



# THE MYSTICIAN

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SEPTEMBER 2023  
VOL. 85 ISSUE 1

**MERLIN CATCHES A POSE WITH NEW STUDENTS**  
PHOTO CREDIT: KAIA LEHMAN

# CAMPUS COMES ALIVE

## Welcome week ignites excitement

BY KAIA LEHMAN  
THE MYSTICIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Bismarck State College welcomed students back to campus for the fall semester 2023. Students moved into Swensen Hall and Werner Hall on Friday Aug. 18. The Gate City Bank and Lloyd Ritchie residents moved

in on Saturday, and closing out the weekend, Lidstrom and Mystic residents moved in on Sunday.

As residents settled into their new homes, BSC put on several welcome week activities, starting with the Welcome Fair, on Monday. Various clubs and organizations set up booths in the Student Union. Free food and drinks were provided, courtesy of Student and Residence Life.

On Tuesday, students enjoyed a free cookout with burgers and hotdogs on the patio. On Wednesday night, Sailesh the Hypnotist was in the Sidney J. Lee Auditorium. Students had the opportunity to be a part of the show, or sit and watch the show in the audience. By popular demand, Create-a-Critter came back on Thursday. Create-a-critter turned the Student Union into a build-a-bear workshop. Students chose from a

variety of animals to fill with fluff and take home to snuggle. Wrapping up Thursday was Wibits Night at the BSC Aquatics Center where the students were challenged to an inflatable obstacle course in the pool.

Rounding out the week, SLR offered a free brownie bar in the Student Union.

Activities will continue through fall semester, with several large scale events coming up in September starting with the Oktoberfest celebration Sept. 19 through Sept. 22. Student and Residence Life will host a variety of events throughout the week, including cookies, brats and knoephla, a Do You Remember Day and root beer floats.

**WELCOME on page 4**



# CAMPUS ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

## BSC CLUB FAIR

SEPT. 6 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## VOLLEYBALL

SEPT. 6 | 7-9PM  
THE ARMORY

## CRAFTCADE NIGHT

SEPT. 7 | 5-10PM  
CRAFTCADE

## VOLLEYBALL

SEPT. 11 | 7-8:30PM  
THE ARMORY

## TRIVIA NIGHT

SEPT. 12 | 6-8PM  
STUDENT UNION

## SHAKE BAR

SEPT. 12 | 9-11AM  
AQUATIC CENTER

## MYSTIC HEALTH DAY

SEPT. 13 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## GRILLED CHEESE

SEPT. 14 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## CONSTITUTION DAY

SEPT. 18 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## OKTOBERFEST COOKIES

SEPT. 19 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## BRATS & KNOEPLA

SEPT. 20 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## VOLLEYBALL

SEPT. 20 | 7-8:30PM  
THE ARMORY

## DO YOU REMEMBER?

SEPT. 21 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## ROOTBEER FLOATS

SEPT. 22 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## FREE SUCCULENTS

SEPT. 25 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## HOMECOMING VOTING

SEPT. 25-29 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## GROCERY BAG BINGO

SEPT. 26 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## PARTY ON SCHAFER

SEPT. 27 | 10-2PM  
SCHAFER STREET

## VOLLEYBALL

SEPT. 27 | 7-8:30PM  
THE ARMORY

## COPS & COOKIES

SEPT. 28 | 11-1PM  
STUDENT UNION

## MYSTIC MEDIA DANCE

SEPT. 28 | 7-10PM  
THE ARMORY

## MYSTICS XC INVITE

SEPT. 29 | TBA  
TBA

## GRAND THEATRE MOVIE

SEPT. 29 | UNTIL 8PM  
GRAND THEATRE

## FIND THE CRYING BIRD AND WIN A PRIZE!

FIRST PLACE ONLY

## MYSTIC MEDIA STAFF

- Kaia Lehman . . . . . The Mystician Editor-In-Chief
- Ashlee Presser . . . . . MystiCast Executive Producer
- Hailee Presser . . . . . Mystic Media Coordinator
- Mina Good Eagle . . . . . Reporter
- Caleb Herr . . . . . Reporter
- Tinashe Makeve . . . . . Reporter
- Linnette Miner . . . . . Reporter
- Irie Townsend . . . . . Reporter
- Emily Tryon . . . . . Reporter
- Robert Mechaley III . . . . . Alumni Reporter
- Brandon Hagerott . . . . . Graphic Designer
- karen Bauer . . . . . Mystician Adviser

## SAY CHEESE!



HANNAH TEBAY AND JOSHUA JUNG  
PHOTO CREDIT: KAIA LEHMAN

### Want to be in The Mystician?

Submit your photos to [bscmysticianeditor.bismarckstate.edu](mailto:bscmysticianeditor.bismarckstate.edu) for a chance to be featured on one of our pages!

**Contact: Kaia Lehman, EIC,**  
with letters to the editor, comments,  
or concerns regarding this publication.

**Email: [bscmysticianeditor@bismarckstate.edu](mailto:bscmysticianeditor@bismarckstate.edu)**



# VOTE FOR PERFORMANCE



RHIANNON WENZEL IN SUPPORT OF THE BUILD  
PHOTO CREDIT: KAIA LEHMAN

## Human performance center vote goes to the polls

BY LINNETTE MINER  
MYSTIC MEDIA REPORTER

On Sept. 27, Bismarck State College students will make history. For the first time ever, students will have the chance to cast a vote on whether or not the proposed Human Performance Center will be built.

The facility is projected to start construction in 2027 and will be built between the Bismarck Aquatics Center and Werner Hall. It will be designed with state-of-the-art equipment for anyone to use. The slogan, “Leave Your Legacy,” is the driving point—students have the power to decide what will happen.

The performance center is projected to cost around \$30 million with \$5 million already raised. Some funding is expected to come from students.

BSC Student Government Association President Chris Torres said that aside from the student vote for funding, SGA will be estimated to fund-raise \$10 million. If students vote yes and allow

student fees to be raised, it would only be by \$22 per semester, keeping BSC the second-lowest costing school in the North Dakota University System. The fees would go into effect in 2025.

Currently, the Armory serves as the athletic hub for all students who participate in sports. The Armory was originally built in 1961 for the North Dakota National Guard and was never intended to be a gymnasium for BSC. The Armory violates many safety guidelines, including Title IX and the Americans With Disabilities Act. One major Title IX violation is that there is no formal women’s locker room.

“These female athletes, unfortunately, are having to rely on using the public restrooms during games and practices,” Torres said. “And sometimes this required them to wait with the public when there was a line. Whereas, the male athletes are properly accommodated with private facilities.”

As well as numerous policy violations, the building is simply not safe anymore. The building has no fire suppression system, no central air and there is asbestos present.

“Those are just some of the issues wrong with it,” Torres said. “The building is crooked, the foundation and walls are cracking—it’s quite literally falling apart a little at a time.”

# BSC REVOLUTIONIZES STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

## Connecting on campus at the push of a button

BY KAIA LEHMAN  
THE MYSTICIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Bismarck State College released two new apps this year to help modernize and connect with its student base.

The first app, MyBSC provides students with access to a variety of academic resources including Campus Connection, Blackboard and Academic Records. They will also be able to check their email or find tutoring information. Students can check out the specials at Mystic Marketplace, Mystic Java and the BSC Bookstore. And it’s a quick click to security on campus and to the other app, MysticNation and the Green Machine.

MysticNation has a different set up with a goal to garner student interest and engagement at on-campus events by providing a prize incentive. Students can check into the MysticNation, earn points for attending events, and cash in those points for BSC apparel, decorations, and eventually be entered into a drawing to win a flatscreen TV or a gaming console.

“We decided to build it

[MysticNation app] because we are growing as a college,” Sarah Owens, the BSC student engagement coordinator said. “We are adding more degrees, and we are adding more athletics in the future. so we really wanted to have something that incentivized participating in the activities at BSC in a fun way.”

Other larger colleges and universities have apps similar to the Green Machine, such as North Dakota State University’s app “The Herd.”

“BSC is the third largest college in the state,” Owens said. “And since we are growing as a college, and students are starting to be more involved in student activities, we are going to continue to encourage that.”

Types of events that qualify for points with the Green Machine include: athletic events, student activities and theatre events.

“Earning points is open to all students, not just students that live on campus.” Owens said.

Owens is an advocate for student activities.



“Having these events and increasing student engagement is good for retention, friendship building and helps students destress from their workload, Owens said. “And overall [it] enhances the college experience.”

The success of the app has already been reported.

“So far, student engagement has increased,” Owens said. [Since the introduction of the app] “our goals have been reached with each event.”

If a student has an idea for an event, they are encouraged to contact Owens with Student and Residence Life.

Students can download the

MyBSC and MysticNation apps from the App store or the Google Play store.

To check for eligible events, open the MysticNation app and create an account using a bismarck state email address to create an account. Afterwards, go to the event tab to see the activities calendar.



# THE BSC FOUNDATION OFFERS NEW PROGRAMS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

## A million dollar dream brought to life for students and faculty alike

BY ROBERT MECHALEY III  
ALUMNI REPORTER

With the beginning of a new academic year at Bismarck State College comes new opportunities for a growing student body receiving an education. Those students both new and returning will receive scholarship opportunities through a non-profit organization called the BSC Foundation. Currently, there are more than a million dollars available to students through the BSC Foundation—a goal that they have been working toward for some time.

“We set that goal probably about five years ago, but we didn’t know if we knew it would come as soon as it did,” Cory Wrolstad, BSC Foundation Development Manager said. “But let’s call donors, because even with a bunch last night, they’re just, they love what’s happening at BSC. They love that our students are graduating from here and staying in our communities and helping fill a void and a lot of the jobs that we need.”

During the summer, the BSC Foundation was working toward raising money for scholarships through events like the Annual President’s Run. On July 14 this year, participants who donated \$110 or more jumped on their motorcycles or hopped in their cars and traveled together to tour the Coal Creek Station in Underwood, N.D.

“The scholarship money went to students pursuing a degree in energy, and we figured that was kind of appropriate since that’s what we were learning about that day,” Wrolstad said. “It’s fun when you go into the plants that they operate because they’re filled with BSC alumni. That’s who’s working there as most of their employees are all from BSC.”

Money was also raised for athletic scholarships at the President’s Cup, an annual golf tournament. This event came at an opportune time since the President’s Cup took place right after the announcement

wrestling would be returning to BSC. The program had been stopped since 1988.

“We had a beautiful day and phenomenal turnout and had a lot of support for BSC athletic scholarships, which is huge, especially as we grow athletics,” Wrolstad said. “And also in the late spring, they announced that wrestling will be coming back. So there’s just more and more needs with equipment and all that kind of stuff as we add sports.”

The BSC Foundation is not only focused on scholarships as they also distribute grants and helm fundraising efforts for new buildings and programs. They stay in contact with community leaders and local businesses to find needs for jobs in the community and seek to fill them.

“Even when it comes to new programming, the Foundation’s pretty involved with that,” Wrolstad said. “We helped lead the charge with the new heavy equipment operating program that all came from industry, but within that program, a lot of equipment has been donated. A lot of funds have been raised to be able to buy equipment along those lines.”

Students can apply for scholarships to Bismarck State College by visiting [www.bismarckstate.edu/scholarships](http://www.bismarckstate.edu/scholarships).



A GLIMPSE OF THE BSC FOUNDATION HOUSE AND SIGN  
PHOTO CREDIT: ROBERT MECHALEY III

## WELCOME From page 1

BY KAIA LEHMAN  
THE MYSTICIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

BSC is also bringing homecoming back again, which brings another week of activities. Starting on Monday, Sept. 25 and going through Friday, Sept. 29, a variety of events are scheduled. Planting succulents, grocery bag bingo, Party

on Schafer Street, Mystics Volleyball, Cops and Cookies, the Mystic Media Homecoming Dance and Kuchen and Karaoke will keep the campus hopping throughout the week.

# THE FLYTHROUGH ➤ Tenley Evans

### Major

Graphic Design & Communications

### Unpopular Opinion

Shoes belong on the bed.

### Year

Sophomore

### What is Your Best Dad Joke?

How do you make a tissue dance? You put a little boogie in it





# SEPTEMBER BRINGS NEW ENTERTAINMENT

BY TINASHE MAKUVE  
MYSTIC MEDIA REPORTER



September is a widely varied month for movies, so keep your eyes peeled for the next 30 days. Movies of all genres will be coming out.

“Dumb Money”, is the real life story of a group of everyday people who flipped GameStop stocks, earning millions in the process.

“My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3” sees the return of the Portokalos family in a funny and heart-warming trip to Greece.

“The Equalizer 3” stars the legendary Denzel Washington protecting a town in southern Italy from local mobsters.

Action stars old and new come together for the explosive next installment in the Expendables franchise with “The Expendables 4.”

Rounding out the month for action is the exciting and original movie, “The Creator,” from the director of “Star Wars Rogue One.” This sci-fi epic tells the story of mankind’s fight against artificial intelligence.

For horror we have an especially large selection of both originals and sequels, including the next installment of the long running horror franchise, Saw, with “Saw X.” Horror icon Jigsaw returns one last time to settle a personal score.

“The Nun 2” is the second movie in the highly popular Conjuring Franchise where 1956 France is terrorized by a demonic evil.

“A Haunting In Venice” is the latest in a new set of adaptations of Agatha Christie’s famous mystery novels. The brilliant detective Hercule Poirot is working his most terrifying case in Venice, Italy.

“It Lives Inside” spins on the traditional possession film with a woman finding herself conflicted with her Indian heritage while trying to free her best friend from a mythological spirit that is attached



**GRAND THEATRE OFFERS \$6 MOVIE NIGHTS EVERY TUESDAY**

PHOTO CREDIT: KAIA LEHMAN

to her.

New releases aren’t the only thing to look out for as many throwback movies will also be playing in the month of September.

The 80s sci-fi classic, “Terminator,” will be back starring Arnold Schwarzenegger as the murderous android hell-bent on world domination.

The beloved Spielberg treasure hunting adventure, “The Goonies.” is also a return to the big screen.

The first and second of the Lord Of The Rings trilogy will be available for all the fantasy lovers wanting to return to Middle Earth. And for those who haven’t had the chance, they will get to experience the widely acclaimed fantasy epics.

Finishing out the throwbacks is one of Reese Witherspoon’s most famous roles in

early 2000’s comedy, “Legally Blonde.”

Always remember that tickets at Grand Theatre are \$6 on Tuesdays. Drop by the Student and Residence Life office to pick up a free ticket for movie night for Sept. 29.

Dates for releases are as follows

- **Sept. 1:** The Equalizer 3, The Goonies

- **Sept. 8:** My Big Fat Greek Wedding, The Nun 2, The Terminator

- **Sept. 15:** A Haunting In Venice, Lord Of The Rings: The Fellowship Of The Ring

- **Sept. 22:** The Expendables 4, Dumb Money, It Lives Inside, Legally Blonde

- **Sept. 29:** The Creator, Saw X, The Lord Of The Rings: The Two Towers

**WATCH FOR FREE MOVIE NIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER!**



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# BALDUR'S GATE: A REVIEW

BY ROBERT MECHALEY III  
ALUMNI REPORTER



During my first few hours of playing “Baldur’s Gate 3”, there were many moments that stood out, but the best (and least spoiler-filled) moment was in the Druid Grove in Act 1. Up on a ridge overlooking the central grove, there was a lone girl trying to find the right words for a song she was composing.

My character is a Druid who has no musical proficiency, but I was still able to help her find the right words. My entire party was then treated to a two-minute-long musical sequence performed by her, where at the end she broke down in tears and told me it was for her mentor who died in a violent attack while traveling on the road together.

“Baldur’s Gate 3” is a game littered with small interpersonal interactions like this, all weaving together into a grander plot about a threat to the realm and its people. “Baldur’s Gate 3” is the latest game by Larian Studios, a game developer and publisher based out of Belgium. While their previous games “Divinity: Original Sin” and “Divinity: Original Sin 2” were based on an original intellectual property, “Baldur’s Gate 3” uses concepts from Dungeons and Dragons 5th Edition, translating the pen and paper rules into the world of video games.

The game opens with character creation, allowing the player to either create a custom character or choose from pre-built characters with their own personal stories. Each race and class has its own unique abilities and appearance options to make a character that you can love playing throughout the game. I chose to play a Tiefling Druid, a person with devilish features that can turn into animals and cast nature-based spells. All appearance options and class options felt satisfying and they play that way too.

Have you ever wanted to be a Barbarian that specializes in picking up your enemies and throwing them at other enemies? Good news, because that’s a viable way to play the game.

When I played with a friend in multiplayer, I was trying to

show him how to do a puzzle in the tutorial which took me way too long to figure out. I was floored when the class he chose had a specific option to skip the puzzle altogether. These minor dialogue and gameplay options all lead to unique character interactions with the dialogue and gameplay that matter during your run.

On the subject of dialogue, the voice cast really elevates the overall experience. Every line of dialogue in the game I discovered was voice-acted, including interactions you can have

with animals. Voice talents like Matt Mercer, J.K. Simmons, and Jason Isaacs were pleasant surprises, but the standout was Amelia Tyler as the Narrator. Her voice lines ooze with personality and make interacting with the world fun. If you want more of her interactions, she has a YouTube channel where she posts outtakes of her lines from the game.

My PC hardware is not anything special, but the game still ran well and I encountered very few bugs. The only time I got frustrated with performance was

in Act 3 because the game had a few technical problems near the finale. For those who do not have a PC, “Baldur’s Gate 3” will be released on PlayStation 5 on September 6. Playing on a controller is way more intuitive than I had originally thought because isometric RPGs sometimes have subpar console ports with controllers feeling like a clunkier option.

Even if you are not a fan of Dungeons & Dragons or isometric RPGs, I can confidently say that “Baldur’s Gate 3” is a worthwhile experience. Even

with small performance issues and a steep learning curve, the game stands tall above a mountain of games I have played over the years. The strong art direction, satisfying turn-based combat and strong narrative moments all bleed together into an experience worth playing again. I will leave it there now, and go make a new character since this article has cut into my time with the game.

“Baldur’s Gate 3” is available now on PC and macOS, and will be released for PlayStation 5 on September 6, 2023.





# HOROSCOPES

Written for the purpose of being fun, these horoscopes were written with the astrological sun signs in mind using tarot cards and guided by the spirits.



**Aries (March 21 - April 19)**— The truth is not always as it seems, so be open to unconventional ideas. Allow for structure or discipline in your life this will help with risky ventures. The ability to persevere is crucial moving forward.



**Taurus (April 20 - May 20)**— Be weary of financial investments, try not to be frivolous with money. Luck is heading your way this is a period for personal growth, but don't be afraid to go with the flow.



**Gemini (May 21 - June 20)** – You might be standing in your own way, start getting your priorities straight. Plan a road trip with friends, don't be afraid to ask for help when you are struggling. This is a period for freedom and new choices.



**Cancer (June 21 - July 22)** – A confusing time is just ahead; it may be a bad idea to trust your first instinct. Peace of mind comes from weighing all your decisions. If you have been in a low period, it will end soon, arguments will be resolved in your favor.



**Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)** – This may be a time of chaos and strife, you could be overcommitting to too much, it may be making you feel out of control. Try to remain calm as you move ahead. Creative outlets will help you during this time.



**Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)** – Using this time to assess career goals will have a better payoff in the end. Choose low risk investments and plan carefully. Personal relationships may be on the rocks, but effective communication is key.



**Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)** – This is a time of peace after working through many battles, rest is needed as you prepare for the next battle. Working on patience will help with future turmoil. Don't get caught up on the negative.



**Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)** – Act decisively, and commit all energy towards projects. This is a time to be an active participant in your own life. Keep yourself open to new possibilities.



**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)** — Feelings of exhaustion are about to end, keep determination and strength through difficult times. Dwelling on the past maybe keeping you from moving forward. Someone is about to enter your life that will inspire you.



**Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)** – No major changes or new events, emotional barriers could be preventing you from new experiences. This is a good time to start a new creative project.



**Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)** – Money is possibly the reason for not starting new projects. Disappointments and heartache will pass and lead you to enrichment. Trust in your own instincts and ideas.



**Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)** – Pay attention to details, hard work will bring happiness and satisfaction. Be careful, others will become envious of your success. Remember to stand up for yourself.



# COMEDY CORNER

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

FOR GAME ANSWERS, GO TO OUR WEBSITE: [BSCMYSTICMEDIA.COM](http://BSCMYSTICMEDIA.COM)

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

## WORD BANK

- |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| WELCOME   | PENCILS   |
| FAIR      | PAPER     |
| CLUB      | STUDYING  |
| SCHAFFER  | DORM LIFE |
| STUDENTS  | GREEN     |
| CLASSES   | GOLD      |
| SCHEDULES | MACHINE   |
| NOTEBOOKS | ATHLETICS |

**GOT A COMIC OR ILLUSTRATION?**  
**WE WANT TO SEE IT!**

**SEND AN EMAIL TO**  
[bscmysticianeditor@bismarckstate.edu](mailto:bscmysticianeditor@bismarckstate.edu)

"So I went to that concert last night." *"I Thought you said it was all sold out."*

"Actually Jen from accounting was there, and put it all on her story so I didn't miss a thing."





# EVERY STUDENT'S VOICE

A little about the people behind the scenes...

## Robert Mechaley III

**Major:** Communications at UND

**Year:** Senior

**Dad Joke:** I went to the zoo the other day and was disappointed they only had a dog—it was a Shi-Tzu

**Unpopular Opinion:** We are fear mongering a bit too much about emerging technology like AI and should be more afraid of surveillance that already exists like our Alexa devices.

## Caleb Herr

**Major:** Mass Communications

**Year:** Sophomore

**Dad Joke:** I used to hate facial hair, but then it grew on me.

**Unpopular Opinion:** The college basketball regular season is way better to watch than any part of the NBA season.

## Mina Good Eagle

**Major:** Mass Communications

**Year:** Sophomore

**Dad Joke:** What do you call a cow with no legs? Ground Beef

**Unpopular Opinion:** I hate pizza.

## Linnette Miner

**Major:** Mass Communications

**Year:** Junior

**Dad Joke:** I'm hungry. Hi Hungry, I'm Dad.

**Unpopular Opinion:** Pizza is overrated.

### 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 information, 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.

## Kaia Lehman

**Major:** Graphic Design & Communications

**Year:** Junior

**Dad Joke:** Two guys walked into a bar, the third one ducked.

**Unpopular Opinion:** Pineapple belongs on pizza.

## Emily Tryon

**Major:** Mass Communications

**Year:** Sophomore

**Dad Joke:** What do you call an angry carrot? A steamed veggie

**Unpopular Opinion:** DreamWorks is better than Disney because Disney ruined the movie series Ice Age.

## Hailee Presser

**Major:** Digital Broadcasting Certificate

**Year:** Returning/First Year Certificate

**Dad Joke:** Don't spell part backward. It's a trap.

**Unpopular Opinion:** I never got into Harry Potter. Rick Riordan got to me first!

## Irie Townsend

**Major:** Mass Communications

**Year:** Sophomore

**Dad Joke:** Why shouldn't you trust trees? They are shady

**Unpopular Opinion:** I don't like Lord of the Rings; I think it is over-hyped.

## Tinashe Makuve

**Major:** Mass Communications

**Year:** Sophomore

**Dad Joke:** My manager told me to have a good day, so I left work immediately.

**Unpopular Opinion:** I think steak is overrated.

## Ashlee Presser

**Major:** Mass Communications

**Year:** Junior

**Dad Joke:** What did the green grape say to the purple grape? OH MY GOSH! BREATHE!

**Unpopular Opinion:** I don't like pickles. Cucumbers are fine, but pickles stink.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Hello Everyone!

Welcome to BSC, I am Kaia Lehman, the New Editor-In-Chief of The Mystician. This is my second year with Mystic Media. Last year I was a graphic designer, but I decided to challenge myself with this new position. If you are a returning reader, first off, thanks for sticking with us! Secondly, you might have noticed a few changes to the layout and style of the paper. Our staff here at The Mystician have been working all summer to put together a quality publication for the students.

In addition to the changing aesthetics, This year, our goal is to put as many students into the paper as possible. To accomplish this, we are adding a new blurb called, "Say Cheese!" Here you can submit your photos by using the hashtag #lets-getmystical or by emailing your photos to bscmysticianeditor@bismarckstate.edu.

Another section we have added is known as The Flythrough, which tells a snippet of a student's story that we come across on campus.

I'm excited to see how this year plays out, we have a great crew on staff this year and a lot of amazing stories to tell.

Later Dudes,



# FAMILIAR FACES TRADE PLACES

BY CALEB HERR  
MYSTIC MEDIA REPORTER

Football is back! The National Football League (NFL) will be celebrating their 104th season on Thursday, Sept. 7.

As the warm summer changes into a cool autumn, the NFL will begin their 2023 season. Like every year, the NFL off-season is a time for free agent players to change teams.

Keeping track of each player that made a team change during the off-season is never easy. This article will highlight a few of the important players' team changes that are worth noting from this past off-season.

Derek Carr, New Orleans Saints  
The New Orleans Saints and

Derek Carr, agreed on a four-year, \$150 million contract in early March.

The former Las Vegas Raiders quarterback, met with a number of teams after he was released from the Raiders. Carr eventually chose New Orleans to immediately become the team's starting quarterback.

Carr spent all nine years of his career with the Raiders. He posted over 35,000 passing yards and 217 touchdowns during his time as a Raider.

Aaron Rodgers, New York Jets  
Former Green Bay Packers quarterback, Aaron Rodgers, has relocated to the Big Apple

in one of the biggest trades this offseason.

The 17-year veteran quarterback requested to be traded to the New York Jets and got his wish in March. The deal shipped Rodgers and the Packers' 2023 first-round pick to the Jets.

In return, the Packers received the Jets' 2023 first-round pick, a 2023 second-round pick, a 2023 sixth-round pick and a conditional 2024 second-round pick that could become a first-round pick if Rodgers plays 65% of the Jets' plays this season.

Rodgers gets a fresh start in a new city and a whole new

regime. The Jets get a four-time MVP to lead their young, talented team.

Dalvin Cook, New York Jets

In August, the Jets made a move to acquire another veteran to their offense. Dalvin Cook was brought in after Rodgers took a pay cut in July. Cook adds experience and depth at the Jets' running back position. The acquisition also helps the team as their second-year running back, Breece Hall, continues his comeback from a torn ACL.

Cook spent six years with the Minnesota Vikings before his release in the 2023 off-season. Cook has earned the Pro Bowl

honor four-times in his career.

The 28 year-old was signed to a one-year deal worth up to \$8.6 million.

Ezekiel Elliott, New England Patriots

The New England Patriots signed Ezekiel Elliott to a one-year deal in mid-August. The deal is worth a base salary of \$3 million.

Elliott spent the previous seven years with the Dallas Cowboys. During that time, Elliott had four 1,000 yard rushing seasons and earned Pro Bowl honors three times.

The Patriots add a veteran player to a young offense and create a one-two attack with their 25 year-old starting running back, Rhamondre Stevenson.

DJ Moore, Chicago Bears

The Chicago Bears ranked dead last in passing yards and pass completions in the 2022 season. As a result, the Bears were awarded the first overall pick in the 2023 NFL Draft. Instead of using that pick, the Bears traded the pick to the Carolina Panthers for their best receiver, DJ Moore.

The bear's aquired four other draft picks to improve tMoore was drafted in the 2018 NFL Draft to the Panthers. He produced three 1,000 receiving yard seasons and had 364 receptions.

Moore should upgrade the Bears' passing attack and give their young quarterback a true number one wide receiver.

DeAndre Hopkins, Tennessee Titans

In late July, DeAndre Hopkins and the Tennessee Titans agreed to a two-year contract worth \$26 million.

The former Arizona Cardinals wide receiver was released in May after the team could not find a trade partner for the ten-year veteran. Hopkins visited with the Patriots before deciding to join the Titans.

With the 2023 season bening Hopkins' 11th season, he becomes the most experienced wide receiver for the Titans.

Darren Waller, New York Giants

The 6-foot-6 tight end was acquired by the New York Giants in March. The Giants traded with the Raiders to receive the one-time Pro Bowl selection. The Raiders collected the Giants' 2023 third-round pick.

Waller had two 1,000 receiving yard seasons with the Raiders and had over 280 receptions with the team. He is entering his eighth NFL season and gives Daniel Jones, the Giants' 26 year-old quarterback, an additional offensive weapon.

September Newsletter

**Student Government Association**  
Bismarck State College

Hello BSC students, once again welcome back to Bismarck state college if you are a returning student and a worm welcome to our new coming students. SGA is glad to have you here and we hope that you had a great start of the semester.

### Update on Lactation Rooms

Did you know that we have multiple lactation rooms around campus for nursing mothers. They are in the Health Sciences Building, the Aquatics & Wellness Center, and the one located in the NECE has recently been updated with a comfy chair and a changing table that will be arriving soon!

### SGA Freshmen Elections

Vote on September 5th for your Freshmen Senators!!

### Upcoming Events

More details at [bismarckstate.edu/events](http://bismarckstate.edu/events)

<p>Sept 1 - Pop into September Popcorn bar</p> <p>Sept 4 - BSC CLOSED for Labor Day</p> <p>Sept 5 - Trail Into Tuesday Trail Mix</p> <p>Sept 6 - BSC Club Fair</p> <p>Sept 7 - CraftCade Night</p> <p>Sept 12 - Shake Bar and Trivia night.</p> <p>Sept 13 - Mystic Health Day (free feminine product)</p> <p>Sept 14 - Grilled cheese and Tomato soup</p> <p>Sept 19 - Oktoberfest Cookies</p> <p>Sept 20 - Brats &amp; Knoephla</p> <p>Sept 21 - Do You Remember?</p>	<p>Sept 22 - Oktoberfest: Free Rootbeer Floats</p> <p>Sept 25 - Homecoming Week (King and Queen Voting)</p> <p>Sept 26 - Grocery Bag Bingo</p> <p>Sept 27 - Party on Schafer Street</p> <p>Sept 28 - Mystic Media Dance</p> <p>Sept 28 - Cops and Cookies</p> <p>Sept 29 - Movie Night</p> <p>Volleyball Games - Sept 6th, 11th, 20th, &amp; 27th</p> <p>Mystic XC - Sept 29th</p>
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## FANTASY FOOTBALL: MORE THAN A GAME

## TIGHT ENDS TO TAKE A TEAM TO THE TOP

BY CALEB HERR

MYSTIC MEDIA REPORTER



Drafting a good fantasy football tight end is not easy these days. Everyone knows Travis Kelce is the best tight end for fantasy football, but only one team in your league will be lucky enough to have him holding down their tight end position during the season. If you were not able to grab Kelce during your fantasy football draft you may be struggling to decide what tight end you should start on a week-to-week basis. Fortunately I have done the research for you and I have three tight ends that may not have been drafted or could be sitting on a leaguemate's bench.

For most leagues there is just one tight end position on your roster which can be a big factor in whether you won or lost your matchup. The tight end position is without a doubt the weakest position in terms of scoring fantasy points. There are three tight ends I believe will be labeled as breakouts in the fantasy football community by the end of the season. The term "breakout" in fantasy football means "a player who improves significantly

from their last season or has a much better season than people thought they would at the beginning of the season."

Dalton Kincaid, Buffalo Bills

Dalton Kincaid is a rookie tight end for the Buffalo Bills. Kincaid was the first tight end off the draft board in this year's NFL Draft. He was not only the Bills' first overall pick in the draft but they traded up from the 27th draft pick to the 25th draft pick just to acquire him.

Kincaid is a special talent because of his quickness and great hands. Kincaid caught 70 passes out of 96 targets last season at the University of Utah. His route running is exceptional for a tight end which allows the Bills to play him out wide on passing plays. During training camp and preseason games, Kincaid was playing in the slot in three wide receiver sets.

The Bills lost their slot receiver, Isaiah McKenzie, during the offseason and are in need of a good pass catcher to join Stefon Diggs and Gabe Davis. I think Kincaid will fill into the slot receiver role as the season progresses.

If Kincaid is on your waiver wire it would be wise to add him to your team's bench and just wait to see how much production he gets in a high-powered throwing offense.

Sam LaPorta, Detroit Lions

The University of Iowa has produced some really good NFL tight ends in recent history. Sam Laporta joins George Kittle, T.J. Hockenson, and Noah Fant as current NFL tight

ends that are products of the Iowa football program. Laporta was drafted in the second round of the 2023 NFL Draft to the Detroit Lions.

During his collegiate career, Laporta had 153 receptions and 1,786 yards. Along with LaPorta's exceptional hands, he has a good frame for a tight end. With a height of 6-foot-3 and a weight of 245 pounds, LaPorta will be a useful target for his quarterback, Jared Goff, in the red zone and on third downs.

LaPorta landed in one of the best situations for a rookie tight end. The Lions are looking to build off a good season in 2022. The team traded their 2019 first round draft pick, T.J. Hockenson, in the middle of the season. As the Lions' starting tight end, Hockenson was significantly utilized throughout the offense. Hockenson caught 186 passes and scored 15 touchdowns in a Lions uniform.

It is also worth noting the Lions' usage of tight ends in their offense. The Lions set a franchise record last season with 12 touchdowns from the

tight end position. Along with the touchdowns, Goff led the league with the highest passer rating throwing to tight ends.

With LaPorta replacing Hockenson and the uptick in Lions tight end touchdowns, he could easily slide into the top five fantasy scoring tight ends by the end of the year.

Juwan Johnson, New Orleans Saints

The first non-rookie that appears on this list may not be as well-known as other veteran tight ends.

Juwan Johnson likely was not drafted in your league, but he could turn into one of the better tight end fantasy options during the season. Johnson had very little fantasy value last season. This was due to his team's quarterback play and his limited playing time. Luckily for Johnson, Derek Carr signed with the Saints during the offseason and has been praising Johnson's training camp performance.

When former NFL quarterback and Derek's brother, David Carr, asked Derek for fantasy advice in August, Derek

suggested getting Johnson as his fantasy team's tight end. That certainly gives fantasy managers positive insight on the relationship Carr and Johnson have built throughout the offseason.

Carr is important for Johnson's possible breakout season because he has a history supporting good fantasy tight ends. Carr aided his former teammate, Darren Waller, to become the second highest scoring fantasy tight end during the 2019 and 2020 season in point per reception (PPR) format.

With Carr's support, Johnson could have a great season in both fantasy football and real football.

Johnson is looking to build off a really solid season. Johnson scored seven touchdowns and was the 14th ranked fantasy tight end in PPR format in 2022. He elevated his game from the 2021 season with 29 more receptions and over 300 more receiving yards.

If Johnson can stay on pace and keep upgrading his game, there is certainly a place for him in fantasy football.

## MYSTICS STORM BACK TO STAY UNDEFEATED

Looking to stay undefeated on the season, the Mystics traveled to face Dakota College at Bottineau, who were looking for their first win of the season. In the opening game the Mystics stumbled as the Jacks won the first game and looked to use that momentum. The Mystics regrouped and responded in the very next game, overpowering the Jacks and taking the final three games to win the match 3-1 (21-25, 25-9, 25-16, and 25-10).

Chelsa Krom and Shaylee Bosch led the team in kills with 13 and 12 respectively. Staci Kempenich and Kayla Gibson would continue to steer the offense along as they combined for 43 assists. Krom would also lead the team in blocks with 4 (1 solo, 3 assists).

The Mystics moved to 7-0 overall and 2-0 in conference.

"It's going pretty good," Paige McAllister, Mystics Middle Hitter said. "It's still early so we're working on the team chemistry and building it up, but we've had a really good start so far."

The Mystics take to the road Sept. 1 and 2 for the Iowa Central Invite. Then on Sept. 4, they resume conference play as they take on Miles City College.

"Thanks for all the support so far," McAllister said.




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# WELCOME BACK!

