



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHERN

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - March 22, 2024

MSU-Northern Students Benefit from Donation to Student Food Pantry



The MSU-Northern Foundation is proud to announce a significant donation to the MSU-Northern student food pantry, following the generous bequest of a local estate. The donation included bulk food and household items, including canned foods, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, and more, to assist students in need.

The donated items will greatly bolster the resources of the student food pantry, a vital service that provides support to students who may be facing food insecurity or require basic necessities while pursuing their education. The MSU-Northern Foundation, deeply committed to the well-being and success of its students, recognizes this contribution as both a practical aid and a profound gesture of belief in the value of education.

Amber Spring, Chair of the CARE Team, expressed her gratitude and enthusiasm for the impact this donation will have, "The Foundation recognizes that academic achievement and well-being are not attainable to students when their basic needs go unmet. We are immensely grateful for their continued support of the Community Center and the Student in Need fund. Students who benefit from these services will be forever impacted by the kindness of strangers who have supported them in their educational pursuits at MSU-Northern".

The MSU-Northern food pantry is open to all students and operates on the principle that no student should have to sacrifice their education due to a lack of basic needs. For more information about the donation or to learn how you can support the MSU-Northern Foundation and its initiatives, please contact Melanie Skoyen, Director of Development 406-265-3711

Gwen Hart Named Teaching Scholar



Montana University System faculty are named 2024 MUS Teaching Scholars.

Teaching Scholars are recognized for their innovative approaches to teaching and commitment to leading other faculty in excellence in the classroom.

The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education is pleased to announce it has selected 15 faculty from around the state to be honored as Montana University System Teaching Scholars. MSU-Northern's English

Professor Dr. Gwen Hart was one of the recipients of this grant and shares, "I applied for this grant to put together a group of faculty to work on how to use AI effectively and ethically in the classroom. I'm excited to see what we can do with it," said Hart.

[Read more...](#)

MSU-Northern Awarded \$50K OSP Seed Grant to Establish Office of Sponsored Programs

Montana State University-Northern (MSU-Northern) is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a \$50,000 OSP Seed Grant to begin establishing an Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP). Administered by the SuRE Resource Center at the University of Kentucky, this grant aims to support institutions like

MSU-Northern in their efforts to enhance research infrastructure and foster research opportunities, specifically in (but not limited to) the biomedical and behavioral sciences.

The OSP Seed Grant, provided annually through a competitive application process, assists SuRE-qualified institutions in establishing or strengthening their research infrastructure. By establishing an OSP, institutions can better support faculty, increase grant submissions, and provide students with more opportunities to engage in research activities.

[Read more...](#)

MSU-Northern Presents at College in a Day



MSU-Northern joined Great Falls College-MSU to talk about college opportunities with high school students. Dr. Jack Bieger highlighted the field of Criminal Justice in his presentation. Drs. Joey Todd and Praveen Dubey talked about the opportunities available in education. GFC-MSU allowed the high school students who attended college in a day to talk to the various colleges about their plans and what programs are available at the other colleges.

Economic Outlook Seminar



On March 13, MSU-Northern hosted the 49th annual 2024 Economic Outlook Seminar in Hensler Auditorium. The 2024 Economic Outlook Seminar highlighted the latest economic trends for local economies and the state of Montana, with a special focus on the green energy transition and what it might mean for Montana.

[Click here for more info...](#)

MSU-Northern Takes Part in Transfer Day



On Wednesday, March 20, representatives from MSU-Northern traveled to Great Falls to participate in the Great Falls College-MSU's annual Transfer

Day. This event allows students to interact with representatives from various colleges around the state and see what courses from GFC-MSU will transfer into the different schools and programs. Representing MSU-Northern were: Steven Don, Dr. Beth Durodoye, Dr. Jack Bieger, Dr. Praveen Dubey, Dr. Valerie Guyant, Dr. Joey Todd, Jennifer Anderson, and Janae Boles.

MSU-Northern Helps with Trade Days



Last Monday, during the semester break several of MSU-Northern's faculty participated in Trade's Day at Triangle/HCE. Over 130 high school students attended this year from 10 schools. A special thank you to Brandon Matson, Keith Jensen, Doug Kallenberger and Jason Tanner for making presentations on Diesel, welding, and GPS.

HI-LINE INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT (HIT)



This weekend the MSUN Lights & Skylights are hosting the best AA, A, B, & C High School players in the Armory Gym in the 37th Annual tournament. Come to the gym this weekend to watch some excellent Basketball. This is a great opportunity for our couches to watch some of the best basketball talent in the state.

- 3/21 - Class A vs C = Girls@ 5:30pm & Boys@ 7:00pm
- 3/22 - Class C vs B = Girls@ 8:00am & Boys@ 9:30am
- Class A vs AA = Girls@ 11am & Boys@ 12:30pm
- Class A vs B = Girls @ 2pm & Boys @ 3:30pm
- 3-point Contest/Slam Dunk Contest @ 5pm
- Class AA vs C = Girls@ 6pm & Boys @ 7:30pm
- 3/23 - Class B vs AA = Girls@ 9am & Boys@ 10:30am
- Consolation Game = Girls@ 12pm & Boys@ 1:30pm
- Championship Game = Girls@ 3pm & Boys@ 4:30p

During the Break...

If you went somewhere exciting during the break, we want to know about your adventure. Send us your photo and a brief explanation of what you did. If you happen to have some Northern swag on all the better.

Email them to potterj@msun.edu.

THE QUEEN OF Hill COUNTY – Dinner Theatre



The Annual Hill County Fair kicks off and the Queen of Hill County will be crowned. The winner will have bragging rights and a wonderful prize basket

donated by Tuckerson's Hardware, Guns and Embroidery Supply Store. This year is different, however, as outside forces infiltrate the contest. Californians, hippies, soccer moms and even a branch of the mafia (or a very, very, very distant cousin of the mafia) give the local ranch wives, farm ladies, church choir singers, 4H leaders and others a run for their money. Devious plans and ruthless behaviors dominate the contest to become the Queen of Hill County. A zany, fast-paced farce with four actors and about a zillion characters. This show was written by Jason Pyette, directed by Anjanett Hawk, and features Mark Cichosz, Andi Daniel, Bonnie Ortner, and TJ Schwartzkopf.

This show is a traveling dinner theatre. The name of the show changes based on the county hosting the dinner.

Hill County – March 22-23 and March 29-30
Toole County – April 12

[Click here for show times and tickets](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Senate Applications and Elections

ASMSUN Student Senate applications for spring elections opened on February 26th and will close on Friday March 22nd at noon. All four Executive Council positions (President, Vice President, Business Manager, and Administrative Assistant) and six At-Large Senate seats are open. To run for a senate seat, MSUN students must be enrolled in at least 1 credit and have paid the student activity fee. They must also be in good standing with the Dean of Students office. Students running for Executive Council positions must have served at least one term as a senator. Student elected into these positions will serve a 1-year term (summer 2024 - spring 2025) and will be inducted into office as part of the spring student recognition reception at the end of April.

Elections are scheduled to open online at 8:00am Monday March 25th and close on Friday March 29th at 4:00pm, provided 8% of the eligible student voters have cast their votes. The elections will be extended if the minimum number of votes is not met.

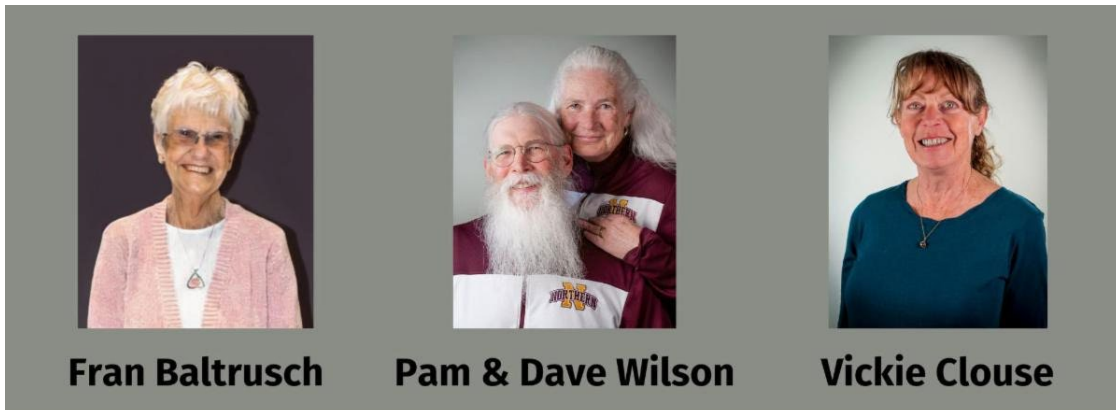
Each fall, elections are held for ASMSUN Senate along with Homecoming Royalty. At that time there will be three 1st-Year Student Senate seats and three At-Large Senate seats open.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MSUN Extreme Bares and Broncs – Mar. 29 & 30

The MSU-Northern Rodeo Boosters are pleased to present PRCA Sanctioned Bareback and Saddle Bronc Riding event. This event will feature some of the best Pro Rodeo talent in the nation, so don't miss it. It will be at the Great Northern Fairgrounds in the Bigger Better Barn. Tickets are \$25 in advance, or \$30 at the door, Children 10 and under are free. Performances both nights start at 7:00 pm. Tickets are available at Norman's Ranch and Sportswear and Western Trailer Sales. For more information call 406-262-2422.

MSU-NORTHERN FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2024 FOUNDERS' EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENTS - Apr. 26



The MSU-Northern Foundation is proud to announce the recipients of the esteemed 2024 Founders' Excellence Awards. This year, the Foundation honors Fran Baltrusch, Pam and Dave Wilson, and bestows a posthumous award on Vickie Clouse for their outstanding contributions to both Montana State University-Northern and the broader community.

The 2024 Founders' Excellence Award, a prestigious recognition, celebrates individuals who have shown remarkable professional achievements, steadfast loyalty, and exceptional service, all of which have significantly fostered the growth and development of MSU-Northern. This year's awardees embody these traits, having dedicated themselves to advancing the university's mission and positively impacting the lives of many.

"Our award winners represent the spirit of MSU-Northern. Their dedication and service have not only elevated our University, but have also bettered our community." said Melanie Skoyen.

The public is invited to attend the award celebration on April 26th, which will take place at the MSUN Student Union Building. The evening will commence with a cocktail hour at 5:30 PM, followed by dinner at 6:30 PM. Tickets for the event are \$40 per person, and attendees are kindly requested to RSVP by April 19th to secure their spot.

For those wishing to join in celebrating the 2024 Founders' Excellence Award recipients, please reserve your seat by calling the MSU-Northern Foundation at (406) 265-3711 or sending an email to alumni@msun.edu.

We look forward to honoring our awardees and invite you to be a part of this memorable occasion.

For more information about the MSU-Northern Foundation or the 2024 Founders' Excellence Awards, please contact Melanie Skoyen at (406) 265-3711 or email alumni@msun.edu.

[More Info...](#)

FOOD SERVICE SOUP SPECIALS

Cup of soup, roll, & medium fountain drink = \$3.95

Bowl of soup, roll, & medium fountain drink = \$4.95

- 3/25 = Chicken Noodle
 - 3/26 = Vegetable Beef
 - 3/27 = Broccoli Cheese
 - 3/28 = Chicken Tortilla
 - 3/29 = Lobster Bisque & Potato
-

CALENDAR

Friday, March 22

- ASMSUN Student Senate Applications CLOSE at Noon
- 2024 Hi-Line Invitational Tournament (H.I.T.) 8:00 AM
- Battle of the Beast Burger concludes

Saturday, March 23

- 2024 Hi-Line Invitational Tournament (H.I.T.) 9:00 AM

Monday, March 25

- ASMSUN Student Senate Election
- Registration for Summer and Fall 2024 Begins

- MT Local Gov't Voter Review (virtual event), 6:30 pm, Vande Bogart Library

Tuesday, March 26

- ASMSUN Student Senate Election

Wednesday, March 27

- ASMSUN Student Senate Election
- ASMSUN Student Senate Meeting 7:00 PM
- Capture the Beast Scavenger Hunt

Thursday, March 28

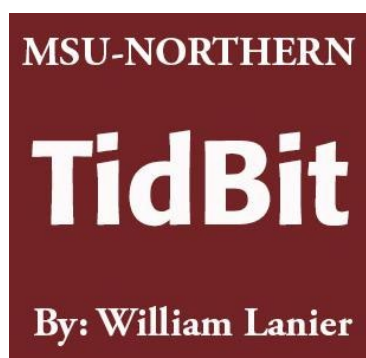
- ASMSUN Student Senate Election
- University Advisory Council meeting 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- Virtual Presentation: Montana Local Government Voter Review 6:30 PM
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Friday, March 29

- University Day (No Classes, Offices OPEN)
- ASMSUN Student Senate Election 12:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- MSUN Extreme Bares & Broncs, Great Northern Fairgrounds, tickets \$25 in advance & \$30 at the door

Saturday, March 30

- MSUN Extreme Bares & Broncs, Great Northern Fairgrounds, tickets \$25 in advance & \$30 at the door
- Annual Jaycees Easter Egg Hunt, Holiday Village Mall, 10am



(#410)

Northern Alumni – Bob Feist

When having an e-mail conversation with Head Volleyball Coach, Jerry Wagner, I thought it would be interesting to go back in time to check out the NMC volleyball team when it began.

Last summer, I had a conversation with Northern Alumni, Robert “Bob” Feist about his time as the Head Women’s Basketball Coach. It was during this conversation that he stated he was also the Head Women’s Volleyball Coach for NMC. Bob confirmed recently that he was indeed the first Volleyball Coach for Northern Montana College. After he graduated from Northern in 1975 with a major in Physical Education (as per the 1975 Northerner), he accepted a

teaching position in Canada where he also coached girls' basketball and volleyball. He stated that having coached both sports was why Northern hired him in 1976. For the 1976-77 school year Bob Feist coached both women's sports for Northern.

It was not easy finding much information about that first year. The "Northerner" (Northern's yearbook) did not even mention that there was a girls' volleyball team.

Here is an article that appeared in the October 21, 1976, edition of the Havre Daily News.

NMC opens volleyball

By ED JOINER

Northern Montana College's lady Lights will host a three-team invitational volleyball tournament this weekend.

Entered in the tournament, which opens at 7:30 p.m. Friday, are Northern, Flathead Valley Community College, and Medicine Hat.

The tournament ends Saturday night, with each team playing a best-of-five set with the other teams.

Coaching this year's team is Bob Feist, a 1975 graduate of Northern. Feist spent last year teaching and coaching in Admiral, Saskatchewan. He says he is impressed with the quality of the girls on the team and their hard work, but he is not willing to make predictions on the outcome of the tourney.

He is not announcing a starting lineup, but the following women are scheduled to play:

Melina Hasbrouch, Havre; Tracy Legg, Malta; Jeanne Unruh, Havre; Kathleen Magalsky, Circle; Diana Fusaro, Augusta; Donna Mendel, Malta; Maureen McKeon, Malta; Shiela Cline, Big Sandy; Cathy Havskjold, Havre; Jean Stark, Rudyard; Barbara Sebastian, Hobson; Nona Johannsen, Sunburst; Linda Gopher, Box Elder; and Mona Watzke, Moremost Alta.

The team travels to Billings next weekend, and then will be at home the next weekend to meet Western. The team is competing in regular Frontier Conference play this season.

Not only did Coach Feist coach both basketball and volleyball, many of the student/athletes participated in both sports. As mentioned below in the final volleyball article from the December 1, 1977, edition of the NoMoCo.

Girls Volleyball Nears End

The short volleyball season is near an end for the girls' first year at Northern. The girls are still improving, but time is running out.

Northern hosted a tournament here which featured Flathead Community College, Medicine Hat and Northern.

Northern got off to a quick start and won the first game under pressure, 16-14 against Flathead. Then they lost their momentum and lost the next

three games.

The following day the players gained some valuable experience from a very fine Medicine Hat team. The team, however, failed to produce a victory and went down in three straight games.

Northern's main power came from Cathy Havskjold with some real good serves. Mona Wutzke also showed good planning.

Donna Mendell was out that weekend with muscle spasms in her legs but returned the following weekend to play at Billings.

On October 30th, the team drove to Billings. The girls showed good improvement and lots of fire when they played Eastern. Eastern won the first game but NMC came back to win the second game. Eastern then bounced back and won the third game which was delayed by a number of scoring confusions. The next match was against Western and the Skylights lost two straight.

Northern received fine serving from Diane Fusaro and good all-around performances from Donna Mendall and Cathy Havskjold.

Thank you Robert "Bob" Feist for being the first women's volleyball coach in Northern's history. At some point in the future, I will be highlighting other "long ago" Northern coaches.

Girls End Volleyball Season, Switch to Basketball Court

A strongly improved girls volleyball team ended their first year at Northern last week. Most of these girls are now to core of the basketball team currently practicing.

The volleyball team travelled to Kalispell to play Flathead Community College and Medicine Hat. The team played well at Flathead, but was still a little out classed by a more experienced team.

At Medicine Hat the girls showed good spirit as they kept up with a powerful Hat team. As some people will remember, the

Hat team literally walked all over everybody in the tournament held at Northern the first of the year.

So, girls volleyball ends. The record doesn't reflect the true story. Most of the girls on the team never played competitive volleyball before. This is also the first year there has been a team at Northern. So all the girls should be patted on the back and remember an old saying, "It's not if you win or lose, it's how you play the game."

Now that volleyball is over, a lot of the team members have

switched to the basketball team. The team works out after the varsity basketball team completes practice.

The girls should be in pretty good shape because there's a lot of experience back from last year. Also, there's been some freshmen who have been working out on their own, which should benefit the team, too.

If you have an idea for the NNN TidBit, send me an e-mail at wjlanier1963@yahoo.com.

Visit our website

Montana State University-Northern | 406-265-3700 | www.msun.edu

STAY CONNECTED



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