

# — THE — Mystician [ NEWS ] P A P E R

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Submitted | SGA

**Outside the Capital** - SGA members, from left to right: President Paysha Rex, Vice President Jenica Twete, Senator Hailey Hartman, Senator Ayden Olson, Senator El Jay Dugenio, and Secretary Logan Fix. The group stands in front of the United States Capital Building located at Capital Hill in D.C.

## Student Government Goes on a D.C. Adventure

**Kade Warren**  
Reporter

While many students either returned home or relaxed alone in the dorms during spring break, members of the Bismarck State College Student Government Association got the chance to travel to the United States capital for the annual American Student Association of Community Colleges (ASACC) national student advocacy conference. This was thanks to the

funding from the winter survival kits and the Valentines Day kits, which were all sold.

The conference was a six day event from March 11 through the 16. It featured breakout sessions and roundtable discussions, memorable keynote speakers, and a meeting with North Dakota Senator John Hoeven. There was even time to sightsee at national monuments and museums.

SGA made its departure from the Bismarck airport in the early afternoon of March 11. After a long and

tiresome day of traveling, SGA senator El Jay Dugenio brightened the mood and started the trip off right with a facetious comment that was sure to make everybody laugh.

“Goodbye America, hello D.C.” Dugenio said as the plane touched down on the airport runway.

The morning after their arrival at the capital building, the group was given a tour and checked out the library of congress. After that, they got the chance to meet with ND Senator John Hoeven. All SGA members

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FOR  
WEB

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# MYSTIC MEDIA SHENANIGANS



**WELCOME**  
TO *Bismarck State College's*  
**SPRING CARNIVAL**  
2026

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STUDENT UNION

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**PRIZES!**  
**FOOD!**

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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.

# SGA Cont. pg 1

were present for the meeting, and they discussed with him and his assistant a few interesting topics relating to SGA and the North Dakota Student Association as they prepared their list of top priorities for the 2025/26 academic year. Such topics include mental health, on-campus housing, and food accessibility options for college students.

The ASACC conference gave SGA members a chance to meet other Student Government members from different colleges across the nation. Networking with SGA members from California or Texas helped members share ideas about student government. BSC SGA members realized that BSC has a relatively low cost of tuition combined with other things that most community colleges don't have, like on-campus housing and athletics programs in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. Which is why, after three years of involvement in ASACC, BSC is joining the American Student Government Association next year. The ASGA is more central to the U.S. and will better suit the needs of BSC's growing campus and population.

The next couple of days were packed with activities. The mornings routinely consisted of breakout sessions where they got a chance to connect with members from other schools and discuss differing perspectives. The sessions also consisted of listening to keynote speakers like Chris Molina, an award winning leadership speaker who gave a presentation on how to deal with the stress of taking on new ideas. BSC's SGA also planned and hosted karaoke on the third day.



Submitted | SGA

**Standing with Freedom** - SGA members from left to right: Senator Hayli Hartman, Senator Ayden Olson, Vice President Jenica Twete, President Paysha Rex, Secretary Logan Fix, Senator El Jay Dugenio. Posing in front of the Statue of Freedom located right outside the U.S. Capitol Visitors Center.

There was also plenty of time for sightseeing and exploring what D.C. had to offer. The group visited the Holocaust museum and competed with each other in an online scavenger hunt in Georgetown that was centered around its rich history of World War II and Cold War spies. The girls team ended up winning the scavenger hunt by two minutes.

The group also visited the Smithsonian, the world's largest museum and research complex, and the air and space museum along with the Korean art museum.

Paysha Rex, the SGA President, brought her camera along to the botanical gardens and took photos. Photos were also taken of the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Memorial after sunset too.

In all, the trip was filled with a lot of firsts. It was Secretary Logan Fix's first time on an airplane, Rex tried Raising Cane's for the first time, and for many members, it was their first time in D.C.

"I give the trip a ten out of ten overall," Rex said.

Now that the SGA members have returned, they will be applying the many things they learned at the conference to prepare for upcoming events, including the NDSA conference in the ATC and the BSC spring carnival. Although their D.C. adventure was full of nonstop activities and gave them a lot to look back on, the BSC community's continual growth and maturation from a junior college to what it is today will give plenty more to look forward to for future SGA members.

## Students Compare Dorm Life to Living at Home

**Alondra Vidal**  
Reporter

For many students, one of the biggest decisions is where to live. Some choose the independence and community of dorm life, while others like the comfort and convenience of living at home. To better understand these two experiences, I interviewed one student who prefers to live in the dorms and another who prefers to commute from home to see how their daily lives compare.

Chance Leingang, a student living in the dorms, expresses that being on campus has significantly enhanced his

experience and connection to school life. Originally from Mandan, he had the option to live at home without the added expense, but he chose dorm living to immerse himself in the campus community. He shares, "I'm much happier being here and being part of the community than I would be at home." This choice has positively impacted his social life, making him feel more connected and engaged. A challenge to living at the dorms according to chance are definitely the roommates "ones that are either very inconsiderate of how loud their phones are or getting back at night and not being quiet about it".

He is a social butterfly and finds it easier to make friends in the dorms. He is actively involved in various activities and is open to joining clubs that interest him. This year, he has actively helped the cultural exchange club and eagerly looks forward to trying many more things. I can confirm he is a busy man and still finds ways to make time for his friends. Reflecting on his experience, he states, "Now being part of campus, I don't think I would go back." It's clear that Chance values this experience deeply, even if other students who live at home have a different perspective. His thoughts highlight how living on

campus can create a profound sense of belonging.

On the other hand, Jaislyn Calderon, who lives at home and commutes to campus, says that staying at home is simply more cheaper. She says the biggest advantage is the food. "The cafeteria as it's extremely costly. It's the same as eating out everyday except you get smaller portions at a higher cost. By that point I should just eat McDonald's everyday and save myself a few bucks". According to Jaislyn, she likes living at home because it allows her to avoid the financial burden of bills. She explains that staying with family means she



Kerstin and Kayla Hilzendeger | Graphic Designer and Photographer

only has to focus on her tuition, rather than worrying about housing costs. The downside to it according to Jaislyn would be "missing out" but even then, she still doesn't feel like that since she plays pool after class.

Beyond the savings, the comfort of her own space is a major factor. She mentions that living off-campus means she doesn't have to stress over difficult roommates or "odd smells" under the

bed; instead, she can fully relax in a space she is accustomed to. Most importantly, she doesn't have to leave her "fur babies" behind, specifically noting she couldn't live without her pugs.

Comparing dorm life to living at home reveals a clear trade-off between social immersion and financial comfort. For students like Chance, the dorms offer a vibrant, "social butterfly lifestyle where being steps away from the cultural

exchange club and campus activities creates a profound sense of belonging. He states that has way more friends than thw ones in Mandan Conversely, Jaislyn's experience highlights that living at home is "simply more cheaper," providing the freedom to manage a personal food budget and avoid the "extremely costly" university meal plans. While dorm residents gain independence and a ready-made community,

they often face the "downside" of bad roommates or lack of privacy. In contrast, those living at home, like Jaislyn, trade the "cliche coming of age movie" aesthetic for the comfort of their own space, the ability to relax with "fur babies," and a lifestyle free from the stress of shared living quarters.

# Ag Club Travels to Europe for Agricultural Excursion

Sophia Fafard  
Co-Editor

Spring Break was an eventful time for many Bismarck State College students. Whether it be traveling home, spending time at work, or visiting another country, students each had their own unique adventure during the break.

This was especially true for BSC's Ag Club as they traveled to Europe for their annual Europe trip. Around 30 students traveled to Europe for the five day jaunt, where the students received a first-hand look at different agricultural practices and historic places.

This wasn't just any five day jaunt though. Ag students had to enroll in a class in order to learn the history and agriculture sites that they would be visiting. Preparation was necessary in order to participate in the trip.

The club left Bismarck on March 5 and arrived in Europe on March 6. They stayed there until March 13, returning to Bismarck on March 14.

The first day of travel led the ag students to Frankfurt, Germany. There, they toured the town and saw a variety of sites. This included places such as Romerberg, one of the oldest parts of Frankfurt. Afterwards, the group went to the town of Cochem and saw the Moselle River Valley as well as the Schloss Reichsburg, a castle in Cochem.

On the second day the group visited a vineyard, where they learned about the winemaking process and different agriculture techniques.

The third day consisted of touring around Koblenz in Germany. There, they saw the people's corner, where the Moselle River and the Rhine River meet.

Day four led the group to tour Gestapo headquarters and to the Cologne Cathedral. The group spent more time in Cologne, visiting a chocolate factory and seeing where the Olympics were held.

On day five the ag club visited Terra Nova, one of the largest coal mines in Europe. There, they learned that the mine would be filled with water



Submitted | Taylor Pritschet

**A Hike!** - After taking in many sights of the beautiful town, the students follow the trail and head off on a new adventure. An adventure which will be full of learning.

eventually and turned into a lake, so many of the areas near the coal mine were beach themed. Next, the group visited a dairy where they learned about farming techniques in the Netherlands area after visiting Holland that day.

BSC Sophomore Taylor Pritschet is the President of the Ag Club. She studies Farm and Ranch management and plans to graduate from BSC this April. Pritschet went on the Ag Club trip and highlighted her favorite part of going to Europe.

"I'm very much so on the ranching side of agriculture, so I really enjoyed the dairy and learning about the cows and how they used their ground to feed their cattle and the different regulations," Pritschet said. "I think that was the coolest part to me."

Next year, the Ag Club plans to visit Greece. For more information regarding the trip to Greece, email Davinic for more information.



Submitted | Taylor Pritschet

**Heading Out!** - The students head off on another adventure in search of more to learn. This trip was an extraordinary one as they noted and participated in many new experiences.



Submitted | Taylor Pritschet

**Listen Up!** - Students learn the history of the Coat of Armor at the Peoples' Corner. They stand and observe the beautiful and intricate designs of this extraordinary structure.

## Pleased to Meet You

Mygel Porter  
Social Media Manager

### Madison Hiatt

Q: Where are you from?

A: Manitoba Reserve

Q: What is your major?

A: Nursing

Q: What's a pet peeve you have?

A: People who interrupt.

Q: What's one meal you enjoy?

A: I like that they serve fish on Good Friday.



## Finding Your Joy

Kelsey Riggs  
Reference and Instructional Librarian

In case you haven't heard ... the Library Stacks are back open!

We are still doing some shifting and collection refinement, but the shelves are open for everyone to peruse. If you go into our movable shelves, though, please remember to move one row at a time and to open the row all the way. This will prevent the chains that keep the shelves mobile from snapping or dislocating, which would make it impossible to access the books. If you are unsure where to find anything, the books' call numbers are listed in the BSC Library

catalog. A blue subject map is also on the wall near the movable shelves while green FIND IT bookmarks sit at the library desk, in case you want to know where a particular subject might be rather than a specific book. Librarians are also more than willing to help you locate anything in our collection – both physically and online.

For example, one book that makes me smile every time lives in our ComicsPlus database. Herding Cats by Sarah Andersen is a book of short comics about the pains of being an awkward animal lover and, as she says in one panel, "a Chaos Queen." I can never just read one

page; I recommend you check it out if you need something to make you smile too. If you haven't logged into ComicsPlus before, you will have to click on the Sign-Up option and then log in with your Campus Connection information to activate your account. Otherwise, everyone at BSC has access to read unlimited types of graphic novels from any device.

Because graphic novels and art give and help us process joy, they will have a lovely spotlight during National Library Week (April 20 -23) with the theme "Finding Your Joy." The BSC Library Comi-con will be on Monday, April 20,

9 am – 2 pm in the Student Union where we will celebrate everything that gives us joy on this campus, from music and Merlin to classes and clubs! Then we will be watching a movie in the NECE Basic Electric Auditorium at 3 pm on Tuesday, April 21. On Wednesday, April 22, the Library will be back in the Student Union with Books & Brew at 8 am. Remember, when you check out a book from me there, I will give you a coupon for money off a drink at any Mystic Java (zingers not included). I hope to see everyone there and that the offerings of your BSC Library truly bring you joy!

# Cinema 100 Reveals Unique Cinema

**Elena Sanchez**  
Reporter

Film is an intricate art of storytelling on screen to which most filmmakers aspire to have their films shown around the world. For an area like North Dakota, getting to see blockbuster films can even be a hassle. To see even rarer films like international films, short films, and even classics is a coveted pastime for film enthusiasts in the area.

Cinema 100 aimed to fix such issues for North Dakota. Cinema 100 is a nonprofit organization that was started by film enthusiasts as a film society in 1951. The founder of the film society, Gaylord Conrad, wished to bring more films to North Dakota and began with the British black-and-white film Trio. Gaylord Conrad, who is the father to Dean, Rowan, and former North Dakota Senator Kent Conrad, wished to continue bringing rarer films to North Dakota after the successful showing of Trio.

After the death of Gaylord Conrad and his wife Abigail in 1953, the remaining film society in 1956 titled themselves as Cinema 100. The "100" part of the title came from the idea of selling one hundred season tickets for about \$5 a ticket to fund the society and project. During the late 50's and early 60's, the society remained active and showed foreign films, Hollywood classics, and British comedies with marginal success.

In the mid 60s to early 70s, Cinema 100 died down and remained inoperative during that time.

While Cinema 100 has had years of silence and small resurgences, Cinema 100 is hoping to make a full resurgence amidst the streaming era. Marlene Anderson, the treasurer for Cinema 100 and Director of Library Services at BSC, is hoping to get college students invested in Cinema 100 once more. Streaming is more prominent in the modern age and the importance of film and theater is what Cinema 100 aims to teach.

"You are with a group of people, perhaps, but it's you engaging with the film and then you can talk about it with others and what you both saw," she said. "I just think that it's a big piece of our education."

During her time as treasurer for Cinema 100, she discussed the struggles Cinema 100 faced. Cinema 100 has dealt with financial struggles and licensing hassle over the years with the worst yet to come once the pandemic caused by COVID-19 hit in the heart of 2020. COVID-19 forced Cinema 100 to go online, but it did not have the same effect.

"We all think in Cinema 100 [that] there's something so valuable about the shared experience in a movie theater" she said.

After the pandemic ended, Cinema 100 has still continued to push out



more series for film. With each year, there is more feedback, suggestions, and community interaction. The start of 2026 is a hopeful one.

Cinema 100's 2026 Spring series did have marginal positive feedback and a hopeful outcome. Spring series season tickets were \$35 for ten films with limited showtimes and no previews. The showtimes were limited to only 3 PM and 6PM for each movie on a singular night. The movies from the Spring series were varied and drastically different from one another. From the Oscar winner for Best Animation, Flow, to the critically-acclaimed documentary about Palestine titled Put Your Soul On Your Hand and Walk, each movie contains an aspect that is unseen for usual films shown in the theaters in North Dakota.

The spring series ends as the start of April begins. As a group, the film enthusiasts will discuss what films did well and which ones were not as grand. Post-series discussion is what keeps the group from repeating films or having a lackluster series. After each series,

Anderson usually goes through the finances to see the budget for the next series they will host.

"We are a nonprofit, so we're not really looking to make money but we don't want to lose money either because that has an impact," she said. "We're getting back on our feet and we actually have a little more money to work with."

As Cinema 100 slowly makes a resurgence once more, Anderson believes younger generations will be the ones that can make it stay.

"I have hope because [of] the upcoming generation seems to be recognizing and acting on getting together with people," she said. "It is very heartening...I think we will be okay"

For those interested, Cinema 100 still has posters and flyers of the 2026 Spring series around BSC with information on the movies and what the collection is. Cinema 100 also has a website discussing films, their history, and what the community can do to support them. Their website is [cinema100.com](http://cinema100.com) and they also have a Facebook page. Their next series will launch in October with season tickets being \$15 for five films, same showtimes, and no previews.

## Club Highlights:

AMATEUR RADIO	Working on building an antenna and prepping for Ham Fest.
COUNTRY DANCE	Biggest turnout yet at 36! In the Armory this week.
DRAMA	Attended ACTF and prepping for Spring Musical - Frozen
GDCC	Prepping to go to Fargo March
SNO	Did Vday nails at nursing home. Now looking to do little wellness bags for Health Science and potential Easter Egg hunt for building.

## Make some Memories and Join a Club!

Club information can be found on the BSC Student Clubs and Organizations Webpage.



# Student Government Association D.C. Trip

Submitted | SGA



**Picture Perfect** - SGA members, from left to right: Cassandra Perman, Jordyn Chase, Senator El Jay Dugenio, tour guide, President Paysha Rex, Senator Ayden Olson, Senator Hailey Hartman, Vice President Jenica Twete, and Secretary Logan Fix. The group pauses for a photo during their tour.



# AG Club in Europe

Taylor Pritschet | Ag Club President



# PUZZLE PAGE

## April Word Search

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

Chocolate  
 Umbrella  
 Aries  
 Bunny

Cleaning  
 Garden  
 Taurus  
 Fool

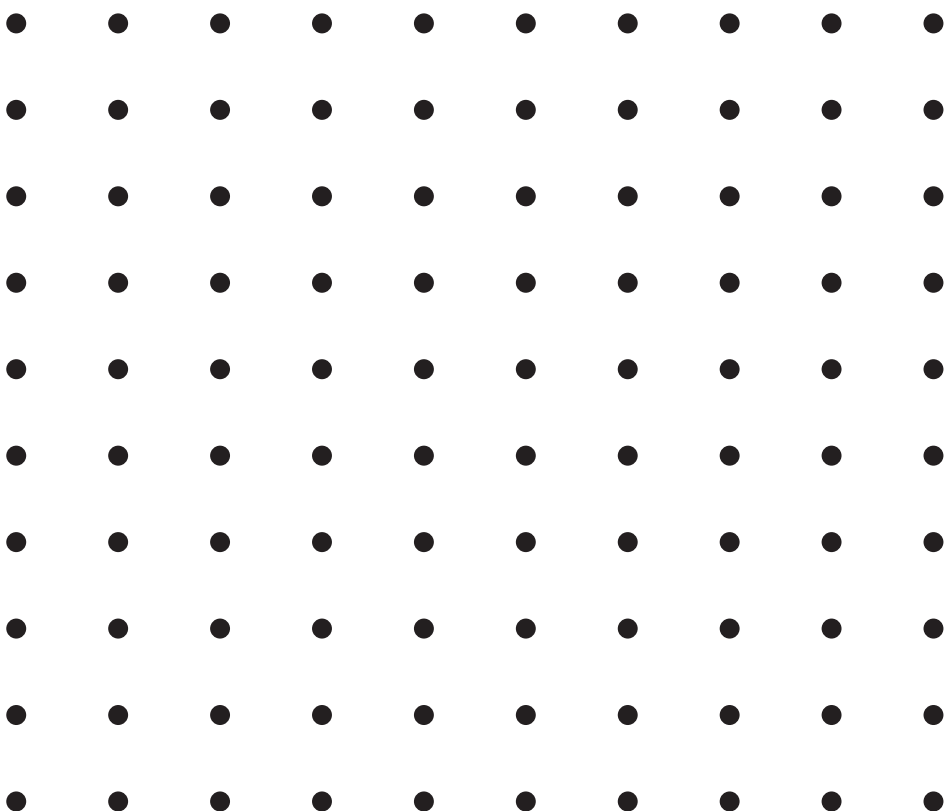
Spring  
 Easter  
 Taxes  
 Egg

Fool  
 Rain  
 Joke

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

## Dots to Boxes

Two players take turns drawing a single horizontal or vertical line between adjacent dots on a grid. The player who draws the fourth line of a 1x1 square claims the square by putting their initial inside it and gets to take another turn. The game ends when no more lines can be drawn, and the player with the most claimed squares wins.



## April Trivia

**Q: What does the Easter Bunny hide?**  
 A. Gold B. Eggs C. Chocolate Bunnies

**Q: What do April Showers bring?**  
 A. May Flowers B. May Flour C. May Towers

**Q: In the Spongebob episode "Fools In April," who pranks Spongebob so bad that he cries?**  
 A. Squidward B. Patrick C. Plankton

**Q: What date is the deadline to file your taxes?**  
 A. Tax Day B. April 16th C. April 15th

**Q: What historical tragedy happened in April?**  
 A. The Sinking Of The Titanic  
 B. Chernobyl  
 C. The Apollo 13 Explosion

## SAY CHEESE!



Mygel Porter | Social Media Manager

**Taking A Quick Break From Class? Remember To Smile -** Isabella Heinert, Gracie Heinert, Taylor Pritschet