

Larson receives \$2.8 million NSF Grant

By EMMA JOHNSON
News Director

Lake Superior will become a second classroom and laboratory for Minnesota State University, Mankato Professor, Co-Director of MSU's EARTH Systems Laboratory and Director of Earth Sciences Phillip Larson.

Larson recently received a \$2.8 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to use the geology, geography and geomorphology of Lake Superior to help advance understanding about different processes in the geosciences.

The "Frontier Research in Earth Sciences" grant lasts five years and is part of a multi-university collaboration between MSU, Harvard University and several colleges in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Larson explained that the universities will be working toward trying to understand the geologic history of Lake Superior's basin, how the lake came to be and how Minnesota landscapes formed.

"[All the universities] will be working on a lot of things related to how the glaciers impacted the lake and how the glaciers leaving that lake led to the lake spilling out down over rivers. We're also going to be trying to explain how those waterfalls and bedrock canyons came to be



Courtesy photo

MSU Professor Phillip Larson received a \$2.8 million grant from the National Science Foundation that will go towards funding students' (above) research on Lake Superior's geology and geography.

and why they're there," Larson said. "There's a lot of different aspects to it."

Larson heard about the grant through NSF as it's where scientists go to find funding for research for various programs. Larson said the application for the grant was grueling, especial-

ly with the size of the grant at stake.

"My colleague at the University of Minnesota helped coordinate a lot of the process. It's a lot harder for professors [at smaller universities] to juggle [the responsibilities of applying]," Larson said.

When Larson found out he'd received the grant in early August, his initial reaction to hearing about the grant was a mix of shock and anxiety.

"It's a big project and a lot of money and typically with NSF, you don't get it on the first try."

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Cybersecurity month's efforts to educate

By JULIA BARTON
Editor in Chief

With thousands of computer hacks a day occurring worldwide, protecting one's personal information is crucial for anyone online. Cybersecurity awareness month sheds light on the importance of educating those nationwide.

Minnesota State Mankato, the state's second-largest university, hopes to highlight the value of protecting yourself and your personal information.

MSU has over 15,000 students currently enrolled. Ensuring the safety of the thousands of files of personal information of students and faculty on file is a top priority.

Chief Information Security Officer at MSU, Michael Menne, said he has seen it all as his duties involve data security and how the university can safely handle people's data.

Phishing is the most common



DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

Senior Josue Bokoyo makes sure to update his StarID password when MSU requires it to be changed every six months, a good way to be cybersafe.

cyber attack that hackers use. This consists of sending messages to any email or phone number under false pretenses in order to obtain personal information.

"Most cyber attacks are financially motivated. Their

goal is to get your information or some sort of personal information so they can attack you financially," Menne said. "They're [phones] just miniature computers. They have the same vulnerabilities, they have

the same software as a computer."

Financial aid and tuition payments this month may cause an influx in hacking attempts due to an increase involving financial information.

"Right now, with financial data and financial aid getting deposited, we get a lot of email reports that say, 'Hey somebody is asking for my direct deposit information?'" Menne said.

Watching for links and making sure they are legit is an extra step that may save you from becoming a victim of cyber hacking. Messages that are misspelled and contain grammar errors are a few indicators that a message is from a hacker.

"Think 'Does the email just look correct? Does the language look correct? Is this the way my friend would speak?'" Menne said.

Protecting your password is one of the easiest ways people

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Contested election sparks discussion of recall

By CARLY BAHR
Staff Writer

At the Student Government meeting Wednesday, Senator Douglas Roberts motioned to recall the senator election from the previous week due to an issue of equity regarding the Zoom attendees' votes.

The election that occurred on October 5 resulted in the election of Jordan Muller to the 90th Student Government. There were five senators present on Zoom, but only one remained by the time it came to tally the votes. According to the senate's discussion Wednesday, it was unclear how they were to cast their votes. Roberts, unaware of this margin, said their motion was an issue of "equity," and that there was no intended offense to the candidates, but they believe the recall is necessary "to have an equitable and fair election."

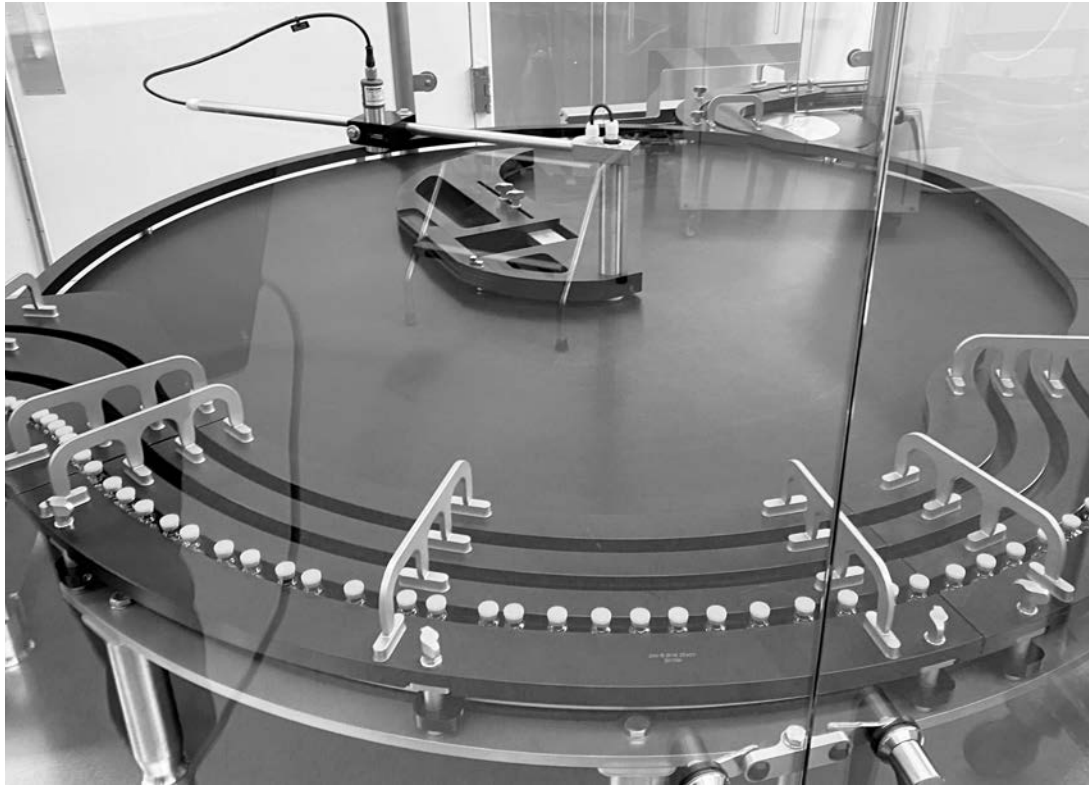
The initial vote count resulted in a tie, with nine votes going to each candidate. The final vote counted seven votes for candidate Sydney Dumond and twelve votes for candidate Jordan Muller, according to Speaker Novak. By the time of the vote, there was only one senator present on Zoom. There were no votes cast in the Zoom chat feed observed while tallying the votes, so all senators who did not vote were counted as abstentions.

Senator Sehgbear attended the meeting over Zoom and said he attempted to raise his hand during the meeting, but it went unnoticed. He then unmuted himself and was not heard when he tried to verbalize his question. At that point Sehgbear directly messaged President Zellmer via Instagram about the issue to which she was unable to respond due to being present in the meeting. Muller was the winner of the final vote.

According to Roberts, they asked Novak after the meeting, "Did you count the people on Zoom?" to

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US clears updated COVID boosters for kids as young as 5



Pfizer via Associated Press

The U.S. on Wednesday, Oct. 12, authorized updated COVID-19 boosters for children as young as 5, seeking to expand protection ahead of an expected winter wave. The age for boosters is 5-11.

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
Associated Press

The U.S. on Wednesday authorized updated COVID-19 boosters for children as young as 5, seeking to expand protection ahead of an expected winter wave.

Tweaked boosters rolled out for Americans 12 and older last month, doses modified to target today's most common and contagious omicron relative. While there wasn't a big rush, federal health officials are urging that people seek the extra protection ahead of holiday gatherings. Now the Food and Drug Administration has given a green light for elementary school-age kids to get the updated booster doses, too -- one made by Pfizer for 5- to 11-year-olds, and a version from rival Moderna for those as young as 6.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which recommends how vaccines are

used, also signed off.

Americans may be tired of repeated calls to get boosted against COVID-19 but experts say the updated shots have an advantage: They contain half the recipe that targeted the original coronavirus strain and half protection against the dominant BA.4 and BA.5 omicron versions.

These combination or "bivalent" boosters are designed to broaden immune defenses so that people are better protected against serious illness whether they encounter an omicron relative in the coming months -- or a different mutant that's more like the original virus.

"We want to have the best of both worlds," Pfizer's Dr. Bill Gruber, a pediatrician, told The Associated Press. He hopes the updated shots will "re-energize interest in protecting children for the winter."

The updated boosters are "extremely important" for

keeping kids healthy and in school, said Dr. Jason Newland, a pediatric infectious disease specialist at Washington University in St. Louis.

Parents should know "there is no concern from the safety perspective with the bivalent vaccines, whether Moderna or Pfizer," Newland added.

Only people who've gotten their initial vaccinations -- with any of the original-formula versions -- qualify for an updated booster. That means about three-fourths of Americans 12 and older are eligible. As of last weekend, only at least 13 million had gotten an updated booster, White House COVID-19 coordinator Dr. Ashish Jha estimated Tuesday.

To pediatricians' chagrin, getting children their first vaccinations has been tougher. Less than a third of 5- to 11-year-olds have had their two primary doses and thus would qualify for the new booster.

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You write a proposal, get some reviewer comments and resubmitting. We got it on the first try and we were totally not expecting it," Larson said. "It kind of caught us by surprise."

Of the \$2.8 million, MSU received \$700,000. NSF gave MSU \$616,000 for the first three years and, if Larson shows significant progress, the other \$84,000 will be given in the last two years. Larson said receiving the grant is a humbling experience.

"There are folks from University of Minnesota Duluth and University Wisconsin-Superior who are right on the lake, but out of a \$2.8 million project, I've got \$700,000.

There's a lot of work on my shoulders," Larson said.

The grant money will go toward funding students who are actively participating in the research, specifically their tuition, stipend and travel expenses for trips. Larson explained that the grant will allow students to gain field experience instead of reading about topics in a textbook.

"Field based approaches that get people out there learning by doing activities is by far the most effective way to gain knowledge but also to encourage enthusiasm and passion for what you're doing," Larson said. "I go after these grants to have these research projects that I can drag students into

and show them what we do instead of talking about it in a class."

Larson wants the MSU community to be aware of how interesting the Minnesota and Wisconsin are in regards to the Lake Superior basin and encourages students to reach out to him should they have any questions.

"Besides the geoscience, there's lot of cultural landscapes too. Native peoples have been there for thousands of years and part of our project writes them into it. There's lots of really cool projects that are a part of [the grant] that appeal to a lot of people," Larson said. "I'd be happy to talk to anybody about anything."

Trump lawyer who vouched for documents meets with FBI



CAROLYN KASTER • Associated Press

President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate is seen from the media van. Christina Bobb, a lawyer for former president Donald Trump who signed a letter stating that a "diligent search" for classified records.

By ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

A lawyer for former president Donald Trump who signed a letter stating that a "diligent search" for classified records had been conducted and that all such documents had been given back to the government has spoken with the FBI, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Christina Bobb told federal investigators during Friday's interview that she had not drafted the letter but that another Trump lawyer who she said actually prepared it had asked her to sign it in her role as a designated custodian of Trump's records, said the person, who insisted on anonymity to discuss an ongoing investigation.

The process is of interest to investigators because the Justice Department says the letter was untrue in asserting that all classified records sought by the government had been located and returned.

Though the letter, and 38 documents bearing classification markings, were presented to FBI and Justice Department officials during a June 3 visit to Mar-a-Lago, agents returned to the Florida estate with a search warrant on Aug. 8 and seized about 100 additional classified records.

According to an August court filing, the signed certification letter was presented to investigators who visited Mar-a-Lago on June 3 to collect additional classified material from the home.

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Rough times ahead: Hurricane Ian batters SW Florida economy



BOBBY CAINA CALVAN • Associated Press

Ashley Galassi, a bartender at Tina's, a watering hole at Fisherman's Wharf in Fort Myers, Florida, attends to a patron. She says the bar will likely be demolished and reopen elsewhere due to the aftermath of the hurricane.

By BOBBY CAINA CALVAN
Associated Press

Hurricane Ian might have come and gone but it could deliver prolonged blows to the local economy, walloping small businesses heavily dependent on tourists and seasonal residents.

The scenes of destruction in southwestern Florida will keep many winter tourists and snowbirds away as well as tasking local residents with rebuilding for months or more, said Michael Maguire, a manager for a group of family-owned restaurants, including a couple on hard-hit Fort Myers Beach.

"It will not be the same," Maguire said, standing outside the Pinchers seafood restaurant in the Fisherman's Wharf area of Fort Myers. "It could be months, it could be years. We don't know. People that live in the area are not going to be in shape to go to restaurants."

Ferocious gusts ripped off

roofs, collapsed walls and jolted buildings off their foundations. Flooding — including tidal surges of more than a dozen feet — inundated shops, bars and restaurants. Fisherman's Wharf, a heavily toured area, turned into a dusty and surreal scene, with boats capsized far from their usual moorings. Dust and the rancid smell of hardening muck still fill the air.

As the winter months approach, business would have been picking up. Bars, restaurants and the many mom-and-pop shops that line San Carlos Boulevard, the thoroughfare into Fort Myers Beach, would usually begin filling. The start of snow crab season in mid-October would usher in brisker business.

Tourists lift the region's economy during winter as do snowbirds with vacation homes to escape the chill in the upper Midwest, the Northeast and Canada. "That's where our

business comes from," Maguire said.

Even before the storm, there were mixed economic signs for Fort Myers and the rest of Lee County, where U.S. Census Bureau figures show that more than 60% of the businesses have less than five employees.

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity reported that unemployment in the region had continued to fall since last summer, as the economy rebounded from COVID — with the biggest growth in the leisure and hospitality industries.

In Fort Myers, the sector added 2,700 new jobs in May over the same month the year before.

However, the number of airport passengers in southwest Florida had already fallen in July 2022, slumping 13% from a year before, according to an economic study of the region by Florida Gulf Coast University.

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which Roberts said Speaker Novak responded "Oh, shoot," recognizing that Zoom was neglected until after the meeting. "This is not to throw anyone under the bus, this is not to be disrespectful," Roberts said, "This is because I believe that everybody deserves the most equity and fairness in this election."

Novak said, "I will take the full fall for that," regarding the lack of clear procedure on how the Zoom attendees were to vote, whether in the chat feed or otherwise. Zellmer said she believes the "clear" way for a Zoom attendee to vote would be through the chat feature. However, this method of casting a vote does not allow for anonymity, as is standard for

elections with more than one candidate.

According to her, neither she, the Vice President nor the Speaker received any notification of Zoom technical issues during the meeting so the vote stands, although Zellmer, "get[s] that the burden should have been on us," to verify that all members could vote. She also read the recall policy from the RSO's constitutional bylaws.

The bylaw, Article 10 Section 2, states, "The President, Vice President, Senators, and presidential appointees shall be subject to recall. No elected official shall be recalled within the first (1st) three (3) months of the tenure," and, "A petition to recall an elected official shall

be signed only by members of the official's constituency." There is no mention of recall procedures for a contested election, such as a similar issue with virtual voters or by cheating.

After 14 minutes of discussion Roberts withdrew their motion and there was no vote. Roberts apologized for the motion and said, "I did not know the margin until today. The whole reason why [I motioned to recall] is because I assumed the margin was changed by a single vote." There was, however, assurance from Zellmer that a senator will monitor the Zoom attendees in future elections rather than leaving the responsibility to the IT Solutions team who broadcast the meetings.

Success: NASA asteroid strike results in big nudge



ALEX BRANDON • Associated Press

NASA Planetary Science Division director Lori Glaze, left, John Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory DART coordination lead Nancy Chobot, and DART program scientist Tom Statler at a press event.

By MARCIA DUNN
Associated Press

A spacecraft that plowed into a small, harmless asteroid millions of miles away succeeded in shifting its orbit, NASA said Tuesday in announcing the results of its save-the-world test. The space agency attempted the test two weeks ago to see if in the future a killer rock could be nudged out of Earth's way.

"This mission shows that NASA is trying to be ready for whatever the universe throws at us," NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said during a briefing at the space agency's headquarters in Washington.


The DART spacecraft carved a crater into the asteroid Dimorphos on Sept. 26, hurling debris out into space and cre-

ating a cometlike trail of dust and rubble stretching several thousand miles (kilometers). It took consecutive nights of telescope observations from Chile and South Africa to determine how much the impact altered the path of the 525-foot (160-meter) asteroid around its companion, a much bigger space rock. Before the impact, the moonlet took 11 hours and 55 minutes to circle its parent asteroid. Scientists had anticipated shaving off 10 minutes, but Nelson said the impact shortened the asteroid's orbit by 32 minutes.

"Let's all just kind of take a moment to soak this in ... for the first time ever, humanity has changed the orbit" of a celestial body, noted Lori Glaze, NASA's director of planetary science.


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EXPLAIN: What's next in the Parkland school shooter trial?



AMY BETH BENNETT • Associated Press

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooter Nikolas Cruz is shown at the defense table after a break in closing arguments in the penalty phase of Cruz's trial at the Broward County Courthouse in Fort Lauderdale.

By TERRY SPENCER
Associated Press

The jurors who will decide whether Florida school shooter Nikolas Cruz is sentenced to death or life without parole began their deliberations Wednesday as the three-month trial nears its conclusion.

Cruz, 24, pleaded guilty last year to the murders of 14 students and three staff members at Parkland's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on Feb. 14, 2018. The trial has only been to determine his sentence.

Cruz's massacre is the deadliest mass shooting that has ever gone to trial in the U.S. Nine other people in the U.S. who fatally shot at least 17 people died during or immediately after their attacks by suicide or police gunfire. The suspect in the 2019 massacre of 23 at an El Paso, Texas, Walmart is awaiting trial.

The jurors are being sequestered during their deliberations, which could take hours or days — no one knows. They have been told to pack for at least two nights.

Here is a look at the case, how the 12-person jury will come to a decision and what will happen after that.

WHAT DID CRUZ DO?

Cruz, by his own admission, began thinking about committing a school shooting while in middle school, about five years before he carried it out.

He purchased his AR-15-style semi-automatic rifle almost exactly a year before the shooting and his planning became serious about seven months in advance. He researched previous mass shooters, saying he tried to learn from their experience. He bought ammunition, a vest to carry it and a bag to hide it. He picked Valentine's Day to make sure it would never be celebrated at the school again.

He took an Uber to the school, arriving about 20 minutes before dismissal. He went inside a three-story classroom building, shooting down the halls and into classrooms for about seven minutes. He returned to some wounded to kill them with a second volley. He then tried to shoot at fleeing students from a third-floor window, but the thick hurricane glass thwarted him. He put down his gun and fled, but was captured about an hour later.

WHAT HAPPENED AT THE TRIAL?

Lead prosecutor Mike Satz kept his case simple. He played security videos of the shooting and showed gruesome crime

scene and autopsy photos. Teachers and students testified about watching others die. He took the jury to the fenced-off building, which remains blood-stained and bullet-pocked. Parents and spouses gave tearful and angry statements.

Cruz's lead attorney Melisa McNeill and her team never questioned the horror he inflicted, but focused on their belief that his birth mother's heavy drinking during pregnancy left him with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

Their experts said his bizarre, troubling and sometimes violent behavior starting at age 2 was misdiagnosed as attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, meaning he never got the proper treatment. That left his widowed adoptive mother overwhelmed, they said.

WHAT'S REQUIRED FOR CRUZ TO GET A DEATH SENTENCE?

The jurors will be voting 17 times — once for each victim. For the jurors to recommend a death sentence for a specific victim, they first must unanimously agree that the prosecution proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the killing involved at least one aggravating circumstance as proscribed under Florida law.

"I have yet to have a student working in cyber security as an intern that has not found a job," Menne said.

Founded by the National Cyber Security Alliance & the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in October 2004. Cybersecurity awareness month has been relevant for the past decade as technology has advanced dramatically since the early 2000s.

call the four Ps, which consist of tools to educate people on phishing, patching passwords and protecting their device. There are videos that go more in-depth on the official MSU website.

Computer information science seems to have gained popularity, Menne said, as the need for those who specialize in that field has increased over the past decade.

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can stay at the forefront of cyber security awareness.

"They prey on your psychology. Attackers are very good psychologists, they prey on people's psyche and vulnerabilities," Menne said. "If something seems suspicious, 99% of the time it will be. It will be malicious if you think it's suspicious."

MSU has resources they

Bezos family donates \$710M to Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center



STEPHEN BRASHEAR • Associated Press

On Wednesday, the Bezos Family Foundation announced a \$710 million gift to the Seattle-based Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, the largest gift the center has ever received in recent years.

By THALIA BEATY
Associated Press

The Bezos Family Foundation announced a \$710 million gift to the Seattle-based Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, the largest gift the center has ever received and one of the largest to go to any single cancer research organization in recent years.

The donation will fund 36 new research labs, the building of a large research facility, investments in clinical trial infrastructure and immunotherapy research over ten years, the center said Wednesday.

Thomas Lynch, president and director of the center, rebranded this month as Fred Hutch, but widely known as The Hutch, said he worked with Mike and Jackie Bezos

to understand what motivated their giving. Jackie Bezos is the mother of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, while her husband, Mike, is Jeff Bezos' stepfather. Jeff Bezos, the world's second wealthiest person, stepped down from his role as CEO of Amazon in July 2021.

Lynch learned the Bezos family deeply valued collaboration in research and treatment.

"But don't underestimate the importance of urgency," Lynch said in an interview. "Because I think that's something that I feel passionately about and I know that Mike and Jackie feel passionately about being able to bring cures to patients soon."

The Bezos family has previously given almost \$68 million.

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Tourists flock to Japan after COVID restrictions lifted



EUGENE HOSHIKO • Associated Press

Japan's strict border restrictions are eased, allowing tourists to easily enter for the first time since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Independent tourists are again welcomed, not just with authorized groups.

By YURI KAGEYAMA
Associated Press

Eager to admire colorful foliage, eat sushi and go shopping, droves of tourists from abroad began arriving in Japan on Tuesday, with the end of pandemic-fighting border restrictions that had been in place for more than two years.

"We got the news that we can finally come. We are really, really happy," said Nadine Lackmann, a German who was among the crowd of tourists arriving at Tokyo's Haneda airport.

Travelers like Lackmann are expected to deliver a sorely needed 5 trillion yen (\$35 billion) boost to the world's third-largest economy. And the flood of visitors is expected to keep growing.

A daily limit of 50,000 arrivals is gone. Airlines have added flights in response to the full re-opening of borders. Visa-free travel is back for short-term business visits and tourism from more than 60 countries.

David Beall, a photographer based in Los Angeles who's been to Japan 12 times, has already booked a flight, planning to go to Fukui, Kyoto, Osaka, and Tokyo. The last time he was in Japan was in October 2019. But it's everyday things the American is looking forward to, like eating Japan's popular pork cutlet dish, tonkatsu.

"As cliched as it sounds, just being back in Japan after all this time is what I am most looking forward to. That of course includes hopefully meeting new people, eating the food that I've missed like good tonkatsu, being in nature at that time of the year, riding the trains," he said.

As a tip for others planning trips, he recommends getting a Japan Rail Pass and a Suica or some other pre-paid card that allows cashless payments for easy travel.

About 32 million tourists visited Japan in 2019, before COVID-19. Their return is welcome for good reason.

Many will have more spending power because the Japanese yen has declined in recent months in value compared to the U.S. dollar, the euro and other currencies.

The only protocols left for entry are that you must be fully vaccinated with one booster or have a negative PCR test within 72 hours of departure. Virtually all visitors from the U.S., the rest of Asia, Europe and South America who fulfill those requirements won't have to quarantine.

In August, during the most recent coronavirus surge in Japan, nationwide daily new infections topped 200,000. By now, both case numbers and deaths have dwindled. Last week, daily deaths averaged eight people nationwide. The government has provided free COVID-19 vaccines, especially encouraging the elderly and the medically vulnerable to get inoculated.

Visitors may have to adjust to face masks, worn by most Japanese just about everywhere outside their own homes. Many stores and restaurants require customers to wear masks and sanitize their hands. Some establishments still close early, or have shuttered completely.

But bookings from abroad with Japanese carrier All Nippon Airways Co., or ANA, have already jumped five-fold compared to last week, while bookings of flights out of Japan have doubled.

Air Canada said bookings for Canadian travel to Japan jumped 51% this month compared to September, while the number of travelers from Japan to Canada grew 16% over the same period.

The Japanese economy can use the influx of tourist spending.

Fitch Ratings forecasts that Japan's economy will grow at a 1.7% annual pace this year and by 1.3% in 2023, supported by easy credit, a recovery for service industries and a gradual fix for supply-chain problems, which will boost manufacturing and exports.

Lowest ACT test scores in 30 years

By CHEYANNE MUMPHREY
Associated Press

Scores on the ACT college admissions test by this year's high school graduates hit their lowest point in more than 30 years — the latest evidence of the enormity of learning disruption during the pandemic.

The class of 2022's average ACT composite score was 19.8 out of 36, marking the first time since 1991 that the average score was below 20.

What's more, an increasing number of high school students failed to meet any of the subject-area benchmarks set by the ACT — showing a decline in preparedness for college-level coursework.

The test scores, made public in a report Wednesday, show 42% of ACT-tested graduates in the class of 2022 met none of the subject benchmarks in English, reading, science and math, which are indicators of how well students are expected to perform in corresponding college courses.

In comparison, 38% of test takers in 2021 failed to meet any of the benchmarks.

"Academic preparedness is where we are seeing the decline," said Rose Babington, senior director for state partnerships for the ACT. "Every time we see ACT test scores, we are talking about skills and standards, and the prediction of students to be successful and to know the really important information to succeed and persist through their first year of college courses."

ACT scores have declined



ELIAS FUNEZ • Associated Press

New students in Grass Valley, Calif. check their school schedules. ACT test scores made public in a report Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2022, reveal a decline in preparedness for college-level coursework.

steadily in recent years. Still, "the magnitude of the declines this year is particularly alarming," ACT CEO Janet Godwin said in a statement. "We see rapidly growing numbers of seniors leaving high school without meeting college-readiness benchmarks in any of the subjects we measure."

The results offer a lens into systemic inequities in education, in place well before the pandemic shuttered schools and colleges temporarily waived testing requirements.

For example, students without access to rigorous high school curriculum suffered more setbacks during pandemic disruptions, Babington said. Those students are from rural areas, come from low-income families and are often students of color.

The number of students taking the ACT has declined

30% since 2018, as graduates increasingly forgo college and some universities no longer require admissions tests.

But participation plunged 37% among Black students, with 154,000 taking the test this year.

Standardized tests such as the ACT have faced growing concerns that they're unfair to minority and low-income students, as students with access to expensive test prep or advanced courses often perform better.

Babington defended the test as a measure of college readiness. "Now more than ever, the last few years have shown us the importance of having high-quality data to help inform how we support students," Babington said.

Test scores now are optional for first-year student admission at many institutions.

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Educate yourself on cybersecurity

Technology is ingrained into every aspect of our lives. From the computers we do assignments on to taking a quick social media break on our phones, it's nearly impossible to avoid coming in contact with a screen daily.

We, as students, were born into the era of technology. As technology advances in complexity, it's important that we keep up to date with cybersecurity in order to prevent leaks of personal information to unwanted hackers.

With more and more social media platforms being created, it's important to remember that what you post on your pages is never truly private. Posts that you have created are searchable on any platform. Employers can find your pages and posts and determine whether or not they would hire you. Before you post, make sure that the content is something you are proud of and wouldn't tarnish your reputation of not only yourself, but others.

Passwords are crucial, if not the most essential, aspect of cybersecurity. It protects all of our information on websites we sign up for. Keeping different passwords for different websites makes it difficult for people to hack into your accounts. Never share, write down or reuse your passwords as it gives anyone access to your account or makes it easier to determine what your password could be. Passwords should be several characters long and a combination of symbols, numbers and letters to be the most secure.

While not everyone has a hotspot they can connect to in public, it's good to be wary of public wifi that several businesses offer. It makes it easier to hack into someone's device and steal their information or drop a virus onto their laptop or phone. Your data is easily accessible, putting you at risk. It's safer to use up some data on your phone through LTE instead. Better yet, do work that doesn't require internet access to keep your accounts and information safe.

Educating yourself on phishing scams is also important to keeping your information safe. Whether it's through your Instagram DM's or emails, be suspicious of messages from senders you don't know. Hover your mouse over the link and read it thoroughly as usually spam can be determined through the wording of the link. Never accept money from people offering it to you; hackers want to obtain your bank account information. In addition, don't give information out to those online if you are unaware of who they are.

By staying educated on cybersecurity, it ensures that we as students can keep our information safe and secure, free from suspicious activity.

Perspectives

I will not run this marathon



By JEREMY REDLIEN
Staff Writer

Imagine showing up to a job interview for a job you are 100% qualified for, dressed to the nines, and the first thing you are asked to do is run a marathon.

"What?" you say, before protesting that you have it on good authority that this company had five open positions and even after a lengthy recruiting process, only found three qualified candidates.

But the interviewer is adamant. It doesn't matter how desperate the company is at this point, policy is policy.

You ask, just to be sure, how being able to run a marathon is relevant to the position and are told, "it's not relevant, it's policy."

Here's the question: do you run the marathon?

If you want to know the experience of being a marginalized person, then imagine

that not only are you asked to run a marathon before every job interview but that every single time, you are the only one who gets asked.

It saddens me to announce that this is going to be the last Why Not Today? column. I have made the decision to drop out of the law enforcement program and pursue a different path. What that path will be I do not know at this point.

There was of course a reason for this decision.

I recently found myself sitting through a pre-skills meeting for the Law Enforcement Program. The skills component of course being a requirement before one can graduate from the Law Enforcement program. As I sat there listening to how desperate law enforcement agencies are right now for qualified applicants, I found myself reflecting on how many instances of anti-gay

discrimination I had endured up to that point since I had enrolled at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

I thus found myself asking the question of why I should continue to risk enduring such discrimination to enter a profession that claimed to be desperate for applicants yet could not stop engaging in anti-queer bigotry. How deeply embedded must that bigotry be within law enforcement that even in its (supposedly) most desperate hour, it couldn't stop being homophobic and transphobic?

While I was still seeking admission to the law enforcement program, I ended up being the target of anti-gay harassment by a sociology professor. When I filed a complaint with the Title IX office, the complaint went ignored. No hearing was ever held and to my knowledge,

COLUMN on page 7

Pulse

"What's your favorite place you've traveled?"

Compiled by Dylan Long



MELISSA TAYUN,
SENIOR

"Disneyland in LA with family."



HAILEY BEER,
SENIOR

"Ft. Lauderdale with friends senior year of high school."



JEFFREY BREWER,
SOPHOMORE

"North Carolina with friends."



MARY BURSHLEM,
FRESHMAN

"Dunes in Oregon."



ANTONIA JUREZ,
SOPHOMORE

"With family, spent a summer in Purepero, Mexico."



LILY BOBROWSKE,
FRESHMAN

"Fort Myers, Florida with family to visit great grandparents."

'Desperation': Child care struggle worsens in rural U.S.



CRAIG MITCHELLDYER • Associated Press

From Oregon to New York, demand for child care far exceeds supply. Families are growing increasingly desperate as providers deal with staffing shortages exacerbated by the pandemic as well as historically low pay.

By CLAIRES RUSH
Associated Press

A shortage of child care in the U.S. has become so acute that it's reaching far into rural communities, including one northwestern Oregon county where future embryos are in line for a spot at Amy Atkinson's nursery and preschool.

"We have children that have not been implanted yet that are on our waitlist," said Atkinson, referring to in vitro fertilization. "It's desperation."

Just past Bumble Art Studio's rainbow-painted entryway, cubbies are filled with diapers and tiny backpacks. Every crib and little plastic chair is spoken for in the only licensed center offering infant care in Oregon's historic port town of Astoria, where the wide mouth of the Columbia River flows into the Pacific Ocean.

Parents trying to enroll children in the facility can spend months or even years on a 40-family waitlist.

From Oregon to New York, demand for child care far exceeds supply. Families are growing increasingly desperate as providers deal with staffing shortages exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic as well as historically low pay worsened by inflation.

"I haven't even been able to answer my phone because it's been nonstop," said Angie Janusch, the center's co-director along with Atkinson. "We keep taking all of the emails and dumping them into a waitlist folder ... we're busting at the seams. There's nothing available."

Half of U.S. residents live in child care deserts where fewer than a third of children have access to a slot at a licensed fa-

cility, according to the Center for American Progress, a liberal think tank that has published reports on the issue. Access challenges have forced many parents to change jobs, reduce their hours or quit altogether.

When Capri Jackson's son was born in March, she had to leave her job at a victim services agency in Colville, a rural town of about 5,000 in northeastern Washington state.

"There is not a single certified child care space," Jackson said. "We hear that child care is hard to find, but not that it's not actually existent."

The coronavirus pandemic shone a spotlight on the national child care crisis as an estimated 10% of the country's programs shuttered. Between December 2019 and March 2021, about 16,000 programs permanently closed across 37 states.

◀COLUMN from page 6

no investigation was ever completed by the Title IX office.

At the same time as MSU was ignoring the harassment I had been the target of, I had been volunteering with the Mankato Department of Public Safety Department (MDPS) with their Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS) program. When I applied to be a reserve officer with the MDPS, I found myself the victim of what I still believe to have been discrimination. When I attempted to have the issue of discrimination addressed, MDPS simply ignored me.

After enduring that, I decided to continue anyways with applying for admission to the Law Enforcement Program only to find myself (again) being discriminated against. This time, the discrimination took

the form of being forced to answer several completely inappropriate questions about my gender identity and sexual orientation.

Once again, any attempts on my part to address the issue were dismissed and ignored. After it had been rendered perfectly clear to me that I had no meaningful protection against anti-gay discrimination and harassment, I found myself forced to out myself to a person responsible for deciding which academic program I could enter.

After all of that, because I really must be a glutton for punishment, I decided that I would continue with applying to the program anyways and was successful.

The final blow came when I found myself the target of a violent anti-queer hate crime.

I reported it to the MDPS only for every lead and tip I handed them on a silver platter to just be (you guessed it) ignored and dismissed.

When I got a death threat in my campus email that said I should be beaten to an inch of my life, hanged, and gutted like an animal, I laughed at how over the top it was. Death threats don't phase me (the email wasn't the first time I had been threatened for being queer) but having to endure a system that will not lift a single finger to address anti-queer bigotry is not in my skill set.

There are only so many times that it can be made explicit to me that I have no meaningful protection from being a victim of homophobia and transphobia.

This is a marathon I will not run.

477 whales die in New Zealand strandings



TAMZIN HENDERSON • Associated Press

A string of dead pilot whales line the beach at Tupurangi Beach, Chatham Islands, in New Zealand. Some 477 pilot whales have died after stranding themselves on two remote beaches over recent days.

By NICK PERRY
Associated Press

Some 477 pilot whales have died after stranding themselves on two remote New Zealand beaches over recent days, officials say.

None of the stranded whales could be refloated and all either died naturally or were euthanized in a "heartbreaking" loss, said Daren Grover, the general manager of Project Jonah, a nonprofit group which helps rescue whales.

The whales beached themselves on the Chatham Islands, which are home to about 600 people and located about 800 kilometers (500 miles) east of New Zealand's main islands.

The Department of Conservation said 232 whales

stranded themselves Friday at Tupurangi Beach and another 245 at Waihere Bay on Monday.

The deaths come two weeks after about 200 pilot whales died in Australia after stranding themselves on a remote Tasmanian beach.

"These events are tough, challenging situations," the Department of Conservation wrote in a Facebook post. "Although they are natural occurrences, they are still sad and difficult for those helping."

Grover said the remote location and presence of sharks in the surrounding waters meant they couldn't mobilize volunteers to try to refloat the whales as they have in past stranding events.

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SPORTS

Mavericks set to take on No. 4 Bulldogs

By KARSON BUELOW
Staff Writer

The No. 5 ranked Minnesota State University, Mankato men's hockey team is set to take on No. 4 ranked Minnesota Duluth this weekend in its second series of the season.

Puck drop is scheduled for 7:07 p.m. on Friday night and 6:07 p.m. Saturday night.

The Mavericks own a mediocre 24-29-6 all time record against the Bulldogs dating back to the 1997-98 season. Fortunately for Maverick fans, the team has won four straight against the Bulldogs including a 3-0 shutout win in Duluth last New Year's Day.

All three goal scorers in their last contest are still with the team, including senior forwards Cade Borchardt and Ryan Sandelin, alongside junior defenseman Jake Livingstone. Livingstone was recently honored as CCHA Defenseman of the Week for his performance against the University of Minnesota.

The Creston, B.C. native was the lone goal scorer in Friday night's game, and also tallied an assist on junior forward Josh Groll's goal in Saturday's 3-2 victory. In addition to his two points, Livingstone registered five blocked shots as well as five shots on goal.

After their win last Saturday, Maverick head coach Mike Hastings said it's nice to play in front of a home crowd. "We take pride in defending our home ice," Hastings said.



Minnesota State University, Mankato's men's hockey team will be at home this Friday and Saturday at the Mayo Clinic Civic Center.

A win against the Bulldogs this weekend won't come easy, as UMD's roster is loaded from top to bottom with NHL-caliber talent. But the Mavericks look determined to defend their home ice and maintain the near-undefeated home-ice record that was benchmarked by last year's squad.

Minnesota State comes into this weekend's contest with a 1-1 overall record after splitting its series with Minnesota last weekend. On the other side of the ice, the Bulldogs sport a likable 2-0 overall record after their date with Arizona State.

For the Mavericks, Livingstone, alongside junior forward Ondrej Pavel, leads the team with two points through two games of play. Sophomore goalie Keenan Rancier has been solid for the Mavericks in net with a .902 save percentage and 46 saves in his series against Minnesota.

For the Bulldogs, freshman forward Ben Steeves leads the program with two goals so far this season for two points. Two Duluth goalies have seen action so far this season, however senior Matthew Thiesen looked more impressive during his game against Ar-

izona State with a .967 save percentage and 29 saves.

Of the many storylines this weekend's series seems to bring, one of the most interesting is the father-son rivalry. Ryan Sandelin's father, Scott Sandelin, is the head coach for Minnesota Duluth. This weekend will bring another chapter in the long-standing, but good-natured family feud.

The Mavericks look to improve to 3-1 this season as they take on the Bulldogs Friday and Saturday night at the Mayo Clinic Health System Events Center in downtown Mankato.

DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

Soccer looks to continue dominating

By LUKE JACKSON
Staff Writer

The Minnesota State University, Mankato's women's soccer team look to improve their record after having a win and a tie on the road last weekend.

MSU is hosting the Minot State Beavers Friday and the UMary Marauders Sunday. The Mavericks have been performing well during the season with a record of 9-1-3. MSU can attribute their wins to the electric offense and game winning defense. Finding the net 38 times to the opponents eight has truly been the winning recipe for the Mavs this season. They have two challenging opponents this weekend but they look to shut them out like last year beating both 3-0. This may be more challenging as the Beavers are currently 7-2-4 while the Marauders are 8-2-3.

Senior midfielder, Brynn Desens, believes their momentum leaves her hopeful for this weekend, "I feel pretty confident. We have been playing really good. We are going to build off of last weekend's performance, even though we didn't get two wins we have high intensity and it shows from our week of practice which has me really energized".

Despite both teams having winning records and being very competitive Desens says the game plan hasn't changed much; they just need to bring the energy to win. "We just need to focus on what we can do to be better and have a more aggressive mindset. We need to be the ones controlling these games instead of letting them do that to us".

In addition, Desens is going into this game after being named defensive player of the week.

After her impressive performance, she hopes to keep her energy rolling in these games.

"I am going to keep working on giving it 100% and being there in every moment. Since it is my last year I want to go out the best I can and build from my last week's performance. I want to bring the energy and lead as a good example" said De-

Football looks to bounce back against Iowa Peacocks

By HAYDEN LEE
Staff Writer

After a highly contested game that ended in a 33-41 loss against Wayne State, the Mavericks return home this weekend to try and get back on track.

This week the Mavericks will return home after stops at Concordia University St. Paul and Wayne State, where they went 1-1. This week the Mavericks look forward to hosting the Upper Iowa University Peacocks at Blakeslee Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 15 at 1 p.m. When these two teams played last year, it was the Mavericks who would come out on top, winning in convincing fashion with a score of 58-0.

This year, the Mavericks hope to come out and put on

another dominant performance against the Peacocks. Coming off of a loss, the team hopes to start another winning streak this weekend. Senior wide receiver, Nyles Williams, who had two touchdown receptions in the Mavericks' comeback attempt has higher expectations for the team this week. "One thing we're trying to focus on is not having any turnovers. The last game they scooped and scored off a turnover, so not giving up easy points is one thing," Williams said.

The Peacocks are in the midst of a tough year, starting the season 0-6 up to this point. This week, they will be looking to finally get a tally in the win column with a win over the Mavericks.

One player to watch out for



The Maverick football team will take on the Upper Iowa Peacocks this Saturday at 1 p.m. at Blakeslee Stadium.

this Saturday for the Peacocks is defensive lineman Baxter Bohr. Bohr has been putting together some impressive performances this season, includ-

ing a monster game against the University of Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs where he recorded 3.5 tackles for loss, 2.5

FOOTBALL on page 12 ►

SOCCER on page 12 ►

Mavericks and Bulldogs square up on the hardwood

By CHARLIE GROEBNER
Staff Writer

Reaching the Midway point of the season, stakes are beginning to rise for the ladies of The Minnesota State University, Mankato volleyball team.

Following a successful weekend road trip, the Mavericks look to seek win number seven and the upset victory against the University of Minnesota, Duluth Bulldogs here in front of the fans at the Taylor Center this Friday at 6 p.m. Currently, the team sits at 6-13, which is near the bottom of the conference and a bit disappointing.

Even if their record may say a lot about this group, they are a team that will not go down without a fight. That is especially the case for junior middle blocker, Sophie Tietz who currently leads the team in kills and has the highest defense percentage on the team this season. Even for easily being considered one of the best players on the Mavericks starting six, the native of Watertown S.D. really does not pay much attention to the numbers.

"I just try to go out there every time and try my hardest. Play for my team on the court, compete against my opponents, and go out there every night and get the win," Tietz said

As for their opponent the Bulldogs, they are arguably one of the best teams within the last five years of the program. Currently, with a record of 16-1, the team led by Head Coach Jim Boos looks to continue their dominance as they push for the school's twenty-fifth championship and number seventh in Boos' tenure.

The person of most interest for the Bulldogs is the team's go-to server and outside hitter, junior Cianna Selbitschka. The native of North Branch, Minn. is having a phenomenal season as she currently leads the team in kills and services aces and currently is tenth amongst the entire conference. She is the heart and soul of the Bulldog offense as they look for their nineteenth win and extend their five-game win streak to six.

It will certainly be a bat-

VOLLEYBALL on page 12 ►

'A matter of grit': Mavs aim for win against Gophs

By KOLE BUELOW
Staff Writer

After a rough 0-4 start to its 2022-23 season, the Minnesota State University, Mankato women's hockey team is moving on to yet another undefeated team this weekend: the Minnesota Gophers.

Despite being winless, the Mavericks still hold their heads high. Senior forward Kennedy Bobyck kept it real with how the team dynamic has been.

"When you lose against the previous national champs by one in each game, that's gotta give you a confidence boost," she said. "Compared to how we played against them last year, it's a big difference."

After playing the No. 1 defending national champions Ohio State, Minnesota State played No. 4 and national runner-up Minnesota Duluth this past weekend. The Mavericks took Duluth to overtime in game one, earning their first point in Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) action.

Minnesota State lost game two by a score of 2-0, but still has one of the closest goals-for-to-goals-against ratios in all of the WCHA. With close games becoming the norm against some of the top teams in the nation, the Mavericks have been gaining recognition from across college hockey.

For the second straight week now MSU has appeared just outside the USCHO top 15 poll, receiving 26 votes in the Oct. 10 rendition making them the top reserve. With a



LILLY ANDERSON • The Reporter

Minnesota State University, Mankato's women's hockey team will be at home this Friday at 3 p.m. at the Mayo Clinic Civic Center.

win this weekend, the Mavericks could crack the top 15.

With an 0-4 record to begin the season, the Mavericks have had a lot to work on in practice. It has been important to focus on their weaknesses and leverage their strengths, and the team will be looking to find its first win behind team grit.

"I think grittiness in the corners and on the wall is the biggest thing that we need to work on and bring into the next series," explained Bobyck.

"I think we get stuck in our D zone. Having that second edge of that second player

coming in to come and help the effort in a battle will help us out. It's just a matter of grit within ourselves and our team and how to hold each other accountable to do those things."

Bobyck said she knows the Gophers are going to be a tough challenge yet again this weekend, but is confident in her team's abilities.

"I feel good about going against them. We did beat them one game last year. They're an incredible team and they have a lineup of really good players, including ones that came back."

The Gophers are off to a 2-0 start this year, beating

Bemidji State in both of their opening contests. Bobyck said the Gophers do a lot of things well,

"The Gophers move the puck really well and they have some really skilled players, especially up front."

In order to play well and hopefully pull out another win this year, the Mavericks need to, "play really well as a team and in unison." Bobyck said. "I think that's the way we beat them last year. We played so well defensively and offensively, but we played as a unit, together. We need to single out their most important players."

Senior Spotlight: Chance Bowen

By ALI REED
Staff Writer

As someone who has been a part of the Minnesota State University, Mankato football team since 2016, Chance Bowen, a senior defensive end, has a new sense of urgency in his final season playing for the Mavericks.

"My mindset is definitely more urgent," said Bowen. "We have literally like a month, maybe less than a month of football left, so it's crazy."

Bowen has been an athlete ever since he was a kid. His parents brought him up playing multiple sports, including basketball, baseball and football. As Bowen got older, football became his passion and ended up being the sport he stuck with.



DOM BOTHE • The Reporter

Chance Bowen #98 is a defensive lineman on the Minnesota State University, Mankato football team. He's been on the team since 2016.

Growing up in New Hope, Minn. Bowen attended high school at Armstrong, where he made a big impact within the school's athletic department. The multi-sport athlete lettered once in both basketball and baseball. He lettered in football three times, and was named as the Northwest Suburban Conference Defensive Lineman MVP, as he helped his team to a second place finish in sections his senior year.

Bowen brought his talent to the MSU football team after graduation and made his presence known in 2018, leading the team with 11 sacks.

"College football is like 10 times faster and everyone is good," said Bowen. "In high school, you're one of the top guys in practice. When you get

SPOTLIGHT on page 12 ►

Next wave of Big Ten stars primed to shine after many exits

By DAVE CAMPBELL
Associated Press

Iowa has had a first team All-American in three consecutive seasons, two for Luka Garza and one for Keegan Murray, raising the natural question about who the next star will be for the Hawkeyes and how quickly he can emerge.

Kris Murray, predictably, has everyone who follows the program staring straight at him.

The third-year forward has the sleek frame at 6-foot-8 and 220 pounds, the unflappable demeanor on the court and the track record of sharp improvement after increasing his scoring average by more than nine additional points per game.

But the tendency for comparison is unavoidable for the human brain, never more in the analysis of sports, and the fact that Kris Murray is Keegan Murray's identical twin brother will hover over him as long as he puts on a Hawkeyes uniform.

"If he didn't look the same



ABBBIE PAR • Associated Press
Big Ten NCAA college basketball Media Days Tuesday in Minneapolis.

as me, we probably wouldn't be having this conversation," Kris Murray said at Big Ten media day in Minneapolis. "Nobody expected Keegan to make the jump he did when Luka left. I think that's kind of the big difference. We have a really bal-

anced team this year."

Keegan Murray, who averaged 23.5 points to lead the conference last season, left Iowa after his sophomore year to enter the NBA draft. He was the fourth overall pick by Sacramento.

◀SOCCER from page 10

sens.

With only five games left of the season, the Mavs look

to close out these two strong. MSU has had a very commanding presence all season

and aim to keep it up competing against two difficult teams at home.

◀VOLLEYBALL from page 11

tle between David and Goliath on the courts of Taylor Center this Friday night. One team looking to power and mow down their opponent, and another looking to shake up the world and play spoiler.

As for Tietz, the pressure that is building toward this game is not going to affect the mentality or drive of this team once tip-off starts.

"We just try to take each opponent game by game and

approach with the mentality that they are coming for us every time. We treat every opponent that walks into the gym equally whether they are a team that's 18-1 or 1-18." Tietz said.

◀FOOTBALL from page 10

sacks, a forced fumble and fumble recovery, along with 10 total tackles.

On the other side of the ball for the Peacocks, sophomore quarterback Marcus Orr leads the way.

Orr has been a mixed bag this year, posting a 6:6 touch-

down to interception ratio. Another important piece of their offense has been junior running back Desean Phillips. Phillips has not only done his job on the ground, but has also caught and thrown a touchdown pass this season.

Even with the Peacocks

being 0-6, it will still be very important for the Mavericks to stay focused this week. "This weekend we want to protect the house, there are statistics out there that say if a team goes undefeated at home, they have a higher chance to make it to the playoffs," Williams said.

◀SPOTLIGHT from page 11

here you just see how much bigger and faster everyone is."

The recent history of Maverick football immediately drew Bowen to MSU. After watching the national championship game in 2014, Bowen knew he was meant to play for the Mavericks.

"The history here in the recent years definitely played a part in me coming here," said Bowen.

"I went to a national championship like two years before I graduated and we

had completely dominated the conference that year."

One of Bowen's favorite memories of being a part of the Mavericks was the 2018 snow game.

"The field was completely clear when the game started, but when we came back out after half time it was covered in snow. It was crazy," said Bowen.

During the very little time he has away from academics and athletics, Bowen loves to watch TV shows. His favorite show is "Criminal Minds."

As a sports management

major, Bowen's plans for after graduation include coaching. The injuries he has sustained over the years can't get in the way of him being connected to football.

"Originally I planned to play football, but with injuries it's looking like I'm not going to be able to do that, so I will definitely be going into coaching," said Bowen.

Bowen hopes for the Mavericks to get back to the national championship game this season, but the game plan for now is to take it week by week and win by win.

Davante Adams charged for shoving photographer



ED ZURGA • The Reporter

Las Vegas Raiders wide receiver Davante Adams (17) celebrates after scoring as Kansas City Chiefs cornerback Jaylen Watson (35) watches during the second half of an NFL football game in Kansas City, Mo.

By JOSH DUBOW
Associated Press

Las Vegas Raiders receiver Davante Adams has been charged with misdemeanor assault for shoving a photographer to the ground as he left the field following a loss at Kansas City.

Kansas City, Missouri, police said Adams pushed Ryan Zebley to the ground while running off the field following the Raiders' 30-29 loss to the Chiefs at Arrowhead Stadium on Monday night. Police called it an "intentional, overt act" that caused whiplash, a headache and a possible minor concussion. Charges were filed Wednesday morning in Municipal Court of Kansas City. Adams apologized in his post-game comments to the media

and later on Twitter.

"He jumped in front of me coming off the field. I kind of pushed him. He ended up on the ground," Adams said after the game. "I want to apologize to him for that. That was just frustration mixed with him really just running in front of me.

"I shouldn't have responded that way, but that's the way I responded. I want to apologize to him for that."

The NFL is also investigating Adams' actions. A person familiar with the process told The Associated Press on Tuesday that Adams could face possible punishment, including a fine or suspension.

Raiders coach Josh McDaniels said Tuesday that he supports Adams and will cooperate in any investigation.

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VARIETY

Diane Wilson speaks on Indigenous struggles



By LAUREN VISKA
Staff Writer

Diane Wilson is a Dakota author who came and spoke at the Ostrander Auditorium in the Centennial Student Union in honor of Indigenous Peoples Day 2022. Wilson's family originated in Minnesota but later moved to South Dakota after the 1862 Dakota War.

'The Seed Keeper' follows a Dakota family's story and struggles. It was in the works for 20 years and finally published on March 9, 2021.

It follows four women: Rosalie Iron Wing, her great-aunt Darlene Kills Deer, her best friend Gaby Makepeace, and her ancestor Marie Blackbird, who in 1862 saved her own mother's seeds.

When Wing's father passes away from a heart attack when she is just 12 years old, the authorities send her to grow up in the foster system rather than allowing her to live with her extended family.

When the narrative begins, she is 40 years old and sees herself as the government's ideal Indian farmer. However, after her husband passed away, she felt compelled to return to the cabin where she was born. The reader learns about the intertwined history of tyranny and resistance



Photos by Lauren Viska • The Reporter

Diane Wilson speaks on her Dakota identity and how knowing the importance of Indigenous Peoples Day is something everyone should educate themselves on, regardless of their background.

through her insights.

"It is a story told by four Dakota women about their struggle to protect their seeds and their traditional way of life," said Wilson.

"A story inspired me that I heard on the Dakota Commemorative March, as well as the work I've done in food."

The story Wilson heard was on a 150-mile-long walk to honor the Dakhóta people who were forcibly removed from Minnesota in 1863 in the aftermath of the United States–Dakhóta War. On one of the colder days, one walker told a story about the women on the original march.

"The women had little time

to prepare for their removal, but they still needed to feed their families wherever they were," said Wilson. "These women had sewed seeds into the hems of their skirts and hid more in their pockets, so they would be able to plant in the coming season. That gave me questions, and I needed the answers to my

questions."

Learning about Indigenous Peoples Day is important to know our history. People need to know where they came from.

"We need to know our history. We need to know whose homeland we are on," said Wilson. "I think it's important to know all of our neighbors."

Nancy Fitzsimons was an audience member who brought her copy of 'The Seed Keeper' and learned new things during Wilson's speech.

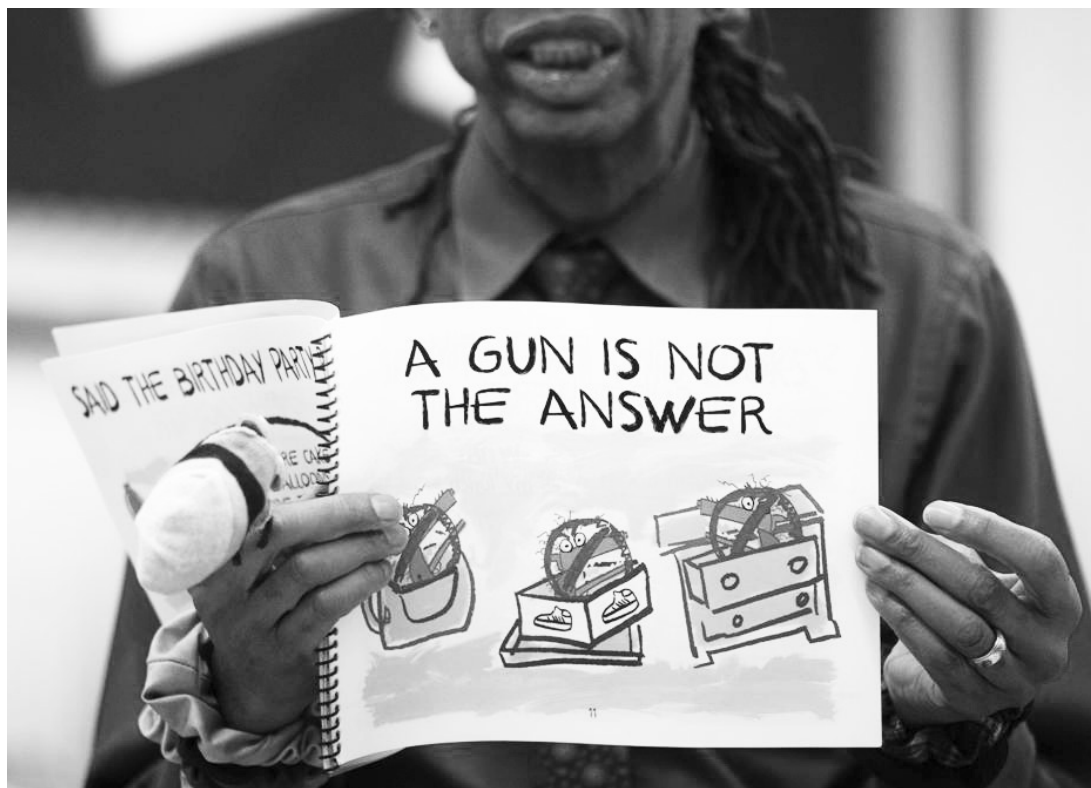
"I need to keep educating myself - and this was an opportunity to do that - about our history and the history of what was done to the Indigenous People," said Fitzsimons. "I wrote this one thing she kept saying down about protecting what you love."

After Wilson talked about her book, audience members had the opportunity to get the book signed. Fitzsimons took advantage of that opportunity.

"Whenever I buy a book and have the opportunity to hear directly from the author, I want to do it," said Fitzsimons. "One of the most exciting things about being on a college campus is that we get people who write books to come here."

If students want to purchase her book, they can go to Wilson's website or find it at a bookstore near them.

Demand soars for kids' books addressing violence, trauma



JOHN MINCHILLO • Associated Press

Ian Ellis James, an Emmy award-winning Sesame Street writer known by his stage name William Electric Black, leads a first grade class in a book reading on urban gun violence prevention at the Drexel Avenue School, Monday, Oct. 3, 2022, in Westbury, N.Y.

By CLAIRE SAVAGE
Associated Press

As the new school year swings into gear, some students carry heavier worries than keeping up with homework: Demand has been growing steadily for children's books that address traumatic events such as school shootings.

Sales of books for young readers on violence, grief, and emotions have increased for nine straight years, with nearly six million copies sold in 2021 — more than double the amount in 2012, according to NPD BookScan, which tracks U.S. retail sales of print books. As anxiety and depression rates have soared among young Americans, educators and advocates say children's books can play a role in helping them cope.

"While it might be second nature to try to shield kids from the harsher realities of life and scary news, it's proving difficult to avoid big society issues," said Kristine Enderle, editorial director at Magination Press, the children's book publishing arm of the American Psychological Association. "Kids face these issues and challenges in their day-to-day life."

One book, "I'm Not Scared ... I'm Prepared," was reprinted several times to meet demand after the massacre at Uvalde's Robb Elementary School in May, according to the National Center for Youth Issues, the nonprofit group that published the book. The story, first published in 2014, features a teacher who shows children what to do when a "dangerous someone" is in their school.

Bookstores around the country see interest in titles from the genre rise and fall depending on local and national headlines, according to book-

seller Barnes & Noble.

Some newer titles engage directly with real-world gun violence.

In "Numb to This," a graphic novel released this month, author Kindra Neely details the 2015 Umpqua Community College shooting in Oregon, which she survived, and the aftermath as she tries to heal amid repeated shootings elsewhere. Initially, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers editorial director Andrea Colvin said she was shocked when Keely pitched the idea.

"I had to remember that, yes, this is what our stories are like now. This is what young people have experienced," Colvin said.

Michele Gay, whose 7-year-old daughter Josephine was killed in the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, turned to children's books herself to help her two surviving daughters. One picture book she read to them was "The Ant Hill Disaster," about a boy ant who is afraid to go back to school after it is destroyed.

"It was one of many books that was of comfort to them and gave them a little bit of confidence to just face one more day, one more minute, because we can do it together," said Gay, who advocates for improved security in schools through a nonprofit she co-founded, Safe and Sound Schools.

Parents should make sure books addressing trauma are age-appropriate and backed by psychologists, experts say.

It's important to be aware of whether children are aware of or feeling stress about frightening things in the news, said Aryeh Sova, a Chicago psychologist who works with children who attended the July 4 parade in suburban Highland

Park, Illinois, where seven people were killed in a shooting. A child asking lots of questions about an event may signify that they are anxious or fixated on it, he said.

"If it's coming from the kid's need, then books could be a great way for kids to learn and to read together with their parents and to review it on their own and to process it at their own speed, at their own pace," Sova said.

But bringing up violence when a child isn't worried about it could increase their anxiety unnecessarily, Sova said.

Some young children experience gun violence at alarmingly high rates, particularly in communities of color.

For them, it is important to start early to address the effects, said Ian Ellis James, an Emmy award-winning Sesame Street writer known by his stage name William Electric Black. He is the author of the illustrated children's book "A Gun Is Not Fun." He said young children in areas afflicted by gun violence are more aware of it than parents may think.

"They know about flowers and candles and cards in the street. They walk by them every day," he said.

Through children's literature and theater, Black works to reduce urban gun violence. "If you start when they're 5, and you go back when you're 6, 7, 8, 9, you're going to change the behavior," he said.

In the spring, he will collaborate with New York public school P.S. 155 in East Harlem with a series of gun violence awareness and prevention workshops for early readers, using puppets, storytelling and repetition.

Nobelist Annie Ernaux draws hundreds to bookstore



MICHEL EULER • Associated Press

French author Annie Ernaux leaves her home in Cergy-Pontoise, outside Paris, Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022.

By HILLEL ITALIE
Associated Press

Since Annie Ernaux won the Nobel literature prize last week, the French author's books have gained enough new admirers that many titles are out of stock on Amazon.com and at physical bookstores, some unavailable for a month or more. But at Albertine Books on Manhattan's Upper East Side, her appearance Monday night felt less like an introduction than a gathering of old friends, French and American alike.

The event, reachable on the second floor via a winding staircase within the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, had sold out well before the Nobel was announced. On Monday, an early line of

attendees extended around the corner, with hundreds eventually packed inside, including an overflow crowd that watched her through a video feed from the floor below.

Greeted by an ovation from a standing-room-only audience that included fellow authors Garth Greenwell and Rachel Kushner, the 82-year-old Ernaux spoke at length and at an energetic pace, through her translator, about her career and the writing process.

Her expansive answers contrasted with the economical style of her famously short, autobiographical books, among them the 64-page "Simple Passion" and the 96-page "Happening," her candid recollection about having an illegal abortion in 1963 that was adapted last year.

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For Whoopi Goldberg, 'Till' release comes after long wait



MATT LICARI • Associated Press

Whoopi Goldberg poses for a portrait to promote the film "Till," on Friday, Sept. 30, 2022, at the Park Lane Hotel in New York.

By JONATHAN LANRUM JR.
Associated Press

When Whoopi Goldberg was invited to help produce an Emmett Till project, the actor thought she knew all about the Black teenager's 1955 kidnapping and lynching — until she learned about the surprising elements behind the historic tragedy.

After Goldberg dove deep into Till's backstory, she and her production teammates Barbara Broccoli and Fred Zollo eagerly pitched movie ideas to several major studios. All eventually turned them down. It became discouraging at times, but after more than two decades of trying to get the project green lit, Hollywood finally took notice in their project following George Floyd's death in 2020.

Goldberg said that's when MGM's Orion Pictures stepped up to financially support the development of "Till," which opens in theaters Friday.

"People kind of hopped up and said, 'Wait a minute, this is not okay with any of us,'" Goldberg recalled after the killing of Floyd, who died after a Minneapolis police officer pressed a knee into his neck for several minutes. She said Floyd's death struck a chord throughout the U.S. the same way Till's lynching created public uproar 60-plus years ago.

"Corporations started to pay attention," said Goldberg, who added that she's been connected to project long enough for her to go from being a "young woman with a kid" to now a grandmother. "Orion said 'Listen, we do want to tell this story. We want to help you tell this story. We've been waiting a long time.'"

Goldberg said several directors were interviewed, but they were easily won over by Chinonye Chukwu — who wanted to primarily focus her film on Mamie Till-Mobley, the mother of Emmett Till. The new movie follows the true and untold story of Till-Mobley, whose decision to publicize her

14-year-old son's brutal death for whistling at a white woman in Mississippi helped spark the civil rights movement.

"Without Mamie, the world wouldn't know who Emmett Till was, and she is the heartbeat of the story," said the director, who called Till-Mobley a "warrior for justice" while she combatted racism, sexism and misogyny in wake of her son's killing.

Chukwu said she had unconditional support from Goldberg, who said the director was an obvious fit.

"(Goldberg) constantly communicated her unwavering belief in my artistry and my abilities to be able to tell this story in a way that it needed to be told," said Chukwu, who directed the 2019 drama "Clemency" starring Alfre Woodard. "That kind of support made me feel so seen as an artist, as a human being, and as a Black woman. I will never forget that kind of support."

Chukwu co-wrote the screenplay with Michael Reilly and Keith Beauchamp — a filmmaker best known for his extensive research behind Till's abduction. His 2005 documentary "The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till" played a major role in the U.S. Department of Justice's decision to reopen the Till investigation.

Beauchamp became friends with Till-Mobley, who was a mentor to him before she died in 2003.

His work laid the foundation for Chukwu, who called Beauchamp a "treasure trove" of information and research in telling her cinematic story.

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Favre says he's 'unjustly smeared'

By EMILY WAGSTER PETTUS
Associated Press

Retired NFL quarterback Brett Favre says he is being treated unfairly in news coverage of a Mississippi welfare scandal, including about payments he received to help fund a pet project of his — a volleyball arena at the university he attended and where his daughter was playing the sport.

"I have been unjustly smeared in the media," Favre said in a statement to Fox News Digital, which was published Tuesday. "I have done nothing wrong, and it is past time to set the record straight."

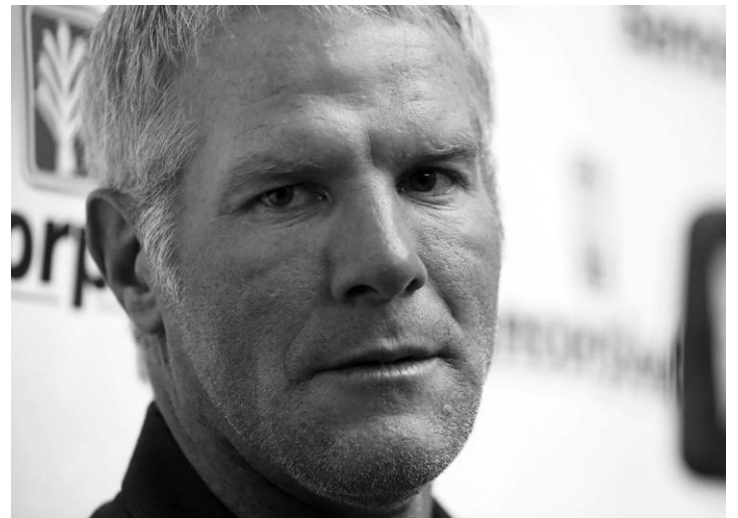
"No one ever told me, and I did not know, that funds designated for welfare recipients were going to the University or me," Favre said.

"I tried to help my alma mater USM, a public Mississippi state university, raise funds for a wellness center. My goal was and always will be to improve the athletic facilities at my university."

It is one of the few public statements Favre has made about Mississippi's largest-ever public corruption case involving the misspending of tens of millions of dollars in welfare money that was intended to help some of the poorest people in one of the poorest states in the U.S.

Favre is not facing criminal charges. He is among more than three dozen people or companies being sued by the Mississippi Department of Human Services.

Mississippi Auditor Shad White, a Republican who has



ROGELIO V. SOLIS • Associated Press

Former NFL quarterback Brett Favre speaks with reporters prior to his induction to the Mississippi Hall of Fame in Jackson, Miss., Saturday, Aug. 1, 2015.

investigated the welfare mis-spending, took exception with Favre's new statement. White pointed to text messages between Favre and other people about the volleyball arena, recently disclosed in the civil lawsuit.

"Obviously, Mr. Favre knew that he was being paid in government funds, based on the texts," White told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "He knew that those funds were coming from the Department of Human Services. He's obviously acknowledged that he needed to repay those funds, too."

The lawsuit was filed in May and says the defendants "squandered" more than \$20 million from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families anti-poverty program.

Favre has repaid \$1.1 million he received for speak-

ing fees from the Mississippi Community Education Center, a nonprofit group that spent TANF money with approval from the Department of Human Services. But, White said Tuesday that Favre still owes \$228,000 in interest.

In October 2021, Favre and White engaged in a social media spat about White saying Favre had accepted the \$1.1 million but had failed to show up for speaking engagements.

"Of course the money was returned because I would never knowingly take funds meant to help our neighbors in need, but for Shad White to continue to push out this lie that the money was for no-show events is something I cannot stay silent about," Favre wrote.

White said Tuesday that Favre has repeatedly made "confusing" statements about the payment for speaking.

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