

# GOV. WALZ WINS

## Incumbent Gov. Walz wins second term in office over Scott Jensen

By JULIA BARTON  
Editor in Chief

Minnesota voters on Tuesday chose to give Gov. Tim Walz and Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan a second term.

Walz and Flanagan won by nearly 10% over challengers Scott Jensen and Matt Birk. Walz and Flanagan collected 52.27% while Jensen and Birk collected 44.61%. The remaining 3.12% was made up of third-party candidates and write-ins according to the Minnesota Secretary of State.

Democrats also claim the majority in the state senate for the first time in six years. Democrats now control both the house of representatives and senate as well as the governorship.

“Being able to reclaim the majority will ensure reproductive rights across Minnesota,” said Storm Novak, president of College Democrats at Minnesota State. “Once any party has the majority in the house and senate it means that party can really get a lot done.”

Dedicated to the Democratic-Farmer-Labor party from the beginning, No-



ABBIE PARR • Associated Press

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz speaks to the crowd at the DFL election-night party.

vak said his efforts have been constant since the campaign season started.

“I personally door-knocked over 1,000 doors,” Novak said. “I am optimistic that we can get more funding for our colleges and for tuition for students. There’s a lot of democrats that are in favor of that.”

Representatives that hold this position are able to vote on bills that will directly impact Minnesota.

“I think it’s great to have new legislators that are focused on higher education so that it can support underrepresented students and students of color. Issues like having tuition be frozen so students don’t

drop out because of basic need resources or mental health resources,” David Mesita, junior at MSU, said.

Other statewide wins include incumbent attorney general Keith Ellison with a 50.37% win, barely inching past Jim Schultz who collected 49.53%. Write ins accounted for the other 0.10%.

Secretary of State incumbent Steven Simon (54.53%) defeated Kim Crockett (45.38%), with write-ins accounting for 0.09%.

State auditor Julia Blaha won by the skin of her teeth (47.47) over Ryan Wilson (47.13%). Third-party candidates

**ELECTION on page 6▶**

## MSU’s Holocaust course to culminate with trip

By ANDREA  
SCHOENECKER  
Staff Writer

In spring semester, Minnesota State students will have the opportunity to take a one-credit course offered by the History Department called “The Holocaust” (HIST 490) that covers the events of the Holocaust and end with a trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C.

Director of Social Studies Education, Kyle Ward created this course after an opportunity with the Jewish Community Relations Council arose.

“World War Two and the Holocaust were topics of interest to the students. They didn’t know a ton about it, but they just have a definite interest in it. So having this trip and to have the opportunity to take our students to Washington DC to see the museum is a great opportunity,” said Ward.

According to Professor Kristin Thompson, who will be teaching this course next semester, the goal of this



Professor Kristin Thompson

course is to engage students in historical inquiry and experiential learning to examine the ethics of their chosen profession or field of study, as well as their roles as active and engaged citizens in a democracy.

“A lot of Holocaust education is just about trying to get people to have an emotional response, and that’s not really what we’re looking for,” Thompson said. “It’s really to understand the historical facts and for students to examine their own lives, perspective, and choic-

**HOLOCAUST on page 2▶**

# The colliding of Catholicism and LGBT+

By LILLY SCHMIDT  
Staff Writer

The posters began popping up on Halloween.

“The Catholic Church teaches what about LGBTQ+?!?” they read.

The Theology on Tap event advertised guest speaker Emmanuel “Manny” Gonzalez would speak about “the sensitive topic of same-sex attraction.”

The posters created a flare-up of concern among LGBT+ students on campus, and the event left some unsure of how the event should be received and handled by students.

“Long story short, I’m Catholic. I’m a man who experiences same-sex attraction. For years I really struggled to reconcile my

Catholic faith with my sexuality,” Gonzalez said.

He shared his story with Catholic Mavs and others who attended.

“I ended up coming back to the church four years ago; had a conversion. Now I live a life according to the church,” Gonzalez said. “I try to live chastely and I’m here today to spread awareness to the reality of this experience; the reality of our brothers and sisters who have LGBT+ experiences who desire to be seen and known and loved by the church.”

Living according to God’s will as a man experiencing same-sex attraction, in Gonzalez’s eyes, means living chastely. This includes no sexual or marital relationships between two individuals of the same sex.



LILLY ANDERSON • The Reporter

Guest Speaker Emmanuel “Manny” Gonzalez spoke to students at a Theology on Tap event regarding topics of chastity and same-sex attraction.

“The church teaches that sex is reserved between one man and one woman within the context

**CATHOLIC on page 5▶**

## Senate president shares budget deficit updates from Inch



ASUTOSH SILWAL • The Reporter

At the latest Student Government meeting, the senate addressed President Inch's budget deficit and a report discussing graduate assistant pay. Enrollment at MSU has dropped 10% in the last decade.

By CARLY BAHR  
Staff Writer

The Student Government held a shortened meeting Wednesday before attending a kickball competition; the meeting's topics included an update from President Emma Zellmer about a meeting with President Edward Inch about the university's budget deficit and a senator report reiterating efforts to raise graduate assistant pay.

Zellmer and Vice President Idman Ibrahim had a meeting with Inch Tuesday to discuss the administration's plans for the university's growth over the next five years. According to Zellmer, Inch said Minnesota State's enrollment has dropped 10% in the last decade, contributing to a \$3 million budget deficit.

Inch also said the deficit is among the lowest among state universities in Minnesota.

According to her, "We've been in a deficit for years. We are not nearly in as bad of a deficit as the other state universities, we have the smallest deficit. It basically just means that our enrollment went down this year. Mankato is in the best situation out of all of them. So that just means tightening of budgets."

Zellmer said one way the university will tighten budgets is to combine some colleges,

although Inch has said he is avoiding layoffs. According to her, Inch wants to grow MSU's transfer student enrollment by 20%, and improve first year to second year retention from 75% to 80%.

President Inch will have a Zoom open forum for students 2 p.m. Thursday where they can ask questions or raise concerns about these budget issues.

Zellmer said the budget deficit will not impact student activities, as they are funded by student fees, not tuition.

"The \$2-3 million will hopefully have little impact on students," Zellmer said.

The budget deficit has, however, had an impact on graduate assistants' lack of pay increase. Graduate Studies College Senator Douglas Roberts has been vocal about the frustrations graduate assistants feel towards their wages; which are \$10,000 per fiscal year for a full time graduate assistant.

Roberts said the university acknowledges this pay rate is an issue, but will not take action due to a lack of funds.

"It is a concern because it is not only a matter of survival for these folks, it is a matter of retention. As other universities have been increasing their benefits, in some cases including health insurance, and in some of these institutions even having higher rates of pay, we become

more and more of a university that is less appealing for graduate students overall," Roberts said. "Even though, I will admit, it is commendable on the number of graduate assistantships that this university offers compared to others. However, it doesn't do much good when you cannot survive on the assistantship alone."

The Student Senate passed Roberts' resolution in April that called the University to increase the stipend from \$10,000 to \$18,000.

Roberts said there are conversations of unionizing among their fellow graduate assistants.

"It's definitely been something that's talked about," Roberts said.

The senator said unionizing would protect the rights of all graduate students, particularly graduate assistants, which include teaching, research and program assistants. Roberts said forming a graduate assistant union would ensure "they are all protected in one band, instead of little, mini bands."

"Unionization is on the table. It's something we've been talking about and (an organizing campaign is) something that we've been thinking about potentially launching, maybe this year or into next year if we don't see change soon," the senator said.

► **HOLOCAUST** from page 1  
es that they make and seeing how this history is relevant."

Navigating a topic such as the Holocaust can be difficult as it can be hard to separate the emotional aspects from the history.

"You don't have to show, you know, a pile of corpses. You can show some of the

warehouses of the camps that had eyeglasses, shoes, and wedding rings to get across that same impact about the sheer number of people because the numbers are hard to comprehend," Thompson explained.

The power of Nazi propaganda, the challenges of escape, and the aftermath of World War II are just a few of the top-

ics and points of discussion for this course.

This course is open to all MSU students and will take place Wednesday from 6:00-6:50 p.m. during the spring semester online, synchronously. The class will end with a one-day trip on March 28, 2023 to the USHMM, sponsored by

**HOLOCAUST** on page 5►

## Mav Money Talks Podcast helps with financial planning



Courtesy photo of Jen Cucurullo

The Mav Money Talks podcast created by the College of Business aims to help students who want to improve their financial planning. Topics discussed on the show include student loans, scholarships and careers.

By AMALIA SHARAF  
Staff Writer

A new podcast from the College of Business, Mav Money Talks, was created in the format of a discussion aimed at helping students with finances. Students with loans and those wanting to improve their financial planning may find some tips in the podcast.

Financial planning program director, Daniel Hiebert, gives credit to the students that brought up important topics for those struggling with financial planning.

"Students thought, we got so many questions on student loans, people are just confused by it. Why wouldn't we just cover [student loans] first? And then we will get into the other subjects as well," said Hiebert.

The podcast has already covered topics such as financial planning, student loans and savings. The next episode of the podcast will cover scholarships available for students. Creators of the podcast plan to include additional useful topics in the future.

"We are coming out to our fourth episode. In the last two sessions, we were talking about student loans and how to navigate the student loan process and plan for such things. Our next recording is going to be on scholarships," said Hiebert. "[Later] we will talk about careers and career passings. How to look at your employee benefits, we could even get into other subjects like networking skills."

The podcast is open to ideas  
**PODCAST** on page 5►

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## In a first, doctors treat fatal genetic disease before birth



ANDRE COUTU • Associated Press

Ayla Bashir sits with mother, Sobia Qureshi, during a physical exam. The toddler is the first child treated as fetus for Pompe disease, an inherited and fatal disorder in which the body fails to make a crucial protein.

By JONEL ALECCIA  
Associated Press

A toddler is thriving after doctors in the U.S. and Canada used a novel technique to treat her before she was born for a rare genetic disease that caused the deaths of two of her sisters.

Ayla Bashir, a 16-month-old from Ottawa, Ontario, is the first child treated as fetus for Pompe disease, an inherited and often fatal disorder in which the body fails to make some or all of a crucial protein.

Today, she's an active, happy girl who has met her developmental milestones, according to her father, Zahid Bashir and mother, Sobia Qureshi.

"She's just a regular little 1½-year-old who keeps us on our toes," Bashir said. The couple previously lost two daughters, Zara, 2½, and Sara, 8 months, to the disease. A third pregnancy was terminated because of the disorder.

In a case study published Wednesday in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, doctors describe an international collaboration during the COVID-19 pandemic that led to the treatment that may have saved Ayla's life — and expanded the field of potential fetal therapies. The outlook for Ayla is promising but uncertain.

"It holds a glimmer of hope for being able to treat them in utero instead of waiting until

damage is already well-established," said Dr. Karen Fung-Kee-Fung, a maternal-fetal medicine specialist at The Ottawa Hospital who gave the treatment and delivered Ayla.

Fung-Kee-Fung was following a new treatment plan developed by Dr. Tippi MacKenzie, a pediatric surgeon and co-director of the Center for Maternal-Fetal Precision Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, who shared her research after the pandemic prevented Ayla's mother from traveling for care.

"We were all motivated to make this happen for this family," MacKenzie said.

Doctors have treated fetuses before birth for three decades, often with surgeries to repair birth defects such as spina bifida. And they've given blood transfusions to fetuses through the umbilical cord, but not medicines.

In this case, the crucial enzymes were delivered through a needle inserted through the mother's abdomen and guided into a vein in the umbilical cord. Ayla received six biweekly infusions that started at about 24 weeks of gestation.

The unusual partnership also involved experts at Duke University in Durham, N.C., which has led research on Pompe disease, and University of Washington in Seattle.

## Changes afoot after midterm elections

By ZEKE MILLER  
Associated Press

Joe Biden's record was on the ballot even if his name wasn't. And no matter the final bottom line of Tuesday's midterm elections, his presidency is set for profound changes.

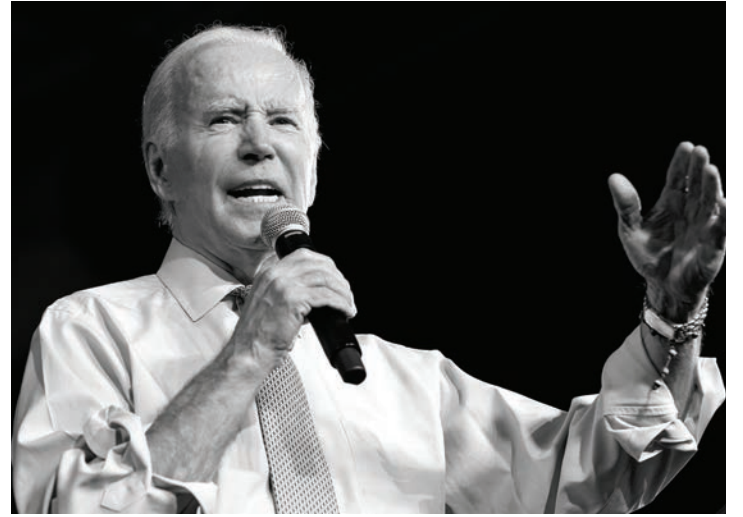
Biden watched from the White House into the early morning hours Wednesday, making congratulatory calls to more than 30 Democratic candidates and huddling with advisers to watch the incoming returns. The White House announced that he was to deliver remarks and hold a rare press conference on Wednesday afternoon to discuss the results.

In public, the president professed optimism to the end, telling Democratic state party officials on election eve that "we're going to surprise the living devil out of people."

In private, though, White House aides have been drawing up contingencies should Republicans take control of one, or both, chambers of Congress — a scenario Biden acknowledged would make his life "more difficult."

Control of Congress was still hanging in the balance on Wednesday morning, but returns pointed to surprising Democratic strength as the party notched victories in key races, including Pennsylvania's Senate race where John Fetterman flipped a Republican-controlled seat that is key to the party's hopes of maintaining control of the chamber.

Regardless of the outcome, the votes will help reshape the



SUSAN WALSH • Associated Press

President Joe Biden speaks at a campaign event for Maryland Democratic gubernatorial candidate Wes Moore and others at Bowie State University in Bowie, Md., Monday, Nov. 7, 2022.

remainder of Biden's term after an ambitious first two years and will reorder his White House priorities.

The president last week appealed for Americans to be patient as votes are counted and to avoid engaging in conspiracy theories, a message he was likely to repeat Wednesday about pending returns.

Biden, in his first two years, pushed through sweeping bills to address the coronavirus pandemic, rebuild the nation's infrastructure, address climate change and boost U.S. competitiveness with China — all with the slimmest of congressional majorities.

Now, aides and allies say, his focus will turn to preserving those gains, implementing the massive pieces of legislation — perhaps while under intense GOP oversight — sustaining

effective governance in an even more charged environment and shoring up his party's standing ahead of the next presidential election.

Biden's job approval has rebounded from lows this summer, but he remains less than popular with midterm voters.

According to the AP VoteCast, an expansive survey of over 93,000 voters across the country, about 6 in 10 disapprove of how he is handling the economy. A similar proportion disapprove of how he's handling the presidency at large.

Should Republicans win control of Congress, Biden allies are gearing up for fights on keeping the government funded and its financial obligations met, sustaining support for Ukraine and protecting his signature legislative achievements from repeal efforts.

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# Inflation and democracy top concerns in US

By JOSH BOAK and HANNAH FINGERHUT  
Associated Press

Just as Republicans had hoped, high inflation was the top consideration for voters in the midterm elections, AP VoteCast shows. But the survey reveals that a core issue for President Joe Biden, the survival of democracy, also weighed heavily on voters' minds, as control of Congress — and a choice between sharply contrasting visions of America — hung in the balance.

The result, as of early Wednesday, was an election in which Democrats displayed strength, appearing to avoid the massive losses that often beset the party in power during a midterm vote. With ballots still being counted, though, it was unclear if they would retain control of at least one chamber of Congress.

The survey depicts a country mired in pessimism about America's future and its political leadership, with lingering tensions in how people feel about Biden and his predecessor, Donald Trump, shaping choices at the ballot box.

The detailed portrait of the American electorate is based on results from VoteCast, an extensive survey of more than 94,000



People cast their ballots at Coit Arts Academy in Grand Rapids, MI on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022.

JOEL BISSELL • Associated Press

voters nationwide conducted for The Associated Press by NORC at the University of Chicago.

About half of voters say inflation factored significantly in their vote, as groceries, gasoline, housing, food and other costs have shot up in the past

year and raised the specter of inflation. The economy was an overarching concern for voters, about 8 in 10 of whom say it was in bad shape. A slim majority of voters say Biden's policies caused inflation to be near 40-year highs, while just under half

are blaming factors beyond his control, such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Slightly fewer voters — 44% — say the future of democracy was their primary consideration. On the campaign trail, Biden warned that Republicans are

posing a threat to democracy. Many GOP leaders continue to cast doubt on the U.S. electoral system, falsely claiming that the 2020 presidential election, which Trump lost, was rigged.

Yet the "Make America Great Again," or MAGA, movement sparked by Trump appears to have tightened its grip on Republicans. Nearly two-thirds of GOP voters say they support the MAGA movement, a sign of the potential gridlock with Biden's White House should Republicans win majorities in the House or Senate.

Republicans bet on voter dissatisfaction with inflation, crime and immigration to help them win. Biden and his fellow Democrats countered that the U.S. middle class is poised for a renaissance because of their investments on infrastructure, computer chip production and clean energy projects.

Nearly half of voters name the economy the top issue facing the country, and those voters back Republicans more than Democrats. No other issue comes close, but many other issues are named most important by about 1 in 10 voters. That includes abortion, health care, climate change and gun policy, where Democrats outpace Republicans by at least three to one.

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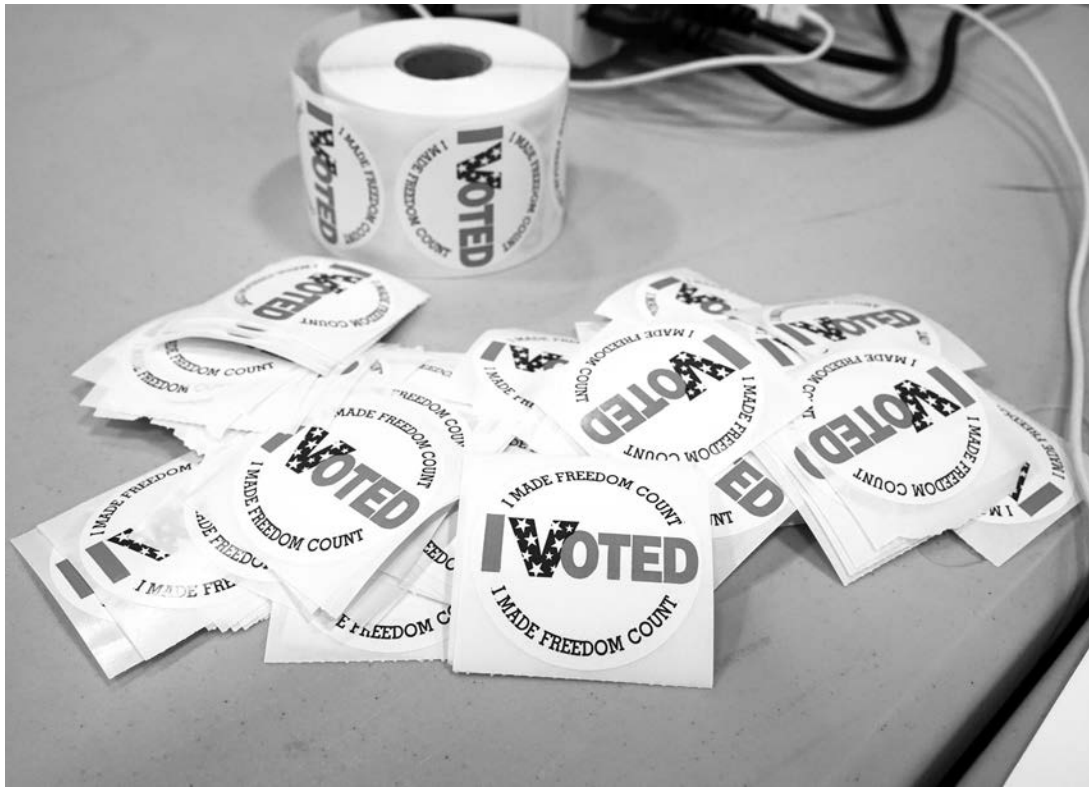
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# US vote counting unaffected by cyberattacks, officials say



ROGELIO V. SOLIS • Associated Press

“I Voted” stickers are ready to be distributed to each person who filled out their ballot, Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022, at a Brandon, Miss., precinct. No cyberattacks meddled with the midterm elections.

By NOMAAN MERCHANT and EMILY WAGSTER  
Associated Press

No instances of digital interference are known to have affected the counting of the midterm vote after a tense Election Day in which officials were closely monitoring domestic and foreign threats. A few state and local governments appeared to be hit by a relatively rudimentary form of cyber-attack that periodically made public websites unreachable. But U.S. and local officials said

Wednesday that none breached vote-counting infrastructure.

“We have seen no evidence that any voting system deleted or lost votes, changed votes, or was any way compromised in any race in the country,” Jen Easterly, director of the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency, said in a statement.

CISA and other federal agencies had warned that safeguarding U.S. elections has become more complex than ever, with the most serious threats from domestic sources. Foreign

adversaries such as Russia, China, and Iran have tried to meddle in individual campaigns and amplify false or misleading narratives on social media.

Many members of an increasingly fractious American public have latched onto unproven conspiracies about voter fraud. And there are constant fears that state-sponsored intruders or criminals might try to interfere with voter rolls or steal data for ransom. Also of concern are increasing physical and online threats to election workers.

## ◀CATHOLIC from page 1

of marriage. Anything outside of that shouldn't be had. Our bodies were made for more,” Gonzalez said.

However, he made it clear that having same-sex attractions is not a sin.

“The attractions themselves are not sinful,” Gonzalez stated. “If you're attracted to the same sex you cannot control that.”

E Cummings, a regular at the LGBT Center, was concerned the event might be homophobic. They also wondered about the university's role in promoting hurtful content.

“It makes people part of the LGBT community not feel as safe here. If the school is supporting potentially homophobic things, what else could the school be supporting that is directly homophobic?” Cummings asked. “If the school is advertising events that make us feel unsafe, we may not feel as welcome.

They said LBGTQ+ people should be free to live their lives free from religious dogma.

“It's homophobic because you're saying, ‘Oh, you can't live your life to the extent you

want to live it too. You can't be in a relationship that you truly would be happy in,” Cummings said. “That's essentially what the church is saying: you can be gay, but don't marry people. You can't marry the consenting adult that you feel attracted to. And that's homophobic; it's discrimination because you can't marry who you feel attracted to, but straight people can.”

Yet Gonzalez challenged the question “How do we prove that the Catholic church isn't homophobic?” during the Q&A portion of the evening.

“I think each and every one of you can prove that the Catholic church isn't homophobic by not being homophobic yourself, and by loving your brothers and sisters who have LGBT+ experiences,” Gonzalez said. “We have to acknowledge the reality that there are people who have been hurt by the church and there are men and women in the church who have been hateful, discriminative, and wrongly treated our brothers and sisters in the LGBT community.”

Gonzalez explained that members of the Catholic church

should be willing to walk side by side with the LGBT+ community and listen. He shared a personal example of a close friend who is actively in a gay relationship.

“He doesn't think that because I'm Catholic, I'm homophobic,” said Gonzalez. “The Catholicism is beside the point; he knows confidently that I love him because I'm there.”

Regarding the university's goals of diversity, equity, and inclusion, the school's website says, “We believe that a diverse campus is critical in order for our students, faculty and staff to be engaged and productive members of a global society.” The gender and sexuality programs tab says, “Gender and Sexuality Programs affirms and supports all individuals with varying gender identities, sexual orientations, biological sexes, and those who are victims/survivors of intimate partner violence.”

As a follow-up to the sit-in against homophobia taking place last week on Mav Ave in Centennial Student Union, a march against homophobia is scheduled for noon today.

◀HOLOCAUST from page 2  
the JCRC, which charters the plane to Washington D.C. The cost of airfare and bussing is \$435.

This course is open for registration in e-services. Interested students can contact Ward at [kyle.ward@mnsu.edu](mailto:kyle.ward@mnsu.edu) for additional information.

## ◀PODCAST from page 2

from students, who can share topics that they want to hear with creators on the website and wait for the next episode that will cover those suggestions.

“There should be a place on the website where they can make suggestions. If it is not available, they can send ideas to me. We certainly want to make it as inclusive as possible. Whatever topics are on the mind of students, we want to be able to have those,” Hiebert mentioned.

Mav Money Talks Podcast is available to listen to on the MSU website. Creators are working on the availability of the podcast on other platforms, such as Spotify or Apple Music. According to Hiebert, these platforms are work in progress.

“Spotify and Apple music might be the work in progress. But that is our goal to make that available wherever podcasts can be found,” said Hiebert.

Creators discuss topics and come up with ideas that might be useful while planning for

student loans and paying for studies.

“What we encourage people to do is have a plan for their finances and if there is anything that they can take away from [the podcast] is having a plan. And plans can be different, so you have to look at your situation,” said Hiebert. “At the end of the day everyone is all about making sure that they can make progress in their finances, so they can set up financial goals, meet the goals and have the life that they want.”

According to Hiebert, the podcast may provide students with ideas on how to plan finances better in a discussion format. Hiebert also shares good advice for students that they can start to use at any moment.

“Don't put money on your debit card, put it into a savings account. If something comes up like a financial emergency, maybe a medical situation, where you have to pay money, it is always good to have a savings account so you could just pay from that,” said Hiebert.

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## GOP closing in on House win; Senate control up in air



JAY LAPRETE • Associated Press

Republican U.S. Sen.-elect JD Vance speaks during an election night party Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022, in Columbus, Ohio.

By SARA BURNETT,  
JILL COLVIN and  
WILL WEISSERT  
Associated Press

Republicans were closing in Wednesday on a narrow House majority while control of the Senate hinged on a series of tight races in a midterm election that defied expectations of sweeping conservative victories driven by frustration over inflation and President Joe Biden's leadership.

Either party could secure a Senate majority with wins in both Nevada and Arizona — where the races were too early to call. But there was a strong possibility that, for the second time in two years, the Senate majority could come down to a runoff in Georgia next month, with Democratic Sen. Raphael Warnock and Herschel Walker failing to earn enough votes to win outright.

In the House, Democrats kept seats in districts from Virginia to Kansas to Rhode Island, while many in states like New York and California had not been called. But Republicans notched several important victories in their bid to get to the 218 seats needed to reclaim the House majority. In a particularly symbolic victory, the GOP toppled House Democratic campaign chief Sean

Patrick Maloney of New York.

Control of Congress will be a key factor in determining the future of Biden's agenda and serve as a referendum on his administration as the nation reels from record-high inflation and concerns over the direction of the country. A Republican House majority would likely trigger a spate of investigations into Biden and his family, while a GOP Senate takeover would hobble the president's ability to make judicial appointments.

Democrats, though, saw candidates who prioritized protecting abortion rights after this summer's Supreme Court decision overturning the landmark Roe v. Wade court decision, perform well. The party won governors' races, winning in Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania — battlegrounds critical to Biden's 2020 win over Donald Trump. But Republicans held on to governors' mansions in Florida, Texas and Georgia, another battleground state Biden narrowly won two years ago.

Though neither party had yet secured a majority in either congressional chamber, the midterms — on track to be the most expensive ever — didn't feature a strong GOP surge, uplifting for Democrats who had braced for sweeping losses.

◀**ELECTION** from page 1  
and write-ins amounted to 5.4%.

In a night of Democrat wins, there was one significant loss. In the race for the First Congressional District seat, Democrat Jeff Ettinger (42.32%) lost to Republican Brad Finstad (53.81%). Third-party and write-ins accounted for 3.87%.

In local races, Luke Frederick won handily over Dar Vosburg in house district 18B. In Senate District 18, Democrat Nick Frenz defeated Republican Mark Wright.

Mankato Mayor Na-

jwa Massad defeated Toby Leonard. Council member Jessica Hatanpa defeated Kevin Bores.

Jeff Wersal is the new Blue Earth County Sheriff after defeating Paul Barta. And Kristi Schuck pulled in more votes than Joel Hollerich and Ernest W. Nielsen.

Now that election season is over, College Dems are focusing on policy and will host a pride march Nov. 10. The Turning Point USA chapter at MSU had no comment on the election as they are a 501c3 which is a non-profit and nonpartisan organization.

## Abortion wins and losses in midterms

By LINDSAY  
WHITEHURST  
Associated Press

Abortion rights supporters won in the four states where access was on the ballot Tuesday, as voters enshrined it into the state constitution in battleground Michigan as well as blue California and Vermont and dealt a defeat to an anti-abortion measure in deep-red Kentucky.

In all, it was a dramatic illustration of how the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in June to eliminate the nationwide right to abortion has galvanized voters who support women's right to choose.

The court's June decision has led to near-total bans in a dozen Republican-governed states and animated races around the country up and down the ballot.

The Kentucky result spurned the state's Republican-led Legislature, which has imposed a near-total ban on abortion and put the proposed state constitutional amendment on the ballot.

The outcome echoed what happened in another red state, Kansas, where voters in August rejected changing that state's constitution to let lawmakers tighten restrictions or ban abortions.

"As we saw in Kansas earlier this year, and in many other states last night, this is not a partisan issue," said Nancy Northup, president the Center for Reproductive Rights, in a statement. "People are energized and they do not want politicians controlling their bodies



RYAN SUN • Associated Press

Abortion rights supporters won in the four states where access was on the ballot as voters enshrined it into the state constitution in battleground Michigan and dealt a defeat to an anti-abortion measure in Kentucky.

and futures."

Nationally, about two-thirds of voters say abortion should be legal in most or all cases, according to AP VoteCast, an expansive survey of over 90,000 voters across the country. Only about 1 in 10 say abortion should be illegal in all cases.

About 6 in 10 also say the Supreme Court's abortion decision made them dissatisfied or angry, compared with fewer who say they were happy or satisfied.

Still, the nationwide election results Tuesday reflected how voters' views on abortion rights can play out in complicated ways. By narrow margins, Wisconsin voters re-elected their pro-choice Democratic governor and an anti-abortion GOP senator.

Kansas re-elected a Democratic governor who supports

abortion rights. Meanwhile, staunchly anti-abortion GOP governors in Georgia, Florida and Texas easily won their contests.

Stephen Billy of Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America rejected any suggestion that the overall midterm outcome reflected a surge of support for abortion rights.

He acknowledged that abortion opponents were outspent in the key ballot-measure campaigns and needed to review their strategies.

The Kentucky ballot measure was originally considered a conservative vote driver. But after the Roe decision, abortion-rights supporters raised nearly \$1.5 million to fight it.

Thousands of voters who cast their ballots for Republican Sen. Rand Paul split with the party on the abortion ballot measure, returns showed.

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## Mindfulness worked as well for anxiety as drug in study



LYNNE SLADKY • Associated Press

According to a study published Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2022 in the journal *JAMA Psychiatry*, mindfulness meditation worked as well as a standard drug for treating anxiety in the first head-to-head comparison.

By LINDSEY TANNER  
Associated Press

Mindfulness meditation worked as well as a standard drug for treating anxiety in the first head-to-head comparison.

The study tested a widely used mindfulness program that includes 2 1/2 hours of classes weekly and 45 minutes of daily practice at home. Participants were randomly assigned to the program or daily use of a generic drug sold under the brand name Lexapro for depression and anxiety.

After two months, anxiety as measured on a severity scale declined by about 30% in both groups and continued to decrease during the following four months.

Study results, published Wednesday in the journal *JAMA Psychiatry*, are timely. In September, an influential U.S. health task force recommended routine anxiety screening for adults, and numerous reports suggest global anxiety rates have increased recently, related to worries over the pandemic, political and racial unrest, climate change and financial uncertainties.

Anxiety disorders include

social anxiety, generalized anxiety and panic attacks. Affected people are troubled by persistent and intrusive worries that interfere with their lives and relationships. In the U.S., anxiety disorders affect 40% of U.S. women at some point in their lives and more than 1 in 4 men, according to data cited in U.S. Preventive Services Task Force screening recommendations.

Mindfulness is a form of meditation that emphasizes focusing only on what's happening at the moment and dismissing intrusive thoughts. Sessions often start with breathing exercises. Next might be "body scans" — thinking about each body part systematically, head to toe. When worried thoughts intrude, participants learn to briefly acknowledge them but then dismiss them.

Instead of ruminating over the troubling thought, "you say, 'I'm having this thought, let that go for now,'" said lead author Elizabeth Hoge, director of Georgetown University's Anxiety Disorders Research Program. With practice, "It changes the relationship people have with their own thoughts when not meditating."

## Tropical Storm Nicole approaches

By FREIDA FRISARO and DANICA COTO  
Associated Press

Tropical Storm Nicole forced people from their homes in the Bahamas and threatened to grow into a rare November hurricane in Florida on Wednesday, shutting down theme parks and airports while prompting evacuation orders that included former President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago club.

Hundreds of people sought shelter in the northwestern Bahamas before the approaching storm, which had already sent seawater washing across roads on barrier islands in Florida.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center said the center of the sprawling storm make landfall on Great Abaco island around midday with estimated maximum sustained winds of 70 mph.

"We are forecasting it to become a hurricane as it nears the northwestern Bahamas, and remain a hurricane as it approaches the east coast of Florida," Daniel Brown, a senior hurricane specialist at the Miami-based National Hurricane Center, said earlier Wednesday.



NOAA via Associated Press

GOES-East GoeColor satellite image taken at 2:36 p.m. EST and provided by NOAA shows Tropical Storm Nicole approaching toward the northwestern Bahamas and Florida's Atlantic coastline on Tuesday.

day.

Nicole is the first storm to hit the Bahamas since Hurricane Dorian, a Category 5 storm that devastated the archipelago in 2019, before hitting Florida.

In the Bahamas, officials said that more than 520 people were in more than two dozen shelters. Flooding and power outages were reported in Grand Abaco.

Authorities were especially

concerned about a large Haitian community in Great Abaco that was destroyed by Dorian and has since grown from 50 acres (20 hectares) to 200 acres (80 hectares).

"Do not put yourselves in harm's way," said Zhivago Dames, assistant commissioner of police information as he urged everyone to stay indoors. "Our first responders are out there. However, they will not put their lives in danger."



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<p><b>14</b> MONDAY, NOV 14 7:00 PM • ONLINE <b>Start Up Smart</b> South Central SBDC</p>	<p><b>16</b> WEDNESDAY, NOV 16 4:00 PM <b>Power of the Podcast</b> Mogwai Collaborative</p>
<p><b>15</b> TUESDAY, NOV 15 3:30 PM <b>Women in Business: A Showing of the Documentary "Shot of Influence"</b> CIE &amp; Women's Center</p>	<p><b>17</b> THURSDAY, NOV 17 7:30 PM • ONLINE <b>TikTok for Small Business</b> South Central SBDC</p>
<p>4:00 PM <b>Start Up Smart</b> South Central SBDC</p>	<p><b>18</b> FRIDAY, NOV 18 9:00 AM <b>Startup to Restart: Powerful Entrepreneurial Tools You Need to Know</b> Minnesota State Mankato</p>

To view a complete list of events:  
[cob.mnsu.edu/gew](http://cob.mnsu.edu/gew)



For more information on the national GEW: [genglobal.org/gew](http://genglobal.org/gew)

For a full list of College of Business Events: [cob.mnsu.edu/events](http://cob.mnsu.edu/events)

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# 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.

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News Director

Joey Erickson  
Variety Editor

Dylan Engel  
Photo Editor

## Students should take cultural classes

With class registration open for several students, the anxiety of meeting goal requirements to graduate on time plagues many students. Two of the goal requirements are human diversity and global perspectives.

Having classes where students learn about other cultures regarding historic events helps broaden their perspectives and lets them gain insight on the world.

We as students should strive to incorporate a few classes into our schedules to help us become not only well-rounded students, but more informed citizens.

High school-level classes sometimes tend to focus on western perspectives, leaving out the perspective of those who were victimized. In college, professors try to incorporate all views of certain events in history.

This is crucial to getting all aspects of events in both American and world history, especially traumatic events.

Topics are better understood and handled when all viewpoints are brought to the table.

Taking classes that cover a variety of cultures allows students to become informed on a variety of traditions and cultures.

Most jobs pride themselves on having a diverse work environment and being able to properly communicate and respect cultures is something that every student will encounter post-graduation.

Classes that focus on culture strengthen the idea of diversity, equity and inclusion. These courses bridge the connection between international students and traditional students.

Additionally, it allows underrepresented groups to share their stories, and teaches how to better advocate for them. Being exposed to different perspectives, traditions and customs helps to cultivate conversation and makes us knowledgeable for future interactions with others.

By piquing students' interests in classes, they are more likely to attend events outside of class that relate to the course content.

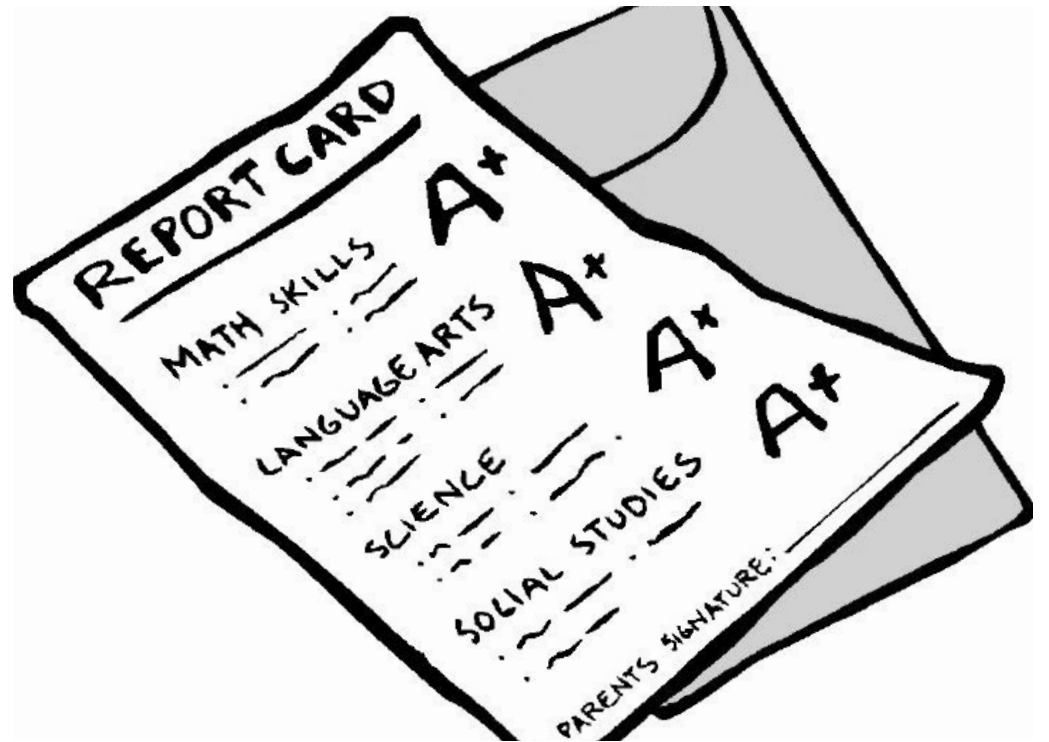
These can be talks, festivals or having interactions with everyday people. By giving students the opportunity the knowledge of topics in class, they can then apply what they've learned to the real world.

The benefits of taking classes that focus on culture is innumerable.

We as students need to realize that taking classes that teach us about different cultures helps us to broaden our horizons.

# Perspectives

## Grading goes both ways



Flickr photo

Professors grade our performance in class, but students should grade theirs as well.

By EMMA JOHNSON  
News Director

As the end of the semester approaches, professors are getting ready to send out their course evaluations. Often these surveys detail how the professor taught, their availability with students and if the coursework was manageable. While it's not required for students to fill these sheets out, it's helpful for teachers to receive feedback.

However, these questions are given to students at the end of the semester. When students are signing up for classes, there is anxiety over selecting a professor that pairs well with the student's study style.

Websites like ratemyprofessors.com have become popular over the last few

years in helping students select which professor to pick when choosing classes.

The popular website allows students to rate their professor on a scale of one to five about how difficult the class is, if the course is mandatory for a major and if students would take the class again.

Students are able to put professors into sub-categories to let others know if professors are hard graders, if they assign lots of reading and if classes are lecture heavy.

The juiciest content comes from allowing students to critique their professor in their own words. Here, students can reference specific events, assignments and topics the professor discussed along with how they interacted with the class. These reviews are typically what students

take into consideration.

Certain students can click and select buttons for the questions that professors have tailored, but more often than not follow the university's guidelines as to what to include in the evaluation.

Hearing from other students as to what the professor did or didn't do can help direct students in choosing what professor would be the best for them.

It's important to note that these ratings should be taken with a grain of salt. Students could easily give their professor a poor rating due to a missed assignment or if the student failed to show up for class each day.

For those who have reviews that clearly skew positive or negative, it's obvious what choice to make. It's

**OPINION on page 9▶**

# Pulse

“What’s your most unpopular opinion?”

Compiled by Dylan Long



BETHANIE HINKLEY,  
JUNIOR



KAILLEE KLIMEK,  
SENIOR



COURTNEY PEPER,  
SENIOR



NATHAN BEATTIE,  
SENIOR



JESSE JEPSEN,  
SENIOR



GARRETT O'CONNOR,  
SENIOR

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“Mazatlan’s food is overrated.”

“Chick-Fil-A is overrated.”

“Peanut butter is gross.”

“507 is overrated.”



# Turtles in demand as pets, leading to a spike in poaching



DAVID GOLDMAN • Associated Press

Lou Perrotti, the director of conservation programs at Roger Williams Park Zoo, holds a musk turtle in quarantine after it was confiscated in a wildlife bust. Scores of turtle species are under threat from poaching.

By MICHAEL CASEY  
Associated Press

Swimming in two plastic bins inside a brightly lit and sterile quarantine room at a Rhode Island zoo, 16 quarter-sized turtle hatchlings represent a growing worry for conservationist Lou Perrotti.

These eastern musk turtles, known for spending much of their lives in swamps and ponds and emitting a foul smell when threatened, were confiscated recently in a wildlife bust.

And, though the reptiles are common, their illegal sale on the internet greatly concerns Perrotti, who directs conservation programs at Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence.

“We are seeing an uptick in turtle poaching,” he said. “It’s getting ruthless where we are seeing thousands of turtles leaving the United States on an annual basis. ... Turtle populations cannot take that kind of a hit with that much removal coming out of the wild.”

Wildlife trade experts believe that poaching — driven by growing demand for pets in the U.S., Asia and Europe — is contributing to the global decline of rare freshwater turtle and tortoise species.

One study found over half of the 360 living turtle and tortoise species are at risk of extinction.

Such concerns have prompted a dozen proposals to increase protection for freshwa-

ter turtles at the 184-nation Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) meeting in Panama Nov. 14 through Nov. 25.

Precise figures on the turtle trade, especially illegal trade, can be hard to find. Based on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service data, Tara Easter, a University of Michigan doctoral candidate who studies the trade, estimated the commercial export trade for mud turtles in the United States increased from 1,844 in 1999 to nearly 40,000 in 2017 and musk turtles from 8,254 in 1999 to more than 281,000 in 2016.

In their CITES proposal to ban or limit the commercial trade in more than 20 mud turtle species, the United States and several Latin American countries cited data from Mexico that found nearly 20,000 were confiscated, mostly at the Mexico City airport, from 2010 to 2022.

Among the world’s most trafficked animals, freshwater turtles are targeted by criminal networks that connect with buyers on the internet then transport the reptiles to black markets in Hong Kong and other Asian cities.

From there, they are sold as pets, to collectors and for commercial breeding, food and traditional medicine. In many countries, trade is poorly regulated or not regulated at all.

The lucrative business —

some turtle species coveted for their colorful shells or strange appearance can fetch thousand of dollars in Asia — adds to threats turtles already face.

Those include climate change, habitat destruction, road mortality and predators eating their eggs.

Poachers are particularly problematic, experts say, because they target rare species and adult breeding females. Many turtle species, which can live for several decades, don’t reach reproductive maturity for a decade or more.

“The loss of large numbers of adults, especially females, can send turtles into a spiraling decline from which they cannot recover,” said Dave Collins, director of North American turtle conservation for the Turtle Survival Alliance.

“Turtles have extremely low reproduction levels, producing a few eggs every year.”

Since 2018, the Collaborative to Combat the Illegal Trade in Turtles — an organization of mostly state, federal and tribal biologists who combat poaching of North American turtles — has documented at least 30 major smuggling cases in 15 states. Some involved a few dozen turtles, others several thousand.

Easter at the University of Michigan identified 59 U.S. cases over the past 20 years involving about 30,000 illegally traded turtles.

to better teach future courses.

No matter how students choose to give feedback to professors, it’s important to let professors know what they can improve on to help better the university as a whole.

◀OPINION from page 8

difficult when mixed reviews can crop up as well, combining those who enjoyed the professor and those who didn’t. In this case, it’s all up to the student if they should go with the professor or not.

Professors should take these reviews into consideration along with the evaluations they send out. Students may not feel comfortable addressing the professor directly and this ensures that the professor gets as many perspectives as they can

# Newly discovered photos show Nazis on Kristallnacht



YAD VASHEM via Associated Press

This photo released by World Holocaust Remembrance Center, shows German Nazis carry Jewish books, presumably for burning, during Kristallnacht intake in the town of Fuerth, Germany on Nov. 10, 1938.

By ILAN BEN ZION  
Associated Press

Harrowing, previously unseen images from 1938’s Kristallnacht pogrom against German and Austrian Jews have surfaced in a photograph collection donated to Israel’s Yad Vashem memorial, the organization said Wednesday. One shows a crowd of smiling, well-dressed middle-aged German men and women standing casually as a Nazi officer smashes a storefront window. In another, brownshirts carry heaps of Jewish books, presumably for burning. Another image shows a Nazi officer splashing gasoline on the pews of a synagogue before it’s set alight.

Yad Vashem — The World Holocaust Remembrance Cen-

ter released the photographs on the 84th anniversary of the November pogrom also known as Kristallnacht, or “The Night of Broken Glass.” Mobs of Germans and Austrians attacked, looted and burned Jewish shops and homes, destroyed 1,400 synagogues, killed 92 Jews and sent another 30,000 to concentration camps. The violence is widely considered a starting point for the Holocaust, in which Nazi Germany murdered 6 million Jews.

Jonathan Matthews, head of Yad Vashem’s photo archive, said the photos dispel a Nazi myth that the attacks were “a spontaneous outburst of violence” rather than a pogrom orchestrated by the state. SS special police officers and the photographers themselves were an integral part.

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# SPORTS

## Fight for first: Mavs vs Warriors for champion title

By LUKE JACKSON  
Staff Writer

Minnesota State Football looks to face off in a historic series against Winona State as both teams compete for the conference championship Saturday.

Mankato is currently 37-19 overall against Winona, a matchup that dates back to 1923. Winona has the upper edge as they won last year on their home turf. They are currently on a four-game win streak and are leading the south division with a record of 5-0 and 8-2 overall in conference play.

Both the Mavericks and the Warriors have very similar narratives and both are competing for the conference championship. Mankato is also 8-2 and holds a four-game win streak. Both win streaks held by Mankato and Winona are against the same four opponents. Lastly, they are both undefeated at home with two losses on the road for each.

"There are some similarities but there are no two same teams anywhere, anyhow," head coach, Todd Hoffner, said.

Winona has an elusive run game that currently averages 162 yards per game with 18 touchdowns on the season. This allows for the Warrior's defense to rest up and do what it does best. Stop offenses. They on average hold teams to 16.2 points per game giving them the highest-ranked defense in the NSIC.

"We are going to do what we can to be successful against their defense, there's a reason why they're ranked number one," Hoffner said.

Although they allegedly have the best defense, MSU is currently ranked higher than Winona according to the D2Football.com poll. Mankato holds the 14th spot for the second consecutive week while Winona found a way into the poll as they are now ranked 24th.

"This will be the fifth team that we play that was nationally ranked," Hoffner said, "there's only going to be about



DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

The Minnesota State football team will battle Winona State University at Blakeslee Stadium for the final regular season game on Saturday. Kick off is scheduled for 12 p.m.

170 plays in this game and we'll send our best 11 players out there to defend Blakeslee and do our best to represent Minnesota State."

There are several players who have managed to represent Mankato and contribute to the success of the team. Junior Shen Butler-Lawson currently has eight touchdowns and 653 rushing yards. Another offensive weapon is Senior wide re-

ceiver Nyles Williams who currently has 549 yards with six total touchdowns.

On the defensive side senior defensive back, Payton Conrad leads the Mavericks with 54 tackles while sophomore linebacker Jacob Daulton is close behind with 44 tackles and a pair of interceptions.

The game will take place in Blakeslee

Stadium at noon where the conference champions will be decided.

"The chance to compete for a title on the last regular season game is something you can't ask anything more of from a fan and from a student-athlete perspective," Hoffner said. "Hopefully a lot of people show up and show out. Be loud and proud and represent Minnesota State."

## Mavericks and Bearcats meet in round one of the NCAA tournament



DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

The Minnesota State Women's Soccer team will play Friday at 12 p.m. in Bemidji, Minn. where they play against Northwest Missouri State in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

By CHARLIE GROEBNER  
Staff Writer

Coming off a brutal loss last weekend, the Minnesota State Mavericks are not finished yet. For the 11th straight year, the Mavericks qualify for the NCAA Division II tournament.

Enter the tournament as the number three seed, they will face off against the six seed the Northwest Missouri Bearcats this Friday at noon. The match will not be hosted at either team's field per tournament rules, but will be played at a neutral site in Bemidji, Minn.

This will be the second time that the two schools will collide this season. The last time that these two teams met was back on Aug. 19 in an exhibition match. While there is no official record, The Mavericks would win the match 1-0. Three months later, they will play in the first round of the tournament and much higher stakes.

The person responsible for the team's goal in that contents would be senior forward Jenny Vetter. Since that

game, the Mankato native has been one of the main pieces to the Mavericks offense. Even for having to turn around quickly after a brutal loss, she isn't hanging her head on the past with the match on the horizon.

"I think we're in a good space. Obviously, it sucks to lose especially on our home turf. But I think we walked away knowing that we were still the better team, knowing that we created a lot of chances, and just analyzing afterwards that it came down to execution piece of it all. Now it is just refocusing heading into the NCAA tournament and not holding our heads too much," said Vetter.

Like the Mavericks, the six seed Bearcats came up short in the Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association [MIAA] tournament. Now they look to rebound and try to go on a title run after a phenomenal 13-5-2 season.

One player to highlight is junior forward Kaylie Rock, who leads in both

TOURNAMENT on page 13 ►

# Senior Spotlight: Nic Vinson



DOMINIC BOTHE • The Reporter

Nic Vinson, a Raleigh native is one of the defensive backs for the Minnesota State football team.

By ALI REED  
Staff Writer

Transferring from one college to another can be intimidating for many students, especially those who play a sport.

Nic Vinson, a senior defensive back for the Minnesota State Mavericks, had a positive experience during his transition to MSU, due to the team's warm and welcoming atmosphere.

"A lot of guys on the team talked to me and they were like 'hey, this is the place that you can come in and get along with everybody,'" said Vinson. "Everyone welcomed me with open arms. I came in and saw a lot of togetherness and a lot of tradition."

Vinson is from the area of Raleigh, N.C. He grew up with his family as a competitive kid, which pushed him to participate in many sports. Sharing that competitive nature with his brother resulted in Vinson discovering his passion for football.

"Seeing him go out there and make plays made me really want to get out there and just

be active," said Vinson. "When I started playing football, that's what really stuck with me."

While attending Millbrook High School in Raleigh, Vinson made quite a statement playing for the Wildcats' football team. He played safety, corner and slot receiver which he lead the conference in interceptions both his junior and senior season.

He also earned All-Conference Honors those years and was a captain his senior year.

After high school, Vinson attended the University of Northern Colorado, where he played football through 2019. After the 2019 season, he transferred to MSU and showcased his talents during his first season as a Maverick, tallying a total of 30 tackles.

"What really made me want to play for the Mavericks was their history," said Vinson. "They have a lot of rich tradition and history, which drew me in compared to other schools that really didn't have that."

Vinson has had high hopes for the Mavericks throughout

this season. However, his main goal has been everyone doing their part and moving forward as a team, while also having fun and enjoying the game they all love.

"My goal for the team was for everybody to just find their niche and to just have fun, mostly," said Vinson. "We all want to do our part and we all want to make each other better."

Vinson has always been close with his family. Before every game, he talks to his mom and dad, which helps him get into the right mindset.

"For a pre-game ritual, I would say I gotta talk to my mom and dad," said Vinson. "They always wish me to have a good day, a good game and to just go out there and play hard."

After this season, Vinson does not plan to part ways with football. He plans to sit down with his family and figure out what the next move for him will be. Vinson hopes to continue to train and see what opportunities lie ahead at the next level of football.

that still will not change how they see them. Once the whistle blows, its winner moves on and loser goes home.

"They had a good season if I am being honest. We played them in an exhibition match which wasn't official,

but there a good team and solid. I think that the pose an interesting matchup since we have already played them this season. I think that they will be a tough opponent, but we will be looking to come out strong and win," said Vetter.

## Men's Basketball begins five game road trip with Central Region Challenge



File Photo

The Minnesota State Men's Basketball team plays their first match of the Central Region Challenge against Missouri Southern on Friday at 1 p.m. in Kansas City, Mo. Brady Williams (above) from last season's game on Nov. 26, 2021.

By HAYDEN LEE  
Staff Writer

Following an electric night in the Taylor Center Nov. 3, the Minnesota State Men's Basketball team will start their season with five road games, beginning with a matchup at Missouri Southern.

The Mavs began their season with an exhibition game against Gustavus-Adolphus, which they won 100-58. This dominant performance marks the beginning of a new season with new goals from the Mavericks.

"Getting back on the court felt like Christmas all over again," said junior guard Malik Willingham.

Willingham scored 23 of the Mavericks' 100 points Thursday and will be featured a lot more this year. Those 23 points tied his career-high, and Willingham credits a lot of his success to his teammates.

"I like to pass the ball, so them passing me the ball and telling me to shoot it gave me the confidence to just be myself and let the shots keep falling," said Willingham.

The Mavericks open their season this weekend at the Central Region Challenge in Kansas City, Mo. as they take on Missouri Southern Lions and Henderson State Reddies.

Both the Lions and Reddies are relatively unfamiliar opponents to the Mavericks.

Starting with the Lions, Friday's matchup will be just the sixth time these teams have gone head to head, with the Lions holding a 3-2 series lead all time.

After a 14-15 2021 season in which they lost in the first round of the MIAA Tournament, the Lions are led by a duo of sharpshooters.

Sophomore Avery Taggart

is coming off of a year in which he put up 11 points and 3 assists a night, while shooting over 40% from beyond the arc.

Leading the team in total three-pointers last year was junior Winston Dessesow, with 71.

The Reddies and Mavericks have met only once before, in the 1977-78 season, where the Mavericks won their only meeting 75-70.

The Reddies finished their 2021-2022 campaign with a 17-12 record and a first round exit in the GAC Tournament. Junior Alvin Riddle [10.2 points per game] and graduate student Malik Riddle [9.6 ppg] were the leading scorers on that team, and they return this year to lead the Reddies offense yet again.

Willingham and the Mavs look to keep the good times rolling this weekend, but with both the Lions and Reddies averaging over 70 points per game last year, they will have their hands full.

As we have seen, the Mavericks have proven capable of putting up points in bunches themselves.

The Central Region Challenge is appropriately titled, as this weekend will be a great challenge for the Mavericks as they look to stay hot.

"We all have to be there mentally, it feels almost like an NBA schedule to start the year, but we just have to go out and execute the gameplan as a team," said Willingham.

Before they return to the Taylor Center on Nov. 22, the Mavericks will come back to Minnesota to play the St. Cloud State Huskies on Nov. 15 and head to California for the Sonoma State Tournament three days later.

TOURNAMENT from page 12 points and assists. Hailing from Lee's Summit Mo. She is without a doubt the heart and soul of the Bearcats aggressive offense.

Even Vetter acknowledges that they had an excellent season as a team. However,

# Mavericks back in action at home

By CHARLIE GROEBNER  
Staff Writer

As the chills of the inevitable winter fill the air, things are about to heat up quickly for the Minnesota State Mavericks.

Monday the MSU women's basketball team will tip off and start their season at home against the North Central University Rams.

Last year, the Mavericks would have another phenomenal season going 21-7 but fell short in both the NSIC and Regional Tournaments.

The Mavericks would also lose four seniors in the off-season which leaves some big holes to fill.

Going into the season, head coach Emilee Thiesse enters her 11th year looks to produce the same result and working with an exciting new group of ladies.

"I think that going into this season we are really excited about what we return too, we feel that we are veteran. You can look at it and say we have several underclassmen and sophomores, but we also have a lot of experience with our returning players. So really, it's been building off the experience and trying to live up to the expectations," said Thiesse

Their opponent to kick off the season will certainly test the team going into Monday



File Photo

The Minnesota State Women's Basketball team will play their first game at home against North Central on Monday in the Taylor Center with tip-off scheduled for 6 p.m. Taylor Theusch (right) from last season's game on Jan. 14, 2022.

Night.

Last season the Rams finished with a record of 24-5 and become the reigning Upper Midwest Athletic Conference [UMAC] Champions.

In the end they would fall in the Division III tournament, but still will be looking to continue their reign and defend their title.

Like the Mavericks, they are also a team with a lot of new faces this time around but also some that are still around.

One of them being sophomore guard Jolle Talso who

led the Rams in assists last year. The 5-9 native out of Ramsey, Minn. will be looking to take the next step forward entering year two.

As the team prepares to take center stage for their opening night, it certainly will be a spectacle to watch.

One person is junior guard Joey Batt who last season lead the team in points, assists and field goals.

Enter her fourth year, the native of New Ulm, Minn. is focused as she prepares to start  
AT HOME on page 15 ▶

# Some LGBTQ fans skip Qatar World Cup, fearing hostility



FERNANDO LLANO • Associated Press

Saskia Niño de Rivera, right, a Mexican civil rights activist, and her girlfriend and fiancée Mariel Duayhe, a sports agent for Mexican soccer players, pose for a photo at their apartment in Mexico City, Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022.

By MAARIAM FAM  
Associated Press

At first, Saskia Niño de Rivera was excited about going to Qatar for a World Cup that would mark a significant professional event for her partner, a sports agent for Mexico soccer players. She even contemplated privately proposing there during a game, and posting photos once they left the country. But as the lesbian couple learned more about

laws on same-sex relations in the conservative Gulf country, the plans no longer sounded like a good idea. Instead, Niño de Rivera proposed at an Amsterdam stadium this summer and opted to skip the World Cup altogether.

"As a lesbian woman, it's really hard for me to feel and think that we are going to a country where we don't know what could happen and how  
LGBTQ on page 15 ▶

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# Confident Vikings thriving behind letting-it-loose Cousins



BRUCE KLUCKHOHN • Associated Press

Minnesota Vikings quarterback Kirk Cousins (8) throws a pass over Arizona Cardinals defensive end J.J. Watt (99) during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022, in Minneapolis.

By DAVE CAMPBELL  
Associated Press

After the Minnesota Vikings hired a head coach with a player-first approach and a quarterback-friendly background, while keeping the entire starting offense intact, the 2022 season was shaping up well for Kirk Cousins.

Questions about whether Cousins would find a higher level of comfort this year, his fifth with the Vikings, have been answered by the NFC North standings.

Recent video evidence from the team plane — of Cousins dancing shirtless with diamond-studded chains draped around his neck, gold wristwatches glistening on his bobbing arms and an ear-to-ear grin — put any lingering doubt to rest.

“It was lit,” rookie cornerback Akayleb Evans said. “Kirk was turning me up. He was turning all us up with all the chains. I just enjoyed that. He’s not afraid of doing that. I like that a lot.”

Calculating, disciplined and studious, Cousins has used those attributes to overachieve along the way as an afterthought recruit at Michigan State and a fourth-round draft pick by Washington.

Those traits can also impede success at times on the field, when it comes to leaning more on confidence and instinct to let the ball rip for, say, Justin Jefferson even if the coverage dictates a pass should go elsewhere.

That style also doesn’t seamlessly translate to leadership,

and Cousins spent much of his first couple of seasons with the Vikings feeling out his place within the team.

Winning makes all the difference, though, especially when supported by a pass-first playbook installed by Kevin O’Connell and a more relaxed environment around team headquarters following the change in coaching staffs.

“I definitely enjoy seeing Kirk enjoying himself like that,” O’Connell said. “Because a special part about it is his teammates know what he pours into it each and every week.”

After the Vikings rallied from a 10-point deficit to beat the Commanders on Sunday in the stadium where he first got his start in the NFL, stretching their winning streak to six games, Cousins and his self-deprecating nightclub act became the talk of the league.

He was a guest with the Manning brothers on their Monday night talk show alternative to the standard game broadcast, and his appearance included plenty of discussion about his dance moves and good vibes.

Cousins said Wednesday he never expected the attention — which goes back to Minnesota’s win over New Orleans in London on Oct. 2, the first time he tried on a teammate’s necklace during the celebratory hangout before the flight home — because of an unofficial rule about no social media posts from the charter plane.

“Once it got out and the train gets down the tracks, it’s hard to stop at that point, as

evidenced by me not wearing a shirt last week,” Cousins said.

The first-place Vikings (7-1) face their most daunting road trip yet this week.

They play Sunday at pre-season Super Bowl favorite at Buffalo (6-2), having beaten only one team (Miami) that currently has a winning record, so a victory over the Bills would probably trigger another party on the plane afterward feature more moving and grooving by the quarterback.

“He’s got his own version of everything, and that’s just who he is,” running back Dalvin Cook said. “I think that’s why I love him so much. He’s just who he is.”

After the Vikings made the playoffs only once in his first four years with a 33-31-1 regular-season record, their strong start this fall has helped Cousins win over his teammates in ways that never quite materialized from 2018-21.

With a 19-yard touchdown run against Arizona on Oct. 30 that was capped by a headfirst dive into the end zone after outrunning two Cardinals defenders to the sideline, Cousins had center Garrett Bradbury and the rest of the offensive linemen downright giddy with their respect.

“Garrett said it was the greatest thing he has ever seen,” Cousins said with a slight shrug.

During a 47-yard pass to Jefferson against Washington, Cousins took a hard hit that knocked the wind out of him.

“No one ever talks about that,” safety Harrison Smith said, “but this dude’s tough.”

◀**AT HOME** from page 14

off the season.

“I think just be where our feet are and be the best that we can be at that moment. Obviously, we are never going to go out there and have a perfect game so just going in with a go out with a play hard, play our best, and leave it all on the court attitude both in games and practice,” said Batt.

◀**LGBTQ** from page 14

we could be safe,” she said. “It was a really hard decision.”

Niño de Rivera’s concerns are shared by many LGBTQ soccer fans and their allies worldwide. Some have been mulling whether to attend the tournament, or even watch it on television.

Qatar’s laws against gay sex and treatment of LGBTQ people are flashpoints in the run-up to the first World Cup to be held in the Middle East, or in any Arab or Muslim country. Qatar has said all are welcome, including LGBTQ fans, but that visitors should respect the nation’s culture, in which public displays of affection by anyone are frowned on. With his country facing criticism over a number of issues, Qatar’s emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, recently argued it “has been subjected to an unprecedented campaign” that no host country has ever faced. An ambassador for the World Cup in Qatar, however, has described homosexuality as a “damage in the mind” in an interview with German public broadcaster ZDF. Aired this week, the comments by former Qatari national team player Khalid Salman highlighted concerns about the conservative country’s treatment of gays and lesbians.

Some LGBTQ rights activists are seizing the moment to draw attention, with a heightened sense of urgency, to the conditions of LGBTQ citizens and residents in Qatar. They want to raise concerns about how these people may be treated after the tournament ends and the international spotlight fades.

Dario Minden, who is from Germany, said he’s keen on soccer but won’t watch a single minute of the tournament as a show of solidarity with LGBTQ people in Qatar. Recently, he jumped at the opportunity to lobby for change. At a human rights congress hosted by the German soccer federation in Frankfurt, Minden told the Qatari ambassador to Germany that Qatar should abolish its penalties for homosexuality.

“I happen to be a gay football fan and I thought that this is a great opportunity to ... speak in front of such a high representative, to connect the topic with a face,” Minden said in an interview.

Rasha Younes, LGBTQ rights senior researcher in the Middle East and North Africa at Human Rights Watch, said that while Qatari officials have offered some reassurances for LGBTQ fans, the possibility of stigma and discrimination remained in housing, access to health care and safely reporting potential sexual violence.

At the same time, she argued, “suggestions that Qatar should make an exception for outsiders are implicit reminders that Qatari authorities do not believe that its LGBT residents deserve basic rights or exist,” adding her organization was concerned about conditions for local LGBTQ people, including after the tournament.

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## Rodgers says time helps him appreciate years with McCarthy



DAVID J. PHILLIP • Associated Press

Green Bay Packers head coach Mike McCarthy talks to quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) during the first half of the NFL football NFC Championship game against the Seattle Seahawks in Seattle, Jan. 18, 2015.

By STEVE MEGAREE  
Associated Press

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers says the passage of time has given him a greater appreciation of the seasons he spent playing for Mike McCarthy.

McCarthy, now with the Dallas Cowboys, will return to Lambeau Field on Sunday to face the team he coached to a 125-77-2 record from 2006-18.

"It's probably normal in any relationship you have," Rodgers said Wednesday. "When you're able to take time away and you have that separation, it's natural to look back and have a greater sense of appreciation and gratitude and thankfulness for that time."

McCarthy coached Green Bay during the 2010 season when the Packers won their lone Super Bowl title during Rodgers' playing career, but the relationship between the quarterback and coach eventually soured. McCarthy was fired late in the 2018 season.

Four years later, McCarthy is returning to Lambeau Field as the coach of the surging Dallas Cowboys (6-2) while the Packers (3-6) are on their first five-game skid since 2008.

If any hard feelings remain between McCarthy and Rodgers, they certainly aren't letting it show. They've spent this week exchanging compliments.

"When I think of him, I think of the one-on-one conversations we used to have, especially in the younger days," McCarthy said. "And it always ended with a hug and, 'I love ya.' So that's what I think about our relationship. I think he made me a much better coach. You're talking about a man that's one of the premier professional athletes of his generation."

Rodgers recalled those meetings as well during his weekly news conference. He said the two of them started meeting every Thursday after practice around 2009 or 2010. "Those were always fun,"

Rodgers said. "Those could go 30 minutes or four hours. You'd start getting to story time. It just bonded us over the years, those conversations. I always appreciated that."

McCarthy and Rodgers helped the Packers win a Super Bowl as the sixth and final seed in the NFC playoffs during that 2010 season. Rodgers won MVP awards while playing for McCarthy in 2011 and 2014. The Packers made eight straight playoff berths from 2009-16 under McCarthy, but slumped to 7-9 in 2017 and were 4-7-1 when he got fired.

During those latter seasons, Rodgers' displeasure was occasionally apparent, whether he was occasionally criticizing the offense or complaining that he wasn't consulted before the 2018 firing of quarterbacks coach Alex Van Pelt.

McCarthy said many of the issues between them could have stemmed from the generation gap. And the different ways in which they communicated. McCarthy turns 59 on Thursday, while Rodgers' 39th birthday is Dec. 2.

"I think personal relationships are private, and you have to remember I was born in the 60s," McCarthy said. "I'm being better at expressing myself publicly."

Rodgers isn't exactly heading into this reunion with momentum. The Packers desperately need a victory and Rodgers is still dealing with an injured right thumb that kept him from practicing on Wednesday, which has happened four of the past five weeks. Rodgers says he expects to practice Thursday.

Rodgers threw three interceptions to match a career high in Green Bay's 15-9 loss at Detroit on Sunday.

Perhaps the matchup with McCarthy's team will help him bounce back, even though they apparently have patched up any differences they might have had at one time. Rodgers said they'd always stayed in touch, but have communicated a little more in the past year.

## Playing above the rim

By DOUG FEINBERG  
Associated Press

Fran Belibi joined an exclusive club when she dunked in the NCAA Tournament last season.

While she was just the third woman ever to do it in the tournament and eighth overall in college history, the Stanford forward knows there will be more to come soon.

"There are definitely more girls coming up who can play above the rim," Belibi said.

Her historic dunk capped off a great basketball play where she had a block on one end and then finished it off with the one-handed slam. Belibi, who has dunked three times in college, knows there are others already in college who can do it, but may not want to because they are afraid to miss.

"They just don't try to do it. I think that in me doing it and seeing other dunks in the NBA a lot more people are like if they can do it, let me try it," she said. "To do it in a game is dependent on your athletic ability and also time and score of the game."

Belibi's well aware of the history of dunks in women's college basketball, reciting Georgeann Wells as the first to ever do it in a game. Elon coach Charlotte Smith was the second to dunk back when she played for North Carolina.

Smith recalls three of her Tar Heels teammates, including former track star Marion Jones, also could dunk. The quartet of players would get in layup lines behind each other before games and put on a show that awed fans and their opponents.

"We would literally line-



SCOTT STRAZZANTE • San Francisco Chronicle via AP

Stanford's Fran Belibi prepares to dunk against Montana State's Taylor Janssen during the second quarter of an NCAA women's college basketball tournament first-round game, March 18, 2022, in Stanford, Calif.

up back-to back-to-back-to-back," the 6-foot Smith recalled. "We'd dunk four times in a row. It was exciting for us and exciting for our opponents, who would stop their warmups to watch us dunk."

There have been only eight women's players who have dunked in a college game. Joining Wells, Smith and Belibi are Michelle Snow, Sancho Lyttle, Candace Parker, Sylvia Fowles and Brittney Griner, who holds the record with 18 of the nearly three dozen college dunks that have occurred.

That number is poised to grow soon. Dawn Staley has her own dunker in freshman Ashlyn Watkins, who won the high school dunk contest last spring.

"We're going to see it a lot more," South Carolina's coach said. "Ashlyn is an incredible

athlete. It doesn't take much for her to dunk in one of our drills. It's nothing for her to do it. I do think she's going to do it in a game not necessarily off a fast break. She can do it in somewhat of a crowd."

Staley said two of her other players can also dunk, though they haven't done it in a game yet. She said she sees a lot of high school players at AAU tournaments in the summer playing above the rim. Staley knows that dunks definitely add excitement to the game and will help it grow, but aren't why most fans tune in to watch the women play.

Watkins is shy and quiet talking about her dunking ability. She credits the Gamecocks strength and conditioning coaches for helping her get stronger so that she can play above the rim.



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# VARIETY

## Living Earth Center hosts biodiversity talk

By LAUREN VISKA  
Staff Writer

The Living Earth Center hosted a Saturday event to honor community biodiversity at the CSU Ballroom. During this conference, they examined the power of diversity in both nature and human society.

They then looked into the long-ignored wisdom of the Lakota Individuals and discovered how these teachings might assist people in returning to a balanced, healthy relationship with nature.

Megan Schnitker was one of the keynote speakers at the event. She is the executive director at the Mahkato Revitalization Project, an Indigenous-led non-profit promoting cultural revitalization. She spoke about how she got involved in the conference.

“Laura Peterson actually texted me, and so did Amy Hunt. They were getting together to do this conference because they’re both a part of the living air center,” said Schnitker. “They asked if I would be a part of it and be a speaker for the biodiversity conference, and I said I would.”

The conference aimed to remind people about why it is important to learn about the Earth and how to take care of it.

“I think it talks about how we take better care of the earth and reconnect with it because we become so disconnected through screens. We forget where we originally came from and lose touch with the Earth,” said Schnitker. “There’s a lot of studies that people have done that show how touching the dirt changes our

mood and alters our immune system and how it balances us out. Without touching the earth, we lose ourselves.”

Schnitker also talked about how people can be more connected to the Earth.

“We used to be super connected to all what we call Mitákuye Oyás’iŋ which means ‘all my relations,’” Schnitker. “Lakota people have an understanding of how we are connected to Unci Maka, what we call Grandmother Earth. We consider everything that is living our relatives. We also think about how we treat our relatives, our connection to them and how we respect one another through prayer.”

Along with working at MRP, Schnitker is the owner of Lakota Made, which is an Indigenous woman-owned Limited Liability Company that provides wild plant remedies and eco-friendly personal care products.

“Indigenous first medicines and eco-friendly personal care products. We sell everything from healing sads to plant tinctures, healing tinctures and herbal teas,” said Schnitker. “We’ve also got eco-friendly personal care products like shampoo bars, lotion bars and anything under personal care products.”

Schnitker said she never thought these products would have a demand.

“It started in the kitchen of my house just about four years ago. I was making things for my family when my husband suggested I make these to sell them, but I didn’t think people would want my products, and they can make them themselves,” said Schnitker. “Turns out people didn’t know what I was talking about, and they didn’t know how to do these



DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

The conference hosted by The Living Earth Center aims to assist people in developing a healthy, balanced relationship with nature, and how it’s important to take care of the Earth.

things themselves.”

Schnitker started selling off her Facebook page, which turned into much more.

“It became a business page, and it then turned into doing vendor markets, and then the pandemic hit, so we did online selling, which was very successful,”

said Schnitker.

“Towards the end of the pandemic, we started with a small retail store in the Ross Plaza building. It quickly became too small, and now we are in the 606 building in Old Town, a big building where we make all of our products. here and have a much larger retail space.”

## Flush everything you know about TikTok down the drain

By JOEY ERICKSON  
Variety Editor

**Disclaimer: This is a satire piece. No real toilets were harmed.**

For those not familiar with Minnesota State’s campus, the school grounds are teeming with legends, tall tales and backstory. For example, the ill-fated tale of Crying Claire.

The Memorial Library on campus was built in 1967. And as the legend has it, upon the night of the library’s grand opening, one Claire Huxtaby was present on the library’s second floor, finishing up some last tasks before going home.

But as she slotted misplaced books back into shelves and tidied up messy tables, a sensation befell her, coursing through her veins with the ebb and flow of a level ten tsunami.

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But as she hobbled to the bathroom, her fears were confirmed with the postage of a sign on the bathroom door: “BATHROOM UNAVAILABLE.” Due to the novelty of the building, the plumbing hadn’t yet been completely established.

Sweat began to furrow on

her brow. Like a cruel twist of fate, at that very moment, she heard a faraway flushing of water. Was she hallucinating? Were the toilets mocking her, laughing in her face with a single futile flush?

She threw up her hands in anguish, letting out an ungodly cry into the air, and nobody saw her ever again.

The most polarizing part of the tall tale is that absolutely none of what I just said is true. But it was a good segue into talking about a moaning toilet in the second-floor library bathroom, and that isn’t a lie.

When MSU fourth year student Joey Erickson recorded a video of an on-campus toilet making a funny noise as it flushed, he never expected the video to attain more than a hundred views.

“I’m not sure what all that was about. It’s quite shocking, that tawdry toilet humor. I’m actually not entirely sure what you’re referring to, with this ‘tick tock’ balderdash. Are you referring to one’s colloquialistic imitation of a clock? You may have the wrong person for this interview,” Erickson said.

This is where I realized I had messed up, accidentally reaching out to Duke Joseph

Erickson III, five-year resident of Halfway to Heaven Retirement Care Center, and not to Joey Erickson (the first,) current MSU student.

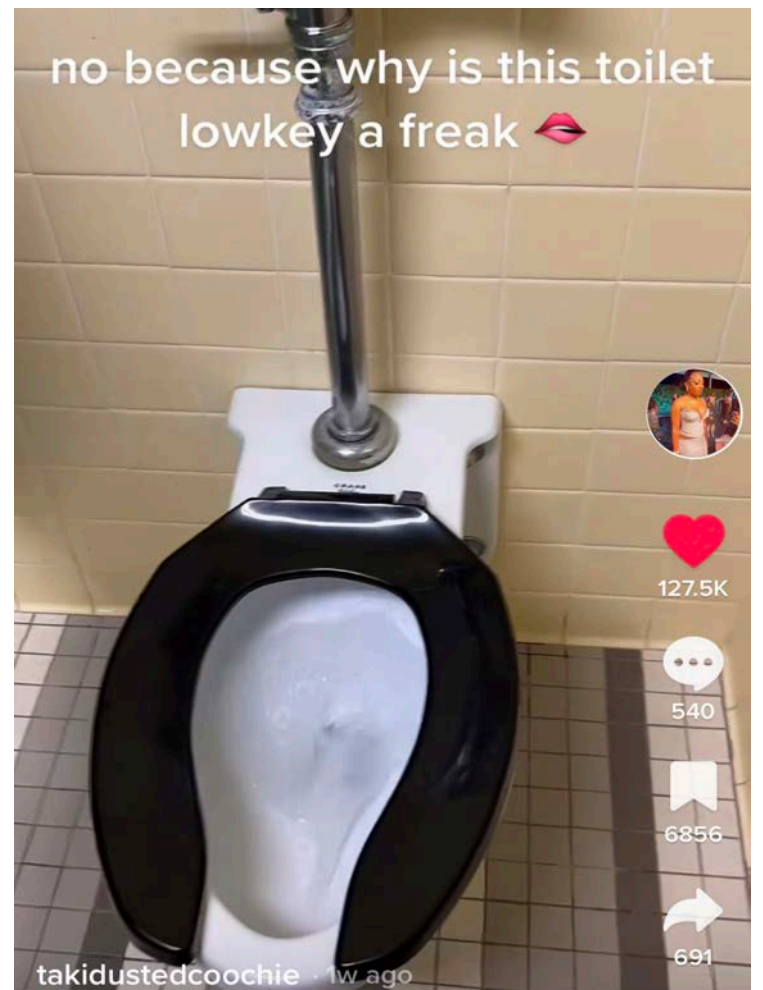
“I have no followers. I also have no friends, so I wasn’t expecting anyone to see it. So when I woke up to over a million views, I was flabbergasted,” the real Erickson said.

According to him, the video was rising in popularity faster than he’d ever seen before, garnering hundreds of likes a minute.

“It was like, every time someone watched the video, the amount of views went up. It was so mind boggling. I’ve never seen anything like it,” Erickson said.

Despite his rise from zero to hero, seemingly overnight, Erickson hasn’t let himself become big-headed with fame, even though his noggin is quite sizable already.

“The amount of fans that I’ve had come up to me is insane. I have to wear these big sunglasses and a baseball cap everytime I go out, otherwise there’ll be these big mobs screaming ‘It’s the toilet guy from TikTok! Do the toilet noise! Take my money!’” Erickson said.



Courtesy of Joey Erickson

A screenshot of the video posted that went viral. In just a week, it garnered over 120 thousand likes, 540 comments, and over 1 million views.

## Bad Bunny tops Apple Music Awards after huge 2022



CHRIS PIZZELLO • Associated Press

Bad Bunny speaks at the Sony Pictures Entertainment presentation at CinemaCon 2022 in Las Vegas on April 25, 2022. The Puerto Rican superstar was named Artist of the Year, thanks to his latest album.

By MARK KENNEDY  
Associated Press

Last year, the top Apple Music Awards went to three artists — Olivia Rodrigo, H.E.R and The Weeknd. This year, there's only one — Bad Bunny.

The music streaming giant on Wednesday crowned the Puerto Rican reggaeton superstar its Artist of the Year, thanks in large part to his latest album, "Un Verano Sin Ti," which became Apple Music's most streamed album of 2022 and its biggest Latin album of all time.

"We're thrilled to celebrate the unmatched achievements of Bad Bunny, whose influence on every corner of culture could not be ignored in 2022," Oliver Schusser, Apple's vice president of Apple Music and

Beats, said in a statement.

Bad Bunny has amassed quite a few first on Apple Music, including having his "Moscow Mule" hold the record for the biggest Latin song of all time by first-day streams worldwide.

He logged 22 songs on the global Daily Top 100 list, breaking the record for most simultaneous entries by a single Latin artist, and his songs have reached No. 1 on the Daily Top 100 in 34 countries worldwide — more than any other Latin artist.

"The Latin music movement has grown so much. I would never take full credit or say, 'It's because of me.' No, it's every one of us. A whole generation. Our energy and presence is always felt," Bad Bunny told Apple Music.

## Biden hopes Putin will negotiate release

By MATTHEW LEE  
Associated Press

President Joe Biden says he hopes Russian President Vladimir Putin will be more willing to negotiate the release of WNBA star Brittney Griner now that the U.S. midterm elections are over. Biden said in a news conference Wednesday that he is "determined to get her home" as well as others. He says, "My hope is that now that the election is over, that Mr. Putin will be able to discuss with us and be willing to talk more seriously about a prisoner exchange."

American basketball star Brittney Griner has been sent to a penal colony in Russia to serve her sentence for drug possession, her legal team said Wednesday.

A Russian court rejected an appeal of her nine-year sentence last month. The eight-time all-star center with the WNBA's Phoenix Mercury and a two-time Olympic gold medalist was convicted Aug. 4 after police said they found vape canisters containing cannabis oil in her luggage at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport.

Her arrest came at a time of heightened tensions between Moscow and Washington, just days before Russia sent troops into Ukraine, and the politically charged case could lead to a high-stakes prisoner exchange between Washington and Mos-



ALEXANDER ZEMLIANCHENKO • Associated Press

Brittney Griner is escorted from a courtroom after a hearing in Khimki just outside Moscow, Russia, on Aug. 4, 2022. The jailed American basketball star has been moved to a penal colony in Russia.

cow.

"Every minute that Brittney Griner must endure wrongful detention in Russia is a minute too long," White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said. "As we have said before, the U.S. Government made a significant offer to the Russians to resolve the current unacceptable and wrongful detentions of American citizens."

Griner's legal team said she left a detention center outside Moscow on Nov. 4 for a penal colony — as prisons in Russia are commonly known. The move was expected since she lost her appeal.

Such transfers can take days or even weeks, during which

time lawyers and loved ones usually don't have contact with the prisoner. Even after she arrives, access to Griner may be difficult since many penal colonies are in remote parts of Russia.

Her lawyers said Wednesday that they did not know exactly where she was or where she would end up — but that they expected to be notified when she reached her final destination.

In a statement stressing the work being done to secure Griner's release, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken insisted that Russian authorities give the embassy regular access to Griner.

### TOILETS from page 17

Despite the rise in fanbase, Erickson's connection with his fans has never been stronger. According to him, he regularly

receives toilets in the mail from crazed fans.

"I've had to convert my guest bedroom into a toilet storage room. I even got a bidet once.

My fans truly know the way to my heart, and it's through the pipes," Erickson said.

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# Weinstein accuser takes stand



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ • Associated Press

Attorneys Alan Jackson, left, Mark Werksman, center, and Jacqueline Sparagna, representing Harvey Weinstein, arrive at the Los Angeles County Superior Court Monday, Oct. 24, 2022, in Los Angeles. A jury of nine men and three women has been selected in the Los Angeles rape and sexual assault trial of Harvey Weinstein, and opening statements are set to start Monday.

By ANDREW DALTON  
Associated Press

The New York trial of Harvey Weinstein and its California sequel had a rare crossover Monday as the only accuser of the former movie magnate to testify at both took the stand in Los Angeles and said she was sexually assaulted by him in a Beverly Hills hotel bathroom in 2013 while repeatedly telling him “no.”

Lauren Young said she was paralyzed by fear when Harvey Weinstein blocked her from leaving the bathroom, masturbated in front of her and groped her breasts.

“I was scared of Harvey Weinstein — that he would hurt me, or send someone to hurt me, or ruin my career, or make my life hell,” Young told the court.

When Young testified in New York in February of 2020, she was not one of the accusers whose stories would lead to Weinstein’s conviction for rape and sexual assault and a 23-year prison sentence.

But prosecutors called on her to testify to help establish a pattern of Weinstein preying on women.

In Los Angeles, Weinstein is charged with sexual battery by restraint for the same allegations.

Young said Monday that in early 2013, she was a model who was aspiring to be an actress and screenwriter, and through Weinstein’s assistant, who had become a friend, she set up a meeting with him at the Montage Hotel on the night of Feb. 19, 2013, about a script she was working on.

During the meeting, Weinstein said she should accompany him to his room to continue the talk while he got ready for an event.

Young said Weinstein led her into the room and then the bathroom, and his assistant shut the door behind them and left them alone.

She said she was stunned as he quickly shed his suit and

got briefly in the shower, then stepped out and blocked her from leaving when she went for the door.

“I was disgusted,” she said. “I had never seen a big guy like that naked.”

She said she backed up against a sink and turned away from him. He then unzipped her dress and groped her with one hand as he masturbated with the other.

Weinstein’s attorney Alan Jackson gave the two-week-old trial rare moments of visual drama with a pair of clothing demonstrations during cross-examination.

He pulled out the dress Young had been wearing that night and got her to acknowledge that a DNA test failed to prove Weinstein had touched it.

Jackson also tried to cast doubt on whether Weinstein could have slipped out of his suit as quickly as she described. He pulled off his own suit coat to demonstrate.

“I’m just going to take my jacket off, I’m not going to go any further,” Jackson said.

“Please don’t,” Young answered.

When asked how Weinstein could have unfastened everything so quickly, Young answered that he may have gotten started while he was walking down the hall, a method she used to use for quick changes as a model.

“Does Mr. Weinstein strike you as a model?” Jackson asked.

“No, but he’s definitely a monster,” Young replied.

Like all of the women Weinstein is charged with sexually assaulting at the trial, Young is going by Jane Doe in court.

The Associated Press typically does not publish the names of people alleging sexual assault unless they give their consent, as Young has done through her lawyer.

Young’s testimony closely hewed to her account during the New York trial. But during cross-examination, Jackson pointed out that it differed in many respects from her early

accounts to police starting in 2018, when she called a hotline set up for reports about Weinstein after the #MeToo movement exploded.

Young initially told detectives that the assault had taken place a year earlier, days after she had been at a dinner with Weinstein at a Beverly Hills restaurant.

Jackson pointed out that she was saying the same as recently as 2020.

“I was sure that I was sexually assaulted,” Young said.

“That wasn’t my question,” the lawyer replied. “I’m asking about the time. Something that would stick in your mind.”

Jackson also brought up her previous confusion about the site of the assault, and she acknowledged that she could not name the hotel in her first three interviews with authorities, the most recent in 2020.

“I had pushed it out of my memory,” Young said.

She decided it was the Montage when police suggested it and took her to the suite where Weinstein had been staying.

“And since then your testimony and your statements have gotten far more detailed and far more colorful, right?” Jackson said.

“My trauma, I got to relive it by walking through that room,” Young said. “I had been in other rooms and didn’t feel anything. When I walked in that room, I felt everything flow back in.”

According to allegations in an indictment and court testimony, the assault of Young came the day after Weinstein raped an Italian model at a different hotel during the run-up to that year’s Academy Awards, where Weinstein was annually a major player.

Weinstein, 70, has pleaded not guilty to 11 counts of rape and sexual assault involving five women.

He has said that many of those incidents were consensual, though in the case of Young his defense denies there was any sexual interaction at all.

# Police detain man after eggs thrown at King Charles III



JACOB KING • Associated Press

Britain’s King Charles III arrives for a ceremony at Micklegate Bar, where the Sovereign is traditionally welcomed to the city, in York, England, Wednesday Nov. 9, 2022.

Associated Press

A 23-year-old man was arrested Wednesday after hurling eggs and vitriol at King Charles III and Camilla, the queen consort, as they walked in the northern England city of York. The incident happened as the king and his wife were entering York through Micklegate Bar, a medieval gateway where monarchs are tradition-

ally welcomed to the city.

Video footage showed several eggs in motion and smashed on the ground. None appeared to hit the royal couple, who continued to be greeted by local dignitaries and to meet assembled well-wishers.

Several police officers could be seen grappling with a man at a crowd barrier.

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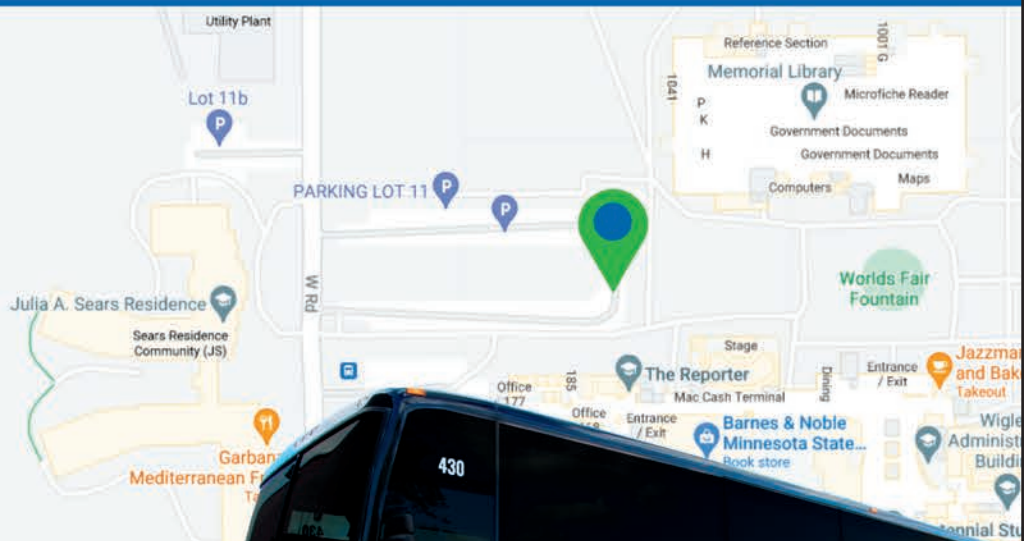


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