

# Students promote, sell works of art at the MUC

By Travis Gulbrandson

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The Muenster University Center had something of an art gallery vibe late last week.

That's because on Thursday and Friday it was the venue of the annual Student Art Sale that was hosted by the Student Art Association of the USD College of Fine Arts.

At various times over the course of those two days, 15 students were on hand to discuss their work and sell it, too.

"It's a good time for them to learn how to promote themselves, learn how to talk to the public about their work," said Associate Professor Cory Knedler. "A lot of times, artists get tied up in the studio and don't get to visit with the public, and also their work gets shipped off to galleries where the work is on display, but the galleries are elsewhere, and the artist is not

always going to be present.

"This is kind of an opportunity where they can intermix, answer questions and make a little pocket change on the side," he said.

Fifth-year senior Ethan Domke said the sale had received "a lot of traffic" from USD students and Vermillion residents alike.

"I like that it gives us as visual artists ... some exposure within the college, and also, we've had people from the community who aren't students or teachers come through, so they get a chance to see that we're making these things, and we are willing to sell them," Domke said. "They really like seeing the art, and it seems like a lot of people are doing some Christmas shopping at the event, which we kind of expected."

Domke displayed abstract and representational watercolor paintings Thursday and Friday.

Kaia Nowetzki, who was selling and displaying jewelry, ceramic tableware and non-functional pieces, said she enjoyed interacting with the public.

"A lot of people love the texture that I do," she said. "That's my whole thing. I want people to pick up my work and feel it and have it fit in their hand."

In addition to the students' individual works, there were also pieces related to a project called Skate Create.

"Our advanced students in the Student Art Association worked with the undergraduate class (on the project)," Knedler said.

"Advanced students wrote a mini-grant from the university, and they received funds to purchase one skateboard per freshman. ...

"Each student's job, then, was to create a unique image on the skateboard itself," he said.

Some of the boards were for sale, while others were display-only.

"It's a way of getting the advanced students to bond with the freshman students, hoping for them to get to know each other a little quicker," Knedler said. "A lot of times, the freshman class are in classes with each other, but they're not in classes with the advanced students usually until their sophomore year."

The Student Art Sale is held each year, usually in December.

"It's bounced back and forth between December and April," Knedler said. "We try to do it toward the end of either semester. December's nice, of course, because it's right around that gift-buying time, but April is also a nice time because people are getting ready for graduation, and sometimes there's some graduation gifts going on."

"The students have also had a full year then to acquire a lot of work that they can put on display," he said.

In addition to making some money for the students themselves, Domke said the sale offered the Student Art Association a good opportunity to raise funds.

"That's a good thing," he said. "We're building our budget up so we can do other things in the community."

Knedler said the event offers the Student Art Association the opportunity to plan an event themselves, making all the arrangements from creating the work itself to contacting the university center for table space.

"We like to see the students get that experience when they're in school, of setting up exhibitions, setting on sales, so they can ask if they have questions of the faculty," he said.

## USD

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of \$66 million, including the arena (\$46.3 million), track and soccer complex (\$7.3 million) and academic laboratory (\$12.6 million).

"This is exciting in that it puts us one step closer to making these projects a reality," USD athletic director David Herbster said in a release last week.

The plan is to begin construction next spring once USD raises the final \$9.5 million, Herbster's statement continued.

The regents had originally approved USD's Facility Program Plan in October 2012 at a cost of \$48.18 million, and the building committee approved the plan last month.

USD had to adjust its arena and SHRL plans —

the arena concourse was reconfigured to be built at concourse level because of water table concerns on site.

Such small modifications have not dampened the enthusiasm for the project, Kudara said.

"It's been really exciting to watch it all happen," said the former Coyote men's basketball standout, now an orthopedic surgeon.

The arena and SHRL will connect to the south side of the DakotaDome, and the building will include two practice courts, locker rooms for basketball and volleyball, a 7,500-square-foot weight room, and a research lab with classrooms and academic offices.

If the arena construction timeline stays close to projections, USD will join three other Summit League basketball

programs (IUPUI, North Dakota State, Omaha) that will be playing in new arenas within three years, according to league commissioner Tom Duple.

"Those facility upgrades are huge for our league," Duple said last week.

"That's positive. It helps recruiting, because facilities are certainly an issue in recruiting."

Not that the Summit League would move its post-season basketball tournament to the new arena, but there could be options for other such events, Kudara said.

"With an arena like this, it'll be one of the better ones in the region for sure," he said. "It's a great tool to have for recruiting purposes, for fans and for all those alumni who could watch in a new place."

Game attendance at a school like USD should increase in a new arena,

Duple said.

"I think it's better for the fans to attend (games) when there are great accommodations," he said. "We have a lot of teams playing basketball in facilities that aren't necessarily designed for basketball."

In track, particularly, USD has been able to develop into a solid program despite not having its own outdoor track. The Coyotes use the dome for indoor competition.

"We're really excited with where we're at," head women's track coach Lucky Huber said. "It's the last hurdle and now we can sprint to the finish, to use a track analogy."

"It's been fun to go through and sit down with not only our coaches, but the engineers to make this the best track facility in the Midwest."

The outdoor track and

soccer complex will be located east of the DakotaDome, along Highway 50. For track, the facility will include a 9-lane, NCAA-certified track, plus areas for pole vault, long jump, shot put, discus, hammer throw, javelin and triple jump events inside the main stadium.

By including the field events inside the 1,000-seat stadium, USD's facility will be fan friendly, Huber said.

"It'll be a neat thing to be able to sit in the bleachers and see all the events happening," he said. "That's what will make this an exciting event."

Huber makes no bones about USD's goals in designing a state-of-the-art outdoor facility.

"We're designing this to host the Summit League outdoor meet," he said. "And maybe an outdoor version of the Dan Lennon. It's a facility that will be able to host Vermillion

High School, region meets, conference meets, and maybe ones potentially bigger than that."

The soccer complex will include two fields — one competition and one practice. It will be located to the east of the track facility.

When it comes to the DakotaDome, however, USD has needed a new location to help alleviate athletic and non-athletic scheduling concerns, Kudara said.

"The dome has been a great facility — nobody would debate that — but it can only do so much," he said, mentioning such events as the Dakota Farm Show, held annually in the dome.

"When you're trying to juggle all those things, it gets difficult, to say the least."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at [twitter.com/jhoeck](https://twitter.com/jhoeck).

## OBITUARIES

### Evelyn Breck

The funeral service for Evelyn Lorraine Breck, 77, of Groton, will be 2 p.m., Friday, Dec. 13, 2013, at the Groton Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, with Pastor Bill Duncan officiating. Burial will follow at Groton Union Cemetery. Evelyn left this earthly life Dec. 9, 2013, while peacefully asleep at the Groton Golden Living Center, surrounded by family and friends.

Visitation will be from 1 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 12, at Spitzer-Miller Funeral Home, 1111 S. Main St., Aberdeen.

Evelyn was born in Lead, Feb. 24, 1936, of Myrle Newman Breck and Albert Breck, attended by her grandmother Mary Jane Newman. She grew up in Lead and graduated high school there in 1955.

Evelyn devoted her life to helping others, taking to heart the Golden Rule and the commandment to Love One Another. Her life was filled with challenges that could overwhelm, but she accomplished amazing good in the world. She met obstacles with determination and perseverance, and never gave up. Without even thinking about it, she regarded them as opportunities to do what she deeply understood was God's purpose for her. Her smile greeted everyone, and she made friendships that lasted her entire life.

Diagnosed with diabetes in 1984, she became an



Breck

advocate for diabetes research, participating in the American Diabetes Association's yearly "Rally for a Cure" in DC. She received several national awards, including the ADA's prestigious Advocacy Achievement Award. In 2005 she won Eli Lilly's highest honor, the Lily for Life award, and Ladies Home Journal told her story in March 2005.

In 2000 she entered Crown College and at the age of 68 accomplished her lifelong dream of earning her college degree.

She regarded these accomplishments with humility, as simply doing good, God's will. When her wheelchair limited going and doing, she knitted dozens of little blankets to keep the Humane Society's dear kitties comfortable. That was what Evie did, who she was.

Grateful for sharing her life are her sisters, Kate (Abbie) Kelly of Andover, and Betty Breck of Groton; nephew Toby Place, niece Kristina Mackey (Evan), and their children Alex, Cody and Samantha Place and Avery Mackey.

She was predeceased by her mother, Myrle Newman Breck, her father, Albert Breck, her grandparents, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. All her life she asked herself "Am I doing good". The answer is, "Yes, Evie, you did good. And God blessed us with your presence".

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

### Ardell Hatch

Ardell K. Hatch, 93, of Vermillion, passed away Monday, Dec. 9, 2013, at the Sanford Vermillion Hospital.

Ardell was born July 3, 1920, in Wakonda, to Cyrus and Clara (Utesch) Hatch. He graduated from Wakonda High School and served in the 147th field artillery regiment of the US Army from 1940-1945.

Upon returning from the service, he started working in his family's furniture store in Wakonda and he retired in 1985 and moved to Vermillion in 1973, where he took over the Hatch Furniture store in Vermillion. He married Rula Facer on Jan. 1, 1945, in Wakonda.

Second only to his love of family was his love for USD, all Coyote Athletics and the communities of Wakonda and Vermillion. Ardell was an integral part of bringing a domed stadium to USD and the city of Vermillion. In addition, he was instrumental in the creation of the high school football playoff system and bringing the football playoffs to the DakotaDome. He served many years on the event committee and established the Joe Robbie award, named for his friend and Miami Dolphins Football team owner, which recognizes the most



Hatch

valuable performer in each playoff game. He and Rula served many years as a host family for out of town football teams. In 1997 he was presented with the distinguished Service Award by the SDHSAA. The university, athletic teams and community have recognized Ardell's dedication by naming him and his wife Rula as the DakotaDome's First Couple for the Dome's 30th anniversary.

In 2001 Ardell received the Noel Olson Volunteer of the Year Award from the NCC. The USD School of Business honored him with a Distinguished Service Award in 1981 and he received the USD Honorary Alumnus Award in 1988. In 1989, USD presented him with one of his most cherished awards by naming him to the Coyote Hall of Fame as a Special Contributor.

He is survived by his wife, Rula of Vermillion; his two daughters, Natalie (Bob) Sturm of Sioux Falls, and Kimberly (Guy) Di Benedetto of Pierre; a brother, Warren (De) Hatch of Yankton; six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Paula Hatch Feller.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 12,

at the United Church of Christ in Vermillion with burial to follow in the BluffView Cemetery in Vermillion. Visitation was Wednesday, Dec. 11, beginning at 5 p.m. with a Prayer Service at 7 p.m. all at the church. [hansenfuneralhome.com](http://hansenfuneralhome.com).

### Maxine Seeman

Maxine Adell (Kephart) Seeman passed peacefully in Mesa, Arizona on Dec. 3, 2013, only 28 days shy of her 101st birthday. Born in Wells, MN, to Clyde D. Kephart and Grace E. Kelley, preceded in death by husband Larry M Seeman and daughter Mary A. Porter. Survived by children Larry A Seeman of Grass Valley,



Seeman

CA, and daughter Kathryn M Seeman-Koetzle of Scottsdale, AZ.

Her strength and depth of purpose were an inspiration to eight cherished grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Graveside service will be held in the spring of 2014 at BluffView Cemetery in Vermillion.

### Cleo Crusan

Cleo L. Crusan, 96, of Sioux City, IA, passed away Monday, Dec. 9, 2013, at the Wakonda Heritage Manor Avera in Wakonda.

Funeral Mass was 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2013, at the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Wakonda with Father Jeff Norfolk officiating. Burial was in the St. Patrick's Cemetery in Wakonda. [hansenfuneralhome.com](http://hansenfuneralhome.com).

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Dec. 24th (Tue) 7:PM — Christmas Eve Service  
Dec. 25th (Wed) 8:AM — Christmas Day Service  
Dec. 31st (Tues) 7:PM — New Year's Eve Service

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