



Volume 87 | Issue 3  
August 28, 2025

[ N E W S ] P A P E R

INFORMATION

Go Mystics! - New students learn about the different opportunities Bismarck State College offers. Submitted

# A Student’s Guide to Campus Life and Hidden Gems

**Liberty Friez**  
Content Editor

Whether you’re a first-year Mystic or a seasoned student, Bismarck State College’s campus has more to offer than meets the eye. With buildings that exude academic excellence, student life, and cozy study corners, navigating the campus can feel like exploring a small city. Here’s a guide to the spaces that shape

student life—and a few hidden gems you might not know about.

### National Energy Center of Excellence

The NECE stands as a beacon of innovation on campus. Tech-focused classrooms, administrative offices, conference halls, and break rooms make up this building.

### The Advanced Technology Center

The newest addition on campus, the ATC boasts modern conference rooms, an auditorium, state-of-the art labs, a live event space, and the BSC’s Power Bean cafe, a great place to grab a coffee or matcha to fuel a frantic study session.

### The Armory

Located next to the ATC, the Armory

is where fitness meets creativity. This building includes the campus gym, classrooms, and a unique Coke themed study room. It is also the headquarters for The Mystician and the MYX, BSC’s student run publication and radioshow. Both offer campus related news and entertainment for students, faculty, and staff alike.

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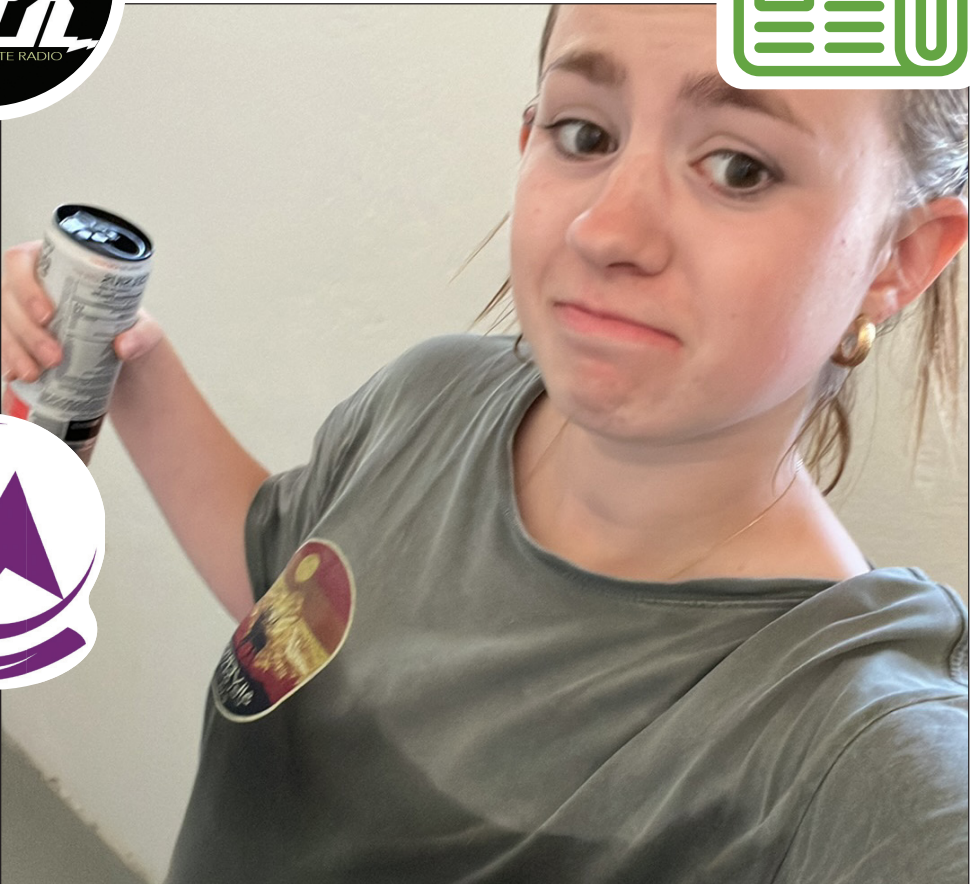
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# MYSTIC MEDIA

## SHENANIGANS





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BISMARCK STATE COLLEGE

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Friday, Nov. 14, 2025

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### MYSTIC MEDIA 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 students and the community. With this goal in mind, Mystic Media 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. Mystic Media strives to be objective and is not affiliated with any outside organizations. Mystic Media upholds the principles guaranteed by the First Amendment and utilizes these rights to bring diverse, entertaining, and thought-provoking material to the college community. Thoughts expressed may not be the opinion of all the staff or BSC community.



Jack Science Center

If students are enrolled in math and science courses, this is likely where you’re spending a good chunk of your time. The Jack Science houses lecture halls and labs designed for hands-on learning and experimentation with student study rooms are on the top two floors Unique to this building is the astronomy deck with a greenhouse as well. The Student Admissions office is on the first floor with Student Affairs on the third.

Skogen Hall

Renamed after previous BSC president Larry Skogen and the center of arts and humanities, Skogen Hall features art studios, the Gannon art gallery- a rotating gallery that features student and state wide artists, classrooms, and the Library. The Library is a perfect place for students to find a quiet study area, collaborative spaces, and resources for academic success.

Schafer Hall

Schafer Hall is the hub of student services. On the first floor, students can find essential offices like Student Affairs, Military Affairs, Financial Aid, Student Finance, Student Records, and the IT Help Desk- all ready to assist with academic needs. Down the hall from the offices is the Elsa Forde gallery showcasing student-created art, while the Sidney J. Lee Auditorium hosts musical performances. A cozy sitting area outside the theatre doors offers a quiet spot to relax and review



Mystic Pride - BSC Students Go Green!

Submitted

notes before class.

Tom and Frances Leach Music Center

For students with a passion, or simply, an interest in music, the Leach Music Center is the place to be. Students can try their hand at an instrument and join the orchestra or enroll in a variety of one-on-one lessons with qualified teachers.

Technical Center

The Technical Center is a dynamic space where technology and trades converge. Home to BSC’s programs in cybersecurity, automotion, carpentry, and electrical work, this building supports firsthand learning in high-demand fields. Just in

the entrance, students will find a welcoming hangout and study area.

The Student Union

The social and logistical hub of BSC, The Student Union offers plenty of resources to assist in student connectivity on campus. The Union houses the Welcome Center, the BSC Bookstore, which sells BSC merchandise and textbooks, and Mystic Java, a student staffed cafe.

The Mystic Marketplace offers a multitude of different meal options, snacks, and beverages fitted with a spacious cafeteria. The Union also has the Student Activities offices, the Student Life office, and a

student game room.

The Mystic Advising and Counseling offices and the Campus Police office in the lower level of the building. The Student Union is fitted with perfect places for quick study sessions, relaxing between classes, or grabbing a drink with friends.

Career Academy

The Career Academy is a joint building for high school and college students taking BSC classes. Most notable is the agriculture and graphic design programs, making the Career Academy a blend of traditional and technological academics.

Donna S. Thigpen Center for Health Sciences

The Health Science building offers a unique blend of academic and wellness resources. This building has health science classrooms and interactive ambulance and bathroom emergency simulations. Stop by the WellBean, a Mystic Java cafe, and enjoy one of the many comfy study and hangout areas.

BSC Wellness and Aquatic Center

Every student attending BSC gains free membership to the BSC Wellness and Aquatic Center. This free membership allows students access to diving, recreational, and lap pools. This building includes the Tesoro Wellness Center containing strength and wellness equipment along with a dance studio.

There are newspaper stands scattered throughout campus. The NECE, the Student Union, the Library, and Schafer Hall each have their own stand that features news issues of The Mystician every other week. Students should keep on the lookout for new issues!

BSC’s campus is more than just buildings- it’s a community. Whether you are grabbing a coffee, diving into a lab experiment, or writing for the student newspaper, there’s space for you. Keep exploring and you might just find your own favorite corner of campus.

GenCyber Camp Ignites Student Interest in Cybersecurity at BSC

Liberty Friez  
Content Edior

From July 28 to August 1, Bismarck State College welcomed 80 middle school students to its 4th annual GenCyber camp, a five-day immersive camp designed to introduce young students to the world of cybersecurity and digital citizenship.

Funded by the National Security Agency (NSA) and National Science Foundation (NSF), GenCyber is a nationwide initiative that offers free cybersecurity education to participants. At BSC, it is more than just an introduction—it’s a hands-on experience led by high school and college faculty packed with activities and lessons about digital citizenship, online safety, computer careers, concept reviews, hardware, operation systems, programming, and careers.

This year’s camp was led by Niklos See, whose position places him in charge of the curriculum, scheduling, instructors, and the students.

“We try to give a little of everything here,” See explained in relation to the curriculum. “Not everyone is going to be into coding, not everyone is gonna be that hacker, ... so we give a little of everything to find what you’re

interested in.”

This year’s camp featured a course on serial and Finch robotics, allowing students to try programming robots to make decisions and respond to the environment.

“The robots can sense things. If they are going to run into a wall, we can program them to avoid that,” See stated. The students were able to implement artificial intelligence into the robots. For example, instead of writing codes to keep the robots from running into walls, with A.I, the robots would know not to run into a wall.

Students also explored encryptions, binary-to-decimal conversions, and basic hacking concepts—not to teach hacking, but to help students understand how vulnerabilities are exploited and how to protect against them.

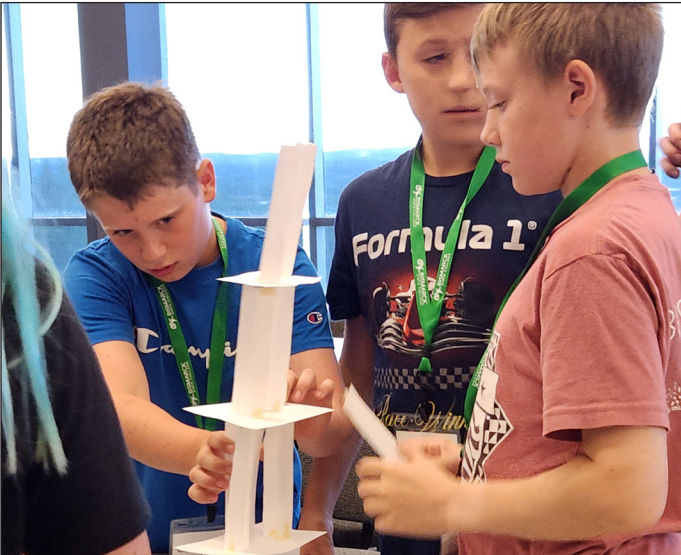
“Pretty much every cybersecurity issue is because some programmer wrote the code to work ... but didn’t write the code to be secure,” See noted. “We’re trying with this [camp] to fill the gap so they understand.”

Beyond technical skills, the camp emphasized career exploration with an activity that introduced students to over 20 cybersecurity related jobs, their requirements, and salary.

“The goal is to get these middle school students interested in not just cyber, but technology in general,” See said. “They don’t have to come to BSC, but if they can see that there are opportunities ... maybe it’s a good employment option for them down the road.”

With students ranging from incoming sixth graders to rising ninth graders, the camp’s aim is to spark the students’ curiosity and shape future academic choices.

“Even if you [students] don’t like any of that and just want to play checkers, you’re using your brain,” See added.



Submitted

Towering Fun - Campers were separated into teams and tasked with building a free-standing tower.



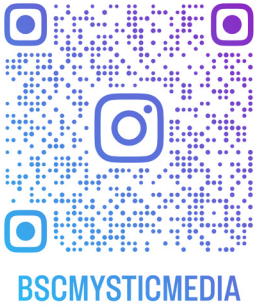
Submitted

How Tall? - The towers were measured and the winners were determined by having the tallest tower.



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Next issue 87.4 on  
September 11



MysticCast

The MYX



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BSCMYX!

## Campus Directory

**Campus Police Safety & Security**  
**Office Hours:** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday - Friday  
**Location:** Student Union Lower Level Room 120  
**Phone:** 911 - Emergency  
701-223-9111 - Non-Emergency  
701-224-2700 - Office

**Mystic Advising & Counseling Center (MACC)**  
**Hours:** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday - Thursday | 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday  
**Location:** Student Union Lower Level  
**Phone:** 701-224-5752

**Bismarck State College Library**  
**Hours:** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday - Thursday | 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday  
**Location:** Skogen Hall  
**Phone:** 701-224-5450

**Bismarck State College Bookstore**  
**Hours:** 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday - Thursday | 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday  
**Location:** Student Union  
**Phone:** 701-224-5453

# MYX-ing It Up

Jaxon Miller  
Mystic Media Staff

Did you know Bismarck State College has its own radio station? The MYX is BSC's student run radio station where students can make their very own radio show. Students in COMM 284 learn the basics of Adobe Audition and learn the ropes of writing and producing their own radio show. With radio shows that range from genres like folk and pop, rock and metal, country and indie, and way more, there is a radio show for everyone on The MYX.

The MYX radio shows are recorded in the MYX studio in the Armory, an audio studio accessible to BSC students and faculty. The studio is



equipped with everything one might need to record audio of any kind, including a soundboard, a computer equipped with Adobe Audition, and of course microphones. Students and faculty are also welcome to use the space if they would like to record audio of any kind.

Community focused segments are slowly being integrated into the

# Connect with Campus through a Club

**BSC Ag Club** promotes interest in agriculture, educates the general public about the importance of agriculture, inspires interpersonal interactions and enhances students' understanding of local and global agricultural industries. FMI contact: Marko Davinic, 701-224-5409

**The Amateur Radio Club** helps expand awareness of BSC through Amateur Radio networks and learn more about communication in the event of disasters and other emergencies. FMI contact: Mike Holman, 701-224-5591

**The Student Art Club** helps students network, build résumé, and stretch creative muscles! Be inspired by peers during weekly art projects and community outreach.

FMI contact: Andrea Fagerstrom, 701-224-5520

**The Bitcoin Research Club** provides a platform for learning about Bitcoin, getting involved in the community, and working on Bitcoin-related projects. FMI contact: Nicklos See, 701-224-5528

**The BSC FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)** is dedicated to providing a Christian community to student-athletes and coaches and to providing an opportunity to grow in their faith. FMI contact: Kyle Kuether, 701-224-2583 and Ryne Jungling

**CRU Campus Crusade** is an internationally affiliated Christian organization geared toward fellowship, worship, and community outreach. FMI contact: Mark Voigt, 701-224-2507

**Cultural Exchange Club** is to explore, learn, understand, and

promote cultural experiences. FMI contact: Kelsey Menge, 701-224-5446 and Sheri Omlid, 701-224-5422

**CyberClub/WiCys** are a collaboration of cybersecurity clubs that meet each month. See below for more information. FMI contact: Lynette Borjeson-Painter, 701-224-5755 and Deborah Mantz, 701-224-2407

**DECA** is geared toward providing high school and college students with competition, education, and networking opportunities within the marketing, finance, hospitality, management, and entrepreneurship fields. FMI contact: TBD

**Drama Club** is a great organization for students interested in working in the production of theatre, acting, and directing.

FMI contact: Dean Bellin, 701-224-5627

**FBLA Collegiate** inspires and prepares students to become community-minded business leaders in a global society. FMI contact: Steve Wangler, 701-224-2620

**The Energy Club** is more than a club for energy students. Members participate in and help organize events on campus, participate in or organize community service projects, such as blood drives on campus and enhance relationships with the energy field. FMI contact: Bradley Anderson, 701-224-5559 and Jeff Oster, 701-224-5560

**The Graphic Design and Communication Club** aims to create and nurture a love for all aspects of GDCC. FMI contact: Jason Lueder, 701-224-2580 and Sean Thorenson, 701-224-5564

radio station. Students of Comm 284 interviewed a leader from XR for VR, a resource for members of the community with disabilities to help find what kind of work is right for them. Another segment that has been made is Conversing With The Community, a show hosted by Tinashe Makuve asking members of the community nail-biting questions.

With BSC growing larger every year, there are more people who can take part in recording a segment for the radio. If students or faculty have a podcast idea that they would like to host, they can contact Mystic Media and get set up.

**The LGBT+ Club** provides support, social activities, and education for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex, and allied students, faculty, and staff on the BSC campus, in the Bismarck-Mandan community and beyond. FMI contact: Erin Price, 701-224-5449

**MESA Gaming** is BSC's tabletop gaming club. We play almost anything involving a table or board: Dungeons and Dragons, Uno, Yahtzee, pinochle, chess, and more. FMI contact: Joshua Kern, 701-224-5602

**Mystic Catholics** is a community of Catholic students at BSC. We exist to serve the formative needs of BSC students who are open to having a relationship with Jesus Christ. FMI contact: Marcus Fries, 701-224-5492

**BSC Student Productions Mystic Media** welcomes student participation on The Mystician—print and digital publications; MystiCast—video broadcast production; The MYX—campus radio; Figments of Imagination—annual literary/art/photography publication. FMI contact: karen Bauer, 701-224-5522

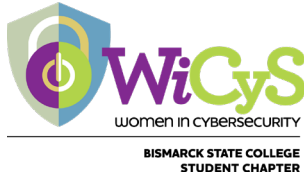
**SNO** is an opportunity for nursing students to become involved with their peers, aid in the development of a person, his/her professional role, and their responsibility to care for the health of people in all walks of life. FMI contact: Lakin Grahl, 701-224-2473

To learn more about the clubs, go to the BSC website. (All Information taken from the website.)

# Cyber Club & WiCyS Club

Bismarck State College students are eligible to join two cybersecurity clubs this year. These are WiCyS and Cyber Club. Both clubs are open to all BSC students, regardless of degree, and both clubs meet monthly.

WiCyS club members participate in online training activities designed to promote and encourage new persons in the field of cybersecurity and cyber-adjacent fields, such as Artificial Intelligence. Meetings are monthly and take place at the Advanced Technology Center in Room 210. The



meetings are virtual and in-person. WiCyS will meet from 7 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. The WiCyS club adviser is Lynette Borjeson Painter. For any questions, contact her at 701-224-5755.

CyberClub is another cybersecurity opportunity. In CyberClub, members prepare for and train to compete in cyber compe-



titions around the region and nation. Meetings are monthly and take place at the ATC in Room 210. Meetings are virtual and in-person, and the club will meet from 6 p.m. to 6:50 p.m. Club advisers include Painter and Deborah Mantz. Contact Painter at her previously mentioned number or Mantz at 701-

224-2407 for any questions.

Meeting Dates for  
Both Clubs:

- September 9, 2025
- October 14, 2025
- November 4, 2025
- December 9, 2025
- January 13, 2026
- February 10, 2026
- March 3, 2026
- April 14, 2026



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# Yee-haw! Two New Rodeo Camps Arrive in Mandan



**Until Next Rodeo** - Camp attendees leaving the World Champion Mindset Bootcamp after its conclusion.

Olivia Grote | Reporter

**Olivia Grote**  
Reporter

This year marked the inception of two new rodeo camps: the World Champion Mindset Bootcamp and the Bucking Horse Clinic. The camps, which were in the Dale Palkhe Arena in Mandan, aimed to help people of all ages level up their rodeo skills and find success in the sport.

The World Champion Mindset Bootcamp was split into two day-long sessions lasting from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The first session took place on August 11 and the second on August 14. The registration fee was \$125. Between the two sessions, an estimated 65 riders attended. The bootcamp’s patrons were taught a range of mental and physical skills from success plans, physical preparation, and goal setting to mental toughness, confidence, mindset mas-

tery, and more.

BSC Sophomore Chesney Gjermundson attended the World Champion Mindset Bootcamp on August 14.

“I could go on and on forever for what I learned,” she said. For instance, “The first small win of the day can be when you actually get up when your alarm goes off.”

Its counterpart, the Bucking Horse Clinic, had around 15 attendees and ran daily from August 11 through August 14 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The camp focused on the fundamentals of bareback and saddle bronc riding as well as chute etiquette, horsemanship, and proper riding equipment. The clinic had a registration fee of \$500 and was co-led by “\$3 million cowboy” Cody DeMoss.

Nicknamed “Hot Sauce,” DeMoss is the 2012 Aggregate World Champion,

a four-time Reserve World Champion Saddle Bronc Rider, the 2017 “The American” Champion, and the 2010 Cheyenne Frontier Champion with a record-setting 91 arena points. Some of his other achievements include being a three-time Reno Champion, three-time Austin Champion, and three-time National Western Champion.

Lunch was provided at both camps, and registration closed the day of the events. The camps were supported by the help of BSC’s rodeo coaches as well as Britt Luger, Casey Brueuer, and Ty Breuer. Lee Dunford filled the role of pickup man. Both camps were led by the 2004 PCRA world champion bareback rider Kelly Timberman.

Bismarck State College Head Rodeo Coach Jon Peek described Timberman’s ability to cultivate young rodeo talent.

“Kelly has developed a system [that], when utilized, will not only minimize individual learning curve[s], but massively increase success in and out of the rodeo arena,” he said. Timberman is a seven-time NFR qual-

ifier and two-time Aggregate World Champion. In 2005, he was the Innisfail ABCA Champion, where he scored a record 94 arena points. That same year, Timberman founded the Champion GO90 athlete mentoring program and has since hosted clinics all over the world, where he incorporates his revolutionary rodeo training methods.

“After I won my first world title in ‘04, I realized that I had a necessity to really give back,” Timberman said of his training program. “It’s been probably the most meaningful thing that I’ve gotten out of my rodeo career.”

The camps are expected to continue for years to come. Plans are underway to expand them in the future by offering an extended list of rodeo categories including goat tying, breakaway, tie down, bull riding, team roping, steer wrestling, and barrel racing.

Visit [bismarckstate.edu](http://bismarckstate.edu) for information regarding upcoming camps.



**Leaders in Conversation** - BSC Head Rodeo Coach Jon Peek (far left) and program leader Kelly Timberman (far right) at the World Champion Mindset Bootcamp.

Olivia Grote | Reporter

BSC Volleyball	
August 19	Valley City, ND
August 22 - 23	North Sioux City, SD Invitational
September 3	Dickinson, ND
September 5 - 6	Bismarck, ND / BSC Armory
September 12	Butte, MT
September 13	Dillon, MT
September 19 - 20	Bismarck, ND / BSC Armory
September 25	Valley City, ND
September 26	Mayville, ND
September 30	Minot, ND
October 3 - 4	Bismarck, ND / BSC Armory
October 10	Madison, SD
October 11	Bellevue, NE
October 15	Bismarck, ND / BSC Armory
October 17	Bismarck, ND / BSC Armory
October 18	Bismarck, ND / BSC Armory
October 24	Havre, MT
October 25	Great Falls, MT
Oct. 31 - Nov. 1	Bismarck, ND / BSC Armory
November 6	Helena, MT
November 7	Billings, MT

BSC Rodeo	
September 5 - 6	River Falls, WI
September 11 - 13	North Platte, NE
September 19 - 20	Off
September 26 - 27	Dickinson, ND
October 3 - 4	Mandan, ND
October 10 - 11	Fort Dodge, IA

BSC Cross Country	
September 5	McDowell Dam, ND
September 20	Medora, ND
October 3	Jamestown, ND
October 10	Billings, MT
November 7	Billings, MT
November 21	Tallahassee, FL



Editorial

OUR VOICE

Letter from the Editors



Kayden Schmitcke & Sophia Fafard  
Co-Editors

The school year is officially underway! Classes, syllabi, and college food are now your new normal. Congratulations on making it through the first week.

As always, The Mystician is extremely busy. New recruits are coming in, and we always have room for more. Mystic Media is also growing each day, with social media becoming the biggest part of our office. This is exciting for us as it allows us to engage more with students and make our presence known. Stop by and check us out!

Classes have begun, and while some students are staying as busy as possible, others are taking a slower approach to this new season of life. Eventually, you'll find your rhythm and learn to dance along with this newfound challenge called "adulthood." It's hard realizing that you're working toward

a goal. What that goal looks like can differ from person to person.

For many, college feels like the natural next step after high school: diving right back into the books. Although it is similar to high school in that sense, college opens up a world of opportunity as students focus on a degree they are interested in pursuing and the people around them who may become strong connections after graduation. Despite these opportunities, we must also take some time to ourselves.

Daily life can often feel like a continual race; running, sprinting, jogging, walking, or even crawling toward a finish line. But it's difficult to see where that finish line is when our priorities shift and life's distractions take their turn.

To any student, my advice is this: slow down, take a breath, and reflect on the course you're on. Be open to change, and know that trials along the way are part of the journey. Don't be discouraged by failure or insecurity. Everyone is running their own race, and every course is different. Your race is your story. Remember that as you begin this year with both victories and trials ahead. Stay energized and excited for what's to come. And keep perseverance in your back pocket—you'll need it.

An Engine of Emptiness

Isaiah Johnson  
MystiCast Executive Producer

We become what we behold.

Floods of content stream into the black hole of the internet every minute of every day. The battle for attention rages incessantly. The power to be gained from capturing the attention of others is an alluring hook. And yet, that power is under the influence of something greater: the power of the audience itself.

It goes without saying that content needs an audience in order to be effective. Thus, a content creator must examine his or her intended audience and determine a demographic to target. This is all good and normal. However, the problem I've observed is one of motivation.

Our culture is so preoccupied with celebrities and

"influencers" that we unthinkingly spout out how wonderful it would be to be "rich and famous." We have been told over and over again throughout our entire lives that fame and fortune are to be pursued as an ultimate good. Why must this be the case?

This belief creates the stagnant cycle of creator and consumer that plagues our world today. A creator who seeks only fame will not tell stories with meaningful themes and characters that motivate the audience to become better people than they were before. Attention is king, so anything that is known to attract and retain eyeballs reigns. The endless remakes and sequels repeatedly inundating theaters are just one result of this brand of thinking. Original and meaningful content is discarded in favor of a stale reboot of a popular franchise.

Why do we eagerly eat up the lie that adulation and praise from others is a good thing? Why are so many Hollywood actors empty on the inside? Why do fame and accolades never satisfy our insatiable longing for something more? We weren't created to be self-exalting, self-serving beings. No, we were made to serve.

This mindset revolutionizes the content we create. When our goal is to serve the audience instead of using them as a means to fame, we can be free from our self-inflicted bondage to their whims and strive to simply tell good stories. If we have good stories to share, then let us tell them. But if fame is our intended destination, then the engine propelling us forward can only lead to one place. Emptiness.

Staff Opinion

Advice for new students



Kayden Schmitcke  
Co-Editor

I have always loved school, so when I came to college, I thought it would be similar to grade school. Other than the fact that you aren't legally required to be here, you're paying

Memories in the Making

for your education rather than relying on tax dollars, and most people in college are striving toward personal goals that they believe will shape and direct the rest of their lives.

You might think those around you are judging your every move, or that the professors are just here to do their jobs. In reality, most people don't care what you're wearing, what grade you got, or who your friends are. Everyone is on their

own path, and those who connect with you are not there to tear you down. Professors care about what you're learning and about your future—they want the best for all their students and are proud to be part of their success. Don't let the syllabus on the first day intimidate you. Don't forget about the free weekday ice cream pickup in the union. And most importantly, make memories you'll fondly look back on.



Sophia Fafard  
Co-Editor

As we start this new year of college, I know a lot of new freshmen may be nervous and thinking over the decision to commit to their decision to attend post-secondary. Trust me, I know. I was there last year, bouncing between ideas and wants and needs. Did I want to

Advice From An Indecisive Student

be a journalist? Did I want to transfer back to Canada? Did I want to change a degree and attend a completely different college? Looking back, this stuff makes me grimace, but I wouldn't be where I am today if I didn't stay at Bismarck State College. Now here I am, writing this opinion for you to read, and hopefully providing some guidance.

My biggest advice to any freshmen reading this is to stick with it. Not really with your degree, but with college yourself. If the only thing holding you back is

your doubts, I promise as the year goes on it will get easier. I was nervous to leave my dorm in the first month of college, but the more I went out, the better it got. Joining a group (like Mystic Media!) and running cross-country gave me courage and motivation, so I encourage you to go out and try something new. By doing so, you will get comfortable being uncomfortable, and you'll feel much more at ease with the decision to attend college, in the end.



Liberty Friez  
Content Editor

How Not to Drop Out (Even If You Really Want To)

One important thing I have learned is to not give up. After a couple of weeks of tests, assignments, and classes, college can begin to feel more draining than rewarding. The temptation to quit is real and, well, tempting. Don't! Push through. Eventually, you'll find your rhythm, the pressure eases, and that urge to quit fades into a distant memory. You'll be glad you stuck with it.

Also, time management is key. Staying on top of due dates makes a huge difference. Procrastination is easy, but staying organized and ahead will make college life much smoother, successful, and enjoyable.



Paysha Rex  
Graphic Designer

The first day sets the tone for your semester. College is an exciting time of learning, growth, and independence. From the beginning, keep a

Quick Tip for the Newbies

planner or use a digital calendar to map out due dates, exams, and meetings. Even setting up a simple to-do list each morning can boost productivity and help you stay focused when morale is low.

Remember, you build your College experience, and part of that experience is your social life. That doesn't happen overnight, and that's okay. Start small. Talk to the person next to you in class,

attend events, or join a club that interests you. Learn to say yes to new experiences with reason. Boundaries matter: don't feel pressured to drink, party, or overextend yourself. Take your time. Ask questions. Make mistakes. Try again. Figure out who you are in the big picture, remember: you're not alone, and you don't have to have it all figured out right away. This journey is yours—make it count!



Mygel Porter  
Social Media Manager

College can be really easy if you make smart choices. I would recommend going to a lot of the events on campus,

It's Not That Hard

especially if you're living on campus. Try to go out and make friends, even if you're uncomfortable or nervous try and put yourself out there. Also get involved in some sort of group on campus, whether it's just an on campus job, a club, or intramural sports. It's really important to find a group of people you vibe with.

Finally, stay organized! College is much different than

high school. If you flew through high school unorganized, it won't work for college. College is easy, but there's just a lot of stuff happening throughout the week where it will be very easy to forget meetings you have, homework you have to do, or tests you have to study for. So set reminders and write things down to stay organized!



# MEET *your* RAs

Olivia Grote  
Reporter



Taylor Little

**Is this your first year as an RA?** “Yes, this is my first year as an RA. I’m excited to be a part of the team!”

**What are you studying?** “I am a biology major as a pre-veterinary student [and am] hoping to attain my DVM one day!”

**What is your goal for this year?** “My biggest goal for this year is to stay driven in my



Logan Fix

**Is this your first year as an RA?** “No, this is my second year.”

**What are you studying?** “I am just going for my associate in liberal arts with a focus on computer science.”

courses. As a bio major, classes get really tough and draining, so I’m hoping to stay on track and hoping for things to go smoothly!”

**How do you plan to carry out your duties as an RA?** “In just the ways that are expected of me! I plan to be very helpful and involved within the campus community, so students know there are trustworthy and caring people on campus! College can be very hard, so I want to be there for others in ways that I needed during my freshman year.”

**What led you to decide to become an RA?** “The opportunity to help people and place myself into a leadership role. I enjoy helping others and making sure others know they’re never alone alongside wanting to be in a leadership role to help prepare me for vet school ... I like to stay busy and push myself!”

**What is your goal for this year?** “This year I’m really working on just trying to connect more with my community.”

**How do you plan to carry out your duties as an RA?** “About the same as I did last year—just trying to plan everything together really consistently. Last year ... I had a consistent schedule where ... it ended up working for me pretty well.”

**What led you to decide to become an RA?** “Before I started college I did have a few friends who were also RAs—people who I’ve really looked up to—and when I got the email from BSC originally that they were still looking for RAs, I decided to just take the leap and see where it took me.”



Zahn Gisinger

**Is this your first year as an RA?** “Yes.”



Rajawn Davis

**Is this your first year as an RA?** “This would be my first time.”

**What are you studying?** “I was doing exercise science and sports studies, but with the change of junior college to any, I will now be doing exercise science along with sports and fitness management.”

**What is your goal for this year?** “To give back the same experience I got when I just got here by my RAs. They were very welcoming and they created a community that made me feel included and not left out. ... They also planned some

**What are you studying?** “I’m just doing my generals here.”

**What is your goal for this year?** “To keep a happy, safe environment ... keep everyone chill.”

**How do you plan to carry out your duties as an RA?** “Communicate, talk to everyone, make sure everyone is all on the same page with everything.”

**What led you to decide to become an RA?** “I wanted a trial run of living on campus.”

really great events that took place inside our buildings, and the environment is just right so I just want to give the same experience to the people that are returning and even the freshmen that are just coming here, or whoever is transferring.”

**How do you plan to carry out your duties as an RA?** “Always being there for them, reassuring them of the things they are in doubt of, planning events that ... will make them feel safe, feel like they are a part of a community and not just a regular person here.”

**What led you to decide to become an RA?** “A number of factors, but the main one is—I mentioned it earlier—is to give back the same experience. ... Being an RA is ... kind of a privilege, so I just wanted to be someone that’s different, someone that people can look up to, someone that people can come to and talk to.”

## Staff Opinion Cont.



Olivia Grote  
Reporter

Avoid regret by adhering to a strict moral code. Set rules for yourself early on, and only bend those rules if you are certain it is the right

### The Short Track from College Success to Life Success

decision. Because your morals make up the core of your personhood, staying true to your principles is of utmost importance, especially during this period of relative freedom. Failing your classes doesn’t mean you are failing as a person—failing to remain ethical does.

Be cognisant of how you spend this critical time. Take pride in your work and understand that a diploma is far from the only outcome of attending

college; its by-products are potentially more valuable and follow you wherever you end up. Utilize these years to gain and hone skills, wisdom, and values.

Build life-long habits. Envision your ideal future self. Are they healthy? Establish that lifestyle today. Do they attend church each Sunday? Go this Sunday. Do they write a book or excel at an instrument? Start writing now. Start practicing

now. Perhaps you feel removed from your “adult-adult” self. You are under a false sense of security. College is the time to become the person you desire to be.



Jaxon Miller  
Mystic Media Crew

One of the biggest things I’ve personally learned to do in college is socialize. Go to some of the events and meet new people, make new friends

### Get Yourself Out There and Socialize!

in your classes, or join a club or two! Once you’ve made some friends, don’t be afraid to start hanging out together! Go get some coffee, go to a movie, or go for a walk! Don’t be a homebody either. Like I mentioned before, there are so many things to do on campus you shouldn’t have to worry about having a boring year!

One last thing is don’t stress yourself out! One way to do

that is to not take classes you do not want to take. The more classes you take you actually are interested in, the more you’ll stay on top of your classes and the less stress you’ll have! And of course, do the things that relieve stress, whether that be taking a walk, watching a movie, or reading a good book!

# September 2025

We’re excited to share with you all the fantastic events and activities happening on campus. Everything listed here is FREE for you as a student!

Be sure to check out the community events as well—though they might not always be free or hosted by BSC,

they’re great opportunities to engage with the wider community. For more details about any event, just scan the QR code provided to view all BSC happenings.

Community event links are available at the bottom of the page for your convenience. And don’t forget to show

your support for our athletes—cheer them on and be part of the excitement! Enjoy all the activities and make the most of your time here at BSC!

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<div>1</div> <div>BSC CLOSED: Labor Day</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <div>BSC Hosts Dr. Lori Bednarchik CAMPUSPEAK</div> <div>Time: 6:30 p.m. Where: Advanced Technol- ogy Center, Live Event Venue</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Athletics Opener</div> <div>Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Where: Student Union</div>	<div>5</div> <div>BSC Volleyball</div> <div>Time: 6 p.m. Where: BSC Armory</div> <div>BSC Cross Country</div> <div>Time: 4 p.m. Where: McDowell Dam</div>	<div>6</div> <div>BSC Volleyball</div> <div>Time: 2 p.m. Where: BSC Armory</div>
<div>7</div>	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Friendship Bracelet Fun and Healthy Coping Skills</div> <div>Time: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Popcorn Day</div> <div>Time : 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Where: Student Union</div>	<div>10</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Walk For Hope: Suicide Aware- ness Walk/ Shirt Making</div> <div>Time : 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Where: Student Union</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Switch Day</div> <div>Time : 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Where: Marketplace Stage, Student Union</div>	<div>13</div>
<div>14</div> <div>Faculty Recital</div> <div>Time : 3 p.m. Where: Sidney J. Lee Auditorium</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Monday Night Bowling</div> <div>Time : 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Where: Midway lanes 3327 Memorial Hwy, Mandan, ND 58554</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Back To School Career Fair</div> <div>Time : 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Where: Student Union</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Living Life Un-Filtered: Substance Abuse Prevention Event/Rally</div> <div>Where: Student Union</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Yard Games</div> <div>Time : 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Where: Student Union</div>	<div>19</div> <div>BSC Volleyball</div> <div>Time: 6 p.m. Where: BSC Armory</div>	<div>20</div> <div>BSC Volleyball</div> <div>Time: 2 p.m. Where: BSC Armory</div>
<div>21</div>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Rodeo Opener</div> <div>Time : 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Where: Student Union</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>
<div>28</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div>				