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University Chronicle

NEWSPAPER OF ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

Volume 86 Number 19

Monday, Feb. 1, 2010

Students encouraged to apply early for financial aid

Anna Behrens

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Reports about the poor economic climate of the United States have flooded every aspect of the media and many college students are wondering how this economy will affect their financial aid.

The need for financial aid is on the rise at some colleges around the state and SCSU have experienced a 12

percent increase in financial aid applications compared to last year.

This equals an extra 1,800 applications for the financial aid department to sort through.

Mike Uran, the financial aid director at SCSU, has noticed the direct impact of the economy.

"We have felt the impact, and have seen an increase in the number of students coming into the office whose

families have been impacted by the economy," Uran said.

Due to the economy and tough job market, many individuals are heading back to school in hopes of upgrading their credentials for employment.

SCSU noticed a spike in enrollment and in 2009 it reached its highest enrollment ever; almost 18,000 students.

Although increased enrollment is fiscally positive

for the university, this influx of students equals an increased need for financial aid.

Even though the need for financial aid is high, the flow of aid is not increasing.

Professor and chair of the Economics Department, Orn Bodvarsson, explained the availability for student aid is down in all areas including the supply for scholarships, state and grant funding, and student loans.

In fact, the government has tightened restrictions on lenders, and it is less profitable for institutions to lend now than before the financial crisis.

"Raising the demand for aid lowers the supply of aid. The ultimate result is fewer students will get the aid they need. This means students will be borrowing more money and paying higher interest rates," Bodvarsson said.

"We certainly have had

challenges to get funds due to the economy; businesses and individuals simply have less ability to give," Uran said.

Many SCSU students are personally experiencing a money crunch.

A large percentage of students rely on loans for the basic school necessities.

One example is SCSU

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Students attend Diversity Conference

Molly Willms

STAFF WRITER

The "Power in Diversity Leadership Conference" had its maiden voyage over the weekend in Atwood Memorial Center.

Students came to attend workshops, hear keynote speakers, attend a job fair and parties and generally learn how to be a competitive employee and leader in today's diverse work environment.

For some in Central Minnesota, the conference seemed to be just in time—last week, the Somali Student Association hosted a community speak out in response to various anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant cartoons posted in public locations.

There were nine sessions of classes for students attending the conference, with such subjects as "You Don't Need a Title to Be a Leader," "Backpack to Briefcase: Making a Successful Transition into the Workplace" and "Narratives, Challenges and Reflections of Women of Color in the Academy."

Each session offered about six classes for students to choose from, depending on their individual needs and goals.

Some were geared toward education students, some toward business students, others on general leadership in any workplace.

Each lunch and dinner also hosted a keynote

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BEATRICE CHUNG/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At History Day, SCSU volunteers helped students from sixth to 12th grade improve research skills.

Miller Center hosts History Day

Sydney Thompson

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., SCSU hosted a History Day event in the Miller Center for sixth- through-12 graders.

The theme of the event was "Innovation in History: Impact and Change."

SCSU History Day interns, SCSU student volunteers, and librarians were available to help.

This year, 116 students registered for the event, compared to last year's 25 students.

"Parents, teachers and media specialists were invited to the Miller Center Library to learn how to do

research and use resources located at SCSU and receive assistance from SCSU History Day Interns, SCSU students and SCSU librarians," Susan Motin, Library Outreach coordinator, said.

"National History Day selects a different theme each year; each theme directs students to focus on a particular aspect in history. This year, the theme requires a student to analyze how a particular innovation has impacted and changed society, rather than just writing a report about an innovation."

"Each student selects a topic within the theme, develops a thesis statement, and researches sources to support the thesis. All the in-

formation may be presented in a paper, an exhibit, a documentary, a performance, or a Web site. Students may work alone or in groups," Mary Johnson, History Day Coordinator said.

Motin said she feels students gained critical thinking and research skills that will help them throughout their education.

"In today's global world, students will need to be able to do research to succeed in college and in their future careers. Employers are looking for people who can not only communicate well but also know how to find information, evaluate that information and present it to a selected audience," Motin

said.

"It is important for them to learn how to research a topic, evaluate sources, and analyze sources to support a thesis. Throughout the process, students are developing higher level thinking skills; these skills will be used throughout the rest of their educational career and these skills will help them to be informed citizens," Johnson said.

On Mar. 27, SCSU is expected to host the annual Central Minnesota History Day Regional Competition. SCSU has hosted this event for over 20 years.

•See History Day Page 5

Grant assists faculty research group

Anazthasya Anthony

STAFF WRITER

SCSU's faculty research group on immigrant workers in Minnesota recently won the MnSCU Diversity Mini-Grant Award for \$10,000.

The collaborative research by Professors Ed Greave, Stephen Phillion, Chukwunere Ugochukwu, Paul Greider, and Ajay Panicker started at the end of last summer.

The formation was in response to President Earl H. Potter III's call for faculty to develop ideas related to community engagement. Phillion said.

SCSU is very concerned with multiculturalism, Phillion said, but keeping matters within the college community only addresses "typically middle-class students."

"We want to build an organic link between immigrant worker communities and the college campus," Phillion said.

Phillion said the main goal is to be recognized as SCSU Center for Research on Immigrant Workers in Minnesota (CRIWM) funded by SCSU within a year or a year or so from now.

Through the center, Phillion said the group will continue with research but it will provide data to organizations, academics and the community.

Phillion said the College of Social Sciences (COSS) provides concrete help to the group.

Through COSS, the group receives grant writing sources and grant writers to help.

"That to me is concrete. It's not just money. It's actual labor," Phillion said.

They chose to limit the research to immigrant workers in Minnesota.

"Throughout the college system in Minnesota, people are doing research on immigrants but almost none are doing any real research on condition of immigrants in Minnesota and how they are experiencing work in Minnesota," Phillion said.

Currently, they are working on three different projects Phillion said.

Ugochukwu is working on a comparison among Gaylord, Willmar and Cold Spring concerning patterns of residential discrimination

•See Grant/ Page 5

Local businesses unite to help people in Haiti

Samantha South

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the world comes together to help the people of Haiti, St. Cloud's own local businesses said they are doing what they can to chip in.

When multiple earthquakes hit Haiti on Jan. 12, local Haitian people were left with ruins.

Buildings, schools, hospitals, and homes all collapsed.

A body count of around 200,000 was estimated after the disaster, leaving many without family.

Being one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world, Haiti already has a population of four out of five living in poverty.

In the past few weeks,

people around the world have strived to help Haiti, financially and medically.

Local businesses in St. Cloud are offering donation help through their staff and options for customers.

"I think it's awesome how everyone, everywhere, is coming together to donate, even in an economic recession," said Lacey Schirmers, bar manager at T.G.I. Fridays.

The local restaurant is performing a corporate-wide sponsor program, where servers will be getting money taken out of their checks for donation to the Haiti funds.

The option for giving more donations is available to the staff at a link through their pay check stubs.

Other St. Cloud busi-

"I think it's awesome how everyone, everywhere, is coming together to donate even in an economic recession."

Lacey Schirmers

BAR MANAGER FOR T.G.I. FRIDAYS

nesses are taking different approaches to helping Haiti fundraisers.

The Finish Line, located in Crossroads Center Mall, is collecting donations for a not-for-profit organization called The Samaritan's Feet.

The organization provides shoes for impoverished children around the world and has pledged up

to \$50,000 for donations to be used for giving shoes in Haiti.

The Finish Line Youth Foundation is also part of this help, planning to match the donations from its customers of up to \$50,000 collected. These funds will then be distributed to the Action Against Hunger funds, a global humanitarian organi-

zation whom is dedicated to helping Haiti.

"It's really nice to see people helping each other," said Zach Evenson, an assistant manager at Finish Line. "For every dollar you donate here, a pair of shoes goes to them."

Another partner of the fundraiser, Soles4Souls, has also pledged to provide one million pairs of shoes to the people in Haiti.

Customers have the option to donate a pair of used or new shoes as well.

Old Chicago restaurant has also committed to helping the Haiti funds.

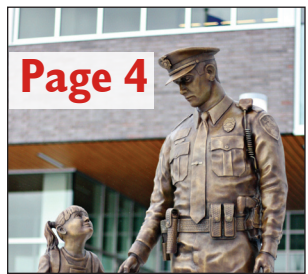
"It's one of the worst things we've seen happen

•See Businesses/ Page 5

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Officers get new building



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Officers respond to the process of getting a new building for the St. Cloud Police Department and the benefits.

TBT to play the Red Carpet



Page 9

Trampled By Turtles plans to release their fifth studio album "Palomino" in April and go on a national tour.

Men down NSIC rivals



Page 16

Friday and Saturday push the SCSU men's basketball into second place.

Local

Kleis looks to bring more flights to Regional Airport

ST. CLOUD- City officials are working on a new model to attract an airline to the St. Cloud Regional Airport, which would give travelers a flat rate. St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis said the model relies on private investors pooling money to help attract a carrier. The city has applied for a \$500,000 federal grant to start that investment pool. Local businesses will contribute \$1.5 million, he said. Several businesses have already expressed an interest in participating.

"We're very committed," he said about bringing business to St. Cloud. "It's essential to the economic development in this region." Atlanta-based Delta Air Lines announced Oct. 22 that it would stop flying at St. Cloud's newly expanded airport because of weak customer demand.

Kleis said unreliable flight times and inconsistent pricing hurt demand of the regional airport. Kleis said it's not clear where flights would go, but he said popular destinations are to Chicago, New York and Washington, D.C.

State

Man struck by light-rail train

MINNEAPOLIS- A man was hit by a Metro Transit light-rail train Friday at a downtown Minneapolis station near the Warehouse District station, according to Bruce Howard, Metro Transit director of marketing.

Howard said the southbound train was arriving from the Target Field station and was slowing when it struck the man on the tracks. It was not clear why the man was on the tracks, Howard said.

The man was taken to Hennepin County Medical Center with non-life-threatening injuries, Howard said.

Nation

Obama proposes 5,000 tax credit for each new job

WASHINGTON- President Obama promoted tax cuts for small businesses Friday as he focuses on creating jobs. Some of the nation's job creators are hesitant about the plan.

In the State of the Union address Wednesday Obama proposed the plan to provide businesses with 5,000 tax credit for each job created on a net basis in 2010, up to 500,000 per company.

He proposes this to encourage companies to hire more workers. His plan also allows small businesses to raise wages or hours and be reimbursed for the Social Security payroll taxes. The White House proposes that the tax cuts for small businesses should lower the cost of hiring workers.

Business groups say that the credit will not boost the hiring they expect.

World

Bin Laden advises world to boycott American products

CAIRO- Osama bin Laden has advised in a new audiotape for the world to boycott American goods and the U.S. dollar, blaming the United States and other industrialized countries for global warming.

The tape aired on Al-Jazeera television Friday warned of the dangers of climate change and said the way to stop in it to bring the "wheels of the American economy" to a halt.

Bin Laden also says the world should "stop consuming American products" and refrain from using the dollar.

The new message, whose authenticity could not immediately be confirmed, comes after a bin Laden tape released last week in which he endorsed a failed attempt to blow up an American airliner on Christmas Day.

Weird news

Pastor accused of threatening son with gun at church

ALCOA, Tenn.- The son of a well-known Alcoa pastor has taken out an order of protection against his father, claiming he was threatened with a gun during an argument over his lack of attending church. The order was filed by 32-year-old Michael Louis Colquitt against 60-year-old Joe Colquitt, pastor of St. John Missionary Baptist Church.

The son told police his father pulled out a handgun when they met at the church to discuss church attendance. He told officers his father pointed the gun at him and threatened to kill him, his wife and family. Joe Colquitt declined to comment when contacted by The Daily Times of Maryville.

This day in history

Interesting events from the past

- 1914 New York Giants and Chicago White Sox play an exhibition baseball game in Egypt
- 1920 First commercial armored car introduced (St. Paul, MN)
- 1949 RCA releases first single record ever
- 1951 First X-ray moving picture process demonstrated
- 1965 Martin Luther King Jr. and 700 demonstrators arrested in Selma, AL

Campus Crime Report



1. (1/27/09) Assault (Domestic), Mitchell Hall
2. (1/27/09) Head Injury, Health Services
3. (1/27/09) Student Conduct Concern, Sherburne Hall
4. (11/24/09) Asthma Attack, Hill-Case Hall

WHO KNEW?
ENVIRONMENTAL EDITION
(COURTESY OF ANIMENT ACTION ON CAMPUS)

- **FOUR DAYS OF GLOBAL MILITARY SPENDING, WHICH IS ESTIMATED TO RUN ABOUT \$8 BILLION, COULD FINANCE A FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN TO PROTECT THE WORLD'S REMAINING TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS.**
- **EACH U.S. CITIZEN CONSUMES AN AVERAGE OF 260 LBS. OF MEAT PER YEAR, THE WORLD'S HIGHEST RATE. THAT IS ABOUT 1.5 TIMES THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD AVERAGE, THREE TIMES THE EAST ASIAN AVERAGE, AND 40 TIMES THE AVERAGE IN BANGLADESH (6.5 LBS)**
- **PRODUCING A QUARTER-POUND OF HAMBURGER REQUIRES 100 GALLONS OF WATER, 1.2 LBS. OF FEED GRAIN AND ENERGY EQUAL TO A CUP OF GASOLINE, CAUSING THE LOSS OF 1.25 LBS. OF TOPSOIL AND PRODUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS EQUAL TO A 6-MILE DRIVE IN A TYPICAL U.S. AUTOMOBILE.**
- **THE VOLUME OF WATER THAT THE GIANT SEQUOIA TREE CONSUMES IN A 24-HOUR PERIOD CONTAINS ENOUGH SUSPENDED MINERALS TO PAVE 17.3 FEET OF A 4-LANE CONCRETE FREEWAY.**

University Chronicle

St. Cloud State University
13 Stewart Hall
St. Cloud, Minnesota
56301-4498

On the Internet
www.universitychronicle.com

Phone
Office: (320) 308-4086
Fax: 308-2164
Advertising: 308-3943
Business: 308-3945
Editor: 308-2449
E-mail: joda0504@stcloudstate.edu

Staff

- Editor**
Dana Johnson
- Managing Online Editor**
Jun-Kai Teoh
- News Editor**
Emily Peterson
- Asst. News Editor**
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- Entertainment Editor**
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Corrections

The University Chronicle prides itself on journalistic integrity. We usually do not publish misinformation, but we are prone to human mistakes. We will correct any errors of fact or misspelled names promptly. Call 308-4086 with any corrections.

Local weather forecast

Report courtesy of: JAMES NIKLAS

Monday



Mostly Cloudy
Chance of Snow
High: 11 °F
Low: -5 °F

Tuesday



Mostly Cloudy
Chance of Snow
High: 14 °F
Low: -2 °F

Wednesday



Partly Sunny
High: 23 °F
Low: 9 °F

Thursday



Mostly Cloudy
Chance of Snow
High: 26 °F
Low: 17 °F

New station allows for room to grow

Ashley Imdieke

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After six years, three of which were devoted to conducting studies and planning, the police officers of St. Cloud have finally received their new police department in the downtown area.

In 1987, the St. Cloud Police Department moved into the previous station. Back then, they had a force of 67 members.

Today, 22 years later, the force has grown to include 100 officers and community service officers. With the expansion of the police department throughout the past decade, various aspects of the department needed a change.

"The actual planning process started back in 2003. In 2005, we did a facilities assessment and looked at how much space they had and did a study on where it should go; location," said Matt Glaesman, planning director of the Planning and Zoning Department. "The big discussion was whether it [the new police department] should go downtown or in a further out location."

The planning office felt strongly that it should stay in the downtown to preserve some 200 jobs within the downtown area.

Keeping the police station in the downtown "strengthens all of the downtown... proximity to the jail and to the courthouse because their officers are testifying in court every day," Glaesman said.

In 2006, St. Cloud residents approved the funding for the new site of the police department.

There was, also, a conceptual design process that gave the planning and zoning department the information they needed.

"Each of the steps in the process had a local team member on the consultant team to provide background information," Glaesman said.

The planning alone took

just over \$60,000 to complete.

The funds came from a development fund, which is a city fund the planning commission controls and is dedicated to this purpose.

On June 17, 2008, the ground broke on the new building site.

Almost a year and a half later, the St. Cloud Police Department was able to move into their new station on Dec. 8, 2009.

Sergeant Martin Sayre, public information officer, said the police department switched building because space was limited.

"Every place that we worked in that building was crammed. We had primary investigators working in cubicles interviewing victims or dealing with perpetrators."

Sayre also went on to say the control division didn't have a place to put their vehicles so all the delicate electronic components would sit outside in 30 below temperatures.

Exposing their vehicles to the elements for an extended period of time would increase the amount of maintenance on the vehicles.

They would also have to constantly move their vehicles to accommodate the snowplows.

With the construction of the new police station, the officers now have a place to store their vehicles.

There are 300 stalls for the cars. There are two levels below ground. The lowest level is unheated, but covered and allows the staff to store their privately owned vehicles.

There is also a heated portion for unmarked vehicles, tactical vehicles and many others.

The next level is for the marked squad cars.

The station also supports a new crime lab.

"Our crime lab is significantly enhanced," said Sayre. "Typically, we'd have to send evidence to the BCA,



ANDREW JACOBSON STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A memorial outside the new St. Cloud Police Department building. Officers moved to the new building Dec. 8, 2009.

in the twin cities, and would get entered into priority. If it's low priority, then it's going to take a long time to get the lab analysis back, longer for the offender, and longer for the prosecution. Now, we have the capability in St. Cloud and we'll not only do it for us, we'll do it for the other agencies that surround us."

Along with the new storage, parking and crime lab, the new station provides officers with the space many said they needed.

"It's designed for a 20 year plan. The planned ahead for incoming staff and built for expansion without making the building larger," Sayre said.

This is seen by the spare rooms on the main floor and the second floor.

A few other features that this new station has include a workout space, storage for confiscated or found items, and coming in the future, the station will gain a new kind of technology.

All cars, now, have audio

and video recording inside them.

The new technology is planned to include digital audio and visual systems in the cars.

"When a squad car gets near to the building, it will automatically download data from the car," Sayre said.

"We like it. We have more space to work with. We're up to date on technology so it makes the workload a lot easier," Officer Nina Koster said.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TODAY

• **Strategies for College Success Series: Suicide Prevention**

12 p.m. in Atwood's Glacier Room, SCSU's Counseling and Psychological Services present the warning signs and symptoms of those thinking about suicide.

TUESDAY

• **Intro to Kyaking**
6:00 p.m. in the Halenbeck pool, Campus Rec will give a brief introduction to paddling a kayak. There will be basic informa-

tion on safety.

THURSDAY

• **Holly Day**
10-4 p.m. in Atwood, UPB hosts an arts and crafts fair and provides an opportunity to purchase holiday gifts.

FRIDAY

• **Atwood Movie Night: Extract**
At 8 p.m. in the Atwood Theatre features a movie where Joel, the owner of an Extract plant tries to contend with a myriad of personal and professional problems.

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FREAKY FAST DELIVERY!

Prep Party, Diversity fair prepare students

Jason Tham

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Job Fair Prep Party on Wednesday in Atwood's Ballroom aimed to help students prepare for job fairs in general, more specifically the Diversity Job and Internship Fair on Friday and the Minnesota State Universities Job Fair on Feb. 19 at Minneapolis Convention Center.

"Students need to be more prepared," said Andrew Ditlevson, the associate director of the Career Services Center.

Ditlevson said the previous Job Fair Prep Party was featured in the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) newsletter in December.

The Prep Party gave a chance for students to learn how and what to research about the potential employers.

"A lot of the students don't know what is the company, what do they do, what are their major products or services, and what is their mission and values," Ditlevson said.

The Prep Party also created interviewing opportunities for students to receive feedback from potential employers.

"Maybe their handshakes were too weak, they have insufficient eye contact, they have not done research, or they did not dress appropriately," Ditlevson said.

Four main booths were set up in the Atwood Ballroom - "Researching an Employer," "Dress for Success," "Practicing Introductions" and "Resumes Ready."

"This is a really good opportunity for students to prepare themselves, to be able to practice their introductions to employers, have their resumes critiqued, learn how to dress appropriately and research their potential employers," Lauren Schroeder, the campus program specialist from Cargill Talent Recruiting team said.

"Students must bring a good resume when meeting an employer," Ditlevson

said.

Students had their resumes reviewed and practiced their introduction with actual employers.

"There were about 17 employers doing resume critiques simultaneously and more than 100 resumes received critiques," Ditlevson said.

"This would take weeks for our office to do, even [though] we have full-time workers."

Students could also get tips on how to dress appropriately to meet an employer and how to look up an employer or organization before meeting them.

"Students must dress professionally for every job fair. That means a business suit," Ditlevson said.

Besides free treats and prizes, students also received \$5 off their registration to the Minnesota State Universities Job Fair once they accomplished all the tasks set at the four booths.

"This is a good event that helped students who want to approach and introduce themselves to the employers," said Eunice Gyamerah, a junior Accounting major who was coordinating the "Researching an Employer" booth.

Gyamerah helped with the Job Fair Prep Party the third time and said she is also learning by helping the students.

"The Prep Party helps them to know how to approach the employers in the coming Job Fair," Gyamerah said.

"Students will be able to have an idea of what we are looking for and interested in as employers," Schroeder said. "Students will be able to receive feedback from us."

Some of the tips Schroeder suggested for students are to be prepared, do research on the employers and the company and to have questions ready before meeting the employers to initiate conversations.

"This is a good event that touches on all aspects to prepare students for their career search," said Michelle Arnold, the human resources supervi-



BEATRICE CHUNG STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Atwood's Voyageur and Glacier Rooms hosted Friday's Diversity Job Fair on Friday from 1 p.m. to 4p.m.

sor of Catholic Charities for five years.

"We're here to help students to get feedback at what we're looking for when they are doing career search," Arnold said.

Students not only got to talk to employers about their interests, but also to know what kinds of employee qualities the employers are looking for.

"It is important to contact employers and to let them know you are interested at working for them," Arnold said.

"Students should also have done some research on the employers and know how to fit into the organization before meeting their potential employers," Arnold said.

530 students attended this Job Fair Prep Party, Ditlevson said.

DIVERSITY CONNECTS STUDENTS WITH EMPLOYERS

Career Services hosted

its annual Diversity Job and Internship Fair on Friday to bring together students and employers.

Co-sponsored by Career Development Council (CDC), Career Services Center, Multicultural Student Services, American Indian Center, LGBT Services and Student Disability Services, the Diversity Job and Internship Fair took place in Atwood Memorial Center's Voyageur Room.

Students came to connect with employers who are particularly interested in diversity recruiting.

"The Diversity Job and Internship Fair helped connect students with color and students who are underrepresented with the employers," said Andrew Ditlevson, the associate director of Career Services.

Many of Minnesota's largest business, technical, health care, government, non-profit and education employers were in attendance.

"Many students are doing their job search and applica-

tion online, in which their resumes are kept by the databases, not actual employers, this means they are totally anonymous to the employers," Ditlevson said.

The employers sought all kinds of majors for part time, full time and internship applications.

"It is a good opportunity for them to know what is out there and what are the specifications that employers look for," said Patty McNary, recruiter in the human resource of St. Cloud Hospital.

"What we look for is a passion in the medical field, we hire for fit," McNary said.

The Diversity Job and Internship Fair gave focus on the diverse student community.

"Diverse students can see great opportunities out there," said Becky Kregelberg, recruiting supervisor of Enterprise.

"We look for students who have great communication skills as we deal with diverse customers," Kregel-

berg said. "We also look for outgoing, flexible and adaptable personalities."

Students lined up for the registration before the registration counter was opened.

"The job fair helps students' networking with future employers and fill my understanding on what they require, so that I can be well prepared," First year Mass Communication graduate student Cam Ngoc Nha Le said. "There are a lot of promising companies here."

"I expect them to take my resume and read them. We should get something out of here," said Muna Shalid, a senior majoring in Information Media.

"I have my resume up to date and I know what kind of job I am looking for," Shalid said.

Students talked to potential employers and had their resumes reviewed right away.

•See Diversity Fair/ Page 5

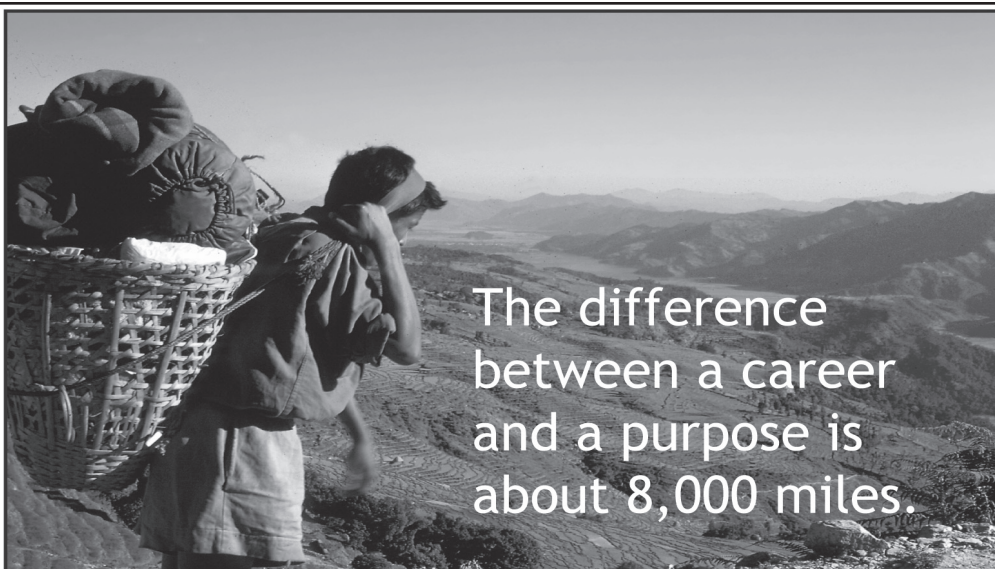
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SCSU plans to host next MSUSA conference

Emilie Thiessen
ASST. A & E EDITOR

For the first time in nearly five years, SCSU is planning to host the upcoming Minnesota State University Student Association (MSUSA) conference.

Taking place from Feb. 5 to Feb. 7, the conference is expected to bring representation from all the seven Universities of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MNSCU) system including Bemidji, Metropolitan, Mankato, Moorhead, Southwest, Winona and SCSU.

The frequent conferences are hosted by different campuses throughout each year and are meant to be channels for delegates from each

university to be updated on the current activities of MNSCU.

In addition, delegates attend workshops and discuss any policies or changes within the MNSCU system that need to be addressed.

Student Government Association (SGA) president Michael Jannick explained the main objective of the numerous MSUSA conferences is to keep students abreast of what is happening with MNSCU.

"Be it hell or high water, MNSCU changes policies from time to time whether we like it or not it seems, so we try to keep on top of what is exactly going on," Jannick said.

Jannick also said the aim of MSUSA's lobbying efforts is largely determined

at conferences, which they can then present to the State Legislature.

Jannick said MSUSA might advocate for many issues including financial aid, campus security, tuition and simply the current condition of public higher education.

"Setting the direction of what advocacy MSUSA does is one of the bigger things that we handle there as well," Jannick said.

Jannick said that for MSUSA conferences, there are two decision-making bodies.

First, there is the delegate assembly, which has proportional representation from each University (meaning St. Cloud and Mankato have the most delegates and Metro, Southwest and Bemidji have the least).

The delegates discuss issues and will then go on to make recommendations to the Board of Directors which is comprised of the student government presidents from each of the seven Universities.

The Board of Directors will then make the ultimate decisions on issues pertaining to students.

"One of the big things we have been talking about is the Student First Initiative MNSCU is wanting to launch in 2011," Jannick said.

He said the Student First Initiative is expected to revamp the current registration systems used at all MNSCU schools, making online advising and a graduation planner available to students.

This new system would also make it much easier for

SCSU students to register for courses through another state school, Jannick said.

"We talk about it every conference," Jannick said. "We get updates on it to know where they are in the process ... they will keep updating us on it until it eventually launches in Spring 2011."

MSUSA campus coordinator Luanda Majo believes the Student First Initiative is a perfect example of the importance of MSUSA and the conferences.

"It was from students at St. Cloud [State] that had problems, that came to student government saying 'I have a problem with advising, what can I do?' We brought it into MSUSA, MSUSA then brought it to MNSCU and here we are

now with a new program ... we are a way of getting things done," Majo said.

Both Jannick and Majo stressed that the entire conference is open to all students and they are encouraged to come.

"At the end of the day, they (MSUSA) will take all the concerns that people have and start to lead us in a new direction," said Majo. "It is really important that people voice out their opinions because that is what the organization is for."

The conference is expected to be hosted in both Atwood Memorial Center and Centennial Hall. For more information visit www.msusa.net.

Businesses

Continued from Page 1

in a lifetime, other than the war," said Tanya Young, general manager at the local

Old Chicago.

Old Chicago is part of the Doctors Without Borders

program, an international medical humanitarian organization who provides quality medical care for people caught in crisis.

Customers have the option to donate \$1, \$5 or \$10 donations when they come in to eat.

Donation fliers are in ev-

ery book given to a customer when they pay their tab.

The money is placed in buckets in the kitchen of the restaurant and the flyers then placed on the Haiti Fund wall in the entry way with the guests name on it.

"Generally in a week we can make about \$200,"

Young said. "Which may not seem like a lot, but take that times 100 per week."

Old Chicago includes 100 stores and is connected to the Rock Bottom Franchise, who has 35 to 40 stores. All have the option to help the Haiti funds.

Grant

Continued from Page 1

of Latino immigrant workers.

Panicker and Greider are concentrating on Somali migration in Central Minnesota.

Panicker said they established connection with Catholic Charities which runs a center helping students with homework.

What started as service learning evolved into research.

"We encouraged our students to do service learning so that they learn hands-on," Panicker said.

With the Somali community, Panicker said most of them enter the country as refugees.

"It is important to find out how they are received by the community and how they integrate into society," Panicker said.

Panicker said they are trying to learn the Somalis' experience as refugees, and the kind of jobs they do.

Entailing the work aspect, Panicker said was finding out what the Somalis worked as prior to living in the United States.

Once they received the grant, Panicker said interviews were conducted.

"We've received a wealth of information and very important leads," Panicker said.

The third research is directed by Phillion and Greave.

The focus is on Latino farm workers in Stearns County area Phillion said.

Phillion said the two methods used are interviews and surveys.

"Our approach is to go to the community organizations doing translation work for Latino immigrants and asking them what questions are you interested in asking," Phillion said.



BEATRICE CHUNG/STAFF WRITER

About 250 students from area schools compete in the competitions at History Day in which students are judged on history projects

History Day

Continued from Page 1

"History Day is a national, academic competition. Students compete at regional, state, and national events;

the regional event will be held at SCSU Mar. 27.

The competition provides a forum for students to pres-

ent their projects to outside judges who then determine which projects will advance to the next competition.

At each level, students are encouraged to make changes to their projects based on the feedback from the judges. Monetary awards and scholarships are presented at the state and national levels," Johnson said.

Motin said the event brings about 250 students from St. Cloud and Central Minnesota schools to compete for awards based on their Minnesota History Day projects.

"In addition, 30-40 SCSU students from the History and Education departments participate as judges as part of service learning in their

course work. SCSU faculty also participate as judges."

Johnson, Motin, and the rest of the staff said they were excited to teach young students how to research because it will have an impact for the rest of their lives.

Conference

Continued from Page 1

speakers including Winona Laduke, two-time vice presidential nominee for the Green Party; and "Yellow Rage", the two person spoken-word team of Michelle Meyers and Cattie Vilayphonh who have been featured on HBO and at various performance centers

around the country.

When asked what attending students should take away from this conference, Jefferson Lee IV, Conference Planner and faculty representative of Southwest Minnesota State University, he said: "The experience of professionalism...

and the understanding of expectations that we as professionals have of them and they as colleagues of themselves have for each other. It's an opportunity for them to develop some leadership qualities and skills, and also to see that there are other students in this system that are experiencing some of the same issues that they are."

Some of the staff responsible for getting this conference off the ground include Harry Jackson, assistant director of Multicultural Stu-

dent services.

"The title of the conference says it all," said SCSU President Earl Potter. "'Power in Diversity.' St. Cloud State has an increasingly diverse campus, and that's an important strength of ours."

"Diversity, multiculturalism, inclusiveness: these are important values which we, as an institution, cherish. [The idea of a gathering of students] is a very, very exciting concept," Devindra Malhotra, University Provost said.

The main focus of the

conference was to prepare students to break into the workforce with the knowledge and skills to lead and be successful even after they leave school.

"The demographics are going to change and [this country]'s going to become more diverse," says Ahmad, "and it really is for us to be prepared in terms of, 'How do we create opportunities for those students as they come to campus?'"

During the first luncheon, the attendees listened to key-

note speaker Tony Byers, Diversity Consultant for Cargill, a multinational corporation. Byers has experience with

In his presentation, "The Five Essential Skills for Transitioning into the World of Work," Byers outlines an emerging concept in today's workplace and also artfully sums up the ideas and goals of the conference:

"Diversity is what we look like. Inclusion is what we do."

Financial Aid

Continued from Page 1

sophomore Lacey Anderson.

"I don't receive loan money before I buy my books for the semester. Even though I work, it is still hard to find an extra \$300 for textbooks," Anderson said.

With extra demand for financial aid, students may need to go the extra mile to receive the funds they need.

Uran suggested students apply soon for FAFSA for the upcoming 2010-2011 year.

"We encouraged students to who are returning next fall to have their application filled out by April 15 to ensure we have their application when we start packaging for the coming year," Uran said.

The financial aid department also encourages students to be creative when searching out scholarship opportunities.

If students have questions or concerns, resources can be found at the SCSU financial aid Web site and students are encouraged to stop by the financial aid offices.

"Keep in mind you are making a very positive investment. This recession will pass, and by the time you graduate we will be in a stronger job market. Your investment in schooling will pay off," Bodvarsson said.

Diversity Fair

Continued from Page 4

"Nothing beats the face to face interaction with your recruiters," Krekelberg said.

"I am introduced to a lot of different companies that I was not aware of," said Jesse Hufford, a junior and Computer Science major.

Students were able to speak to potential employers about their strength and pas-

sion for the employment.

In total, there were 45 employing companies in attendance for the Diversity Job and Internship Fair.

Ditlevson also encouraged all students to attend the Minnesota State Universities Job Fair on Feb. 19 at Minneapolis Convention Center.

"Those who are looking

for an internship before next winter should go to the Minnesota State Universities Job Fair because this will be the last big recruiting opportunity before school starts next fall," Ditlevson said.

"There are more than a hundred employers who had signed up for the Job Fair," Ditlevson said.

Students have to register for the Minnesota State Universities Job Fair with the \$15 registration fee and attend a mandatory orientation with the Career Services.

"We want the St. Cloud State students to be the most prepared students to attend this Job Fair," Ditlevson said.

Quit hassling about tattoo meanings

Tattoos are mine. Tattoos are yours. You don't get a tattoo for everybody else. But, unfortunately, some people can't understand this concept. One person, when she saw one of my tattoos, asked me, "don't you get a tattoo to show other people?" No, you don't.



Megan Junkermier
A&E Editor

of course, get tattoos. This rule describes that people of this age have the cognitive ability to make a decision about an artistic display of something important. Not only is it bad enough that the generation ahead of ours condemns them, but many people in ours hate them as well and apparently aren't afraid to show it.

A tattoo is representative of someone's life, ideas, loved ones or passions. When people waltz in a tattoo shop to get something, even if they are excited about other people seeing the tattoo, they will grow to feel a comfort in concealing it and treasuring the specialty of having a one of a kind piece of art that is all their own.

A few weeks ago, I was helping out with a fundraiser and one of the girls I was working with asked me what one of my tattoos meant. Seeing as how there were more than one visible at the time (especially on the wrists) I asked, "Which one?"

She responded by pointing to the peace sign and saying in a rude voice "I think I know what that one means!" Instantly I was offended and said "no you don't" and walked away. People have the decision to change their hair color and it's not as though people walk around saying "Hey, man, purple? Really?"

They just respect each others' decisions and keep an opinion to themselves. And tattoos? They are far more meaningful than a purple lock of hair.

Ever since I got tattoos, I realized the mistake in asking people what their tattoos mean. How will anyone ever know what other people's tattoos mean? Well, they won't.

They won't unless the possessors decide to tell the inquirers. And not only is this word representative of someone asking a question, but yes, it is supposed to remind you of the National Inquirer too – a tabloid. Much like celebrities despoising their personal photos published in tabloids, people with tattoos really don't like being bombarded with the public only wanting to know the meaning to subside their nosiness. People ask to gossip. They ask because gone are the boundaries between what people need to know, want to know and should know. Many times, they don't understand care what they actually mean or could ever comprehend the personal treasure of them.

Tattoos are yours. Tattoos are mine. I didn't get them for someone else. Please don't presume what mine mean; I never claimed to know what yours meant.

So no, this is not to show off to other people. On the same note, a common situation that comes with getting tattoos besides the judgmental factor is the inevitable question coming from the rest of the world: "What does that mean?"

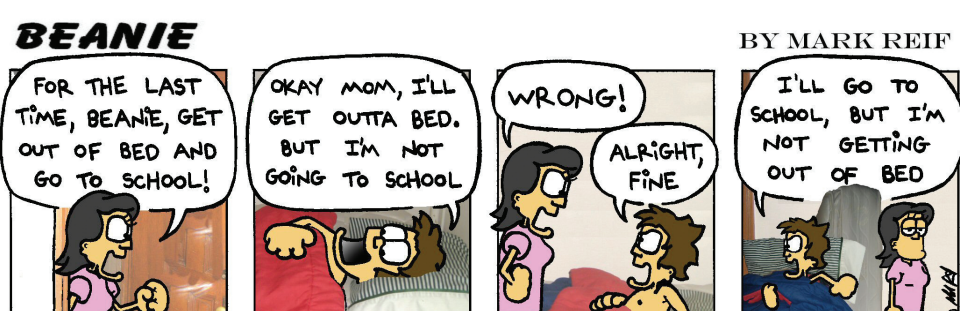
Now, the annoyance of those that possess tattoos will arise from hearing this question again and again, even though they quite possibly used to be the curious kid who asked someone this question before. Once you get one, you'll understand. It's about me; it's not about showing other people. It's personal.

This is why everyone who has tattoos has a Reader's Digest version and the "real" version. This version is the personal one; the version only one other soul on the planet knows and even then, doesn't fully understand the magnitude of it.

Decisions are made every day about things that only affect the people who are making them and tattoos fall in this category. These decisions really have nothing to do with anyone else. They are not made out of rebellion, they are not made out of spite or any other reason related to any other person but themselves.

I cannot speak for anyone, but the majority of people who have tattoos short of a tramp stamp of a heart put their heart and soul into its description and artistic value and don't appreciate other people demeaning them by assuming it is an act of rebellion.

After people reach the age of 18 and legally become an adult, they have the opportunity to buy cigarettes, vote and

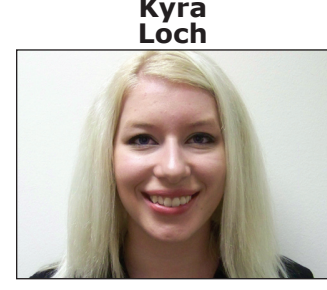


Quote of the Day:

"Dissent is the highest form of patriotism."

Howard Zinn
Author/Historian

Media and Hollywood create disturbing ideals of what is attractive



Kyra Loch
Columnist

As humans, we will always have a little drive to try to be perfect. Some people take this drive to perfection a little too seriously.

This past week, "celebrity" Heidi Montag was reported to have undergone extensive plastic surgery. In one day she had 10 surgeries, including botox, a brow lift, liposuction in her neck, waist and thighs, fat injections in her cheeks and lips, and her second breast augmentation.

These procedures may be normal for someone who is desperately trying to hold on to her youth and resist the aging process, but Montag is only 23 years old.

Every year, the age bracket of young people who have cosmetic procedures grows.

It is becoming a problem that people have to resort to something as extreme as cosmetic surgery to feel good about themselves.

This situation is not helped by the amount of media coverage that Montag has received from her plastic surgery spree.

The media plays a giant role in relation to the "ideal" body image of girls and boys.

With all of the focus on

place. Yes, there are certain situations where cosmetic surgery may be necessary.

But for someone who is young and attractive, the majority of cosmetic procedures are ridiculous to go through. Someone who describes herself to be obsessed with plastic surgeries will always be looking for improvement; she will always be looking for something to fix.

Montag was also quoted saying that her procedures were necessary because of the industry that she works in; she felt they were needed after all the criticism she received from being on television.

It is sad to see another victim fall to the superficiality of Hollywood and the media. Montag should not have received so much press on her plastic surgeries; instead she should have received help.

We do not need any more images thrown at us about how we are supposed to look, or what the "perfect" body and image is. Everyone is perfect in his or her own way, and people need to start realizing it.

It gives off the impression that if we do not like something about our appearance, it is easily fixable with a couple thousand dollars and a week to recover. What is not easily fixable is the actual problem, the underlying insecurity that makes people get these cosmetic surgeries in the first

celebrities, athletes, and reality television stars that do not deserve the attention, we are bombarded constantly throughout the day with ideas of what we are supposed to look like and what people think is perfect.

Girls will see the headlines from Montag's surgeries that "she's trying to create the best version of herself," and that it's "her body and she can do whatever she wants."

What is not easily fixable is the actual problem, the underlying insecurity that makes people get these cosmetic surgeries in the first

Obama's State of the Union nothing but a pep rally

While watching the State of The Union Address that President Obama gave to the country, I couldn't help but think that it was like a coach giving a rousing speech to his team. Cheering abounded. It was like a pep rally before a big game. They should have started a big bonfire in front of the podium, had Obama slip on a USA team jacket and have an eagle fly in and land on his shoulder.

I was just waiting for Biden to go and give Obama a firm slap on the ass and tout, "let's go get 'em." Except it was weird. It was like the opposing team was invited too.

Which leads me to expect that our country is at the most partisan it has ever been. Anytime there was an outburst of clapping and support, only half the room stood up.

It was like a Democratic Convention speech, except they invited Republicans to come too.

Awkward does not describe the vibe that emanated throughout the room. This is not what our country needs.

Obama needs to understand that he can't just push the Democratic Party's agenda if he wants this nation to be lifted from the ashes of this recession.

He needs to come up with common sense solutions. He needs to back up the words that he speaks with plans that are actually bipartisan.

Another thing that bothered me about his speech was that he kept spouting off random cities and states throughout his speech. Is there a need for this?

I don't think anyone truly cares that he can Google up a bunch of cities and find out what kind of businesses are there.

He also needs to understand that actions speak louder than words, and thus far he has not acted nearly enough.

I understand that speaking is his forte and is what got him elected, but what also got him elected was a push for change.

Thus far, the change has not come. I also do not understand his emphasis on the math and sciences.

Sure, technology is obviously a big part of our world, but as a writer, I can't help but question, why can't we invest in all types of education?

Writers are the people that make him such a good speaker. They write his speeches, run his campaign and draft his ideas for legislation.

Everything that comes out of his mouth sounds like such a grand idea, like we can do everything, like nothing is hard and everything will be fine.

He needs to understand that we can't do everything. What we need is not to tackle everything all at once; there is no magic dust that will make everything better again.

What needs to happen is to make small changes in everything, or big changes in one or two important things.

Big changes can't happen to every issue, and that is just a fact that Obama needs to cope with. Obama also said a lot of "I" this and "I" that, he does not have that much power.

Our founding fathers created checks and balances for precisely that reason, to prevent of us from tyranny.

He is not the head of a household as he tries to make us believe. He is more like the football coach that his speech made him out to be.

He can tell us to go out and run a play, but it is up to us to go and do it.

We have the power, not him, that is a democracy. All Obama can do is call the plays.

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

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Late Howard Zinn still inspirational, motivating

On Wednesday historian, teacher and author of "A People's History of the United States" Howard Zinn passed away at the age of 86 from a heart attack.

More depressing than his actual death is the thought that what he has written and taught won't be remembered long past the headlines of his death die out.

But the type of material he wrote and taught should be more prominent in high school and college classrooms than they are. His words are worth more than a shout-out in "Good Will Hunting."

Zinn exposed the unheard voices and classes throughout history, debunking many American myths that schools still teach today.

His dedication to exposing the truth behind labor strikes, treatment of Native Americans and civil rights movements (to name a few topics) was inspiring for those who seek the truth.

More so than speaking the truth, Zinn delivered it in a way that spoke to people of every generation. His goal in teaching was to inspire and motivate young people to get excited about history and why it mattered.

This sense of urgency and inspiration is something that has decreased or never existed in most history courses.

Howard Zinn showed that a person can make a difference; that exposing the ugly realities that built this nation is important for everyone to know.

If more people had just a little bit of drive that Zinn had, the world would be a better place.

Don't lose your creative freedom

Creative STEM students, listen up! Do you want to hold down tuition and boost jobs for free? Then help us fight for your creative freedom.

Now. If you do find a job, be prepared to yield your civil rights to creative freedom before you will be given that job.

Most large employers of STEM students claim blanket ownership of employee inventions as a condition of employment, but without any obligation to actually use those inventions. Employers use that missing obligation to closely control (read suppress) your creativity 24/7 during your entire career!

Employers claim most inventions, actually develop only a tiny select few and then sit on the many unwanted inventions so no one can create new business, jobs and tax revenue with them!

For example, suppose you invented the first digital camera while working for Kodak in its film division. Kodak most certainly would not support that invention which would likely kill its lucrative film business!

And Kodak would already own your invention and most certainly would not permit

you to take it elsewhere for development either!

Kodak will keep your invention closely guarded in its proprietary files and maybe even lay you off (minus your billion-dollar invention), so you can't use it to feed, house, clothe and educate your family! You have just learned that you no longer have creative freedom; you have lost control of your creative brain!

This widespread practice destroys billions of dollars worth of new products, new business, new jobs and new spin-off firms along with huge amounts of lost state tax revenue needed to hold down tuition levels!

Lawmakers today are planning to cut millions of dollars from higher education budgets due to record revenue deficits!

Fortunately, we have already introduced a Creative Freedom Act (SF687 HF 907) into the Minnesota legislature to "emancipate" all creative employees in Minnesota at no-cost whatsoever!

It simply requires employers to use or return employee inventions.

This extremely simple measure promises to permanently stimulate both employers and employees to make much better use of our huge educational investment in creativity and thus seriously boost Minnesota's economy.

Unfortunately, the mainstream media has refused to publicize this critical issue (or our reform), so the public is totally unaware of the entire issue.

Stifling creativity aggravates the unemployment of over 200,000 Minnesotans and has produced multi-billion-dollar budget deficits!

The unbelievable result has been that the legislature refused to give this budget saving "NO-COST" initiative even a hearing, while it cuts funding for higher education and raises tuition, taxes and fees!

This valuable opportunity to reform our dysfunctional job and tax revenue producing machinery may be lost forever if serious action is not taken now during this 2010 session. All students, parents, faculty and staff members should contact their state lawmakers urging serious action on this no-cost landmark reform this session.

Students interested in politics, journalism, taxes, etc. might want to contact me for much more information by email at nepperr@comast.net.

Robert Nepper.
Retired 30-year U&M engineer (BEE UofM 1962)

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Tenured professors abuse power on students

Jayne Campbell

COLUMNIST

I was recently in a class where a professor, I felt, verbally attacked me in front of everyone. I feel that this happened because of one simple concept: tenure.

When a professor is tenured, it gives them the right to explore different options in terms of academia that maybe would have been construed as a little too radical before.

It is usually used so that the professor can do different research projects and so that they are protected from firing without a just cause.

I think that some professors believe it gives them the right to go a little bit crazy and get away with it.

When I was in my class I was attacked because of my

assumed class status (which wasn't correct, by the way) and was told that I don't know what it is like to grow up in poverty in a trailer park. When in fact, I actually did.

And this class was about oppression-type topics, which baffles me further.

I was also shut down in this class for asking a simple question. I was later told that said professor likes to point out who is going to "challenge" them and will target them for the rest of the semester in hopes that the student will drop the class.

If this were a junior professor, this would not be tolerated.

I also have heard of this happening with same said professor in many other classes; therefore this is not the first instance.

And if you mention said professor's name, everyone

knows who they are and they seem to get a sort of crinkled up face thinking about having to confront them.

I'm confused as to why, at the institutional level, students are being oppressed by professors in terms of the greatest gift from the Bill of Rights, freedom of speech.

I have the freedom to speak my mind and give my opinion last time I checked, so I'm confused as to why a professor would feel that they have the right to shut me down for stating a simple, not very contradictory, opinion, especially when I'm contributing to your tenured salary. The answer my friends, is tenure.

When looking on the Web site the only information on tenured professors I could find was from 2006-2007 when there were 415 tenured professors. That is 40 percent of the

professors on campus.

I feel that professors who are tenured feel that they can run classes like a circus and get away with it.

They can question authority and have no consequences and reprimand students who are doing no wrong, with no just cause.

No one questions their behavior and no one will stand up to them. The questioners know that if they were to do anything, that nothing would come of it.

This is either because firing a tenured professor costs an exhausting amount of money in legal fees, or because they know that the university complaint system will work against them.

For example, in the class I was in, none of the students would even speak. One girl got attacked for zipping up her

sweater.

To be honest, I am confused as to why we are allowing professors like this to teach at this university. I understand this is a state school, but it is a state school that I pay tuition for out of my own pocket.

Due to classism within the university systems, I chose to come here so that I could afford college on my "trailer park income."

I didn't choose to come here so I can be attacked by a crazed professor who assumes I have more money than I actually do and who thinks I do not understand poverty.

Is this a funding issue? Can SCSU not afford to hire mostly decent professors?

Mind you, I have had some great professors (Hofman, Berila, Mwangi, Janati, Ward, to name a few) who actually cared and wanted to help stu-

dents succeed.

But it feels like those great professors are few and far between here.

I have had more ignorant teachers and more teachers who seem to be on autopilot than the great few can outweigh.

I understand that I may not like every professor and that there is no way that as a human I can, but come on, let's be serious; can the administrators throw us a bone for just a few years?

I believe that by tenuring professors, we are accepting and tolerating shotty professors who may be past their prime and should maybe just hit the books at home instead of trying to milk the university system, as well as student's check-books, for all they've got.

Beauty that lies Supreme hand out by Court

Jason Tham

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

How many of us out there have always desired to be a little prettier, better looking than the one next to us? I personally do. I want to present my very best every second I am out of my dorm room. Call me metrosexual, or whatever. I believe that our images are important.

I talked to my mom over the MSN live messenger recently. She shared some of her everyday stories with me, like she always does every time we chatted online.

This recent story she pictured me with was something unusual. Yes, the title says it all.

She said that a patient rang up the medical clinic phone when she was at work (she is a doctor's assistant there). This lady (let's just name her Lady X here) on the phone was looking for a doctor who can prescribe our so called "happy medicine." My mom mentioned that the clinic that she is working at is well known for prescribing such medicine.

"The doctor is busy right now, but I can help you to leave a message for him if you think is necessary, madam," my mom said.

"Do you think that beauty represents everything for us, ladies?" Lady X asked.

My mom was stuned for

awhile.

"How beautiful is beautiful enough for being a female?" Lady X continued.

The conversation continued with my mom chatting a little while with her before she directed the call to the doctor on duty.

I considered myself as highly self-absorbed, sometimes. Nevertheless, I have never thought that beauty can make someone suffer this much. Lady X also said that she would "rather die if she is not beautiful."

I mean, I respect the cause for beauty. It helps build our confidence, and keeps us fresh looking as we are living our daily lives. However, beauty isn't everything in life, at least I believe so. There are so many things that we could care for in our respective lives - our loved ones, our careers, our passions.

How many times had someone told you that you aren't looking good enough? This is why I entitled this piece of writing as it is. No one can truly define "beauty" because we all have different standards for ourselves.

"Has your facial features at the right place and stay healthy is being beautiful," said mom.

Some of us may just think that, as long as we are presentable, we are good. There's nothing wrong with being normal. In my opinion, beauty counts not only the physical appearance,

or dressing, but also our inner selves. In order to be truly beautiful, our body needs to dress appropriately and our minds, at the same time, needs to think beautifully too.

I have seen very beautiful girls, attractive and sensual in every moves she makes, but not until she opens her mouthful of dirty words.

I just think that looking good is a way to respect ourselves and others, too. The way we dress tells how much we value our bodies. My acting course professor once mentioned that our bodies are like a tool.

They helps us to find money and do what our minds direct us to do. Hence, we must pay a certain gratitude to this tool that is stuck to us since the very first moment we are formed as a fetus.

We must not be defeated by the negative words of those who deceive us. Whether or not we are beautiful, it is up so ourselves to determine. Beauty is in the eye of beholder. And I stalwartly hold on to that principle.

Let not the lies told by others bring us down. We all must believe in our own sense of beauty.

After all, I believe no one in conscious mind will actually step out on the street with a bright yellow tee and purple pajamas.

Right?

Jian You Hoe

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In this rough economy, with unemployment rates still worse than before, there is a slight hope for economic improvement in society. And yet, American politicians are facing a huge chunk of problems and road blocks.

It is wrong and unethical for the Supreme Court to rule that big fat corporations like Exxon, General Motors and General Electric are able to use their funds and resources to participate in political campaign activities.

For instance they are now able to sponsored or criticize a certain political candidate in ads.

It shows that, the future political and influential power will only benefit special interest groups or their special needs and wants.

Even today, huge corporations are earning their highest profits in the midst of job loss from the hard working American community and yet they are still not contributing much towards improving society or communities. They are not borrowing loans to future small business owners and entrepreneurs.

And now, there is a new

regulation that could boost power and influence of big corporations in elections.

With their firm grip of power in sectors of politics and economics in America and ultimately the government in the future, young and old Americans voices across this nation will not be heard.

Their needs such as a decent salary from a company, a good education for their children, having a well-covered health care will not be represented and voice out in their county, states, and ultimately at the capitol hill.

With this new way of law, there is also a high percentage on the next agenda that is voting for the corporations. Just remember, corporations are not humans there are just a product of society.

If in the future, that law is passed down, the public will be shut out from any political power and economic influences towards the country that they love.

America was not build on the groups of those special interest people and groups that could shift and make decisions on their own behalf or shelf-achievement.

But individual, citizen, veterans and other voices unheard of, that do their small part in their society and community

not only for their own benefit but ultimately to contribute and make a difference to their nation, and the world.

They are not basically thriving for something themselves but to raise up a country that is once and now torn down by greed of wall-street and previous self-interest politicians.

That is also why American democracy is a republic democracy and not a pure democracy because founder whole the truth and faith that every American has the right to speak for what is important regardless what background you are, how much money you have, or if you have any political or economic influence in the community.

Fortunately, the Obama administration is doing something can could help change or alter the laws about corporations involvement in politics.

But that is not enough; American citizens should also step up and protest this Supreme court decision.

For example: protesting at your local city hall or even marching towards the Supreme Court entrance gate.

It is times like this, when Americans need to show their true strength, power and greatness.



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For information on volunteering or to register a team visit kvsc.org

Beavers

Continued from Page 16

Saturday

After three intense back-and-forth periods, the Huskies pulled off their second win on the weekend in a shoot-out victory over the Beavers.

Like Friday, BSU took the first goal of the night when Erin Cody was able to knock a loose puck into the back of SCSU's Nixon's net at 6:27 in the first period. Annie Bauerfeld and Frances Dorr assisted on the play.

At 16:18 in the first period, SCSU's Meaghan Pezon tied the game off a play from Brittany Toor and Caitlin Hogan. Hogan's point from the assist bumped her up to 120 career points, breaking Stang's record for most SCSU points scored.

The first period ended tied at one.

At 8:26 in the second period, first year player Alex Nelson scored a 4x4 goal to bring the Huskies into their first lead of the game. Brittany Toor and Danielle Hirsch each took an assist on the play.

Just like SCSU did the previous night, Bemidji State's Frances Dorr fired

one past Nixon with 10.8 seconds left in the second period to tie the game at two points apiece.

Close to eight minutes into the third period, BSU net minder Alana McElhinney was called for tripping to send the Huskies to a five on four power play.

A little less than a minute and a half later, St. Cloud State's captain, Felicia Nelson, fired in a power play goal to reclaim the lead. Caitlin Hogan was credited with her career point 121 and second assist of the night. Danielle Hirsch also assisted on the play.

"Felicia Nelson's goal was outstanding. It gave us a big hop in our step," Dahl said.

With a minute left in regulation, Beaver's Head Coach, Steve Sertich, made the decision to pull McElhinney, and put his team on a six on five power play.

The decision paid off as Annie Bauerfeld caught Ashley Nixon out of position in the net, and shot the game-tying goal at 19:36 in the third.

The game proceeded into overtime, where both teams remained scoreless.



SHUN JIE YONG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior forward Katie Kemmerer skates the puck forward in a game this weekend at the NHC against the Bemidji State Beavers.

Since there are no ties in WCHA Women's Hockey, the game was decided in a shootout.

Bemidji State's Erin Cody shot first, but was denied by Nixon.

Meaghan Pezon was the first shooter for SCSU, but was unable to find the back of BSU's net.

Emily Erickson shot second for the Beavers, but

was once again held off by Nixon's superb net-minding.

SCSU alternate captain Holly Roberts shot second for the Huskies, and was able to find the back of McElhinney's net.

The Beaver's fate rested on Annie Bauerfeld. She, too, was denied by Nixon, sending the Huskies to victory and a four-point week-

end. The Huskies next take on Minnesota State University- Mankato next weekend for a home-and-home series.

Friday's game will be played at the National Hockey Center at 2:07 p.m. Sunday's game will be at All-Seasons Arena in Mankato, Minnesota. Game time is set for 12:07 p.m.

Festler

Continued from Page 16

"I think I'm working much harder now," Festler said. "Just doing all you can practice. In battle drills just trying to beat defenseman. Overall it comes down to 'how you practice is how you play.' I learned you got to have the energy and competitiveness in both."

The energy readjustment transitioned to the ice. And just as Festler got hot, the Huskies got hot.

In the recent nine-game win streak that included a 5-4 win over Colorado College on Friday and was ended in the rematch Saturday in a 6-4 loss, Festler broke out offensively.

He had six goals and four assists in the span. He has nine goals and nine assists on the season.

Festler has inched his way to a (plus) 5 rating and is tied for the team lead with three

game-winning goals.

"I think my confidence and fire is back," Festler said. "It was tough to be out at the end of last year and then try to get back in the groove of things."

But now the fifth-ranked Huskies have another scoring threat that has helped them gain strong national recognition this season.

And for Festler a lot of it can be attributed to the time on the sideline injured.

"I think whenever you get hurt you see the game in a different way," Festler said. "You can really break it down from the stands. Let's just hope I can be all healthy for this year's playoffs."

Jared Festler's SCSU career At a glance:

	Goals	Assists	Points
2008-2009:	7	10	17
2009-2010:	9	9	18
(through 28 games)			

Sports Scoreboard

NHL Season Standings (Sun at 1 p.m.)

Eastern Conference

Atlantic (W-L-OTL)	PTS
New Jersey (35-16-2)	72
Pittsburgh (33-21-1)	67
Philadelphia (27-23-3)	57
NY Rangers (24-24-7)	55
NY Islanders (23-24-8)	54

Northeast

Buffalo (32-14-7)	71
Ottawa (31-21-4)	66
Montreal (25-25-6)	56
Boston (23-21-9)	55
Toronto (17-28-11)	45

Southeast

Washington (36-12-6)	78
Atlanta (24-22-8)	56
Tampa Bay (22-20-11)	55
Florida (23-22-9)	55
Carolina (19-28-7)	45

Western Conference

Central (W-L-OTL)	PTS
Chicago (37-14-4)	78
Nashville (30-21-3)	63
Detroit (26-19-9)	61
St. Louis (24-22-9)	57
Columbus (22-26-9)	53

Northwest

Vancouver (34-18-2)	70
Colorado (30-17-6)	66
Calgary (27-20-8)	62
Minnesota (27-24-4)	58
Edmonton (16-31-6)	38

Pacific

San Jose (36-10-9)	81
Phoenix (32-18-5)	69
Los Angeles (32-19-3)	67
Dallas (24-19-11)	59
Anaheim (25-23-7)	57

On the tube, Feb. 1-7

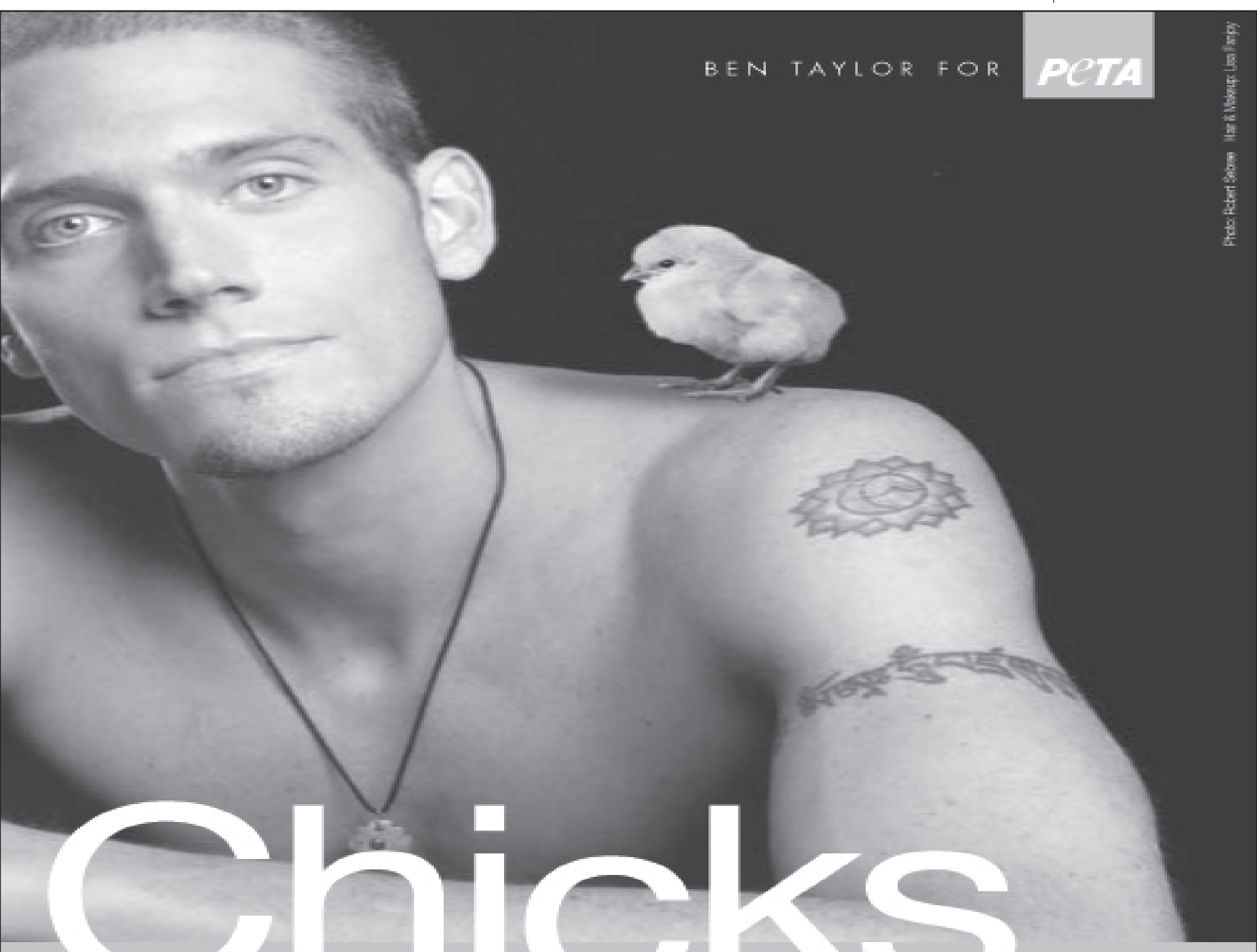
Tuesday
Wild at Stars, 7 p.m. (Versus)

Thursday
Edmonton at Wild, 7 p.m. (FSN)

Friday
Wolves at Dallas, 7:30 p.m. (KSTC)

Saturday
Philadelphia at Wild, 7 p.m. (KSTC)
Memphis at Wolves, 7 p.m. (FSN)

Sunday
Super Bowl XLIV, 5 p.m. (CBS)
Indianapolis vs. New Orleans



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Huskies jump back into second

SCSU bench play propels them to home victories

Tyler Ohmann

SPORTS EDITOR

After escaping with a narrow victory over the Northern State Wolves last weekend, the Huskies men's basketball team's success this season hinged on some pivotal play against two tough NSIC opponents this weekend.

They stepped up to the challenge.

With victories over the Wayne State Tigers and the second place Augustana Vikings (ranked fourth in the region), the Huskies moved back into second place in the NSIC.

With the wins, the Huskies improved to 16-4 overall and 10-3 in the NSIC.

Friday

Friday the Huskies dismantled the Tigers, despite being heavily out shot from the perimeter.

The Huskies went only 3 for 18 from beyond the arc in the game, while the Tigers shot better than 50 percent.

However, the Huskies' defense created some opportunities for easy buckets and they rolled to a 76-68 victory because of it.

Matt Schneck led the Huskies in scoring with 18 points and he also added nine boards. Coming up big for the Huskies was junior forward Andrew Bernstetter who had 14 points, 11 rebounds and four blocks.

With the Tigers keying on the Huskies' normally dangerous perimeter game, the Huskies poured in the



Junior Taylor Witt rushes past Augustana competition with intentions to score/shoot in the January 31 game against the Vikings

MOLLY ENGLISH/ CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

points in the paint.

"When you can be hitting shots from the perimeter, it opens up shots for us in the paint, you know when Matt [Schneck]'s finishing

down in the paint, it really helps out and they complement each other," said SCSU head coach Kevin Schlagel.

Taylor Witt, the Hus-

kies' second leading scorer, who is averaging 15 points a game, was held to just nine points on the day. He did, however, distribute nine assists from his point guard

"This is the biggest time of the year; it's when we make our run."

Jesse Fisher
SCSU junior center

position.

Normally a perimeter threat, sophomore Brett Putz went 0-5 from beyond the arc and a 0-8 from the field in the game.

Saturday

Saturday the story changed for Putz, but not for the Huskies, although it did not look good to start the game.

"We knew that we were a better team than we showed in the first ten minutes of the game. It was just a matter of time before we started hitting the shots. Give our kids credit for the battle," Schlagel said.

The Huskies went 0-10 and were shut out for the first six minutes of the game, at which point Schlagel took a time out.

"I remember Duke getting beat badly in the Final Four and saying, 'you can't play any worse, just relax and have fun,' and that's exactly what I told them," Schlagel said.

That must have worked, for Brett Putz anyway. Putz scored 10 of the Huskies' next 14 points to bring them within seven with seven minutes to play in the half.

As if that was not enough to shift the momentum Husky-ward, Putz banked in a three ball as time expired in the first half to give the Huskies a 29-27 lead going into half time.

The Huskies never looked back.

In the second half, the posts took over as Matt Schneck and Jesse Fisher each

scored in double figures for the game.

"The knees felt pretty good and that was the biggest thing," Fisher said. "Something about Augustana, I don't know, I guess that's just when I come out to play."

His coach was impressed with him as well.

"Jesse [Fisher] has been injured all year with some bad knees, so I've been spotting him, but people got a taste of just how good he can be," Schlagel said.

Fisher scored 12 points and grabbed nine boards in just 15 minutes off the bench.

Matt Schneck recorded yet another double-double scoring 15 and grabbing 10 rebounds. Putz finished with 19 points including 5 of 11 on three pointers.

Andrew Bernstetter had three blocks in the game, giving him the SCSU record for most blocks in a season. He currently sits at 43; the previous record was 41, held by Kevin Catron during the 1984-85 season.

"It's huge, everyone knew it, we talked about it here and there, but nothing was needed to say, we all knew we needed to come out. Awful start, but luckily we got things turned around," Fisher said.

"This is the biggest time of the year; it's when we make our run."

The Huskies are on the road next weekend taking on the Bulldogs of Minnesota-Duluth and Bemidji State. Both games are at 8 p.m.

Huskies get sweep

Katharine Blum

STAFF WRITER

This weekend at the National Hockey Center, the St. Cloud's women's hockey team defeated the Bemidji State Beavers in two key Western Conference Hockey Association (WCHA) match-ups.

Friday night, the Huskies took an impressive 3-2 win over the Beavers. In the second half of this season, first year players, and underclassmen in general have taken larger roles in point scoring for the Huskies.

Saturday afternoon's game saw another shoot-out win for the Huskies. Along with the win, senior alternate captain Caitlin Hogan broke the SCSU record for most collegiate points scored achieving 121 career points.

Friday

Despite a shaky first period filled with bad bounces for the Huskies, St. Cloud State scored three unanswered goals to defeat their rival to the north, Bemidji State University, 3-2.

The Beavers netted the first goal of the game at 6:56 in the first period when BSU junior Annie Bauerfeld shot the puck past SCSU goaltender Ashley Nixon.

Fellow top line-mates Erin Cody and Franny Dorr were given the assists on the play.

Bemidji State scored again nine minutes later when the puck bounced off SCSU Diana Karouzos into the net. The goal was sent upstairs to be reviewed.

The officials declared it a goal, and gave credit to Erin Cody for scoring the goal. Defender Kim Lieder and goalie Alana McElhinney were credited with assists.

Husky senior Caitlin Hogan responded with four



First year defenseman Lisa Martinson receives a pass this weekend at the National Hockey Center. The Huskies swept the Beavers.

SHUN JIE YONG/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

seconds left in the period with a forceful slap shot to the back of the BSU net, bringing the score to 2-1.

Meaghan Pezon and Kelly Meierhofer assisted on the play. Hogan's goal proved to be her 119th career point, tying her for first place as All-Time SCSU point scorers with Roxanne Stang (2000-04).

St. Cloud State scored the only goal of the second period at 13:40 to tie the game at two. Freshman forward Kylie Lane sent a beautiful pass to sophomore Brittany Toor who found the back of McElhinney's net. Also assisting on the play was first year Haylea Schmid.

The assist was Schmid's

first collegiate point scored at SCSU.

In the third period, once again, first year Kylie Lane came up big for SCSU in a remarkable play where she sent a crisp pass to fellow first year Callie Dahl who found the back of the net at 13:04.

Diana Karouzos also gave an assist on the play. Dahl's goal was not only her first game-winning goal of her collegiate career, but also her first goal collegiately.

"It felt great for my first goal to come at such a crucial time. It was definitely worth waiting for because it came during a big game situation. It felt good to get the win and help the team

out," Dahl said.

The Huskies held on to the lead for the remainder of the game, and took the first win of the series 3-2. An impressive eight different players collectively notched the nine points of the game. Underclassmen players once again carried key roles in the victory.

"The underclassmen are starting to step up. We have had three freshmen score, so they have definitely opened the flood gates for the rest of them to get up. We will all definitely keep scoring in the future," Dahl said.

•See Beavers / Page 14

Mental game back on track for Festler

Jake Laxen

STAFF WRITER

Seven games may not seem like much on the surface, but to a college hockey player it can be an eternity.

Just ask SCSU sophomore forward Jared Festler. The Little Falls native missed seven games at the end of last season because of a sprained ankle. It was a mental torture to say the least.

"It was pretty frustrating," Festler said. "Everyone was getting ready for playoffs. I was in the middle of a good season. But the injury took it all away. And definitely one of toughest things is not being able to be out there."

While Festler had a shoulder issue when playing in juniors that kept him out for 10 games, the college season is much shorter and has less games per week.

"It's hard to watch from the stands because you just want to be out there," Festler said. "And you know that you can help the team."

Festler rehabbed over the off-season.

He came into this season with strong expectations to improve upon his seven-goal, 10-assist performance in 27 games last year. He also had five multi-point games during the season.

Festler returned along side 12 other forwards. The optimism for him and the other returnees was high.

"One of our biggest strengths is that we are a maturing team," St. Cloud

State coach Bob Motzko said before the season started. "Our team had a lot of young guys last year, and those players are returning this year after seeing a lot of ice time (in 2008-09).

"There is no substitute for experience, and we were fortunate to have our players gain a lot of experience in critical areas last year."

But out of the gate Festler struggled. He hadn't recaptured the same flair on ice he had shown during the strong start to his career.

"I'm not really sure what was wrong," Festler said. "I just wasn't playing to the level I should have. I wasn't really competing as hard as I could. It might have just been my confidence level. I don't think I ever really got back in a groove from the injury."

Motzko met with Festler privately to discuss his work ethic.

"Coach got on me there a little bit," Festler said. "But I really took it to heart. Over the winter break I needed time to think about my game. Just get it clicking again and trying to work harder and play with more competitiveness."

Festler took the Motzko's words to heart. And he used his winter break to refuel the mental part of his game.

He came back on a mission to use every second of practice to the fullest.

•See Festler / Page 14