Communication breakdown leads to flurry of tows

BY JASMINE MAKI
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More than 120 cars were parked illegally and towed from around MSUM and Concordia campuses during the 12-hour snow removal periods on Wednesday and Thursday.

City officials make effort to warn residents

“We’re certain we gave enough warning,” Jacobson said. “We understand it’s difficult to reach everyone … some people have communication breakdowns,” said Lt. Tory Jacobson of Moorhead city officials.

MSUM taps former dance pro as new prof

BY JANAE BOSWELL
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As a new adjunct professor, Lewis E. Whitlock III said he hopes to bring his expertise in directing dance and music to the theater department at MSUM. A Minnesota native, Whitlock fell in love with dance at the wee age of 4 in Minneapolis and hasn’t lost his passion since. Although he quit dancing professionally at age 33, Whitlock continues to teach and direct in areas of dance, music and theater. Whitlock was initially working toward a music and theater degree in history. It wasn’t until he was auditioning for a play that one of his professors noticed his major and convinced him to switch his focus to speech, due to the fact that theater didn’t have its own department yet.

GALA, BACK PAGE

The Alumni Foundation plans this event with help from faculty and staff in the financial aid, marketing, theater, athletics, IT and event services departments. Alumni Foundation works to raise money for Founders Scholarship at annual gala

BY APRIL KNUTSON
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The Alumni Foundation will host the fifth annual Founders Scholarship Gala on Feb. 15. The Alumni Foundation plans this event with help from faculty and staff in the financial aid, marketing, theater, athletics, IT and event services departments.
American tourist killed in Turkey

Turkish authorities have confirmed the death of an American woman who was killed in Istanbul and was killed by an apparent blow to the head, but questions about the mysterious ordeal remain.

Saray Sari, a 33-year-old mother of two from New York City, was last heard from on Jan. 21. The day she was due to return home from vacation—her first trip abroad—Turkey’s state-run news agency said 15 people have been detained in connection with her death.

Affleck pulls another upset

Could the Oscar underdog Argo take best picture? Ben Affleck won the 65th Directors Guild of America Award for his film about the hostage drama, cleaning up a sweep of top prizes from awards season. Having already won the Critics’ Choice Award for best picture and best director, a Golden Globe for best picture, a SAG award for best ensemble and a PGA for best-produced picture.

No film has ever won all of the aforementioned prizes without winning best picture at the Oscars.

Olympics: Brown's family sues

It’s probably safe to say Frank Ocean is the bigger man in this situation. Despite reports that the singer would be pressing charges against Chris Brown allegedly punched him in a recording studio, Ocean said Saturday he will not be pursuing a case against the famously aggressive Affleck.

“As a child I thought if someone jumped on me it would be me murdering or mutilating a man,” Ocean wrote in a post on his Tumblr page. “But I am not a killer. I’m an artist and a modern person. I’ll choose الناس and not criminal charges. Civil suit. Forgiveness, albeit his. No more chances. No more new charges. We’ll not be holding up law against the man. Peace.”

Scott Brown

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The Advocate is published weekly during the academic year and biweekly during the summer. All stories, columns and other content are protected by U.S. and international copyright laws. The Advocate reserves the right to edit letters to the editor. They should be typed and must include the writer’s name, year in school and occupation and any other pertinent identification. Letters are the opinion of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the college administration or media staff views.

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MSUM musicians head to jug band competition

BY BRYCE HAUGEN
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They’re called Alien Brain and the Jugular Vein and Amanda Nygard is their leader.

Musicians streamed in and out of the MSUM music senior’s south Moorhead house Friday night giving in instruments of a bygone era. Nygard was hosting practice for her jug band, and her living room reverberated with the sounds of a washboard, fiddle, jaw harp, mandolin, guitar and, of course, the low rumble of the jug band’s only instrument - the jug. The band was preparing for its third annual trip to the Minneapolis Battle of the Jug Bands, which is now in its 30th year of celebrating this obscure form of blues-influenced music that incorporates homemade and traditional instruments. Alien Brain and the Jugular Vein is “always been a family affair and these guys are my family” – my friend family,” Nygard said.

How close the seven band members have grown over the past few years is obvious in their banter.

“The rule is we rip on whoever is not here,” said Lyle Langstrom, a scruffy middle-aged civil engineer, as he plucked on his guitar. His daughter, undeclared MSUM freshman Sam Langstrom, joined the band when she was 15. She said being in Alien Brain and the Jugular Vein is “has been irritating but it’s always been a family affair and these guys are my family” – my friend family,” Nygard said.

Three years ago, when her other band couldn’t make it to the Battle of the Jug Bands, Nygard found some replacement players. And they’ve been together ever since.

Locally, the band has played benefit shows, including for the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center.

MSUM students attend Sundance Film Festival

BY CONOR HOLT
holtcon@mnstate.edu

Being a film student has many advantages: the ability to make films with school-provided equipment, to receive feedback and advice from your peers in classrooms, and to simply study film for a living. But one advantage I only discovered last year was the ability to attend the Sundance Film Festival with a film student pass, a one-way ticket to seeing a bunch of awesome movies for a great price. So, with my roommate and fellow film student Emily Lichtenberg, I packed my bags and headed to Park City, Utah to attend one of the most important film festivals in the world. No pressure.

My favorite film at the festival was Lake Bell’s In A World…, a hilarious comedy about a struggling vocal coach (Bell) who tries to break into the male-dominated trailer voice-over world. Bell also wrote and directed it, so it’s a sturdy, heartfelt feature debut, and she dominates in all three roles, crafting a witty, sharp Hollywood satire with a hilarious performance by Bell. She also directed the film is an all around delight.

Another excellent film I saw at the festival was Ryan Coogler’s Fruitvale, based on the true-life story of Oscar Grant, a 23-year old black man killed by police in Oakland, Calif., on New Year’s Eve, 2008. The film captures the last day of Oscar’s life, depicting a charming young man trying to make ends for the mistakes in his life, before being cruelly cut down by an over-aggressive police force. As Oscar, Michael B. Jordan (Friday Night Lights) gives a full-bodied, emotional performance and Octavia Spencer also impresses as Oscar’s mother. This is Coogler’s first feature film, and it’s a strong debut! With the film ended up winning both the Grand Jury prize and the Audience Award at Sundance.

All in all, my first Sundance experience was a thrilling, exhilarating time. In between seeing midnight movies about rock stars and short films about std cats, I met a ton of amazing people and learned an incredible amount about filmmaking and the film industry. And beyond all the films and the industry and the whitewash, I had a great time just hanging out with other festival-goers, talking about movies and simply being excited to be there. I hope to return many times in the future.

JUG BAND, PAGE 4

Oscar predictions and preferences
Actor in leading and supporting role

BY CONOR HOLT
holtcon@mnstate.edu

Actor in a leading role

Although it’s considered the tightest race in years, Daniel Day-Lewis’s portrayal of Lincoln has swept the awards season with ease, as he should: anyone who saw “Lincoln” will agree that he was flawless and captivating.

The other four nominees deserve the recognition for their incredible performances. Hugh Jackman was the driving force behind the plot of “Les Miserables” and starred himself for days to look worn down. Bradley Cooper was at his best in “Silver Linings Playbook,” and both Denzel and Joaquin delivered excellent performances.

As for the end of the day, there is no doubt Day-Lewis will walk away with his well-deserved third Academy Award statue.

Actor in a supporting role

The awards season has been all over the board in this category, with wins given to Tommy Lee Jones, Philip Seymour Hoffman and Christoph Waltz. The Academy will likely lean toward Jones, especially since “Lincoln” will have a strong showing the whole night. However, Christoph Waltz’s hilarious badass bounty hunter in “Django Unchained” deserves the win over Jones. Waltz was arguably the best part about “Django,” whereas Jones’ presence wasn’t as heavily felt.

Honorable mention goes to Robert DeNiro’s raw, emotional performance in “Silver Linings Playbook.”

Who do you think will win? Prepare your predictions for an Oscar contest in the Feb. 19 issue of the Advocate.
Derby girls battle breast cancer

The Fargo Civic Center will be bathed in pink this Saturday as two teams from the Fargo-Moorhead Derby Girls compete against two from the Winnipeg Roller Derby League. All proceeds from the “bout,” or game, go toward the Go Pink with the Dragons’ cancer charity. MSUM will in turn give the money to the Roger Maris Cancer Center.

Alex Vruno, or “Nutmeg,” as she is known to her teammates, is excited about the bout. The 26-year-old Fargoan has participated in the F-M Derby Girls for five years. She said this will be their third year hosting the Go Pink charity.

“MSUM has been good to us,” Vruno said. “We get excited about it because everyone gets to wear pink and the track is covered in pink.”

Vruno said being a part of roller derby helped her in Fargo longer than she anticipated. “It made me feel a lot closer to the community,” she said. “I love to be able to kick people’s ass.”

Another derby member, Sam Adducci, or Sedducci, a 2012 MSUM graduate, will compete in Saturday’s bout. Adducci said she used to attend the MSUM Go Pink events when she was a student and will now be able to help host one. “Being able to do what I love (play Derby) and help the community simultaneously is an awesome feeling,” Adducci said.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the bout will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets prices are as follows: $12 for adults, $10 with student ID, $7 for children 6 to 12 years old and free for children 5 and under. Tickets are available at the Civic Center Box Office or are at ticketmaster.com.
Lewis E. Whitlock III instructs the dance production and tap classes.

“"You get to be all the characters. You must investigate it like that."” - Lewis E. Whitlock III

There he went to New York to work with George Faison’s dance company and he toured across the United States. After touring with that company he took his talents to the national company of the hit musical “The Wiz.” Working with prominent people such as Ossie Davis and Ruby D., Whitlock not only gained even more experience but he began making a name for himself.

“That was truly wonderful, watching Ruby D. work on a day-to-day basis is amazing,” Whitlock said. After that work he got into a production called “Zoot Suite” that ran on Broadway. Upon closing of the show the director contacted Whitlock about bringing him to a work in another company in Los Angeles but because of the gas crisis it instead closed. Things weren’t looking so well for the production of the company until Whitlock received a call one day asking to be a part of a movie that they were making in honor of “Zoot Suite”.

“I remember the director said to me while we were doing the show that he didn’t like the costumes made for me,” Whitlock said. “I just thought: Well I am a dancer and the only thing you can ever say when you’re a dancer is ‘Does it fit?’ and if it didn’t that was the only time you could say anything.”

Being an assistant to directors and choreographers, Whitlock got the experience he needed to finally become one himself. He found that his degree in speech was most helpful when dealing with directors and actors; helping the communication between them was his strong point. Although he has taught a range of classes, he admits that directing is his favorite.

“You get to be all the characters, you must investigate it like that,” Whitlock said. “Your focus is what’s being communicated to the audience and what are all the images, symbols all those things have to be coordinated as well.”

After finally relocating back to Minneapolis, Whitlock found a passion in teaching and had the opportunity to teach without needing his license. Teaching three classes and a wide range of students from freshman to seniors at MSUM, he likes how interested and involved his students are in class. Whitlock said his biggest accomplishment was a production that he created that went on for 14 years before finally ending. He said he hopes to stay at MSUM and continue teaching while getting involved as much as he can in the dance community around the area.

In the past month, they’ve gigged at the Northsider Bar in north Moorhead’s All Star Bowl. But right now, the focus is winning the coveted waffle iron – spray painted gold – bestowed upon the champion of the battle of the Jug Bands. While some bands at the battle have elaborate period costumes and staging, Alien Brain and the Jugular Vein decided against it – although one year they did wear tin foil hats.

“Our music is more of the thing,” Nygard said, before fiddling to the 1928 Harry McClintock tune, “The Bum Song.” “I think we’ve gotten a lot better.”

Last year, the band took second place out of a few dozen competitors, and Nygard took home the “triangle of power” individual prize for being the best multi-instrumentalist. Band members are confident they can seize the waffle iron this year.

Besides Alien Brain and the Jugular Vein, Nygard leads the roots outfit Amanda Standalone and the Pastry Shop Girls. And last month, she tried out for The Voice.

Nygard maintains a philosophical outlook about not advancing in that competition. “Anything that will be sustainable and will actually grow has to happen in its own time,” she said. “You climb the ladder just like any other thing. Sometimes the idea of making it to the top seems absurd … I’m a folk musician, man. C’mon.”

"You get to be all the characters. You must investigate it like that." - Lewis E. Whitlock III

Lewis E. Whitlock III instructs the dance production and tap classes.

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JUG BAND, FROM PAGE 3

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ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY

PASS UP FREE MEALS

ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY

PASS UP FREE MEALS

DRAGON DOLLAR PLANS

$100 – Receive $100 in Dragon Dollars and 3 free meals in Kise (a $127.75 value)!

$150 – Receive $150 in Dragon Dollars and 6 free meals in Kise (a $205.50 value)!

$200 – Receive $200 in Dragon Dollars and 7 free meals in Kise (a $264.75 value)!

$500 – Receive $500 in Dragon Dollars and 17 free meals in Kise (a $657.25 value)!

This is a limited time offer!

Stop by the MSUM Dining Services office by February 8th, 2013 or call 218-477-2836 to purchase one of these meal plans. Office hours are Monday - Friday 8am - 4pm. You will need your Student ID number AND the number on the back of your ID card that starts with 627 when placing your order.
MSUM parking snafu

This past summer the city of Moorhead passed a new snow emergency law, which led to upwards of 1,200 cars being towed this past week. Students, faculty and community members alike were outraged to learn that their cars had been towed with little warning. Despite it being broadcast on the news, and printed in the paper, many still were unaware that the towing was occurring. The university notified students via email and text alert, but not until three hours after the towing had already begun.

The Advocate staff feels that neither the city nor university is fully to blame for the lack of communication. However, both sides should have better notified the public and student body. Likewise, students should strive to stay informed about their community.

The opinions expressed in The Advocate are not necessarily those of the college administration, faculty or student body. The Advocate encourages letters to the editor and any submissions. They should be typed and must include the writer’s name, signature, address, phone number, year in school or occupation and any affiliations. Letters are due by 5 p.m. Friday and can be sent to MSUM Box 130, dropped off in The Advocate office or emailed to advocate@mnstate.edu.

Language lessons from a language lover

This is a column that I have been waiting to write. It pertains to one my pet peeves. Do forgive me, as it has long festered in my fingers as I continue to lament the sad, sad deterioration of our language.

Texting, facebooking and leet speak warp words, and letters and elongate syllable words to long, drawn-out ridiculous exclamation, like the meaning of these re-sculpted words is directly related to the amount of key strokes it takes to type them. It doesn’t matter the sentiment. Happy, sad or surprised, more letters mean a more exuberant reaction.

For example:
• Omggggggggggggggg, that’s sooo coool.
• Nnooo, i missss you!
• Yesss, let’s do it.
• Look at my hur (referring to hair)

Now I am in favor of self-expression, but when did it become a symbol of “cool” to misspell words, add letters and such? English, or in particular the American version, is a hodge-podge of influences from many nations. Our rich history has added words, transformed spellings and refined figures of speech including the recent patrician phrasing of “Muriça.”

I suppose the American poet E.E. Cummings would agree with all of you. He used unique typography to create interesting work. His quest for self-expression led him to disregard common rules of punctuation and syntax.

The internet or texting allows for more flexible rules of communication. But this exposure to constant punctuation and syntax is fully to blame for the lack of communication.

Likewise, students should strive to stay informed about their community. Next month will mark two years since North Dakota passed a bill outlining sex education curriculum in high schools based entirely on promoting abstinence. It is unfair that the government can control what teachers present to their students. Abstinence-only should be included in sex education. I can understand why parents would want abstinence-only education to be taught. However, abstinence shouldn’t be the only thing taught.

Younger generations need to know about safe sex and the possibilities of contracting a sexually transmitted infection (STI). This could not only prevent the spread of STIs but lower the rate of teen pregnancy. Shows like “Teen Mom” are showing teenagers what it’s like to be a teen parent but not the dangers that come along with having sex at a young age.

Just because teachers inform students about abstinence doesn’t mean they will be abstinent. Teachers should stress abstinence in their lessons because that is the only method that completely prevents all the issues that can happen while having sex.

Yet with Valentine’s Day coming up, talking about safe sex is important. The best people to teach abstinence to teenagers would be their parents. A teacher talking about abstinence will help to convince students but the most effective influences are parents.

Growing up, my mother talked to me about abstinence a lot. She also talked about STIs and the experience of being a mother at age 21. My aunt passed away from AIDS before she reached 30 years old. All of these things helped me make the decision to be abstinent while all of my friends were already having sex. Graduating from a North Dakota high school, more than 50 percent of the girls in my class were already mothers. It is because they didn’t teach us enough in health class about pregnancy.

Once, while I was in high school, there was an outbreak of STIs, mainly chlamydia. Half of the students in our class had no idea what chlamydia was. I know that if they were taught more about safe sex it would have lowered that rate. I agree completely that abstinence should be taught in sex education because it is the main thing that can prevent all of these issues. The possibility of teens being abstinent now isn’t very likely. More than 50 percent of teenagers lose their virginity on Valentine’s Day.

North Dakota is going about sex education the wrong way. Yes, teach abstinence, but don’t make it your core curriculum because it is not realistic. The legislators are too hopeful that preaching abstinence will stop teens from having sex but in reality it won’t. Teenagers are in that stage where they are experimenting with a lot of different things and they are feeling peer pressure for the first time.

If anything, we need take into account ways to help them have safe sex and educate them on teen pregnancy.

Each teen is their own person and regardless of what they are taught, they will do what they want anyway. Like my mother always used to say growing up: “You can lead a horse to a water, but you can’t force it to drink.”
The swimming pool in Nemzek Hall was recently outfitted with new equipment from an athletic fund.

First up for the Dragons was a dual against No. 10 Minnesota State University, Mankato. The Dragons wrestled against the Mavericks but came up short in the dual losing 19-24.

“If we’re going to choose the down position, we have to be able to get out.”

Coming off two tough losses in conference wrestling, Nelson said the team shouldn’t hang their heads on the tough losses but rather get back in the practice room and regroup for the Concordia dual.

The team will look to improve their seed for the regional conference duals when they travel to Augsburg and Southwest Minnesota State University.

The dual against Upper Iowa marked the last home dual for the season and the last home match for seniors Jake Bennett and Kerron Williams. Williams is nearing 25 wins and Bennett is closing in on 50 wins.

“They’ve been great leaders for our team,” Nelson said. He said Bennett’s and William’s hard work has shown their dedication to the program and to underclassmen how hard work can pay off in the end.

“We’re going to miss them in the room and competing for the team next season,” Nelson said. The biggest thing he said, is to keep working hard and to give 100 percent each time the wrestlers step out on the mat.

With the home schedule finished, the team will travel a short distance west to face Concordia in non-conference action.

The swimming pool in Nemzek Hall was recently outfitted with new equipment from an athletic fund.
Our campus and throughout the state, there are a lot of people on MSUM students.

$60,000 has been awarded to 26 scholarships were awarded.

Last year, 10 Founders Scholarship has been awarded.

Students should know that there a lot of people on our campus and throughout the

UNCLEAR EMAIL FAILS TO HELP STUDENTS

Students towed by surprise

Despite the efforts of city officials to warn the public, many students were still caught off guard.

Chelsea Marquette, an art and design senior, was walking to her car after class Wednesday morning when she realized her car had been towed. She ran inside to warn her roommate, who was also parked illegally.

Her roommate Chantel Fugere, an art and design senior, said she thought she made it to her car in time because it hadn’t been towed, but she was wrong.

“I was about to get in my car to move it when an officer pulled up next to me and told me I could not move my vehicle,” she said.

The officer told Fugere that the towing company had already been called for impound.

“There was already a tow truck assigned to that vehicle,” Jacobson said, later explaining that once a car is called in for impound it has to be taken or the owner has to pay an upfront fee for the arrival because there’s a contract between the city and towing company for sending a truck and driver.

Fugere and Marquette were both parked along the north side of Ninth Avenue in front of Hendrix Clinic and Counseling Center.

Along with the email, a text message was also sent to students signed up for e2campus text alerts.

The text message was sent at 10:55 a.m. on Wednesday.

Although many students are placing blame on the school for not notifying them earlier, Jessica Jasperson, a mass communications senior, said we can’t place the blame on just one person.

“I think it would be easy to place blame on a specific person, for example Greg Lenke who did not send out the e-mail until Wednesday morning when Concordia sent out the e-mail on Tuesday,” Jasperson said.

“However, the city of Moorhead should have broadcast many announcements in between fall and winter, as well as before and after the first snow fall no matter the amount of snowfall,” Jasperson’s boyfriend, Joel Kromer, a social work senior, had his car towed from 13th Avenue on Wednesday.

“Joel and I did not receive any information prior to Wednesday, and we both do not have cable, buy the newspaper or listen to the radio on a regular basis, which perhaps would have informed us of the snow removal plan,” Jasperson said.

Time, money wasted due to towing

Due to the miscommunication or lack thereof, much time and money was spent on both the city’s side and the students’ side.

“Moorhead wasted the time of the towing company they hired, the time of the police officers, the time of many students and taxpayers money,” Jasperson said.

Although the only role of the police was to assist the wrecker, Jacobson said, “It’s going to be several thousand dollars just to the police department. It was very non-cost efficient.”

Students also bemoaned some of the burden.

It cost $95 to retrieve one’s car from the impound lot, plus an additional $10 for each day the car was held, which caused financial stress for some students.

“It’s an extreme inconvenience, and the worst time it could happen,” said Marquette, who couldn’t afford to retrieve her car until she got paid on Friday.

Kromer also couldn’t afford to pay the fee until he was paid on Friday, but was able to negotiate a deal with the police to only pay the original $95.

Now that people are aware of the snow removal district, the city expects everyone to be better informed and prepared for the next snow removal.

For more information and a full map of the blue snow removal district, visit www.ci.moorhead.mn.us/snowdistrict.

GALA, FROM FRONT

Walthall said. Since 2009, the Founders Scholarship has been awarded to passionate and talented students. Last year, 10 Founders Scholarships were awarded.

“MSUM students should know that there a lot of people on our campus and throughout the

Front Fenders, a high-energy rock and roll band. Guests can also look forward to MSUM alumnus and actor Kevin Sorbo making an appearance at the event as this year’s special guest speaker.

Guests of the gala can bid in the silent auction which, includes: Disney Park passes, hotel and restaurant gift certificates, art, an iPad and even the opportunity to be an extra in a Kevin Sorbo film.