

# THE SOPHOMORE CONNECTION

APRIL 1, 2009

New Sophomore website! <http://www.mnsu.edu/students/sophomores/>

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## SPRING TIME ACTIVITIES

### Come and see MSU Sports!

- Men's Baseball
- Women's Softball
- Women's and Men's Tennis
- Men's and Women's Golf
- Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field



[www.msumavericks.com](http://www.msumavericks.com)

### Upcoming Events:

- 4/7** MSU's Best Dance Crew—8 pm in CSU Ballroom
- 4/8** College of Business Etiquette Dinner—4-5:30 pm in CSU Ballroom
- 4/15** Singer Songwriter Contest—8 pm in CSU Basement
- 4/18** Open Bowling and Billiards—10 pm-12 am in Mav Bullpen
- 4/18** Rodney Carrington Comedian—7pm at Alltel Center
- 4/19** International Festival 11 am-4 pm at East High School
- 5/13** Slipknot, All that Remains, Devil Driver—7:30 pm at Alltel Center

## Business Ethics Lecture

**4/15**

Thomas Donaldson is the Winkleman Professor at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He is Director of the Ethics and Law Ph.D. Program at Wharton. He is author of "Ties that Bind" published by Harvard University Business School Press.

The lecture is open to the public.

**Location: CSU Ballroom from 7:00-9:00 pm**

April 15th

7-9 PM

CSU Ballroom

## Important Dates

- 4/10: Last day to withdraw from individual classes
- 4/20-23: Registration for Sophomores
- 4/24: Last day to withdraw from all classes
- 5/4-8: Final Exam Week
- 5/9: Graduation
- 5/18: First day of Summer Term Classes

## ADVISING

BY CHRISTOPHER STINDT

The number one question that college students are asked has to be "What is your major?" People often want to know what exactly you plan to do with your life. Choosing a major is...well, a major step. If you have been avoiding making a choice, or one has been eluding you, there is help! The Office of First

Year Experience does advising for undeclared students. The Career Development Center is also a great resource for figuring out what you want to do. On the other hand, maybe you did pick a major. Maybe you've always known what direction your life will take. Advising is still the best step to achieve

your academic goals. Meeting with an advisor from the department of your major is the best way to figure out what classes to take, when to take them, and other major (sorry!) things you need to do in order to graduate and get a job. So contact your advisor! It's **majorly** (last time I could get that in) important!!

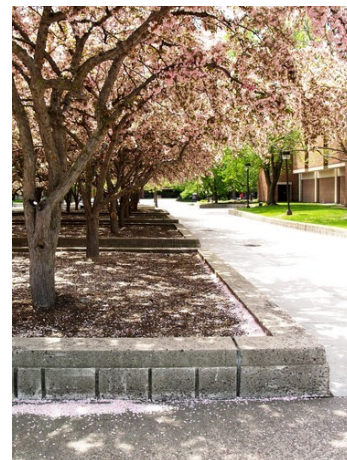
## TAKING SUMMER CLASSES

What are your plans this summer? Are you planning to work 3 jobs? Or just sit at the beach everyday? Do your plans involve taking any classes? Summer school in college isn't just a way to make up for classes that you didn't do good in. It is a chance to repeat some classes but it can be much more than that. It is a chance to get a jump on your

major. Maybe you plan to stay in the area and work anyway. Taking classes can give you a jump on the elusive 4 year bachelor's degree. Maybe your parents have been bugging you about graduating in under 5 years. Or if there is a college near your hometown you can check if the credits will transfer to MSU. Either way you'll be giving yourself a boost.

Being a beach bum is fun, but saving yourself an extra semester or year of college can put you in a real job sooner. No matter what you end up doing this summer make sure you have fun! Your time is college will go by fast, and soon enough you'll be wishing for summer's off. Good luck!

Check out summer jobs @ <http://www.mnsu.edu/cdc/mavjobs.html>



## GETTING INVOLVED BY ERIC HELLER

Without a doubt, the freshmen year and sophomore year are two different worlds. The academic, social, and life aspects do a 180° change over the three months of summer. After returning to campus in the fall, I found myself asking the same question on a weekly basis, "What am I doing here at MSU?" It was obvious that my experiences at MSU were going to change as the years go by. People's attitudes and motivation levels change over the summer, but I was determined to stay focused and stay active during my college career.

Getting involved has helped me get situated with campus life as well as meet many people. During my sophomore year, I wondered how I would stay involved and meet even more people. I soon

found out that I was interested in something I never thought I would become a part of, a fraternity. I met the brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha early on in the fall semester, and I am so glad I did because I have built new friendships and developed a family here in Mankato.

If you are looking to be with people just like yourself, look into Greek life. My experience in Lambda Chi Alpha has surpassed any of the thoughts I have ever had. Not only do I spend time with the guys at events, leadership conferences, and meetings, but I'm also with them on a daily basis. One of my favorite aspects of the fraternity is the close individual relationships I have with each of them. There are a little over 30 brothers, but I know that at any point in time, I have

their support and help with anything. There is nothing better than growing into a family of brothers that support each other.

Aside from joining a fraternity, I've also been involved in RHA, Campus Kitchen, Student Ambassadors and Orientation. Some people ask why I'm so involved, but I simply ask them, "Why are you not?" Getting involved has made my college experience so much more than just an education; it has honestly been an experience. I'd encourage you to get involved at MSU, whether that is an organization, a club in your major, and/or a fraternity or sorority. College is a significant time during our lives right now, and we need to enjoy every opportunity available, and getting involved will make it that much better.

**"Getting involved has helped me get situated with campus life as well as meet many people."**

### CONGRATS!

Congratulations! You survived your second year! At this point you are halfway (or close to halfway) done with your college career. You've shown that you have the dedication to stick it out for two years. Good luck with the rest of your time at MSU!



## SOPHOMORE INITIATIVES

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Phone: 507.389.5498  
Toll free: 800.722.0544  
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## LOOKING FORWARD

BY JUSTIN BEDORE

One thing that I have come to realize about college is that it's all about making decisions. As a student here at MSU, I have been flooded with making decisions. What classes should I take? What meal plan should I get? Where should I live? What is my major? I'm tired this morning, should I go to class? Everything about college life involves making a decision. Just recently it hit me that I'm in the real world and my decisions will affect my future in many ways.

Many important decisions have been running through my mind about what the next few years will hold for me. I have the freedom to do whatever it is that I desire this summer, but I still must make decisions. One decision I have made for the summer is to work! I landscape

as well as work at *Davanni's Pizza & Hot Hoagies*. I plan to cram enough work into my summer schedule in order to save up spending money for the school year. Coming out of college with money in the bank is one of my goals. With this I will be able to hopefully get a new car and put a down payment on a condo. All my goals have been attained up to this point, and I don't plan on quitting now. My philosophy is to stick to your gut and do what you think will benefit you and those around you in the long run.

Some people like to live life by chance, but I like to make things happen. It is very important for me to have a plan, because a plan makes my life so much easier and helps me succeed in whatever I desire to do. Planning ahead assisted me to pick a major,

which is not an easy task for anyone. There are many options out there that I knew I would enjoy, but I have asked myself, "What do I imagine myself doing for the rest of my life, and what career path would lead me there?" I have decided to major in Economics after reflecting upon my conversations with my family, friends, and colleagues. I am continuing to prepare for the next few years to come.

Everyone is nervous about making these important life decisions, but you don't have to do this alone. Ask people you trust for help and learn from your experiences to prepare yourself for your future. Being a student here at MSU has been a great experience, and I am excited to see what the future holds for me. Bring it on!

