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PLANNED MASS SHOOTING AT MOA DRIVEN BY ANTISEMITISM, STOPPED BY FBI

Jessica Tezoquipa news editor



Photo of the exterior of Mall of America, taken by Tyler Vigen on April 2, 2021, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

Oct. 6, a man was arrested after allegedly planning to enact an Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)-inspired mass shooting at the Mall of America (MOA), according to court records. The FBI alleges that Sheikhdoon Abdullahi Mohamud obtained an AK-47 and 200 rounds of ammunition from an undercover agent and was arrested at gunpoint in the parking lot of a public park in Richfield, MN.

A criminal complaint is just an allegation; all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

According to Keegan Rupenthal, a special agent with the FBI, Mohamud has been under criminal investigation since December 2024 after a confidential source with the FBI began communicating with him via social media. He expressed a desire to travel to Somalia to fight on behalf of ISIS; he expressed multiple times that if he lacked the monetary ability to travel to Somalia, he would start to plan a mass casualty event in Minnesota.

“As alleged in the criminal complaint, Mohamud took substantial steps to plot to murder innocent

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people in the name of ISIS,” said U.S. Attorney Daniel N. Rosen for the District of Minnesota. “Such threats are taken seriously, and I commend the committed public servants of the Joint Terrorism Task Force, the FBI, and my office, who work every day to stop them.”

“Mohamud has been under criminal investigation since December 2024 after a confidential source with the FBI began communicating with him via social media.”

- Jessica Tezoquipa

In July 2026, Mohamud told the confidential source that he did not have the money to go to Somalia, “I will prepare here,” he wrote. In September, he expressed a desire to kill “Kuffar” - a derogatory way to refer to a non-Muslim. Prosecutors stated that he messaged the source that he wanted to target the Mall of America “because it’s owned by Jewish people [sic] so if I kill even 30 people no one would even go there anymore... I’ll just go grab assault rifle bomb is too complicated kill maybe 30-60 people insha Allah and have 260 ammo.” A date mentioned for a possible attack was Oct. 24, when the Mall of America would be hosting Hmong Arts Celebration.

“It feels like a lot of the time the FBI and other investigative agencies are more concerned with catching someone in the act or getting as close to doing a

dangerous act as possible rather than actually getting them help,” shares Klaus Solko. “If a 16-year-old is interested in ISIS, get that 16-year-old help, don’t keep contributing to that conversation and do not give that person a gun.”

“This whole thing speaks to a systemic failure to address clear mental health issues among young people, especially young boys- it should alarm us that the people we employ to navigate high-risk situations like this would opt to coerce a child into recounting violent fantasies while holding a gun- to justify putting them in a cage- rather than divert them into counseling, assess what’s triggering those violent tendencies, and justify getting that child into treatment,” states Aaron Munoz.

-Join CA Ayriana: Write Letters To A Loved One!

Marshall Room, Oct. 19 @ 12:00 p.m.

-Send a postcard to your loved ones

Marshall Room, Oct. 19 @ 12:00 p.m.

-You’re Invited! ABWA General Meeting (Discussion)

East Commons, Oct. 19 @ 4:00 p.m.

-Math Competition

Hagfors 152, Oct. 19 @ 4:30 p.m.

-Games and Caramel Apples

Luther Hall, Oct. 19 @ 8:00 p.m.

-Christensen Symposium: Breaking Through and Building Up: Using Your Story to Inspire Action - Ross Murray

Hoversten Chapel, Oct. 21 @ 12:00 p.m.

-Explore Your Success - Lunch & Learning

Hagfors Center Atrium, Oct. 21 @ 1:00 p.m.

-SPARK (Science, Professions, Applications, Research and Knowledge) Seminar: Shaina Davis

Hagfors 150, Oct. 21 @ 2:00 p.m.

-From Passion to Plan: Linking Your Goals, Career, and College Experiences

Hagfors 151, Oct. 21 @ 3:30 p.m.

-The Happiness Gym

Hoversten Chapel, Oct. 21 @ 3:30 p.m.

-EESU Jack-o’-Lantern Night

Christensen Center - East Commons, Oct. 21 @ 4:30 p.m.

SPORTING EVENTS

-Volleyball vs Macalester

Si Melby Hall, Oct. 22 @ 7:00 p.m.

-Men’s Hockey vs Hamline

Ed Saugestad Rink, Oct. 23 @ 7:00 p.m.

-Women’s Hockey vs. St. Olaf

Ed Saugestad Rink, Oct. 24 @ 3:00 p.m.

Pres. Trump Sacrifices Los Angeles To “Keep Our Country Safe”

Pluto Koehnen opinions editor

On Oct. 5 at a Nebraska campaign rally, President Donald Trump stated that Iran attacking the US “is a small price to pay for keeping the world safe, keeping our country safe. They could take out a city, let them take out Los Angeles, let them take out San Diego, this is a very small price to pay and it’s going to be over with very soon.” While the President’s “Make America Great Again (MAGA)” supporters cheered in the background, residents of California expressed safety concerns. The president has faced mixed opinions and backlash on this proclamation, as well as distress on how this may affect the citizens of the United States of America.

California Governor, Gavin Newsom, remarked on X that President Donald Trump is “deranged and dangerous.” Los Angeles Mayor, Karen Bass posted that “[Trump’s] statements against our city are dangerous and could potentially compromise our safety. The role of a president is to protect the country, not to actively threaten it and encourage attacks on American lives.” Even republican Jim Desmond— Candidate for Congress in California, District 48— speaks out against Trump’s comments, stating “I vehemently disagree with President Trump’s comments. America must stand up to Iran and defend our interest, but the first responsibility of our commander-in-chief is to protect the American people and our homeland.”

The left and right—per usual—are divided on the president’s intentions within his monologue. Far left sources, such as Wonkette, Columbus Free Press and RawStory, question the president’s cognitive abilities. While the far right journals— WLT Report, US News, News



Photo of Los Angeles with Mount Baldy, taken by Alek Leckzas on Feb. 6, 2019, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

Addicts and LewRockwell— analyze the real meaning of Donald Trump’s oration.

Brooke Binkowski, journalist for the Wonkette, writes that Trump’s speech “caused absolute glee among the trashy, unwashed racists attending Trump’s speech” and that “the White House is gaslighting with all their might... [shoehorning] its way into power twice by triangulating racism and misogyny.” While Noah— writer for WLT Report— composes that “President Trump is saying that solving the Iran problem and having higher gas prices for a very short time is a small price to pay because if we don’t do this eventually, they will get a weapon powerful enough to take out LA or San Diego and he’s not willing to sit by and let that happen. There, I translated it for you.”

Overall, the shift in attitude towards the respect and accountability United States citizens hold their leaders two has changed dramatically. No other United States presidents in modern history have publicly invited or dismissed a foreign missile attack on American cities. Retired

US Army Lieutenant and Democratic candidate for Congress in Wisconsin eighth Congressional District, Colonel Rick Crosson remarks “every service member, every member of Congress, every federal judge and every President takes an oath to support and defend the constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Everyone who has ever raised their right hand and sworn to it should be appalled by what the president of the United States said this week.”

“No other United States presidents in modern history have publicly invited or dismissed a foreign missile attack on American cities.”

- Pluto Koehnen

All-In Games Are Kicking Into High Gear With Men's Soccer

Evelyn Perkins sports editor



Photo of Augsburg mens soccer team, taken by Kevin Healy on Oct. 10

On Saturday, Oct. 10, the Augsburg University men's soccer team faced No. 17-ranked Saint John's for its All-In game. The Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) game took place at 3:30 p.m., during the peak temperatures of an unseasonably hot October day. After a hot, grueling 90 minutes of competition, the game ended in a scoreless tie, 0-0. This marks Augsburg's seventh tie this season, leaving the team with a record of 3-1-7. The seven ties this season match the most in program history, with the 2008 team also recording seven ties.

In the first half, Auggies first-year goalkeeper Finnur Mercier made three saves to keep the Johnnies scoreless. Junior midfielder Christopher Plaza Alvarado and senior midfielder Asher Johnson each had shots on goal. The half ended with increased physicality, as the Auggies were called for two fouls and senior midfielder Zachariah Sherian received a yellow card. The half concluded scoreless.

In the second half, Mercier made two more saves in the 76th and 78th minutes. The game continued to get more physical, with multiple fouls called on both sides and a Saint John's player receiving a red card in the 83rd minute. First-year forward Liam Paradiso finished with two shots, one on goal. However, the Auggies were unable to convert and finished with a scoreless tie against No. 17-ranked Saint John's.

“The [All-In] game continued to get more physical, with multiple fouls called on both sides and a Saint John's player receiving a red card in the 83rd minute.”

- Evelyn Perkins

Then, on Tuesday, Oct. 13, the Auggies traveled to Carleton College for another MIAC matchup. The Knights scored early, converting a goal in the 11th minute. The Auggies responded when Carleton scored an “own goal” in the 26th minute, tying up the game. The rest of the first half was evenly matched, with Mercier recording two saves to keep the score at 1-1 at halftime. In the second half, the Knights scored quick back-to-back goals in the 47th and 53rd minutes, putting the Auggies down 3-1. Plaza Alvarado cut the deficit to 3-2 with a goal in the 54th minute off a free kick by Johnson. The Knights answered with another goal in the 56th minute. The Auggies continued to push the pace and create chances for themselves, recording five shots and two corners between 54:12 and 63:32.

However, the Auggies could not convert their shots into goals, and the Knights scored twice more in the 73rd and 76th minutes, extending their lead to 6-2 and eventually winning the game. Goalkeeper Mercier recorded five saves in the contest, with midfielder Plaza Alvarado leading the team with 1 goal on 5 shots. The Auggies' record now stands at 3-2-7. They aim to improve in their next game, hosting the College of Macalester on Friday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m. Edor Nelson Field in Minneapolis.

Athlete Spotlight: RJ Chakolis Shows Discipline On and Off the Field

Kaia Anderson online publishing coordinator

On Oct. 13, I had the opportunity to sit down with RJ Chakolis, the linebacker for Augsburg's football team. We talked about how he started playing football, his journey from New Mexico State to Augsburg, and what he is looking forward to this year, both academically and athletically.

Football has always been a part of Chakolis' life. He grew up watching the Vikings and the Buffalo Bills with his father and started playing football at about four years old. He first played for the Brooklyn Center Youth Football Giants. There, he made his first touchdown. "My favorite moments? Probably when I was a little kid on the Giants football team, I had a kick return touchdown. It was my first touchdown. I remember it was a big ol' pile and you can just see me running out of the pile."

He attended high school at Hopkins, where he played both linebacker and running back, became a three-time All-State player, was All-Conference all four years and was District Player of the Year twice. Since starting college, he has only played the linebacker position. After he graduated, he went on to play at New Mexico State for two years before transferring to Tarleton State for a year, when the coach left. There, he played linebacker before finally making his way back to Minneapolis. He is now a senior at Augsburg and has had to adjust to a different kind of football game and "going from a small fish in a big pond to a smaller pond and being a big fish." This change is largely due to his switch from playing Division I to Division III.

Pre-game prep includes a Fast Friday, which is a walkthrough the team does



Photo of RJ Chakolis during a football game, taken by Kevin Healy on Oct. 10

during practice for the upcoming game. This allows the team to prepare and mentally get ready for the game. After practice, later in the day, there is also a team meeting where they go through everyone's roles. Chakolis has his own sort of prep. "Sometimes I can be kind of superstitious and believe I have to wake up at this time and do that, and then other times I can kind of just be lenient [...] listen to some music, make sure I have some good food."

"[In high school, RJ] played both linebacker and running back, became a three-time All-State player, was All-Conference all four years and was District Player of the Year twice."

- Kaia Anderson

Playing football has also had a large impact on his life outside of the sport. "Discipline, mental toughness and effort, those are probably the three biggest things [...] outside of [football]. When] putting in enough effort to accomplish your dream, you've got to be disciplined to get your job done and just [know] that there are going to be times when there is adversity." Chakolis is disciplined when it comes to managing both schoolwork and athletics. He is a pre-law major and has maintained high grades throughout his entire college career.

His goals for this season include making All-Conference, earning Defensive Player of the Year, making at least 100 tackles and finishing the year strong. "This year at Augsburg, the football team has a good culture with the guys [...] I hope we can pull it together at the end of the year and get some more wins because right now 1-4 does not describe us as a team. We are a better team than that."

Augsburg Artists And The Algorithm Game

Kaia Anderson online publishing coordinator



Photo of binary code, taken by user Graph+sas on Oct. 28, 2020, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

Social media is a huge part of all of our lives. People use social media to post their creations, grow their business or to simply show off their art. However, social media is based on an algorithm, meaning that for people to be able to engage with your art, artists must play the algorithm. As with most things, there are pros and cons. Joey Kelly, also known as Lowjam, is a musician here at Augsburg. When asked about his thoughts on the algorithm, this is what he had to say: “Social media is good for a lot of people in terms of spreading their art [...] I find that more often than not, though, when people market their art in ways they think will appeal to the algorithm, they water down their artistry by doing something a thousand other people are doing the same way.”

Rian Ciernia spoke on the difference in algorithms between apps, “Sites like DeviantArt and Tumblr, especially during their peak years, were very good at exposing users to new artists through tags, groups, recommendations, and chronological feeds. It felt easier for

someone to discover your work based on their interests. Modern platforms such as Instagram and X tend to prioritize engagement metrics much more heavily.”

Other artists like Lucia Salazar-Davidson said that “I think that social media algorithms may have an influence on the art that some artists create, but for me, that is completely irrelevant.” While he does post his art on Instagram, he does not post regularly and is very uninterested in maintaining an active presence on social media. Maija Terrio-Johnson believes that “art is something that can entertain and be enjoyed, but it also invokes intense emotions. It starts and adds to meaningful conversations. It goes much deeper than what our current social media algorithms favor.” This perspective dives deeper into what art is and how social media can stifle the emotions of art. Short-form media stops us from fully taking in what we are viewing. Instead, we keep scrolling, hoping for the next dopamine hit without stopping to reflect on past videos. “I put trust in my algorithm to bring me

back to a creator I want to interact with [...] however, due to the nature of the platform, when I am on my mindset is ‘be scrolling,’ and I forget about the videos I have just watched,” says Klaus Solko.

“Art is something that can entertain [...] but it also invokes intense emotions. It starts and adds to meaningful conversations [...] much deeper than what our current social media algorithms favor.”

- Maija Terrio-Johnson

Artificial intelligence (AI) has also been taking over social media. So many images are no longer made by actual humans, but instead are generated by AI. Almost everyone agreed that the push in AI content was significant compared to what it was just last year. When asked about the increase in AI, Emma Stanley said, “Yes, everywhere...I save things thinking it’s really cool and then people in the comments are like, ‘yeah this is AI.’”

The rise of AI has certainly made it harder for people to find human-made content, and for creators to reach their audience. Maybe we just need to do as Salazar-Davidson does and hit “not interested,” in hopes that real art will find its way to us.

Homecoming Week Starts Strong with Build An Auggie

Micah George contributor

Monday, Oct. 12 marked the kickoff of Augsburg Homecoming Week, which included a series of events and activities for Augsburg students to get connected to campus. The first of these was Build An Auggie, a Build-A-Bear style activity where students get to make their own stuffed friend and connect with other students. The event aims to bring the community together through shared space and an opportunity to invite others into their metaphorical nests.

With a total attendance of around 80-120 students, the event was a raging success, drawing in a packed crowd of people waiting their turn to participate in a classic Augsburg Homecoming tradition. Participants got to talk with both old friends and new about the excitement buzzing through Homecoming week. While the event is about simply making a stuffed animal, it's so much more than that. It is a reason to bring students together and cultivate new bonds. Some attendees say that their experience was fun and spontaneous and that this event was fun to attend. Students were also taking the opportunity to sign up for other Homecoming events throughout the week. Their experience acted as an outlet for the route to a new journey beyond this one.



Photo of students at Build an Auggie, taken by Micah George on Oct. 12

While being a hub for connection, Build An Auggie was also a hub for creativity. Each "Auggie" built was adorned with a t-shirt that the students got to decorate to their liking. Some themed their t-shirts off of Homecoming, while others did a simple 2026 design. Attendees stated that making an Auggie was a fun experience, especially for first year students. "I think that sometimes first years can find it overwhelming to get involved because there is so much happening on campus all the time. Build An Auggie feels simple enough that it isn't scary, and you get a new furry friend out of it!" stated one Augsburg student.

"It was so nice to see so many people getting involved, both old faces and new."

Some students spoke about how the Auggies bring good qualities. Auggie the Eagle is Augsburg's mascot, having represented this university for many years, and definitely deserved to be honored in this event. When one Auggie is in its nest, it can do a lot on its own, but when you add more, they all become stronger.

This event was such an elated experience for everyone, and the thing that was mostly enjoyed about it was celebrating the birth of all the newly created Auggies. Seeing those new faces was just like welcoming new students to join the nest. Above all, Build An Auggie was one of the most engaging and community-building events in the Homecoming week, and I can not wait to see you all there again next year.

"While the event is about simply making a stuffed animal, it's so much more than that. It is a reason to bring students together and cultivate new bonds."

- Micah George

Increase in Student Presence Demands An Increase in Facility Efficiency

Finn Murdock contributor

The student population at Augsburg is not getting any smaller. With a record-breaking number of new students this fall (a total of 1,157 across undergraduate, graduate and PSEO areas of study) there is concern over the ability of the university's current infrastructure to support the needs of all students and faculty. While the number of students enrolling each year fluctuates, we can expect a continued population increase due to Augsburg's Strategic Enrollment Plan, which has goals of reaching 5,000 Auggies by 2030. Some Augsburg departments are already strained by the current student population, so modifications and further development to accommodate the increase in students is necessary.

A particular concern of students who live on campus is the effectiveness of facilities management at Augsburg. Many residents have known friends who have had issues resolving maintenance issues in their living spaces or have their own personal anecdotes. I spoke to two residential second-year students early this semester who were having significant difficulties resolving a mold problem in their

bathroom. Since they could not remove the mold on their own, they followed the protocol of submitting a facilities request. After no resolution, they had to follow up multiple times over many weeks to actually get a staff member to work with them to make a plan to fix the issue. The current communication systems that are in place for students to request maintenance assistance are in need of upgrades to improve the efficiency of Augsburg's Facilities office. Additionally, it appears that having more maintenance and custodial staff could also help problems be resolved in a more timely manner. If more students are going to enroll, leading more people to move into living spaces on campus, the Augsburg administration will have to prioritize making changes to campus facilities infrastructure so the maintenance and custodial teams have the support they need to adequately operate.

Another notable department that will require expansion as the student body grows is Augsburg's Department of Public Safety. Augsburg's DPS often struggles with meeting the employment requirements needed to staff its dispatch

office since its services must be available 24/7. The students who work in the dispatch office receiving calls are the first responders to developing safety issues, so their role is crucial to maintaining a safe environment on campus. A potential solution to the lack of student workers in the DPS office would be for the administration to consider allowing students who do not have work-study eligibility to apply for the dispatch office position. Work-study students could still be prioritized but the applicant pool would grow, allowing DPS to staff its office efficiently. Aside from the existing need for an increase in student safety workers, Augsburg would also benefit from hiring more full-time safety officers. Most students who have to contact DPS for non-emergency issues are met with lengthy wait times because there are simply not enough officers responding to calls. As more students begin to take classes and live on campus, more opportunities arise for potential hazards, so more full-time officers would definitely be required.

Although restructuring and developing both Augsburg's facilities and safety departments would require additional funding from the administration, the changes would benefit the current students and ensure that Augsburg will be able to grow as an institution and accommodate larger student bodies.

"The Augsburg administration will have to prioritize making changes to campus facilities infrastructure so the maintenance and custodial teams have the support they need to adequately operate."

- Finn Murdock

The Eras Long Debate: Is Taylor Swift An Evil Billionaire or Feminist Icon?

Lauren Heseltine contributor

As someone who wouldn't consider themselves a "Swiftie"—like many of Taylor's fans refer to themselves—I've realized that I have a considerably more neutral viewpoint on her than most people who are in the popstar space online. In an era where female pop stars are at an all-time high, many of them are under constant scrutiny. I find that it is an appropriate question to ask if being a feminist and being a billionaire can be two true statements that coexist at the same time.

Taylor Swift has risen from a small country-esque artist to a global pop star in the 20 years since her 2006 debut. From her debut album "Taylor Swift" to her most recent album "The Life of a Showgirl," she has displayed considerable talent in many people's eyes, including my own.

Growing up, I was a big fan of Swift and her music, even attending her "Reputation" album tour in the U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis. However, as I've gotten older and my tastes in music have changed and matured with me, I've started to look at Swift in a different light. This has made me want to find the answer to my question of if Swift is both a feminist and a billionaire, is it ethical?

Billionaires have always been criticized for their extreme amounts of wealth, but people seem to be very divided on whether this applies to Swift or not. Personally, I have always believed that you cannot be an ethical billionaire, no matter how they earn their money. Regardless of whether it's based on work or inheritance, they

are still exploiting people along the way to the top of the money ladder.

While the majority of Taylor's money comes directly from her music and concerts, her merchandise is made in Honduras, Egypt, and China, which are countries that are known to use child labor in their production of products. On the other hand, Taylor has been a philanthropist who donates money to a variety of charities and causes: Stand Up 2 Cancer, African Parks Foundation of America, the NYC Schools system, etc.

With her being a billionaire, is Swift still a feminist? She has publicly declared herself to be a "feminist" in 2014, stating that she believes men and women should have the same rights and opportunities. However, multiple of her own songs have lyrics that directly disparage other women, while in others she lifts women up, encouraging them to stand up for themselves and not fall for sexist ideals in our modern world.

I enjoy listening to Swift's music in a casual way and often find myself listening to her songs that have themes of tearing down the patriarchy and abandoning misogynistic beliefs. This has felt conflicting for me in recent years as Swift's wealth has grown exponentially after her Eras Tour. While I enjoy her music, I directly disagree with billionaires being ethical in a time where so many people are living in poverty and struggling to afford the most basic of necessities. This brings into question how she can identify with feminism while also being a billionaire.

For me, this question is unanswerable in a general sense as every person has their own perspective on what feminism is and if billionaires are people we should be supporting. All in all, I believe that Swift can be a feminist and a billionaire at the same time but being the latter is unethical, no matter how you spin it.

"Taylor Swift has risen from a small country-esque artist to a global pop star in the 20 years since her 2006 debut. From her debut album "Taylor Swift" to her most recent album "The Life of a Showgirl," she has displayed considerable talent in many people's eyes, including my own."

- Lauren Heseltine

Everyone Should Tune In To New and Improved KAUG Radio

Kaia Anderson online publishing coordinator



Photo of Griffin Briner, taken by Kaia Anderson on Oct. 14

KAUG Radio has been part of the Augsburg campus since the 1970's when it was known as KCMR Radio, but has been on and off the last couple of years. It shut down for a few months at a time before starting again under new leadership. Griffin Briner is the current station manager and is also serving as interim program director. He took over the station at the start of the 2026 spring semester when the previous station heads left. So far, nothing has been broadcast and current priorities are set on inventory and making sure their equipment works.

Briner's first step was to educate himself on the equipment. He explained that he had essentially no knowledge of how to run a radio station, which is fair; most people do not. He described this process as: "Frustrating. Every time you learn something new you realize you don't have the equipment on hand to go through with it. That's a big issue right now—equipment." The computers that they currently have are all Macs, this means that they are unable to run the software

needed to host internet servers. He is very thankful for the aid of their professor Scott LeGere, who Briner describes as "very knowledgeable." LeGere has been talking to people on campus as well as utilizing his connections with other radio stations to help KAUG begin broadcasting again.

What drew Briner to KAUG was his experiences growing up. His dad ran a radio station, and did radio in college. "Everyone I knew was in the radio business." Despite this, Briner never learned how to run a radio. He hopes to "see if I can make any sense of what I grew up around. Just because I was raised around it doesn't mean I understand it."

The biggest issue KAUG has faced in the past is consistent broadcasting. Briner's plan to prevent this issue is to train someone in before he leaves, this is to prevent previous issues of the lack of handoff happening between KAUG leaders. Which in the past has led to the station head not having the proper knowledge to run, or missing login information.

At its core, KAUG is for the community. One way Briner has changed KAUG to better connect with the community was by uncovering the windows of the station room. Now students walking by are able to see into the room, which is one of Briner's favorite things. When KAUG does reopen, the plan is to broadcast local bands, maybe even a talk show. Hopefully, KAUG will begin broadcasting again with the earliest start date being January 2027.

"Briner's plan to prevent this issue is to train someone in before he leaves, this is to prevent previous issues of the lack of handoff happening between KAUG leaders."

- Kaia Anderson

CASUS Promotes People Power At Minnesota Socialism Summit

PSL Twin Cities

In less than a decade, the people's struggle against state violence in Minnesota has triggered a nationwide movement for justice. In 2020, following the murder of George Floyd, the protest that started in Minneapolis brought 35 million people into the streets across the country, demanding an end to racism-backed police brutality. In 2026, when the Trump Administration unleashed Operation Metro Surge—the largest Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) operation in history—on the Twin Cities, Minnesota showed the nation how to fight back against ICE terror and implemented the tactic of a general strike with shutdown actions across Jan. 23 and Jan. 30.

Student power is people power—it was our friends, neighbors and relatives in student organizations who proved the strength of this power in January. They called for no work, no school, and no shopping in response to the ICE terror on our communities. Cities nationwide responded by shutting down business as usual in solidarity with Minnesota on January 30th. We are the ones who make society run. As food service workers, lab and teaching assistants, grounds keepers, retail workers—we are the next generation in this society. We need to build a political alternative that guarantees our right to a dignified life and a liveable planet. The capitalist class and its government are spending public dollars on terror, death, and destruction. \$70 billion for ICE, \$32 billion for the war on Iran, and billions for Israel to fund the ongoing genocide in Gaza, all while our education system continues to stay underfunded and under-resourced. Working people are feeling this strain every day. Americans

have trouble affording basic necessities (healthcare, transportation, rent/mortgage, and food) and the future of most college students today is uncertain.

Here, at Augsburg University, we have faced direct attacks from this administration. In Cedar Riverside, masked federal agents have grabbed people off the streets and ripped them from their homes. Federal funding for the McNair Scholars Program was slashed with a week's notice last year. Now, the Trump administration is trying to make it harder to access federal student loans based on post-college graduation income rates starting as early as the 2028-2029 school year. The attacks on students and in our communities won't stop until we unite and put an end to them. Students and young people have been at the forefront of major struggles in US history that have changed the course of national politics. Our participation in the struggle for workers rights and in defense of our communities is crucial. We have the most to gain from these fights and have invested the most. It is our duty and our right to be part of building a better future for our society.

“The attacks on students and in our communities won't stop until we unite and put an end to them.”

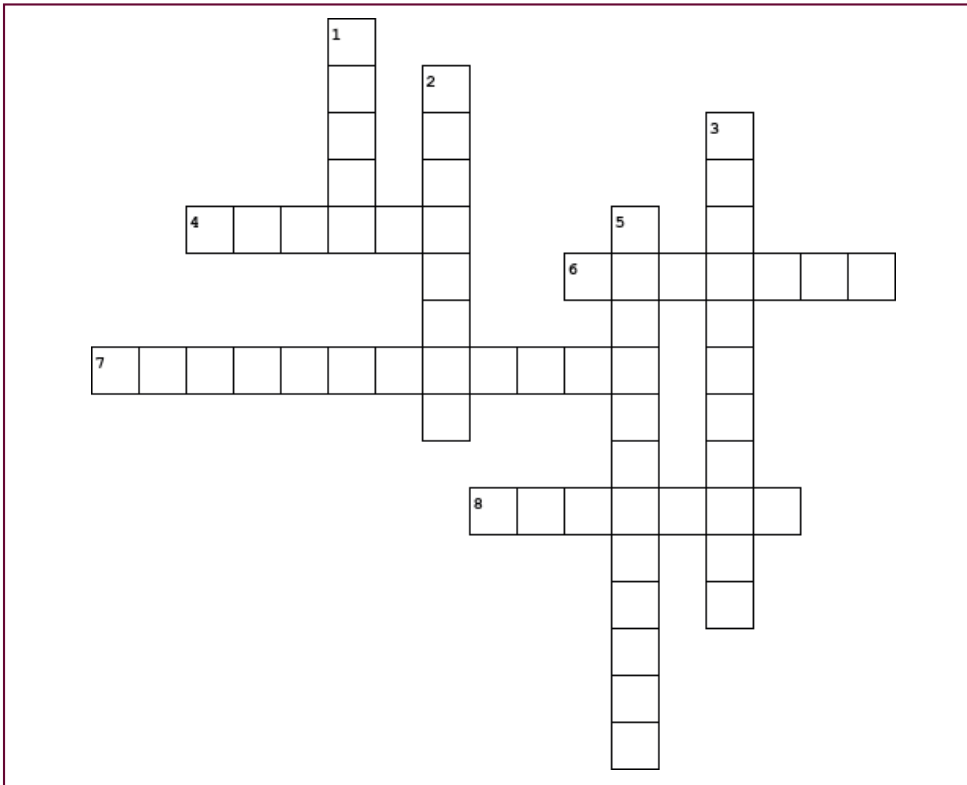
- PSL Twin Cities



Poster for Minnesota Socialism Summit, provided by PSL Twin Cities

Join the Club of Augsburg Sociology and Urban Studies (CASUS) on Oct. 24 for the Minnesota Socialism Summit: Only People Power Transforms Society. This summit will be an all-day series of workshops, panels, and cultural performances and will feature food, vendors, artists, and keynote speakers such as 2024 socialist presidential candidate and VP Claudia De La Cruz and Karina Garcia. Together we will study the lessons of recent mass movements and discuss how to build a new system. A system where the working class has political power, and the needs of the people and the planet are planned for and guaranteed.

Universal Monsters Crossword



Last Week's Answers:

1. Corn Maze
2. Bobbing For Apples
3. Sweater Weather
4. Pumpkin Spice
5. Caramel Apple
6. Scarecrow
7. Oktoberfest
8. Crunchy Leaves

ATTENTION ALL CROSSWORD LOVERS!

*Do you want to win a Polaroid
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crossword puzzles you know and
love? Then you would love our
Crossword Contest!*

*To enter, email echo@augsborg.edu
with your completed crossword!
Each completed crossword puzzle
is worth one entry. All entries are
due before the distribution of the
next issue. The more you solve, the
better your chance to win!*

Across

4. This man has two separate identities: "Dr. Jekyll and -"
6. Most famous cliché vampire of all time
7. He wears bandages that cover his whole body just so you can see him
8. This musical stars a disfigured man wearing a white mask: "The - of The Opera"

Down

1. Imhotep was an Egyptian man who came back from the dead wrapped in cloth in his tomb
2. This Lycanthropic man tends to change when the full moon is out
3. This fishman hybrid lives in dark water and is known as "The Creature from The -"
5. Many confuse this Doctor with his reanimated monster

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Contributors & Artist Spotlights: \$15 / article

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