

THE MYSTICIAN

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TOM MARPLE AND LANCE MACKEY DURING THE Q AND A SESSION AFTER THE SHOWING OF "THE GREAT ALONE"
PHOTO BY DYLAN KAHL

LANCE MACKEY VISITS BSC CAMPUS

BY DYLAN KAHL

A cancer survivor, and a four-time winner of the Iditarod race are things that describe Lance Mackey. Kicking off ArtsQuest, BSC and the Dakota Film Festival hosted a showing of "The Great Alone". A film that follows the Iditarod Lance Mackey. Lance Mackey attended the showing and was on campus April 4th.

DK- One of the main themes of the film was that the dog's were like family members and an important part of your life. Is it hard leaving them to speak and promote your film?

LM- Yes they are my family. Their my livelihood, their my passion, their my friends, their my life. But that being said you have to sometimes sacrifice something. They didn't like being away from me more than I liked being away from them. They did know, and I'm assuming, that I'm coming home and didn't abandon them. They were always curious why one dog got to go every time. There was a little animosity against him maybe. Always ecstatic to see me. That welcoming home was always sincere and I couldn't wait to go home.

DK- What do you think about while you are racing?

LM- You're normally in the moment. You're not really thinking about the past. Maybe the fifty miles that you've done maybe not. You're thinking about the next fifty miles, and then all of a sudden some random thought about your third grade teacher pops into your head and you're being reprimanded about something you did and all of a sudden you're crying.

Then, all of a sudden you laughing about something so dumb. Then all of a sudden I'm on some fishing boat on the barren sea. I'm running on minimal sleep, being in pitch black darkness on minimal food wondering why I'm out here and all of a sudden I'm thinking about being on the beach after the race and then boom reality sets in and a branch hits my face or something. It's such a large variety of emotions and thought. Things that you don't think about intentionally. Things that you stored. Things that you forgot about that surface. The highest of highs and the lowest of lows. I can't say that I'm thinking about one certain thing because it's so random. I remember one time building an entire house in my head during a race.

DK- Watching the film there is a part in the film where you say racing is in my blood and that you're addicted to it. Is the escape into your thoughts like you explained another reason why you are addicted to it?

LM- I think that's part of it. I can't speak for everyone but I didn't get into racing to be a competitor. It was about the adventure and the relationship and the love of the state, and rebuilding the relationship with my parents. The competitive part of it came later to try and maybe justifying getting

some of the expense back. Maybe my team is as good as the guy in the front and if he can do that I can do that. It just got to be more appealing as time went on. It was a good replacement for getting a real job. The better I did racing the less likely I had to get a real job. I had never been fond of taking orders and answering somebody, going to a job I'm not good at. I was basically born in this sport. I grew up in the state of Alaska. My work ethic was established at an early age and it seemed to coincide.

DK- After the film came out how were your relationships with your family afterwards?

LM- I wish I would've done this thirty, forty years ago. It was a little embarrassing to admit and rekindle these feelings of animosity and hate that I had towards my father particularly. That were based on stories told to me by my mom. I remember the first time my parents saw it. Before we went in to watch it I pulled them aside and told them I'm sorry for some of the things that you were going to see and hear. And these things were things I said when I was a ten year old that I had to bottle up and hold until I was in my late thirties and I just want you to be aware. My dad looked at me and said, "Son, people change".

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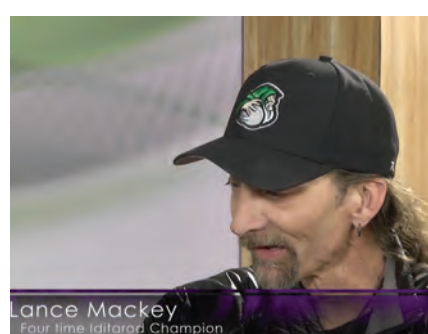
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Lance Mackey doing an interview for The Mystician and Mysticast. From left to right Lance Mackey, Dylan Kahl, Tom Marple.



INFORMATION

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EVENT CALENDAR

- May 2**
One Act Plays
Sidney J. Lee Auditorium
3:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
- May 3**
Arthritis Foundation's Bucket List Gala - Wine Not?
- May 4**
Bismarck Wish Fast: Superhero 3 & 5K Walk/Run
Sertoma Park 8 a.m.
FREE COMIC BOOK DAY
Comic Realms
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
106 N Mandan Street Bismarck
- May 9**
BSC Alumni Awards
Bavendick Stateroom, NECE 6 p.m.
- May 6 - 10**
Finals Week
- May 10**
BSC 79th Commencement Ceremony
Bismarck Event Center 2 p.m.
- May 12**
Mother's Day
- May 17**
Celtic Woman: Ancient Land Tour
Arena 7:30 p.m.
- May 22**
"Chicago: The Musical"
Bismarck Event Center 7:30 p.m.
- May 24 - 25**
High School State Track Meet
- May 27**
Memorial Day
- May 29**
12 Months 12 Hikes - Never Forgotten Memorial Walk. Bonus Hike.
- May 31**
Gear Daddies
Exhibit Hall 7:30 p.m.
- June 1**
Green Bay Blizzard at Bismarck
Bismarck Event Center 6 - 11:59 p.m.
- June 4**
Willmar Stingers at Bismarck Larks
Bismarck Municipal Ball Park 7 p.m.
- June 5**
PJ Masks Live
Bismarck Event Center 6 p.m.
- June 7**
Examining Our Unconscious Bias
Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center
8:30 a.m.
- June 8**
Great Strides
Pioneer Park 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- June 9**
Buggies-n-Blues Car Show
Bismarck-Mandan Convention & Visitors Bureau
11 AM
- June 15**
Junk'n at the Junction
Bismarck-Mandan Convention & Visitors Bureau 9 a.m.

CLUBS ON CAMPUS

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Adviser: Mike Holman
mike.holman@bismarckstate.edu
2nd Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. in the Career Academy Room 234

ART CLUB

Adviser: Andrea Fagerstrom
andrea.fagerstrom@bismarckstate.edu
1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at 3 p.m. in LEA Hall Room 322

BSC GAMING MYSTICS

Adviser: Karen Arlien
karen.m.arlien@bismarckstate.edu
Every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in Jack Science Center Room 126

CRU

Adviser: Neal Brown
neal.brown@cru.edu

CYBER SECURITY CLUB

Adviser: Matthew Froehlich
matthew.froehlich@bismarckstate.edu
Fridays at 2:30 p.m. in Technical Center Room 108

DRAMA CLUB

Adviser: Dean Bellin
dean.bellin@bismarckstate.edu
Every Thursday at 12 p.m.

ENERGY CLUB

Adviser: John Thilmony
john.thilmony@bismarckstate.edu

GRAPHIC DESIGN AND COMMUNICATIONS CLUB

Adviser: Jason Lueder
jason.lueder@bismarckstate.edu

INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Adviser: Tony Musumba
tony.musumba@bismarckstate.edu

MYSTIC MEDIA CLUB

Adviser: karen Bauer
karen.bauer@bismarckstate.edu
Every Tuesday and Thursday at 1 p.m. Armory Room 143

PHI BETA LAMBDA

Adviser: Vickie Volk
vickie.volk@bismarckstate.edu
first Wednesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. in the Technical Center Room 130

PHI CHETA KAPPA

Advisers: Kevin Cavanagh & Michael Tomanek
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POSTSECONDARY AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS CLUB

Adviser: Marko Davinic
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STUDENT NURSES ORGANIZATION

Adviser: Anna Anderson
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ST&EM CLUB

Adviser: Jennifer Kessler & Tony Musumba
tony.musumba@bismarckstate.edu
Thursdays at 12 p.m. in Jack Science Center Room 223 and presentations in Room 126

WIS&S

Advisers: Ginni Saiki, Hailie Pelka, and Tony Musumba
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The next Issue of The Mystician will be published Thursday, May 2.
Deadline for any copy to be submitted is Thursday, April 18.
Stop by Room 125 in The Armory for more information.

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.



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NEWS



Tom Marple and Lance Mackey
Photo by Dylan Kahl

LANCE MACKKEY VISITS BSC CAMPUS (CONTINUED)

DK- In the film you discuss how frustrated you are towards your father for not being there for you and for not doing activities like fishing with you because of racing. Having kids now does that change your perspective about racing and incorporating them into that part of your life?

LM- I now have two other kids. One

is two and a half years old and the other is nine months old. My two-and-a-half year old's first toy was a 12 gauge shotgun and he's got a pocket knife. I don't hold things from him. If there's a pair of scissors on the table I tell him, "here's a pair of scissors. Here's how you work them they can hurt you." I do this because I feel these are things that I was missing when I was

a kid. My mom raised two kids that were hellions. It's a big deal to me to make sure that my kids don't have the same feelings I had, either good or bad, towards my parents. I don't ever want my kids turn to me and say dad how come you never want to do the things that I want to do. I want to be his best friend. Not at 80 years old trying to become a friend.

DK- What is your motivation to race now after winning as many races as you did? Is it still the addiction of winning?

LM- Winning was a bonus. I ran the Idditarod in 2001 thinking it would be the one and only time. The addiction to me is the relationship that I did rebuild with my parents.

SISTERS SEPARATED AT GRADUATION

BY BAILEY WILHELM

Bismarck State College sophomore, Leah Woods describes having a sister as having a built-in-best friend. Lucky for her, she has that, Mary.

Mary and Leah Woods grew up in Rapid City, SD. Only 22 months apart, and Mary being the eldest of the two, they grew up together side-by-side. The two sisters, along with their older brother Norman, were homeschooled throughout their elementary, middle and high school years.

"Our childhood was similar to anyone else's," Leah said. "Living in the Black Hills, we would go dirt biking."

Throughout high school, they were involved with their church. Some of which kept them busy traveling to different places with their ministry.

"I actually went to Israel last summer," Leah said. "I got to experience new cultures and engage in activities you don't do on a regular basis, like ride a camel."

After Leah graduated high school in 2017, she was recruited by BSC to

play volleyball. Mary was attending a community college in Rapid City at the time, but was not pleased with that experience.

"I did not enjoy that community college because I wanted a change and to move away from home for a little bit," Mary said. "Also, it was a tech school, so it was not exactly a great place to make friends because no one was in a business program."

Both decided that they would continue their education and attend BSC in the fall of 2017. Leah continued her athletic career as a right-side hitter on the Mystic's volleyball team as well.

"Volleyball has helped me form friendships because it's basically 15 automatic friends that you spend every day with," Leah said. "It is nice moving somewhere new and knowing you'll always have your team to back you up and support you."

Mary and Leah share a lot of physical

attributes that may lead an outsider to think that their personalities are similar as well.

"I would say I am more on the organized side of things," Leah said. "I am definitely an extrovert along with being more competitive than Mary."

Mary, on the other hand is the opposite.

"I am a bit less organized, probably because I have more of a laid-back personality compared to Leah," Mary said. "I am also more of an introvert."

The Woods' personalities may be different, but there are still many things the two enjoy and have in common with one another.

"We both enjoy watching "The Bachelor" and "Friends," Mary said. "We also like thrift-shopping, coffee, camping, and concerts," Leah said.

Leah has signed on to play beach volleyball at Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida for next year. She will continue her education there, majoring in communications with a minor in business.

"Leah has ambition, but a kind heart and personality that is charismatic," Mary said. "She will do great things in Florida."

Mary has a degree in business, but is undecided on what she wants to do next.

"Mary is full of compassion, has a forgiving heart, and an adventurous attitude," Leah said. "She is one of those people that will succeed no matter where she goes."

It will be the first time in their lives they will not live in the same city.

"We have been apart before. In the summer we don't hang out too much, we both work full time, and have different friends," Leah said. "But, during the school year, we have always been around each other."

Mary agrees.

"Our siblings are our first friends, and in some cases, our closest friends, it will be a change for sure," Mary said.

Mary and Leah are different trees, from the same Woods."

CHECK IT BEFORE YOU WRECK IT

CREDIT MATTERS

BY JUSTINE EMILY SMITH

As young adults entering the real world, credit scores and background checks might be a mystery for those just getting started. Many don't realize that not maintaining a good credit score and not keeping personal records clean can be a bigger issue as years progress. Staying ahead of the game with bank accounts and staying out of trouble when young in life is the beginning of becoming a responsible adult.

Building credit can be easier said than done when a student is eighteen and broke.

Finding a bank to trust is important, and starting with a clean slate by opening a checking and savings account is the first step. Never let bills go overdue because it can show up on credit reports making it harder to take out a loan when the time comes.

Second, keeping a steady job has more perks than a monthly paycheck. If it's too early to take out a credit card, retail store cards can help build up credit. The stores will ask how much income is generated in a month when looking to get store credit. No job, no income, no credit.

Next, looking into gas station cards is also a safe start to building credit. Only being able to buy one item, like gas, is safer than racking up a \$500 balance that can take months to pay off.

Another way to keep that credit high is taking out a car loan.

"Before they (students) turn eighteen, their parents might help them out by co-signing for a car loan," Mallory Wesby, a personal loan officer from Gate City Bank said. "But that is a good way to start."

Most banks will set up a monthly withdrawal from an account so forgetting to pay the loan won't be a stressor. Putting money down on a car will help to get accepted for a loan. Banks will calculate the value of the car and how much it will cost with a rough monthly payment. Setting up a date and amount due on the car each month is a safe choice for that credit score.

When looking for the right loan, it doesn't hurt to talk with a financial adviser from a bank.

"We have what is 'The Better Life Start' loan," Wesby said. "We can go up to \$2,000, an unsecured loan, and that's for people that don't have any credit."

Card companies will look at credit history before giving out money. Be responsible and make rules when having a credit card.

"Having a credit card is good," Wesby said, "but if you max it out, that's what makes your score go down."

Only use the card for one thing, or have the money on hand to pay it off immediately.

"If you keep them at a zero balance,"

Wesby said, "that's the best thing you can do."

Credit cards are no joke and checking one out early can be a risk.

Credit card scores aren't the only thing that should be clean and out of trouble. Many students don't consider the fact that criminal records limit opportunities and affect their way of living later in life.

According to Bachner & Associates, P.C., the Federal Bureau of Investigation estimates that over 250 million arrests have occurred in the last 20 years, and the numbers keep climbing.

A criminal record will forever have a negative impact on life. The biggest problems relate to jobs, universities, apartment complexes and applying for a bank account.

Companies do background checks and having a criminal record won't make this easy. And say goodbye to military enrollment because the government won't take anyone with a record.

There are limited school options for someone with a record making it harder to get a degree in the future.

"Financial aid and selection of schools or if you're going into a specific program, you might be prohibited, you might not be allowed at all because of campus rules," Dr. Joe Ellefson professor of criminal justice at Bismarck State College said.

This isn't the end if a criminal record becomes an issue, but it takes more than a signature to make a record go away.

"It's a lot easier said than done," Dr. Ellefson said. "You have peer-pressure. You have beer pressure."

Not everyone is found guilty of the offense, and if so, there may be a chance to get the charges dismissed and apply for an expungement. If a student pleads guilty to something small, like a minor in possession or a traffic violation, and has completed probation, there is a greater chance of expungement. These rules vary by state.

Find someone to talk to on campus if staying out of trouble is hard.

"Head over to the MACC center," Dr. Ellefson said. "They have counselors there that you can talk to and if they're not able to assist you, they will put you in contact with those who can."

So check it before wrecking it when it comes to both credit scores and criminal records. These are two big life importance that many students don't think of when out on their own for the first time. It's not impossible to get these two things back on track, but it is much easier to deal with if thought out thoroughly right away

MEDICAL MARIJUANA LOCATIONS TO BE OPENED IN NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota opened its first medical marijuana dispensary in Fargo on March 1, 2019. Legislature is still hashing out the details on what symptoms are allowed to apply for a medical card.

New dispensary locations in first region are approved for Bismarck, Grand Forks, Williston and Fargo. Minot region will include Dickinson, Jamestown and Devils Lake. Williston store is planning on opening their doors on June 1 2019.

BSC HONORS ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Bismarck State College will honor several alumni during its annual recognition event May 9 on campus.

The BSC National Alumni Association Board of Directors has chosen Vern Dosch ('73) as Alumnus of the Year, and Jack Golden ('17) as BSC's Rising Star. The association chose the Francisco and Bertha Tello family as this year's Legacy Family award recipients.

All recipients will be honored at a campus dinner for friends, colleagues, family and the public May 9 at 6 p.m. in the Bavendick Stateroom, BSC National Energy Center of Excellence.

ND HOUSE APPROVES CACTUS GREENHOUSE

On Monday April 8, the North Dakota House passed approval to spend around \$5 million on a cactus greenhouse which will be located at the International Peace Gardens north of Dunseith, N.D.

The vote was finalized at 61-29.

The Senate will then need to approve the bill before getting handed over to Governor Doug Burgum for a final look.



DEER APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Landowners around North Dakota are eligible to apply for the 2019 deer gratis license. The application must be filled out online by visiting the North Dakota Game and Fish website.

If no internet services are available, individuals can visit the state's Game and Fish Department office, a library, or by visiting a family member or friend.

The general deer lottery as well as muzzleloaders will be available for applications at the beginning of May. Both have a set deadline for June 5.



Congratulations!
Your success is a reflection of your hard work! Graduation is not only a time of completion, but also a time of celebrating your achievements and a new beginning.

Please update your address with our office throughout your life's journey!

www.bismarckstate.edu/alumni/congrats

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ARTS

Ty Betts, Dylan Kahl, and Sean Thorenson go against Nathan Engel, McKenzie Miller and Jacob Schwarz in Shortcuts. Photo by Tyler Rietz



The two teams in the logo design challenge designing a logo for Chewbacca's Plumbing.
 Left team: Ty Betts, Dylan Kahl, Sean Thorenson.
 Right team: Nathan Engel, McKenzie Miller, Jacob Schwarz.



Designing a "War of The Worlds" sequel for the book cover challenge.
 Left team: Mary Lindsay, Tom Marple, Lyndsey Scheurer.
 Right team: Megan Schlosser, Steve Heilman, Bethany Reitan.



The industry professionals designing a "Planet of The Apes" themed movie poster.
 Left team: Clark Gion Kelli Metzger.
 Right team: Jade Neumann, Deserae Mann.

BSC GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDENTS GO HEAD TO HEAD IN SHORTCUTS

PHOTOS AND ARTICLE BY DYLAN KAHL

Bismarck State College ArtsQuest and the Graphic Design and Communications club hosted the design competition, Shortcuts. The competition held three events. These events consisted of designing a book cover, a logo, and a movie poster in this year's theme of science fiction.

Each event lasted thirty minutes and had students, professors, and industry professionals participating in the event. The crowd also participated as well, doing their own logo design contest and answering trivia questions while the competition was going on. For more photos and videos of the event, check out the Shortcuts Facebook page.

CLUBS ON CAMPUS HELP HOST CARNIVAL FOR STUDENTS

"Stranger Things" took over the campus on Wednesday April 24th with an 80s themed carnival hosted by SGA. Clubs on campus helped host games like a drunk driving course simulator, over-sized Jenga, while others handed out treats like cotton candy. To finish off the 80s theme, Mystic Media and the Polka Police played 80s music.

On the right: The Polka Police.
 On the bottom clubs from left to right: PTK, CRU, Drama Club, Mystics gaming
 Photos By Dylan Kahl

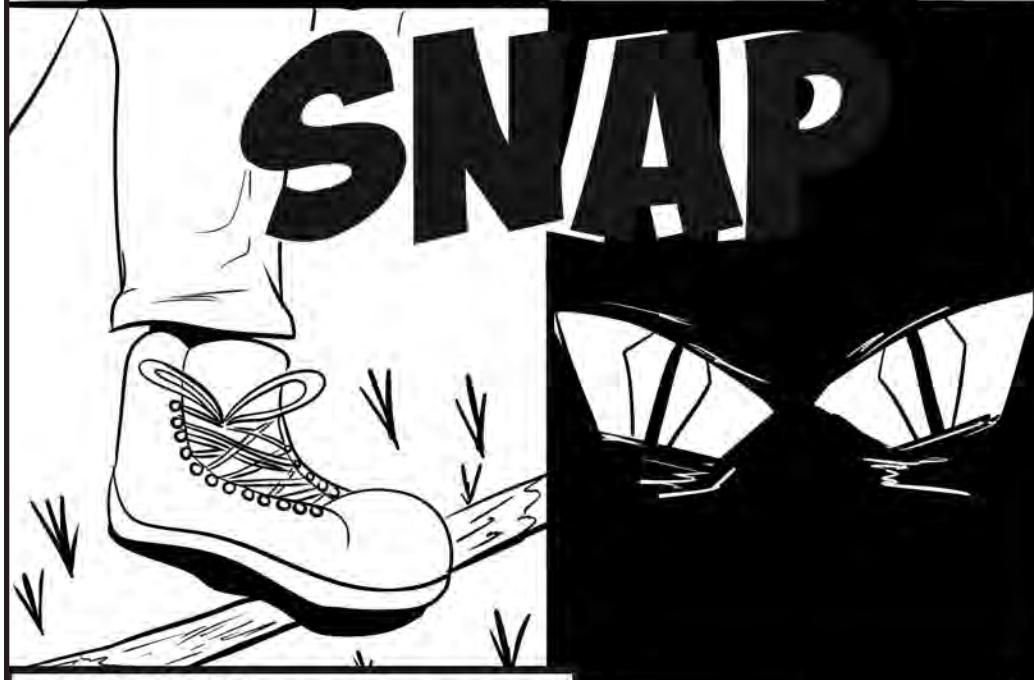




AMONG THE BRANCHES AND THE BEASTS, I HAD FINALLY FOUND PEACE.



BUT CHANGE IS INEVITABLE.



SNAP



HUMANITY HAD COME BACK TO HAUNT ME.

I WASN'T ABOUT TO BE FORCED OUT OF ANOTHER HOME BY THEM.



ATTACKING, HOWEVER, WOULD JUST BRING MORE ATTENTION.

AND HE LOOKED SO AFRAID. TO HIM I WAS AN URBAN LEGEND.



SO I RAN. I HAD TO.



BUT FEAR CAN DO A LOT TO A PERSON.



FEAR CAN MAKE US MONSTROUS.

BANG

PART FIVE OF SIX
WRITTEN BY MATT POPPE
DRAWN BY DYLAN KAHL

NO, GAME JOURNALISM IS NOT RUINING GAMES

BY ROBERT MECHALEY

“Sekiro: Shadows Die Twice” is a fantastic game that in its short time since release, became a personal favorite. Developer FromSoftware and designer Hidetaka Miyazaki with his team have consistently created fun and challenging games such as “Demon’s Souls”, “Dark Souls”, and “Bloodborne”.

These games and “Sekiro” received critical praise and sold well while garnering a solid following within gaming subculture.

The former games before the release of “Sekiro” are lovingly referred to by the community as the “SoulsBorne” games, due to the “Dark Souls” series and “Bloodborne” having similar mechanics, combat and resource management. “Sekiro” is a refreshing departure keeping the challenge of the previous games that drew an audience but providing new mechanics allowing players to overcome the challenge.

The challenge is truly FromSoftware’s

biggest draw, even marketing a re-release of “Dark Souls” as the “Prepare to Die Edition”. The challenge exists regardless, and for some fans who enjoy the deep lore and world of FromSoft’s games, specific areas and boss fights act as a roadblock.

“SoulsBorne” community members when confronted by criticisms that the games are too difficult respond with the old adage, “Git Gud,” meaning the player must become better at the game by their own will. But what if physical impairment or illness were to keep an individual from doing so?

Dave Thier, a video game and technology journalist for Forbes, wrote that while he enjoys FromSoft’s games, they require an easy mode to allow for enjoyment by casual and differently abled players.

Within online circles, this article has been treated as the highest heresy. Even his associate, Eric Kain, wrote an article on Forbes as well decrying this view, laying claim that the appeal lies in overcoming adversity.

In my five years critiquing video games from the design to the industry, I have observed disdain and hatred for games journalism. I wish it were lies when fans of games voiced their opposition to game journalism, creating wild assumptions that it ruins games with it’s Social Justice Warrior ideologies.

There truly exists people who believe that websites such as Polygon and Kotaku are leftist cabals with an agenda to censor or decry lauded games.

Hear me out dear reader. I agree with Thier in that FromSoft games should offer accessibility. I also agree with Kain that the difficulty is the basis of the games enjoyability. Now here’s the fun part of why I can personally agree and disagree with both parties; because it’s my opinion.

This article is not published in the absolute truth segment of the Mystician, its published in the opinion section. When a Kotaku journalist writes about wishing to see greater diversity in games, they are

providing an opinion as well.

Are the voiced thoughts of journalists paid to evoke criticisms or ideas of an industry going to destroy said industry? No. Should game journalists choose to, could they exert their will upon the industry and forcibly push their ideas? Absolutely not, because they can’t, and they would have done so by now had they chosen to.

Discerning reader, would my enjoyment of the FromSoftware games and their challenges be hampered by the inclusion of assisted game modes for the differently abled and casual gamer?

I say it wouldn’t and in fact would be made happier knowing that more people can enjoy the games I enjoy as well.

It seems unnecessary to say, but apparently it needs saying; journalism in video games will not destroy gaming and a differing opinion will not ruin personal enjoyment.

SUDOKU

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END OF THE YEAR WORD SEARCH

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

4	9	2	7	3	5	1	9	8
1	8	5	2	9	6	4	3	7
7	9	3	4	8	1	2	5	6
2	3	9	6	4	7	5	8	1
5	7	8	1	2	3	6	4	9
6	1	4	5	9	8	3	7	2
8	5	7	3	1	9	6	2	4
9	4	6	8	5	2	7	1	3
3	2	1	9	4	7	8	6	5

80.10 ANSWER KEYS

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

- EARN
- FINISH
- GRADUATION
- INITIATION
- ADMISSION
- ROBE
- CEREMONY
- CERTIFICATION
- COMMENCEMENT
- DIPLOMA
- HONOR ROLL
- PORTFOLIO
- RESUME
- SPRING
- TASSEL
- SPEECH
- GRADUATE



ILLUSTRATION BY JACOB IRVING

CONSPIRACY CORNER: DIMENSION ATTENTION RETENTION

BY JACOB IRVING

For this adventure, I'm going to need you to put aside your judgments and preconceived notions of reality as you know it. We are going to take a trip across the universe into faraway lands.

In many science fiction settings, their events and worlds exist in what they refer to as a "multiverse," multiple layers of existence all wrapped up in one multi-dimensional universe. The concept of multiple levels of reality is slowly being proven to be real within our own universe. Currently, the science world is hard at work trying to find more meaning and reason in our reality.

String theory is a theory in which the smallest building blocks for matter are tiny single strings of energy that react with one another. This theory and its proponents are slowly chipping away at the immeasurable mountain of a potential multiverse. The mathematical formulas and equations that string theory provides gives us answers and solutions that are a little out of the ordinary. These

set mathematical equations often give more than one possible solution, or two solutions that coexists at the same time. The existence of these multiple solutions only proves the existence of something more than what we can see.

So, what is a dimension? We are all familiar with the concept of space-time: the coming together of time and three-dimensional space. Being able to move forward and backward is one dimension. Left to right movement is a second. The ability to move up and down proves a third. Time exists as a separate but intertwined dimension that is supposedly constant and moving forward, but that's a topic for another time.

Neil DeGrass Tyson explains it like this: Imagine an ant. The ant is on a piece of paper. This ant can move forward, backward, left, and right. This ant cannot, however, perceive up or down, it is stuck on this paper of two dimensions. Now let's extrapolate; we exist on a 3-dimensional plane. We can perceive up, unlike the two-

dimensional bound ant, but what would be another dimension higher or above ours?

Imagine a person in a two-dimensional space. If a sphere were to pass through this dimension, it would be observed as a series of circles that get bigger, then smaller. If a four-dimensional sphere, also known as a hyper-sphere, were to pass through our three-dimensional world, we would simply perceive it as a series of spheres that change in size. Imagining this type of object is easier said than done. It is almost impossible to comprehend something that is not within our realm of existence.

Science has known for a while now about the subject of dark matter or dark energy. Within the expansion of the universe is an ever-present force and energy known as dark energy. The website science.nasa.gov even states, "...scientists have come up with the composition ... ~68% Dark Energy, ~27% dark matter, & ~5% normal matter."

Normal matter being the stuff we can physically see and measure, like the

planets, suns, etc., only makes up 5% of the conceivable universe. Some people theorize that this is the proof of the dimensions that we cannot see. So what else is out there?

The breakdown of different dimensions could take an entire book, or many. Some people claim that these high dimensions exist in a "higher vibration," both referring to our metaphysical auras and energies, and harping back to string theory at its' —albeit an oversimplified version— claim that matter consists of vibrating strings.

Theories claim that a higher vibration is attainable and can lead to clarity beyond our knowledge. The Buddha reaching enlightenment through meditation is used as an example of raising one's vibration to a higher level in order to perceive more than is regularly available.

It might be best for us all to try and get a little "higher" in our energies and vibrations and try to get closer to understanding this huge, yet nonsensical, side of our reality.

THE CHILLING ADVENTURES OF SABRINA IS NO SITCOM

BY JUSTINE EMILY SMITH

The new Netflix series, *The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina* is a hot topic in the bingeing world. We will be looking into the history of Sabrina and how she was first created in a famous comic book, then brought to life in a 1990s TV show, and now revamped into something we've never seen before.

Before Sabrina was a TV show, it was originally a comic book series from the Archie Comics written by George Gladir and artist Dan DeCarlo.

Sabrina first appeared in *The Archie Comic* in 1962 during "Archie's Madhouse" and soon became one of Gladir's major characters. In the comics, Sabrina was created by her two aunts Hilda and Zelda from a magic potion gone wrong.

She was later made into a main character in the comic "The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina" published by "Archie Horror," an imprint of "Archie Comics."

The first TV series "Sabrina The Teenage Witch" was created in 1996, and ran for seven seasons until May 2003. Sabrina was played by actress Melissa Joan Hart and had over 17 million viewers on ABC.

They switched it up a bit and had Sabrina known as a "half -witch" and not a creation from her aunts, her mother was a mortal and father was a warlock. This 1996 series was very family friendly, definitely an after school show.

After knowing the history about Sabrina the Teenage Witch, we'll talk about the new 2018 Netflix series. Kiernan

Shipka is casted as the new Sabrina. She lives her mortal life at Baxter High School and casts spells at the Academy of Unseen Arts.

Just to forewarn anyone that hasn't seen this show, it is religious, and not in a way you would think. The creators dig in deeper from the comics and introduce the supernatural horror series, "The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina."

The show is based in Greendale, a neighboring town of Riverdale, where Archie Andrews lives. If you've happened to see The CW show "Riverdale," you might see the similarities in style with Sabrina. That's because they were created by the same guy, Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa. Both shows are produced by Warner Brothers. It would be really cool if they

overlapped the two shows, seeing Archie in Sabrina's town or vice versa.

There are two parts of Sabrina available on Netflix. Part one contains ten episodes and was released in October 2018.

They were renewed for a second season with sixteen episodes that will be split into two parts. I hate this because I'm a millennial, and I love bingeing Netflix series. Not to mention, I'm obsessed with the gothic style of the show.

I'm not going to give any of the show away because then you won't see it for yourself. But if you haven't seen part one and love horror, go home and watch it, so you can binge the rest. Believe me, it's worth it.

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

This is it. The final issue. It's a very bittersweet moment for me and I can't believe that after this I am no longer Editor-in-Chief of this fine paper.

This has been quite the learning experience for me and I've got to meet many wonderful people and experience some amazing things that I'll take with me long after my time here at BSC.

I hope that I was able to give the readers something to look forward to and that entertain them throughout the school year. There have been some mistakes along the way but they have been great lessons that I have learned.

The Mystician has quickly become something that is near and dear to my heart. I was in my freshman year in the Graphic Design program when I first came on to The Mystician staff. I joined because I wanted to draw cartoons.

Towards the end of last year, I had some big ideas on what I thought I could do with it. It has been an awesome wild ride since I said I wanted to be EIC.

This has been a really awesome year and I would like to thank some people that have helped me become a better graphic designer, leader, and a person.

From the Graphic Design department I would like to thank my instructors Tom Marple, Jason Lueder, and Sean Thorenson for creating an inviting and creative atmosphere that I'm very thankful for.

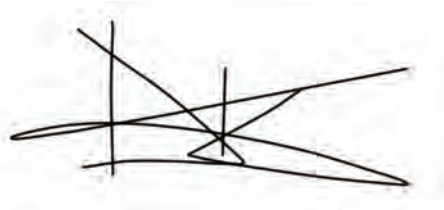
Also to Lance Geving for not only being a great mentor who has helped

me grow as a graphic designer, but also giving me great life advice. To all of my other classmates in Graphic Design and Communications, thank you for pushing me to always be better, especially McKenzie Miller and Deklan Snider.

To everyone at The Mystician staff, thank you for everything you've done and making this an awesome year even though there are a few more greys in my hair now because of it.

To Amanda Joyce, Levi Holzer, Justine Smith, and Bailey Schmidt thank you for being awesome editors and great friends. Thank you to Karen Bauer for giving someone who had no experience in newspaper design a shot at this. Karen has been vital in this and Mystic Media in general and it would not be what it is without her.

Thank you to all of the readers, especially the ones that took the time to read this. To the next Editor-in-Chief good luck and with that being said, I'm out.



Dylan Kahl
Editor-in-Chief for the last time

GET YOUR SASS BACK TO CLASS

BY AMANDA JOYCE

Alright everyone, this is going to be a bittersweet moment for me so just hold on tight, because I'm about to spit some fire wisdom at you.

Considering there's only a few days left before the semester ends, everyone who has followed along with my column should know that I will officially be done with my academic career here at BSC.

It's been a great three years, I've spent every year loving our school and playing a key role in Mystic Media.

That being said, here's some cliché future words of advice from a super sophomore, food connoisseur, adrenaline junkie and animal lover.

#1: Don't sweat the small stuff

We get so caught up in doing little things that stress us out to the max, and we forget to actually take a step back and breathe.

I promise that though some assignments suck, it's not the end of the world if you don't get 100 percent on every single one. Aim for the moon, and be glad if you land among the stars kiddos.

#2 Learn Basic Cooking Skills

Look me in the metaphorical eyes, **DO NOT GO OUT FOR EVERY MEAL.** For the love of all things good in this world, learn to cook.

Don't waste your money ordering from Grubhub, FoodDudes, PostMates, UberEats or any other place alike because you will be robbed blind by their added in fees, delivery charges and gratuity.

There's nothing wrong with going out every once in awhile, but I can't tell you

how much money I've wasted on what I thought was a cheap meal at a restaurant.

If you think paying \$15 for a bowl of pasta is a good deal, just remember you can sit in a cramped booth and have a middle aged woman stare at you because you slurp your noodles in public.

Or you can slurp those noodles in the comfort of your home and pay about \$6 for eight servings of the exact same pasta.

Plus, you don't even have to wear pants, cause then you can eat more. Also you'll end up saving money, which is good because we're in college, we're poor.

#3 Some Scary Things are Good

I know that there are people who say we have our fears for a reason, but I'm here to tell you that sometimes you need to face your fears to get farther along in life.

For those like me who are rather anxious in certain situations, this is for you. There's nothing wrong with asking your teachers questions in class, because chances are someone else has the same question but they're also too afraid to ask.

Pretend you're the mom-friend of your group and you have to do the task for everyone else just to keep things going.

That's how I get through 98 percent of my situations that require me to actually do something. The other two percent is where I actually know what I'm doing.

Even if you're still panicking about asking in front of everyone at risk of looking like you weren't paying attention, just write down what you have a question about and talk to your teacher after class, or even email them.

STAFF ED

In the Age of Technology, it's easier than ever to post negative comments and harass people online. There are so called "Social Justice Warriors" and other people who hide anonymously behind their keyboards so they can say things with no repercussions.

When it comes to social media comments, it is very hard to "read" people on the certain comments that they make.

People have said many hurtful things to each other since the dawn of the internet. It's nothing new.

Anyone can say anything they want to with little consequences. For example, the mean comments and jokes made after the RJR Maintenance homicides on social media were despicable.

With the Bismarck-Mandan Area being so small and communal just about everyone knows everyone. These comments have the potential to get back to those people, as opposed to someone commenting on something nationwide or on a global scale.

The internet and comment sections are a place of toxicity and disdain.

It is a communal place that you might be able to find constructive

criticism and like-minded people, but it also an anonymous wall that people hide behind to vent and let loose their wildest thoughts.

The worst part about this, is that it feeds into people's satisfaction and want for instant gratification.

Reactions and comments make people feel justified in their actions, which can lead to a snowball effect of malintent and hatred.

Don't say anything online that you wouldn't say in front of your mother. We all owe each other a little respect.

Without being face to face with someone, it is impossible to know if someone is joking or actually insulting you.

No one should be insulting you on social media, no matter what you look like, or how you portray yourself.

Social media is used to promote yourself and stay in contact with old friends and colleagues. It should not be used to demean people.

Even if you have been long-time friends with someone and you say something controversial, it could come off the wrong way and ruin your friendship. Spread positivity and encouragement everyday, especially on social media.

#5 Stay True to Yourself

This is college, we're all out here trying to figure out where we want to be in the world and what we want to do with our lives. You'll gain friends and lose some too. Just remember that it's not the quantity, it's the quality. Sometimes you were only friends with someone because you saw them five days a week, and that's okay. Not everyone is meant to follow us into the rest of our lives, some are only there to help guide us onto the next adventure.

Don't lose who you are by trying to fit in and appeal to a certain group of people just so they'll like you. All of you are amazing as it is and you need to remember that.

You shouldn't have to go on an expedition to find people you fit in with, just do your thing and I promise that they will find you. The best ones are the ones that show up unexpectedly, because once you stop searching, you'll find what you really needed without even trying.

Alright, that's it everyone. I know that I might be acting melodramatic, but I feel as though a part of my life is dying. I'm not sure where I'll end up, but I hope that whatever I do and wherever I go, I'll get one step closer to living my best life possible.

As Edna Mode from The Incredibles said, "never look back, darling, it distracts from the now."

With that being said, make good choices, love yourself for who you are, and finally, for the last time ever, get your sass back to class.

Trust me, it's a lot better to know what's going on during your classes, that way even if you don't understand all of it, you have a better chance of B.S.ing your way through an assignment.

#4 Enjoy Some Simple Distractions

I know that life can be a pain sometimes, and being in college doesn't help that when we're already stressed out. When you're feeling super overloaded and like your brain is going to explode, set what you're doing to the side, and do something else for a few minutes.

Not only will it help distract you from the stress, after taking a few minutes away, you'll come back to what you were doing and possibly see it at a new angle where you understand what you need to do.

There are plenty of wonderful things to distract yourself with, but some of my favorites I'd suggest are: listening to your favorite song at an unnecessarily loud volume and singing along even if it's out of tune; eating a snack, because your brain needs fuel; cuddling with a cute animal; or even going for a walk outside to get some fresh air.

Another method I'd suggest is to buy a very cheap set of plates from the dollar store and just absolutely shattering them on the floor. This method is fantastic at relieving prior stress, however it should be noted that new stress may arise when you have to find all the pieces and clean them up.

With that being said, my final piece of advice is one that needs no introduction, but will get one anyway.

MYSTIC PRINT DEBATE



DYLAN BINDER

I personally believe that Mystic Print should still be implemented at Bismarck State College. Although I was largely against it at first, I have come to realize that it's necessary for a community college like us to charge for printing.

Many students who first arrive at BSC use the printing function for the wrong reasons. Some students use the printer to print out a free trial for a textbook. These can be 300 pages long, and perhaps even more. This leaves less paper for other students, a changing of the ink cartridge and a worn out belt from all the printing taking place. Others use the printer to print out pages that do not pertain to any class they are in. This leads to unproductive behavior among students.

With all of the budget cuts happening with BSC, it's necessary to have a source of revenue to keep many clubs and sports functioning across the college.

Although charging budget-strapped students seems questionable, many of them have already spent a huge amount at BSC. Think about your tuition, your books and your access to many different resources as a college student. Students spend a lot more at the Student Union on food, beverages and clothing.

There is the question of students actually using the printers at BSC. Sure, there are some classes that require a printed copy of an assignment, but more are becoming digitized. We hardly see any students nowadays using a printer to print out an essay. Using flash drives and emails have become far more popular. Printers will become obsolete on college campuses within the next few years, and every assignment will be submitted on BlackBoard or emailed online.

As students can see, charging ten cents for a piece of paper is necessary. Although it's a pain in the rear end trying to add money into your account, that money can be used to better our college as a whole.

TECH SCAMMING

BY DYLAN BINDER

Many Bismarck State College students have heard of IRS and Tax scammers. There are many students, such as myself, that still receive phone calls from these fraudulent companies. However, many of us are naive enough to think that we will never fall prey to these scammers.

IRS and Tax scammers are easy to avoid; simply don't answer any phone numbers that call you. Tech scamming is an entirely different thing altogether. Working around and knowing about electronics, I see victims fall prey to these scammers way too much. It is time for me to educate you about a system that tries to steal your identity and launder your money.

People usually find these scammers' numbers through a misspelling of a tech support website, or through a pop-up

website. Many of them will ask for your age before they proceed with the scam. Tech Scammers usually target either very young or very old citizens, but the more elaborate scammers will target anyone that will be gullible.

Once they find a suitable target, they will make you install a computer program that lets them gain access to your computer. After they have access to your computer, they can do a variety of actions.

First, they will deceive victims by running computer programs that show that they have a virus. Scammers then offer a quote on how much tech support costs, and ask the victim to enter their banking details to pay for this service. Once the victims details have been entered, scammers will use a software that



ZACH EBACH

Dylan Binder may say that he is all about the Mystic Print. But I remember him making a remark a few weeks ago about how terrible it was. He told me it took him a long time to print and that he didn't have any money in his account, so he had to pay cash up front. These were résumés, and he had other things to do rather than just sit

there and wait for them to print.

The Mystic Print is something college kids don't need in their lives. They are already spending enough money on school. They don't need to put more money into their accounts to print off one piece of paper for a class.

Granted, it's great our school has printers for us to print assignments for classes and other needs. But Mystic Print needs to go.

Most kids don't put money on their Mystic Cards and don't have cash on them to pay for printing. Students who are in a hurry and don't have cash or a Mystic Card with them to pay can't get that paper. That's terrible.

I'm not saying I hate it. I just don't think it's a valuable asset to the school or that it's student-friendly. It may help BSC get a decent amount of money and help them pay for things, but I really do think the school should rethink Mystic Print.



MYSTIC PRINT IS BSC'S NEW WAY TO PRINT USE YOUR MYSTIC CARD, JUST \$.05 PER PAGE

LOCATIONS:

ALLIED HEATH	ROOM 200
JACK SCIENCE CENTER	ROOMS 122, 207, 307
LEA	LIBRARY 101
STUDENT UNION	FIREPLACE ROOM
TECH CENTER	ROOM 122

blackens or dims the screen. This is when the illegal activity begins.

Money laundering is a very serious crime, and with the new technology that is offered, it can become easier than ever. Scammers blacken or dim a screen to launder money out of a victims' account. The more money they have, the more money that they will take out. After the money has been taken out, they will edit the HTML code to show that the victim has only paid for the tech support service. Scammers will then ask the victim to wire transfer the amount that they deposited.

After the funds have been transferred, scammers will use cryptocurrency services to make sure that the amount taken out will never be traced. Many times, they never are. If at any point the victim refuses

tech support from the scammer, they will change the password for your system. The more nasty scammers install a virus onto your computer, which gathers your Driver's License Number, Social Security Number, etc.

As you can see, there are more nasty people out there than the IRS Scammers who only ask for your credit card details. These tech scammers can destroy your life if you are not careful.

There are many victims out there that are still trying to recover from the identity theft and money laundering that these scammers orchestrate. It is best that you educate your friends and family members about these organizations before they fall prey themselves.

THANK YOU, NEXT

BY RJ TARE

After a few conversations here and there and observing this supposed crush for quite some time, you've decided to gather all your courage and pour out your bottled-up feelings; you like him or her, and you want to spend more time with this person.

However, you were rejected, and it makes sense as to why they're called a crush. You wonder why the heart is a muscular organ when you can literally feel it crush and shatter like bones. Would you ever move on? If so, how are you going to move on?

You may feel like you were rejected because there's something wrong with you or that you're unlovable, but that's

just your brain's attempt to rationalize the rejection. It's natural to feel that way, but you should know that is not true; you're worth more, and you deserve better.

Some people that have been rejected romantically may feel like they'll never get over it. Think of yourself as an astronaut, and your crush that rejected you as space debris. Your crush was once important, but now, he or she just seamlessly float around you.

You may still have a tender spot for your crush, and you may never forget about them either, but the best you can do is move on and let them float freely. Luckily, there are plenty of ways to move on.

What doesn't kill you makes you

stronger. That's a fact. Start doing yoga, hiking, kayaking, or any other activities that puts you outside of your comfort zone. Use these pent-up feelings to improve yourself because there isn't really much you can do to improve your relationship with your crush.

Instead of emotionally running by thinking of scenarios where you two are perfect for each other, maybe start physically running. Your body, mind, and emotional-being will thank you. Focus on yourself first, and you'll find yourself moving on in no time.

Don't forget that you're not alone in this. Talk to your friends, your family, or even your cat or dog. Some may think

that it's embarrassing to talk about things like this but opening up to people whom you're close with enables you to alleviate those repressed emotions. Plus, you get to bond and trust them more, which can help improve your relationship with the people -or animals- you value the most.

Ultimately, being rejected romantically can be difficult to some of us, but there are many things a person can do to heal and deal with it; however, only time can tell when one can completely move on. Don't let rejection discourage your romantic endeavors. To the crushes that have romantically rejected you, all you can really say is thank you, next.

CLASS B IS GREATER THAN A

BY CADEN SHEAN

Throughout North Dakota there is always the discussion as to what is better, Class A or Class B.

Obviously the majority of person in each class will root for their class. But of the people siding for the opposite class, I have never once heard of a Class B kid root for Class A, only Class A defending Class B.

One reason Class B is better, is because of the bonds you make with your classmates. In the Class B schools there's not too many people in your class and school.

You learn to get to know your classmates, like really get to know them, which makes for a more memorable class.

Even the kids in the grade below you get to know you, which is something that goes long past your high school days.

In Class A, since there are so many kids in the classes, you don't really get to know everyone. You could see a new person just about everyday and have no idea who they are. No idea where they are from, what their life is like, or just how they are doing. While in a Class B school, you at still at least get to know everyone a little bit to a lot more.

The main argument with the classes is the state basketball tournament. Whether The B or Class A state is better. First you have to read the previous sentence again. Class B has its own nickname, The B, and

is a huge deal in North Dakota. Thousands travel to The B and pack the arena to watch, while Class A has to close seating to make it not look so empty in the arena.

There are so many Class B teams that come to watch, but even Class A kids travel to watch The B. This is because the atmosphere is way better as well as the games are even way more entertaining to watch. Anyone can win, everybody has a chance. While in Class A, it is basically set in stone as to who will win.

My final point is that with all the teams in Class B, there is constantly a couple new teams to the state tournament every year.

It makes for a more refreshing tournament, and Class A basically has the

exact same teams make it year in and year out. It is also more of an accomplishment when you make it in Class B because the road is so difficult to get there.

The superior class argument has been going on for a long time. Each has their own arguments- not really though, Class A has none- as to what makes them better. As to what makes their tournament better.

At the end of the day, the atmosphere, the incredible school support and the ability to really get to know the kids in your school separates the argument big time for Class B. You don't have that with Class A.

Roll Class B, B>a.

19 AND STRUGGLING

BY BAILEY SCHMIDT

I swear, if I look at another house it, will be the death of me.

In total, I have looked at nine houses in five different towns and I don't know which one to pick. It's giving me severe anxiety.

In my last column, I talked about a beautiful three story house that was built in 1916 placed on two acres of land. I thought this would be the house I will be buying.

About a week after, I got an email notification that the agent dropped the price by almost \$20,000. I freaked out a little bit- almost had a small anxiety attack- and called my realtor.

She then called the agent who is working with this house, and we found out some of the history. I soon realized that the reason why she dropped it so low, was because of all damage it went through after the bank took it over. They just want someone to take it off of their hands.

According to others around me, they say it will be 'too much' for me to handle for being my age. Maybe they're right, or maybe they're wrong. Who knows at this point.

Because it has been stressing me out to find a house, I might just pick one and make it my own.

I have too much to do at school and work, to be worried about what type of furniture will fit into this certain living

room or how I will paint a kitchen.

As I keep saying, I want to start my life. I went through my 'young' phase early in high school and soon bucked up once I graduated early.

I keep getting backlash for going ahead on plans for my future that might put me in the hole, but I want to be happy. I want to create my life in a small town.

I know that was not always my plan because I actually wanted to move back to Minneapolis -I know, weird right?

To be honest, I can't stand city living anymore. I want to be able to breathe in a town with less than 2,000 people. I want to walk to work with no problems and have the freedom to get lost on the dirt roads.

I have one week left here at Bismarck State College and I am so happy that I get to start a career right away in newspaper once I leave this city.

Planning has always been my specialty in life, and it bugs me when I don't know what to do sometimes. Trying to choose the right house has been tough, but I have been lucky to get this far in life, even though I had those days where I thought I couldn't do it.

Thank you to everyone who supported my years at the North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton and here

at BSC. I am so thankful of where I am right now.

If you like my writing, I will be working for the Mouse River Journal in Towner, N.D. I will hopefully start writing for them at the beginning of August. Tune in!

P.S. I thought I would share this little bit because of how excited I got.

I went bow hunting this winter and was ready to get a buck. One evening, I shot at one broadside. After going out to find it, we couldn't find my arrow or a trail of blood. I was so depressed that we couldn't find it over the next couple of days.

Well, last month I got a call from the guy whose land I hunted on, and he wanted to know what my arrow looked like. I told him and he said he found it. I said thank you and that I can pick it up the next time I come home. He also told me that he found a deer skull about five yards from the arrow.

Turns out, I did hit the buck, and if we would have walked about 100 to 150 more yards, we would have found it that night.

After hearing the news I was so excited that I was pacing around my apartment with my hands shaking like I was about to have a panic attack. I am so thankful that he came across it. Thank you again!



SPORTS



*Matt Guenther preparing to catch a ground ball.
Photo by Levi Holzer.*



PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY CAROL FLAA

BASEBALL PROFILE: JAY FLAA

BY DYLAN BINDER

With baseball season approaching, it's time to get the sunglasses and sunflower seeds out and watch your favorite team. Many high-school baseball players want to get a scholarship to their favorite college. Once they reach college, their dream is to go pro. But very few have the talent. However, there is one baseball player that has the determination and the talent. His name is Jay Flaa.

Growing up, Flaa watched the Minnesota Twins, as they were his favorite team. He was an athletic kid during his middle and high school years, and played basketball, football and baseball at Mandan Senior High School. He enjoyed all these sports, but there was something about baseball that really drew him in. Once he graduated from high school, he had offers to play for Bismarck State College and Dickinson State University. However, he began his first year at the

University of Mary and then transferred to North Dakota State University after his freshman year, where he majored in Business Management.

"Since I started playing baseball, I've always dreamed of playing pro baseball," Flaa said. "But it wasn't until between my junior and senior year of college when I realized that I had a legitimate shot at getting drafted. I had a really good season there, and got a lot of recognition out there as a player to keep an eye on."

However, during his senior year at NDSU, he had a rough start to the season.

"I broke my hand my senior year at NDSU," Flaa said. "I was having a really good start to the year, and had a lot of scouts at all of our games to see me pitch, and after I broke my hand it ended my year and I was concerned I may not get drafted."

Flaa started his minor league career with

the Delmarva Shorebirds. He experienced his second stint of adversity during this time period.

"My second year with the minor league team in Delmarva," Flaa said "I had shoulder issues that bothered me all year, and finally towards the end of the season, I had to be put on the DL."

Flaa was drafted in 2015 to the Baltimore Orioles as a sixth round pick. Flaa currently plays for the Triple A (AAA) Orioles baseball team, the Norfolk Tides. He offers a perspective on what it is like for a minor league pitcher on a day-to-day basis.

"I arrive at the field in the morning and work out on my own. I like to be at the field before most players. I get there for early stretching and light throwing," Flaa said. "We usually eat lunch followed by team meetings, positional drills, and depending on if you are up to pitch that

day, either throw a bullpen or I get myself ready to pitch that night."

"Other than Sundays (afternoons) we play every night except for the occasional day off (about 1 a month)," Flaa said. "Games usually end about 9 p.m. and we eat, go home, get some sleep so we can get up and do it again the next day."

During the offseason, he moves back to North Dakota and begins training. He offers inspiration for aspiring baseball players.

"Work hard and keep your focus. You are only as good as your next outing and you can change that with the next pitch," Flaa said. "They are long seasons, and are not as glamorous as the major league. I love it and hope I can continue to move up."

Flaa exemplifies what a blue-collar kid from a blue-collar state can do with talent and determination.

LET'S GET REAL

BY LEVI HOLZER

There comes a time in a man's life when certain chapters have to end. With this being my last semester here at Bismarck State College, another one is closing shortly. I would like to say thank you to those that have helped me with my time here at BSC, and I couldn't be more grateful. I would have never thought of accomplishing the things I have done here at BSC, and I was able to make some great friends and memories.

Getting to experience being the Sports Coordinator for Mystic Media the last two years is a dream come true and gave me a little taste of what I want to do the rest of my life.

Starting a sports talk show like Sports FYX, getting my feet wet in sports broadcasting, making the friendships that will last a lifetime I just never would have thought of it being such an impact on my life this quickly.

Don't worry though, I will not be going

that far away from campus. I will be attending the University of Mary in the fall studying communications once again, but it will be interesting what will happen in this new chapter of my life. For those that know me, I will not be getting away from sports and I hope that when I am at UMary I can be involved in ways I was here at BSC.

Let's get real, will it be hard to leave BSC? Of course it will, this great campus has been a part of my life for four years and I have been a part of many things here, like finding out what I want to do for a career.

I will be forever grateful to those here at Mystic Media and the great things that came with it. You will probably see me in the Armory or at Dwyer Field on game days wearing my green and gold cheering on those Mystics. I will never forget where I came from and how my career started.

SWINGING ON A HOT STREAK

BY LEVI HOLZER

This year's baseball team has been on a tear early into the season and it doesn't like they plan on slowing down anytime soon.

Since coming back from Arizona, the "Boys in Green" have been on a tear going 11-1 at home and 27-6 overall with being ranked 23 in the nation for NJCAA. They are currently tied for first place in the Mon-Dak Conference with the Miles City Pioneers at a 13-3 conference record. The Pioneers are the new foe to Region XIII in baseball and look like the team to beat as they are 33-9-1 overall.

With only a few days left into the regular season, the Mystics had two players named to the Mon-Dak Players of the Week, Seth Brewer and Ryan Moormeier, and they well deserve it.

Brewer is averaged a .456 batting average with seven doubles, three triples, five home runs and is 4-2 on the mound with 38 strikeouts. Moormeier is currently second in the nation in Division II batting average (.489) with 34 RBI's, eleven doubles, six home runs, 13 stolen bases

and 8 -0 on the mound with 43 strikeouts and a 2.02 ERA.

Corby McGlauflin is in his third season coaching at Bismarck State College and has made quite the impression since going 33-13 in his first season. He led them to Mon-Dak Conference Tournament and Region XIII Champions and won Region XIII Coach of the Year.

This year's squad is looking like they could possibly have a repeat of that season as they sit currently sixth in batting average (.357), fourth in slugging percentage (.590) and 10 in on-base percentage (.461) as a team in Division II and 13 in home runs with 39.

The Mystics finished the regular season at home taking on Williston State and look forward to the Mon-Dak Conference Tournament at Lake Region State's campus in Devils Lake May 3-5. The winner of the Mon-Dak Conference Tournament will host the Regional XIII Tournament from May 10-12.