# Red & Green

September 17, 2009 Vol. 91 No. 2

Minot State University, Minot, N.D. 58701

www.minotstateu.edu/redgreen/



Photo by Sydney Ruest

Boulders have been spotted in various places near the construction site of the MSU sign. The boulders, or "glacial erratics," will be sculptural insulations to the sign, which is expected to be ready by Homecoming.

## Changes being made to MSU landscape

#### Kevin Mehrer Comm 281

Looking around the campus you may not have noticed anything new, unless you live in Cook Hall, but you may have noticed one of the big changes when driving by. Minot State University has invested in a new art structure, a sign surrounded by large boulders.

"The new sign is supposed to open up the campus to the community, and to identify the campus to the region," MSU art instructor Walter Piehl said. Piehl designed the original concept. Part of the artwork features the structural outline of Old Main and the Dome. The rest of the sign represents the skyline of Minot State's campus. The sign comes with new landscaping additions, which are attracting attention in the community. These additions, massive boulders, are "glacial erratics."

The boulders currently look quite raw with no supporting landscaping. Piehl said that the project will be ready for the Homecoming Week festivities. Once the workers complete the landscaping, the boulders will not be so dominant and will act as sculptural insulations, the artist said.

Piehl is one of many working to make the new sign and its surroundings possible. President David Fuller also is involved in a hands-on-way, having selected the boulders with Piehl. Bill Schriock of Gravel Products graciously donated some of the largest boulders and provided their transportation to the campus. Quality Landscaping is in charge of the landscaping. Mattson Construction built the sign.



Photo by Susan Ewert

Virginie Vournas fills out paperwork in the Office of International Programs. Vournas is the new international student coordinator, a job previously held by Ronnie Walker.

# Familiar face helps international students

### Cassandra Neuharth Comm 281

Nine years ago, Virginie Vournas was a student at Minot State University, coming all the way from Normandy, France, to study on her master's thesis for a year. Currently, she has a new job title as the international student coordinator in MSU's Office of International Programs.

Vournas lends advice to incoming and current international students on specific matters, including immigration papers, as well as keeping in contact with students' family members. Vournas explains how she spends more time talking with the parents of a student than the actual student, until they make their journey to Minot.

Vournas has already started the semester by lending a hand to more than 310 Canadian students and to about 50 students from countries like Kuwait, Nigeria, See Vournas – Page 2

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### News

## Homecoming starts Sunday

### **Cassandra Neuharth** Comm 281

The rumors are true! Minot State's Homecoming Week officially kicks off this Sunday, Sept. 20, and runs through Sept. 26. As it is known around campus, green is the new thing, including this year's Homecoming theme, "Beavers give a Dam, Go Green!"

Melissa Hoots and Anna Holt, co-directors for

On Tuesday, catch the band Homecoming, have put many hours into Homecoming Week Merick in the Quad, along and cannot wait for the weekwith free food and Homecoming King and Queen to begin.

"Every year Homecomingvoting at 11 a.m. The king and gets bigger and better, and thisqueen coronation begins year is no exception," Hootspromptly at 7 p.m. in Nelson said. "We have lined up some Hall, so do not forget to vote! great entertainment for the Grab your dancing shoes as week and I am excited to see it the coronation dance follows in the Theater Room at the all come together!"

On Sunday, a pool tourna-North Dakota State Fair Center ment begins at noon in the beginning at 9:30 p.m. Music Beaver Dam. Following at 1:30 will be provided by the group p.m. is a golf scramble, spon-24Seven.

sored by Delta Epsilon Chi, at On Wednesday, make your the Apple Grove Golf Courseway to the Quad for free food, caricatures by Great Big Faces here in Minot.

On Monday, starting at 11and music by Diabolic a.m. in the Quad, students canOctopus. In the evening, catch enjoy free food, a live perform-the Minot State Community ance by Inpulse a cappellaBlock Party on the MSU Old group and Homecoming KingMain lawn. Chow down on and Queen voting. In the Sloppy Joes and chips starting evening, Bill Rancic, whoat 5 p.m. and continuing until 8. Donald Trump crowned the Grab the kids for a variety of

first "Apprentice," will speak in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall at 6:30 p.m. At 8 p.m. make sure and head over to the north side of the Dome for the annual bonfire to support your MSU athletics teams and show school spirit. Following the bonfire at 9:30 p.m., it's time to scream your lungs out at the karaoke contest in the Beaver Dam.



carnival games, local bands, tours around campus, a Dakota Cruiser classic car display, inflatable slides and obstacle courses. Also, some Beaver athletes will be signing autographs. Following, the block party, run to catch illusionist Pete Boie at Nelson Hall at 8 p.m.

Caricatures by Great Big Faces start in the Quad at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, along with free food and MSU senior Jazmine Wolff performing live. At 4 p.m., the ping-pong tournament is going to be bouncing in the MSU Dome. Sign up Student outside the Government Association office or even at the block party on Wednesday.

Who loves fashion? MSU does. Dress up by adding recycling to your style at the Project "GREEN" theme dance at 10 p.m. in the Theater Room, located at the State Fair Center.

Grab your cowboy boots and head to the Quad on Friday, Sept. 25, for a performance by Sean McConnell, country musician, with free food nearby. Get hypnotized by Frederick Winters in Aleshire

Reward yourself whether

you're a student or instructor!

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body

#### ... Vournas continued from page 1

Ghana, South Korea and Nepal, to name a few.

For the last two years, Vournas had been a student assistant in the Office of International Programs and she is very excited with her new job. "I was an international student, so I am aware of most of the needs and expectations new international students have when they first arrive in Minot and MSU," Vournas said. Culture shock can be the biggest hurdle for new students, and Vournas is proud to help international students call MSU a home away from home.

After obtaining her mas-

ter's degree, Vournas returned in 2005 to get a bachelor's degree in Education and graduated this past May.

Previously, Ronnie Walker held the coordinator iob, but she left earlier this past summer. Vournas filled in upon Walker's departure, applied and landed the job before the semester hit full swing. She says her life has taken a 360, from being an international student to helping them.

Vournas has gotten used to being in Minot over the years. She has a young son, Kiran, and believes Minot is a good place to raise children. Vournas plans to stay in Minot and Minot State plans to keep her here.



### News

## **MSU** considers partnering with Dubai school

### Anthony Anderson Staff Writer

Red & Green

Minot State University officials are currently considering entering into a partnership with the World of Knowledge Management Development Centre. Located in Dubai, one of the United Arab Emirates, the centre is a university-level institution dedicated to providing affordable, quality tuition to a population that might not otherwise have access to higher education. Administrators from both institutions hope to establish a partnership that will prove to be mutually beneficial to both universities.

Minot State will further internationalize itself, gaining more exposure on a global scale and opening up new opportunities and experiences for students. Students attending this university in Dubai will be able to take online classes through Minot State, hopefully being able to earn a diploma from MSU.

The specific goals of the management centre are to meet the educational needs of a largely migrant segment of the population, one that could not normally afford education. In Dubai, university-level education is very expensive. Also, due to tight governmental regulation of education in Dubai, very few institutions accept transfer credits from Dubai.

This is particularly problematic as most students at the school are from migrant families. The City College of London accredits all courses and instructors, and the prestigious London university confers all diplomas.

In January of 2009, centre officials noticed a Minot State advertisement in World Traveler magazine. The relatively low tuition drew the officials' immediate attention. After researching MSU on the Internet, the Dubai school officials were thoroughly impressed with the student services and online programs offered by the university.

The centre contacted Minot State President David Fuller by letter. Later, Gary Rabe, Minot State vice-president for academic affairs, and the academic dean of the development centre held phone conferences. The potential partnership moved forward again when a

cheese

delegation from Dubai recently visited Minot and met with MSU staff.

If Dubai and Minot State establish a partnership, both institutions will benefit. Minot State will further expand its reputation abroad, gain more exposure on a global scale and open up new opportunities and experiences for students. Students attending the centre in Dubai will be able to take online classes through Minot State, hopefully being able to earn a diploma from MSU.

While some institutions enter into hundreds of these partnerships, both Minot State University and the World of Knowledge Management Development Centre pick potential partners very selectively. The centre already has a similar arrangement with Madonna University in Livonia, Mich.

Thought about joining a fun group that does great things ?



Please come to an informational session to learn about a couple of new organizations that let you be involved and contribute to your campus community. Kate Walls, a representative of the Tri Sigma Sorority National Office, along with Minot State University Greek Alumni representatives, will be on campus to talk about their experiences as sorority and fraternity members, and to answer questions you might have about Greek life.

### Thursday, Sept. 24, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Westlie Room, Student Center

Drink - \$1.50

For more info, contact the Student Affairs Office, 858-3299

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### **Opinion**/News

## Letters

To All Minot State University Students, Faculty and Staff:

We are off to a great start with the new school year and it is so nice to see a large number of you taking advantage of the activities available on this engaged campus. I encourage all students to explore the many levels of activities including those sponsored by the Student Government Association as well as the many clubs and organizations that add to the rich character of campus life. Check out your residence hall programming, the arts, the galleries and the excitement of athletic contests, too. We want to be sure that all of these activities are delivered in an atmosphere of good taste and with respect for all students, faculty and staff.

Early in September, a comedian made an appearance in the Beaver Dam that crossed over the line of acceptable behavior. While I assume he intended to engage his audience in banter, some remarks were addressed to specific individuals that could have been interpreted as racially offensive. To these students I apologize. Vision 2013 emphasizes our commitment to diversity and multiculturalism and expressly notes our commitment to all people of diverse backgrounds and cultures: "All ethnic groups and cultures will be accorded respect and support for sharing their background and for equal participation in the life of the campus and the learning in its classrooms."

We will not condone behavior that is offensive to anyone and will take steps to prevent this from recurring in the future. Please support one another and treat each individual with the respect and dignity we would all hope to have. Best wishes for a great year. Be sure to take full advantage of all Minot State University has to offer you.

Sincerely,

**Dick Jenkins** 

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students



Submitted photo

Amber Kroke, biology student, sits among the many books collected by the Club Biology's book drive.

### **Book drive makes 3-way difference**

### Bryce Berginski Editor

While a book drive may not sound exciting, one held by a club on campus made a difference from an environmental standpoint.

The Club Biology students held a book drive in the spring of 2009, a few weeks before classes ended. Jeremy Horrell, last year's president of the club, described it as "maximizing the volume of people bringing in their unused

books."

Organizers placed boxes in various areas around campus. On the final day of classes, club members and faculty collected them. They scanned the ISBN numbers on the books, and packed the books into 19 boxes to send to a company called Better World Books. The company accepted a portion of the books, and put them on the market.

A portion of the proceeds from the sales went to a chari-

ty known as "Books for Africa," while another portion went to the biology club as a stipend.

The club donated the books that the company didn't accept to the Native American Cultural Center, and other places on campus and in the community.

The club collected and sent in 239 books, with a total weight of 328 pounds. The company sent the students an

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### Red & Green

304 Student Center Minot State University 500 University Ave. W Minot, ND 58707 Phone: 858-3354 Fax: 858-3353 E-mail: redgreen@minotstateu.edu ONLINE: www.minotstateu.edu/redgreen/ EDITOR Bryce Berginski ASSISTANT EDITOR Hannah Rude ONLINE EDITOR Scott Jones CIRCULATION Penny Lipsey PHOTOGRAPHERS Susan Ewert

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### **Red & Green**

### News

## Hansen books shows, promotes philanthropy

#### Joe Davis Staff Writer

MSU Dan Hansen, Broadcasting major and Minot native, has been at the forefront of coordinating local benefit concerts for years. He is known for his love of music, love of helping people, and his distinguished red beard, which inspired the name of his company, Red Beard Booking & Promotion.

"It's all about helping people find a medium to express themselves musically," Hansen said.

He has been booking shows for nearly five years, his most successful endeavor being Rock the Leaves off the Trees, an annual benefit concert now in its third year. The concert, pre-



d

Hansen

RTL partnered with the Make a Wish Foundation. Hansen hopes to push towards establishing the name as a nonprofit organization and turning the concert into a three-day festival.

Through his work, he has promoted Breast Cancer Awareness and the Minot Homeless Coalition and has booked shows for Camera

Can't Lie, of Atlantic Records and Spoken, of Tooth and Nail Records.

> Hansen's upcoming shows include a Halloween concert where costumed guests get in free and a Nov. 20 debut CD release of the True Soul Brothaz. and Marvapalozza, a benefit in memory of a friend's dad.

> With a promising future in booking, promotion, and production, it is obvious that Dan Hansen is living up to the RTL mission statement: "Bringing generations together to help those in need through music."

> For more information on booking and upcoming shows, visit myspace.com/RedBeardBooking ND.

### ... Homecoming continued from page 2

Theater at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 26, is the most anticipated day of Homecoming Week. The Homecoming Parade begins at 10:30 a.m., starting in downtown Minot, turning onto Broadway and ending at MSU. Families will gather alongside the parade route. Children will stand at the ready with bags in both hands to fill with candy. And the football players will gear up for the big game.

Do not forget to check out the businesses on Main Street. The MSU Art Club has volunteered to paint store front windows, to spread Minot State spirit around town.

"It will be exciting to walk

down Broadway and to especially walk past the new monument project at MSU," said Leon Perzinski, director of the parade.

Perzinski looks forward to trailing towards campus in the parade every year, and he has a feeling this year is going to be a good one.

"This is a reason to celebrate Minot State," Perzinski adds.

Tailgating in the east Dome parking lot will follow the parade at 11:30 a.m. The big game begins at 1:30 p.m. with the Beavers vs. Jamestown College at Herb Parker Stadium. GO BEAVERS!

Ann Rivera, student activities coordinator, is looking forward to the increased attendance during Homecoming Week. In past

years, students have supported MSU very well, and the numbers go up every year. Homecoming Week also involves alumni, and this is a great way to keep alumni connected to MSU. On Saturday evening following the game, a post-game alumni get-together will continue the festivities at the Barley Pop at 4:30 p.m.

"Homecoming Week gives students pride in being at MSU. This is their campus and students make this memorable," Rivera said.

Congratulations to the SGA, celebrating 70 years with MSU, as they work hard to get students involved on campus with lots of activities.

Reminder, if the weather gets sour, all activities from the Quad will move to the Beaver Dam.

## PRSSA to make a splash

### **Cassandra Neuharth** Comm 281

The Public Relations Student Society of America plans to turn heads this year at Minot State University.

PRSSA members will participate in the MSU Community Block Party on Wednesday, Sept. 23, on the Old Main lawn. PRSSA will operate a dunking booth and give away snow cones from 5 to 8 p.m., as a fundraiser. MSU students can bring their family and friends to see some MSU faculty hit the water. For \$2, participants will get three balls.

PRSSA will also operate the dunking booth and give away snow cones at the MSU Homecoming tailgating on Sept. 26. The dunking booth will be on the east Dome parking lot, next to the KMSU music booth, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

"We have been working very hard as a club to get students involved and to make it fun," Mary Bain-Christian, president of PRSSA, said.

This is just one of the many ideas that the PRSSA members have come up with for this year. They are also working on a promotional

campaign for the recycling project at MSU, working with Global Auto, and a phone-and-ink cartridge fundraiser. Past fundraising activities include a bake sale last spring and a car wash this past summer.

Proceeds from all the fundraisers will go toward sending student members to national conferences, where they can meet professionals and get hands-on experience for their future careers.

PRSSA is a national organization on universities across the country. The PRSSA chapter at MSU, established in spring 2009, is one of three chapters in North Dakota.

PRSSA is a non-profit organization that focuses on providing students and the community with increased knowledge of public relations, along with providing quality public relations to businesses and organizations. PRSSA is always looking for new members and interested students may join at any time. They do not have to be public relations majors.

For further information on PRSSA, contact minotstateprssa@gmail.com.



### **Arts & Entertainment**

### Nice weather for painting



Photo by Penny Lipsey Sharonda Fudge, a student in Walter Piehl's Water Media I class, works on an art project outside of Hartnett Hall. Students in his class were taking advantage of the nice weather last week.



### First 'Business Bash' to come Monday

### Bryce Berginski Editor

A four-way partnership is the basis of an event similar to "The Apprentice" being held on the Minot State University grounds.

The first MSU Business Bash will take place Sept. 21. It is both a competition and a recruiting showcase of MSU to students in high school and two-year schools.

Competing teams will consist of three to five members that will have three hours to solve business problems. They will then present their solutions to a panel of judges. The judges will be faculty members from the College of Business and members of Minot Young Professionals, as well as managers of businesses who have experienced these problems.

Competitors will also have the chance to meet and listen

to Bill Rancic, a millionaire and entrepreneur who won the first "Apprentice" show hosted by Donald Trump. Rancic will speak at 6:30 p.m. in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall that night.

The Business Bash is the result of a partnership between MSU's Enrollment Services and

the College of Business, and the Ambassadors, as well as the Young Professionals. Mallory Westby, the president of MSU Ambassadors, and Jason Trainer of Enrollment Services spearheaded the project.

Organizers could possibly repeat the event in another year if it is successful.

## we need more HEROES



## MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY BLOOD DRIVE

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## Five Minutes Remaining

A column by Tanner Larson, MSU sophomore

### Game Over, Nintendo

Ah, Nintendo. A household name to many people. I can remember growing up playing "Metroid," "The Legend of Zelda," "Castlevania," and of course, "Super Mario Bros. 3." I even remember the early mornings of playing "Mike Tyson's Punch-Out!!" and having unfinished sixth-grade math homework because I wanted to beat the last level of "Star Fox 64." Now, of course, I wouldn't dare miss an assignment because of a video game, but that's beside the point. The point I'm trying to make is this: Nintendo has lost by winning.

Confused? You're not alone, sadly. Many people like me have bought a Wii and have rarely played Nintendo since. Sure, there will be a game that may tickle my fancy like "The Conduit" or "MadWorld," but there seems to be nothing long-term anymore with Nintendo.

If you're a casual gamer, try to put your feet in my shoes, if you will, as the "hardcore" gamer for a moment. It seems as if the shoes feel old and worn out and you can see your toes, correct? Well, maybe it's time for a new pair of shoes. That's how Nintendo feels to most of the gaming community, as well as the industry of the young medium. It seems as if Nintendo wants to throw out the old pair of shoes, which is the "hardcore" gamer, and buy a new pair, meaning find a new audience.

Here's the catch with the idea. The shoes would only be worn every other month. The casual gamer will not go out and buy a game just to buy a game, like the regular gamer would. The casual gamer will go out and buy the system and play it on the holidays, then pack it away and let it collect dust. This is one of the main reasons why Nintendo may go the way of Sega if they don't do something soon to recapture its old audience.

Don't get me wrong, I liked the idea of a system that used motion controls instead of a lot of buttons at

the time. However, most of the games for the Wii either have

awful motion control responses or offer an option to use a GameCube controller.

Also, if you recall and follow the happenings of the industry, Sony and Microsoft are responding to the competition by producing their own motion control "gimmicks" and by lowering their prices to just \$50 more than the Wii.

With this, it's hard to see Nintendo going the distance and continuing to sell at this current rate. Not to mention that gimmick channels like the "Today & Tomorrow Channel," which "offers love and life relationship advice," don't help sales rise sky-high anymore.

The features that Microsoft and Sony offer on their consoles beat whatever is on the Wii. If you are a casual gamer thinking about buying a



Another thing I would like to mention is that the Sega DreamCast celebrated its 10th anniversary on Sept. 9. What's so special about that, you ask? The DreamCast was one of the most innovative consoles the gaming industry saw, being the first console to have online connectivity using a 56k modem built-in system. However, this was the final Sega console, and was discontinued after two vears of existence. Nintendo has its Wi-Fi service, but you need what feels like a 500-digit "friend code." This only makes me wonder if the wrong company dropped out of the so-called "console wars."

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## Marching band seeks flag carriers

#### Joe Alme MSU Band Director

The Homecoming Marching Band needs only one more addition - flag carriers.

For the first time in more than 20 years, Minot State University's own Marching Band will lead the Homecoming parade. Sporting specially designed MSU jackets and polo shirts, 60 MSU students will perform with the spirit that is associated with this annual Homecoming event.

As with developing and recreating any organization that has been absent for so many years, MSU Band Director Joseph Alme has encouraged MSU students and staff to get involved and support the band as this great Minot State tradition is brought back.

Alme indicated there is a need for flag carriers to add color and pride to the over-all marching unit. He encourages MSU students to volunteer to carry one of the eight flags needed to put "a touch of class" to the Homecoming Parade this month.

If you are interested, or if you know individuals who would like to participate in this historic occasion, contact Alme at 858-3189 or joe.alme@minotstateu.edu.



### **Sports**

### Red & Green

## Athletic department expands offerings

### New coaches added to start wrestling and soccer programs next year

#### **Eric Manlove** Comm 281

Minot State University's athletic department got a little bigger over the past couple of months.

The athletic department announced last year addition the of wrestling and women's soccer to the sports teams. Both will begin play next school year, with

the soccer team kicking off in the fall and wrestling hitting the mats during the winter.

Minot State previously had a wrestling program but the university had to cut it in 1990, along with a couple of other sports, due to financial reasons.

Women's soccer is entirely new to the campus. Both additions are in line with MSU's

Because of Title Nine, both teams,

men and women need the same number of

NCAA Division II.

move from NAIA athletics to

meaning they could not add one without the other. The department is also pursuing membership into the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, which has a requirement

for women's soccer. Both programs have recently hired new coaches, Robin Ersland for wrestling and Jason Spain for women's soccer.

Ersland comes with 15 years of head coaching experience at the University of Central Missouri-Warrensburg. In his time as a wrestling coach, Ersland has led ten teams to

top-20 national finishes and coached 30 All-Americans, including one individual national champion.

"(We are) very pleased to have somebody with his experience," Athletic Director Rick Hedberg said.

Spain takes over the women's soccer team, coming from Feather River College in Quincy, California.

"Jason has got a lot of experience at the college and high

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school levels coaching," said Hedberg. "He has just been extremely successful wherever he's gone."

Spain previously coached at Yuba College before moving to Feather River this past year. The Yuba women's program, which he started, earned the rank of number one Junior College team in America in 2006.

Hedberg feels that his success starting soccer programs will result in good things for Minot State. Spain has already started his recruiting process, signing three girls from California. They are Jaymi Hill, from Yuba City, and transfers Lexy Kidd from Browns Valley and Marianna Danna from Sutter, both from Yuba College.

Hedberg feels that hiring both coaches this early allows them to get a full year of recruiting in before they begin action next fall.

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### Sunday night hockey



Photo by Jesse Kelly Matthew Lesperance (left) keeps the puck away from a Weyburn Redwings player during Sunday's game at the MAYSA arena. Weyburn defeated the MSU Club Hockey team 4-1.



### ... Books continued from page 4

environmental implications summary, which translated to 239 books saving approximately five trees, 3,000 gallons of water, 344 pounds of greenhouse gases, 800 kilowatt hours of energy, and 2 cubic yards of landfill space.

Horrell said he would like to see more projects like this, as well as the club going into the community to show not only what biology is about, but also to promote sustainability and accountability for what we as humans do in our daily lives that affects the environment.

### ... Nintendo continued from page 8

Will Nintendo flop soon? If so, will Sega make a comeback or will another company rise to the occasion? Can Nintendo right the wrong decisions it has made to save its current reputation? Will it stop swimming in the millions it has made and focus on capturing an industry it once dominated as well as being the elite company that it once used to be? Only time can tell with these questions.

But if nothing is changed soon, Nintendo will be hearing two words that many are saying now: Game Over.



