

THE MYSTICIAN

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PHOTO SUBMITTED

BSC EMBARKS ON ONE OF A KIND PROJECT

BY MORGAN DRAKE

Last year, Bismarck State College Innovations Foundation finalized a project between the campus and the National Power Academy (NPA) in the country of Saudi Arabia to provide non-credit training to students pursuing a career in energy. This led to a few changes at the college.

“This project is now approaching about six months, and we’ve learned a lot,” Bruce Emmil, the Dean of the National Energy Center of Excellence said.

BSC Innovations Foundation signed a five-year contract with the NPA on this energy specific project, but it’s not the only college expanding offerings to Saudi Arabia.

“There are about 20 other [colleges] from around the world that have partnered with Saudi Arabia on this kind of training program,” Emmil said.

This is part of Saudi Arabia’s 2030 Vision which includes educating and training Saudi nationals to support their workforce needs in IT, health care, energy and more.

The Innovations Foundation has a cost plus contract. This means that Saudi Arabia is paying not only the tuition cost back to BSC for students in the program, but also all of the costs, and an added revenue percentage for the project with doing business in Saudi Arabia.

This contract was established after six months of negotiations and limits the overall risk of the project. It has the potential to generate significant money and bring these funds back to BSC. In order to protect BSC and the current BSC foundation, a new foundation was formed.

The Innovation Foundation was created for this purpose,

and it may be used in the future for similar projects around the world.

“There are a lot of places interested in what BSC has,” Emmil said. “When Saudi Arabia sent out their request for proposal (RFP), BSC responded to it . . . , but when they visited our campus they basically said, ‘It looks like we generated our RFP based on what you guys have right here in Bismarck.’”

Saudi Arabia could be seen as a controversial choice for BSC to partner with and some have gone so far as to call the decision “bigoted,” because of Saudi Arabia’s perceived autocratic nature. Emmil sees it differently.

“We had some discussion about it, but a lot of people were saying, ‘to get picked as the sole provider of this kind of program, out of an international search of all these

other institutions, it’s a great honor,’ and we really do see it that way.”

There were other controversial decisions made by the Saudis.

“They initially noted through the RFP, ‘we would be required to only have male employees,’” Emmil said, “But just six months into the contract we already have two female employees working there now, and (NPA) is even talking about making it the first program . . . to potentially allow female students. To be part of this transformable change in Saudi Arabia is something that BSC should be very proud of.”

To date, the project has been providing enough revenue for the college to continue its lease on the Meadowlark Building on the north side of campus.

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INFORMATION

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EVENT CALENDAR

February 14

Valentine's Day
Chocolate fountain & Make Your Own Valentine
Student Union, free
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

February 18

Presidents' Day
BSC Closed
Women's Basketball
5:30 p.m. Armory
Men's Basketball
7:30 p.m. Armory

February 19

Technical Programs Visit Day
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

February 20

Computers and Office Technology Visit Day
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

February 21

BSC Job & Internship Fair
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Mystic Marketplace
Free

February 22-23

Dance +
Belle Mehus Auditorium

February 25

Transfer Programs Visit Day
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

March 3

BookTalk at BSC: "The Mosquito Coast: A Novel"
1 - 3 p.m. LEA Hall

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WORD SEARCH AND SUDOKU KEY FOR PAGE 10



The Mystician



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DAKOTA STAGE UPCOMING PLAYS

Dakota Stage, located at 412 E Main Ave in Bismarck, is a non-profit community theater. They have a variety of everything from plays to comedy shows to walks. Upcoming events include open auditions for "Noises Off" which is a play about a play, written by Michael Frayn.

Auditions are Sunday March 3, at 6 p.m. and Monday March 4 at 9 p.m. They are also showing Steel Magnolias, which is a comedy-drama, written by Robert Harling, March 14-16 and March 21-30 at 7:30 p.m., and March 24 at 2 p.m.

The Mystician Mission Statement and Disclaimer

The purpose of college media is to serve and give voice to the students. We, as the student-based forum of journalism on the Bismarck State College campus, provide content that is informative, fair, concise and of importance to BSC. With this goal in mind, The Mystician staff is dedicated to accuracy and maintaining ethical journalistic practices. We strive to give a voice to student issues and policies within the local community. Our goal is to incorporate as many students as possible and be an outlet for student expression. The BSC Mystician strives to be objective and is not affiliated with any outside organization. The Mystician upholds the principles guaranteed by the First Amendment and utilizes these rights to bring diverse, entertaining and thought-provoking material to the college community.

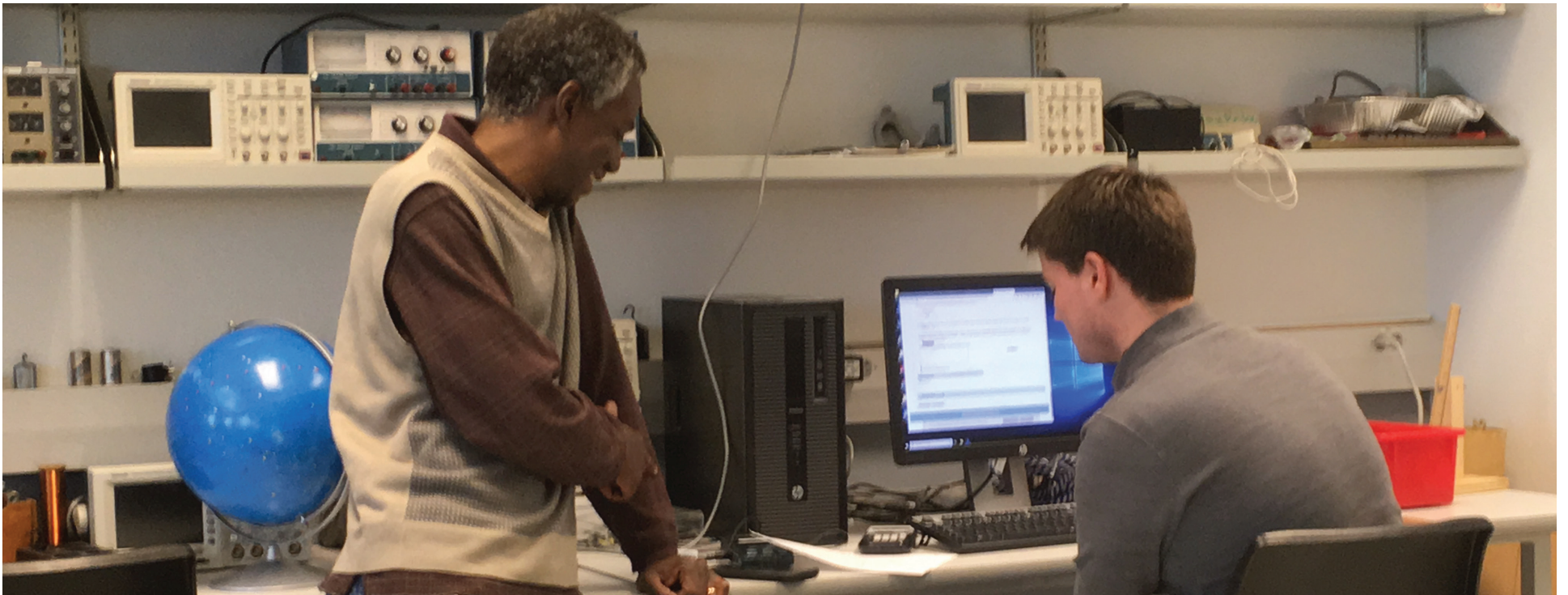
Contact Dylan Kahl, EIC with letters to the editor or any concerns or comments regarding this publication. E-mail bscmysticianeditor@bismarckstate.edu

The next Issue of The Mystician will be published Thursday Feb. 14. Deadline for any copy to be submitted is Feb. 4. Stop by Room 125 in The Armory for more information

NEWS



SINGING VALENTINES FOR YOUR VALENTINE: 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MEN'S VALENTINE SERENADE



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR TONY MUSUMBA HELPING OUT BSC STUDENT NICHOLAS ROHRICH
PHOTO BY DYLAN BINDER

COMMUNITY GAINS INTEREST IN SCIENCE

BY DYLAN BINDER

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics affect nearly everything in our lives. Students getting involved with clubs and activities that promote creativity and leadership, such as the STEM Spectacular, can benefit society. Many students who are not in science or engineering classes are not sure how to get involved with clubs in these fields. The STEM Spectacular, which involved the community with interesting science projects, allowed students and adults to come together and learn how important science is to our lives. It also provides a chance to partake in fun activities that engage everyone. Courtney Stoltz, Educational Outreach Director at the Gateway to Science center, hosts four STEM Spectacular events a year, the next one will be April 27. These events are vital for inspiring students with science.

“The STEM Spectacular puts an effort to ignite the scientist in all of us” Stoltz said. “These events help kids with hands-on projects and helps kids collaborate and communicate with others.” Science has advanced our society in so many ways. Chemistry,

agriculture, physics, and medical sciences are examples of how advanced our lives have become.

“Without science, we would not have a huge number of things we have today. We would not have technology, but we also would not be able to keep track of weather conditions and meteorology.”

The Bismarck State College is actively participating in activities throughout the community. Tony Musumba, associate professor of physics and adviser of the STEM club, partakes in student-initiated meetings every two weeks to discuss STEM activities. There are many events taking place this semester.

“Engineering Week is taking place on February 16 at the Kirkwood Mall. We will also be doing a balloon launch in the spring” Musumba said. “Clubs are for students to use their leadership, work in groups, and make new friends. There are other clubs such as Women In Science, Engineering, and Skilled Trades and Amateur Radio club that are good for students.”

BSC Sophomore Andrew Schafer, a civil engineering sophomore and

president of the STEM club, says that the upcoming engineering week allows a chance for engineering firms and students to come together.

“Engineering firms come from the Bismarck-Mandan area and help students find their career path.” STEM club also volunteers with the North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers.

McKenna Wilson, a freshman majoring in respiratory therapy at the University of Mary, was a volunteer at the STEM Spectacular.

“I took advanced chemistry, physics, biology, and tons of other STEM classes at Underwood High School” said Wilson.

“STEM clubs and activities are good for the community. It teaches them about leadership, science, and creativity.” Wilson also stated that getting involved with STEM clubs can help students with their leadership skills and career path, no matter what the major.

The community involved themselves with many interesting and educational activities at the STEM Spectacular. A

Lego bridge, which involved putting magnets on a bridge made out of small legos, and seeing how much weight it could handle. A siren disk had volunteers blow on a spinning paper disk filled with small paper holes using a plastic straw, and made a soft whistling noise after blowing on it. Palm pipes conducted many different sounds using cardboard tubes measured from short to long. The virtual reality headset provided a tour of the International Space Station and other scientific locations. CPR training used a dummy to show students where to press and blow when trying to revive someone. All of these activities required leadership, engagement, and cooperation. These skills can be applied to life.

STEM events can educate the community. They can help students figure out which career path they want to have in the STEM field. But most importantly, they can help the community collaborate, work, and have fun together.

SPRING GRADUATION

The Bismarck State College graduation ceremony is scheduled for May 10 at 2 p.m. at the Bismarck Event Center.

Students who plan on graduating, will need to complete the application for their degree. The link can be found on the BSC website under Graduation/Commencement, then Prepare to Graduate. Any questions can be answered by Kene Miller at 701-224-2545.

Students who plan on walking during the ceremony will need a black cap and gown, with the BSC tassel. The items can be purchased starting March 1 at the BSC Bookstore or on the online store.

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society students will be recognized during the ceremony. Members are able to purchase the honor stole and gold tassel, but it's not required.

AQUATIC CENTER WORKOUT SESSIONS

Many students have started the new year wanting to lose weight and gain muscle. However, some may not know how to. The Aquatic Center has fitness class schedules held in their facility.

Cardio Sculpt is Fridays from 4:45-5:30 p.m., and focuses on cardio for one week

and strength training the next.

Deep Water is Tuesdays from 7:00-7:45 p.m., and involves floatation devices to power walk through the water.

Forever Fit is held on Mondays from 4:30-5:15 p.m., and features an anaerobic exercise that engages all muscles.

BSC HOSTS POET

Bismarck State College will be hosting Poet Brian Baumgart on Monday, March 5 at 7:30 p.m., his visit will consist of a reading of his poetry from his published book, “Rules for Loving Right”, a question-and-answer segment and a book-signing.

Baumgart's work has appeared in

“Tipton Poetry Journal,” “Clever,” “SLAB,” “Ruminate” and “The Good Men Project.”

The event will be taking place at the BSC National Energy Center of Excellence in the Basin Electric Auditorium. The reading is free and open to the public.

BSC INTERNSHIP FAIR

Bismarck State College's Job and Internship Fair will be on February 21 from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., in the Bavendick Stateroom of the National Energy Center of Excellence. BSC students are encouraged to register for a BSC swag bag.

Some of the employers who will be attending are Brosz Engineering, Menards/

Midwest Manufacturing, Doosan Bobcat, Sanford Health, NISC, Verizon, and People Ready.

For more employers, go to the BSC website and search Job and Internship Fair. If any questions are in need of answering, contact Julie Crispell at 701-224-5752 or julie.crispell@bismarckstate.edu.



DAWN HAGEROTT (CENTER) DIRECTS THE CHORAL GROUP DURING THE MEN'S ENSEMBLE IN PREPARATION FOR THE SERENADE. PHOTOS BY DYLAN KAHL

MEN'S ENSEMBLE PREPARES FOR V-DAY

BY PETRA DAVIDSON

Ten years ago, Bismarck State College started the Valentine's Serenade with the Men's Ensemble. They are celebrating the 10 year anniversary with My Girl by The Temptations and Just the Way You Are by Bruno Mars.

The Serenade Package, at the price of \$30, includes a song from the two selections above to a person of choice. The delivery of that song is from the choir and a long stemmed red rose comes with the purchase. This Valentine's extravaganza is open to BSC along with the community.

Adler Scheer, a senior at BSC, has been participating in choir for his 12 semesters on campus. Scheer says that it's enjoyable going out into the community and singing to different types of people.

"A couple years ago, we had a lady that completely broke down crying because she was so happy," Scheer said. "It was really nice to see."

Music director, Dawn Hagerott, thought of the idea after working on

BSC's campus for only a couple of years. She wanted to bring awareness to students about the choral program, and thought this would be a good way for the group to get exposure around campus.

"I thought it would be a really great way to add some fun, romance and smiles on campus to our students, faculty and staff on Valentine's Day," Hagerott said.

The serenades were limited to the BSC campus for the first years the music department was going around on February 15. Now the choral group visits places around the community to share their musical talent. Schools, offices, restaurants, hospitals, law firms, and the capitol are a few places the groups have sang at.

"After several requests to go out into the community, we began to bring serenades into Bismarck and Mandan in 2013," Hagerott said.

Dawn Hagerott hopes to keep the tradition going throughout the years.



THE MENS CHORAL GROUP AT BSC PREPARES FOR VALENTINE'S DAY



INSTRUCTOR DAWN HAGEROTT(LEFT) WORKS WITH THE GROUP TO PERFECT THEIR MUSIC



ADLER SCHEER (LEFT) WARMS UP WITH THE MEN'S ENSEMBLE

SPORTS



PHOTO BY BAILEY SCHMIDT

LET'S GET REAL

COLUMN BY LEVI HOLZER

In all of pro-sports in the United States, you can find an All-Star game to watch half way through the season or a week before the Super Bowl. For many pro athletes, they love playing in another game before the season is over, and I think they also love the chance playing with some of the world's best competitors.

As a fan, every year it gets harder to watch the actual game, but the All-Star Weekend is fun to take in. As for the National Basketball Association All-Star Weekend, I probably haven't watched the actual game since Kobe Bryant's last year playing. To me, it just gets boring to watch each year, since most of the games in the past years have really been a dunk and three point contest with nobody playing defense. It's so boring to watch athletes get paid to play a sport and not giving it their all.

I get how it's supposed to be a weekend full of fun activities and people enjoy themselves, but when it comes to an actual game, I want to go out there and compete.

Major League Baseball All-Star Weekend is probably the one I like to watch the most. I guess it's that way because, I am baseball fanatic and will be till the day I die.

The National Hockey League has started to turn things around with their festivities during the All-Star break with new and improved challenges. The NHL plays three All-Star games, with the Central Division and Pacific Division playing each other, and the Metropolitan Division taking on Atlantic Division, then the winners of the two face each other.

Let's get real, if athletes would take things seriously during that break in their season, I believe they would be more fun to watch. I feel like that competitive edge in the games aren't there anymore and they need to come back.

The G.O.A.T Featuring LeBron James

COLUMN BY ZACH EBACH

Many times, the word GOAT is thrown around at players, but only some are deserving of it, while others shouldn't even be in the conversation. Most people think of LeBron, Michael Jordan, and sometimes even Kobe Bryant. Well, I hope today is the day your perspective changes from three to one.

LeBron has played on three different teams this far into his career. Everybody says he's title chasing, like Jordan never did.

Jordan always had a good team, for instance when Jordan retired the first time to try and make a baseball career, the Chicago Bulls still went an astonishing 55-27 without him. The following year without him, they went 45-37, still making the playoffs.

Let's go over LeBron's teams. The first time LeBron left the Cavaliers, they became last in the conference for three years and got the first overall picks, drafting Kyrie Irving, Anthony Bennett and Andrew wiggins.

When LeBron left the Cavaliers, he went to the Heat who were not that big of a playoff team, but he managed to help the team win two championships there.

Ever since LeBron has left the Heat, they've only won one playoff series. The Cavs are now the worst team in the league, they also haven't even reached double digit wins. The Bulls proved they could win without Jordan, but the Cavs and Heat both have shown they needed LeBron to win games.

The stats don't lie, Jordan may be 6-0 in the finals and that's hard to beat, but LeBron has made the finals nine times already in his career. Aside from two franchises, that's more than every single NBA team. He even plays for one of them, the Los Angeles Lakers, and has passed or tied the rest of the league in title appearances.

Jordan was great yes, 6-0 perfect in the finals is a nice stat. But he didn't have to play super teams like LeBron and he only

made it six times.

The amazing comeback of the 2016 NBA Finals, Cleveland vs Golden State for the second time, the Cavaliers that year were doomed and the Warriors expected to win it all going a record 73-9. Stephen Curry having his best season yet, while Klay Thompson and Draymond Green were coming along.

All LeBron had was Kyrie and a terrible squad. LeBron fought his whole way to the finals by himself that year, averaging 32 points, nine rebounds, seven assists, a steal, and two blocks a game. It was one of the greatest playoffs ever by any player in my opinion.

The first four games of the finals went rough as everyone thought there's no way LeBron, and the Cavaliers could comeback, down 3-1 going back to Golden State in game five destined to lose, until the magical moments of LeBron's talk with his teammates. LeBron was on a mission. It almost seemed like LeBron couldn't miss a shot in those games. It was like watching a man that was starving and hungry.

They came back and ended up winning the series 4-3 as LeBron would block Andre Iguodala's layup and set up Kyrie Irving for the dagger and the greatest comeback on Golden State's floor.

LeBron was crowned MVP and had the best stats by anybody in a finals series ever. You can try to change my mind, but I certainly don't think Jordan could have come back.

Jordan was good, he's definitely the second best player to ever play. But he just didn't have what LeBron has.

"The numbers don't lie. He's right there. He probably will never catch him in terms of MVP, but in terms of statistics, LeBron is right there." said Scottie Pippen, Jordan's ex-teammate, said on an ESPN interview. "When you look across the board - not just scoring - check his assists, check his rebounds ... he's probably ahead of Jordan." I agree with what Pippen said.

STEVAHN IS SHOOTING TO THE TOP

BY LEVI HOLZER

Freshman usually don't think of the impact they will make their first season playing, but for Amber Stevahn, it started earlier than she thought. From being a dominant force for the Shiloh Christian Skyhawks, to playing for the Bismarck State College Mystics, she's getting to the top.

"When Amber is in, she brings dynamics to the game offensively and defensively," BSC Women's Basketball Head Coach Marv Pedersen said.

So far this season, Stevahn has started all twenty games for the Mystics, averaging 23.7 points per game. She's also currently sitting at the number one spot in the nation for points per game in Division II National Junior College Athletic Association Women's Basketball.

"There is a little bit of pressure," Stevahn said, "but I just try to push it in the back of my mind and I just take what the game gives me and try my hardest all the time."

Keeping that average for twenty games is impressive and takes a lot of preparation and time in the gym. Stevahn is constantly found in the gym on any given

day working on her craft. She said that she comes in two hours before the game to prepare for the night with teammate Courtney Olson.

Stevahn is averaging a 55 field goal percentage and 64.4 percent from the free throw line so far this season.

This achievement doesn't go unnoticed from her teammates on the court, as they have confidence in her that she will make her shots on any given night.

"She's so hard working that we give her the ball knowing that she is going to put it in the hoop," BSC Freshmen Forward Sydney Andersen said. "I give her the ball and I don't even second guess it that she is going to do what is best for the team."

Stevahn, Andersen and the rest of the women's basketball squad will play their final regular season home game on Feb. 18, as they take on Lake Region State College at the BSC Armory with tip off starting at 5:30 p.m.



(CENTER) AMBER STEVAHN DRIVING DOWN THE COURT. PHOTO TAKEN BY BAILEY SCHMIDT



(LEFT) COACH JUSTIN OLIVER AND BASEBALL TEAM (RIGHT) PRACTICE IN THE ARMORY. PHOTOS TAKEN BY LEVI HOLZER



COACH CORBY MCGLAUFLIN (LEFT) GIVES TIPS TO CONNOR BURGESS (CENTER) AND OTHERS.

BASEBALL TEAM WARMING UP

BY BAILEY WILHELM

The Bismarck State College baseball team will hit off their season come early March. Per usual, a trip down to Tucson, Arizona is the beginning of their jam-packed spring.

Their first home game is Friday, March 22. It will be a double header beginning at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. With a weekend full of baseball, the boys also play the next day at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. in the honorary Ben Berg Classic. You can watch all Mystic home games at Dwyer Field at Shiloh Christian High School.

Their first in-conference game is Saturday, March 30, in Dawson County. The next day, the Mystics will travel back to Bismarck for their home game.

For more information on rosters and schedules and results for the upcoming baseball season, look at bscmystics.com



HUDSON PIERCE (LEFT) AND GAGE GELLNER (RIGHT) AWAIT PITCHES.



TREY ROGERS (LEFT) AND ALEC BATEST (RIGHT) TALK THINGS OVER.

OPINION

**SPRING BREAK
DESTINATION: ARIZONA**

**STAFF ED: OLD ND LOGO
V.S. NEW**

THE  **80.7 SECTION B**
MYSTICIAN

PHOTO BY LEVI HOLZER

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Now that January is out of the way, it feels as though classes are at the peak of a roller coaster right before the big drop, and the twist and turns are inevitable as we get closer to the end of the year.

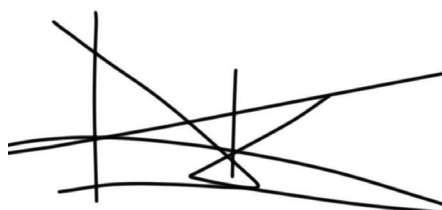
With that depressing tangent being said, I hope everyone is having a great second semester. With Christmas break, it put our schedule at The Mystician out of whack, so if the readers have noticed that the January and February issues seem to be a little skimpy don't worry. We will have some awesome content coming down the pipeline with the awesome events that are happening at BSC.

Don't forget to also check out www.



bscmysticmedia.com to get more of the MYX FYX with our radio program, The MYX, and our shows like MystiCast and Sports FYX.

So stay tuned!



Dylan Kahl

GET YOUR SASS BACK TO CLASS

BY AMANDA JOYCE

Hello people of Earth, it's once again time for my sass fueled rage to entertain all of you. Last issue I focused on having a happy year and finishing all of my wonderful resolutions, which I still haven't given up on by the way, and I'm going strong with all of those.

I'm still unpacking my house, but let's be honest, it takes me two months to unpack from a week long vacation, just imagine how long it'll take me to unpack an entire house when I moved cities.

My fiance and I are enjoying the fact that we now live alone and that we get to make more big kid decisions, such as eating pasta eight days in a row and being able to buy whatever we want when we go grocery shopping. However, herein lies the issue. No one tells you how freaking expensive groceries are, and no one tells you how much you'll go through to make one proper meal.

Seriously, why is produce so expensive? I want to make a fresh garden salad, not buy the entire country of Croatia. Also, why do they spoil so much faster when you're the one buying groceries? Seriously, for the price I'm paying, you'd think that the little shower mists the produce section gets are the bottled tears from Jesus himself.

In other news, I also learned that I

am in fact still mentally five years old, because when I go shopping without supervision from my fiance or my mom, I somehow end up spending \$150 on fruit snacks, sugar cereals, breakfast pastries and juice pouches. I don't even eat most of the stuff, I just think that maybe someone else will want it.

Basically what I'm trying to say is that just because I'm considered an adult in the eyes of the law and government, does not mean I am mature enough to go grocery shopping by myself. If anyone can tell me where I can find cheaper groceries prices than Walmart, without having to buy four years worth of products in bulk like Sam's Club, let me know.

Until then, I will most likely continue to pay for overpriced produce that goes bad in a week, and I will continue getting upset about it. If you are one of the lucky souls who has a meal card here at BSC, cherish it.

Since it doesn't seem as though I'll be getting cheaper food anytime soon, I'll continue to stay sassy, and if you're in the same boat as me, maybe we can take a cooking class together. Until that time comes though, buy things in bulk on sale, always say yes to eating dinner with your parents, and get your sass back to class.

STAFF ED

As some may have noticed, the North Dakota state logo changed and not many were fond of it. It had a new updated look, and now it's up for redesign again. Only this time, the state is holding a contest to decide on the new logo, and we here at The Mystician have some thoughts about it.

When the logo changed there was a big uproar in the graphic design community. Questions were raised like who did it, why did we need it, and how much they spent on it. The reason for the redesign is understandable, but with the outcry from many North Dakotans, it's questionable as to why this route was taken.

The new logo, although simple and clean, is boring and void of any creativity. It lacks the flair that the old logo had, and it will not attract anyone to our state. The font chosen is questionable, the colors are bland and basic, and the size difference between the words doesn't make

sense.

The change was unnecessary. The old one was so cool, it had an eye catching design, it looked like something North Dakotans could be proud of, and it had style. The new design wasn't even done by a North Dakotan, someone from Minnesota designed it. Plus, it looks like something a five year old could come up with. This new design is just plain sad, it literally looks like someone just learned that Paint on Windows is a thing, and took two minutes to think of a new design logo.

It's great that North Dakota is looking to change from the snooze of a logo they just came up with. Pretty much anything would be better than the current one. Plus, having an open contest for the public to design and decide what's picked is the coolest to do it. Truly by the people, for the people. Everyone should get on this.

OLD



NEW



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF NORTH DAKOTA TOURISM

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PHOTOS BY LEVI HOLZER

SPRINGING FOR WARMER WEATHER IN ARIZONA

BY DYLAN BINDER

Although Spring Break comes in March, planning a week long vacation ahead of time instead of waiting until the last minute has its benefits.

Escaping from the unrelenting wind and cold of North Dakota and traveling down south to warmer states is a relief. However, feeling welcome while enjoying a vacation is among the highest priority, and there is a state that helps and befriends more tourists than other southern states.

The destination that I would recommend is Arizona. It has warm weather, fun activities, large cities, great restaurants and friendly locals.

One of the top places that many tourists will visit is located on the outskirts of the states capital, the Phoenix Zoo.

They have the largest reptile exhibit I've ever seen, with an 18 foot python, a variety of lizards both large and small, and an American alligator exhibit.

They also have an exhibit full of huge remote-controlled insects, including a remote controlled rhino beetle and a huge spider in its web that would move up and down. Being afraid of spiders, I could not stay there long.

Castles and Coasters is an inexpensive, small and fun amusement park that beats anything we have here. It has a thrilling roller coaster, go-karts, log rides and an obstacle course with tons of rope obstacles that left many people tangled for a long time. The turning log obstacle, nearly a hundred feet in the air, almost flung me off the course. It wasn't hot outside, but let me tell you, I was sweating. Not only was it high up in the air, but the metal clips holding us were pretty sketchy.

As for food, tons of different types of food and restaurants are offered throughout the area. Although many

people have heard of In-N-Out Burger, other local places will knock your socks off.

Angry Crab, a local seafood joint, has the best crab that you will ever taste, with the meat being soaked in sauces and herbs. Plus, it will leave your clothing soaked with the smell of crab. SanTan Brewery has authentic Mexican food, and the spiciest burritos that I have ever tasted, as well as a bunch of local beers brewed inside the restaurant.

Some restaurants compared similarly to those in North Dakota. U.S. Egg offers a hearty breakfast with friendly staff and coffee on the go, similar to Kroll's Diner.

Dave and Buster's can be compared to an adult version of Space Aliens, with a ton of unique games such as virtual reality versions of Mortal Kombat and House of The Dead. They also have unique drinks like the purple gummy worm which gave me a sugar rush.

There are also friendly people, and locals will help you out in case you get lost. Driving in a rental car, I had to pull over and ask for directions on the highway. Thanks to a man named Anthony, who helped me meet my family so I was only an hour late.

Although the weather wasn't as hot as it usually is in the desert state, it's nice to escape the poor weather up north and travel somewhere that won't make your hands numb from shoveling snow.

Finding a good place to vacation can be hard to do, but spending your spring break in Arizona will be one of the best vacations of your life.

It will be a memorable and entertaining and one that you can be proud that you invested in.



19 AND STRUGGLING

BY BAILEY SCHMIDT

For the last two months, I've had a hard time finding a job and figuring out where I want to live. Even though I want to move back to my hometown of Bottineau, there isn't much there. I could have amazing opportunities waiting for me outside the state of North Dakota, such as Minnesota where I actually grew up, but my heart still goes to the small town.

I'm in my last semester here at BSC, and I'm ready to start doing what I love for the rest of my life, which is print journalism. For the longest time, I thought I started my life when I graduated from high school a year early, turns out that wasn't the case.

I didn't know what I should actually do,

and I stressed about my future for a long time.

But now, I feel like I need to get a four-year plan going. For young adults my age, many want to stay young for as long as they can before real life hits them. I'm a bit different from all those other 19-year-olds.

I want to start my career right away, but it's hard to get a job as a journalist with a two-year degree.

With many places, a bachelor's degree is needed to receive a full time job. I know that I plan on moving back home, so I need to find a university that offers an online program for journalism. Because of that, the University of North Dakota has

always been in the limelight of my mind.

I have been accepted, and I'm ready to continue my education, but lately another part of me has been thinking differently. I could spend my money on something else, like a house.

Many of my friends and family think I'm crazy to want to buy a house when I graduate. Like I said before, there isn't much in a small town, so a house might be my only option.

A couple weeks ago, I went and looked at a reasonable house in the area I want. It's the perfect size and would be an amazing fixer upper

(since I almost went into construction, it would be a perfect opportunity to get back into the second thing I love doing).

Part of me is sure that I'll have a future in that house, but there's a small part that isn't.

I have always been a planner in my mom's eye, and she tells me not to stress about the future, but it does put a strain on me when I don't know what I'll do next.

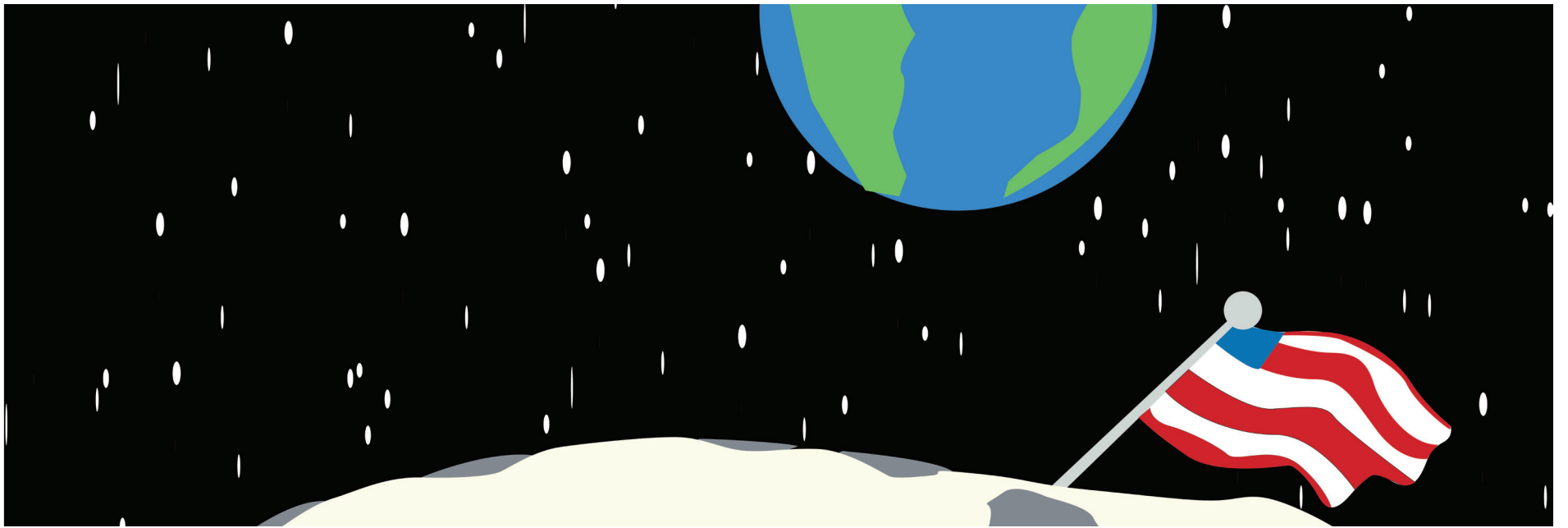
Hopefully by next month, I'll have another part of my future in order. It could be buying a house or finding my future job, who knows.

ARTS



**JACOB IRVINGS CONSPIRACY
CORNER**

**ARE GAME SEQUELS BETTER
THAN THE ORIGINALS?**



CONSPIRACY CORNER: MAKING MOON MOVES

BY JACOB IRVING

With China's recent landing on the far and "dark" side of the moon, many questions have been brought up. Some asked for the first time, yet others have never been answered.

Why is China the first to go to the far side? Why have we not been back to the moon in decades? Why after all this time and a few manned moon missions, are we only sending rovers to a remote yet supposedly reachable part of our solar system?

Many people have speculated what would be found on the far side of the moon. Theories range from alien moon bases, to human moon bases, and there are even some theories of structures and beings on that close space relative of ours.

The answer to what really lies out there is being searched for, in part by China's Chang'e 4 Lander. Named after a goddess of the moon from Chinese mythology, this rover is only the latest installation in China's moon missions. The rover landed in a crater near the south pole in a spot-on trajectory. Along with tools and equipment to analyze the soil, the rover

has its own little canister this contain seeds and bug larvae used in an experiment to test the possibility of sustaining growth in an alien environment.

According to People's Daily, China @ PDChina on Twitter, the plants sprouted, "marking humankind's first biological experiment on the moon." The question: are these the only forms of life on the moon? Are the canister and the Earth-sent rovers the only structures on the moon?

As far back as Apollo 11, astronauts and NASA scientists have been quoted and continue to say that we are not alone in this universe. Apollo 11 gave us photos that are still scrutinized today, showing domes and "buildings" — some hidden deep down in the depths of craters.

The moon itself is an oddity in space: it's relatively large size, its low mass, the certain way it dances with its partner Earth around the sun in space. The smallest of impacts can cause Apollo installed seismometers to show the moon as "ringing like a bell," said Clive R, professor of civil engineering and geological sciences at the University of

Notre Dame. Neal continued on in a meeting of NASA's Lunar Exploration Analysis Group and found on NASA's website. He went on explaining how, "The moon is seismically active," and other oddities.

We are constantly looking for answers in the vastness of our world. Recently, we have started looking for answers on other worlds. A lot of these answers have brought up more questions, but that is part of the adventure of knowledge.

Some people refer to the truth seekers as "conspiracy theorists" and try to push their work aside. There are conspiracy theories on anything you could imagine. Moon landing, alien existence, theories about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, or even Martin Luther King. These theories and ideas help pave the road to the truth, even when the path is being covered up by those who would want to control it.

There are big theories about the Earth being flat, lesser-known theories about little creatures that live in mountains, and

the infamous theories about 9/11 being a controlled false-flag operation and inside job. Many are considered "out there" and "far fetched", but there is no denying some of the evidence they bring up.

Some of these "out there" conspiracy theories claim the moon is a "satellite" or created object used to do an array of things in its partnership with our planet Earth. These might be questions that China's Chang'e 4 rover is looking in to.

Conspiracy Theories boil down to questions posed against established and published "truths". These theories and theorists do the important job, they ask questions.

To learn, we must ask, and to ask is to explore. Let's continue to explore the possibilities and wonders that lie on our companion, the moon, and elsewhere in our vast, crazy universe.

Disclaimer:

The author, and those associated, are not responsible for time lost falling down the rabbit hole of the world of conspiracies.

GIVE SEQUELS A CHANCE

BY ROBERT MECHALEY

Sequels fall into a mixed bag ranging from marvels to travesties in all forms of media, and video games have no exception to the rule. I remember feeling awestruck by the first five hours of "Kingdom Hearts II" and laughing at the absurdity of "Resident Evil 6."

Imagine the great amount of surprise for me last year as 2018 showed its good side and proved itself as a great year for video game sequels. This pleasant surprise demonstrates that in a world of new games and spiritual successors, there stands a place for returns and re-imaginings of storied franchises.

The game "God of War (2018)" exists as the best example of what 2018 brought to gaming. The first game titled "God of War" released in 2005 by developer SCE Santa Monica Studios, followed a Spartan soldier in Greece named Kratos, who was tricked by the Greek god Ares into killing his family, sparking violence and anger in Kratos leading him on a warpath of

revenge against Ares and the Greek pantheon.

The game contained good combat, decent platforming mechanics and a solid story that mirrored Greek tragedies and epics that inspired western storytelling. "God of War" became a success critically and financially, which of course meant that it would receive a sequel. The development team at SCE Santa Monica Studios underwent changes to staff for developing the sequel. Changes included former director of the first game, David Jaffe, stepping down and relinquishing the position to Cory Barlog.

The game "God of War" turned into a successful trilogy, but with the success, the series lost direction. Originally an action game paying homage to the storytelling of the classics, it became filled with violence, not for the sake of a good story but for the sake of violence. "God of War 2" and "God of War 3" were needlessly violent and continuations of a story already finished. "God of War" was a great game by all

standards but with all the uncomfortable violence and poor handling of mature, graphic content in the sequels, the trilogy was bogged down as a whole.

Last year was the debut of a genuinely good sequel that solved the problem caused by the trilogy in the release of "God of War (2018)." The story follows our protagonist Kratos not as the vengeful god he became at the end of the first three games, but now as a father in the far north, journeying with his son to deliver his wife's ashes to the top of a mountain. The story, formerly paved in blood, becomes an action-packed tale of fatherhood and adventure in the land of gods Kratos doesn't know, and it is a thrill ride worth taking.

Not only did "God of War" get a much-needed sequel rebranding but so did Capcom's "Monster Hunter."

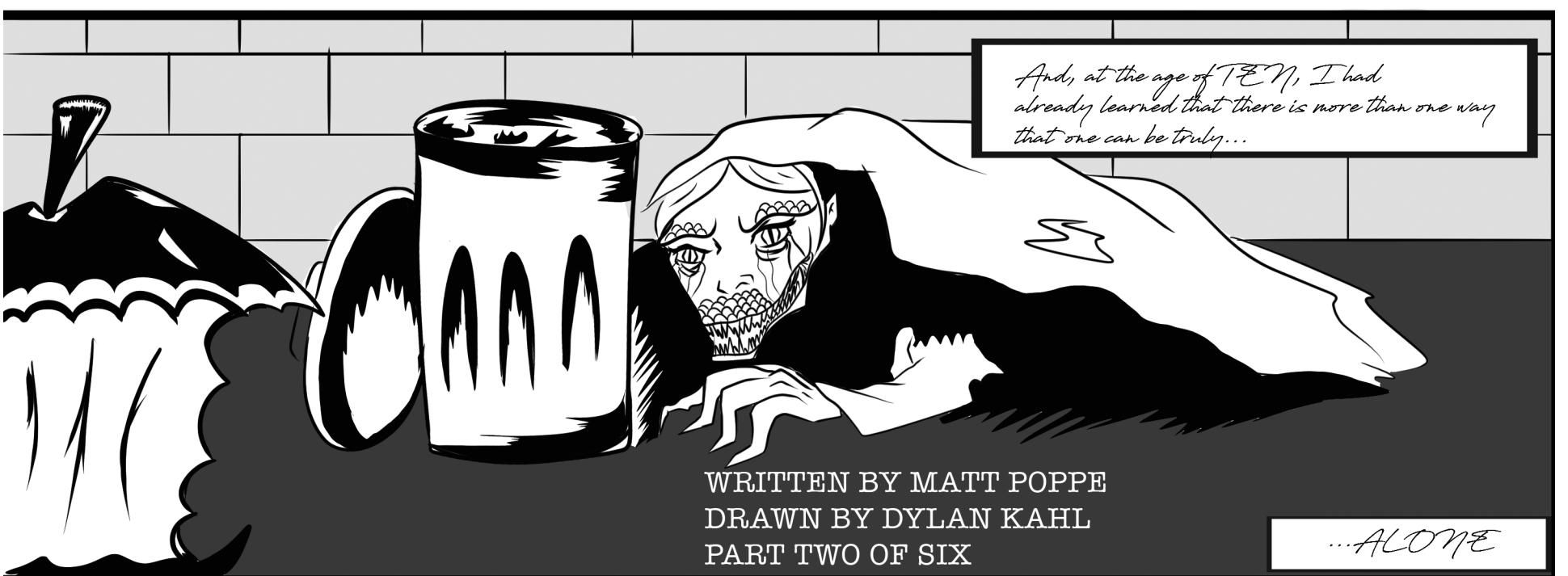
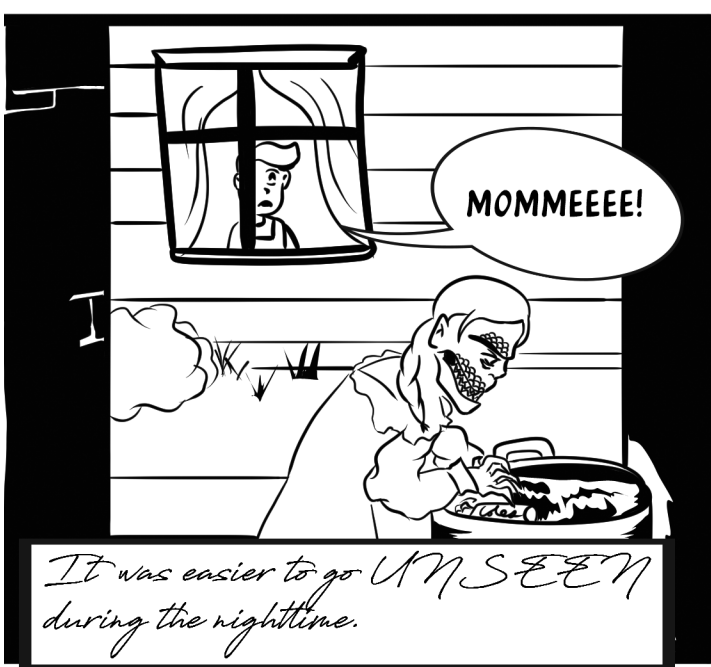
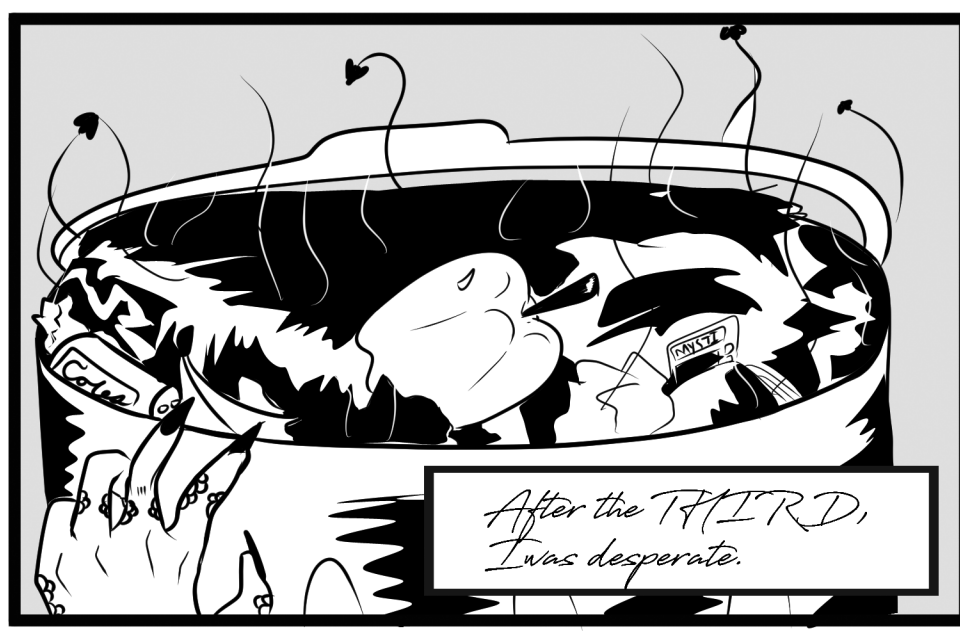
"Monster Hunter" was a game known for battles against large monsters. While fun for fans that understood the

mechanics, the game was hard to bear for the uninitiated. Capcom, the developer and publisher of the "Monster Hunter" series, could clearly see the appeal of the series to those who weren't fans and decided to make a change in the newest iteration, "Monster Hunter: World."

While "God of War (2018)" redeemed the series with a story worth telling, "Monster Hunter: World" made changes to allow accessibility for novice players and a refreshing new world for veterans of the franchise.

2018 was a great year for games and most notably sequels to intellectual properties refusing to stagnate. In fact, there are many great sequels lined up this year, such as "The Last of Us Part II" and "Psychonauts 2" that I am excited to see take a page from the books of these two.

If developers and publishers take proper notes from the 2018 trends in sequels to improve or revisit established properties, 2019 and years to follow will lead to success and happy fans.



SUDOKU

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	9					4		

FACULTY 5!

JASON LUEDER



How long have you been teaching?
10 years

What is your favorite movie?
Dazed and Confused

What is your favorite lunch menu item?
Salmon and Rice

If you could go anywhere in the world where would you go?
Belize

If you could have any superpower what would it be?
The ability to fly

WORD SEARCH

VALENTINE'S DAY THEME

R	C	X	P	F	N	W	F	F	L	X	W	X	N	E	R	C	R	L	I
T	E	H	L	V	Z	P	O	W	C	T	U	D	P	T	V	M	O	K	A
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J	I	P	S	Z	N	T	A	F	C	O	F	Y	R	A	X	O	H	H	S
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J	L	O	Z	R	C	Y	D	H	I	T	O	W	X	M	B	F	O	Y	Q
P	B	O	P	J	B	Y	O	N	E	M	F	L	E	M	S	O	G	V	Q
F	I	V	J	I	M	A	E	X	I	A	U	M	G	U	I	I	N	R	U
W	M	L	P	D	Y	O	D	F	S	I	R	V	F	R	Y	V	A	D	H
X	O	I	J	T	D	L	R	I	E	J	B	T	R	W	K	T	S	R	M

- AFFECTION
- CANDLELIGHT
- CHERISH
- CHOCOLATE
- CUPID
- DATES
- FEBRUARY
- FOREVER
- LOVE MEMORIES
- ROMANCE
- ROSES
- SWEETHEART
- TOGETHER
- VALENTINE

P.O.P!

Person on the Pavement

CHRISTIAN MALO



Hometown: Hazen, ND

Nickname: Malo

If you could marry a fictional character who would it be and why?
"Black Widow from the Avengers' movies."

If you could read minds whose would you want to read?
"My professors when he is making the answers to the exam."

Favorite Quote: The journey is never ending. There's always gonna be growth, improvement, adversity; you just gotta take it all in and do what's right, continue to grow, continue to live in the moment." -Antonio Brown

**HAVE A STORY IDEA?
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bscmysticianeditor@bismarckstate.edu

or stop by room 125 in the armory

MYX FYX



The MYX is Bismarck State College's very own student run internet radio station.

It is a class that can be taken for credit, but it is also open to any student on campus. Students can produce anything from their own radio shows to podcasts and anything in between.

If you are interested in having your own show, participating in live events, or just have music suggestions, feel free to visit the station in the basement of the NECE building or email Cole at cole.bernhardt@bismarckstate.edu

TOP TEN LOVE SONGS

Disk Jockeys:

Amanda—Mandi- Joyce's Choices Radio

Christian—Swag Bear- The Chap Recap

Jake—Jacob Zane- The Zany Hour

Dylan—Binder- Binder's Best Hits

Daniel—DJ Burbank- The Burbank Network

Justine—MJDJ- Mary Jay Show

1. Young and Beautiful -Lana Del Rey
2. All You Need Is Love -The Beatles
3. Crazy Little Thing Called Love -Queen
4. All of Me -John Legend
5. Just the Way You Are -Bruno Mars
6. Fly Me To The Moon -Frank Sinatra
7. Unforgettable -Thomas Rhett
8. We Found Love -Rihanna feat. Calvin Harris
9. Follow Me -Uncle Kracker
10. Heaven -Kane Brown

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