



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHERN

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - October 3, 2025

Lights Shine in Homecoming Victory



Photos by: Cassandra Olszewski

MSU-Northern football fans cheered the Lights to a 23–7 Homecoming win over Eastern Oregon University. Also-Spencer Lehnerz intercepted two passes for touchdowns in the football game. He was named Frontier Conference Defensive Player of the Week as well as NAIA National Player of the Week. The Goose made an appearance on the field, accompanied by over 50 student-athletes at halftime who threw t-shirts to the crowd. The victory capped off a spirited week of events and celebrations across campus. Halftime brought more reasons to cheer as the Homecoming Royal Court was announced

Skylights Volleyball Team Honors Two Outstanding Players



Photos by: Cassandra Olszewski

As part of Homecoming festivities, the Skylights volleyball team faced Bellevue University, falling 1–3 and ending their five-match winning streak. With the loss, Northern moved to 8-7 overall and 6-3 in Frontier Conference play. The Skylights will return to action on the road next weekend against Montana Western and Montana Tech.

During the match break, Northern recognized two standout players for reaching major career milestones:

- Bailey Egan reached 1,500 career digs on Sept. 10 against the University of Providence.
- Macee Selman celebrated two milestones—1,500 career assists (Sept. 12 vs. Valley City State) and 500 career kills (Sept. 10 vs. Providence).

New Student Senators Elected

Three students have stepped up to represent their peers as this year's Student Senators! Their leadership and dedication will help shape student life at MSU-Northern.

- Harlee Burns (Lame Deer, MT) – Elementary Education, 3rd year. Member of Sweetgrass Society, 2025 Orientation Leader, SUB front desk employee.
- Loren Lane (Augusta, MT) – Diesel Technology, sophomore. Former First-Year Senator, 2025 Orientation Leader, SkillsUSA Treasurer, MSUN grounds crew employee.
- Jonathon Schaumloeffel (Hingham, MT) – Plumbing, first year. Secretary of D&D Club, Chi Alpha member, former high school Student Council VP and Football Captain.

Congrats to Harlee, Loren, and Jonathon for taking on this important role!

Royal Lights Announced at Homecoming



The 2025 Royal Lights were crowned at halftime of the Homecoming football game against Eastern Oregon. Chosen by their peers, Royal Lights honor students who embody the spirit of a Northern Light through leadership, involvement, and service.

This year's recipients are:

- Cannan Smith (Counselor Education, Eureka, MT) – Resident Director, D&D Club, former Lights Football player.
- Harlee Burns (Elementary Ed, Lame Deer, MT) – ASMSUN Senator, Sweetgrass Society, SUB Info Desk.
- Owen Smith (Health & PE, Coeur d'Alene, ID) – Assistant Residence Hall Director, Lights Basketball.
- Tabitha VanDalen (Metals Manufacturing, Dillon, MT) – ASMSUN Senator, Resident Assistant.

Also nominated: Ashton Grover, Caedon Seymour, Damon Petroff, Jonathan Wamsley, Kaitlyn Tabbert, Kyan Caldarera, Talia Goes Ahead, and Tithen Fitzgerald.

OTLE Brings AI to Campus in Hands-On Sessions



MSU-Northern's Office of Teaching and Learning Excellence (OTLE) hosted an "AI Playday" on Friday, September 26, giving faculty and staff a chance to test out generative AI tools firsthand. Participants explored how AI can be used for writing, research, and visual creation while discussing the technology's ethical challenges and practical classroom applications. Three small-group sessions throughout the day ensured participants at all levels received personalized, hands-on guidance.

Montana Meets Manhattan at MAT's Annual Gala



The Montana Actors' Theatre hosted its annual *Death by Chocolate* gala on September 27 at St. Jude's Gym in Havre. This year's theme, *Denim, Black Tie, & City Lights*, brought together community members for an evening where "Montana meets Manhattan." Guests enjoyed fantastic food, live performances, auctions, community awards, prizes, and dancing, with many dressing up in creative Montana or Manhattan-style formalwear.

The menu featured gourmet pastrami tartines served on toasted marbled bagels, paired with fresh slaw and a citrus-carrot salad, followed by rich New York-style chocolate layered cheesecake for dessert. In addition to supporting MAT's productions, this year's special project raised funds to help cover the cost of traveling to New York City for a month-long run-in November.

Inflatable Olympics Kick Off Battle of the Halls



The residence halls launched a new series of events this fall with the first-ever Inflatable Olympics—a playful competition featuring kickball, races, and plenty of laughs. The event is part of the semester-long Battle of the Halls, where floors face off in friendly contests. Mackenzie Hall came out on top in the opening round, led by a strong group of student leaders. Organizers hope the Inflatable Olympics will grow into a signature tradition for Northern's residence life.

MSU-Northern Receives Grant to Enhance Teacher Residency Program



MSU-Northern's Education Department has been awarded a \$99,811 grant from the Montana Office of Public Instruction, led by Dr. Praveen K. Dubey (PI), in collaboration with Dr. Mattius Rischard (Co-PI) and Dr. Angela Crevar (Co-PI – Mercer University). This funding marks a significant step forward in preparing highly effective educators for Montana's schools.

[Read more...](#)

Alumni Spotlight – Grace Schwenk



Missoula native Grace Schwenk chose MSU-Northern for cross country, affordable tuition, and a close-knit campus—and found a place that helped her grow into the best version of herself. A dual major in Liberal Studies and Secondary English Education, Grace credits mentors like Dr. Valerie Guyant and Dr. Gwen Hart for inspiring her love of

writing. Her short story "Fireweeds" was recently published in Chaotic Verge Magazine.

After graduation, Grace earned an M.F.A. in creative writing from the University of Montana. Her thesis, "The Greenhorn," recounts her rookie season as a fire tower lookout in Idaho, where her solitude was shared with hikers and a mountain goat named "Goatie." She also spent two summers on a Wildland Fire Crew.

Grace's next step is an interdisciplinary Ph.D. in creative writing and wildlife biology at UM, where she plans to return to Granite Mountain to study "Neetaka," a resident mountain goat. She credits her time at Northern—running on the Cross Country team, serving as an RA, and sitting on Student Senate—for building her confidence. Her advice to students: explore the Bear Paws, where some of her best memories were made.

[Read more...](#)

NNN Introduces New AI Column

The NNN is excited to launch a new bi-weekly column, Campus + AI: What You Need to Know. This column will be written by Emilee Luke, Director of the Office of Teaching and Learning Excellence (OTLE) and Scott Guyant, Research and Instruction Librarian in the Vande Bogart Library. This column will explore how artificial intelligence is transforming higher education and everyday life, with practical tips and resources for students, faculty, and staff.

Topics will range from using AI for research and writing support to creative applications in the arts, strategies for saving time in daily tasks, and the ethical considerations that come with emerging technologies. Each installment will highlight tools, answer common questions, and share insights to help our community feel more confident and informed.

Whether you're brand new to AI or already experimenting with the latest tools, this column is designed to meet you where you are and spark ideas for how AI can support your success.

Please reach out to them with any topics or issues you would like them to address. scott.guyant@msun.edu or emilee.luke@msun.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Attention Northern Campus,

We would like to let you know of a change at the Vande Bogart Library. Our Library Proxy Login will look different. Instead of the old blue screen that asked you for your NetID and Password,

Montana State University Libraries
Bozeman Billings Northern Great Falls College

Use these credentials:

NetID ([info](#))
Other options ([info](#))

NetID:

Password:

☐ Warn me before logging me into other sites.

LOGIN **CLEAR**

Security Notice:
Remember to logout and close your web browser when finished with the Library.

[Passwords, Information, and Help](#)

Single Sign-On for Library - logging into this page gives you single sign-on access to many MSU Library resources and applications.

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you will now see the same page as you see when you're logging into your MyInfo page.






LOGIN

NetID:

7 characters, starts with a letter (e.g. a11b222)

Password:

☐ Don't Remember Login

Login

Trouble logging in?

[Reset your password](#)

[Contact your campus Help Desk.](#)

Security Notice:
Remember to log out and close your web browser when finished.

Montana State University is now offering Duo Two-Factor authentication. Students, Faculty and Staff can enroll here: <https://www.montana.edu/uit/duo/>

You will still login with your NetID and Password but now you will be asked to also Duo authenticate just like you would for accessing MyInfo. This does not change any of our services or any access to what we offer. It just allows for more security by multi-authenticating. We hope this doesn't cause any issues but if you come across a problem, please reach out to us so we can try and fix it as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

The Vande Bogart Staff.

AI Resources Now Available

OTLE has created an [AI Resources Hub webpage](#) that can act as a reference for utilizing AI in your own role or providing resources to students. While we are not experts on AI, we've provided the limited research we've gone through to provide a comprehensive resources webpage. This includes different AI tools, AI prompt library, how to use AI ethically, and a variety of resources for students, faculty, and staff.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Alumni Auction – Oct 3

MSU-Northern Foundation annual Alumni Auction will be held on Friday, Oct. 3 in the SUB Ballroom. Doors open at 5:30 pm. They will have Live Auction, Silent Auction, and their infamous Dollar Auctions. Proceeds go to student scholarships.

Tickets are \$25 or \$500 for a table of 8, meal is included. Contact the Foundation office for tickets at 265-3711 or go to our website

[Click here to purchase tickets or a table...](#)

Open House New Teachers' Lounge and Resource Lab – Oct. 7

The Education Department is holding an informal open house to view the new Teachers' Lounge and Resource Lab! This unique advising, mentoring, and networking space is equipped to meet student needs in person and online. Feel free to drop by anytime. You will have an opportunity to meet the Education faculty and staff and learn about MSUNs Elementary and Secondary Education programs in a relaxed setting. Light refreshments will be served.

Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Cowan Hall, Room 316

Please RSVP to Jennifer Anderson at jennifer.anderson32@msun.edu.

TekNoXpo – October 8

MSU-Northern will host TekNoXpo & ShowCASE on October 8, a hands-on event designed to introduce high school students to everything Northern has to offer. Students in grades 9–12 can explore a wide range of programs—from graphic design and diesel equipment operation to working with livestock and simulated patients in the Nursing lab.

This is a great opportunity for students to get a taste of campus life and see Northern's programs in action. Volunteers are still needed to help make the event a success. If you can assist, please contact Shaughn McKeon at (406) 265-3793 or shaughn.mckeon@msun.edu.

MSU-Northern Career Fair – Oct. 9th

MSU-Northern hosts a Career Fair each Fall and Spring semester and attracts companies from the Hi-Line & Montana as well as National and International companies. Employers recruit students for co-op/internships, and full-time professional positions. The Fall fair will be Thursday October 9th from 9-12pm in the Armory Gymnasium.

MAT Announces 2025 Season

Montana Actors Theatre unveiled an exciting lineup for their 2025 season during their annual fall fundraiser:

- The Harvest – Oct. 22–27 (Havre), Nov. 3–23 (New York)
- The Rocky Horror Picture Show Shadow Cast – Oct. 31 & Nov. 1
- Hill Country Christmas Variety Show – Dec. 5–6, 11–13, & 18–20
- Laurel Canyon Tribute Concert – Feb. 6–7 & 13–14
- Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery – Touring March & April

- The Government Inspector – Apr. 10–11, 16–18, & 23–25
- The Hunchback of Notre Dame – May 14–16 & 21–23
- A Comedy of Errors – June 19–21 (Ren Faire)

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

The Harvest – Oct. 22-27

Written and Directed by Jason Pyette
October 22-27 Havre, November 3-23 New York

The Harvest tells the story of a Montana farm family coming to grips with a changing world. Six adult children face the reality of aging parents, the grim economics of a small family wheat farm, and the conflict of their own personalities and histories as they return home to help cut the crop.

NEXT WEEK

Friday, October 3

- Alumni Auction – 5:30 – SUB Ballroom
- MSUN Cross Country @ Bengal Invitational
- Skylights Volleyball @ Montana Western 7:00 PM

Saturday, October 4

- Skylights Volleyball @ Montana Tech 5:00 PM

Wednesday, October 8

- TekNoXpo & ShowCASE - 8:00 AM
- Skylights Volleyball @ University of Providence -7:00 PM

Thursday, October 9

- Fall 2025 Career Fair 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Friday, October 10

- Mid Term Grades Due – all day
- MSUN Cross Country @ Yellowjacket/Batt... All Day
- Skylights Volleyball vs Carroll College 7:00 PM

Saturday, October 11

- Lights Football vs Montana Tech 12:00 PM
 - Skylights Volleyball vs Rocky Mountain College 5:00 PM
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MSU-NORTHERN

TidBit

By: William J. Lanier

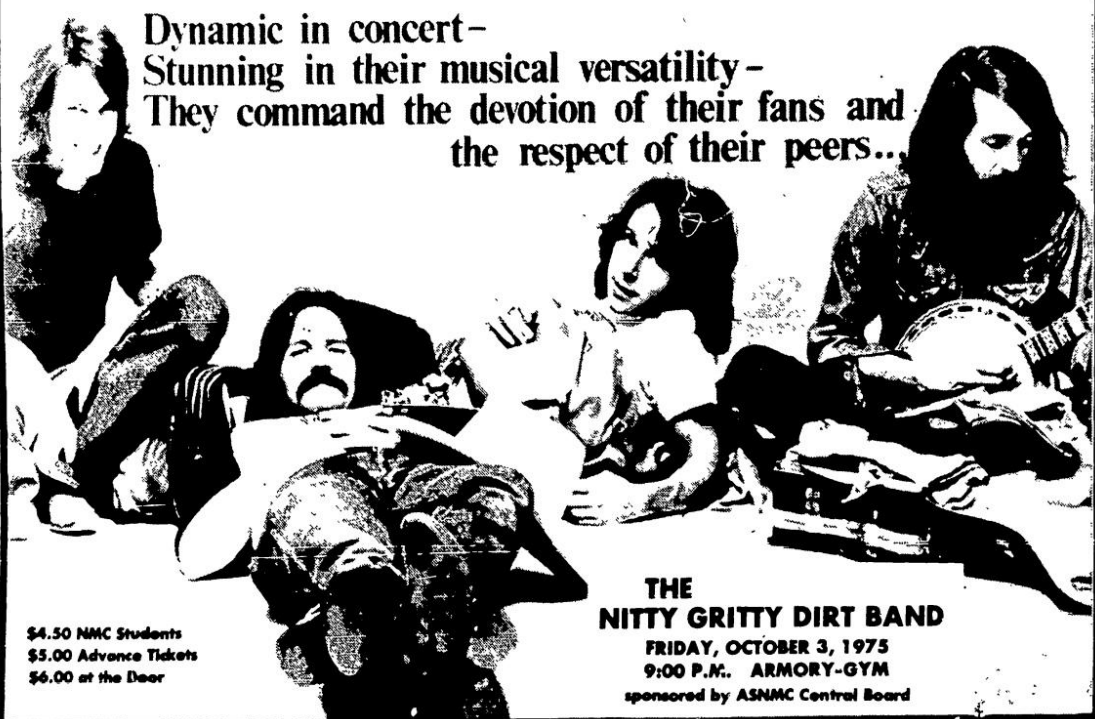
(#441) Time Machine – October 3, 1975 (Nitty Gritty Dirt Band)

How many of you were around Northern Montana College 50 years ago tonight? How many of you attended the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band Concert that was held 50 years ago tonight at the Armory Gym? The concert was sponsored by the ASNMC Central Board (student government, which is now known as ASMSUN Student Senate).

According to the NoMoCo, the concert generated \$5,617.80, but incurred expenses of \$6,543.30, resulting in a net loss of \$925.50. Ticket prices were \$4.50 for NMC students, \$5.00 for advance tickets, and \$6.00 at the door. In today's world, that would equate to approximately \$27.00, \$30.00, and \$36.00, respectively. For comparison, in 1975, stamps were \$0.70, and today they are \$0.78.

Below is an advertisement from the Havre Daily News, concert reviews from the NoMoCo, and pictures from the NMC yearbook, *Northerner*. Take a moment and relive that moment in time by reading the following.

From the Havre Daily News:



**Dynamic in concert –
Stunning in their musical versatility –
They command the devotion of their fans and
the respect of their peers...**

**THE
NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND**
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1975
9:00 P.M. ARMORY-GYM
sponsored by ASNMC Central Board

**\$4.50 NMC Students
\$5.00 Advance Tickets
\$6.00 at the Door**

From the 1976 Northerner



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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