SAVE THE DATE: Not in Our State – 2014 Statewide Summit on Sexual Assault will take place on the MSU Billings campus, September 19 & 20, 2014. The summit will bring together professionals, leaders and students from around the state to participate in an educational training program that follows best practices surrounding sexual violence.

The new Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at MSUB is Dr. Joseph Oravecz. Prior to Joe’s arrival on campus August 25, 2014, he served as Dean, Division of Student Affairs, at the University of Nebraska Kearney. Welcome to Billings! We all look forward to getting to know you.

A pioneer of college access and academic excellence, MSUB’s Upward Bound has been a great service to students in the Billings school district for nearly two decades. The centerpiece of Upward Bound is an academic summer residential program available to high school students to attend enrichment classes on the MSUB campus, mimicking a college schedule. MSUB Director, Dan Benge said, “The goal is to show the coursework is interrelated, integrated and relevant.”

MSUB women’s basketball player, Bobbi Knudsen, was named the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Female Athlete of the Year for 2013-2014.

Kevin Woodin, Head Coach Women’s Basketball, was named the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) “Coach of the Year.” Under his guidance, the women Yellowjackets made the postseason seven out of ten times.

Bruce Brumley, Computer Systems Technology Instructor, City College at MSUB, was named the No. 1 instructor of Cisco Certified Network Associate Discovery Curriculum Specialist in all of the United States and Canada. Five City College computer systems technology students participated in the Cisco Networking Academy NetRiders – the largest internet networking competition in the world. A handful of his students have advanced to compete and represent Montana at national and international levels. Brumley and two of his computer technology students taught a rigorous CCPN course to a group of 14 inmates at the Montana State Women’s Prison, providing IT skills to help inmates find jobs upon release. The six-month class was a pilot program in conjunction with the Montana Department of Corrections through the Second Chance Act technology grant, awarded by the U. S. Department of Justice.

Kids on Campus at MSU Billings was all about getting children involved in educational, recreational or athletic camps at MSUB this summer.

Congratulations to five MSUB graduates who were the recipients of the Outstanding Graduate Award, representing the university’s highest ideals in academics, leadership, community service and campus engagement. The most prestigious honor was awarded to: Cory Lovec, Thomas Staffileno, Jennifer Larsen, Harrison “Jack” Hepp and Tarah Jurenka.

The American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL) group at MSUB received first place honors at a national competition in Scottsdale, AZ. The group competed to identify culturally significant business plans to boost the economy on American Indian reservations. The group created a business plan to develop an organic beeswax solid lotion for hardworking hands.