



# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHERN

## Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - February 2, 2024

### Judy Greenwood Honored for Dave's Contributions to Wrestling



Last Friday, Jan. 26, the MSU-Northern Lights wrestling team honored Judy Greenwood and her family with some flowers and a plaque as a way to remember and thank the Greenwood family for many contributions her late husband Dave made to Northern's wrestling program. Known as "The Father of Northern Wrestling", Dr. Dave Greenwood established the Northern Montana College Wrestling program in 1970. As the Head Coach, he led his teams to Frontier Conference Championships in 1976 and 1984. Coach Greenwood coached a total of 8 NAIA All-Americans, including the first ever All-American wrestlers in Northern's storied history. Dave also coached Northern to an undefeated dual meet season going 10-0 in 1984.

[Read more...](#)

## Navy Vet Shares the Advantages of a Northern Education



Hello, my name is Lee Quinn, and I'm a biology major at MSU-Northern. When I got out of the Navy, I decided to go back to school. I lacked confidence because it had been many years and I felt I had lost a lot of my high school knowledge. I contacted MSU-Northern's Veterans Upward Bound program in Billings where I received excellent tutoring and a scholarship. The director, Lori, suggested MSU-Northern for its small class sizes, which would provide me with the personal attention I needed due to my struggles with PTSD.

Reflecting on my time at MSU-Northern, I realize the school was the perfect choice for me. As an older student, the break between school sessions felt less intimidating, and my experiences have better prepared me for the academic challenges. Student Support Services (SSS) played a crucial role in my academic success. They helped boost my confidence, offering support with scheduling, tutoring services, and overall guidance. Their assistance clarified my academic path and made the journey forward more clear.

Originally, I thought I would like to do something in genetics when I graduated. But everything changed when I took a botany class. I was given the opportunity to conduct my own research project which explored the water stress effects on a native Montana plant. My pilot study succeeded, and I plan to publish the full study by the time I graduate. Terry Hildebrand (Professor of Biology) has been instrumental in guiding me through this exciting research journey. The prospect of having my own published study, with my name on it, enhances my chances of getting into grad school.

In addition to being a biology major, I also serve as a science tutor and peer mentor at SSS. As a science tutor, I assist fellow students with challenging

subjects and provide guidance on study skills and time management. Being part of SSS has allowed me to give back to the community and help others navigate their academic journey.

Overall, MSU-Northern has been instrumental in my growth, offering a supportive environment, personalized attention, and unique opportunities that have opened up exciting possibilities for my future in ecological field research. I'm grateful for the education, research opportunities, and the guidance I've received at MSU-Northern.

---

## Community Involvement Fair



On Thursday, Feb. 1 the student engagement committee held their 2024 MSUN Community Involvement Fair, This event was designed to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s National Day of Service by encouraging Students to volunteer & improve their communities. This event provided an opportunity for students to learn more about ways they can serve their community, both on and off campus. Several local non-profits and service organizations, as well as campus clubs and organizations we were on hand and invited to share their missions and goals and how individuals can participate in their service work.

---



## Senior Wrestlers Honored



Before last Friday's (Jan. 26) wrestling dual against Southern Oregon University, MSU-Northern honored this year's senior wrestlers NaKoda Siegel and Carl Hansen. Here are some of their accomplishments that were recognized at that presentation.

### **NaKoda Siegel (174)**

NaKoda came to Northern from Colstrip, MT Upon his arrival, NaKoda quickly became the starter at 165 and has held a starting position since! In NaKoda's first full season with the Lights in 2021-22, he made his mark at 174. At the 2022 NAIA National Championships he placed 5th earning his first All-American honors.

In the 2022-23 season, NaKoda held a top 5 ranking all season long. In his 3rd season with the Lights, he won multiple tournaments as well as placing 5th in the Reno Tournament of Champions. At the 2023 NAIA National Championships, NaKoda earned 4th place which gave him his second consecutive All-American honor. In the Spring of 2023, NaKoda earned Male Athlete of the Year at MSU-Northern.

NaKoda has a career record of 73 wins and 24 losses. He is a 2x All-American and is majoring in Trades Management.

### **Carl Hansen (197)**

Carl came to Northern from Elko, NV. In his first season in 2019-2020, Carl became a starter at 184 in the early Spring. In the 2020-21 Covid season, Carl was on a roll as he went 8-0 in dual meet competitions earning him a unanimous vote to participate in his first NAIA National Championships. Carl upset and pinned the #1 seed and returning finalist from 2020 in his very first match of the tournament.

In 2021-22, Carl moved up to 197 where he qualified for his second NAIA National Championships by placing 5th at the Conference Championships. In the 2022-23 season, Carl was instrumental in the final dual meet of the year as he pinned his rival and lifted the Lights to victory over UP. Carl also earned

his 3rd consecutive trip to the NAIA National Championships by placing 3rd at Conference. At the National Championships, Carl fell one round shy of All-American honors.

Carl is a 3x NAIA National Qualifier for the Lights and is majoring in Diesel Mechanics Field Maintenance.

---

## **HILL COUNTRY REVUE VARIETY SHOW – A Fun Evening Out**



Montana Actor's Theatre is pleased to present A variety show in the vein of Hee-Haw, Saturday Night Live and Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In. This production will feature a weekly Local Musician playing original music with comic interludes commenting on life in Havre and the Hi-Line. Get ready for an unforgettable evening of music, laughter, and entertainment as we bring together the finest local talents in one spectacular event!

[Click here for tickets...](#)

---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

## **ATTENTION STUDENTS:**

### **Scholarship Deadline Extended to March 1, 2024**

The Northern Alumni Foundation offers 23 scholarships that require a separate application. There are scholarships for agriculture, diesel/automotive, education, nursing, and other miscellaneous non-degree specific scholarships. Students can pick up the scholarship applications at the Foundation office located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Cowan Hall posted on the bulletin board next to Room 307. The scholarships can also be accessed at [msunfoundation.org/scholarships](http://msunfoundation.org/scholarships). Any questions, please contact Marla Shulund or Toni Pedersen, Room 307 in Cowan Hall.

---

### **Important Deadlines**

Feb 19th (Monday) Presidents Day Holiday (no classes, offices closed)  
Mar 1th (Thursday) Midterm grades due to Registrar's Office by Noon  
Mar 8th-15th Spring Break Week (No classes, offices open)

---

### **Crisis Response Training Available**

MSU-Northern is providing two trainings to help you get better prepared for dealing with a crisis. The sessions are called Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) & Stop the bleed-Save a life. Both sessions are being offered by Frank Zuccala in Hagener room 114 on:

- February 12
- February 26
- March 18

CRASE begins at 9 am, Stop the Bleed begins at 11 am: Attend one or both

To register, Email: [Frank.Zuccala@MSUN.edu](mailto:Frank.Zuccala@MSUN.edu)

---

### **Winter Clothing Drive – Library Foyer**

Do you have winter gear you're no longer using? Donate gently worn and freshly laundered items to the Vande Bogart Library to benefit students and community members who can use them! They are collecting coats, hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens for students from Jan. 2 through Feb. 2. Students can come claim needed items during this time.

---

# UPCOMING EVENTS

---

## **We Love Northern Ball – Feb. 24**

The “We Love Northern Ball” is the signature annual event of MSU-Northern, and tickets and tables are now on sale through the MSU-Northern Foundation. The Ball will take place on Saturday, February 24, 2024, at the Armory Gym on campus. The centerpiece of the event will be a three-course wine-pairing dinner, consisting of a Maine lobster cake appetizer, a main entrée of smoked beef brisket, and tiramisu for dessert. Those items will be paired with three incredible wines from Montana’s premier vineyard, Willow Creek Winery in Corvallis, Montana.

In addition to this amazing meal, the ball will feature live and silent auction items, and music by the Melissa Lynn Band from Great Falls. Last year, more than 210 guests attended the ball, and this year’s goal is 300. Tickets are \$100 each, or a reserved table of eight for \$900. Northern faculty, staff and students receive a 25% discount, so those tickets are \$75 each, or a reserved table for \$600

For tickets and table reservations, visit Melanie Skoyen in the Foundation office in Cowan 305, or purchase them online at [msunfoundation.org](https://msunfoundation.org)

---

# CALENDAR

---

## **Friday, Feb. 2**

Havre Ice Hawks Open Skate - 6:45-7:45pm, Havre Ice Dome, MSUN students FREE w/ MSUN ID

Elks’ Club Karaoke Night, 321 2nd Street - 8pm,

MAT: Hill Country Revue Variety Show – Cowan Hall Theatre - 8 pm

## **Saturday Feb. 3**

Lebowskifest - Harvest Moon Lanes, 1920 US Highway 2 (Havre) - 7pm, Celebrate the 25th anniversary of the release of “The Big Lebowski”, costume contest, live music, food & drink specials & bowling

MAT: Hill Country Revue Variety Show – Cowan Hall Theatre - 8 pm

## **Sunday Feb. 4**

Havre Ice Hawks Open Skate – 5-6:30 pm, Havre Ice Dome, MSUN students FREE w/ MSUN ID

## Thursday, Feb. 8

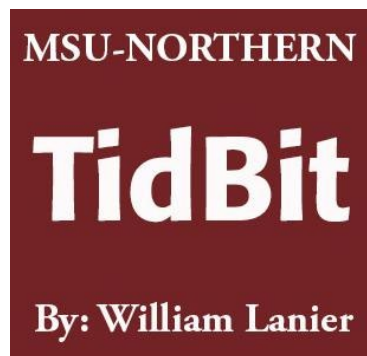
Lights Wrestling vs University of Providence @ Billings  
Skylights Basketball vs Carroll College - 5:00 PM  
Lights Basketball vs Carrol College - 7:00 PM

## Friday, Feb. 9

Spring Deferred Payment Schedule: 50% Due  
MAT: Hill Country Revue Variety Show - 8:00 PM

## Saturday, Feb. 10

Skylights Basketball vs Montana Tech 2:00 PM  
Lights Basketball vs Montana Tech - 4:00 PM  
MAT: Hill Country Revue Variety Show - 8:00 PM



**(#402)**

### Skylight Basketball History

On January 21<sup>st</sup> Coach Tara VanDerveer, the head coach at Stanford University set the collegiate record of wins by a college basketball coach with her 1,203<sup>rd</sup> win. Coach VanDerveer surpassed former Duke Coach Mike Krzyzewski.

Many of you know and some of you may not know that Coach VanDerveer's very first win was against the Northern Montana College Skylights. On December 1, 1978, while the head coach at Idaho, her team outlasted the Skylights in overtime by a score of 70-68. The Skylights were led by Kelly Veis with 23 points.

Tom Wylie of Tom Wylie of Montana Sports.com (MTN Sports) did a great job with a story last week on that very first game. Here is a link to that story: [Skylights vs Tara VanDerveer](#)

In the story is a great interview with both Kelly Veis and then Heard Coach Linda Ponikvar! Coach Ponikvar coached both basketball and volleyball during her two years NMC. Prior to coming to Northern she was the head coach at Eastern Montana College and then left Northern to coach at Gonzaga. Her collegiate win loss record is 79-78. Here is a breakdown of Coach Ponikvar's Collegiate head coaching record.


EMC	1974-76	29-11 7 <sup>th</sup> all-time in wins at EMC
NMC	1977-79	16-23 7 <sup>th</sup> all-time in wins at Northern
Gonzaga	1980 – 1983	34-44 7 <sup>th</sup> all-time in wins at Gonzaga



Her win-loss percentage of 72.5% at Eastern Montana College (and MSU-Billings) is 2<sup>nd</sup> all-time.

The following article was in the February 7, 1977, issue of the *NoMoCo!*

**SPORTS LIGHTS**  
by Mike Allen



**Linda Ponikvar  
Leads Winning Team**

Linda Ponikvar is in her second year as head coach of the Northern Skylights basketball and volleyball teams.

Linda hails from Hawaii, where she was born and resided for seven years until her father was transferred to Great Falls.

Linda studied physical education at Eastern Montana College where she also received her first coaching experience. Ponikvar was Eastern's first girl's basketball and volleyball coach. Women's programs were just getting started in Montana at this time and, as head coach of the Eastern Yellowjacket's women's basketball team, Linda led her girls to the National Playoffs two years in a row.

After two years of coaching at Eastern, Linda decided to continue her education at the University of Montana in Missoula. While there, she worked on her Masters and coached the U of M's Junior Varsity basketball team.

When the coaching position at NMC became available, Linda promptly applied and was selected in August 1977. Being selected so late in the summer was difficult for both Linda and the women's program, due to most of the good players already being recruited by other schools. Ponikvar, using what she had, ended up with a respectable season. Her overall record, prior to the start of this season was 61-36.

This year's Skylights, behind the coaching of Ponikvar, are doing very well and are in the position to be in the number one spot. The conference is very tight at present. Rocky Mountain leads the conference with a 5-0 record, while NMC and Carroll College are just behind with 4-1 records. The Skylights one loss was to Rocky Mountain.

Ponikvar's intent when she took the job at Northern was to build a good program, and she says, "I believe we're more than halfway there . . . though my goals have not quite been reached."

Northern is starting to be noticed as both a school and as a school with an excellent women's athletic program. Much of this has been due to Linda Ponikvar's ability to construct a program around athletes.

If she can put a trophy, for basketball, next to the Skylights trophy for volleyball, her goals might be almost complete.

if you have an idea for the NNN TidBit, send me an e-mail at [wjlanier1963@yahoo.com](mailto:wjlanier1963@yahoo.com) .

Visit our website

Montana State University-Northern | 406-265-3700 | [www.msun.edu](http://www.msun.edu)

STAY CONNECTED



MSU-Northern | 300 13th Street West, Havre, MT 59501