



**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
NORTHERN**

## Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - March 7, 2025

### MSU-Northern Hosts Leadership High School Graduation



Yesterday (Mar. 6), MSU-Northern hosted the graduation ceremony for Leadership High School (LHS), a six-month program designed for up to 15 juniors at Havre High School. Offered at no cost to students or the school, the program is a collaboration between the Havre Chamber of Commerce and Havre Public Schools.

Throughout the program, students participated in job shadowing, engaged in school-wide activities, served on school councils, and helped plan school dances and lunch events. LHS, which began in 2000, provides students with hands-on leadership experiences to prepare them for future roles in their community.

The graduation ceremony took place at MSU-Northern's Student Union Building, where Dr. Jennifer Brown, MSU-Northern's Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs & Provost, addressed.

## Lecture on American Indian Historical Trauma by Dr. Joseph Gone



On Friday, February 28, at 4 PM, Dr. Joseph Gone, a Harvard professor and Faculty Director of the Harvard University Native American Program, delivered a lecture on American Indian historical trauma at the Little River Institute, presenting in the Sweetgrass Commons. Dr. Gone, an enrolled member of the Aaniiih-Gros Ventre tribal nation of Montana, is a clinical and community psychologist specializing in the mental health of Indigenous communities. His interdisciplinary research examines the intersection of culture, coloniality, and well-being among American Indians and other Indigenous populations.

During his talk, Dr. Gone explored the concept of "historical trauma" and its role in explaining the disproportionately high rates of mental health distress among Indigenous Americans. He discussed how the legacy of colonization affects tribal communities today and considered alternative perspectives on the link between historical oppression and contemporary mental health challenges.

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## Women's History Month Documentary Series



Throughout March the MSU-Northern Vande Bogart Library is celebrating Women's History with a documentary film series. Attend film screenings on Tuesday each week at 3PM near the Northern Brew coffee shop on the library's main level. Drop by and stay as little or as long as you like! To watch on your own, all films can be found on Kanopy through the library's A-Z databases.

This week featured the film *Women's Power in Global Perspective*, which is an 85-minute documentary by Max Dashú that offers a panoramic view of female leadership, creativity, wisdom, and courage across various cultures and historical periods. The film explores women's roles in politics, economics, religion, medicine, arts, and literature, highlighting both renowned and lesser-known figures from ancient to modern times. By showcasing these narratives, the documentary challenges traditional historical accounts and emphasizes the significant contributions of women worldwide. The upcoming films are:

- Mar. 11 - *This Changes Everything*
- Mar. 18 - *Women Composers*
- Mar. 25 - *Electric Kingdom*

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## OTLE Hosts First Brown Bag Lecture of the Semester



MSU-Northern's Office of Teaching and Learning Excellence (OTLE) hosted its first Brown Bag Lecture of the semester, providing faculty with an opportunity to showcase their work and foster a sense of academic community. The event, held in Hagener Science Center 101 ("The Pit"), welcomed both campus and community members, with free lunches available for those who reserved them in advance.

The lecture, titled *Teaching and Learning at the AI Crossroads*, was presented by the Teaching Scholars Group, which included Dr. Gwen Hart, Kristi Peterson, Dr. Praveen Dubey, Dr. Chad Spangler, Kenny Wait, Mary Ward, Erin Markus, and Dr. Mattius Rischard. The group, consisting of nine faculty members from various disciplines—business, health sciences, English, education, and graphic design—shared insights from their collaborative effort in the fall of 2024 to integrate AI into student assignments in ethical and productive ways.

As part of their initiative, the faculty studied *AI: A Practical Guide to a New Era of Human Learning* by Bowen and Watson, using it as a framework to develop assignments and assess outcomes. During the panel, they reflected on their experiences and discussed strategies for future AI integration in coursework.

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## Lights Wrestlers Heads to NAIA Nationals

Eight MSU-Northern wrestlers have qualified for the 2025 NAIA Men's Wrestling Championships, set for March 6-8 in Park City, Kansas. The tournament, hosted by Visit Wichita at Park City Arena, will feature top competitors from across the nation.

Representing the Lights are Kolten Powers (125), Justin Windauer (157), Travis Waldner (165), Orion Thivierge (165), Devin Crawford (174), Rylin Burns (184), Austin Vanek (197), and Shane Mattson (285). Joining them as training partners and support staff are Kade Willis and Lucas Thacker.

The team will compete over three days, aiming for national titles and All-American honors.

[Click here to watch the action live...](#)

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### 14 Basketball Athletes Received Academic All-Conference

The NAIA Academic All-Conference Award is given to student-athletes who excel in both academics and athletics. The award is given annually to outstanding student-athletes in various sports. To be eligible for the award, student-athletes must be at least a sophomore in standing and carry a minimum 3.25 grade point average.

### Women's:

- |                   |     |                                 |                    |
|-------------------|-----|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Katelynn Forner | Sr. | Integrated Health Sciences      | Camas, WA          |
| • Addisen Kiefer  | Jr. | Integrated Health Sciences      | Rathdrum, ID       |
| • Shyan Krass     | Sr. | Agricultural Operations         | Hogeland, MT       |
| • McKenzie Long   | Sr. | Integrated Health Sciences      | American Falls, ID |
| • Rebecca Melcher | Jr. | Business Administration         | Forsyth, MT        |
| • Taya Trottier   | Jr. | Integrated Health Sciences      | Harlem, MT         |
| • Emma Wass       | GS  | MS in Ed., Instr., and Learning | Manhattan, MT      |

### Men's

- |                  |     |                              |                 |
|------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Rogan Barnwell | Jr. | Business Administration      | Great Falls, MT |
| • Cinque Maxwell | So. | Civil Engineering Technology | Univ. Place, WA |
| • Oskar Pula     | Jr. | El. Tech. & Trades Mgmt      | Chinook, MT     |
| • Jack Reardon   | Sr. | Business Administration      | Munster, IN     |
| • Leon Sayers IV | Jr. | El. Tech. & Trades Mgmt      | Spokane, Wash.  |
| • Leo Sewell     | Jr. | Business Administration      | Portland, OR    |
| • Owen Smith     | Sr. | Health & Physical Education  |                 |

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## MSU-Northern Blood Drive Supports Montana's Healthcare

MSU-Northern's blood drive on March 5, provided a critical resource for hospitals and patients across Montana. Each donation had the potential to save up to three lives, highlighting the importance of this effort.

A heartfelt thank you to all the students, faculty, staff, and community members who participated

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## Student Spotlight: Courtney Boese



Courtney JoAnn Boese always knew she wanted to help people, but finding the right path wasn't immediate. Growing up in Bigfork, Montana, she first attended the University of Montana Western before realizing she needed a change. It was her cousin, who was enrolled in the plumbing program at MSU-Northern, who introduced her to the university. Intrigued, Courtney visited the campus, and from that moment, she knew she had found the right place.

Transferring into MSU-Northern's Integrated Health Sciences program, Courtney immediately noticed the strong sense of community and support among students and

professors alike. One professor in particular shaped her future—Dr. Chad Spangler. Initially nervous about starting over at a new school, Courtney found comfort in Dr. Spangler’s classroom, where he encouraged discussions that helped her connect with classmates and build friendships. His guidance extended beyond the classroom as he played a crucial role in her application process for Physical Therapy programs, offering encouragement and confidence when she needed it most.

Courtney has thrived at Northern, and said she appreciates the small class sizes and the dedication of faculty members who truly cared about student success. She particularly praises Dr. Spangler’s teaching style, which ensures that no student is left behind, as he takes the time to explain concepts thoroughly and make sure everyone understands the material. His mentorship has helped to shape Courtney’s passion for physical therapy, and has solidified her goal of pursuing a doctorate in the field.

Courtney’s hard work and determination have paid off, as she received two acceptances into Physical Therapy programs. In the fall of 2025, Courtney will begin her journey toward earning her Doctorate in Physical Therapy. With her sights set on the future, she hopes to return to rural Montana to provide physical therapy services to those who lack access. Her ultimate dream is to open a clinic dedicated to serving veterans, ensuring that those who have served their country receive the care they deserve.

Looking back, Courtney knows she made the right choice in transferring to MSU-Northern. The tight-knit community, the supportive professors, and the opportunities she found here all played a crucial role in shaping her future. Now, as she prepares for the next chapter of her journey, she carries with her the lessons and experiences that will guide her as she works to make a difference in the lives of others.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### **The Foal Monty (Dinner Theatre) - March 14,15**

Montana Actor’s Theatre is pleased to present A new farce by Martin Holt This fun-filled dinner theatre will take place on March 14 & 15 in the Chuckwagon on the Hill County Fairgrounds in Havre and will be catered by the group that brought you the outstanding meal at Death by Chocolate.

This is a touring dinner theatre and will be presented in the following locations:

- Havre – March 14,15 (Chuckwagon – Havre Fair Grounds)
- Grass Range – March 22 (Grass Range high School)
- Shelby – March 28 (The Dixie Inn)
- Chinook – April 11&12

Step into the penthouse suite of high society, where love, laughter, and utter chaos collide! This uproarious dinner theatre production follows Montgomery “Monty” Feely as he stumbles through a whirlwind of mistaken identities, gangsters in disguise, and unexpected romance - all while trying to survive the watchful eye of his soon-to-be father-in-law, Dominic Halligan.

With quick-witted dialogue, slapstick comedy, and a touch of romance, Foal Monty gallops through a night of unforgettable entertainment. Will Monty find true love? Will Filly bet on a different horse? And just what is in that package?

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

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## **Oliver! – March 27-29, April 3-5**

MAT, the MSU-Northern Community Orchestra, and Havre High School are once again collaborating to produce their version of the Broadway Musical “Oliver!” The show will be presented on the stage of the Havre High Theatre.

The streets of Victorian England come to life as Oliver, a malnourished orphan in a workhouse, becomes the neglected apprentice of an undertaker. Oliver escapes to London and finds acceptance amongst a group of petty thieves and pickpockets led by the elderly Fagin. When Oliver is captured for a theft that he did not commit, the benevolent victim, Mr. Brownlow takes him in. Fearing the safety of his hideout, Fagin employs the sinister Bill Sikes and the sympathetic Nancy to kidnap him back, threatening Oliver’s chances of discovering the true love of a family.

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

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## **OTLE Brown Bag Lecture Series – Apr. 2, 23**

Back by popular demand, The Office of Teaching and Learning Excellence is pleased to present their 4<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Brown Bag Lecture Series Lineup.

### ***Qach Rresh: A Neo-Assyrian (950-600 BCE) Site Full of Post-Assyrian (600-323 BCE) Trash on the Erbil Plain - Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>***

Don’t miss this Brownbag Lecture where Dr. Kyra Kaercher will be sharing some of the findings from Qach Rresh, a rural site founded in the late Neo-Assyrian period, located just 15km south of modern-day Erbil (Iraqi Kurdistan) as well as exciting new ceramic research.

## **Idle Assets to Active Learning: Revitalizing Campus Resources for Student Engagement - Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

In this Brownbag Lecture, Aaron Riggan will share some of the ways he has retrofitted, updated and revitalized campus equipment to expand and enhance student learning and engagement.

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## **Science Saturday Series - Starts Tomorrow**

The “Science Saturday” series provides teachers of grades 5-12 with tools to grow STEM opportunities in classrooms across the Hi Line. Participants can earn 5 hours of Professional Development Units each Saturday. This series is offered at no cost to participants.

**Science Saturday I: Fluid Mechanics** - March 8, 2025: 10am - 4pm

**Science Saturday II: Astronomy** – April 4, 8:30pm 10pm, April 5, 9am 12:30pm,

**Science Saturday III: Medicinal Plants of Montana** May 3, 2025: 10am 4pm

[Click Here for more information...](#)

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## **London Study Abroad Program English High Tea Fundraiser - Mar 9**

Join MSU-Northern’s London Study Abroad students on March 9 at 2:00 p.m. in Donaldson Commons for a delightful English High Tea in gratitude for your support! Your donation grants you entry to this elegant afternoon featuring:

- A selection of fine English teas
- Cucumber sandwiches, scones with clotted cream & jam
- Live piano performance by Michael Stevenson

### **Sponsorship Levels**

**Thames River Sponsor: \$25**

English tea. Scones, Sandwiches, sweet treats, with Michael Stevenson playing the piano for a nice relaxing afternoon.

**Big Ben Sponsor: \$50**

Everything above + a postcard from England from one of our students.



**Tower Sponsor: \$100**

Everything above + a video message from students on an excursion in England.

**Crown Sponsor: \$500 Corporate Sponsorship**

Everything above + a group photo with your company logo in front of an English monument.

Every donation helps make this journey possible—thank you for your support!

[Click here to register...](#)

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## NEXT WEEK

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**Friday, March 7**

- Lights Wrestling @ NAIA National Championships (Multi-Day Event)

**Saturday, March 8**

- Lights Wrestling @ NAIA National Championships (Multi-Day Event)
- Science Saturday - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Sunday, March 9**

- Afternoon Tea Fundraiser – 2pm Donaldson Hall

**Tuesday, March 11**

- Women's History Month Documentary Series - 3:00 PM

**Wednesday, March 12**

- YIN YOGA w/ RA Jake, Morgan Hall Lounge 7 pm

**Friday, March 14**

- MAT presents THE FOAL MONTY Dinner Theatre, Chuckwagon, doors open @5:30pm, dinner @6pm, \$40/person, \$75/couple, \$350/table
- HAVRE ELKS' CLUB BINGO, 321 2nd Street, doors open at 6pm, BINGO starts at 6:30, \$20 to play, reservations recommended w/ Brandy 406.390.0091
- Proceeds benefit Elks' Club Youth, Veteran & Community giving programs
- HAVRE ELKS' CLUB KARAOKE, 321 2nd Street, 9pm

## SATURDAY, March 15

- MAT presents THE FOAL MONTY Dinner Theatre, Chuckwagon, doors open @5:30pm, dinner @6pm, \$40/person, \$75/couple, \$350/table
- Craft Show - Holiday Village Mall – 10 am-4 pm

MSU-NORTHERN

**TidBit**

By: William J. Lanier

### **(#431) Northern Wrestling by the Numbers - 2025 Edition**

With the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual National NAIA National Wrestling Tournament coming up this weekend, here is my annual "Northern Wrestling by the Numbers – 2025 Edition".

1984 - The year that Dr. Dave Greenwood was named the NAIA District 12 Coach of the Year.

1983 - Northern finished in 17<sup>th</sup> place at the NAIA National Tournament

1982 - Northern placed 22<sup>nd</sup> at the NAIA National Tournament

1976 - The year that Dr. Dave Greenwood was named the Frontier Conference Wrestling Coach of the Year.

168 - Number of career wins by Isaac Bartel placing him 1<sup>st</sup> all-time in Northern history

136 - Number of wins by Tyson Thivierge as Northern Light wrestler (5<sup>th</sup> all-time in Northern history)

112 - Number of career pins by former Northern Light Ethan Hinebauch (most in NAIA history)

92.6% - Turk Lord's career winning percentage here at Northern (126-10)

91.1% - Emmett Willson's career winning percentage here at Northern (163-16)

91.1% - Brian Hilt's career winning percentage here at Northern (51-5) from 1982-84

90.3% - Isaac Bartel's career winning percentage here at Northern (168-18)

55 - Number of years Northern has had a wrestling team (began in the fall of 1970)

50 - Number of wins by former Light Emmett Willson in 2004

43 - Consecutive years, Northern has had at least one All-American

43 - Consecutive years, Northern has finished in the top 22 at the national tournament (1982-2024)

41 - Number of Academic All-Americans Northern has produced

33 - Individual national champions from Northern (4<sup>th</sup> all-time in NAIA history)

30 - Number of times Northern has finished in the top 10 at the national tournament

- 17 - Number of times Northern has finished in the top 5 at the national tournament
- 14 - Number of times Northern has finished in the top 3 at the national tournament
- 8 - Number of Northern wrestlers that will be participating at the NAIA National Championships this year.
- 8 - The number of Northern wrestlers that earned the Gorriaran Award at the NAIA National Tournament Wrestler (most all time in NAIA history).
- 7 - Number of national championships by Turk Lords (4 individual and 3 team)
- 7 - Number of individuals that were four-time All-Americans in the history of Northern
- 6 - National team titles won by Northern (4th all-time in NAIA history)
- 5 - Number of Head Coaches that have coached the Northern wrestling teams (Dr. David Greenwood, Jason Liles, David Ray, Dan Troupe and Tyson Thivierge)
- 5 - Number of All-American finishes by Isaac Bartel
- 4 - National individual titles won by Turk Lords
- 3 - National individual titles won by Emmett Willson
- 3 - Number of Northern Lights that are in the NAIA Hall of Fame (David Ray, Emmett Willson, and Turk Lords).
- 3 - Number of Northern Lights that won a National Championship and went undefeated the same year (Randy Street, Emmett Willson, and Isaac Bartel)
- 2 - National individual titles won by Corey Borges and Stryder Davis
- 1- Dan Hodge Trophy winners by Northern (Emmett Willson, still the only NAIA wrestler to ever win this award). *That was 21 years ago!*

If there are any additions or corrections to this list, please let me know by e-mailing me at [wjlanier1963@yahoo.com](mailto:wjlanier1963@yahoo.com) Thank you.

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