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The Chronicle [April 17, 2003]

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Editor's Note:

Due to the Easter holiday weekend, there will be no issue of *University Chronicle* Monday, April 21, 2003. Look for our next issue when publication resumes Thursday, April 24.

INSIDE**W.I.L.D. week educates students**

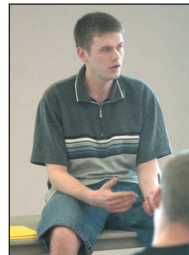
W.I.L.D. (World Issues/Local Dimensions) week hosted a barrage of events throughout the week to aware students about various issues. Education was brought about through videos, presentations, speakers and even a vegan grill-out. For more information about this week's events and more upcoming events go to **PAGE 3.**

**Spring practice brings more hope**

The SCSU football team is coming off their best season in 13 years and is hoping to get to where they didn't last season: the NCAA Tournament. After being shafted despite a 9-2 record last season, Keith Heckendorf and company have a high-powered offense and upstart defense looking to be atop of the NCC again. For more, turn to **PAGE 9.**

NORML holds events at SCSU

The National Organization for the Reformation of Marijuana Laws is promoting NORML this week in an attempt to educate SCSU students about marijuana reform and to attract new members. So far this week, NORML has sponsored several movies and a guest speaker. To read more about NORML's ideas and to find out what's to come this week, go to **PAGE 11.**



UNIVERSITY CHRONICLE

NEWSPAPER OF ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY, ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA

April 17, 2003

VOLUME 80, NUMBER 56

THURSDAY



New law elicits reactions

'Women's Right to Know' bill has SCSU students speaking out

Nick Hanson

NEWS EDITOR

As of July 1, it will be mandatory that all women in Minnesota wait 24 hours before receiving an abortion.

The bill, "Women's Right to Know," was signed into effect on Monday. Gov. Tim Pawlenty signed the bill shortly after it was approved by the senate in a 41-24 vote.

The new law requires that doctors give women specific precautionary information before engaging in an abortion.

Some of the information that doctors must present includes: possible medical risks, the approximate age of the fetus, risks linked to child birth,

access to publications, referral to a Web site and possible alternatives to abortions.

The passage of the bill will present an approximate cost of \$274,000 for the first year in effect.

SCSU senior Merissa Winter previously faced the complications of an abortion. She said the bill will present many ethical dilemmas.

"Personally, I've been in that situation, so it is really hard for me to decide," she said. "As far as its coming from a nonbias point of view and educating strictly from the facts, then I don't have a problem with it."

The passing, however, is positive in light of presenting information, she added.

"It's important to know all the facts before going through with something," she said.

In the past, Gov. Jesse Ventura twice vetoed the bill.

That was the good thing about Ventura, said Julie Ingmire Seminitis.

Seminitis is a member of the Women's Center, Students for Choice and graduate assistant in the sexual violence prevention program. She said the bill is a giant setback for women.

"It's totally unnecessary, absolutely redundant and extraordinarily demeaning to women," she said. "Women think our decisions through, we don't choose to terminate a pregnancy on a whim."

Doctors are already required to present some information to patients, she said.

"It's not that we were not receiving the information before," she said. She also questioned the law's price tag.

"I oppose it on the cost it brings; it will cost over \$200,000 a year," Seminitis said.

Pro-life advocates have been struggling to pass the bill for years.

The bill has been presented to the governor for three of the past four

years.

Abortion opposer, SCSU student Brian Henkel, said the bill is a breakthrough step for pro-lifers.

"I feel really strongly against abortion, but people still have the right to do it," he said. "So far it's the best solution I've heard."

Presenting both sides of the argument is important, Henkel suggested.

"The 24 hour period would be good because it would give them a chance to hear both sides of the argument before they make the decision," he said. "I don't think it violates rights at all because they are still going to have the choice to choose abortion."

Doctors must also report the number of women that they gave information to and how they dispensed it.

The bill was the first of its kind to pass this year. Minnesota has not received many changes to its abortion policy for almost two decades.

In case of a medical emergency, the bill is exempt.

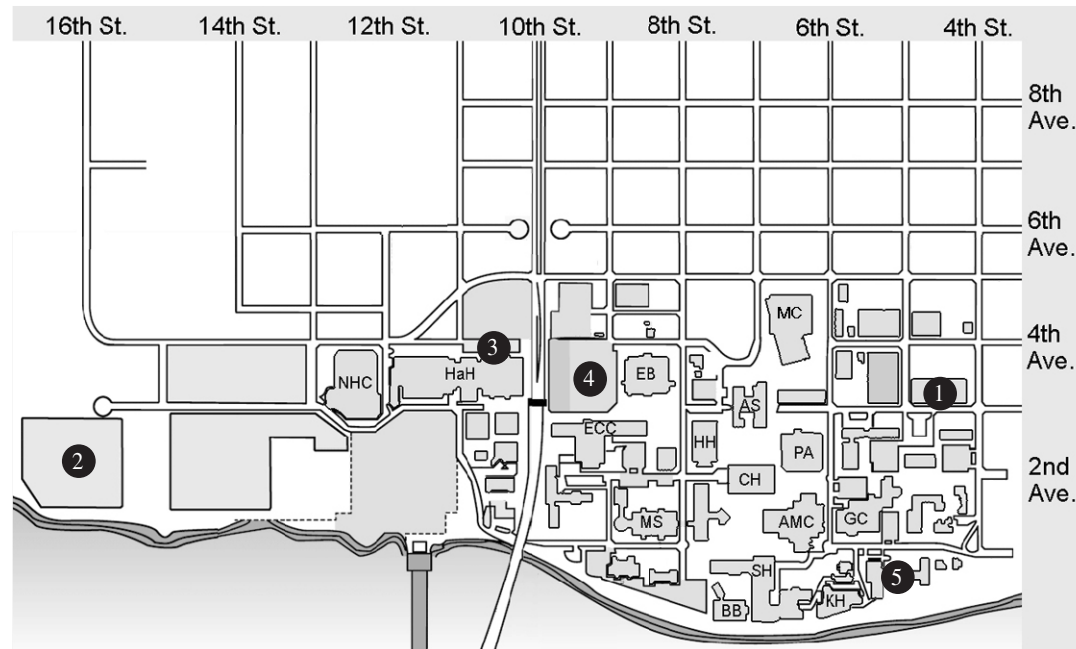
April weather continues to surprise

Chuck Nelson, from Earth Sciences, takes shelter under his umbrella as he makes his way to the Miller Center Wednesday afternoon. St. Cloud has been subjected to a wide variety of weather this week; Monday's high of 89 degrees broke a record. Less than 48 hours later, SCSU students traded shorts for coats and sunglasses for umbrellas as the temperature hovered near freezing, and icy precipitation coated campus with slippery slush.

SCOTT THEISEN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Crime Watch



1. (04/14/03) Fraudulent use of parking permit, A-3 Lot
2. Fraudulent use of parking permit, Q-Lot
3. Fraudulent use of parking permit, R-Lot
4. Theft, N-Lot
5. (04/15/03) Vehicle hit and run, Mitchell Hall

Campus & State

Three charged in connection with riot

Authorities have charged three people in connection with the violence that erupted Saturday after the Minnesota Gophers won the NCAA men's hockey championship.

Hennepin County prosecutors charged 19-year-old Travis Hinck with felony property damage after he allegedly damaged a booking van from the inside. Police said they took him into custody after he allegedly hurled a bottle at them.

The Minneapolis city attorney's office charged two others with misdemeanors. Police estimate that more than \$100,000 in damage was caused by crowds in the Dinkytown neighborhood.

A Minneapolis police spokesman says the damage includes a \$25,000 television van and four other burned cars. Eleven people were arrested, including seven University of Minnesota students, in the melee.

Sartell toddler pinned under truck

An accident has left a rural Sartell toddler critically injured. According to the Stearns County sheriff's office, 18-month-old Jacob Weyer was hurt Monday morning when he was pinned under a pickup truck.

Jacob's father, 40-year-old Clarence Weyer, said he had last seen the boy playing elsewhere on the family's property. The pickup, which was used for yardwork, had been left idling in neutral.

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Nation & World

SARS patients in Toronto quarantined

This will be a solitary Easter for hundreds of Catholic faithful in Toronto — no going to church.

Authorities have ordered an entire Catholic worship group — 500 people — to stay in their homes because they may have been infected with the SARS virus. The quarantine order affects 100 other people who may have worked with some of the church group members.

The disease may have touched the group through a man who was hospitalized in mid-March at one of the two Toronto hospitals that handled SARS cases. He died, but not before family members belonging to the group were exposed.

At the man's wake in early April, no one knew he was a SARS victim and some relatives had symptoms of the illness.

In Toronto, 13 people have died of SARS and officials report 250 probable cases.

Terrorist camp found near Baghdad

U.S. forces say they have found a terrorist training camp on the outskirts of Baghdad and that it was abandoned only recently.

A Marines spokesman said recruits at the camp were apparently taught how to make bombs and were schooled in what to do if they were captured. He said the camp had about 20 buildings on 25 acres south of the Iraqi capital.

The spokesman said it was operated by the Iraqi government and the Palestine Liberation Front. Documents found there include filled-out questionnaires that asked "What type of missions would you like to carry out?"

Many of the recruits answered, "suicide missions."

Corrections

In the April 10 issue of *University Chronicle*, the editorial on the Commentary page stated that student elections would be April 15 and 16. However, elections will actually be April 21 and 22. *University Chronicle* regrets the error and apologizes for any confusion it may have caused.

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Calendar of Events

TODAY

■ **Presidential Debates** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the Atwood Mall. Hear candidates for student government in a question and answer session. Free.

■ **George Winston Pianist.** 7:30 p.m. in the Ritsche Auditorium, Stewart Hall. Cost is free for students with ID, \$15 for everyone else.

FRIDAY

■ **Earth Day Half Marathon** Fourth annual Earth Day Half Marathon. Meet in Halenbeck Hall Fieldhouse at 3 p.m. to compete for \$2000 in prizes. Free.

■ **Pop Culture Princess** Performance by Dr. Elizabeth Whitney. Whitney explores the world of gendered culture. 7 p.m. in the Atwood Memorial Center Voyageurs Room. Free

SATURDAY

■ **Earth Day Clean-Up** Individual volunteers needed to pick up trash on the Beaver Trail and surrounding area. Volunteers meet in Barden Park at 1 p.m. Free.

SUNDAY

■ **Easter Sunday (Christian)**

MONDAY

■ **Student Government Elections** General elections for student representatives for 2003-2004. Voting stations will be located in the Miller Center, Stewart Hall, Atwood Memorial Center and the ECC. A student ID is required to vote.

TUESDAY

■ **Feminist Film Festival** 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. in the Atwood Little Theater, Atwood Memorial Center. Free.

Paintings allegedly stolen

Ashwin Raman

STAFF WRITER

Five oil paintings have been reported stolen from the second floor of Stewart Hall.

The works were done by Richard Present, a former faculty member of the Department of Social Work. Initial investigations by Public Safety have revealed that the paintings may have been stolen over winter break.

The paintings were formerly located next to the criminal justice department. The paintings, as described by Present, are contemporary figurative pieces. They were put up by Present with the intention of bringing some color to the walls of Stewart Hall.

"The walls in Stewart Hall are very uninteresting, and putting original art on the walls changes the blandness of the environment," said Present, who retired last winter after being at SCSU for 28 years. After Present's retirement, he traveled abroad for a few months.

It was during this period that the paintings were stolen. The disappearance of the paintings was initially noticed by Nancy Brennan, Department of Social Work colleague. She and other faculty members assumed that Present had removed the paintings. Since Present was abroad at the time, the matter was not looked into.

"He (Present) came back four weeks ago and it all hit the fan," Brennan said.

Brennan decided to place a message on the SCSU announcement list. The message went out to all faculty and administration to find out if a work order was put out for the paintings to be removed. Once realizing that no apparent work order had been made to remove the paintings, Present made a report with Public Safety and the St. Cloud Police Department.

The paintings themselves were not easy to take down, Present said. For one thing, all the paintings had been anchored to the wall. Furthermore, the five paintings are roughly estimated by Present to

weigh 40 lbs a piece. In addition, the paintings were large pieces measuring four foot by four foot and one measured four foot by eight foot.

According to the results of Public Safety's investigations, no possibility has been ruled out. For one thing, the suspected time frame in which the paintings were stolen has been narrowed down to two possibilities. One possibility is that the paintings were stolen during the winter break. The other revolves around reports by some university employees thinking the paintings may have been stolen any time between last December and March 31.

Miles Heckendorn, director of Public Safety, said that with the possibility that paintings were stolen anywhere between December and March, a person would have to remember events detailing back four months. "We have different people sharing information with us at this time, but a person's memories can become less distinct and less detailed over

time," Heckendorn said.

Some university employees have told Public Safety that they remember seeing the paintings down from the walls stacked up. Others reported seeing two unsuspecting looking males carrying one of the paintings from the second floor at Stewart Hall.

Heckendorn also said that the Director of Buildings and Grounds, James Williams, has double and triple checked to see if any work order was made at all to remove the paintings. He has confirmed that none were made. Heckendorn also added that if suspects were determined or identified, they will face criminal prosecution and if they were relevant to SCSU, Public Safety will refer the matter to the university's code of conduct.

At this time, Heckendorn is asking anyone with information at all about the stolen paintings to contact Public Safety immediately at 529-8883.

W.I.L.D. week presents various issues

Drew Sandholm

STAFF WRITER

As the Minnesota Wild battle in the 2003 Stanley Cup playoffs, it could be easy to confuse W.I.L.D. week for a more hockey-related theme. However, as an acronym for World Issues/Local Dimensions, the student-planned and organized event is to provide for progressive

and radical thought for peace and justice.

The weeklong event covers a lot of issues, including media violence, capitalism, animal rights and feminism, among many other topics.

Organized mainly by SCSU graduate student Julie Andrzejewski and SCSU graduate student Ayako Mochizuki, W.I.L.D. week is sponsored by 10 SCSU orga-

nizations and clubs. While events started last Monday all over campus, W.I.L.D. week runs through next Monday.

Kicking off the week, third-year SCSU student and KVSC-FM deejay Mike Chouinard cut the most progressive tracks for KVSC-FM 88.1. Spanning tracks from all genres of music, most all tunes carried a radical theme. With a clear blue sky and temperatures reaching the mid-80s, a group quickly gathered in the Mall to listen to the tracks and enjoy the summer-like weather.

The campus premiere of the documentary video "Wrestling with Manhood" took place at the Atwood Memorial Center's (AMC) North Voyageurs room. This video questioned the World Wrestling Federation and its effect on the viewing public. With an audience of approximately 25 viewers, a panel of activist students, faculty, staff and community residents followed the video.

"This is the kind of material that is very disturbing. It is best understood in a group where we get a group of people from every walk of life," said SCSU assistant professor of mass communications and panelist Iliia Rodriguez. "This showing (of "Wrestling with Manhood") will have a great impact because it is hard for

students to take in, but having a panel and group to watch and talk about it with was very helpful."

Examining the outcomes of war, a forum titled "Killing to Dying: The Consequences of War" was held at the AMC North Voyageurs room late Monday afternoon. Several panelists presented their opinions on the current military action on Iraq and U.S. foreign policy.

A premiere of "Counting on Democracy" was shown mid-Tuesday at the AMC Sauk room with students leading discussion. The documentary and talk questioned America's democratic society and political policies. Criticizing the 2000 presidential elections, the presenters accused the American government of illegal action in tampering with the vote casting processes.

Titled "America Behind Bars," a near half-dozen panelists raised questions regarding the adequacy of the U.S. prison system. Held at the AMC Watab room, the hour long event began at noon on Tuesday.

Temperatures might have been getting cooler, but things were heating up at the Atwood Mall as a group of SCSU students held a cook-out of free veggie burgers. Including an informational

table with literature on 'cruelty to animals,' the group provided an alternative to traditional hamburgers.

Inviting passers-by to donate their brand-name clothing, a group of SCSU students attempted to protest clothing made in sweatshops. Located in the Atwood Mall at noon Tuesday, all clothes donated were then donated to nonprofit Catholic Charities. At the table, a petition to stop production of sweatshop apparel was available.

At the same time, a small rally for peace was held. Intended to protest the recent U.S. military action and foreign policies, including Imperialism, the rally featured several student activist speakers. Varying in effectiveness, some presenters appeared prepared, others lacked organization and continuity in their speeches. No more than 50 people attended the event, entitled "Peace: War is Not the Answer."

Following the rally, some students gathered in the Atwood Mall to organize a change in water conditions for the local community. Stressing a shortage in usable water, the group made it clear how imperative water conservation is.

■ Go to WILD PAGE 4



JASON RISBERG STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nicole Armstrong, Dana Zewtoe, Cory Johnson, Sara Berscheid, Darcee Jendro, McKayla Kroll and Jamie Hudelson gave a presentation about slavery, sweatshops and third world debt Wednesday afternoon in Atwood Lady Slipper room. The presentation was part of W.I.L.D. Week, a student-planned and organized week of events about "World Issues/Local Dimensions." Events continue through Monday.

Students present best work

Joe Palmersheim

ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Student research was given a spotlight Tuesday with the annual Student Research Colloquium. Hailing from many different majors and disciplines, students and faculty presented their findings in the Atwood Memorial Center.

Student participation in this year's Student Research Colloquium has also risen.

"We had at least 30 more students presenting this year than last year, so we have about 230 students presenting. We

have about 90 faculty members that are sponsoring their research, and about 155 different presentations," said Director of Grants Development and Administration Susan Jensen-Cekalla. Funding for the event comes from a variety of sources, both from the school and from outside donors.

There were three sessions which ran from noon until 6:30 p.m. Each session had a different theme. The afternoon session even had presentations in German and Spanish. "Each of these sessions (had) a moderator, and they are all volunteers from different parts of the university," Jensen-Cekalla said. The event was a large undertaking, with over a year of plan-

ning beforehand. It spanned the entire second floor of Atwood.

In the Ballroom, poster presentations were hung on portable whiteboards. There were over 100 poster-board entries this year. The presentations are done in color with graphs and charts spread out over the three foot by five foot surface of the board. In addition to the board itself, the person (or people) who worked on it were on hand to answer questions from passers-by.

Marie Ferrell, an SCSU senior, stood in front of her board, which was a project about the small pox vaccine.

"It's for my licensure, and it's part of our independent research credit. It's (the event) really impressive about some of the studies some people are doing. A lot of work has been put into all of the projects done here," Ferrell said.

Ferrell's subject matter proved timely. "Quite a few people have stopped by. Smallpox has been in the news lately, so a lot of people are interested in the vaccine itself and how it reacts to society," she said.

Nicole Hansen, another SCSU senior, presented a board regarding "Social Response to Negative Sexual Experiences." "(The colloquium) is pretty overwhelming. I guess I didn't expect there to be so many people

"The idea of the research colloquium is to give recognition that students do research."

Susan Jensen-Cekalla
ADMINISTRATION



RYAN HENRY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Tim Fitze explains his findings on global warming trends to third-year student Julia Scott at the 2003 Student Research Colloquium Tuesday afternoon in the Atwood Ballroom.

coming."

"The panel (is composed of) people who graduated from St. Cloud State University, who are active in the field using research in a variety of different disciplines," said SCSU Psychology Professor Leeann Jorgensen. The panel members were

Alvin B. Irby ('73), Beth Riesgraf M.D. ('74), Jennifer Strand ('94) and Michael Wacker ('96).

"People come and walk through, and it's almost like a festival. People can look at all of these different presentations and see what the different topics are, and what they have put up

there about their projects," Cekalla said.

"It's like the whole campus community comes together to put this event together for students. The idea of the research colloquium is to give recognition that students do research."

A.S.I.A. prevents hate

A.S.I.A. presents several events throughout the week to increase awareness about hate crimes

Julie Cronk

STAFF WRITER

Racism, sexism and other discrimination happen everyday. Unfortunately, there are people in the St. Cloud community that have been emotionally and physically affected by the hatred.

That is why the student organization, Asian Students in Action took charge and created SCSU Hate Crimes Awareness Week.

The event began Monday and continues until Thursday. It was developed by A.S.I.A. response to an incident that happened to an Asian American in Detroit, Mich. Vincent Chin, an Asian American living in Detroit, was allegedly murdered by two Caucasian men. The men were caught but never convicted. This event brought up many discriminating issues for Asian Americans and gave pathway to protest for many Asian Americans across the United States.

The effects of the event still span across the nation to SCSU. It is proper grounds for the organization A.S.I.A. to develop a Hate Awareness Week for SCSU students. This is the first Hate Crimes Week, but A.S.I.A. hopes to have

more. The organization mainly wanted to bring up extended awareness to people that did not know that hate crimes happen so often. Even with the murder of Chin, racism is deeply shown everywhere.

"You cannot change the past, but you can change the present and the future," said Saengmany Rats about, co-founder and treasurer of A.S.I.A.

A.S.I.A. is very proud of the work that has been accomplished, but it was not an easy task. The organization had many problems with getting sponsors for the event and has spent much time trying to search for available funding. Thanks to the generous donation from the Otto Bremer Foundation, A.S.I.A. was able to put on the events that fill this week. All of the events that took place were solely organized by less than a dozen A.S.I.A. students.

"I am so impressed at the work of these dedicated students," said Hedy Tripp, adviser to A.S.I.A.

The week entails many different events such as a post 9/11 documentary from the Southern Asian community titled "Raising Our Voices." Other events involved many different speakers from SCSU and the surrounding community.

Tonight there will be an A.S.I.A. community forum in Atwood which involves a discussion on how to prevent and deal with hate, racism and oppression. Also, there will be a video documentary about a hate crime against an African American male and a NOVA community forum with keynote speakers. All are urged to attend and participate.

Continued from PAGE 4

W.I.L.D.

In the week's third premiere of a documentary video, several students showed "Paying the Price: The Killing of Iraqi Children" in the AMC Watab room. The video revealed the alleged misconduct of the U.S. military towards the Middle East, including Iraq over the past 10 years. After the showing, a discussion was held in which the audience was able to voice their comments and complaints.

Yesterday in the AMC South Voyager room, several presenters held a discussion titled "Media Violence: How Harmful is it?" The panelists attempted to illustrate how harmful images are towards marginalized groups in society and the greater public. Touching on media violence, the discussion questioned the role of media in recent increases in violence nationwide.

In an early-afternoon presentation yesterday, an assembly of speakers spoke on the topic of "Global Poverty: Actions against Slavery, Sweatshops and Third-World Debt." The presentation was

intended to illustrate the unfair and unjust treatment of workers in foreign countries due to the authority of large American corporations. This mistreatment, the group said results in third-world debt and increased poverty.

With great time and effort put into the weeklong event, almost every participant feels confident W.I.L.D. week had a positive impact on the campus of SCSU.

"(W.I.L.D. week) was a great success," said fourth-year SCSU education major and panelist McKayla Kroll. "People stopping by, showing interest showed we're having a great impact. You know we just want to create change and we are very passionate about our issues."

Check the Schedule of Events on page 3 for more information on the remaining W.I.L.D. activities planned for today and Monday, or contact Julie Andrzejewski jrandrzejewski@stcloudstate or Ayako Mochizuki ayako116@hotmail.com



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Monday, April 21, 2003

4 pm Glacier North, Atwood Memorial Center

For more information, please contact The Center for Student Organizations and Leadership Development, AMC 117E at 255-3004

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University Chronicle

EDITORIAL BOARD

Britt Johnsen
EditorJohn Behling
Divisions EditorEric O'Link
Managing EditorW.I.L.D. week correct way
to protest, promote peace

As countries endure an unfortunate and stressful war, everyone from passers-by to figures of authority have a stance on the controversial subject.

Whether you are for, against or neutral to the war, everyone has a way of promoting their stance. The most popular way to promote a stance against the war is to protest. Signs, buttons and standing in groups in public places are among the most popular protests.

Here in the *University Chronicle* newsroom, as well as various other places, a common topic of discussion about those taking a stance against the war is that they should stop what they are doing and promote peace in other ways.

Among such ways is just plain coming to the realization that we are in war and there is nothing anyone can do about it now; support our country and our troops and wish the safest, quickest and most peaceful trip back home.

The most effective way of promoting peace is being educated. From there, people can rightfully take a stance and in the most peaceful way possible.

This isn't to say, however, that those protesting obtrusively aren't educated; they are not realizing, though, that there are better ways to promote peace and their stance on war other than standing outside with signs, buttons and other visual and vocal efforts.

W.I.L.D. week is this week and it's the most educated, peaceful effort one can make when taking a stance on anything. Those involved with, or attending, the events of W.I.L.D. week may not all have the same stances on all the different issues about the world. They are, however, making an altruistic effort to save the public by making sure they are aware of and educated on the various issues that affect their world daily.

No matter what your stance is on the war, abortion, poverty and other world issues, be sure to make an effort to be educated and/or educate. Also be sure to congratulate those around you for making an effort to spread and/or gain awareness. It is the most peaceful way to take a stance on any issue in this world.

The opinions expressed on the Commentary and Opinions pages are not necessarily those of the college, university system or student body.



Women legally earn information

Monday was a landmark day in Minnesota for both pro-lifers and pro-choicers.

Only a few hours after the Minnesota Senate approved the "Women's Right to Know" bill, Gov. Tim Pawlenty signed it into law.

Scheduled to be phased into effect after July 1, the law requires doctors to give specific information to women considering an abortion. The information includes the medical risks and possible psychological problems linked to abortion, the medical risks of childbirth, an estimation of the fetus' gestational age, whether the fetus will feel pain as a result of the procedure and if the woman decides against the abortion, the financial responsibilities the baby's father will have.

The law also directs that the state create a Web site where anyone may access the above information, and it requires doctors to report their compliance to the state or face financial penalties if they refuse to do so. Perhaps one of the most controversial parts of the law attempts to define when "life" begins — at conception, it says, not later in the pregnancy term.

Those against the legislation were vocal about their dissatisfaction with the new law in Tuesday's newspapers.

The *Star Tribune* said opponents of the law called the "life begins at conception" definition "politically and religiously motivated." According to the *Pioneer Press*,

ERIC
O'LINKSTAFF
ESSAY

Tim Stanley, executive director of the Minnesota chapter of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights League said that by signing the bill, Gov. Pawlenty had "restricted the reproductive rights of Minnesota women."

And SCSU's own Julie Ingmire Seminitis, a graduate student and the founder of Students for Choice, told the *St. Cloud Times*, "It implies we (women) do not think hard about the decisions that we make, that we're just emotional and irrational."

Wait a minute; are we hearing ourselves here?

This law is not about restricting abortion, intimidating anyone or stomping on women's "reproductive rights." It's about INFORMATION; it's been created to make sure women have ready access to important information to make well-informed decisions; probably one of the hardest decisions of their lives.

People have been quick to blast the "life begins at conception" definition in the bill but did the legisla-

ture have a better option to word this important section? Doctors and scientists seem unable to determine when exactly the fetus becomes "living." Yet, when conception occurs, the possibility and probability of a new human life is created. To avoid vague or confusing language, it makes sense that the legislature accepted this definition in the bill.

As for the argument that "women already think long and hard about abortions," I can't help but ask myself, "Do all women really?" What about teenagers, who become pregnant, get scared and have an abortion just to get rid of the "problem?" Would they be so quick to act if they were given the above information and a day to think it over?

Sen. Warren Limmer, R-Maple Grove, told the *Star Tribune* that after a similar law was passed in Louisiana, the number of abortions in that state dropped 50 percent. That, the *Star Tribune* said, "could translate into 7,500 fewer abortions in Minnesota, where about 15,000 abortions were performed last year."

Think about that; that's not just 7,500 fewer abortions in Minnesota; that's 7,500 children each YEAR who are given a chance at life.

When you consider this law's life-saving potential, giving women specific information about abortion and giving them a day to think it over seems a small price to pay.



JUSTIN
BYMA
STAFF
COLUMN

Final suggestions for the new year

I catch myself, from time to time, thinking of ways that SCSU could change for the better. Some of these things would take little effort; others may be more of a struggle.

Nonetheless, as my final column as a *Chronicle* wannabe pundit and with an odd combination of hope and pessimism, I present my suggestions for a better university.

1. Discontinue the MGM course requirements. I suggest this not out of anti-white male resentment, but for the soft bigotry upon which these courses thrive. It just seems counterproductive and inherently racist to take nine credits worth of classes that teach students that black people, women, gays or developing countries can't make it on their own.

2. On a similar note, replace the "Respect and Responsibility" workshop with a seminar on individual rights. We shouldn't assume that first year students are racists and homophobes. Besides, it doesn't make one either of those things if he or she suggests those three hours or so with the "Jugglers" is too much. No?

3. KVSC should carry the "Foxworthy Countdown." I don't know if this is even possible, but it would be nice. You know, for the sake of diversity.

4. Designate every April 15 as "Thank the Rich People Day." Because rich people, of course, pay half our tuition.

5. Add a couple pages to the course catalog that provide a full disclosure of university revenues and expenditures. After all, as students we are investing money into an institution with the expectation of reaping a healthy return on that investment in the future. Would you buy stock in a company if you didn't know where your money was going?

6. Name something after Ronald Reagan. The Math and Science building or the ECC seem like prime candidates. Neither building is currently named after anyone, and seeing the Gipper on anything here at SCSU would be a sure sign of progress.

7. Internet resources like pik-a-prof.com should be made available to students to aid them in selecting classes. This would be an easy way to read what other students thought of a particular professor or class before signing up to take it. It's already in use at more than a few campuses across the country. If not, there is a free site, www.ratemyprofessor.com that, though a bit cheesy, proves quite helpful.

8. Pizza Hut should serve pitchers of Leinenkugel's. (No explanation necessary.)

9. A new class should be offered, probably by the political science department. Call it "Communism: 100 million dead, and counting."

Justin Byma can be reached at jbyma@universitychronicle.com

Some suicides for bad reasons

I was surprised at all three letters (Sandra Johnson April 3, 2003, Jeremy Johnson and Kristof Berg April 7, 2003). Recently, my 16-year old daughter attempted suicide because she had cheated on her boyfriend by kissing another boy. This may seem very trivial, but to her at that moment it was very important. She felt terrible and overdosed on pills. In counseling, she has realized that she doesn't want to die and it was a trivial reason. She is not clinically depressed and does not have a mental disorder. She is a 16-year-old who has never figured out how to cope with life's mistakes or let downs.

Sandra Johnson was correct that some people, especially in high school and college, commit suicide or attempt to because of what seem to be "stupid reasons." Jeremy Johnson and Kristof Berg are also correct about the depression and mental illness. Because of my daughter's suicide attempt, I have become well informed about the suicide rates and statistics in the country. Suicide is the #3 death in this nation for 15-19-year-olds with accidents (unintentional harm) as #1 and homicide as #2 (CDC 1999).

Suicide is not always about lifelong mental illness or depression. Many of these teenagers are killing themselves for reasons that would seem trivial or stupid to many people. I recommend that all three writers look at the numerous Web sites dedicated to these people who didn't feel at that moment they could live anymore. There are "A" students, class presidents, loners, cheerleaders, popular and not popular, people with terminal illnesses, mental illnesses and depression. No one is protected from suicide; it is how each person deals with situations and let downs, and whether the people who have depression and mental illness get help. Suicide rates will not go down until society realizes there are more reasons than depression and mental illness that people, or more specifically teenagers, take their own lives.

Lisa Specht
Sophomore, Finance

Candidates covered unequally

In order to familiarize oneself with this year's candidates for president and vice-president of student government, as *University Chronicle* senior staff writer Geoff Higgins stated in his April 5 article, this would entail reading an adequate amount of background information on all candidates. But this was not the case, as running mates Cory Lawrence and Rachel Hughes were given unequal coverage in the article which turned out to be a campaign ad for Chris Lindahl and Taylor Olson. An abundance of background information, qualifications and quotations were supplied for Lindahl and Olson, but sufficiently lacked for Lawrence and Hughes who saw little notation.

Since Higgins neglected to supply the equal and undoubtedly deserved praise to Lawrence and Hughes (he didn't even interview Hughes), I took it upon myself to do the research and let the student body know why they are the best candidates for president and vice-president of student government. Lawrence was a senator for student government last year and is involved on both the finance committee and the student service committee. He is the coordinator of MSUSA State Cultural Diversity and is the multicultural student services student leader of the year. For the second consecutive year, Lawrence is one of only three

post-secondary students on the Minnesota Indian Education Board of Directors. Hughes' resume is equally impressive, as she is a University Ambassador and a four-year member of Delta Zeta International sorority in which she presided as president for one year. Her involvement on student government includes senator at-large as well as participating on the student services committee, public relations committee and the tech fee committee. Hughes received the Excellence and Leadership Award and was just recently honored with an education scholarship.

I am unaware if the underrepresentation of Lawrence and Hughes was an oversight or ignorance on Higgins' part. Either way, the running-mates' excellent qualifications are now voiced, and I hope the student body realizes that Lawrence and Hughes are the most experienced and better qualified for the president and vice-president positions of student government.

Lacy Bienkowski
First-year student, Pre-business and Spanish

Writer missed a candidate

This editorial is referring to the article, "Candidates vie for exec positions." I would just like to comment that the information in the article was biased and not thorough due to the fact that one of the candidates was never interviewed.

Rachel Hughes has accomplished a list of achievements here at St. Cloud State. In fact, she just received the Excellence and Leadership Award for her leadership. There was not one achievement or organization listed. There is no recognition of her hard work she has put into the many committees for student government. Cory Lawrence has also held many positions on student government including a chair position on MSUSA. Where is this in the article?

If the *Chronicle* wants to inform all the student of the facts, they need to interview those involved. They also need to present all sides. To the students of St. Cloud State, make an educated decision when deciding to vote, but don't believe everything you read. Go to the debates and talk to the candidates to get the real story.

Sabrina Schwartzbauer
Senior, Criminal Justice

SOA article propaganda

I read the "news" article entitled "Presenter sheds light on training schools" with ever-increasing dismay.

Instead of reading a news article on the controversial school, I read a piece of agitory propaganda for SOA Watch.

The contradiction between paragraphs three and six are simply inexcusable journalistic oversight. This is furthered by taking the presenter, who belongs to an organization dedicated to the closure of this school, at face value. No effort appears to have been made to check or verify the veracity of her statements.

An opportunity to write real news has been squandered. This merely muddles an issue which is worthy of legitimate debate.

Eric Williams
Alumnus, 2002



GORDIE
LOEWEN
STAFF
COLUMN

Vote! Vote! Vote!

Well, it's that time of year again. April 21 and 22 students will flood to the polls in Atwood, Stewart, the ECC and the library to elect their new student leadership.

But this flood will probably look more like a trickle. The number one problem that faces any democratic election in this country is voter apathy.

Most people that read this column probably already know that elections for student government president and vice-president are coming up, along with elections for all 16 senator at-large positions. This is because the people who read this are among the few who actually pay attention to things that are happening on campus. For those of you who do pay attention, vote next week.

Unfortunately, your obligation does not end there. I know it's tough, but you actually have to do something in order to contribute to your campus. Since you are the only people who know what is going on, it is your obligation to inform those that don't. Talk to your classes; tell them to vote. Talk to your roommates; tell them to vote. By all means, don't forget to vote yourself.

If you don't vote, you lose your right to complain. I've written sporadically for this section all year, and if you're anything like me, this is the first page that you turn to when you pick up the new issue of the *Chronicle*.

Why? You want to see what people are complaining about now. I don't have any hard numbers or scientific data, but I'd be willing to bet that half of the people that have written letters to the editor this year to complain did not vote in the fall semester general election.

Personally, this angers me. I am not only the incredibly gifted writer that keeps you all riveted and waiting for more, I also happen to be a member of student government. This means that I constantly get attacked for not representing students in my position. Well, it's pretty hard to represent students when only 100 of them actually vote. There is only one solution to this problem (that student government must exist by legislative mandate). The students on this campus have to vote in the general elections.

I'm actually going to do something crazy and take this rant a step further. I'm actually going to ask you to make an educated decision when you vote as well. I know it may seem crazy, but all you have to do is attend the debates today and maybe ask around to see what people know about the candidates.

So, to those of you that consistently vote; keep up the good work. To those who have never voted before, now is a good time to start. Your fellow students will thank you when you join together to actually make decisions about your student representatives.

And to those that are going to go to the polls and just write-in a funny name, don't. You'd be surprised at what a horrible student body president The Fonz would be.

Gordie Loewen can be reached at gloewen@universitychronicle.com

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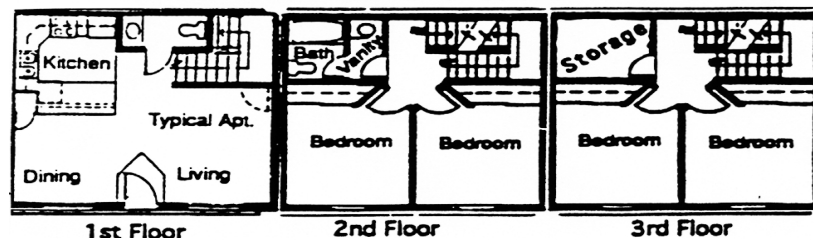
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"He's still learning that he has to work hard all the time. He can't just work when he wants to."

-Wild winger **Andrew Brunette** on teammate Marian Gaborik's play in Game 3 against the Colorado Avalanche.

Football team back in the spring of things

Spring practice is off and running for SCSU football team with expectations being high

Ben Birnell

STAFF WRITER

Five months after one of their most successful seasons in SCSU school history ended, the SCSU football team was back to doing what they do best last Monday afternoon: tossing around the pigskin and preparing to run amuck on their 2003 opponents.

The Huskies return 36 letterwinners this season, including eight starters on offense and seven starters on defense.

That includes senior quarterback and Harlon Hill nominee Keith Heckendorf. The team only lost 11 letterwinners in the offseason, most notably, two All-American performers in wide receiver Ben Nelson and tight end Matt Huebner.

In his fifth year with the team, SCSU head coach Randy Hedberg is hoping to improve on last season in which his team began 5-0, the team's best start since the 1976 season.

"We're excited," Hedberg said. "We have an opportunity to be a good football team. Our schedule is going to be a tough one, but we'll be working hard here in the spring and be

ready to go by Aug. 28 (against the University of Minnesota-Crookston) and put out a great product. I think our team will be very successful this year in the North Central Conference."

Hedberg said that the team was just starting fresh in their spring practice schedule, only on their fifth practice of the offseason session. Nevertheless, Hedberg is keeping a watchful eye on his offensive and defensive players.

"We're progressing," he said. "Offensively we're trying to find our left tackle position and also who's going to be our tight end. I think right now it's still really wide open because no one has really stepped forward in those positions. Keith Heckendorf looks really good and I think [sophomore wide receiver] Ed DeShazer (Milwaukee, Wis.) is really stepping up."

Hedberg said things on the defensive side of the ball are looking good. The defense hopes to build off last season in which they broke six team records and held their opponents to just 192 points for the year.

"I think senior (defensive back) Matt Nicholson, who was injured most of last season,

is progressing nicely and is going to help us out a lot this year. I also think (defensive back) Derek Jensen is going to do well. He's going to be our impact guy with his speed and size."

Last season, Heckendorf broke nine SCSU football records, including most touchdown passes in a season with 37. That's also not including five



BLAIR SCHLICHT/FILE PHOTO

Harlon Hill candidate Keith Heckendorf will again try to lead the resurgent SCSU football program to the top of the NCC in 2003. The Huskies finished with a 9-2 record last season, their best mark since 1989. Heckendorf broke nine football records last year, including most touchdown passes in a season with 37.

others that are counted as team records. Heckendorf sees the spring practice session as a good springboard to start off the 2003 season on the right track.

"We have a lot of good guys on this team that are all really good, so we're happy about that," he said. "Most of the offense is back (from last season), so it's just a matter of time until we get the same pace going that we had last year. The defense is looking pretty good and so far I'd say we're looking good."

Heckendorf stated that after such a

successful campaign last year, he and his teammates are ready to come out in 2003 and give it all they have.

"I think everyone on this team has high expectations. We expect to win every game," he said. "We also want to make a run at the playoffs and it all starts right here at these 15 practices. We want to take what we get from here and carry it into the fall."

The Huskies finish spring drills on May 3 with the annual spring game at Selke Field. Game time is scheduled for 1 p.m.

Rickert's not ready



ADAM
CZECH

STAFF
COLUMN

The first time I saw Rick Rickert play basketball, I thought I was witnessing the second coming of Kevin McHale.

Only this version of McHale could dribble, shoot 3-pointers and do things many point guards could only dream of.

I saw Rickert play for the first time in the first round of the 2000 state basketball tournament at Halenbeck Hall. It takes a lot to impress me, especially when someone was as hyped as Rickert, but Rickert did more than impress me. He left me in awe.

Rickert's Duluth East teammates weren't much better than any 'B' league intramural team here at SCSU. In fact, that may be overly generous. Rickert won the game I saw by himself. He scored at least half of his team's points, dribbled the ball up the court against a press and allowed no one to score over him in the paint.

Sure, dominant players on bad teams come along every now and then. But these dominant players don't win games by themselves in the state tournament like I witnessed Rickert do. Winning games in the state tournament is supposed to take more than one hotshot, Division I recruit. At least, that's what I thought until I watched Rickert play.

Rickert was solid in his first season at the U of M. In winning Big Ten Freshman of the Year honors, the 6-11 power forward averaged 14.2 points and 5.2 rebounds. He shot 36.9 percent from 3-point range and 50.5 percent from the field.

Everything looked to be in place for Rickert to have a dominant sophomore season in 2002-03. Many experts were penciling him as the Big Ten Player of the Year and writing the Gophers in as a lock to qualify for the NCAA Tournament.

■ Go to Czech PAGE 10.

Bourman leaving legacy

Senior catcher leading by example in the last year of her record-breaking career

Ben Dunsmoor

STAFF WRITER

Abby Bourman is a self-proclaimed leader by actions, and has led the successful softball program at SCSU over the past four years of her career.

"I'm not really one of the most vocal people," the senior catcher said. "I say things when they need to be said, but I lead more by example."

SCSU head coach Paula U'Ren said that Bourman leads in a non-verbal way.

"She doesn't speak a whole lot, but when she does the team listens," U'Ren said.

The example this Duluth native and Proctor High School alum has set forth at SCSU has been huge. Bourman currently holds five team batting records. These records include most RBI's in a game (6) and a season (52), total bases in a season (125), extra base hits in a season (27) and most homeruns in a season (9).

"I never expected to have the year I had last year," Bourman said.

She also tied the team record for most career home runs (21) with Gentzler last Tuesday during their

home opener with MSU-Moorhead. Gentzler, however, now holds that record with 23 jacks after this past weekend at the NCC North-South Classic.

Even though Bourman carries a big stick on the field for the Huskies, she is not just a one-dimensional player. Up until this season, she was listed as a utility player in the media guide and didn't even play catcher the first few years of her career.

"It's really hard to pinpoint something with Abby," U'Ren said. "If you need a good defensive play she'll make it. If you need a good hit she'll make it. She just has the complete package."

Bourman tributes her versatility to playing so many roles.

"In high school I played pretty much every position," she said. "So I got a good feel of the game from every different team I played for."

She has also been recognized for her actions by various organizations. In the 2002 season she was named to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Division II All-American first team, the All-North Central Region team and the All-NCC team. Despite these high accolades, Bourman hasn't let them go to her head.

"Abby does a great job of making herself better every year," U'Ren said. "She expects so much

out of herself. Last year she was an All-American, and this year she worked even harder to be the best player she can be."

Bourman doesn't want to do anything that would let down her teammates and that's one thing that motivates her to improve herself.

"I know that the team I have behind me has a lot of talent," she said. "I'm just trying to do my best out there to help them out."

Bourman has done plenty to help her team out with her great senior leadership on and off the field.

"Abby is an awesome leader on the field and everybody seems to look up to her,"

sophomore outfielder and Bourman's roommate Cally Stewart said. "She has a positive attitude and she's someone you can look up to."

"Being a catcher she's my coach on the field," U'Ren said. "I go through her and run the defense through her. She's also done an excellent job with the pitching staff."

Her desire to win and be successful is infectious and sets a great example for the younger players who want to emulate her.

"They see how much she wants it," U'Ren said. "The younger players have had a chance to be around an All-American and see what it

takes to be one of the best players in the country."

After this season, Bourman's career at SCSU will be one of the best in the program's history.

"I think it's gone real well," Bourman said reflecting on her career. "I think that I've gotten better every year and that's been one of my goals."

Around the Horn

—The Huskies swept Concordia-St. Paul Tuesday night, 2-0 and 4-0. Concordia and SCSU only played five innings in the second game of the doubleheader because of inclement weather.

—Junior pitcher Nicole Webb received credit for both wins and hit a solo home run in the fifth inning of the first game.

—Cally Stewart had an impressive stat line in the second game going two-for-three from the plate and nailing a two-run homer in the first inning.

—SCSU's overall record now stands at 24-12, with a 2-4 NCC record. Thursday's doubleheader at the University of North Dakota has been postponed to April 29. The next time the Huskies are in action is Friday and Saturday at the Minnesota State University, Mankato Invitational.

"She has a positive attitude and she's someone you can look up to."

Cally Stewart

SOPHOMORE OUTFIELDER



Abby Bourman

Continued from PAGE 9.

Czech

But much like a couple who gets married before they're ready, things didn't work out. The Gophers offense was a mess all season, often resembling a swarm of bees flying around instead of a polished basketball team.

Rickert's stats improved — 15.6 points and 6.2 rebounds-per-game — but his field goal percentage tumbled to 44.2 and he wasn't the dominant player that someone of his size and athletic ability should be.

Often, he appeared to be a 'tweener,' a player that wasn't strong enough to be a force inside but not quick enough to dominate outside. To most people, it was obvious that Rickert wasn't ready for the NBA.

Rickert himself wasn't one of those people.

Rickert announced his intentions to enter this June's NBA draft at a press conference April 8. He also said that he wouldn't be hiring an agent and will pay his own way to NBA try-out camps, meaning he may return to school if he feels he won't be a high draft choice.

There's nothing wrong with a player leaving school early to enter the draft. After all, the point of going to college is to use your experience to one day land yourself a well-paying job that you enjoy. However, many college athletes, Rickert included, are missing the point.

Sure Rickert will make a lot of money if he is drafted late in the first round where many scouts predict he will fall. If he is drafted 24th, he will get a no-cut contract worth \$752,800 the first year, \$809,300 the second year, \$865,800 the third year and then the club will have an option of keeping him the fourth year at a raise of 74.9 percent. Not bad for a 22-year-old kid.

But if Rickert does enter the draft now, the chances are high that he could be pumping gas in three years. Many scouts say he doesn't have the strength and weight to play in the NBA yet. Often, players like this struggle their first year, struggle more their second year, and become obsolete their third year.

At least one more year of school would not only improve Rickert's size, strength and basketball skills, but it could also make him richer. Say, for instance, that Rickert comes back for his junior season, added 15 pounds of muscle and demonstrated the ability to dominate inside.

If he was then drafted 10th overall, he would make \$1,457,300 his first year, \$1,566,600 his second year and \$1,650,900 his third year with an option raise in the fourth year of 27.9 percent. Not only would he be making more money, but he would also be a better basketball player. Instead of disappearing, Rickert could go on to have a productive NBA career and make even more money.

I was impressed with Rickert's basketball skills the first time I saw him play. Now it's time for Rickert to impress me with decision making skills.

Straight to the NBA is right idea



BEN DUNSMOOR

STAFF COLUMN

Skip school.

That's right, I had the audacity to say the two words that Mr. T in all of his gold chains, bling-bling, and pro-wrestler physique could not. Allow me to draw you the map for a sports scenario that many athletes have already followed.

Recently the National Basketball Association has been deliberating over whether they should establish a minimum age limit for its players. The age would be set at 20 and would disallow the barrage of high school basketball

players, who are usually 18, to dazzle the league with their youthful legs.

Why would you want to punish those who have the "skills to pay the bills?" Take a few of the players that are currently in the MVP race. The Lakers' Kobe Bryant didn't live in dorms on a college campus. Tracy McGrady of the Orlando Magic didn't have to suffer through boring and pointless college philosophy classes.

Even the Timberwolves own Kevin Garnett went straight from high school to one of the NBA's high scorers. All of these players are arguably the best players in the NBA and Bryant has even drawn comparisons to his Airness, Michael Jordan.

Some sports purists might beg to differ on the issue. They say that college players receive more experience by playing college ball and therefore have a bigger impact in their first year of the NBA. Oh con-

traire Prof. Wrong, take a gander at the Phoenix Suns own first-year high schooler, Amare Stoudemire.

Stoudemire averages 13.5 points, nine rebounds and one block per game. Stoudemire also has helped lead the Suns to the eighth and final playoff spot in the West.

Compare that to the Chicago Bulls Jay Williams, who spent all four years of his college days on the Duke campus. He averages only about nine points a game, two rebounds, four assists and no blocks. Not bad digits, but look at where his team is. They're not even within a stones-throw of the last playoff spot in the East. He was recently benched because of his whining.

If you're good enough to play in the NBA straight out of high school, such as LeBron James, you should be able to play against the world's best and not have to waste your time or energy on a college campus. Most players don't focus on the

world of academia in college, but just play basketball and prepare for their goal of playing in the NBA. If you can play, just skip the middleman and reach your goal earlier.

I dare to believe that any reader out there would jump at the chance to make millions of dollars and be set for life without going to college. Those who criticize the players for skipping college would probably be the same ones to make the jump and take the money and play if they had the skills. This is not only true in athletics. But look at billionaire Bill Gates. That's right, he never turned the tassel at his own 'U.'

For those of us that can't run 40 yards in 4.2 seconds, jump 42 inches vertically or "d-up" on Shaq, college is one of those arenas that has to be tolerated in our current structured society. For those who can go from prep to pro, go for it.

Believe me, college life isn't that great.



ADAM MASLOSKI/ASST. VISUALS EDITOR

Jason Samuels from NORML Minnesota and University of Minnesota Twin Cities NORML speaks in the Atwood Brickyard Tuesday as part of "Stay on the Grass II."

NORML holds on-campus events

SCSU NORML holds a series of events this week under the name 'Stay on the Grass II'

Nissa Billmyer

STAFF WRITER

Typically, green is associated with spring, but for the National Organization for Reformation of Marijuana Laws (NORML), green is celebrated year-round. This week it has organized a series of events, calling the week "Stay on the Grass II."

In kiosks at the Atwood Mall, members of SCSU NORML members aim to educate and facilitate discussion for students and faculty alike about the negative light drawn by the prohibition of marijuana. All week they have been hosting events, movies and speakers, including a benefit concert next week.

"We want to promote awareness," said Holly Santiago, spokesperson for NORML. "It's good to have a visual presence."

NORML kicked off the week with "Grass," a humorous documentary account of marijuana's history and prohibition in the United States. The film was directed by Ron Mann and Woody Harrelson.

Tuesday, speaker Jason Samuels spoke about the history of marijuana's prohibition during his speech "Drug Abuse is Bad, the War on Drugs is

Worse." Samuels is a NORML member from Minnesota and the University of Minnesota Twin Cities chapter. Samuels drew a crowd of interested students with various questions surrounding marijuana and marijuana laws.

"It's good to see the interest on campus," Santiago said. "We want to make our membership grow."

Wednesday proved a busy day with a pair of movies illustrating two drastically different views on the use of marijuana. The first film, "Reefer Madness," is a dated propaganda film made by the government in 1938. This film shows stereotypes of marijuana use and its users.

"I like the fact that they're (NORML is) opening our eyes about the facts about what's going on in the hemp and marijuana culture," junior Dorian Myers said.

The second movie of the day was "Hemp Fest," chronicling the annual festival held in Seattle, Wash. The festival is a large component of NORML.

The movie highlighted the behind-the-scenes efforts to make Hemp Fest a safe, smooth running and efficient event, while providing additional information on drug policy. It showed the people who put their time into something they love and believe in.

"I think a lot of our generation is a lot more open-minded," Myers said. "We are willing to look at the facts. It's going to be up to us (to change the laws)."

Hemp Fest originally started in 1991 with about 500 people and has grown to attract nearly 200,000. Hemp Fest is

about promoting the freedoms associated with marijuana.

Besides videos and speakers, NORML has been sitting in Atwood over the week handing out information, flyers, selling hemp goods, clothes, stickers, buttons and promoting awareness of marijuana legislation.

The week will culminate in a large celebration on April 24. "Hemp 'n Harmony III: Growing in St. Cloud," a benefit concert for SCSU NORML will be held at the Tavern on Germain. The concert will feature performances by Friends of Yoder, Hydroponics and the Stearns County Pachanga Society. It begins at 7:30 p.m. and is open for ages 18 and older. Cover will be \$2.

"Before you pass judgment, take time to know me," Myers said. "Find out about it first, before you pass judgment."

"'Stay on the Grass' is a clever saying, it's a form of speaking out," Santiago said. "It's taboo to talk to people (about marijuana) and we want to allow people to feel free. It's something the drug war has done, it's pushed marijuana to the underground."

Students are encouraged to attend NORML meetings if they would like to become part of the effort to reform the marijuana laws. Meetings are held every Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Croix room.

"We support marijuana legalization," Santiago said. "It's good to see that a lot of people know what NORML does, they come to these events. It's good to talk about it."

Earth Day events to raise environmental concerns

Cory Fechtelkotter

STAFF WRITER

The 2003 Earth Day Celebration this weekend will hold a variety of events for those with personal health and environmental interests.

Organized by SCSU Campus Rec, the Central Minnesota Heart Center and other individuals and groups, the events will include the Earth Day Half Marathon Festival, the Community Health Expo and a volunteer cleanup of neighborhoods surrounding the

campus.

Over 200 volunteers from SCSU were involved in planning the events along with outside organizations. Most of the volunteers came from Campus Rec, but individual students with interests in marketing, public relations and communications also helped with the nearly year-long planning process.

"It's been pretty busy, but we're getting everything put together," said Aaron Fealy, Campus Rec coordinator of intramural sports and special events.

The Community Health Expo will kick-off the celebration tomorrow in Halenbeck Hall Field House, and will run from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.. Activities will include free swimming, skating, a 5K run/walk, a pasta feed and many other children's activities. "We have over 50 vendors coming in for the expo," Fealy said. "This event is just gigantic. It's the Midwest's premiere fitness expo."

Fealy hopes that more students will come and see the expo this year. "There a lot of people on campus that haven't been down to the expo as

much and it would be great to see more student faces; see what the community has to offer," Fealy said. "There's something for everyone."

Fealy went on to explain some of the goals of the event. "We're setting up a foundation for anyone around the community to use all the money we make for earth beautification projects," Fealy said. "So if the Boys Scouts wanted to do park benches along the river, they could use our funds to put that together. That's one of our goals, just to get they whole community involved."

The following day will include the Half Marathon Festival and the community cleanup project. The marathon is to begin at 9 a.m. and is expected to attract over 1,500 runners from all over the state.

Volunteers for the cleanup project, organized by Volunteer Link and Z-Club will meet Saturday at 1 p.m. in Barden Park for free pizza, and then move on to the cleanup area. The Atwood Main Lobby will be used as an alternate meeting place in case of rain.

'Stevie' discovers honesty

JOHN
BEHLINGFILM
CRITIC

Steve James, while discussing his new documentary, "Stevie,"

uses one word with striking repetition: honesty.

As he says on camera, "This film will be an honest film, as honest as I can make it." The second half of that statement is the ultimate challenge for a filmmaker who turns the camera on himself. How James maintains the integrity of "Stevie" in light of this unique and difficult subject is both a statement of the film's power and James' will to make a film that truly is honest.

James brought a camera crew in 1995 when he returned to rural Pomona, Ill. in order to reconnect with Stephen Fielding, a youth James had been a Big Brother to while he was in college. Stevie re-enters James' life as a 24-year-old man. Shirtless, tattooed and on crutches, Stevie openly threatens to kill his mother in one of the early visits.

Two years pass while James finds reasons not to return to

Pomona, including an offer to direct Disney's "Prefontaine," a narrative film about the Olympic runner. Then a serious event became both a realization of James' worst nightmares and a point of no return for the filmmaker.

In the kind of dramatic twist that all documentarians are bound by, Stevie is arrested for molesting his 8-year-old cousin, a crime he would later confess to. While Stevie's legal problems develop, James takes a look into "what went wrong," spanning his abusive childhood, failed placement in a string of foster homes, committal to a mental hospital and repeated problems with the law. The film raises the difficult question of what can be done for troubled children that seem to fall so quickly through the system into lives of criminal behavior. While James may not answer this question outright, he succeeds in framing the problem completely, compiling the portrait of a sex offender that is both honest and compassionate.

The camera becomes a sober examiner of Stevie and his family members, carefully sculpting the product into an account from all sides, which neither spares nor condemns anyone. This lack of a concrete target for blame makes the film as difficult to forget as it is to watch, not allowing the audience to simply place their blame and move on.

"We increasingly came to realize that there is no right side to this story. There is no one person who is absolutely without fault and some-

body who is absolutely at fault," James told *University Chronicle*.

But the question remains, can you make a film that portrays yourself honestly when you stand on both sides of the camera as James did in "Stevie?"

James handled this problem by allowing his collaborators to moderate the editing of his scenes. "It was hard for me to make some of those judgments. My impulse was always to take more of me out. There were times where they said no, this is important, this should be in the film," James said. What is left depicts James' struggle with the moral issues concerning his involvement in Stevie's life, his guilt over leaving Stevie and his struggle to find out who Stevie really is.

In a landscape where documentaries are gaining appeal among movie-goers and may be headed for bigger screens and bigger audiences, "Stevie" is definitely a film worthy of rewarding a new mass audience.

"People are finding that documentaries don't have to be viewed as medicine. They don't have to be viewed as something to go to because they're good for you. They can be compelling, they can have a great story, they can be funny. They can be everything that people are looking for in a movie, but they also happen to be about real life."

"Stevie" opens tomorrow at the Landmark Uptown Cinema in Minneapolis.

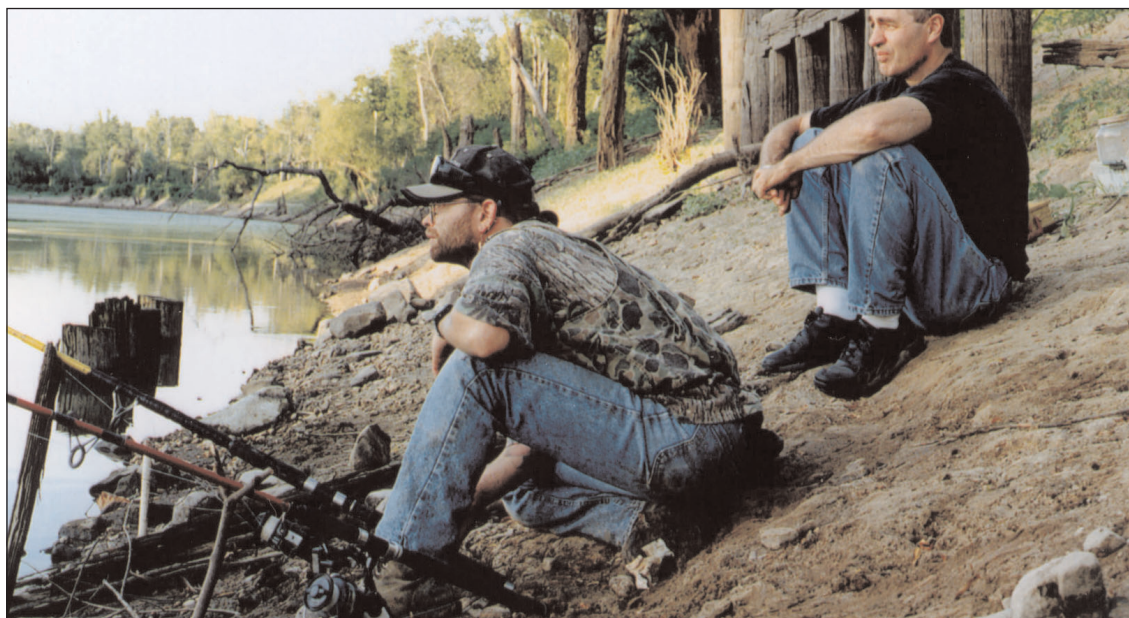


PHOTO COURTESY OF LIONSGATE FILMS

Filmmaker Steve James (left) with the subject of his new film "Stevie" Steve Fielding (right).

Keillor to bring his radio show to SCSU

Regina Eckes

STAFF WRITER

The Minnesotan living legend, Garrison Keillor, is coming to SCSU and bringing his public radio show, "A Prairie Home Companion," with him. Students, faculty and the public can join his live audience April 26 at 4:45 p.m. in Halenbeck Hall's main gym.

Keillor is not a new face or name in the state of Minnesota. People have been listening to him as far back as 1969 when he began working for Minnesota Public Radio. He started his career by doing a morning show from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m., "A Prairie Home Companion," which is named after the Prairie Home Cemetery in Moorhead, Minn.

While working for the New Yorker Magazine a few years later, he began to develop an idea for his own radio show. "A Prairie Home Companion" first aired July 6, 1974 at Macalester College in front of a small audience of 12. The show left the airwaves in 1987 for a short amount of time, but was soon back on the air in Minnesota's Fitzgerald Theater in 1993, where it continues today.

"A Prairie Home Companion" is a comedy show that alternates between musical guests, skits, jokes and Keillor's famous stories from Lake Wobegon. Many Minnesotans are familiar with the tales of

Lake Wobegon because it is a mythical place that is loosely based on the small towns of Stearns County.

"It looks at how human relations work in a tense small town where everybody knows each other," Amanda Stanton-Geddes, marketing director for "A Prairie Home Companion," said.

Keillor's show is currently touring several Minnesota Colleges as part of their Minnesota College Fieldhouse Tour. So far they have already done shows at Bemidji State and last weekend at Gustavus Adolphus College. Cory Christenson, a sophomore at Gustavus, attended the show and recommends the event to anyone who has a chance to see it.

"The show was fantastic. It is two hours long and there is a lot of music and singing," Christenson said. "He tells stories and jokes and is an entertaining guy. It was worth my money and I really suggest going."

Geddes, who also helped organize the college tour, said the show was a riot and Keillor was able to really relate to students.

"We decided to tour colleges because there's just a lot of great, young talent out there and Garrison loves working with college people and that environment," Geddes

"He is a fascinating storyteller and somebody who really understands a lot about human nature."

Amanda Stanton-Geddes
MARKETING DIRECTOR

said. One of Keillor's skits was in support of body piercings for young students and created an enormous amount of laughter and applause. "Body piercing is for some of you what nuclear weapons are for North Korea: a way to be taken seriously and a basis for further negotiations," Keillor said. "Think of how quiet and thoughtful your parents will get when you show up for Easter with big, shiny things all over your face."

Besides Keillor's enjoyment when performing before a college audience, "A Prairie Home Companion" had other reasons for taking the show on the road in Minnesota. "It's important to give the people in Minnesota a chance to see "A Prairie Home Companion" live because every week it's performed in front of a live audience," Geddes told the *University Chronicle*.

"Minnesota is sort of the whole background for the show; it applies to everybody but is set in Minnesota. It's important for people to see the show in their home towns so they do not have to drive to the Twin Cities." However, a warning must be issued to those wishing to attend the show April 26. If in the audience, one's laughter will be heard live around the country and world due to the large number of stations the program now runs on. Compared to the show's first audience of 12, "A Prairie Home Companion" is now listened to every week by over four million people on 555 different radio stations, and is broadcast internationally as well. More importantly, people can expect to hear Keillor's crafty humor, pronounced sarcasm, witty jokes and true-to-life stories about small towns and human interaction. Keillor also happens to be the type of person who does not need to act when on the air. This truly funny man brings everything on stage with him, including his ideas and semi-liberal thoughts.

"He is a fascinating storyteller and somebody who really understands a lot about human nature, and he's very, very funny but can also be very touching," Geddes said when asked how to describe Keillor personally.

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Good Friday.....Friday, April 18, 12 noon
Easter Vigil.....Saturday, April 19 at 8 pm
Easter Sunday.....9 am and 11:15 am (no 8 pm)

MASS & EVENTS: 251-3261 OFFICE: 251-3260
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