The Anishinaabe News, or "Nishnawbe News" as it was then known, was first published on NMU’s campus in the July 1971. This first issue was only a four page paper in tableau form with a circulation of around 3,000, but the newspaper quickly grew in size and readership. After only four issues, Nishnawbe News expanded to twelve pages using the common newspaper broadsheet form. It quickly gained the reputation of being one of the leading Native-American-run newspapers in the country and its circulation eventually grew to over 8,000, with issues being sent worldwide. Still, the greatest circulation remained in the Great Lakes region because the paper was initiated as “a means of communication for Indians of the Great Lakes area.”

The idea for the newspaper had its origins in a meeting held in Zeba, Mich., a small tribal community on the southern shore of Keweenaw Bay, in the summer of 1970. At the time, a committee from NMU was meeting there with the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, which included tribal officials from all over the state, about a proposed Chippewa Education Center at NMU. The committee felt that input from Native Americans was essential when considering the establishment of a Native American Studies program because of the failures of similar programs elsewhere. Committee members felt other schools made the mistake of setting up a program that they thought Native Americans should have, not what Native Americans actually wanted. One thing the MIC recommended that day in Zeba was a Native-American-run newspaper because the non-native press was very biased then.

Upon returning to NMU, committee member Jim Carter, who worked in NMU’s office of research and development and was serving as the original director of Native American programs, would take it upon himself to try to find funding for this newspaper. He sent countless letters to organizations such as the Kellogg Foundation, the Michigan Press Association, and the Ford Foundation trying to secure grant money to get the paper off the ground. Despite overwhelming words of encouragement and applause for what he was attempting, it was challenging to secure funding.

Continued on page 2
By April Lindala

On Saturday, September 21 the NMU Northern Lights series opened their sea
son with Alash, throat singers from Tuva. Have you ever heard of Tuva? I sure had
it. Tuva is located at the southern edge of Siberia with Mongolia to its south. The
flight to the state was long and Mar
quette was their first stop. Tuva is literally
a treeless, empty and distant place so they
were ready to perform at 7:30 that morning.

Joked Dan Truckey, the series director.

According to the Alash website, the
people of Tuva share “many cultural ties with Mongolia.” Additionally Alash are
“deeply committed to traditional Tuvan
music and culture.” The performers

sustain their songs with western
elements, creating their own unique style
that is fresh and new, yet true to their
Tuvan musical heritage.”

The performers
Alash’s last stop on their U.S. Tour is in
Traverse City on November 16.

Pitawanakwat commented on the
positive energy he felt during their perform
ance. “My whole body was tingling...like goose bumps al
most...throughout my whole body. It was
so beautiful. It made me think how like everybody’s different but we’re all the
same...I felt like this big weight was lifted
off of me...I could just let all of the bad
energy out and just appreciate what they’re
doing and how far they came, what they’re
used to and their customs.”

Both students highly recommend seeing
Alash if one has the chance. Pitawanakwat

“**To be born Indian is to be born political.**

-Shoshona from Digger Roots

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**CNAS Winter 2014 Course Offerings**

Most NAS courses cover political issues. Here is a sample for next semester.

NAS 212 Michigan/Wisconsin: Tribes, Treaties and Current Issues

NAS 288 Politics of Indian Gaming

NAS 310 Tribal Law and Government

NAS 342 Indigenous Environmental Movements

NAS 486 American Indian Educational Law and Leadership

NAS 212 meets the P.A. 31 requirement for Wisconsin teachers. NAS 486 is also offered at the graduate level and received TEDNA endorsement. For a full list of NAS courses offered during Winter 2014, call 227-1397.
Upper Peninsula author John Gubbins, who has just published his second novel, Raven’s Fire, recently stopped by the CNAS to pay a visit to language professor Kenn Pitawanakwat. Kenn helped Gubbins while he worked on his novel, which is set in the U.P. and involves “two spirits known to the Anishinaabe.”

Synopsis - When the whole world is against you, all you have to fall back on are your loved ones. In Raven’s Fire, the spirit world, rich and powerful people, and a wild river threaten the lives of a married couple, Joe and Carol McCartney, an engineer and a nurse living in rural Michigan. Joe and Carol have only their love for each other and their son, Val, to defend against an onslaught of human greed and the callous indifference of the spirit world.

The King of the Ravens, Kahgahgee, and the Retriever of Souls, Pauguck, two spirits known to the Anishinaabe, the native people of Lake Superior, track Joe and Carol. Raven wants their eyes. Pauguck wants their souls. Frank Talbot, a wealthy Wall Street hedge fund trader, believes his wealth entitles him to destroy Joe as he had earlier destroyed Joe’s father. It is on the Escanaba River, where the struggle between Joe and Talbot takes place. Joe and Talbot are on the river when catastrophe hits. For Joe the river becomes the road to safety. For Talbot and a large cougar, the river and its falls become a hunting ground.

While rescuers wait, Carol searches the river for Joe and Talbot, her patient, taking on the dangers of the river and the spirit world.

Raven’s Fire takes place in less than a day. Both an outdoor adventure story and a ghost story, it moves quickly and will keep you reading until the very last chapter.

(Synopsis written by the author)
By April E. Lindala

Artist Chris Pappan visits NMU for the UNITED conference

By Tina Moses

The Decolonizing Diet Project

By Gabe Waskiewicz

Teaching Diversity in the Classroom

By Gabe Waskiewicz

Multicultural Education and Resource Center associate director and CNAS adjunct professor Shirley Brozoo, along with English professor Lesley Larkin, did a presentation entitled "Teaching Ethnic Studies in a Predominantly White Institution," as part of this year’s UNITED Conference at NMU. Brozoo’s portion of the presentation focused on her experiences teaching at the university level while being a woman of color, while Lesley Larkin focused on her experiences teaching A African American literature while not being a person from that culture.

Shirley began by introducing herself in Anishinabemowin. This traditional welcome included her identifying who she was, who her people are, who her community is, and where she is currently located. Shirley then went on to describe many of the difficulties she faces while teaching Native American Studies (NAS) courses here at NMU. These challenges include the belief some students still hold that she is teaching the material she does because, “she is a Native American with a chip on her shoulder” and “she just wants them to feel guilty about their European ancestors.” She explained that many students don’t want to hear what she has to teach because they don’t want to hear a side of history that they are not familiar with. Many students in her classes are shocked when she describes to them the atrocities committed at the American Indian boarding schools, and they don’t want to admit that it may have been some of their ancestors who committed these various abuses on children.

Part of the problem is that Native Americans are not properly represented by today’s mainstream media, leaving students to rely on stereotypical images. Breaking through these preconceived notions of what Native Americans should look and act like is another thing she must try to accomplish in her classrooms. Brozoo has taught NAS courses at NMU for 18 years, with her focus now on the Native American Experience class and a course in storytelling by Native Americans, both of which meet NMU humanities requirements. In addition, she has taught in the English department and also teaches as part of NMU’s First Year Experience program.

Dr. Martin Reinhardt discussed where the foods for the project came from – foraging, specialty stores, local farms, Internet sources, gardening and trading. As the year-long project progressed, the foods changed dramatically as the research subjects learned to be creative and experiment more with what was available. In order to share recipes and try other foods, the DDP offered cooking demonstrations, potlucks and the chance to forage for foods as a group. He showed a video of the research subject foraging for cat tail roots. Kibit allowed the DDP to use the Culinary Arts kitchen for some of the activities. One project was to serve a complete sit-down dinner for the NMU Board of Trustees during their December meeting. Reinhardt highlighted a few of the other food activities, such as the DDP’s cook-off, his favorite project. The research subjects created three teams and were provided ingredients for an entree, side dish, and dessert. They were then judged by a panel of three judges, including Kibit, and the audience.

At the end of the program, the audience had the chance to taste a few of the foods eaten by DDP participants. The small samples were pumpkin ice cream, maple roasted pecans, cranberry/raspberry sauce, sweetwater, and winter-green tea.

To learn more about the Decolonizing Diet Project visit the blogspot at http://decolonizingdietproject.blogspot.com.
Archeologists Investigate Camp Site from 1600s

By Gabe Waskiewicz

Dr. John Anderton from NMU’s Department of Earth, Environmental and Geological Sciences, presented his research concerning an archeological dig in Marquette County at this fall’s 13th Annual Sonderegger Symposium. His 40-minute presentation entitled “Bones, Beads & Rings: Archeological Investigation of a Protohistoric Site (ca. 1650-1650) in the U.P. of Michigan,” focused on the findings from a Native American camp that he and his colleagues believe dates back to the beginning of the 17th century.

During their excavation process, they discovered thousands of pieces of bone (mostly from moose), five complete Jesuit rings, numerous glass beads, and various other artifacts and features. Because the research is still ongoing, they are trying to keep the exact location of the site a secret to protect against possible looters hoping to find such artifacts so they can sell them.

The site, known simply as the GLO 3 site, was first found by NMU anthropology professor John Anderton (right) in the mid-1990s when he examined old survey maps from Marquette County, some of the first detailed American maps of the region. He noticed a Native American trail leading away from Lake Superior that dead-ended. He would initially find a hearth and four of the “iconographic” rings, uncommonly known as Jesuit rings because they were given to Native Americans upon conversion to Christianity.

John Anderton (right) and this year’s Sonderegger Symposium host Russell Magney (left) and Marrian Sonderegger, whose husband performed a limited Phase II investigation of the site, finding a great deal of bone and other early trade material. Unfortunately, they would need to wait 12 years to proceed to the next phase in the excavation process because permits were needed to continue.

Finally, after securing a permit, researchers from Cliffs Natural Resources to do Phase III excavations, the team was allowed to begin an actual dig in summer 2012. During the next phase, they unearthed more bone, beads, and ring, but also found some interesting other features of this 350-year-old camp. They discovered the remains of another hearth and what were once the walls of a house. They also found what was once a birch bark-covered pit, with large pieces of the birch bark remaining intact. They discovered a grooved-stone hammer, which is normally only found in much older sites. Other interesting artifacts include a pair of scissors and sewing needles, stone projectile points, two trade knife blades, copper kettle fragments, and a leather belt with a copper rivet.

One thing that makes this site so unique was the fact that it overlaps two periods of history. Items found were from both the prehistoric period (before we have a written history) and the beginning of recorded history. At the time, Native Americans of this region probably did not have a lot of direct contact with Europeans, but trade materials were filtering in because of the prevalence of moose bone found at the site, the researchers agreed that this was most likely a moose hunting camp. Another unique feature was the preservation of all this bone. Normally, because of the acidic soil found in many parts of the U.P., sites are not nearly this well preserved, but this area of silt and clay made for ideal conditions.

The excavation process will continue for the next year at least. Afterwards, Anderton and his group plan to present their findings at a major international archeological meeting.
How do you think your experiences with NASA, the CNAS and/or NAS will prepare you for life after NMU?

Alice Snively
Senior Biology major NAS minor
="I think that my experiences with the CNAS and NAS classes have provided me with the tools to critically approach and analyze future teachings and experiences that I may encounter in my life. This education has challenged me more than any other class or field of study to examine and question the world in which we live.”

Hallie Staton
Sophomore Zoology major
"The biggest thing that has impacted me is how the people I have come in contact with have redefined my sense of community. I have watched people rise up in support of others they hardly know to help them through a bad time, witnessed genuine happiness for others’ successes both big and small, watched an organization hit endless road blocks and yet never sink because not a single person in the CNAS community would let it.”

Shelby Segrestrom
Senior English major Art & Design minor
"As a writer, I do not plan to stay quiet or voiceless. My experiences with NASA have made me an activist. I have learned how important it is to speak up and educate people. Many people aren’t aware enough to understand the importance of giving Native American history and tolerance in our high school curriculum. I plan to change that—no matter if I am an English or social studies teacher.”

Christine Kinnelon
Senior Secondary Art Education major
"Going back to school as an older student would have been far more difficult without the support of the Native Studies Center, whose faculty are like a second family. The NAS classes I took for my minor gave me an understanding of Native issues and especially the language that I would not have been able to accomplish on my own. I hope to work for the Tribe and bring this newfound understanding into all aspects of my future career path.”

Dorothy Anderson
Senior Behavior Analysis/Psychology major, NAS minor
"I plan on incorporating diversity in my classroom. Through being involved in NASA, it is evident that Native American history and tolerance is neglected in our high school curriculums. I plan to change that—no matter if I am a science or social studies teacher.”

CNAS House
The Center for Native American Studies held its annual open house on Tuesday, September 10. This year’s event, held at the Center, was attended by faculty, students and community members. Those who came were able to enjoy refreshments and have an opportunity to win door prizes. It was a great opportunity to reconnect with friends and make some new ones. Chi-miigwech to those of you who were able to attend. If you were unable to make it to the open house stop by the CNAS at 112 Whitman to say aaniini.

The NMU Native American Student Association presents the 13th annual First Nations Food Taster
Friday, November 8 from 5-7 p.m.
D.J. Jacobetti Complex on the NMU campus
$5 advance tickets for NMU Students w/ID, Elders and children 13 or under $12 advance tickets for General Public

For more information call 906-227-1397. Special thanks to the Center for Native American Studies and Chef Chris Kibit and Hospitality Management.
By Alicia Paquin

Bozoo! I attended the 10th annual Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) Leadership Conference held at the Northern Quest Hotel in Spokane, Wash. in June. I was fortunate to earn one of the 30 scholarships that the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) awarded to Tribal College and University students to attend SAIGE.

The first session I attended was with guest speaker Solo Greene. He was one of my favorite motivational speakers during the conference. Greene (Nez Perce) works as the education specialist for the Nez Perce Tribe’s Environmental Restoration & Waste Management Program in Lapawai, Idaho. I enjoyed his team building workshop.

In the evening, we enjoyed a Native dance performance by the Shooting Stars Group from Coeur d’Alene Tribe. This dance group ranged from age 2 to 18. They dance all over the west and live a drug-free and alcohol-free life.

The next day included opening ceremonies for the conference with the presentation of colors, an opening prayer, and a veteran’s honor song. The SAIGE student group made introductions about ourselves in front of the SAIGE members and veterans. Afterwards, we went to our morning session with Walter Eco-Hawk (Pawnee) who is an author and attorney. He talked about his journey through law school and being an advocate for Native American rights.

Our lunchtime speaker that day was Roylene Rides at the Door, the state conservator for Washington State. Roylene shared the “Values of an Indian Leader” to the group. The first tribal citizen astronaut, John Herrington (Chickasaw) gave a great presentation about how he got to where he is today. A quote from John sticks with me, “Do something that you love doing.”

As part of the conference, I attended the SAIGE career fair, which gave me the opportunity to talk to numerous government employees and find out what they do in their job. It was awesome when I met a former U.S. Marshal, Matthew Fogg. Matthew shared his experiences and gave me guidance towards my criminal justice career goal.

Throughout the conference, SAIGE students worked together in their free time to create skits with the theme of, “Guiding Our Destiny with Heritage and Traditions.” Teamwork is a key component in leadership.

We ended the conference with a student dinner and an overview of the conference. I loved the motivational speakers, the networking between government employees and Tribal Colleges and University students, and the mini-tour of the city of Spokane. My trip is memorable and I am thankful to have been given such an experience. Miigwech!

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More reflection on Nish News: A Peek into the NMU Archives

Northern To Host Indian Awareness Week Oct. 25-30

LaVerne Harris was born in 1917 on the Mille Lacs Reservation, with her parents leaving to work in the logging camps of Wisconsin. After graduating from the University of Wisconsin, she returned to her reservation and began her career as a teacher. In 1970, she was appointed to the Minnesota State Board of Education, becoming the first American Indian woman elected to an elected state office. She served on the board until 1980, when she was appointed as the first American Indian State Superintendent of Education. In 1988, she was elected to the Minnesota Senate, becoming the first American Indian woman ever elected to a state senate. She served in the Senate until 1994, when she retired due to health issues.

More reflection on Nish News: A Peek into the NMU Archives

We would love to hear from alumni who attended NMU during this time. Do you have photos of Nish News staff and/or Indian programs activities that you would be willing to share? Can you help identify individuals from old photos? Would you be willing to compose a short response to this issue regarding the history of Nish News?