

'Pride, not Prejudice' march welcomes acceptance

By EMMA JOHNSON
News Director

Not even the mist and cold could stop the College of Democrats from marching to raise awareness about the recent spike in homophobia at Minnesota State last Thursday.

A week after a sit-in was hosted in Mav Ave, the College of Democrats partnered with the LGBT Center to organize a march across campus.

Their path took them from the lobby of Preska, down the campus mall and back into the heart of the Centennial Student Union.

Drag queen Blue Rose addressed students at Mav Ave about upcoming events at MSU and directed students to nearby tables with resources available to students, including information from The Women's Center and Planned Parenthood, who were there in support.

Blue Rose said she attended the march to show support for the LGBT community. She believes the rise in homophobia on campus is from isolation during the Covid-19 pandemic and people not facing repercussions for their hurtful comments.

"I feel these actions are geared towards that issue and

that if people don't believe in consequences, nothing will happen. They think it's going to be okay," Blue Rose said.

Senior Storm Novak explained that the march was hosted to target the campus climate and make MSU feel like a more hospitable place outside of the LGBT Center.

"The sit-in was more on the offense type of event saying 'hey, we're standing against homophobia' whereas this is more of a 'we want you to feel welcome here and the CSU is your space as well as like everyone else's,'" Novak said.

Since the sit-in, Novak mentioned how more people have come up to them to voice their concerns about homophobia.

"A lot of people who normally don't have [homophobia] on their mind have come up to me and said 'what's up with that?' and 'is there anything we can do to support?'" Novak said. "It's really nice to see."

Novak said that marches help advocate for big causes by showing a sense of presence for underrepresented groups.

"It draws attention to the fact that these people are here, they're queer and they're proud. We want to show and demonstrate to the community that this



LILLY ANDERSON • The Reporter

Drag queen Blue Rose led a group of students from Preska to the Centennial Student Union Thursday, Nov. 10 in order to raise awareness about the rise of homophobia on campus.

is our space too and we want to be here," Novak said.

Sophomore Atlas James agreed with Novak's statement on bringing visibility to MSU.

"We want to show resources, people they can come to on campus and that MSU is a safe spot," James said. "There are

people on campus that are part of this culture."

Blue Rose wants students to know that if they feel alone, the LGBT Center is available for them.

"It's important for people to realize that no matter who you are, you are loved. The LGBT

Center offers acceptance and that feeling of warmth," Blue Rose said. "At the end of the day, it's all about love."

The LGBT Center is hosting a drag show Wednesday night from 7-10 p.m. in Ostrander Auditorium.

Cultures celebrated at annual International Festival



LILLY ANDERSON • The Reporter

The International Festival hosted by the Kearney International Center gave students to learn about the variety of cultures at Minnesota State. Foods from their native culture were served while performances like dances and fashion shows took place in the CSU Ballroom.

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Global Entrepreneurship Week to create community

By ANDREA
SCHOENECKER
Staff Writer

Global Entrepreneurship Week highlights all aspects of entrepreneurship and runs at Minnesota state from Nov. 14-18.

The Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, alongside the Center for Women, planned many events for women in business. The Director of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Shane Bowyer, encourages students to expose themselves to business through his own experience with entrepreneurship.

"It is about developing an entrepreneurial mindset,

BUSINESS on page 3▶

Suspect caught in fatal shooting of 3 U.Va. football players



STEVE HELBER • Associated Press

A Virginia State Police crime scene investigation truck is on the scene of an overnight shooting at the University of Virginia, Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, in Charlottesville, Va. Three football players died as a result.

By SARAH RANKIN
Associated Press

A University of Virginia student and former member of the school's football team fatally shot three current players as they returned from a field trip, authorities said, setting off panic and a 12-hour lockdown of the campus until the suspect was captured Monday.

Students who were told to shelter in place beginning late Sunday described terrifying hours in hiding. While police searched for the gunman through the night, students sought safety in closets, dorm rooms, libraries and apartments. They listened to police scanners and tried to remember everything they were taught as children during active-shooter drills.

"I think all of us were just really unsettled and trying to keep, you know, our cool and level heads during the situation," student Shannon Lake said.

Officials got word during a morning news briefing that the suspect, 22-year-old Christopher Darnell Jones Jr., had been arrested.

"Just give me a moment to thank God, breathe a sigh of relief," university Police Chief Timothy Longo Sr. said after learning Jones was in custody.

The violence erupted near a parking garage just after 10:15 p.m. Sunday as a charter bus full of students returned to Charlottesville from seeing a play in Washington.

University President Jim Ryan said authorities did not have a "full understanding" of the motive or circumstances of the shooting.

"The entire university community is grieving this morning," a visibly strained Ryan

said. The killings happened at a time when the nation is on edge from a string of mass shootings during the last six months, including an attack that killed 19 students and two teachers at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas; a shooting at a Fourth of July parade in a Chicago suburb that killed seven people and wounded more than 30; and a shooting at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, that killed 10 people and wounded three.

Lake, a third-year student from Crozet, Virginia, ended up spending the night with friends in a lab room, much of the time in a storage closet.

Elizabeth Paul, a student from northern Virginia, was working at a computer in the library when she got a call from her mom, who had received word about the shooting.

Paul said she initially brushed off any concern, thinking it was probably something minor.

She realized she needed to take it seriously when her computer lit up with a warning about an active shooter.

"I think it said, 'Run. Hide. Fight,'" she said.

Paul said she stayed huddled with several others in the library. She spent most of the night on the phone with her mom.

"Not even talking to her the whole time necessarily, but she wanted the line to be on so that if I needed something she was there," she said.

Ryan identified the three slain students as Devin Chandler, Lavel Davis Jr. and D'Sean Perry.

Two students were wounded and hospitalized, Ryan said.

Mike Hollins, a running back on the football team, was in stable condition Monday, his mother, Brenda Hollins, told

The Associated Press.

"Mike is a fighter — and he's showing it," she said after flying to Virginia from Louisiana. "We have great doctors who have been working with him. And most importantly, we have God's grace and God's hands on him."

The shooting touched off an intense manhunt that included a building-by-building search of the campus. The lockdown order was lifted late Monday morning.

Jones was taken into custody without incident in suburban Richmond, police said.

The arrest warrants for Jones charged him with three counts of second-degree murder and three counts of using a handgun in the commission of a felony, Longo said.

It was not immediately clear whether Jones had an attorney or when he would make his first court appearance.

His father, Chris Jones Sr., told Richmond TV station WTVR he was in disbelief after getting a call from police on Monday.

"My heart goes out to their families. I don't know what to say, except I'm sorry, on his behalf, and I apologize," he said.

Jones had once been on the football team, but he had not been part of the team for at least a year, Longo said.

The UVA football website listed him as a team member during the 2018 season and said he did not play in any games.

Hours after Jones was arrested, first-year head football coach Tony Elliott sat alone outside the athletic building used by the team, at times with his head in his hands. He said the victims "were all good kids."

Greek Life philanthropists host dance party for charity



DOMINIC BOTHE • The Reporter

Mavathon allowed students to hear from a variety of local and student bands, all for a good cause. The event plays off of the Dance Marathon, hosted by Children's Miracle Network.

By CARLY BAHR
Staff Writer

Mavathon, an annual dance marathon raising money for a Minnesota children's hospital, returned Friday night at Minnesota State with live music from three local and student bands.

The event kicked off in the Centennial Student Union Ballroom with a cover of Journey's "Lights" from the student band High School Liars, led by singer and bass player Sam Vestel. Vestel and Elizabeth Sazma coordinated the event in hopes of raising awareness for the larger return of Mavathon in February.

Mavathon is the MSU-branded version of Dance Marathon, which is sponsored by the Children's

Miracle Network. The non-profit works with schools in the United States and Canada to throw these competitive, non-stop dance parties to raise money for children's hospitals. Mavathon's proceeds go to the Gillette Children's Hospital in Saint Paul.

According to Vestel, the annual Mavathon fundraisers raised about \$20,000, and his and Sazma's goal is to bring those numbers back up since the event was stifled by COVID-19 for the past three years.

"During COVID they didn't really have a Mavathon, so my first Mavathon was the same as Sam's (in February), so we haven't really experienced the whole thing. But we know people who have experienced

MAVATHON on page 7

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DOMINIC BOTHE • The Reporter

The goal of Global Entrepreneurship Week aims to provide students with resources and connections. MSU's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship is one resource students can utilize.

◀BUSINESS from page 1

being creative, and seeing others who are successful. I never thought I would own my own business, but being exposed to it led me to become a business owner," said Bowyer.

Local organizations will be present in hopes of creating a sense of community.

"We highlight the successes of local entrepreneurs, as well as students to bring a sense of community," said Bowyer. "It takes a lot of people to start a business, it takes a community and all of those resources coming together."

The events this week aim to provide students with resources, experiences, and connections. Administrative Coordinator for the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Ashley Niss, believes in the importance of giving students these tools. By attending events throughout the week, students will have access to all of them.

"You never know who you're going to meet. You might meet someone who could give you great advice, a job, or an idea that pushes you in the right direction," Niss said.

Senior Molly Kes, the treasure of the Maverick Entrepreneurship Club, has found entrepreneurship inspirational. She feels that this area of study is overlooked in how beneficial

it can be.

"Entrepreneurship is important for students to learn about because it can be very beneficial in so many ways," said Kes. "For example, starting your career, running your own business—no matter what kind of business—can add so much to one's character. I feel it is an overlooked area of study and many don't realize just how beneficial it can be."

Kes said she intends to attend as many events as possible, such as Start UP Smart and the documentary showing of "Shot of Influence", which took place Monday: and the Power of Podcast.

GEW gives students a chance to learn more about different aspects and approaches to business that can spark a wide variety of inspiration and career possibilities. All events are free with registration.

"Entrepreneurship is more about starting a business, it is a state of mind. It entails creativity, problem-solving, and innovation. Being an entrepreneur is so much more than owning a business," said Niss.

Various events will take place all week, such as TikTok for Small Business Thursday and Startup to Restart Friday. More information can be found at cob.mnsu.edu/gew or by contacting Niss at ashley.niss.2@mnsu.edu.

Dallas air show victims named

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Officials on Monday identified the six men killed in a deadly collision between two vintage military aircraft at a Dallas air show, all of whom were experienced aviators with years of flight training.

The Commemorative Air Force, which put on the show, identified the victims as: Terry Barker, Craig Hutain, Kevin "K5" Michels, Dan Ragan, Leonard "Len" Root, and Curt Rowe. They died Saturday when a World War II-era bomber and a fighter plane collided and crashed in a ball of flames, horrifying spectators who had gathered for the air show that opened on Veterans' Day.

Several videos posted on social media show the fighter plane flying into the bomber. All of the men were volunteers, but each had gone through a strict process of logging hours and training flights and were vetted carefully, Hank Coates, the CEO of Commemorative Air Force said at a weekend news conference.

"This is not their first rodeo," Coates said. These guys are very well versed. Many of them are airline pilots, retired airline pilots, retired military pilots like myself.

"These are very well-trained folks who have been doing this for a long time."

Officials have not publicly identified which of the victims was piloting the aircrafts. Hutain, of Montgomery, Texas, has been a commercial airline pilot since 1985. He started flying at the age of 10 and had



Nathaniel Ross Photography via Associated Press

A historic military plane crashes after colliding with another plane during an airshow at Dallas Executive Airport in Dallas on Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022. Six men were killed, all experienced aviators with flight training.

logged more than 34,500 flight hours, according to his LinkedIn page. In a recent interview with Vintage Aviation News posted on YouTube, Hutain described aviation as a "lifelong obsession" passed down from his father, a bomber pilot in World War II. He described having to use pillows to boost him up in the seat of the first airplane he learned to fly.

"It's near and dear to my heart," Hutain said. "I've always been a pilot."

Armin Mizani, the mayor of Keller, Texas, said Barker was a retired pilot who lived in Keller, a town of 50,000, where many of the residents know each other.

"It's definitely a big loss in our community," he said. "We're grieving."

Barker was an Army veteran who flew helicopters during his military service. He later

worked for American Airlines for 36 years before retiring in 2020, Mizani said. Rowe, a member of the Ohio Wing Civil Air Patrol, was a crew chief on the B-17, his brother-in-law Andy Keller told The Associated Press on Sunday. Rowe, of Hilliard, Ohio, did air shows several times a year because he fell in love with WWII aircraft, Keller said.

Root, also from Keller, was a pilot and manager for the Gulf Coast Wing of the Commemorative Air Force who worked over the last year as a contract commercial pilot for various companies, according to his LinkedIn page. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the collision, including why both aircraft were flying at the same altitude and in the same air space, NTSB member Michael Graham said at a Sunday news conference.

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Sandy Hook memorial opens nearly 10 years after 26 killed



BRYAN WOOLSTON • Associated Press

A memorial to the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, in Newtown, Conn. Nearly 10 years after the tragic shooting, a memorial was constructed to honor the lives of the 26 killed in the shooting.

By DAVE COLLINS
Associated Press

Bouquets of flowers floated counterclockwise in the waters of the circular memorial pool, passing the engraved names of the 20 first graders and six educators killed a short distance away at Sandy Hook Elementary School nearly 10 years ago.

The long-awaited memorial to the victims officially opened to the public on Sunday, drawing visitors steadily throughout the day. There was no ceremony, in keeping with Newtown's tradition of marking anniversaries and other remembrances of the shooting with quiet reflection.

"It just takes your breath away," said Nora Smith, a resident of nearby Monroe who visited the memorial with her husband, Kevin. "It's something that you hold close to your heart because you feel so bad for these families."

A path from the small parking lot leads down a hill to the focus of the memorial — a manmade water feature with a sycamore tree sprouting from an island in the middle.

The 26 names are engraved in the top of a stone wall supporting the pool. A cobblestone walkway surrounds the feature, its outer ring lined with black-eyed Susan flowers. Other paths lead past a variety of plantings on the grounds.

With tree leaves having fallen, the new Sandy Hook School is now visible from the memorial. The new school was built on the same property, but not in the same footprint as the old one, which was torn down after the shooting on Dec. 14, 2012.

Relatives' victims were offered a private tour on Saturday. Others, including Jennifer Hubbard, visited earlier by pri-

vate appointment. Her daughter, Catherine Violet Hubbard, 6, was one of the children who died in the shooting.

"It took my breath away in the sense that to see Catherine's name and to see what has been created in honor of those that lost ... the families, those that survived — they've lost their innocence," she said. "And the community. We all suffered because of Dec. 14."

"I think that the memorial is so perfectly appointed in honoring and providing a place of contemplation and reflection for a day that really changed the country," said Hubbard, who is now executive director of the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary in Newtown.

Nelba Marquez-Greene, whose 6-year-old daughter, Ana Grace Marquez-Greene, died in the shooting, took to Twitter on Saturday to thank those who worked on the memorial planning for years.

"Ten years. A lifetime and a blink," she wrote. "Ana Grace, we used to wait for you to come home. Now you wait for us. Hold on, little one. Hold on."

Several visitors declined to speak with the few reporters present Sunday. Others discussed their thoughts but did not want to give their full names, saying the day was about the victims.

Many in Newtown are apprehensive about the rush of media that comes to town every anniversary of the shooting.

"It's a difficult day," said a woman, her eyes filled with tears as she returned to her vehicle after viewing the memorial.

Town police officers occasionally stopped by the site, which also has surveillance cameras.

Visitors get their first view

of the memorial in the small parking lot, which overlooks the site.

Near the beginning of a path that leads down the hill, a plaque welcomes visitors and includes a quote by former President Barack Obama from when he spoke at a vigil in Newtown two days after the shooting.

"Here in Newtown, I come to offer the love and prayers of a nation," the Obama quote reads. "I am very mindful that mere words cannot match the depths of your sorrow, nor can they heal your wounded hearts."

"I can only hope it helps for you to know that you're not alone in your grief; that our world, too, has been torn apart; that all across this land of ours, we have wept with you," the plaque reads.

Town voters approved \$3.7 million for the cost of the memorial last year.

Much of the cost was offset when the State Bond Commission approved giving the town \$2.5 million for the project.

The project faced several challenges after the town created a special commission to oversee memorial planning in the fall of 2013.

Some proposed sites were rejected, including one near a hunting club where gunshots could be heard, and officials cut the cost of the project down from \$10 million because of concerns voters would not approve it.

Town officials say the memorial will be open as long as weather permits this winter, and then reopen in the spring.

For Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, the town's top elected official, the memorial is both a quiet and intense tribute to those killed in the shooting.

Biden, Xi clash on Taiwan but 'manage' differences



ALEX BRANDON • Associated Press

U.S. President Joe Biden, right, and Chinese President Xi Jinping shake hands before their meeting on the sidelines of the G20 summit meeting, Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, in Nusa Dua, in Bali, Indonesia.

By SEUNG MIN KIM
and ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

President Joe Biden objected directly to China's "coercive and increasingly aggressive actions" toward Taiwan during the first in-person meeting of his presidency with Xi Jinping, as the two superpower leaders aimed on Monday to "manage" their differences in the competition for global influence.

The nearly three-hour meeting was the highlight of Biden's weeklong, round-the-world trip to the Middle East and Asia, and came at a critical juncture for the two countries amid increasing economic and security tensions.

Speaking at a news confer-

ence afterward, Biden said that when it comes to China, the U.S. would "compete vigorously, but I'm not looking for conflict."

He added: "I absolutely believe there need not be a new Cold War" between America and the rising Asian power.

Biden reiterated U.S. support for its longstanding "One China" policy, which recognizes the government in Beijing — while allowing for informal American relations and defense ties with Taipei, and "strategic ambiguity" over whether the U.S. would respond militarily if the island were attacked.

He also said that despite China's recent saber rattling, he does not believe "there's any imminent attempt on the part of China to invade Taiwan."



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Turkey detains Syrian suspect in deadly bombing

By MEHMET GUZEL and SUZAN FRASER
Associated Press

Turkish police said Monday they have detained a Syrian woman with suspected links to Kurdish militants and that she confessed to planting a bomb that exploded on a bustling pedestrian avenue in Istanbul, killing six people and wounding several dozen others. Kurdish militants strongly denied any links to the bombing.

Sunday's explosion hit Istiklal Avenue, a popular thoroughfare lined with shops and restaurants that leads to Taksim Square.

"A little while ago, the person who left the bomb was detained by our Istanbul Police Department teams," Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu announced early Monday. Police later identified the suspect as Ahlam Albashir, a Syrian citizen.

The Istanbul Police Department said videos from around 1,200 security cameras were reviewed and raids were carried out at 21 locations. At least 46 other people were also detained for questioning. The suspected allegedly departed the scene in a taxi after leaving TNT-type explosives on the crowded avenue, police said.

Sunday's explosion was a shocking reminder of the anx-



EMRAH GUREL • Associated Press

Relatives and friends of Arzu Ozsoy and her 15-year-old daughter Yagmur Ucar, who died in Sunday's explosion occurred on Istiklal avenue, attend their funeral in Istanbul, Turkey, Monday, Nov. 14, 2022.

ety that gripped Turkey when such attacks were common. The country was hit by a string of deadly bombings between 2015 and 2017, some by the Islamic State group, others by Kurdish militants who seek increased autonomy or independence.

Police said the suspect told them during her interrogation that she had been trained as a "special intelligence officer" by the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party, as well as the Syrian Kurdish group the Democratic Union Party and its armed wing.

She entered Turkey illegally through the Syrian border town of Afrin, police said.

The Kurdistan Workers Party denied involvement in a statement, saying it did not target civilians. In Syria, the main Kurdish militia group, People's

Defense Units denied any links to the suspect. The group maintained that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was trying to gather international support for his plans to launch a new incursion into northern Syria ahead of next year's elections. Soylu said the suspect would have fled to neighboring Greece if she hadn't been detained.

Asked about Soylu's comments, Greek government spokesman Giannis Oikonomou reiterated Greece's condolences and stressed that the government "is steadily against any terrorist act. What happened in Istanbul is abhorrent and condemnable."

Earlier, Soylu said security forces believe that instructions for the attack came from Kobani, the majority Kurdish city in northern Syria that borders Turkey. He said the attack would be avenged.

"We know what message those who carried out this action want to give us. We got this message," Soylu said. "Don't worry, we will pay them back heavily."

Soylu also blamed the United States, claiming that a condolence message from the White House was akin to "a killer being first to show up at a crime scene." Turkey has been infuriated by U.S. support for Syrian Kurdish groups.

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Thanksgiving's beginnings

For many, Thanksgiving represents a time of celebrating family, togetherness and the past year's blessings. On Thursday, Nov. 24, 1621, the Plymouth colonists and the Wampanoag shared an autumnal harvest meal, acknowledged as one of the very first Thanksgiving celebrations. For nearly two centuries after this, Thanksgiving continued to be celebrated in individual colonies across the land, but the day wasn't officiated until 1863, when President Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving as a national holiday.

Despite Thanksgiving's friendly beginnings, the honeymoon phase eventually faded, and gave way to a plethora of hatred and macroaggressions. Future Thanksgiving celebrations also were also in bad taste, figuratively and literally. For example, in 1637, Massachusetts Colony Governor John Winthrop declared a day of Thanksgiving after volunteers murdered 700 Pequot people. For many Native Americans, Thanksgiving day is a reminder of the genocide of millions of innocent people, the theft of their Native land and the relentless attack on Native American culture.

Many history books have failed to document the colonialism and racism that went on during these times, with the reasoning behind this usually being a result of wanting to save face on a nationwide scale. US history books are written in a way that makes our nation look like the hero, or the knight riding in on a horse to save the day. The average American is a white man, and the history books as a result are written to make that group feel good. In reality, that very same group statistically were the same people behind almost every instance of racism in our country's history. But due to the power structure ingrained into our society through generations and generations of learned bias, the fact of the matter is that opinions are less likely to be taken into account if the speaker doesn't represent the majority, or "the face" of America.

On a more local scale, Mankato made history in 1862 for the largest mass execution in history, with the lynching of 38 Dakota people. Mankato as a town is one founded on Native American traditions, and we as students, and especially as locals, should remember this and honor it. One way we can do this is through the celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day, every year on October 9. Originally named Columbus Day, the national day was taken back by Native American peoples and rebranded to call attention to the losses they suffered at the hands of white colonizers.

One way we as students can celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day is by simply educating ourselves on the history of Native American people, as well as educating others. As philosopher George Santayana said, "those who cannot condemn the past are doomed to repeat it."

Perspectives

Made in China: Seasonal Blues

By JULIA BARTON
Editor in Chief

There was a feeling that wa There are only two seasons in Minnesota: construction and winter.

As a Minnesota Native, you'd think I'd be used to it by now, driving 20 mph through the icy roads under a blanket of darkness at the strike of 5 p.m. Without fail, every year it seems to get the best of me.

Seasonal depression, or seasonal affective disorder, is something I'm sure everyone struggles with at some point in their life.

Having minimal sunshine throughout your day as a student, looking forward to going home and find that the sun says goodbye shortly as you return.

The frigid wind and fluffy rain that'll make your bones dance.

And the total four bearable hours you probably spend outside during the months of January through March.

The first time I noticed I was experiencing seasonal depression was my freshman year of college.

Most of my classes were online and I rarely had to leave my house. Mask mandates were instated almost everywhere and I was confined to my tiny bedroom.

I felt so isolated and the weather did nothing but encourage that feeling. Being away from my family for an extended period for the first time in my life also was a contributing factor.

During these months all I wanted to do was either



sleep, eat or watch reality television. Endless episodes of "The Bachelor" and many afternoon naps were taken just to wake up mid evening in total darkness.

We as humans have something called an internal clock meaning a system in the body that control when you sleep and eat. Light has a lot to do with your internal clock.

If it is darker out, your body will tend to be more tired, while if it is bright and sunny, you tend to be more energetic.

This can explain why they tell you not to go on your phones before bed: your eyes think your screen may be sunlight.

After many months of unmotivating days feeling like Squidward in that one episode of "Spongebob", I finally came to realize that I had

seasonal depression.

So, like any other teen girl, I searched the symptoms and treatments.

I found the top results for treating this feeling were exercise, eating healthier and having artificial sun lamps.

Running to Planet Fitness where I bought my first a gym membership and adding a few sun lamps to my amazon cart I began my journey to combat the blues.

And to my surprise it worked.

I started going to the gym regularly, eating more greens and my mood became better and better each day until eventually spring came and my personally defrosted with the rest of nature.

As a Minnesotan you can't fight the winter, but you can at least prepare for it.

Pulse

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'Black Panther' sequel scores 2nd biggest debut of 2022



Marvel Studios via Associated Press

"Wakanda Forever" focuses on the death of Boseman's King T'Challa/Black Panther, and the grieving kingdom he left behind with returning actors including Lupita Nyong'o, Letitia Wright and Winston Duke.

By LINDSEY BAHR
Associated Press

The box office roared back to life with the long-awaited release of "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever."

The Marvel sequel earned \$180 million in ticket sales from more than 4,396 theaters in the U.S. and Canada, according to estimates from The Walt Disney Co. on Sunday, making it the second biggest opening of the year behind "Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness." Overseas, it brought in an additional \$150 million from 50 territories, bringing its worldwide total to \$330 million.

"Wakanda Forever" was eagerly anticipated by both audiences and exhibitors, who have weathered a slow spell at the box office since the summer movie season ended and there were fewer bigger budget blockbusters in the pipeline. The film got off to a mighty start a bit stronger than even the first film with an \$84 million opening day, including \$28 million from Thursday previews.

"Some may have hoped for \$200 million like the first film, but this is solid," said Paul Dergarabedian, Comscore's senior media analyst. "This is the type of movie that theaters really need to drive audiences."

The first film opened to \$202 million in February 2018 and went on to gross over \$1.4 billion worldwide, making it one of the highest grossing films of all time and a cultural phenomenon. A sequel was inevitable, and development began soon after with director Ryan Coogler returning, but everything changed after Chadwick Boseman's unexpected death in August 2020. "Wakanda Forever" became,

instead, about the death of Boseman's King T'Challa/Black Panther, and the grieving kingdom he left behind. Returning actors include Angela Bassett, Lupita Nyong'o, Letitia Wright, Winston Duke and Danai Gurira, who face off against a new foe in Tenoch Huerta's Namor. The film would face more complications too, including Wright getting injured and some COVID-19 related setbacks. All told, it cost a reported \$250 million to make, not accounting for marketing and promotion.

AP Film Writer Jake Coyle wrote in his review that, "Wakanda Forever" is overlong, a little unwieldy and somewhat mystifyingly steers toward a climax on a barge in the middle of the Atlantic. But Coogler's fluid command of mixing intimacy with spectacle remains gripping."

It currently holds an 84% on Rotten Tomatoes and, as is often the case with comic book films, the audience scores are even higher.

Superhero films have fared well during the pandemic, but none yet have reached the heights of "Spider-Man: No Way Home," which opened to \$260.1 million in Dec. 2021. Other big launches include "Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness" (\$187.4 million in May), "Thor: Love and Thunder" (\$144.2 million in July) and "The Batman" (\$134 million in March).

"Wakanda Forever" is first film to open over \$100 million since "Thor" in July, which has been difficult for exhibitors that are already dealing with a calendar that has about 30% fewer wide releases than in a normal year.

Holdovers populated the rest of the top five, as no film dared launch nationwide

against a Marvel behemoth. Second place went to the DC superhero "Black Adam," with \$8.6 million, bringing its domestic total to \$151.1 million. "Ticket to Paradise" landed in third, in weekend four, with \$6.1 million. The Julia Roberts and George Clooney romantic comedy has made nearly \$150 million worldwide. "Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile" and "Smile" rounded out the top five with \$3.2 million and \$2.3 million, respectively.

Some awards hopefuls have struggled in their expansions lately, but Searchlight Pictures' "The Banshees of Inisherin," with Colin Farrell and Brendan Gleeson, looks like an exception.

The Martin McDonagh film expanded to 960 theaters in its fourth weekend and got seventh place on the charts with \$1.7 million, bringing its total to \$5.8 million.

"It's been a very interesting post-summer period for movie theaters, with some gems out there doing well like 'Ticket to Paradise' and 'Smile,'" Dergarabedian said. "But movie theaters can't survive on non-blockbuster style films. The industry needs more of these."

After "Black Panther," the next blockbuster on the schedule is "Avatar: The Way of Water," arriving Dec. 16.

The weekend wasn't completely without any other high-profile releases. Steven Spielberg's autobiographical drama "The Fabelmans" opened in four theaters in New York and Los Angeles with \$160,000.

Universal and Amblin will roll the film out to more theaters in the coming weeks to build excitement around the likely Oscar-contender.

Letter to the Editor: Reader supports the Scholars Serving Time program

Dear editor:

My name is Safara Shortman and I am currently a part of the Scholars Serving Time program through Minnesota State University, Mankato.

I was an addict and a dropout at age 15. I found my way to prison at age 30, leaving my three kids without a mother. I am now 35, a year away from having my AA (Associate of Arts) and NPL (Non-Profit Leadership) certificates. The feeling of accomplishment,

determination, and hope I feel are a blessing. I do not fear for the future. I have embraced my sobriety, my religion, my education, and my life. And because of this I am grateful and just want to say thank you!! You have helped give me my life back and most important, you helped give my children a better mother. I just genuinely wanted to say thank you and God Bless!!

Sincerely,
Safara Shortman

◀MAVATHON from page 2

it and we're kind of going off of them to try to make it like what it was before COVID," Sazma said.

Sazma and Vestel are vice presidents of community service and philanthropy for their Greek life associations and decided they wanted to bring Mavathon back to include live music from local and students' bands. It is one of the biggest fundraising events on campus that the chapters are involved in.

"When we got into our elected positions we got to watch our first Mavathon happen and that's literally all the experience I had for Mavathon," Vestel said. "I didn't really understand what Mavathon was but I wanted to do something and be part of the community. Be something bigger than myself."

The pair chose to have Friday's event in November as a preview of what is to come in February.

"We just felt like it was a good way to raise awareness for the big Mavathon event, which will be happening February 18 and then it gives people enough time to actually figure out what it is, create a team if they decide to become a part of Mavathon and then hopefully even be able to fundraise for it as well," Sazma said.

Attendees form teams and compete by dancing without sitting down and by showing enthusiasm throughout the night.

There were three bands at Friday's Mavathon; High School Liars, Mavriq and Love Caboose.

Sazma said she heard her friends talk highly about the 2019 pre-COVID Mavathon.

"They've always talked so highly of it and that's what we want to be able to have. To have people know what Mavathon is and be able to be like 'oh that was an amazing event,'" Sazma said.

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Zelenskyy calls for liberation of Kherson

By SAM MEDNICK
Associated Press

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy triumphantly walked the streets of the newly liberated city of Kherson on Monday, hailing Russia's withdrawal as the "beginning of the end of the war," but also acknowledging the heavy price Ukrainian troops are paying in their grinding effort to push back the invaders. The retaking of Kherson was one of Ukraine's biggest successes in the nearly 9-month-old war, dealing another stinging blow to the Kremlin. It could serve as a springboard for more advances into occupied territory.

President Joe Biden called it a "significant victory" for Ukraine.

"I can do nothing but applaud the courage, determination and capacity of the Ukrainian people, the Ukrainian military," he said on the sidelines of a Group of 20 summit in Indonesia. "They've really been amazing. ... we're going to continue to provide the capability for the Ukrainian people to defend themselves."

Large parts of eastern and southern Ukraine are still under Russian control, and the city of Kherson itself remains within reach of Moscow's shells and missiles. Heavy fighting con-



BERNAT ARMANGUE • Associated Press

Ukraine's retaking of Kherson was a significant setback for the Kremlin and it came some six weeks after Russian President Vladimir Putin annexed the Kherson region and three other provinces in southern and eastern Ukraine.

tinued elsewhere in Ukraine. Russia's state news agency RIA Novosti reported the town of Oleshky, in Russian-held territory across the Dnieper River from Kherson, came under heavy artillery fire.

In Kherson, Zelenskyy

awarded medals to soldiers and posed with them for selfies while striking a defiant note.

"This is the beginning of the end of the war," he said. "We are step by step coming to all the temporarily occupied territories."

But he also grimly noted that the fighting "took the best heroes of our country."

The end of Russia's occupation of the city — the only provincial capital seized since Russia's invasion in February — has sparked days of celebration.

But with winter approaching, its remaining 80,000 residents are without heat, water and electricity, and short on food and medicine. Zelenskyy says the city is laced with booby traps and mines. And Ukrainian authorities say there are signs of atrocities emerging, just as in other liberated areas.

Russian forces "destroyed everything in their path, wrecked the entire electricity network," he said.

Communications operators said cellphone service was being restored and the regional governor said a public wireless internet access point would begin working Tuesday.

The Institute for the Study of War said Ukraine has won "an important victory" in recapturing the city and other areas west of the Dnieper, but the Washington-based think tank noted that "it has by no means liberated the minimum territory essential to its future security and economic survival." NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg warned that "we should not make the mistake of underestimating Russia."

"The Russian armed forces retain significant capability as well as a large number of troops, and Russia has demonstrated their willingness to bear significant losses," he said while visiting The Hague.



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SPORTS



DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

The Minnesota State Football team defeated Winona State University 40-13 Saturday, Nov. 12 for the Conference Championship and South Division Champions title.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

Victory royale against Winona State Warriors

By LUKE JACKSON
Staff Writer

The Mankato football team finished the regular season going undefeated at Blakeslee Stadium to win the confer-

ence championship Saturday. The Mavericks hosted Winona State who had the No.1 defense in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference. This was the deciding game for the winner of the south division and

the conference championship. Going into the game, the Warriors held teams to 16.2 points on average and specialized in stopping the rush. MSU finished the game with 40 points and 492 total yards; 292 rushing. “There’s a three-hour window to prove you’re a better team,” Coach

Todd Hoffner said. “Today we accomplished that, our players are all about competing and playing hard.” MSU’s first drive of the game was four plays and 95 yards. It ended quickly with an explosive 70-yard touchdown run from running back
CHAMPION on page 10 ►

That’s all folks: Minnesota State Women’s Soccer falls to Bemidji State



DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

The Minnesota State Women’s soccer team concludes the season Sunday, Nov. 13 with a 4-2 loss against Bemidji State during round two of the NCAA Tournament.

By CHARLIE GROEBNER
Staff Writer

It is said that all good things must come to an end, however, sometimes they end sooner than anyone can ever expect. Last Friday Minnesota State women’s soccer traveled to Chet Anderson Stadium in Bemidji, Minnesota to begin the NCAA tournament. Following their loss in the NSIC Tournament, they looked to rebound and compete for a National Title. In the first round of play, the Mavericks were victorious against Northwest Missouri State University in a shootout. On the cold tundra, MSU struggled in the first half. Allowing a goal from sophomore forward Adell Gore put them down

1-0 going back to the locker room. Coming out of the second half the Mavericks started to heat up. Senior forward Nadia Lowery would tie the game 1-1 and force extra time. After two additional periods of play, the Mavericks once again were in a shootout. This time, however, MSU walked away with the victory and moved on to the second round. Their opponent, however, was familiar with the Bemidji State Beavers. Their stay in the second was short-lived after a 4-2 loss against the Beavers last Sunday eliminated them from the tournament. In the first half, MSU started strong and outshot the Beavers with 12 shot attempts compared to the single one made by their opponent.
NSIC on page 11 ►

First win: Maverick basketball dominates at home



DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

Minnesota State Women's basketball team premiered their first game of the season at the Taylor Center against North Central Monday, Nov. 14 winning 110-42.

By HAYDEN LEE
Staff Writer

The Taylor Center has been the place to be for Maverick basketball, as their two home games, the Mavericks women's and men's basketball teams have dominated their opponents. The women's basketball team had their turn Monday, defeating the North Central Rams 110-68.

The Minnesota State Women's Basketball team opened their season at home Monday against the Rams. According to the NSIC preseason poll, the Mavs are picked to finish first in their conference.

The 0-1 Rams are a part of the Division III Upper Midwest Athletic Conference and coached by a first year Leah Szabla. Despite their differences, the first quarter remained relatively close. The Mavs came out playing fast and aggressive, as their full court press gave the Rams headaches early and often. Contrary to their evident struggles, the Rams managed to slow the Mavs down in the first, with the score sitting at 20-13 heading into the second period.

As soon as the whistle blew to begin the second period, the Mavericks caught fire. In their first possession, sophomore guard Emily Herzberg, knocked down the first of her three shots from beyond the arc, bringing the Mavs their first double digit lead of the night, 28-17.

After a few back and forth blows from each team, freshman guard Mackenzie Schweim, gave the Mavs the momentum boost they needed. Schweim scored five straight points to bring the score to 39-20, forcing a timeout from the Lions with 3:12 left in the first half. The timeout didn't seem to phase The Mavs at all, finishing the half strong and pushing their lead out to 22 points, 47-25.

"After the first, we all came together and decided that we had a lot more left in the tank, and also we just wanted to have fun with it," said MSU junior guard, Joey Batt.

The third quarter proved to be the turning point. Batt showed why she was a 2021 First Team All NSIC and 2020 NSIC South Division Defensive Player of the Year, providing defensive pressure that led to turnovers and points. Sophomore guard Destinee Bursch and Batt orchestrated an 11-0 run for the Mavs that was only briefly interrupted by a layup from Kaitlyn VanderPloeg of the Rams. Before they knew it, the Mavs held a near 40 point lead midway through the third. A three from freshman Hannah Herzig seemed to slam the door on this game, and a 35-6 third quarter in favor of the Mavs brought a score of 82-31 heading into the final period.

"I feel like our identity is defense. The full court pressure we bring is not easy, so seeing the results of our hard work

pay off feels really good," said Batt.

It was more of the same in the fourth period, with Herzberg hitting a three-pointer and Bursch scoring on a fast break in back to back possessions to open the quarter. A pair of free throws by freshman Ava Stier put the Mavs in triple figures as they closed out the game. In a 68-point blowout with a final score of 110-42, the Mavs dominated the Lions en route to their first win of the season.

Herzberg led all scorers with 19 points on 7-13 shooting in just 15 minutes of play. Batt filled up the stat sheet as well, with 18 points, 4 rebounds 5 assists and 4 steals in her season debut. Bursch added 16 points and was one of four players with 4 or more steals. With their defensive intensity, the Mavs forced 44 turnovers out of the Lions. Mavs head coach Emilie Theisse credited the success to a lot of repetition and hard work in practice.

"Everything starts from our defense, and we let the offense take care of itself," said Theisse. "When we have chemistry on the defensive end, that's also how we play on the offensive end, in-sync."

Following their home opener, the Mavs head to Hays, Kan. to take on Fort Hays State. The last time these two teams met, the Tigers ended the Mavs' season in the 2021 NCAA Tournament. Tip-off for these two teams is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 18.

half.

Following Butler-Lawson's first touchdown, Hayden Ekern connected with Williams on a 43-yard dot down the field. Williams was able

CHAMPIONS on page 11 ►

Mavs move to 2-0 after Central Region Challenge

By HAYDEN LEE
Staff Writer

The Mavericks were seeing only green lights on the road this weekend in Kansas City, Missouri. The Central Region Challenge provided the Mavericks a chance to hit the ground running, and that is exactly what they did.

In their first game of the year, the Mavs were faced with an intriguing opponent in the Missouri Southern Lions. In the first five minutes of the game, the Lions jumped out to a 12-7 lead, but the Mavericks answered back, tying the game at 16 in the next three minutes. The teams took turns struggling for the lead until junior Malik Willingham gave the Mavs their first lead of the game at 5:41 in the first half.

Sophomore Harrison Braudis enjoyed an efficient, and at times, dominant day, including scoring the final eight points of the first half for the Mavs. Going into halftime, the Mavs held a two point lead, 38-36.

Coming out of the break, the Mavs hit their stride, going up by eleven points at 16:37, bringing the score to 52-41. Braudis continued his excellent game, adding a pair of threes on the way to the Mavs biggest lead of the game, 74-54.

The twenty-point lead proved to be the nail in the coffin for the Lions, as for the rest of the game, the Mavericks never let their lead drop below fourteen points. The win for the Mavs ended with a final

score of 87-73 and gave a good start to the new season.

Braudis led the team in scoring with 24 points on 7-11 from the field, and 4-4 from beyond the arc. M. Willingham added another 19 points and 5 assists, while senior Kelby Kramer quietly had a solid game making his only shot, tallying 10 rebounds and protecting the paint with 3 blocks.

Riding their momentum into the next day, the Mavericks were looking to make the Henderson State Reddies their next victim. The first half began with both teams struggling to pull away from each other, as the score was tied at 15 midway through the first.

Malik Willingham got out to a great start, providing the Mavericks with a bit of momentum with back-to-back threes at the end of the Mavs' 18-7 run heading into halftime. M. Willingham led all scorers at halftime with 12 points, while sophomores Kyrese Willingham and Brady Williams added 9 points each to bring the Mavs' halftime lead to 43-32.

The double-digit lead the Mavs earned before the half stayed that way throughout the remainder of the game to reach a final score of 84-64. In the second half, M. Willingham added another 13 points on his way to a career-high 25 point performance in Saturday's win. The brother duo of Malik and Kyrese Willingham nearly combined for a triple-double with 39 points, 11 rebounds and 9 assists on the day.

CENTRAL on page 11 ►



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◀CHAMPIONS from page 9

Shen Butler-Lawson, scoring 7-0.

"Really, it was one of my favorite plays," Butler-Lawson said. "I saw one linebacker and told Hayden (Ekern)

that this is a touchdown."

The half ended with Mankato scoring 31 points while Winona put up zero points. Butler-Lawson and wide receiver Nyles Williams traded scores throughout the

Senior Spotlight: Amanda Montplaisir

By CHARLIE GROEBNER
Staff Writer

The coaches of the NSIC voted a Minnesota State cross country star Outstanding Senior of the Year.

Amanda Montplaisir grew up in Buffalo, Minnesota. Her first experience with running was in physical education in school. Montplaisir first learned of cross country in middle school, and from there she excelled and fell in love with the sport. When the time came to choose a college, head coach Jen Blue reached out to her about attending MSU, and Montplaisir committed to becoming a Maverick.

Since her freshman year, she received All NSIC Performer 14 times, was named to the All-Region Cross-Country team in 2021 and raced in thirteen events, six of them in the top ten or higher.

This year she adds another item to her mantle, being named the NSIC Women's Cross Country Outstanding Senior of the Year. Conference coaches vote for the senior who exemplifies the attributes of a model NSIC student athlete.

"It's just an honor to be chosen out of the people who were in that pool for selection. There are a lot of outstanding people in our conference and to have all the coaches and members see that in me is super cool," said Montplaisir.

In the classroom, she has made the Dean's List every semester and is currently looking to earn her master's degree in



MANSOOR AHMAD • MSU Athletics

Amanda Montplaisir (center) received All NSIC Performer 14 times since her freshman year.

exercise physiology.

Montplaisir is also active in the community and engagement on campus. Participating in events like the Backpack Food Program, The MNSU Campus Cupboard, and the Mankato Marathon.

"It definitely is a lot, but over the years I have learned the balance of how to do it and also what's too much and fulfilling the commitments I have made," said Montplaisir.

Montplaisir is now navigating her final year at MSU, and she is very happy looking back

on her time here. Even if her running days are coming to an end, she is excited about what the future holds.

"After this year, I will be hopefully graduating with my master's and looking to get an internship in dietetics. My goal is to be a licensed dietitian and work as a sports dietitian. Last year I did think it was my last time competing but decided to come back and do grad school and utilize my final year of eligibility. Right now, I am just having fun and enjoying it while I still can," said Montplaisir.

◀CHAMPIONS from page 10
to run it down the sideline for another six points followed by Damian Chowaniec for an extra point.

Butler-Lawson then broke away for another touchdown, this time a 31-yard run. This concluded the first quarter.

In the second, Ekern found Williams open again, this time for a 10-yard touchdown pass. The half was finished with Chowaniec hitting a 32-yard field goal against the wind with no time remaining in the half. The half concluded at 31-0.

"If you put a play in front of these players they made it special," Hoffner said.

Butler-Lawson touched on the importance of keeping "motivated" and not getting "too comfortable" after the one-sided first half from MSU.

"Nothing changes, I told the offensive line it's not over until you see the double ze-

ros hit the clock and those four quarters are over," Butler-Lawson said. "I want the ball in my hands in big moments."

Winona State's first drive of the second half came from a turnover from Mankato. They were able to find the endzone for the first time in the game. The Warriors' four-play, 28-yard drive was finished by a four-yard rushing touchdown from running back Ty Gavin.

Mankato rebounded from this and kept the momentum high with a 27-yard passing touchdown to wide receiver DJ Barber.

"Turning the ball over is never a good thing," Hoffner said. "Our offense came back to respond, it's a tribute to their desire to help the defense out and a fun way to say we are sorry by putting points back up on the board."

Winona was later forced

to punt the ball out of their endzone off of a bad snap. Winona's punter kneeled the ball in the endzone resulting in a safety and two extra points for the Mavs and the ball back. That was the finishing touch on the championship win.

Mankato's defense held Winona to 42-yards rushing. Seven tackles came from the defensive end, Grant Nagel. Defensive back Terrell Hall forced a strip sack and recovered the fumbled ball while defensive lineman Max Dahm also had a sack.

Ekern was 14 for 19 in the air and had 231 yards. He was also helped by Butler-Lawson who had a career-high game with 159 yards rushing.

Mankato now heads to the playoffs hosting a familiar foe, Wayne State College. Mankato lost to them on the road previously and will play them Oct. 8 at noon.

◀CENTRAL from page 10

Another impressive stat for the Mavs in this game was their shooting percentages, nearly eclipsing the coveted 50/40/90 mark as a team. As a unit, the

Mavs shot 51% from the field, 39% from the three-point line and 93% from the free throw line, in an excellent offensive performance.

With a 2-0 start to the sea-

son, the Mavs are rolling. They will continue their season Tuesday on the road against St. Cloud State University, where tip-off is set to commence at 7 p.m.

◀NSIC from page 9

At the twenty-five-mark sophomore forward Maillie Mathis scored giving them a 1-0 lead.

However, a goal from the Beavers tied the game 1-1 as both teams retreated to the warmth of the locker room at the half.

Entering the second period, momentum started to shift in favor of Beavers.

A goal from senior forward Halle Peterson gave Bemidji a 2-1 lead to start the second half. Shortly after, senior forward Jenny Vetter found the back of the net to tie the match and force extra play.

Enter the first period of extra time, neither were able to generate offense.

MSU was stonewalled on both shot attempts by senior goalkeeper Alyssa Stumbaugh.

The native of Gillette Wyoming forced another period of play after both sides could not score.

The fourth period was unfortunately the bleakest for MSU. Following a yellow card called on sophomore midfielder Ashlyn Watt, The Beavers scored to put them ahead by one.

Vetter tried two more shots but the attempts were unsuccessful.

A goal from fifth-year senior Sara Wendt gave the Beavers a 4-2 victory and a pass to the semi-finals, thus ending the phenomenal 22'-23' season for MSU.

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Vikings get critical Allen turnovers, stun Bills in OT

By JOHN WAWROW
Associated Press

Count out the Vikings all you want. Patrick Peterson, Justin Jefferson and company keep finding ways to rally for victories in the most remarkable and improbable of ways.

Sunday's 33-30 overtime win over the previously AFC-leading Buffalo Bills might have been the most stunning so far.

Peterson intercepted Josh Allen with 1:12 left in overtime to finally end a sloppy, yet thrilling back-and-forth game between two of the NFL's best teams, in which Minnesota rallied from a 17-point second-half deficit.

"Look at us now. Look at us now. That's all I could say," Peterson said, referring to critics who pointed out the NFC North-leading Vikings' easy schedule.

"We're not trying to prove them wrong. We just want to continue to prove ourselves right each and every time we step on the field," added Peterson, who had two interceptions. "I believe the largest margin was 13, 14, 17? So if we're not a good football team, how could you come back from that deficit? Look at us now."

The Vikings took advantage of three turnovers by Allen in the fourth quarter and overtime,



Minnesota Vikings defensive tackle Harrison Phillips (97) celebrates with linebacker Za'Darius Smith (55) as the Vikings take the lead over the Buffalo Bills in the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Nov. 13, 2022.

pulling ahead late in regulation when he mishandled a snap and fumbled in the end zone.

Greg Joseph put the Vikings ahead to stay by hitting a 33-yard field goal with 3:42 left in overtime. The game didn't end until Allen, facing second and

10 at Minnesota's 20, forced a pass over the middle intended for Gabe Davis, only to have Peterson intercept it a few yards into the end zone. Peterson ran out and slid to the turf.

The Vikings also got a heroic performance by Jeffer-

son — who had 10 catches for 193 yards and an incredible, game-saving one-handed grab — and overcame an officiating gaffe.

NFL senior vice president of officiating Walt Anderson said the Bills' hurry-up offense gave

replay officials no time to review Davis' 20-yard catch on Buffalo's final drive of regulation, which ended with Tyler Bass tying the game with a 29-yard field goal with 2 seconds left. Replays revealed Davis didn't maintain control and the ball touched the ground on the sideline on what was ruled a catch at the Vikings 40 with 17 seconds remaining, Anderson said.

With its only loss to the undefeated Philadelphia Eagles, Minnesota matched its best record through nine games since 2009 and extended its win streak to seven games — the Vikings' best since an eight-game run 2017.

Minnesota rallied to win when trailing with 2 1/2 minutes or less remaining in regulation for the fifth time this season.

The Bills (6-3) have lost two straight and no longer lead the conference, or even their division. They now trail Miami by a half-game in the AFC East.

And Allen's turnover problems are suddenly the biggest question surrounding the Bills' talented QB. He was questionable to play on Sunday because of an injured throwing elbow. Allen said the injury had nothing to do with the turnovers.

"Losing sucks. It sucks this way even more. Horrendous second half," Allen said. "It comes down to my shoulders and my shoulders only."

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VARIETY

Cultures celebrated at annual International Festival

By LAUREN VISKA
Staff Writer

Sunday, hundreds attended the Mankato Area International Festival at Minnesota State to celebrate cultures from across the globe.

The event began in 1972 and has since become a popular annual campus event aiming to inspire, sponsor and support cultural appreciation and worldwide diversity in the MSU community, with students from 96 nations on campus.

Jacy Fry is the director of the Kearney Center for International Student Services at MSU and was in charge of putting this event together.

“The event is a great opportunity for the campus community and the city of Mankato. It’s an opportunity for them to come together and meet people from those places, try their food, and see their culture,” said Fry. “It’s also a chance to create an opportunity for people to get along and accept each other for their differences.”

Another feature of the event was performances like dance or fashion shows put on by different cultures in Ostrander Auditorium.

Food, beverages and desserts from Sri Lanka and other countries were prepared for the



LILLY ANDERSON • The Reporter

The International Festival took place in the Centennial Student Union, giving students an all-expenses-paid trip around the world for a day to experience each country’s different respective cultures, as well as try their dishes.

celebration, which occupied the whole CSU ballroom.

Sachith Wanniarachchi is the president of the MavLankans, a Sri Lankan Student Association at MSU.

“We made a traditional food called kottu. It contains tortillas,

carrots, scallions and onions. Then, we mix it with eggs and chicken curry,” said Wanniarachchi. “It’s used for dinner but is also a street food.”

Wanniarachchi thinks this event was a good opportunity to highlight Sri Lankan culture.

“It means a lot to us as Sri Lankans. We love sharing food and are all about hospitality. It’s a pleasure to cook for people,” said Wanniarachchi. “It’s also our first project of the year, so that’s a good start for our society. We do a New Year festival

in April, and that’s a huge cultural event for us.”

Another organization that participated in this event was the African Student Association. ASA sold jewelry along with drawings of some of the traditional activities people do in Africa.

“We have our waist beads, which you’ll find out across the continent of Africa. These are just civilizations for womanhood,” said Nyamach Duop, the treasurer of ASA. “Basically, women put them around their waist, and then as they grow as a woman, most of them will fall off, and you’ll get new ones that are added to it.”

This event was also an opportunity for the ASA to highlight its culture.

“We, as an organization, are trying to reach a broader audience and get people to come to our association,” said Nyamal Jang, the public relations officer of ASA. “We are also trying to find more African students or other students interested in seeing what we’re about.”

ASA meets every Friday. “We also have our end-of-the-year Met Gala in April, and it’s just a way for students to come together and learn,” said Duop. “There will be African music along with African dances.”

“Bluefish Cove” to break the mold by shining the spotlight on gay stereotypes

By JOEY ERICKSON
Variety Editor

Minnesota State’s Theater Department is set to debut their newest production, “Last Summerfish at Blue Cove” at the end of this week.

The play is centered around a group of lesbian women spending their summer on the fictional Long Island seaside town Bluefish Cove.

Their once idyllic summer vacation is promptly turned on its head with the arrival of Eva, a recent divorcee.

The show speaks on the complex crossroads of life as a woman and a queer person, and unabashedly praises the strength of women who chose love over anything else, even if it meant risking their safety.

Another character in the show is Lil, the only single lesbian on the island, and Eva’s eventual lover. Lil is played by Nevaeh Braucks, MSU senior and long-time stage performer. Braucks has acted in countless plays on campus, but for this role she went the extra mile, researching for her part.

“I’m researching queer women through history, I’m researching how to fish, the Girl Scouts. All of these things have helped

me prepare for this role, in a way you don’t have to do for a lot of shows, so that’s been a really fun educational challenge for me,” Braucks said.

According to Braucks, the main takeaway of the show is spending time with your chosen family.

“One of the biggest messages this show gives off is prioritizing the things that mean most to you.

For these women, it’s spending a summer with their friends they love, that they have been through so many trials and tribulations with, in a place away from all the chaos they experienced,” Braucks said.

One of the major themes of this play is the queer experience, shown unapologetically and without a filter. In the past, queer people have had an uphill battle in history involving being silenced by the media and being persecuted by the masses.

This show aims to educate the audience and let them know that queer people are much more than their sexual orientation and that they’re not going anywhere.

“Queer people are everywhere, and for years they were silenced and ostracized by the media and their family. There’s



DYLAN ENGEL • The Reporter

“Last Summerfish at Blue Cove” is the latest theater production on campus, documenting the lives of eight lesbian women on the seaside town Bluefish Cove. Seven of them are pictured above, mid-scene during costume rehearsal.

no reason they should be hidden and this story... its a story about queer women, but at the end of the day, they’re people. They’re not a caricature. They’re not a stereotype,” Braucks said.

The play runs from Wednesday to Saturday in the Andreas Theater at Earley Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 regular; \$9 for seniors and children under 16;

and \$5 for MSU students. The box office is open 4-6 p.m. on weekdays in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available online at MSUtheatre.com.

MacKenzie Scott acknowledges another \$2B in donations



EVAN AGOSTINI • Associated Press

Then-MacKenzie Bezos arrives at the Vanity Fair Oscar Party on March 4, 2018, in Beverly Hills, Calif. The megadonor and novelist announced almost \$2 billion in donations to 343 organizations in a short blog post Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, emphasizing her interest in supporting people from underserved communities.

By THALIA BEATY & GLENN GAMBOA
Associated Press

Megadonor and novelist MacKenzie Scott announced almost \$2 billion in donations to 343 organizations in a short blog post Monday, emphasizing her interest in supporting people from underserved communities.

In her first post in nearly eight months, Scott showcased her donations to numerous funds as a “great resource” for giving. “They pool donations and spread them across a diverse group of smaller organizations working toward a common cause,” she wrote.

“The funds we picked look for teams with lived experience in the issues they’re addressing.”

Scott also repeated a promise first made in December last year to release a database of the organizations to which she’s donated.

Her new list of donations includes several that have been previously announced, including \$85 million to the Girl Scouts of the USA last month, \$39 million to Junior Achievement USA in August, and \$123 million to Big Brothers Big Sisters of America in May.

In Monday’s post, however, no donation amounts were listed. Phil Buchanan, president of The Center for Effective Philanthropy, said Scott’s recent gifts continue to show how well avoiding the traditional “top-down, donor-knows-best” philanthropic style can work.

Scott’s focus on donations to pooled funds allow her to support smaller organizations doing good work in specific areas.

“If you’re trying to reach

a very small organization in a particular community and you’re a larger donor, it’s wise to find an intermediary,” said Buchanan, whose organization plans, on Tuesday, to release a research report on the impact of Scott’s giving from the summer of 2020 through the summer of 2021.

The Center for Effective Philanthropy studied tens of thousands of donations in that time frame and found that the median grant was \$100,000.

In that same period, the median grant from Scott was \$8 million.

“That’s a whole other order of magnitude,” Buchanan said.

Ana Conner, co-director of Third Wave Fund, which received a \$3 million grant from Scott to support its work for youth-led, gender justice, said that the donation will help groups that “fall through the cracks of philanthropy.”

“We are the bridge between those groups and big donors and big philanthropy,” said Conner.

“By amplifying what funds do, she is making a great call to action to wealthy donors to see what it could look like to fund community groups.”

Lauren Janus, chief operating officer at philanthropic advisory firm Phila Giving, praised Scott for suggesting other donors give to funds led by people with lived experience in the communities in which they work.

“Philanthropy doesn’t have to be the way that it’s always been. It doesn’t have to be these typically white men in these high towers doling out gifts to the deserving and the grateful nonprofits below them,” Janus said. “It can be a real part-

nership. And in fact, it can be even where there is a relationship where the funder is just kind of a sidekick, is supporting this amazing nonprofit and really fading into the background.”

The ex-wife of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, Scott vaulted to philanthropic fame in 2019 when she pledged to give away the majority of her wealth and then dropped \$5.8 billion in donations by the end of 2020.

The announcement Monday brought the amount she’s said she’s given to around \$14 billion to some 1,500 organizations.

Bezos said in an interview with CNN published Monday that he would give away the majority of his wealth in his lifetime, though he didn’t specify how.

Forbes estimates Scott’s net worth to be \$29.5 billion, a figure which has fallen since a peak in 2021.

As she has in previous posts, Scott articulated a desire to elevate the work of the organizations she supports while also trying to avoid the limelight herself.

She reproduced a poem by Gwen Nell Westerman, a poet, visual artist and professor from Minnesota, that seems to speak in the voice of a person trying to repair a harm but who seems not to have tried to understand the hurt done in the first place.

Entitled “Dakota Homecoming,” the poem ends with what Westerman said was a direct quote: “We want to write an apology letter, they said, ‘Tell us what to say.’”

Westerman said she was honored Scott chose her poetry as an inspiration for her

DONATION on page 15▶

Minnesota State’s Hidden Truth: High School Liars



HAYDEN LEE • The Reporter

MSU’s own “High School Liars” performed at the Mavathon Kick-Off Concert Friday, Nov. 11, in the CSU Ballroom.

By HAYDEN LEE
Staff Writer

The Mavathon hosted their Kick-Off Concert Friday, which included a stellar opening act from the indie rock-influenced band, High School Liars.

They kicked off the night with a cover of Journey’s “Lights,” a personal favorite of the band’s guitarist, sophomore Alex Picciuro.

“My dad introduced me to Journey and I grew up listening to their live music sets,” said Picciuro. “Journey may not be the biggest band, but no one shares the undying love for them like I do.”

The Racine Wisconsin native Picciuro is a self-taught guitarist and the newest member of High School Liars. Playing guitar is more of a hobby

for Picciuro, but his endless love for music is what keeps him going.

“I think the best part about playing guitar is that it takes me to a place where nothing else really matters,” said Picciuro.

Picciuro, keyboardist Ryan Schmidt and guitarist Sam Vestal make up High School Liars. The trio is a part of Phi Kappa Psi at Minnesota State, but has grown a lot closer musically in the months before the show.

“We have been good friends for about a year now, and as soon as we started practicing, we just clicked,” Picciuro said.

Schmidt started writing music years prior to Friday’s show, including High School Liars’ single “Elementary Kurtis” which dropped on streaming services in June 2021. Re-

MUSIC on page 15▶

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Jennifer Siebel Newsom takes stand at Harvey Weinstein trial



VICTORIA WILL • Associated Press

Jennifer Siebel Newsom of the film “Miss Representation” poses for a portrait during the 2011 Sundance Film Festival on Jan. 22, 2011 in Park City, Utah. Siebel Newsom, a documentary filmmaker and the wife of California governor Gavin Newsom, has taken the stand at the trial of Harvey Weinstein.

By ANDREW DALTON
Associated Press

Jennifer Siebel Newsom, a documentary filmmaker and the wife of California Gov. Gavin Newsom, burst into tears a few minutes into her testimony Monday when asked to identify Harvey Weinstein from the witness stand at his trial.

Siebel Newsom spent 15 minutes on the stand in the downtown Los Angeles courtroom before a lunch break, becoming the fourth woman Weinstein is accused of sexually assaulting to testify at the former movie magnate’s trial.

Asked by a prosecutor if she saw the person in court that she met at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2005, she went silent then burst into tears before managing to mutter “yes” into the microphone.

Told to describe the 70-year-old Weinstein for the record, she looked toward the defense table where he was sitting, continued crying and said, “He’s

wearing a suit, and a blue tie, and he’s staring at me.”

The 48-year-old Siebel Newsom was “a powerless actor trying to make her way in Hollywood” in 2005 when Weinstein raped her during what she thought was going to be a meeting to discuss her career at a Beverly Hills hotel, Deputy District Attorney Paul Thompson said during the trial’s opening statements.

Weinstein’s lawyers say the two had consensual sex and that she sought to use the powerful producer to advance her career.

Siebel Newsom described their initial meeting, saying that she was an actor and producer who had played a few small roles when she went to the festival in September 2005 with a group of entertainment industry friends.

Siebel Newsom said a crowd of people in a hotel lobby area seemed to clear as he approached her: “It felt like the

red sea was parting,” she testified. “I don’t know if it was deference or fear.”

She said Weinstein, then at the height of his Hollywood power, was “the kingmaker” to those in the room.

“I felt a bit intimidated,” she said. “He was charming. He treated me initially like he was really curious about me. Maybe flattered is how I felt?”

She and a friend later met up with him at the hotel bar.

“I felt like there was a genuine interest in talking about my work,” she said.

Siebel Newsom is known as Jane Doe #4 at the trial, and like the others Weinstein is charged with raping or sexually assaulting, her name is not being spoken in court. But both the prosecution and the defense identified have identified her as the governor’s wife during the trial and Siebel Newsom’s attorney confirmed to The Associated Press and other news outlets that she is Jane Doe #4.

◀MUSIC from page 14

reflecting on his contributions to their song, Schmidt noted that it came easier than most other songs he produces.

“(Elementary Kurtis) was one of the few times where I didn’t have that creative block, it just all kind of flowed,” said Schmidt. “I was able to sit down and produce it in like twenty minutes.”

Although a polished keyboardist and producer, Schmidt has many other gifts. In high school, he played saxophone in both concert and jazz band, and even showed off his vocal ability on their performance of “Elementary Kurtis.” Digesting many different styles of music

has proven to be very influential in Schmidt’s musical ability.

“As my musical tastes changed, I really started to enjoy being able to visualize the music I was playing and writing,” said Schmidt.

Schmidt and Vestal, the band’s first members, attribute the name ‘High School Liars’ to the 1983 Saturday Night Live skit “High School Liars Club.”

“We wanted to create a new, old-sounding music that differed from the bands we were in in high school,” said Vestal. “So when we saw that name, we kept it, and have rolled with it ever since.”

Vestal is also the group’s lead vocalist, bringing the energy that one might see from a

professional band. The music industry major has dreams of playing music in his own band for people that share the same love.

Performing is nothing new to Vestal, as he has been gigging for six of his eight years as a guitarist.

“When you are up there in front of everyone, the best thing about being in a band is that you know these guys want to be up there just as much as you do,” said Vestal.

The High School Liars are currently working on their first album, which does not yet have a release date, but the band hopes to release their first collection of songs in the near future.

◀DONATION from page 14

work, adding that she believes many people will recognize the sentiment in the poem.

“Not having context or not having any kind of similar lived experience and knowing something needs to be done and then putting all the work and effort on to that marginalized group or oppressed group and saying, ‘Here to help us fix it,’” she said.

Scott said Westerman’s poem, which her staff requested permission to reproduce in advance, inspires her to stop talking every time she reads it.

“I had to close my laptop for a couple of days before writing this very short post,” Scott wrote.

Beyond the speed and size of her giving, Scott’s approach to spending her money also caught the attention of other major donors and nonprofit recipients.

She uses a small team of ad-

visors led by a consultancy and typically informs nonprofits of the largest donations they have ever received through a cold call or following a nondescript email.

Her gifts come with no conditions and very few reporting requirements.

Because she’s made these donations as an individual and not through a foundation, little public record exists besides announcements from the recipient organizations – not all of whom have disclosed the sums they’ve received.

Throughout the previous three years, Scott has not spoken about her philanthropy other than through her blog posts, choosing not to respond to media requests.

“I think we can all do good work at our own levels and that we can be inspired by the generosity of others like Mackenzie Scott,” Westerman said.

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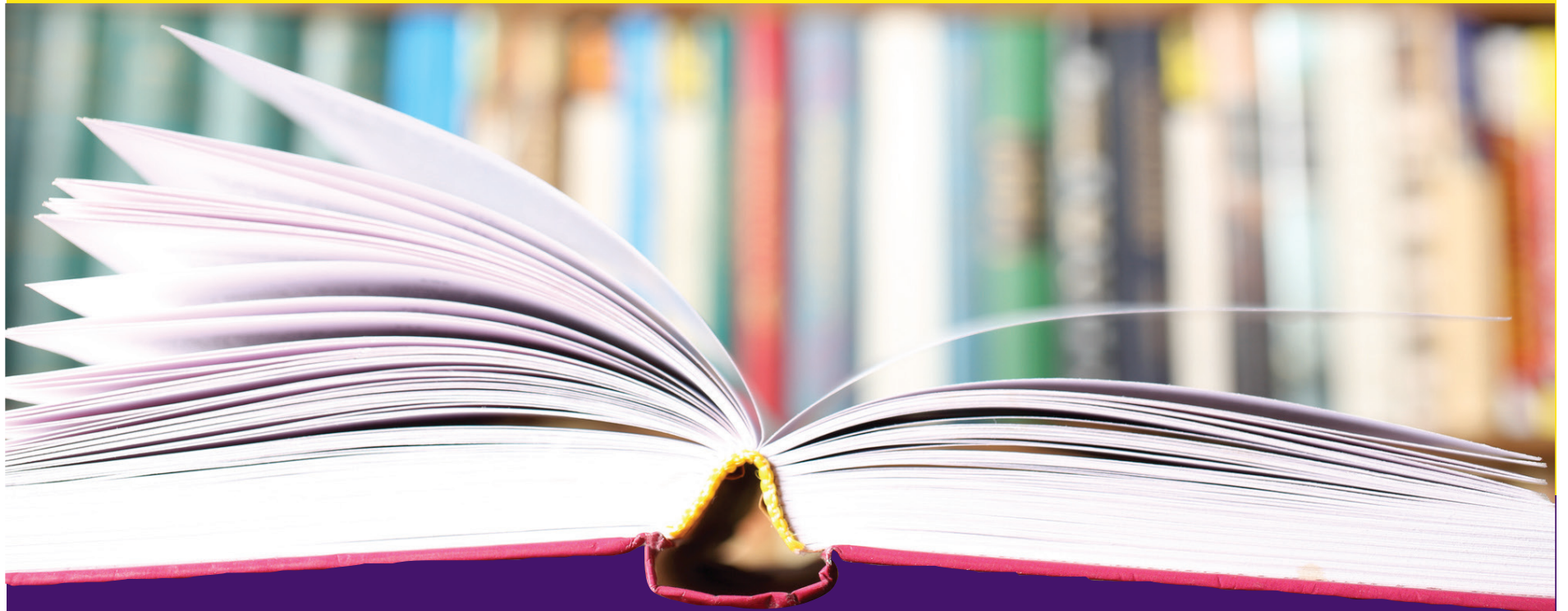
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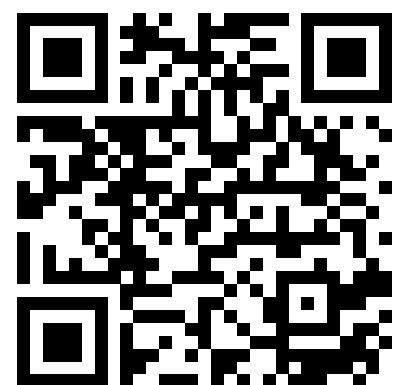
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