

THE MYSTICIAN

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DAN BAILLIE FRAMING UP HIS SHOT
PHOTO BY DYLAN BINDER

VIETNAM WAR VETERAN ESCAPES ADVERSITY AND HARDSHIPS

BY DYLAN BINDER

There are many interesting people in this world. One of them lives right in Bismarck-Mandan. This black-haired, black-moustached, glasses-wearing man has done many impactful things in his life.

He was involved in the later part of the Vietnam War as a top secret agent. He has worked in sales for over 50 years, and has been involved in bowling and softball for over 40 years. His name is Dan Baillie.

Baillie was born and raised in Hammond, Indiana, and moved to different locations around the state, such as Valparaiso and Black Oak. When he was a sophomore in high school, he moved to Mandan, North Dakota when his father received a job at the Tesoro Refinery.

After high school, he attended Bismarck Junior College. But after one year, he realized that college wasn't for him. He wanted to serve his country by getting involved in the Vietnam War.

While enlisted in the Army, he spent time in various locations around the United States. He spent eight weeks in Fort Riley, Kansas for basic training. He shot the M-1, the M-14, the AR-15, and a grenade launcher. He also learned how to throw grenades and

how to engage in combat. He spent eight more weeks in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for Advanced Business Training.

"We called Fort Leonard Wood 'Little Korea' because the conditions there were unbearable, dirty and disgusting," Baillie said.

He spent his final eight weeks in the United States at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. He was stationed at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Headquarters (NATO) in Paris, France for the rest of the war.

Once stationed overseas, his job was to inform the generals of classified missile targets that were going to be launched against them. He was very busy during this time frame, as the Viet Cong were launching several different attacks in his area.

Baillie had Cosmic Top Secret Security Clearance while being involved with this job. This provides the agent involved with documents that are extremely confidential and can only be shared with government and military officials. It's essentially the United States Top Security Clearance.

"I am probably the only North Dakotan to hold the Cosmic Top Security Clearance prestige," Baillie said.

Once Baillie arrived back in the United States, he received a Good Conduct Medal for his three years of service. He took a job at the Tesoro Refinery in Mandan with his father. His job was to scrub tanks of gasoline and oil, a very rough job.

"I hated scrubbing tanks. I had to scrub every inch of these huge tanks, and I had to do all of them. I was exhausted and smelt terrible. I wanted a different job," Baillie said.

Going from one of the highest-ranking military officials to scrubbing huge gas tanks was very hard on Baillie. He wanted to move to a place that had more opportunities. He moved to Seattle, WA with his wife to get a job riveting planes.

"I wanted to find a job in Bremerton (WA) that would require riveting the wings on the Boeing 505," Baillie said. "When I got there, all of the jobs were filled."

Baillie moved back to North Dakota to work back at the Tesoro Refinery. However, he wanted to find a job that he loved. He took a job in sales at Office Machines & Furniture (OMF), even though he had no sales experience.

Baillie then took a job in sales at Woodmansee's Office Supply, where he worked for 43 years.

Once the business was sold, he took a job at Fireside Office Solutions. He has been there a year and a half. Because he is a very engaging and entertaining person, he is perfectly suited for sales.

There are many sports that Baillie is involved in. He has participated in bowling, baseball and softball events for many, many years.

"I began to bowl when I was a senior in high school as a hobby, and became very good at it," Baillie said.

With his newfound talent, Baillie participated in many semi-pro tournaments around the United States, and received a large amount of trophies and rewards. He was inducted in the North Dakota Bowling Hall of Fame in 2016.

Baillie began playing baseball at a very young age as well, and played nearly every position. He has received many bruises and scars along the way. He is now actively involved in softball, and attends tournaments around North Dakota.

Baillie is a man that has shown a great amount of courage in his life. Even though his life has been filled with adversity, he pressed forward and became successful. He lives life to the fullest, and hopes others do as well.

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WITH ART AND
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INFORMATION

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EVENT CALENDAR

- April 4**
The Great Alone
Belle Mehus Auditorium
7 p.m.
- April 6**
Film Festival
Belle Mehus Auditorium
7 p.m.
- April 8**
N.D. Student Media Association Convention
Armory/National Energy Center of Excellence
8:30 a.m.
- April 8**
Game Day
Student Union
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- April 9**
Collage Concert with Figments Readings
Sidney J. Lee Auditorium
7:30 p.m.
- April 11**
BSC Choir Concert
Sidney J. Lee Auditorium
7:30 p.m.
- April 12**
BSC Chamber Concert with Figments Art Work
Sidney J. Lee Auditorium
7:30 p.m.
- April 15**
BSC Wind Ensemble Concert
Sidney J. Lee Auditorium
7:30 p.m.
- April 16**
Easter Egg Hunt
Student Union
9 a.m.
- April 17**
Recognition Ceremony
National Energy Center of Excellence
7 p.m.
- April 19-23**
Holiday and School Inservice
BSC Closed
- April 26**
BSC Jazz Ensemble Concert
Sidney J. Lee Auditorium
7:30 p.m.
- April 27**
Mystic Volleyball Alumni Day
Armory
12 p.m.
- April 30**
Student Government Association Elections
Student Union
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- MENS' BASEBALL HOME GAMES**
April 7
Lake Region State College
1 p.m. & 3 p.m.
- April 10**
Northland Community & Technical College
12 p.m. & 2 p.m.
- April 14**
Miles Community College
1 p.m. & 3 p.m.
- April 19**
Dakota College at Bottineau
1 p.m. & 3 p.m.
- April 28**
Williston State College
1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

CLUBS ON CAMPUS

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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

ART CLUB

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

BSC GAMING MYSTICS

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

CRU

Adviser: Neal Brown
neal.brown@cru.edu

CYBER SECURITY CLUB

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

DRAMA CLUB

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

ENERGY CLUB

Adviser: John Thilmony
john.thilmony@bismarckstate.edu

GRAPHIC DESIGN AND COMMUNICATIONS CLUB

Adviser: Jason Lueder
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INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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MYSTIC MEDIA CLUB

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

PHI BETA LAMBDA

Adviser: Vickie Volk
vickie.volk@bismarckstate.edu
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PHI CHETA KAPPA

Advisers: Kevin Cavanagh & Michael Tomanek
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POSTSECONDARY AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS CLUB

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STUDENT NURSES ORGANIZATION

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ST&EM CLUB

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WIS&E

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The Mystician



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The next Issue of The Mystician will be published Thursday, May 2.
Deadline for any copy to be submitted is Thursday, April 18.
Stop by Room 125 in The Armory for more information.

The Mystician Mission Statement and Disclaimer

The purpose of college media is to serve and give voice to the students.

We, as the student-based forum of journalism on the Bismarck State College campus, provide content that is informative, fair, concise and of importance to BSC. With this goal in mind, The Mystician staff is dedicated to accuracy and maintaining ethical journalistic practices.

We strive to give a voice to student issues and

policies within the local community.

Our goal is to incorporate as many students as possible and be an outlet for student expression.

The BSC Mystician strives to be objective and is not affiliated with any outside organization.

The Mystician upholds the principles guaranteed by the First Amendment and utilizes these rights to bring diverse, entertaining and thought-provoking material to the college community.



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NEWS



2019 REGIONAL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

PHOTO BY DYLAN KAHL

STUDENTS PREPARE FOR GRADUATION

BY JUSTINE EMILY SMITH

With Spring Break over and May right down the road, preparing for graduation is on many college students' to do lists. Before leaving school there are just a few things college students must know before returning textbooks for the last time.

With help from an adviser, or a school career counselor, getting together hard copies of résumés and portfolio can be a big step forward. They can also help with finding part-time jobs and internships around the area. Creating different cover letters while printers are still available for students on campus is another important factor. Remember, different jobs mean different cover letters, so getting a basic idea is what students need.

Knowing professors can be a good way to gather references for the big job. One good reference can make the difference on getting the position or not. Having a professor's permission on top of phone number, addresses, job title and email is needed for a résumé.

Networking is a big deal, and this does not mean surfing the internet. Getting to know people face-to-face is how job opportunities happen. A strong handshake and smile can go a long way. Also, keep one or two interview outfits ready, these things come quick and dressing professionally is always a must. First impressions mean everything.

Students have six months before starting

to pay back school loans, so figure out how much is owed. With many new stresses that come in life, student loans will be the next one. Do not wait to set up a payment plan with a loan server. This will hurt credit scores and home owner opportunities in the future.

Transferring to a university can be another option for students. If so, make sure to find out when deadlines for submissions are, and what kind of credentials will be needed for the school's requirements.

If not transferring, develop a real world plan-one that is set with budget numbers if moving back home with the parents isn't an option. Find apartment applications early because summer is a busy time for renters. If apartments are too expensive, start thinking about roommates. This isn't an age issue but more of financial means. Having a roommate can cut the bill of living in half.

Finally, study for those last exams. Graduation is still a month away, so rather than cramming at the last minute, study a little every night. There is no reason for the panic attacks over calculus because of the preparations this year.

One of the things to remember is attire. Caps and gowns are available in the Bismarck State College Bookstore for anyone wanting to walk for graduation on May 10, 2019. Graduation is almost here.

GRADUATION FACTS

- 🎓 business is the **most common degree**
- 🎓 it's hard for graduates to find a good job right away
- 🎓 graduates **still out-earn** people without degrees
- 🎓 only **56% of students** earn degrees in six years
- 🎓 diplomas were originally **made from sheepskin**

**DON'T FORGET
BSC COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
FRIDAY, MAY 10 @ 2p.m.
BISMARCK EVENT CENTER
315 South 5th Street
Bismarck, ND 58503**



SHORTCUTS, 7 P.M., BAVENDICK STATEROOM, NECE

Cheer on your favorite designer in a live, fast-paced design battle where only the strongest survive. Shortcuts Showcases creative skills in Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign, and gives the audience a sneak peak of the creative process designers use while quickly solving problems. This design experience is more than just graphic design; it is a combination of art, networking, community and of course, epic creative battles.



GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDENTS SHOWCASE THEIR WORK

The Graphic Design and Communications Spring Show is April 20 through May 1 in the Student Union on the BSC campus. The show features digital illustration, graphic design, layout projects and photography from freshmen and sophomore students enrolled in the program. Student work is judged by local professionals on the evening of April 1 and the awards will be hanging with the pieces. More than 30 students will have multiple pieces of work represented.

The show has been part of the GDC program since 1972, shortly after the program started in 1971. The 47th annual Spring Show has been held in other locations, including the Kirkwood Mall for several years. The program was called Commercial Art in the beginning and has evolved tremendously since then, mostly through digital technology. In the early years, the work was done entirely by hand, more traditional art mediums, but aimed at advertising.

BSC ARTSQUEST KICKS OFF WITH POLAGE ART EXHIBIT

Bismarck State College kicked off ArtsQuest 2019 with its first event, an exhibit showcasing Austine Wood-Comarow's Polage art. Austine: Polage Exhibit will be on display now through April 15 in the Elsa Forde Gallery, which is on the first floor of BSC Schafer Hall.

Polage art was invented in 1967 by Wood-Comarow with no pigment of any kind. The material used breaks up light, creating color. Viewed without a lightbox or polarizing viewer, a Polage piece looks primarily gray with areas of color. When viewed through a polarizing filter or motorized lightbox, an intricate, colorful flow of imagery is revealed.

Wood-Comarow grew up in postwar Europe where her father directed the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, which won the Nobel Peace Prize under his leadership. Having lived abroad for many years, she speaks five languages fluently. After attending Swarthmore College, she obtained a B.A. in Russian Language and Literature at the University of Indiana, and later earned

an M.F.A. in illustration from Syracuse University.

Museums all over the world have commissioned and collected Austine's Polages including The Boston Museum of Science, La Cite des Sciences et des l'Industrie, Paris, Technorama, Switzerland, Singapore Science Center, Great Lakes Science Center, Cleveland, and Disney's EPCOT Center in Orlando.

Austine: Polage Exhibit is a BSC ArtsQuest event. Each year, the BSC Fine Arts Department and English and Mass Communications programs collaborate with other groups across campus to present ArtsQuest, an extended month-long campus celebration of music, art, theater, literature and film. ArtsQuest highlights the talent of BSC students and brings performances and presentations by guest artists to campus. All ArtsQuest events are open to the public with most presented at no charge. For a complete list of BSC ArtsQuest events visit bismarckstate.edu/artsquest or facebook.com/bscartquest.

BSC HOSTS 2019 REGIONAL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

BY DYLAN KAHL

On March 28, Bismarck State College was flooded with students from all over the area competing in the 2019 Science Olympiad. Students from grades 6–12 were able to compete in events such as: elastic launched glider competitions, CodeBusters, and many more to keep the campus crawling with students.

Over 400 students were on the campus competing for a place at the state level, including home-schooled students.

Trinity Ternes, a home-schooled student has competed in six Science Olympiad competitions previously, and what Ternes looked forward to the most was the CodeBusters competition.

CodeBusters is a written competition where teams decode encrypted messages using cryptanalysis techniques and show their skills with ciphers by encrypting or decrypting a message. Ternes is a part of the team called Bismarck Mandan Area Home Educators.

Another team member from the Bismarck Mandan Area Home Educators who competed that day was Eric Bender. Bender competed in the event titled Wright Stuff.

Students, prior to the tournament, design and build rubber-powered

monoplanes in hopes to achieve the longest time in air.

Kristy Rose, a chaperone for the Bismarck Mandan Area Home Educators looks forward to seeing the hard work and effort that the students put in.

“What I look forward to the most is the fruit of our labor,” Rose said. “The quickest way to see what our kids are getting out of their education is to put them in a competition.”

With ten people on their team, they start practicing as early as October.

“We meet up with our partners because all of our events are partner events,” Rose said. “It depends on the event, because there are lab events and test events. For a lab, event it’s practicing labs over and over again. For test events, it’s studying and taking tests.”

With a total of 45 events taking place in the Armory, Career Academy, Leach Music Center, LEA Hall and Jack Science Center, they all rounded out the event in the Armory for the games and awards ceremony leaving with experience and for some, a chance to compete in the State Science Olympiad. Scheduled for April 13 at North Dakota State University



(ON THE NEWS COVER) ERIC BENDER PREPPING HIS PLANE (TOP) BENDER TESTING OUT HIS PLANE IN THE WRIGHT STUFF EVENT PHOTO BY DYLAN KAHL



STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN ACTIVITIES SHORTLY BEFORE AWARDS WERE ANNOUNCED PHOTO BY DYLAN KAHL



CHAPERONE SNAPPING A VICTORY SHOT OF WINNING TEAM SPHOTO SUBMITTED

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

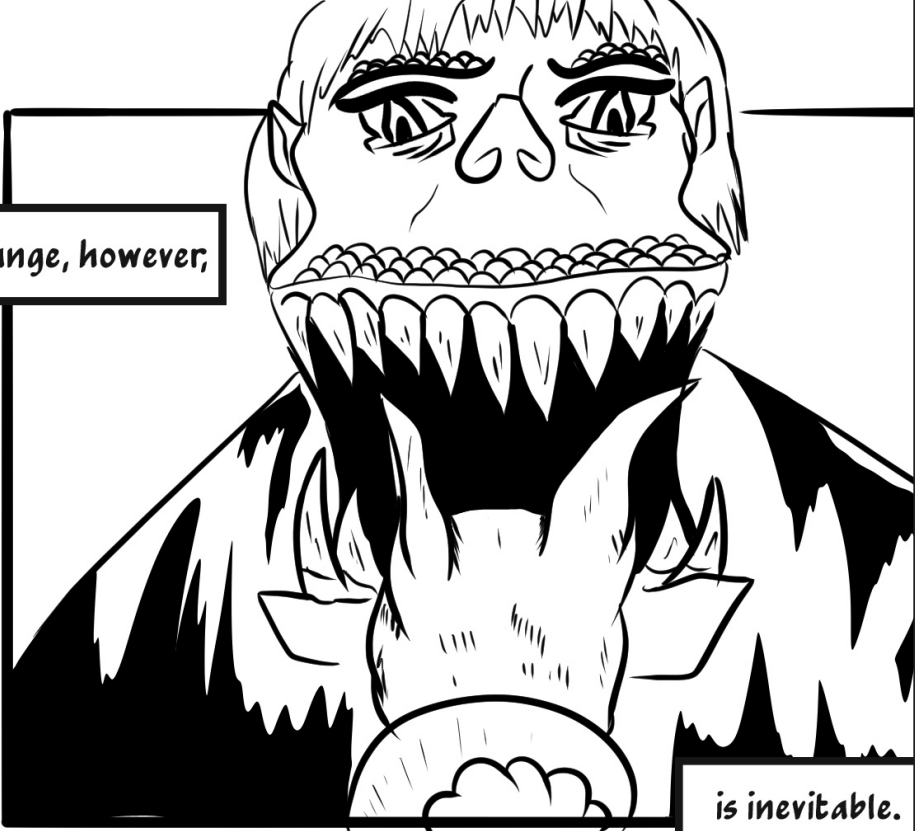
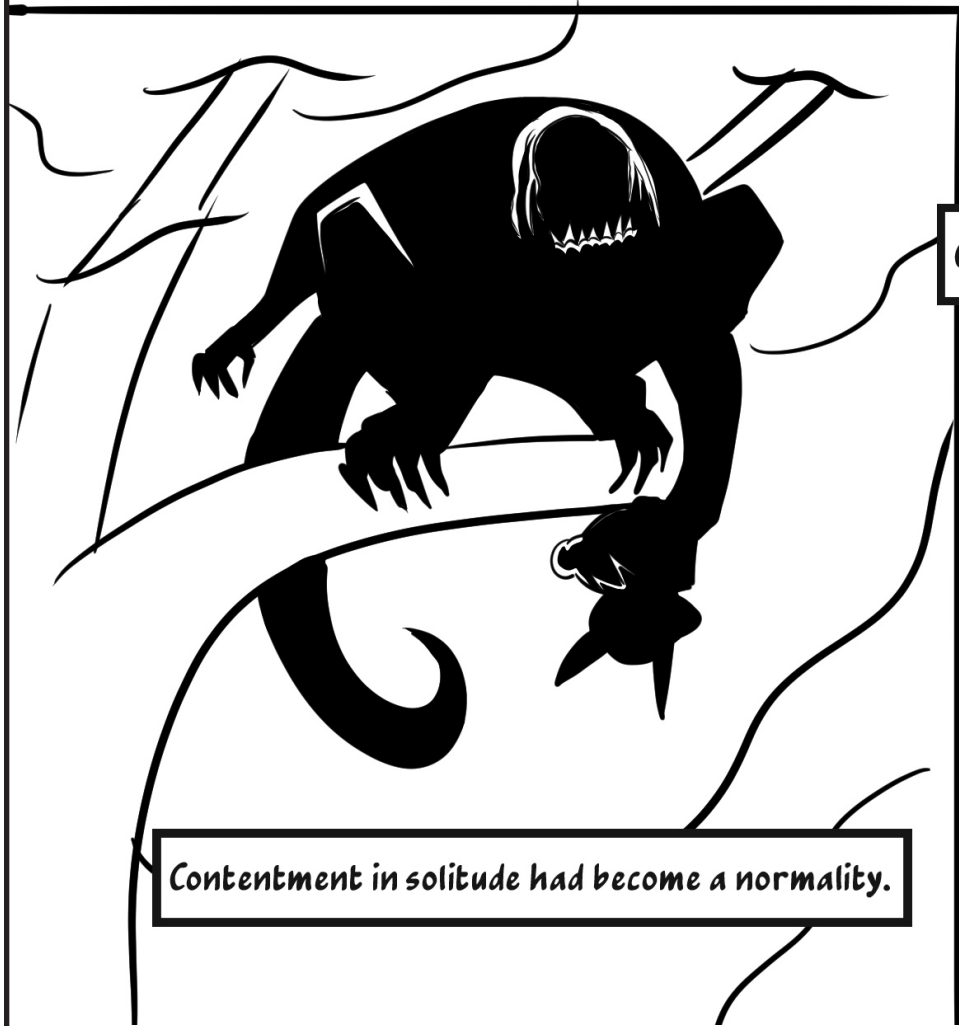
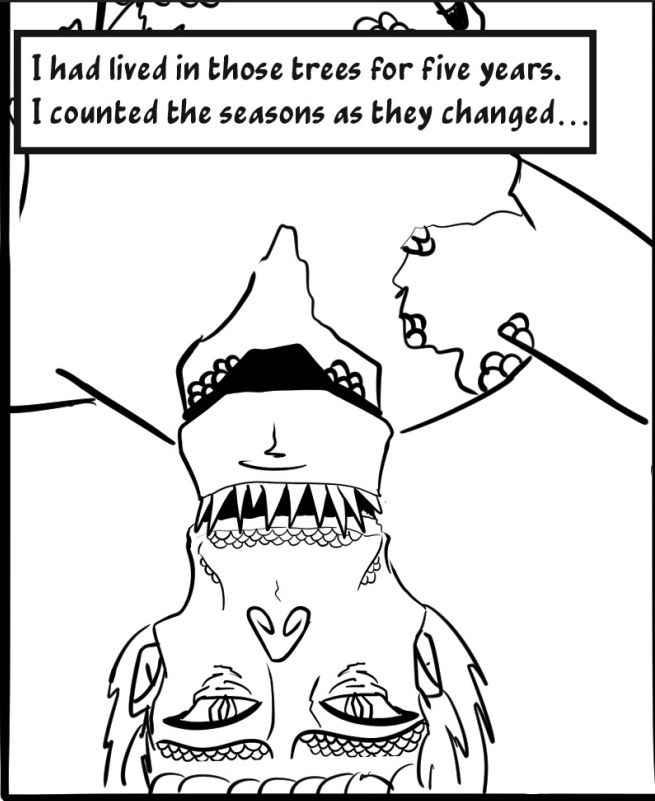
WANTS YOU

SGA ELECTIONS
Tuesday, April 30, 2019
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
STUDENT UNION

\$500 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY
BUILD YOUR RESUME
BE THE VOICE OF STUDENT BODY

SGA ELECTIONS
Tuesday, April 30, 2019
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
STUDENT UNION

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



I had lived in those trees for five years.
I counted the seasons as they changed...

... and I, with them.
change, I learned, is inevitable.

Some could say I regressed—that my growth
Reflected a beast's not a woman's.

I, truly, had evolved.

I could argue, however, that by shedding
My fears and inhibitions.

Change, however,

Contentment in solitude had become a normality.

is inevitable.

PART 4 OF SIX
WRITTEN BY MATT POPPE
DRAWN BY DYLAN KAHL



COLLEGE STUDENTS GETTING PEIRCED

BY DYLAN KAHL

College for a lot of students can mean big change; from acquiring student loan debt, transitioning into a career job, to even changes on one's body physically.

Everyone changes physically after high school going into college—whether it's a self-esteem booster like working out and becoming fit, or not so much like gaining the infamous “freshman 15”.

One person that is helping everyone including college students feel better about their self-esteem is piercer Aileen Fritz at Alchemist Tattoo and Piercing.

Fritz has been piercing for fifteen years. Starting at the age of 18, she dedicated herself to her passion, and it became her whole life. Starting in Jamestown, piercing in Bismarck, then managing a piercing studio in Salem Oregon, and finally back to Bismarck to pierce, Fritz brings her experience and passion to Bismarck-Mandan. Men and women alike come into the studio to get pierced by her, and half of her business comes from college-aged people.

“My demographic is 18 to 35 and my biggest is 18 to 25”, Fritz said. The two most popular piercings that Fritz does are nostril and cartilage.

Fritz feels that college-aged women want to get pierced to show their independence and feel beautiful.

“I think a lot of the reasons they want to get pierced is one, they look beautiful and two, it's a nice way, when they turn 18 to reclaim their own body, to be their own person and to make the world know that they made their own choice,” Fritz said.

When it comes to feeling empowered BSC student Breanna Sailer said she feels that getting pierced is something that can help boost self-confidence.

“Piercings are a great way to boost confidence mentally and physically. It is also a wonderful and harmless form of self expression,” Sailer said.

Sailer has a total of nine piercings and what made her initially interested in getting pierced was Aileen coming to Alchemist. Another thing Sailer finds helpful about piercings is that they are not permanent, and just like hair dye they are easy to remove. For more information about piercings contact Aileen Fritz at 701-751-2626 or stop in Alchemist Tattoo and Piercing at 809 West Interstate Ave Bismarck, N.D.

TOP CO-OWNER OF ALCHEMIST TATTOO AND PIERCING SIMEON NELSON AND ALIEN FRITZ
PHOTO BY BRYAN HEMPSTEAD
LEFT CLOSE-UP OF BREANNA SAILER WITH HER PIERCINGS



**AILEENS STUDIO HOURS
TUESDAY-SATURDAY
10 A.M. – 6:30 P.M.**

GET YOUR SASS BACK TO CLASS

BY AMANDA JOYCE

What's up guys, so for this issue I'm going to do something a little different, which shouldn't be surprising because I like to mix it up. I'm going to focus on tattoos.

I know that there's a vendetta against tattoos, particularly in the workplace, and I have a few things to say about that.

As a veteran of getting tattoos, and someone who works in the health care field, I have some issues with this.

For those who are afraid of getting tattooed, and not getting a job, here's some pointers I have for you.

- Make sure it's not inappropriate
- Make sure it's in a coverable spot
- Have a plan for what tattoo you want if it's just a walk in
- Talk to your artist if you're nervous about your tattoo
- If you're unsure about getting it, try it as a temporary henna tattoo
- Talk to your boss about guidelines at your job about piercings and tattoos

All in all, if you want to get a tattoo that you've thought about getting for a long time, then get it.

Like I said previously, I work in health care at a group home that supports individuals with disabilities, and almost every person I work with has tattoos and piercings.

My manager has no issues with it and neither do the people I support, because they don't care what I look like, as long as I'm nice and caring and I make sure they know that I'm there to help them.

My only thing, is please don't get tattooed on your hands, neck or face. That doesn't really look good on anyone, sorry if you're someone who has them. That's just my opinion.

Otherwise, who cares what someone thinks about your tattoo. If it's something you wanted and you know you're excited about it, then that's what really matters.

With that being said, do what you want

with your life, get tattooed, be happy, and get your sass back to class.



BEFORE AND AFTER. PIECE WAS DONE BY JON GROSS FROM NARDAWHAL'S.
PHOTO BY MANDI JOYCE

CHEF BOY R SHEAN DISHES UP FOOD AND MEMORIES

BY CADEN SHEAN

Whether it's by going out to eat, going to parties, or just cooking it at home, food in general is a fun way to make memories.

Everyone has a certain food that brings back a memory, good or bad, but hopefully good. Spaghetti brings back a good memory for me.

When I was in fifth grade, my brother was getting ready to head off for college. My family decided to have a final meal, which was spaghetti, before he left for the school year. It was like a send off.

It was the last family meal together with all of us living under the same roof.

We had some laughs, some tears, which was mostly mom, and a fun night with each other as a family. After the meal, my brother and I stayed up late playing video games before he left the next day.

Food makes people dance, smile and even become joyous. However, there is something rewarding about making your own homemade food. There is a feeling of accomplishment. It's something that gets to you every time, especially when cooking bigger meals such as spaghetti.

Making this meal is easy, and only takes about ten minutes.

Here are the ingredients:

- Spaghetti noodles
- Ground beef
- Sauce of your choosing

Here are the steps:

First, boil the noodles in water until they look soft and have fallen into the pot.

Next, cook your beef until it looks the brown that you want it.

After that, pour your pre-made sauce onto the beef.

Finally, stir the noodles and beef mix together.

This is a cheap meal that can go a long way. The total cost varies on how much you are making, but for a few people, it can cost from \$10-\$14. The price depends on where you buy the ingredients.

This is always a solid meal and a go-to for me because of the incredible memory that is brought up just by having spaghetti. It's a memory I will cherish forever.

So, invite some friends over, make some spaghetti, or something else you chose, and make some memories that will last a lifetime.

OPINION



STAFF ED: COLLEGE BRIBERY SCAM



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

As I write this, we have 30 school days left. 30. Where has this time gone? It sure felt like January and February were six months ago, but I mean after spring break I feel like I'm going to be waking up tomorrow and accepting my diploma. With only 30 days left, I still have so much stuff to get done. Don't fret reader, just because we have a month left of school doesn't mean "senioritis" has kicked in for any of us on staff.

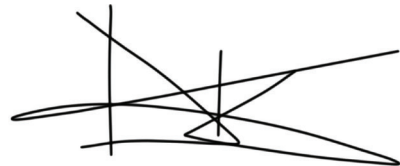
We still have a lot of things running down the pipeline. With an extra boost in energy and motivation, due to the College Media Association Conference, the staff is only going to deliver the greatest newspapers for the remainder of the year.

With 80.9 in your hands right now, we have 80.10 approaching in the beginning of

May and of course our special end-of-the-year issue, *The Spectator*. Meant to be a yearbook, but designed as a newspaper, it will definitely be one to keep for memories.

April is going to be a good month with all that is happening on campus like ArtsQuest that includes: Shortcuts, the screening of *The Great Alone* at the Belle Mehus, and the BSC Carnival.

Also coming in April is the long-awaited *Avengers: Endgame* which has a run-time of three hours long! Which is insane, and I'm excited for every minute of it. The opening show is April 25, the day of Shortcuts. So once you all are done watching all the graphic designers compete for bragging rights, we can all carpool to The Grand Theatres and watch what is going to be one of the greatest movies of the year.



Dylan Kahl

SUMMER HAPPINESS

BY EMILY DESANTIS

Living in North Dakota comes hand in hand with living with bad weather. As a student who used to live in Ohio, I can say that the tough weather conditions were a huge shock to me my first winter in Bismarck. I had experienced cold weather and snow while living in Ohio, and I for sure thought that I would be well prepared for the winters here. I remember thinking that there's no way, it can't be that bad. I sure was wrong.

The amount of snow I saw and how cold and strong the wind was absolutely blew my mind. My first year at BSC, I actually booked a flight home to visit my friends and family.

I would like to say the weather here was not the whole reason, but it kind of was. One of my friends told me that I should have a winter emergency kit in my car, and I wondered how in the world people deal with this every year.

I previously had no clue that winter depression was something that affected people during these tough conditions. I guess I just never understood it until the weather recently started heating up, and I

saw the snow slowly starting to melt away.

I find myself going outside and having more fun with my friends. I never pictured myself going for a walk with shorts on the moment the temperature reached 30 degrees. I honestly think I might have forgotten what grass looks like.

Growing up, my parents always told me I should go outside rather than sit in my dark room watching yet another episode of "Shameless" on Netflix. I think everyone else was told the same thing, but now I actually agree with them. I didn't even realize that I was in a kind of slump this whole winter until it started turning into spring. It is true that not being inside all day and being able to open your car windows while you're driving can actually brighten up a person's mood.

Even if you're not an outdoors person, I'm sure that just seeing an end to the literal blizzards that plagued Bismarck this winter is making you happy.

I hope that everyone has the opportunity this season to go outside and take in the good weather. I swear we'll miss it next winter.

19 AND STRUGGLING

BY BAILEY SCHMIDT

There is one month left of my time here at Bismarck State College. With the realization that I will be graduating soon, I have been in a constant anxiety situation of what I will be doing afterwards.

Since the end of January, I have looked at a total of six houses around my hometown of Bottineau. Yes, I am from a big city and sometimes still get called a city girl, but I believe that my home is in a small town in the middle of nowhere with a lot of dirt roads.

I probably won't be able to officially

leave Bismarck until the end of July of this year, but I am someone who plans ahead.

When I tell people that I am only 19-years-old and wanting to buy a house, they give me that look of why? Why the hell won't you want to stay as young as possible? I just say screw it, and I go my own path.

After looking at six houses, I have brought the list down to three possibilities. Two of them won't need any fixing besides some small spots in the basement and painting.

The third would be a major fixer upper. It's a beautiful three story house built in 1916 placed on two acres of land. I could make it my own. I could get back to my construction roots.

But, with it needing a fix up, I hope my life doesn't turn into the 1986 movie, "The Money Pit" with me falling through the floor and getting caught in a big rug that prevents me from hitting the ground. If you don't understand what I'm talking about, and you haven't seen the movie, I highly recommend it for an hour and a

half of good laughs.

My goal: find a for sure yes by the middle or end of May, and it looks like I might finish that goal early. House showings are done, and I even got accepted for a loan.

I keep telling people that I want to start my life right away. Maybe it will give me a better idea for the future to come. Better stability.

If starting my life right away means that I have to start it alone, then so be it. I want to feel happy in my own place and feel comfortable in a small town again.

STAFF ED

The latest scandal that has been plastered all over news and social media is the College Bribery Scandal of 2019. With 50 people already being charged by the U.S. Attorney in the District of Massachusetts with some of the accused even being celebrities.

Actresses Felicity Huffman of *Desperate Housewives* and Lori Loughlin of *Full House* are both being placed as the poster children for the scandal.

Not only are celebrities getting in trouble for the scandal, but also parents who have the funds to bribe. Parents that are part of the scandal have allegedly paid anywhere from \$200,000 to \$6.5 million, and they didn't just pay to get their children into the school of their wishes. Allegations also included that parents paid third parties to take classes and exams in place of their children and even falsified exam scores and grades—pretty much anything to help improve the application.

We, here at *The Mystician*, have talked about this scandal and have collected our thoughts and feelings to do what the readers can't: publish how upsetting and frustrated we are about the situation.

While we all know that bribery happens, and it didn't come as much of a surprise to us, we feel that it would not be as big of a deal in the news if celebrities were not also tied in with it. Bribery doesn't happen only in college, but it also happens in high schools and especially sports. The positive thing with the celebrities being tied to the scandal is that hopefully it sheds more light on these kinds of situations, and people will speak out more.

With the scandal there have also been reports of people paying third parties to take exams in place of students like the ACT or SAT. It has made some of us question if these exams are really necessary. Some of us feel that those exams are a joke because it's supposed to be a test that covers a broad list of topics and then sums up the total scores to equal one big score. How does that show what kind of students they are, especially if some pay their way around it? It completely decimates the level of the playing field.

With students who pay their way through tests and admissions, it puts the honest, hard-working students at a disadvantage when competing to apply for schools. While applying to schools, many students are advised to apply to more than one to ensure that they have a back-up plan in case they do not get selected to their preferred college of choice. Who's to say that the person who didn't get accepted to their dream college was because they didn't bribe their way in, while someone else did and were chosen instead.

Even though the parents paid their kids' way to get to the so-called prestigious college of their choice, do they really benefit in the long run? Sure the college looks good on their résumés and will open doors for them, but they don't get to actually feel the accomplishment of being accepted into the school. They did not put in the hard work and effort like most and do not get to feel that satisfaction afterwards.

When this scandal fades from the headlines, and no one talks about it anymore, hopefully instead of people being silent when issues like this occur, they will be inclined to speak out. Because when people speak out about these types of problems happening on colleges, it will make people think twice about applying there and can potentially hurt the reputation and revenue of that college. With colleges focusing on what seems like the money instead of education, it will make them more accountable for their actions. But who's to say if anyone had that kind of money and was put into that kind of situation, what would they do?

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SPORTS



Austin Slaughter (center) drives to the hoop. Photo by Bailey Schmidt

SPORTS STREAMLINED FOR SPRING

BY BAILEY WILHELM

The volleyball team concluded their season with a runner-up finish versus the North Dakota College of Science Wildcats in the Mon-Dak Conference Championship on October 28, 2018.

They went 27-8 on the season and 10-2 in the conference play.

Out of the 10 girls leaving the roster this past season, three of them are going on to play on at the next level.

Sophomore outside hitter, Liza Doppler has committed to Ft. Lewis College in Colorado. Sophomore right side hitter, Leah Woods has committed to Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida. Sophomore setter, Jessie Oja has committed to Univer-

sity of Mary here in Bismarck.

Outside hitter, Amy Jacobson says the hopes for next year's team are high.

"We want to build our team chemistry up a little more and continue to make each other better in practice," Jacobson said. "We want to get back to (the) Conference Championship."

The women's basketball team concluded their season with a runner-up finish versus the Miles City Community College Pioneers in the Mon-Dak Conference Championship on March 3, 2019.

They went 23-7 on the season and 10-4 in conference play.

Freshman forward, Amber Stevahn,

ended the season leading the nation in Division I scoring with 24.7 per game.

Both the volleyball and women's basketball teams went 10-1 at home with only a one game losing streak.

The boy's basketball team ended up losing in the quarter-finals of the Mon-Dak Conference tournament to the Dawson Community College Buccaneers on February 28, 2019.

They ended up winning nine out of their 20 games overall and 5-9 in conference play. They averaged 90.2 points per game.

The baseball team is still in session with conference play right around the corner. So far, they are 10-3 on the season with a

total of 117 runs in 13 games.

Their first conference game takes place on March 30, at Dawson Community College.

Four Mystic baseball players have officially committed to play on after this season. Sophomores, Connor Burgess and Seth Brewer have signed on to play at Northern State University next year in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Gage Gellner has signed to Valley City State University and Alec Battest has committed to the University of Mary.



Leah Woods (left) spiking the ball to the opponent.



Amber Stevahn going up for a layup.



KyJuan Johnson (right) drives past defender.



Alec Battest (right) frames the pitch.

Photos on BSC Athletic Website by Tran Doan Photography

BISON TAKE ON TRUMP

BY CADEN SHEAN

The North Dakota State Bison won their second straight Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) title and seven of the last eight. Do not get me wrong, winning a title would be incredible on any stage however, this last title was a little bit sweeter. After the Bison's last title run, they got an invite to the White House from President Trump. Yes, the Donald Trump invited North Dakota's beloved Bison to tour the White House. With the help of Senator John Hoeven, this was all possible. So, on March 14th they boarded a plane and flew out.

"The trip was for sure memorable" said RedShirt Freshman Jake Kava of the Bison. He added that "going to the oval office and getting interviewed by reporters was my favorite part. The secret service was even shocked that we were allowed in since not many people are able to do so."

GrayShirt Freshman Griffin Cosa said, "My favorite part was definitely getting to see the inside of the White House. Not many get to experience something like that so it was awesome being able to do that."

Trump served Chick-Fil-A and McDonalds to the champions. The President also had a fast food meal for Clemson, who were the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) champions. There were some mixed opinions on the meal Trump served for both title winning schools.

Jake Kubas, another RedShirt Freshman for the Bison had this to say about the meal. "A lot of people didn't like it but I personally enjoyed it because we don't get fast food often cause we are on a special diet." Kava added, "I thought the meal was funny, but I figured since the government was opened so we would get a bigger meal. I am guessing the fast food meal is what Trump will do going

forward and it will be his thing."

All three had the same response as to what the trip meant to them. It was not about self-accomplishment, not about the glory that came with it, but about what it meant for the city of Fargo and state of North Dakota. Being able to represent the state on the big stage of the country, in front of the head of the country. That is what the trip meant for the boys.

The Bison thoroughly enjoyed their time on the trip. It helped bring more recognition to everything they have been able to accomplish over this impressive run. What the Bison have done for the city of Fargo and state of North Dakota is incredible. They are putting the state on the map and giving us recognition. They are showing the world that the sports world up in ND is nothing to take lightly, that we can compete and produce athletes.

NDSU has been incredible the last decade, and they have the winning numbers to prove it. But more importantly, they have something that almost no other colleges have. An entire state supporting them, their own herd with them every step of the journey.

Crosa said, "It seemed like Trump loved having us there so I wouldn't be surprised if he invited us back. I'm not sure if it will become an every year thing but I'd love to keep winning and find out. I would definitely love to keep going back."

LET'S GET REAL

BY LEVI HOLZER

When sport fanatics think of anything sports related in New York, the Big Apple, it is mainly which athlete is upset with their life now. New York is the biggest sports market in the world and man you can tell when visiting.

Being the huge sports guy that I am, I was excited for the chance to visit NYC and see one of the greatest sporting venues in the US, Madison Square Garden. Let me tell you what it is so big it's unbelievable and unseen to the naked eye. A regret I have being the sports guy that I am was not going to a game while in New York but with hockey being the only option, I wasn't for it since it's not one of my top favorites and also very expensive. I just hope that one day I can go to a sporting event at "The Garden."

Growing up in a small town that was very sports oriented, I thought nothing could be better than being a sports fanatic. Being in New York, I was proven wrong and saw it all from being literally 15 minutes from Madison Square Garden and six miles from Yankee Stadium. I was starstruck by pretty much everywhere you looked you saw sports memorabilia, venues, or sport bars. When people say the sports market is big in New York they are not wrong and it won't ever change.

Let's get real though, with how big sports are in the "Big Apple" I do not think

that they will never experience championships again anytime soon till the Giants get things organized and straightened out. I do think though they are close to get back to that level just have to make key decisions at the quarterback position and defensive help. The Yankees are in the right place just have to get over the hump of defeating the Boston Red Sox's when it matters, Mets need help (simple as that), the Knicks are right there with the Mets and for hockey, I don't follow it a lot but think they are doing fine they just got to compete.



PHOTO BY DYLAN KAHL

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