession of first place in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) standings.

Senior pitcher Cam Kline remained perfect on the season as he picked up his fifth win in the Mavericks' 6-4 victory over the Golden Bears in game one. Kline tallied six strikeouts through six innings pitched and allowed zero runs.

Sophomore Nathan Culley had an impressive performance on the mound in MSU's 11-0 win over CSP in game two. The Andover, Minn. native struck out 15 batters through 21 batters-faced while letting up only two hits.

Minnesota State started out strong in the first inning of game one as sophomore infielder Jackson Hauge tallied a three-

run home run blast to left center field. The Mavs would extend the lead to 4-0 in the second inning as junior outfielder Ryan Wickman tallied an RBI double to right field.

MSU piled on two more runs in the third inning when senior infielder Ross Indlecoffer hit an RBI single through the left side. With the MSU lead at 6-0, CSP was able to mount a small comeback effort in the seventh inning.

Sophomore infielder Bryce Nelson got the Golden Bears on the board in the seventh with an RBI single through the left side. Shortly after, the MSU lead was cut to four as junior pitcher Jack Brown struck CSP's Justin McGuigan with a pitch while the bases were loaded.

The Golden Bears were able to muster up two more runs in the seventh, but were finished off by the Mavericks in a 6-4 final. Both teams had a short break before returning to the field at 4:15 p.m. for game two of the doubleheader.

Similarly to game one, the Maver- **BASEBALL on page 11**

Softball eyes No. 1 spot in NSIC ahead of three double headers



EMILY LANSMAN • The Reporter

Freshman catcher Ella Schulz has been solid for the Mavericks in her first season behind the plate, recording 51 put outs in 14 starts. Schulz has appeared in the batter's box 28 times, recording two RBIs on four hits.

By KOLE BUELOW
Sports Editor

The middle of April has been kind to the Minnesota State University, Mankato softball team. The team has won seven of their past eight games and currently ride a six game win streak into three double headers coming up this week.

It all started on April 10th, where the team traveled to St. Cloud, Minn. to play St. Cloud State, where the team won the first game of a double header 5-0 before dropping game two that day 2-5. Just two days later the streak began, with the Mavericks downing Upper Iowa 8-1 and 12-11 on a trip down to Fayette.

The Mavs returned home this past weekend to battle Minnesota Crookston and Bemidji State, which they out scored by a combined 16-1 over the course of four games. Minnesota State now looks forward to their three double headers this week, which begins with a road trip to Sioux Falls to play the Cougars.

Sioux Falls has had an up and down season so far, currently having them sit at .500 with a 17-17 overall record. The Cougars are 5-8 in conference play inside the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference and ride a two game losing streak into the double header against the Mavericks today.

Sioux Falls has not struggled to get their bats going this season, as they have four starting batters over a .300 batting average. It's their pitching, however, that has seen the team float around the .500 mark all season.

No pitcher on the roster allows an earned run average (ERA) under 3.5 this season, and only one pitcher has a positive record on the mound. However, the Cougars lean on sophomore

Hanna Cress to steer the ship in the pitching department, and she has collected nine wins on the season to go along with nine losses. Cress has an ERA of 3.72 and has posted 74 strikeouts in 101.2 innings pitched.

The Mavericks then travel home to face Northern State, who recently broke a six game losing streak with a 1-0 win over St. Cloud State on Wednesday. The Northern State Wolves come into the double header with an 11-29 overall record while going 3-15 in NSIC play.

Despite not winning many games, the Wolves have one of the best batters in the NSIC with redshirt freshman Liv Richardson. Richardson has posted a .430 batting average to go along with 30 RBIs and seven home runs in 128 at bats.

Just like the Cougars, the Wolves struggle to keep run-

ners off the bases. Northern State combines for a 5.82 ERA on the mound while giving up an average of .309 at the plate to opposing batters.

The Mavs then return the next day to face MSU Moorhead, who similarly has struggled this season to find themselves in the win column. The Dragons will have four games before facing Minnesota State, but currently have a 6-26 overall record and 3-13 record in the NSIC.

Moorhead has struggled in both batting and pitching this season, with no batters topping a .270 average at the plate. The Dragons have an allowed batting average of .352.

With three teams located in the bottom half of the NSIC standings on the schedule for this week's games, the Mavericks will have a good shot at topping Augustana in the NSIC standings this weekend. Minnesota State has an NSIC record of 14-4, which is two games behind Augustana at 16-2.

With nearly eight batters above .300 in batting average on the Mavs, MSU should be able to do a lot of damage to teams who struggle on the mound this weekend.

The Mavericks also rely on senior Mackenzie Ward on the mound themselves, who posts an ERA under 1 and has a dominant 21-3 record in 27 appearances.

◀JACKSON from page 9

athletic eligibility, Jackson has started thinking beyond the track about what she plans on doing after college. And while she plans on trying to go pro for track, growing up in an underprivileged area has led her towards a career in social work

as well.

"I want to work with youth because I believe everyone has a story to tell," Jackson said. "The help that I should've got when I was younger, I started to get when I was older. I could take all that help that I got and pass it to a youth that's gonna

need it."

"I specifically want to work in the detention centers for youth," Jackson continued. "They probably feel like they're never gonna get out, and I want to be there to show them that there is light at the end of the tunnel."

Talbot shuts out Montreal in Minnesota Wild's 2-0 win



RYAN REMIORZ • Associated Press

Minnesota Wild goaltender Cam Talbot (33) celebrates with Dmitry Kulikov (7) after the Wild defeated the Montreal Canadiens.

Associated Press

Cam Talbot made 26 saves for his third shutout of the season in Minnesota's 2-0 win over the Montreal Canadiens on Tuesday night at the Bell Centre. He's pleased that his strong play of late has come as the Wild try to secure home-ice advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

"It means that much more," Talbot said. "I thought that we came out extremely hard and I was able to make a big save there right at the end of the first period and then kept it a one-goal game."

"You need saves like that throughout the game. I think that kind of settled us down a little bit more in the second and it definitely settled (me) down too."

Kevin Fiala scored and assisted on Matt Boldy's third-period goal as the Wild improved to 48-21-7. The Wild opened the scoring on the power play at 6:57 of the first period. Fiala one-timed Mats Zuccarello's pass in the slot to net his 30th goal of the season and seventh in his last six games.

The Wild padded its lead at 2:29 of the third period when Boldy tucked the puck between his legs and scored from a tight angle. Carey Price made 28 saves for Montreal. He said he felt more comfortable in his second start. "That was the big part of coming back, being able to gain some confidence and play in these last few games," Price said. "There's nothing that can replicate reps like this so being able to come back is beneficial for my game."

**MANKATO GOLF CLUB
IS NOW ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS TO FILL FOR:**

KITCHEN STAFF

Applications can either be picked up at the Mankato Golf Club or on our website, www.mankatogolfclub.com.

No phone calls.

Training for these positions starts now.

Return applications with preferred area to Cheryl at the Club or email to Cheryl@mankatogolfclub.com.

Mankato
GOLF CLUB

MANKATO GOLF CLUB
100 Augusta Drive • Mankato, MN
www.mankatogolfclub.com

Grizzlies rout Timberwolves 124-96 to tie series at 1 apiece

By TERESA WALKER
Associated Press

The Memphis Grizzlies responded to losing their first game as a No. 2 seed by getting back to how they play.

The result? The largest margin of victory in franchise history in a playoff game and a near triple-double by Ja Morant.

The All-Star point guard scored 23 points, handed out 10 assists and grabbed nine rebounds as the Grizzlies looked much more like the team that posted the NBA's second-best record, routing the Minnesota Timberwolves 124-96 on Tuesday night to even up their first-round Western Conference series at 1 apiece.

Morant went to the bench with 4:40 left to a huge ovation and teammates telling him how close he was to a triple-double.

"It was good to get that win," Morant said. "Obviously, you know, if you get a triple-double, it's hard to do it in this league, so that's special as well. But the win is the important thing, and we got that."

Memphis coach Taylor Jenkins said Morant showed great balance along with the bench outscoring Minnesota 60-43 and defense fueling the offense.

"This is our recipe ..., " Jenkins said. "This is the more the style that we got to play."

Desmond Bane and Jaren Jackson Jr. each added 16 with Jackson hitting 4 of 7 from 3-point range. Seven Grizzlies finished in double figures with Brandon Clarke, Xavier Tillman Sr. and Ziaire Williams each having 13. Tyus Jones added 10.

Game 3 is Thursday night in Minneapolis.

Anthony Edwards, who scored 36 points in his playoff debut in Game 1, led Minnesota with 20. All-Star center Karl-Anthony Towns had 15 points and 11 rebounds. Naz Reid and Taurean Prince had 12 each off the bench, and D'Angelo Russell added 11.

"It shows just how physical and locked in you've got to be every single night regardless of the opponent," Towns said. "A small lapse, mental, and you see what the game comes out to be in the playoffs."

The Timberwolves dominated the series opener after scoring a franchise-record 41 points in the first quarter.

This time, officials stayed



BRANDON DILL • Associated Press

Memphis Grizzlies guard Ja Morant (12) reacts during the second half of Game 2 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series against the Minnesota Timberwolves on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, in Memphis, Tenn.

very busy calling 20 fouls in a very long first quarter. That kept the NBA's top scoring teams in the regular season from getting into any rhythm as they combined to shoot 33 free throws.

Foul trouble forced Jenkins to turn to Tillman who didn't play in Game 1, and he turned in the best playoff game of his young career.

The Grizzlies grabbed their biggest lead of this short series at 30-23 on a floater by Jones with 2:11 left, and they led 33-32 after the first quarter when Morant's long buzzer-beater attempt hit off the rim and off.

"Then our offense just dried up. Our shot selection in the second quarter basically started the avalanche," said Minnesota coach Chris Finch, who added that the Grizzlies also started controlling the glass. "That's really where the game was won."

The Grizzlies shot 48% from the floor compared to 40% for Minnesota. Both teams made 11 3s, a big difference from the series opener when Minnesota knocked down 16 of 41 compared to 7 of 27 for Memphis.

Memphis started running in the second and opened the quarter with an 11-2 run and finished on an 11-5 run for a 60-49 lead at halftime with Morant not scoring a point. Patrick Beverley summed up Minnesota's struggles when his layup before the buzzer rolled off the rim.

The Grizzlies pushed that lead to as much as 27 with a 25-9 run in the third, and Morant scored 12 in the quarter hitting 5 of 7 shots, including

both 3-pointers. His layup gave Memphis a 87-60 lead with 4:15 to go in the third, and the Grizzlies led 96-77 going into the fourth.

Minnesota was the NBA's best-shooting team outside the arc and outscored Memphis 48-21 in Game 1 as the Grizzlies shooting 26% outside the arc with only three knocking down a 3-pointer. This time, Memphis shot 11-of-34 with six Grizzlies knocking down at least one.

Timberwolves: They had 30 field goals, matching the season low against Toronto on Feb. 16. ... After knocking down 16 3s in Game 1, they were 11 of 38 (28.9%). ... Russell now is 5 of 22 in this series.

Grizzlies: Entering the game had lost four of their last five games including the series opener. ... Jackson, who matched his career high with seven blocks in the opener, had one Tuesday night. But he knocked down four 3s ... D'Anthony Melton came in 8 of 26 from 3-point range. He was 2 of 6. ... Adams played 2:50 after picking up two early fouls. ... They had 29 assists and now are 29-1 when they have at least 28 assists.

It didn't take long in the game for things to get a bit chippy. Officials called a foul on Towns early, then on the same play got Patrick Beverley for a technical after a swipe at Morant's head. Then Adams got called for a foul that was upgraded to a flagrant 1 after he smacked Jarred Vanderbilt across the face. And all that was in the first three minutes.

Game 3 is Thursday night in Minneapolis.

BASEBALL from page 9

icks opened game two with a homerun, this one coming in the third inning from the bat of sophomore infielder Adam Schneider. Schneider brought the MSU lead to 2-0 in the fourth inning with an RBI single through the left side.

Senior catcher Ben Livorsi extended the lead to 3-0 in the fifth inning with a solo home

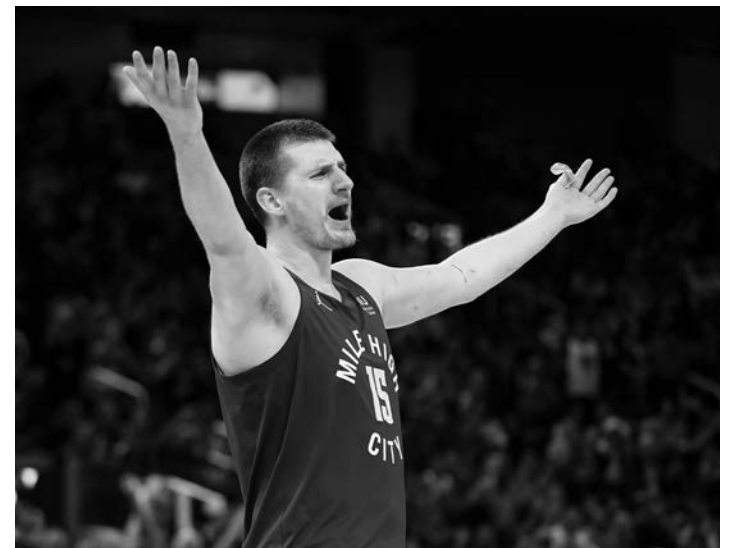
run to right field. Minnesota State's bats started to get hot in the fifth inning as they poured on three more runs to take a 6-0 lead.

Livorsi kept the bats hot in the sixth inning with a triple of his own, but scored on a throwing error by Concordia's second-baseman Brayden Roybal. The Mavericks opened the floodgates in the sixth inning,

scoring four more runs to take an 11-0 lead.

With the run rule in effect, Minnesota State beat Concordia 11-0 in seven innings in game two and improved to a 27-5 overall record on the season. The Mavericks will be back in action April 27 as they take on Sioux Falls in an afternoon doubleheader at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Nuggets put bickering aside, trail Warriors 2-0 in series



JEFF CHIU • Associated Press

Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic (15) reacts after being called for a technical foul during the second half of Game 2 of an NBA basketball first-round playoff series against the Golden State Warriors.

By PAT GRAHAM
Associated Press

Jamal Murray found himself in the middle of things on the court — as a peacemaker, not a point guard.

In street clothes, the injured Murray, who hasn't played in more than a year, had to break up a squabble between Will Barton and DeMarcus Cousins during a timeout in the Nuggets' Game 2 loss at Golden State.

Water under the bridge, the Nuggets maintain. But it's a glimpse at how this series has gone for the Nuggets, who find themselves in a 2-0 hole as the series shifts to Denver for Game 3 on Thursday night. The Nuggets will try regain their composure not only against Stephen Curry and the

Warriors, but with the officials and each other.

"It was all just out of frustration ... wanting to do better," Nuggets guard Austin Rivers said Wednesday after practice. "We are desperate but we're not going to play that way. We're going to go out there and play the way we play."

A healthy Murray would definitely help launch Denver. He's been sidelined since tearing his left ACL last season. He's been lighting up the nets during pregame workouts for several weeks now, and the team has said the decision to return remains in his hands.

Seeing him in street clothes night in and night out has flummoxed some Denver fans.

Murray took to social me-
NBA on page 12

FREE!
SPRING
SMASH
BASH

APRIL 24 @ 2-4 PM
PERFORMING ARTS
250 RECITAL HALL

RSVP: link.mnsu.edu/smashbash

Drop in and play Super SMASH Bros. Ultimate, meet friends, & enjoy great music! Open to Mankato community.

Mankato's Newest Mexican Restaurant & Grill

Los Dos Amigos

\$5⁰⁰ OFF

Two Plates & Two Drinks
from Lunch Menu

\$7⁰⁰ OFF

Two Plates & Two Drinks
from Dinner Menu

*Cannot be combined with any other special offers.

2041 Blazing Star Dr.
Mankato

507-517-7269

losdosamigosmankato.com

Wimbledon bans players from Russia, Belarus over Ukraine war



KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH • Associated Press

Russia's Daniil Medvedev plays a return to Spain's Carlos Alcaraz during the men's singles second round match on day four of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Thursday July 1, 2021.

By CHRIS LEHOURITES
Associated Press

Tennis players from Russia and Belarus will not be allowed to play at Wimbledon this year because of the war in Ukraine, the All England Club announced Wednesday.

Among the prominent men's players affected by the ban are reigning U.S. Open champion Daniil Medvedev, who recently reached No. 1 in the ATP rankings and is currently No. 2, and No. 8 Andrey Rublev. The women's players affected include No. 4 Aryna Sabalenka, who was a Wimbledon semifinalist last year; Victoria Azarenka, a former No. 1 who has won the Australian Open twice; and Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, the French Open runner-up last year.

Medvedev, Rublev and Pavlyuchenkova are from Russia; Sabalenka and Azarenka are from Belarus. Wimbledon begins on June 27. The All England Club confirmed in March that it was having discussions with the British government about whether Russians should be able to play in the grass-court Grand Slam tournament.

"It is our responsibility to play our part in the widespread efforts ... to limit Russia's global influence through the strongest means possible," the All England Club said in a statement first posted on Twitter. "In the circumstances of such unjustified and unprecedented military aggression, it would be unacceptable for the Russian regime to derive any benefits from the involvement of Russian or Belarusian players with The Championships."

Russian athletes have been prevented from competing in many sports following their country's invasion of Ukraine. Belarus has aided Russia in the

war.

Soccer, figure skating and track and field all banned Russian and Belarusian athletes and teams from their events because of the war. The Russian men's national soccer team was excluded from last month's World Cup qualifying playoffs, forcing them to miss a chance to reach this year's tournament in Qatar. Wednesday's move signals the first time a tennis tournament has told players from Russia and Belarus they are not welcome — and the ATP was quick to criticize the All England Club for what the men's tennis tour called a "unilateral decision" and "unfair."

"Our sport is proud to operate on the fundamental principles of merit and fairness, where players compete as individuals to earn their place in tournaments," the ATP said in a statement, adding that the decision "has the potential to set a damaging precedent for the game."

The WTA also said it was "very disappointed" with the decision.

"As the WTA has consistently stated, individual athletes should not be penalized or prevented from competing due to where they are from, or the decisions made by the governments of their countries," the women's tour said in a statement. "The WTA will be evaluating its next steps and what actions may be taken regarding these decisions."

The seven groups that run the sport around the world decided March 1 that players from those countries would be allowed to compete in WTA, ATP and Grand Slam tournaments but not under the name or flag of Russia or Belarus. Those two nations also were kicked out of the Billie Jean King Cup and Davis Cup team

competitions; Russia had been the reigning champion in both.

The French Open, which starts on May 22, will be the first Grand Slam tournament held since Russia invaded Ukraine in February and is expected to permit Russian and Belarusian players to compete — just as so-called "neutral" athletes who may not represent their countries.

The U.S. Tennis Association, which runs the U.S. Open, said Wednesday it has not made a decision about whether players from Russia and Belarus can compete at the year's last Grand Slam tournament, which begins on Aug. 29. The All England Club said that if "circumstances change materially between now and June," it would "respond accordingly."

"We recognise that this is hard on the individuals affected, and it is with sadness that they will suffer for the actions of the leaders of the Russian regime," All England Club chairman Ian Hewitt said.

"We have very carefully considered the alternative measures that might be taken within the UK Government guidance but, given the high profile environment of The Championships, the importance of not allowing sport to be used to promote the Russian regime and our broader concerns for public and player (including family) safety, we do not believe it is viable to proceed on any other basis at The Championships."

Some current and former tennis players from Ukraine — including two-time Grand Slam semifinalist Elina Svitolina and the recently retired Sergiy Stakhovskiy — put up a statement on Twitter on Wednesday that called on the WTA, ATP and International Tennis Federation to ask players if they support the invasion of Ukraine.

◀NBA from page 11

dia this week to defend himself: "Y'all don't think I wanna be out there huh.. crazy."

"It's killing him not to be able to go out there and help us," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said.

Murray could certainly help on the perimeter and with stopping Golden State's "three-headed monster" — Malone's term — of Klay Thompson, Jordan Poole and Curry.

Malone said Murray won't play in Game 3. Reigning MVP Nikola Jokic lost his cool in Game 2. Frustrated over a lack of whistles, Jokic received a second technical in the fourth quarter and got ejected.

This all reaffirms one thing to the Warriors: Their style — lots of 3s, swarming defense — is getting into the Nuggets' heads.

"Frustration usually shows up in body language," said War-

riors All-Star Draymond Green, whose team is a 1 1/2-point favorite according to FanDuel Sportsbook. "If you feel like you're getting under their skin, you press up a little more. If you don't feel like you're getting under their skin, you press up a little more."

Thursday's games:

WARRIORS AT NUGGETS
Golden State leads 2-0.
Game 3, 10 p.m. EDT, TNT

— NEED TO KNOW: The second quarter has been the pivotal point in both games. The Warriors went on a 18-4 run to close out the first half in Game 1 and a 26-8 spurt in Game 2.

— KEEP AN EYE ON: Barton and Cousins. They had a very public spat near the bench in Game 2. Monte Morris and Murray intervened. "We can't let that happen in the series, in the playoffs, in the game," Barton said postgame. "I've got to be better than that."

NEED TO SCRAP YOUR VEHICLE?
\$\$ CALL US \$\$

- ★ USED PARTS
- ★ HIGHEST PRICES PAID
- FOR ALL GRADES OF METAL INCLUDING APPLIANCES
- ★ TOP DOLLAR PAID



MONDAY-FRIDAY 8-4:30

507-524-3735

(10 MILES SOUTH ON HWY. 22)

BANDRAUTOTRUCKSALVAGE.COM



NOW HIRING
DRIVERS &



MOVERS

- Full-Time & Part-Time Available
- Starting pay \$15/hr.
- No CDL Required to be a Driver
- Super flexible daytime hours and days
- Applicants must take direction well and be in decent shape due to physically taxing job duties.

TO APPLY:

Call 507-382-9491 or

Email: mankatomovers@gmail.com

Message us on Facebook • Walk-Ins Welcome

Sorensen's



MANKATO MOVERS

We'll get you there

VARIETY

New literary journal debuts

By EMMA JOHNSON
Variety Editor

It can be daunting and intimidating to put out personal written works as they reveal the deepest part of one's self. However, it can be a liberating feeling. Minnesota State University, Mankato's latest literary magazine, "River Whale Review" allows students of all majors to submit their own literary works.

The "River Whale Review" is an undergraduate literary journal that allows students to publish work of students that might be overlooked in the department. In the debut issue, a variety of works were published including poetry, creative nonfiction and photography.

Creative Writing Professor and Director Geoffrey Herbach wanted to start the journal after noticing the university didn't have one.

"There's such a strong culture of writing on campus and it felt high time to get this going," said Herbach.

"So I ran a class dedicated to the creation of an online journal. We came up with a mission that feels like it really suits our school and our great student writers."

Editor and junior Sarah Koenigsfeld explained that the name of the journal came to be from the editorial staff joking about the joke that river whales were in the Mississippi river a few years ago.

"[When coming up with the name] we wanted to relate it to the university, but also make it stand off on its own," shared Koenigsfeld.



DYLAN LONG • The Reporter

Creative Writing Professor and Director Geoffrey Herbach started MSU's new literary journal "The River Whale Review" after recognizing the strong writing culture on campus and to focus on undergraduate's writing.

"Someone brought up the River Whale Website and were like 'what if we named the journal after the River Whale joke?' because it was something that

happened in Minnesota and it's kind of cool."

Senior Sarah James is one of the editors on "River Whale Review." She found editing the

journal to be a positive experience. "I found it to be fun. It wasn't as painful as I assumed it was going to be," shared James.

"We all work together well in a group. It was a fun environment, it wasn't me sifting through mounds of poetry by myself."

Being a creative writing major can be difficult, especially when writing fantasy worlds. Editor and senior Noah Kroells credits authors Neil Gaiman and Rick Riordan for inspiring him to write urban fantasy stories.

"I've been a big reader throughout my life and being able to write has kind of allowed me to do that same thing," said Kroells. "[Becoming a writer] is something I've been wanting to do for a long time."

On April 30, students who submitted work will be participating in a live reading in CSU 245 from 3 to 5 p.m. Koenigsfeld is looking forward to seeing how authors will read their pieces.

"When different [pieces] are written, the author has a different way of it being read with speed and pauses that they maybe didn't necessarily put into the writing because they didn't want it to be read wrong and I find that interesting," shared Koenigsfeld.

The editors hope that readers enjoy and recognize the work of their fellow classmates and peers at MSU.

"For sports and music, Minnesota State University, Mankato has concerts, games and plays where we can all support each

JOURNAL on page 14

Vincent Kenobbie's art sparks meaningful discussions

By LILLY SCHMIDT
Staff Writer

Art can be a great way to open up discussions for topics near to the artist's heart, all the while letting them express their creativity.

For upcoming 410 Project artist Vincent Kenobbie, their latest exhibition is about just that.

Kenobbie is a current student at Gustavus Adolphus College, studying to be a studio work major and arts administration minor.

They describe their art as surrealistic and transformative. For their upcoming exhibition, Kenobbie explained that they'll be showing a variety of work.

"All of it has been stuff that I've been working on for the last few months. It's kind of a combination of spirituality, transformation, and sexuality," shared Kenobbie. "It's all part of the larger idea of my identity and how it plays into my work as a whole."

The drive and love for art has always been evident to them.

When they were younger, Kenobbie knew they wanted to be an artist their entire life, but their passion didn't take off until they were a teenager.

"There's little booklets that we made in preschool that were like, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?' And I would put a painter and then have this little picture of me standing at an easel," said Kenobbie.

"It didn't become something that I wanted to really pursue, for sure, until late middle school. Since then, I've been pursuing art as a profession."

Kenobbie practices a branch of paganism that was a strong sense of inspiration for the gallery.

Part of why Kenobbie used paganism was to use art to reach out to others.

"I use art to reach out to people who have similar identities and similar experiences and to help. We have a conversation with the viewer, which is why the title of the show is 'Conversations Beyond the Veil,'" shared Kenobbie.

"I want to have that conversation."
ARTWORK on page 14

Circle Inn brings laughs at weekly comedy nights

By SYD BERGGREN
Staff Writer

The Circle Inn Bar, located in North Mankato, draws customers in with its welcoming atmosphere and entertainment. Since Nov. 21, 2021, the local bar has been hosting weekly comedy open mic nights, having grown to entertain crowds of over 50 people.

Comedy night Creator Dan Vierck got a passion for comedy open mics in 2014, when he started attending them in Madison, WI, where he was living. When he moved to Mankato in 2021, he found the city was lacking a comedy scene and was quickly looking to fix that.

"In settling and meeting people in the community, I decided to try starting a weekly comedy open mic," said Vierck.

"With the support of people who have been long-entrenched in the area arts community, it



Courtesy photo

The Circle Inn Bar in North Mankato hosts weekly open mic comedy nights where audiences have the chance to deliver their own jokes.

has grown into something better than I ever could've imagined."

The open mic nights are open to anyone, whether they are just wanting to give comedy a try or they have been doing it

for years.

"I put the sign-up sheet out at 7 p.m. At 7:30, I make a couple announcements, do some jokes myself, or what I think are jokes, then I introduce the next

performer," shared Vierck.

Vierck emphasized that the atmosphere of the events are welcoming for everyone. Swearing is allowed for jokes, but jokes that are openly racist, homophobic, or demeaning aren't allowed.

"We haven't had a problem with people [making insensitive jokes] but I'm confident the people in the room would not respond well, which is enough for most people to know not to make that mistake again," said Vierck. "If someone comes in thinking comedy is just a succession of outrageous, taboo, slanderous statements, this open mic is an opportunity for them to see it can be many things. Instead of just booting someone who's ignorant or lazy, I think this might be a key opportunity for that person to grow."

Vierck and the Circle Inn staff also have clear opinions

COMEDY on page 15

New Mexico fines film company over Alec Baldwin shooting



EVAN AGOSTINI • Associated Press

On Wednesday, April 20, New Mexico workplace safety regulators issued the maximum possible fine against a film production company for firearms safety failures after a cinematographer was killed on Alec Baldwin's set.

By MORGAN LEE
Associated Press

New Mexico workplace safety regulators on Wednesday issued the maximum possible fine of nearly \$137,000 against a film production company for firearms safety failures on the set of "Rust" where actor and producer Alec Baldwin fatally shot a cinematographer in October.

New Mexico's Occupational Health and Safety Bureau said Rust Movie Productions must pay \$136,793, and distributed a scathing narrative of safety failures in violation of standard industry protocols, including testimony that production managers took limited or no action to address two misfires on set prior to the fatal shooting.

The bureau also documented gun safety complaints from crew members that went unheeded and said weapons specialists were not allowed to make decisions about additional safety training.

"What we had, based on our investigators' findings, was a set of obvious hazards to employees regarding the use of firearms and management's failure to act upon those obvious hazards," Bob Genoway, bureau chief for occupational safety, told The Associated Press.

At a ranch on the outskirts of Santa Fe on Oct. 21, 2021, Baldwin was pointing a gun at cinematographer Halyna Hutchins inside a small church during setup for the filming of a scene when it went off, killing Hutchins and wounding the director, Joel Souza.

Baldwin said in a December interview with ABC News that he was pointing the gun at Hutchins at her instruction

on the New Mexico set of the Western film when it went off without his pulling the trigger.

The new occupational safety report confirms that a large-caliber revolver was handed to Baldwin by an assistant director, David Halls, without consulting with on-set weapons specialists during or after the gun was loaded.

Regulators note that Halls also served as safety coordinator and that he was present and witnessed two accidental discharges of rifles on set, and that he and other managers who knew of the misfires took no investigative, corrective or disciplinary action.

"The Safety Coordinator was present on set and took no direct action to address safety concerns," the report states. "Management was provided with multiple opportunities to take corrective actions and chose not to do so. As a result of these failures, Director Joel Souza and cinematographer Halyna Hutchins were severely injured. Halyna Hutchins succumbed to her injuries."

Rust Movie Productions said through a spokesperson that it would dispute the findings and sanction.

"While we appreciate OSHA's time and effort in its investigation, we disagree with its findings and plan to appeal," said Stefan Friedman. Any appeal would be heard initially by the state's occupational health and safety commission.

Baldwin issued a statement from his attorney, asserting that the safety investigation "exonerates Mr. Baldwin."

An attorney for Halls was not immediately available.

At least five lawsuits have been filed over the shooting, including a wrongful death suit brought by Hutchins' family

against Baldwin and the movie's other producers.

The lawsuit on behalf of widower Matt Hutchins and his 9-year-old son alleges a "callous" disregard in the face of safety complaints on the set.

James Kenney, secretary of the Environment Department that oversees occupational safety, said the agency dedicated 1,500 staff hours to its investigation, examined hundreds of documents and conducted at least a dozen interviews with cast and crew members.

Investigators found production managers placed tight limits on resources for a small team that controlled weapons on set and failed to address concerns about a shotgun left unattended twice.

Armorer Hannah Gutierrez Reed, the daughter of a sharpshooter and consultant to film productions, was limited to eight paid days as an armorer to oversee weapons and training, and was assigned otherwise to lighter duties as a props assistant. As her time as an armorer ran out, Gutierrez Reed warned a manager and was rebuffed.

Gutierrez Reed is both a plaintiff and a defendant in lawsuits seeking damages in the fatal shooting. In a statement Wednesday, her attorney highlighted findings that the armorer "was not provided adequate time or resources to conduct her job effectively."

Kenney said the separate investigations into possible criminal charges are still underway.

The Santa Fe County sheriff and local prosecutors had no immediate comment.

Kenney said his agency received no direct safety complaints from cast or crew prior to the fatal shooting, even though anonymity is offered.

◀JOURNAL from page 13

other and see how everyone is doing in their field and stuff they do on the side," said Koenigsfeld. "I think it's nice for the readers to see that there's a lot of writing happening at the school."

"We want to encourage people to put their work out there. You are never losing

anything by doing that," said James.

For those looking to read the issue, The "River Whale Review" will be available on April 21 at riverwhalereview.com.

For those who want to publish works next year can submit them at riverwhalereview@gmail.com.

◀ARTWORK from page 13

versation with the viewer. I want to have that conversation with my audience and be able to relate to them on a personal level."

The art showing will primarily consist of acrylic and digital media art. For the opening reception on April 22, the gallery will have a silent auction for original paintings, as well as print sales. Kenobbie was encouraged to get involved with The 410 Project by a school advisor.

"Last fall, I was recommended to reach out to Dana at the 410 gallery by my advisor. I wanted to have a solo exhibition and a silent auction for my art because I've been in a bit of financial issues," said Kenobbie.

"I reached out to Dana, sent her a portfolio of the work that I had completed by then and she was like, 'Abso-

lutely. Let's, let's do a show.'"

Once they are finished with school, Kenobbie plans to continue pursuing art.

"I want to work somewhere artistic, either doing ceramics, working at a gallery, or putting together frames of prints," shared Kenobbie.

"On the side, [I want to] have my art business and get my work into galleries and museums."

As for now, though, Kenobbie encourages people to come see their art and start a conversation about their pieces.

"[I want viewers] to come and view my art as a way to talk to me and talk to different parts of my identity, and learn about other people's experiences with the world and reality," said Kenobbie.

Kenobbie's "Conversations Beyond the Veil" opens April 22 and will be open at the 410 Project until May 7.

NOW HIRING: BARTENDER

We are looking for someone with a good personality and is friendly with customers.

Position is part-time, 15-20 hrs./week.
Experience welcomed, but not necessary.
Make \$20-25/hr. with tips.

Spinners
BAR & GRILL
—North Mankato, MN—

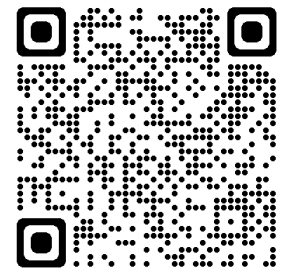
Call or email us at:
spinnersbar@yahoo.com
for more information

301 BELGRADE AVENUE • NORTH MANKATO, MN • 507-625-9751

WE ARE HIRING!

Direct Support Provider (DSP)

Full-Time & Part-Time available along with support (sleep) overnights & evenings. Every other weekend is required. Starting wage is \$15.50/hr. Increases for 2-year, 4-year degrees & CNA.



EOE/AA



PRAIRIE COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

To inquire, call 507-720-0622 or go to pcs.sfhs.org/employment to see full list of job postings.

Rio's Carnival parade is back as crowds ache to return partying



BRUNA PRADO • Associated Press

Carnival King Momo, Wilson Dias da Costa Neto, holds the key of the city as the Rio de Janeiro Mayor Eduardo Paes, right, applauds during a ceremony marking the official start of Carnival in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

By DAVID BILLER
Associated Press

Rio de Janeiro's Mayor Eduardo Paes on Wednesday ceremonially handed control of the city to King Momo, a ritual representing the upheaval of the status quo -- but it remains to be seen how much post-pandemic partying is in store during the first Carnival in two years.

Samba schools' elaborate floats and feather-festooned dancers will parade between packed bleachers starting Wednesday night. As for the more than 500 street parties that usually run wild through the city, City Hall refused to grant them authorization, claiming it lacked sufficient time to prepare.

That dissonance has sparked debate over whether City Hall is stifling Carnival's essence, and if denizens should seize the streets as their own. Some organizers couldn't care less what is allowed; they will turn out anyway — part party, part protest — and Mayor Paes, a confessed Carnival enthusiast, has said he will refrain from deploying the Municipal Guard.

"City Hall won't impede people from being in public spaces, from celebrating, but it's impossible that it happen at such (large) size," Paes said in response to a reporter's question after giving King Momo the city's key.

His statement echoed comments on Sunday while visiting samba schools that were putting finishing touches on their floats. The competing schools were corralled from the streets into the Sambadrome in the 1980s, and became Rio's quintessential Carnival display for tens of thousands of attendees willing to shell out for tickets.

Their parades will run through Sunday night.

In the Sambadrome's shadow are the free parties known as "blocos", which stream through streets and pour into plazas, many of whose members relish subverting established order. What blocos lack in glamour they make up for with glitter and grit. Costumes range from racy to outlandish, and are sometimes clever digs at authority figures.

Blocos had largely vanished as samba schools claimed the spotlight, but their resurgence in the 1990s dovetailed with redemocratization after two decades of military dictatorship, according to André Videira, a sociology professor at the Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro who has studied blocos.

Later, they began assuming forms akin to U.S. brass bands, without the need for sound trucks or drum sections that hindered mobility. Blocos were free to roam.

"They are important vehicles for the democratization of access to culture and access to the city," Videira said.

Since 2010, more than 150 blocos have refused City Hall's institution of a registration process, with many viewing it as an attempt to formalize something inherently informal, Videira said. They insist celebrating Carnival isn't contingent on authorities' consent — not this year, nor any other.

"It's important to be collectively pressuring the government, so Carnival is recognized and supported like it should be," Karen Lino, 29, said while sporting a jaguar-print outfit that reflected her role as a dancer in the Friends of the Jaguar bloco. But she is also a member of the troupe that will lead the reigning samba school

champion, Viradouro, through the Sambadrome this year. "It's hypocritical of the government to not give attention to other sectors."

On Tuesday, a columnist in the city's main newspaper, O Globo, wrote that City Hall was washing its hands of policymaking duties by leaving blocos in legal limbo.

"Apparently prohibition didn't make much sense, as the blocos bring the soul of carnival to the streets and are fundamental for the city's spirit," wrote Leo Aversa. "If he (Paes) thinks it can't be done, isn't possible, the coherent thing would be to prohibit it seriously. If he thinks there's no problem, the right thing would be to free them with conviction."

Paes fired back on Twitter: "The correct thing is not having blocos! They aren't authorized and we won't have the structure for the party."

In Carnival's 2020 edition, just before COVID-19 reached Brazil, more than 7 million people partied in the so-called "Street Carnival," according to city figures. Crowds are densely packed, bottles are shared around and kissing is custom.

Blocos had little desire to turn out last year as Brazil's catastrophic second COVID-19 wave took shape. It was the first time in a century Rio's pre-Lenten festivities were canceled, and Paes bestowed the Rio's bigger blocos, which draw tens and hundreds of thousands of revelers, have fallen into line.

They utilize sound trucks and rely on the city for traffic detours, garbage cleanup and more to limit disruption. Rita Fernandes, who leads the Sebastiana association of blocos, said they are holding fire for 2023.

◀COMEDY from page 13 about heckling- it's not tolerated.

"There's an idea out there that audience members who heckle or whatever make the show better and the bottom line is, it's not allowed at this open mic," shared Vierck.

"We have a wide variety of kinds of funny and if one person isn't your cup of tea, give it a minute and maybe you'll like the next person better."

Mankato resident Shelley Pierce has been a regular attendee since the open mic nights started. Pierce has enjoyed all the shows and encourages people to attend future shows.

"The environment that Dan has curated is very supportive and enthusiastic, and because of that people feel safe enough to give it a shot," said Pierce.

"Mankato is really lucky to have comedy at the Circle Inn. I'd encourage anyone who

would like to learn more to come and be a part of the audience, and who knows, they just might be inspired to give stand up comedy a try themselves."

Vierck encourages those who are willing to try comedy to come out and test their jokes, all the while enjoying the jokes of others.

"One of the dozen mottos I've drafted for the [open mic nights] is 'different jokes from different folks.' We aren't all professionals, and we aren't always good, but if you're willing to roll the dice on watching other people roll the dice into a microphone, it's a pretty fun time," said Vierck.

Beginning in May, the open mic comedy nights will be held on Wednesdays up until the football season starts again. The Circle Inn will also be running monthly shows over the summer, the first being Thursday, May 19.

YOUR IT SOURCE FOR COMPUTER SALES, REPAIR & SERVICE

ALL TYPES OF COMPUTER REPAIR

- New & Refurbished Computers
- iPhone & iPad Screen Repair
- Virus & Malware Removal
- Tune-Ups for Slow Computers • Networking
- Websites • Email • Business Intelligence
- Business IT • Data Recovery • Digital Signage



507-345-4335 • www.Geeks2uMN.com

620 N. VICTORY DRIVE • MANKATO • GALLERIA EAST



The Leo A. Hoffmann Center (LAHC) is a private, nonprofit corporation committed to assessing and providing high quality, outcome-based mental health services for children, adolescents and young adults.

WE ARE HIRING!

Full-Time & Part-Time
REGISTERED NURSES

Full-Time, Part-Time & Overnight
YOUTH COUNSELORS

Residential
MENTAL HEALTH THERAPISTS

INTERNSHIPS

In 2019, LAHC was recognized for 40 years of serving youth, and is recognized for its good standing and relationships with the Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Corrections (DOC), and Council on Accreditation (COA).

CONTACT:

1715 Sheppard Drive | St. Peter, MN 56082 | 507-934-6122
info@hoffmanncenter.org | Leohoffmanncenter.org



**HARRY MEYERING
CENTER**



START NOW

HARRY MEYERING CENTER

IS HIRING

INCREASED WAGES

FLEXIBLE HOURS ~ LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

WWW.HARRYMEYERINGCENTER.ORG // PH: (507)387-8281

109 HOMESTEAD RD. MANKATO, MN 56001

