

Retirees
P4

Graduation
P14

Golf Tournament
P18



THE MYSTICIAN

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On the cover:
Marcie Woehl is the student speaker at the Bismarck State College 2016 Commencement Ceremony. Commencement is at 2:30 p.m. May 13 at the Bismarck Event Center.
Photo by: John Bettger

From the Editor's Desk

I don't even know where to begin. This year has been huge for my life. The things I've experienced over the course of the past 9 months have been things I will never forget.

I had goals at the beginning of the fall semester, and I can happily say that I'm so proud of everything The Mystician has done.

My main focus was student involvement. I feel as though we tremendously improved on reaching different students and having a variety of content. Aside from that, we got people talking. Whether it was praise or criticism, people had things to say about our issues. That's all I could've asked for.

I owe my thanks to the staff of this magazine. Over the course of the past two semesters, we have grown as writers and as people. I'm proud of every single staff member and happy to call them my friends.

Last but not least, I need to thank Karen Bauer for everything she has done for The Mystician and for myself. She has helped me develop leadership skills, pushed me to look farther and proofread every single thing I wrote in the past nine months. She is an inspiration to me, and I'm sure to many others.

Before I get too sentimental, I want to wish all of you luck in the future. Now, enjoy this end-of-the-semester list.

Thank yous:

Nice weather, microwaves, coffee, Bismarck Police Department, copy editors, Pandora, tissues, group texting, vacations, the 1960s, the AP stylebook, Google, Photoshop, freedom of speech, Bismarck State College Safety and Security, the BSC Foundation, cheap flights, mothers, Uber, concerts.

Screw yous:

Mall-walkers, hyphens, deadlines, the 16-year-old who tweeted he was going to shoot up our library, group texting, CTFDs, Oxford commas, passwords, the word "no," Donald Trump, walls, dehydration, snow in May, Bismarck not having Uber, people who don't understand what feminism is.

Always,

Katie Winbauer
Editor-in-Chief

Contents

VOLUME: 77 ISSUE: 8



Scoop

- 4 Retiring Staff
- 6 Refugees
- 8 Hoeven Protest
- 9 News Briefs

Features

- 10 Digital Rising
- 12 Film Festival
- 14 Graduation
- 16 Tempe O'Kun
- 17 Much Ado

Drive

- 18 Golf Tournament
- 19 Athlete Spotlight

Happenings

- 20 Activities for 18+
- 22 Master Sword
- 23 #LetsGetMystical

P.O.V.

- 24 Letters to the Editor
- 25 Staff Editorial
- 26 Panama Papers
- 26 Freshman Year
- 27 Pen a Friend
- 27 Thoughts on Food

Goodbye Retirees

Story by: Adam Pfeifer

Photos by: John Bettger
and Jordan Bitz

Name: J. Michael McCormack

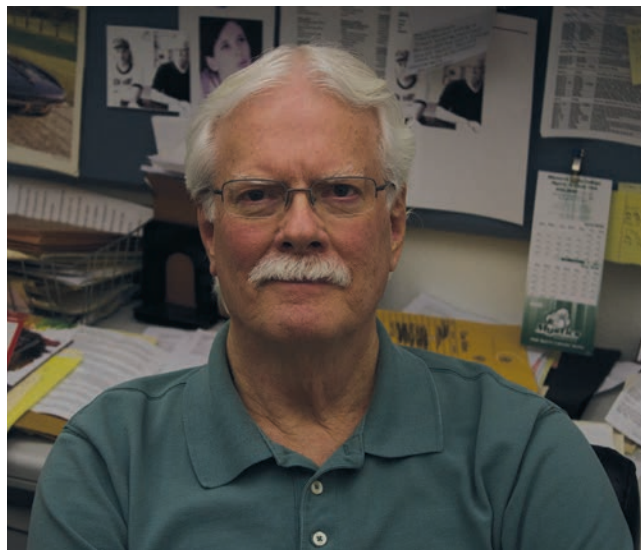
Title: Professor of History

Career: 50 years

Memory: "This is a memory that keeps going on. The best memories I have of teaching history is meeting students that I've had years previous and them talking to me and saying that they remembered my course, and in many cases that I made a difference in their life."

"Any teacher will tell you that the reason they are teaching is because of their students, and they don't necessarily need to be the 'A' students."

Advice: "Oh boy, asking a historian to give advice. Well, we always say that the past is prologue. So in other words, what is happening now can greatly affect things in the future."



Name: Carol Cashman

Title: Associate Professor of Speech Communication

Career: 29 years - Staying on as Adjunct

Advice: "The atmosphere where we work is so important; you think about that when you get a job. It isn't a matter of a paycheck, sometimes it's a matter of 'do I want to spend a third of my life with these people, and do I want to accomplish what this company wants me to do?'"

"For my students, I really like the saying I have by my door: 'Today decides tomorrow.' So every decision you make today, realize that it will have an impact on your future, on all your tomorrows."

Name: James Wright

Title: Associate Professor of Management

Career: 45 years - Staying on as Adjunct

Memory: "The people I've had the opportunity to work with are great. I don't think anybody ever takes a job and expects to be in the same place for 45 years, but it just seems like the time went by so fast."

Advice: "You gotta have young people around. As much of an asshole as they can be at times, you still have to have them around. I'm speaking from experience because I have a grandson that is a sophomore up here. He drives me nuts, but you gotta have them around."



Name: Katherine Netzer
Title: Assistant Professor of English
Career: 30 years

Memory: "One particular semester in composition 120 they were a very lively group, and they would dream up things. We had lumberjack day and everybody had to wear flannel shirts. So that was fun."

Advice: "Be kind to one another."



Name: Drake Carter
Title: Provost/Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs
Career: 29 years

Memory: "I guess I would have to go all the way back to my first day of class here at BSC. I had worked hard to get a teaching position at a college because they're not easy to come by. It was a real personal success."

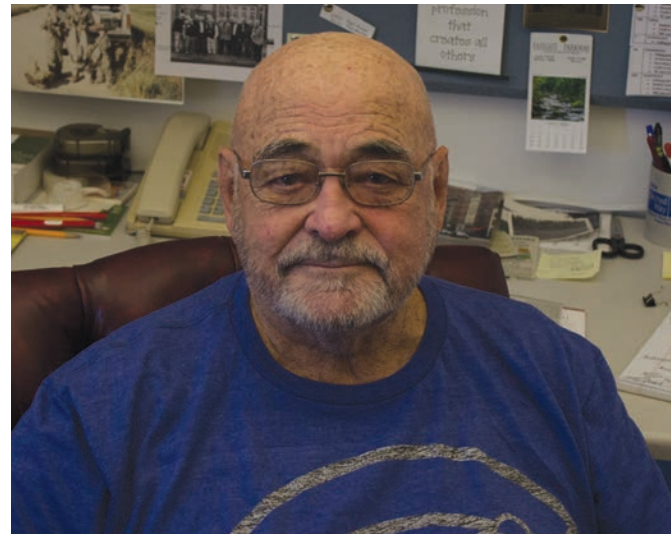
Advice: "The best advice I can give at this time would be to, and this will sound hokey, but it's so true: Work hard, keep as many doors open as you can, keep as many options available. Don't sell yourself short and don't put yourself into a tiny little box."

Name: Marv Mutzenberger

Title: Associate Professor of Religion
Career: 35 years - Staying on as Adjunct

Memory: "I have enjoyed my whole life here, it's been a good 35 years. I came in '79, and I didn't come as a teacher, I came as a chaplain, and they kept giving me things to teach and I sort of evolved into faculty."

Advice: "I would just say that anybody that's teaching, I hope you enjoy what you do. Get yourself in there 100 percent."



Name: Debbie Van Berkom
Title: Executive Assistant to the President
Career: 39 years

Memory: "It's a wonderful place to work, there's no two days that are the same. I can't think of just one good memory. It's been a wonderful place."

Advice: "You have to remember that there's always going to be changes, but just go with them and know that in the end it is for the best for the students and for the employees."

Out of the Line of Fire, Into a Welcoming Place

Story by: Katie Winbauer

WHEN MARINA Fathallah walked to school with her sister, she said they never thought they would reach the building.

She said shootings usually started at that time, and bombs could also be heard more than once on any given day.

Fathallah is a 20-year-old Bismarck State College student. She grew up in Mosul, Iraq; a city now occupied by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

"I didn't even go outside a lot," Fathallah said. "It was dangerous, so I used to stay home."

When Fathallah was 15 years old, her dad decided the family needed to move. If he died, his daughters and wife

would be left without a place to live in Iraq.

The family relocated to Turkey for a couple months before resettlement in the United States. Fathallah's aunt lived in Bismarck, N.D. and was able to help her family adjust.

Fathallah said the day her family arrived, they were greeted at the airport by her aunt, who cooked her family supper that night. There was also a representative from Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota present.

Jessica Thomasson, the chief executive officer of Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota, said the state has been a welcoming place for refugees to resettle and start their new lives.

Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota is the only federally-recognized resettlement organization in the state. The organization has worked with refugees in North Dakota since 1946.

"We help people who are displaced by conflict find a safe place to begin rebuilding their lives," Thomasson said. "The families that we work with are so eager to begin building their lives again."

North Dakota receives about 400 refugees each year according to Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota. The largest resettlement groups are Bhutanese and Iraqis, but there is also presence from Somalia, Eritrea, Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Liberia.

Thomasson said the purpose of refugee resettlement is not to "resolve world conflict."

"There are certainly larger geopolitical issues that go well beyond the world of refugee resettlement, which is a humanitarian effort," Thomasson said. "There is a huge conversation that has to go on about how to resolve conflict in countries around the world."

Sen. John Hoeven said bringing refugees to the country will not solve any problems. Specifically, Hoeven mentioned Syrian refugees, who have been fleeing Syria since the civil war began in 2011.

In the photo:

Manel, Akram, Mariana, Marina and Madona Fathalla at the Lewis and Clark Riverboat site in Bismarck, N.D.
Photo submitted





“We need to make sure that we are doing everything we can to integrate, communicate, continue to work with those populations.”

-Sen. Heidi Heitkamp

States. Heitkamp said problems occur when people feel isolated and devalued because of their religion or skin color.

like students not wearing uniforms and having colors such as purple and green in their hair.

Thomasson also said that upon arrival into their new communities, refugees go through extensive orientation on what it means to live in an American community.

“I didn’t know what freedom really is, and I never experienced it in my life,” Fathallah said. “Sometimes I feel like my life got harder than before, because I never had to worry about driving a car or working in a store.”

Freedom for Fathallah is now choosing her own career and driving a car to school each day.

Fathallah said that she would like to go back to Iraq some time, but not until the danger is gone.

(Katie Winbauer is the editor-in-chief for The Mystician. Reach her at editor@mystician.org.)

“We need to set up safe zones and take actions in the region, with our allies,” Hoeven said. “We cannot solve the problem for the Syrian refugees by just having them all come to the United States.”

Hoeven stressed the need to work with other countries to defeat conflict on a military basis.

“We have to think in terms of solving problems, not creating additional problems,” Hoeven said.

To avoid the creation of potential terrorist activity, several background checks are conducted on every refugee prior to their admittance to the United States. In addition, there are checks run by the FBI, CIA, Security Advisory Opinions, Consular Lookout and Support System and the Inter Agency Check.

Sen. Heidi Heitkamp is on the Homeland Security Committee and said refugees are the most vetted people who come into the country.

One of the topics the committee discusses is radicalization of people who are transitioning to the United

“We need to make sure that we are doing everything we can to integrate, communicate, continue to work with those populations,” Heitkamp said. “We don’t make it safer by demonizing a whole religion.”

Integrating successfully into the new communities is specifically what the refugee resettlement program’s work is, Thomasson said.

“We help people get connected with English language classes, with employment, with education, with health care,” Thomasson said. “We help make sure they have a place to live when they move to the community.”

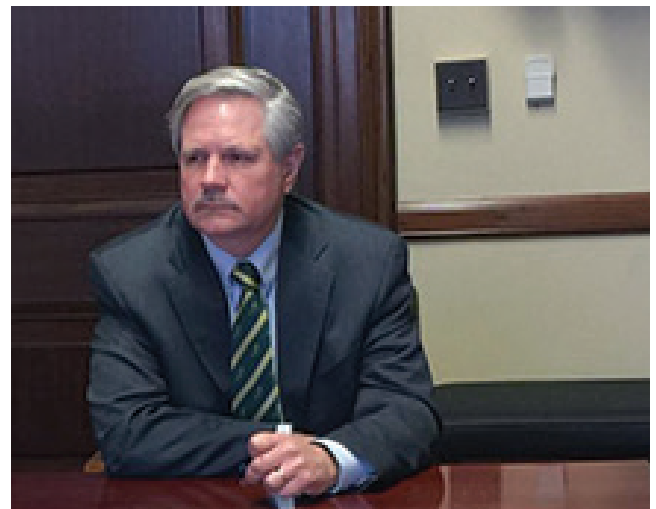
Fathallah said she learned basic English words in Iraq, but when she came to the United States Fathallah said she felt like she had never learned English before.

“Everything was different,” Fathallah said. “It was hard because school looked different. They [other students] looked different.”

Some of the differences Fathallah noted were things

“We have to think in terms of solving problems, not creating additional problems.”

-Sen. John Hoeven





Local Rally Calls Senator to do Job

Story and photo by: Hunter Andes

“1-2-3-4 DO your job or out the door, 5-6-7-8 hold those hearings don’t be late!”

“Do your job, or lose your job!”

“Give me a H-O-E-V-E-N, what does that spell? Gridlock!”

These are the three rally chants that echoed throughout the capitol grounds on April 18.

A group of protesters rallied in front of the state capitol building in Bismarck, expressing their disapproval of Sen. John Hoeven’s actions over the last two months, regarding the president’s Supreme Court nomination.

People of all ages attended, all of them holding signs in the pouring rain that evening. People driving by honked their horns, while the megaphone lead the crowd’s chant.

Last March, President Barack Obama nominated Merrick Garland to fill the

recently deceased Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia’s seat.

It is the president’s duty to make a nomination upon the death or resignation of a justice. After the nomination is made, the Senate is supposed to hold a hearing to approve or disapprove the selection.

The message from this rally was that Hoeven is not doing his job. The frustration of the protesters was that Hoeven is following party lines regarding Garland’s hearing in refusing to even meet with Garland.

Waylon Hedegaard, president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organization, and his 18-year-old son, were the leaders in the rally, making chants through the megaphone.

Hedegaard said Hoeven and the GOP are “sacrificing long-term political

stability, for short term gain; and this simply can’t be allowed.”

Former State Senator Tracy Potter was also a member in the rally; he ran against Hoeven for the U.S. Senate in 2010.

Potter’s message to Hoeven was, “Do the North Dakota thing and vote.”

Potter also acted as Elliot Glassheim’s surrogate and delivered this message, “Every vote, every bill that gets a sponsor in the North Dakota legislature, gets a hearing and a vote. That’s the North Dakota way.”

The final speaker was Chase Iron Eyes. Iron Eyes is running as a democrat against Rep. Kevin Cramer for the U.S. House this November.

Iron Eyes closed out the speeches by saying, “Hoeven, you’ve got to do your job.”

News Briefs

Legacy Grad

The Bismarck State College National Alumni Association is beginning a new tradition in 2016 by honoring graduates who share a legacy with parents or grandparents who also graduated from BJC or BSC. Legacy graduates will receive a special cord to wear at commencement to commemorate the familial connection. While there is no charge for the legacy cord, graduates must attend commencement in order to receive it. As commencement approaches, an email will be sent regarding where to pick up the legacy cord. Contact Rita Nodland at rita.nodland@bismarckstate.edu or 224-5692 to become a legacy grad today.

Commencement

The 2016 Bismarck State College Commencement Ceremony will take place on Friday, May 13 at 2:30 p.m. in the Bismarck Event Center. To receive your degree, diploma or certificate, students were required to apply for graduation by March 15. Caps and gowns are available for purchase at the BSC bookstore. To participate in the ceremony, students must wear full graduation attire. All official diplomas will be sent to students in the mail.

Open House

Juniors and seniors in high school are invited to visit and apply to Bismarck State College on June 9. It will be in the National Energy Center of Excellence fourth floor from 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. BSC admissions and financial aid counselors will be there to help answer questions and give tours. Campus tours will be at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. Taco-in-a-bag will be served from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Registration is encouraged at www.bismarckstate.edu/forms/openhouse.

Mercy Box

There is a red tote in the Student and Residence Life office called "The Mercy Box." The Student Government Association is participating in a state-wide initiative to collect necessary items for people experiencing homelessness. Please note, all items must be new and unused. Items to donate include: travel sized personal care items such as Kleenex packets, wet wipes, nail clippers, lip balm, Listerine, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, comb, snacks such as granola bars, crackers, gum, mints, etc., socks and small first aid kits. The last day to donate is May 11. If interested in volunteering to assemble items into blessing bags, please go to Shiloh Christian School on May 15 at 12:15 p.m.

Registration

Summer 2016 registration began March 21. Fall 2016 class registration has begun. Sign up early and get in those desired classes. For more information visit www.bismarckstate.edu/academics/registration/register/.

Tissues

Student Government Association successfully conducted a tissue trial run. SGA concluded students use tissues and overwhelmingly want them provided in classrooms. "Tissues are vital for students," SGA Vice President Hunter Andes said.

Textbooks

It's that time of year again to sell or return books. The BSC bookstore will begin buying back textbooks on May 5 at 8:30 a.m. The last day for students to return rentals and to sell textbooks is May 13. Students must bring their student ID's in order to return or sell back their textbooks. For more information visit www.shopbookstore.bismarckstate.edu/home.aspx.



Festival Brings Music and Art to Town

Story by: Katie Winbauer



ABOUT A year ago, Brent Schumacher said he realized that the Bismarck-Mandan area needed and wanted more of a music scene.

Schumacher, who is a Bismarck State College alumnus, and his friend, Robbie Adams, started Love & Sound Development in August 2015. Since then, they have put together 12 shows and will potentially have three more before the festival they have set for August 4 - 6.

The festival is called Digital Rising and will consist of music, camping,

“We have a team of some amazing people and I couldn’t be more excited.”

-Brent Schumacher

live painting, glass blowing, yoga, workshops, fire spinning and more.

“We have a team of some amazing people, and I couldn’t be more excited,” Schumacher said.

Digital Rising will mark one year of Love & Sound Development working to provide entertainment in the community, which Schumacher said is a “really cool feeling.”

Taylor Roth, also a BSC alumnus, is set to perform at the three day festival. He has been making music since he was 17 years old and plays under the name “JAED.”

“After I attended some music festivals and regional events which were focused on electronic music and other arts, I knew I

wanted to get into it more and explore being a producer,” Roth said. “Nothing else really got my heart racing.”

Roth said electronic music has come a long way in the last few years.

“Aside from the explosion of dubstep and club music, the historically great genres such as funk, jazz and big band music have been revitalized as well,” Roth said.

The artists coming to the festival play a wide variety of music, which is why Roth said he is just as much excited to attend the festival as he is to perform in it.

Schumacher said there are artists coming from Minnesota, Colorado, Wisconsin, Montana, Illinois, Florida and Hawaii.

In the photos:

(Left) Brent Schumacher's birthday was celebrated at a show in Bismarck a few months ago.

(Right) Taylor Roth is performing at Digital Rising, a music and arts festival in Bismarck.

Photos by: Out Here Visuals



“It is centered around people coming together and having fun. It’s an event for anybody, regardless of your taste in music.”

-Taylor Roth

“After talking with managers and agents across the country, I have put together a very talented roster of electronic/hip hop artists and painters,” Schumacher said.

Roth said he believes Digital Rising will be a positive event for the community. He said it’s as much of an “art” event as it is a “music” event.

“It is centered around people coming together and having fun,” Roth said. “It’s an event for anybody, regardless of your taste in music.”

Digital Rising will be north of Bismarck at Eagles Park. There will be three stages and installations of lighting in the trees.

Schumacher said local law enforcement has been notified, and he has also hired a security team to take care of medical and security needs.

There will be alcohol and food vendors as well as merchandise vendors such as Many Visions and Festi Daze.

The event is for ages 18+. Tickets can be purchased at www.loveandsounddevelopment.com/buy-tickets/.

(Katie Winbauer is the editor-in-chief for The Mystician. Reach her at editor@mystician.org.)



Film Festival Incorporates Students

Story by: Erik Mattheis



In the photo:

"Silly Rabbit" won the top award for the student-level video competition at the Dakota Digital Film Festival in April.

Photo by: Amanda Crowe

"Silly Rabbit" won the "Emerging Filmmakers" award and was screened during the evening session, which included professionally made films.

"Silly Rabbit" involves the murder of a young girl by a bunny rabbit who is obsessed with a certain colorful breakfast cereal. The film was made by James Haaland, Tim Bjugstad, Micayla Bitz and Johan Stenslie from Mandan High School. The group won \$500, a plaque and had their film screened at the evening session.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, action! On April 8, the Dakota Digital Film Festival took place at the Belle Mehus Auditorium in downtown Bismarck. This festival featured two different sessions throughout the day.

There were guest speakers and presenters that gave workshops to all attendees of the morning session.

Two presenters at the festival this year were Bismarck State College alumni Caleb and Keenan Hauff. The brothers, along with their other brother Logan, own ThreeFold, a local company that produces commercials and shoots other freelance work around the state.

"It all started for me in high school. I was always drawn to technology like cameras and all that kind of stuff," Caleb Hauff said. "In high school, my friends and I really developed an interest for it."

Right before graduating, Caleb decided something with technology and cameras was what he wanted for a career. He has been involved with the festival since the very first one.

"Originally I got involved when I was at BSC. I got involved with the first festival as a student," Caleb Hauff said.

The brothers had a workshop on the basics of conducting a successful interview.

"It is a rather simple concept, but I believe it is something that is often overlooked," Caleb Hauff said.

The Hauff brothers presented about the basics of an interview from the lighting to interacting with the interviewee to the overall composition of equipment used during interviews.

They used another presenter, Christian Ackerman, as an example interviewee. They showed what to do and what not to do during an interview.

The first session in the morning featured films produced by students. The students who had their films screened went up on stage afterward and participated in a short Q&A with judges.

A student-level short film competition was added this year.

The top three student films were given a plaque and a check. "Backstage" was made by Brittany Smith from University of Mary and won second place. "Story of Me" was made by MacKenzie Reinhardt from Hazen High School and won third place.

For information on the film festival or the Hauff brothers, visit <http://dakotadigitalfilmfestival.org/> or <http://www.threefold.tv/>.

(Erik Mattheis is the director of MystiCast. Reach him at editor@mystician.org.)

In the photo:

Keenan and Caleb Hauff did a presentation on how to conduct interviews at the Dakota Digital Film Festival.

Photo by: Amanda Crowe





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bismarcknurse@firstchoiceclinic.com



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www.bismarckstate.edu/alumni/congrats

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I love my job because I get to teach the kids to have confidence in themselves and how to support their friends. -Bronte Karvel-Fuller, Lifeguard & Swim Instructor

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Graduates Choose Next Steps

Story by: Alexis Larson

AS THE end of the semester approaches, it is time for graduates to make a big decision – to continue schooling or to go straight into the workforce.

Since Bismarck State College is a two-year school, it sets students up to transfer to another school for continued education and prepares them to enter the workforce with a two-year degree.

Sophomore Colbie Fandrich is majoring in instrumentation and control. He decided to continue his education at BSC after graduation.

“The energy management classes are all online, but you need to have all the required generals,” Fandrich said.

Although Fandrich could graduate this year with his degree, going back to

school will allow him more opportunities when applying for jobs.

“Most people that continue on to get the energy management degree take everything online, including generals,” Fandrich said. “I just feel more comfortable taking credits in class rather than everything online, which BSC offers.”

In three semesters, Fandrich will have obtained his degree in energy management.

While BSC offers many opportunities for continuing education on campus, it also sets up students for transfer degrees.

Sophomore Adam Maragos is majoring in digital audio production. Maragos has been very involved with music here on campus. He was a part of the orchestra that played live music during

Legally Blonde the Musical and Spring Awakening.

Maragos is also in jazz band, jazz combo, percussion ensemble and guitar ensemble.

After graduation, Maragos will be transferring to McNally University in Minnesota where he plans to major in guitar performance.

“It’s a pretty well-known music school,” Maragos said. “I know people who have gone and found connections and get paid to play music, which is my dream.”

Eddie Raaen is finishing the education he needs for the career he is going into.

Raaen is from Fairbault, Minn. and is a sophomore majoring in renewable energy generation. He was offered a job this summer, but decided to continue



his schooling for better opportunities in the future.

After graduation, Raaen will be working in Courtney, N.D. for Vestas Wind Turbine.

“They are a great company and have many wind sites all over the world,” Raaen said. “They also have tons of great benefits and a lot of room for upward mobility, along with a really great training program.”

The commencement ceremony is at 2:30 p.m. May 13 at the Bismarck Event Center. There are 1,110 students graduating from BSC, earning 1,257 degrees.

(Alexis Larson is the producer of MystiCast. Reach her at editor@mystician.org.)

In the photo:

Colbie Fandrich is majoring in instrumentation and control. He is continuing his education at BSC. Photo submitted



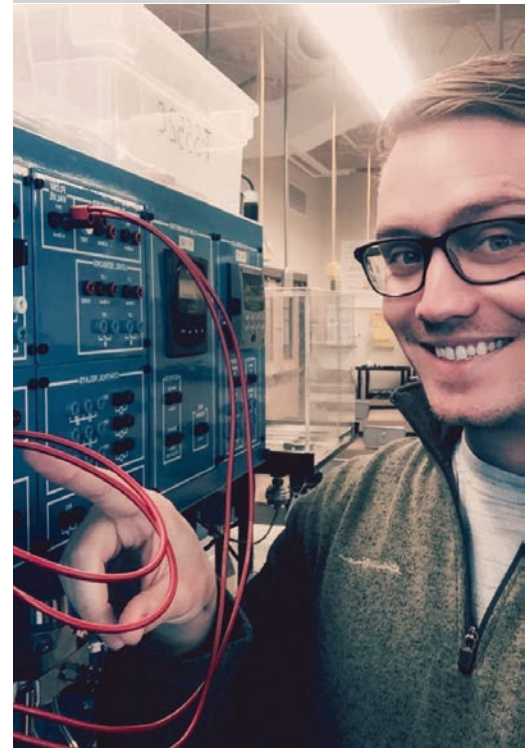
In the photo:

Adam Maragos is majoring in digital audio production. He is transferring to McNally University after graduation. Photo submitted



In the photo:

Eddie Raaen is majoring in renewable energy generation. He was offered a job upon graduation. Photo submitted



Campus Instructor is Furry Author

Story by: Meghan McNeil

AS OUR society progresses toward a more stable platform of equality, many new facets of human expression have been coming to the public's attention.

One that specifically touches the Bismarck State College campus is the furry fandom.

BSC enrichment instructor Tempe O'Kun is a published furry author under the Sofawolf Press publishing house. His credits include Sixes Wild: Manifest Destiny, Nordguard the card game and Windfall.

"The furry fandom is basically people who enjoy anthropomorphic animals, like Zootopia, so basically animals that talk and stuff like that," O'Kun said.

The website www.whatisafurry.org describes furrys as, "fans or artists of visual, written or theatrical arts such as animated cartoons and fantasy stories."

Some fans physicalize their animal personas by wearing costumes similar to one of a mascot. These suits cost upward of one thousand dollars and are made to fit.

"At one point you play that one game that everyone has played if, like, so and

so were an animal, what would they be?" O'Kun said.

O'Kun has translated his furry persona into a Siberian husky dressed in a cowboy hat and boots. He has taken part in many furry conventions, even finding himself in Brazil to speak on the topic of his trending books.

This furry trend is not new, but has recently seen a large jump of openly furry participants, specifically in the bronx branch of the furry world.

"There was a time in our lives where it would have been unimaginable that tons and tons of otherwise socially normal, like, twenty something males, would be like, "Oh man, I love My Little Pony," you would have been viewed as a creeper," O'Kun said. "Or you're here because you're socially stunted as opposed to now. People can like things. You can like comic book movies; you're allowed to watch cartoons as an adult and not be judged for it."

Identifying as a furry is not just a weekend activity, as the August 2007 issue of Vanity Fair states, "Judging from the Midwest FurFest, this is no hobby. It's sex; it's religion; it's a whole



new way of life." Throughout the course of the year, furrys can find sanctuary among the many furry conventions. The closest to Bismarck is Furry Migration held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, that is set to open its doors this September.

"I go to about four or five science fiction conventions and furry conventions a year, and they have been as far ranging as San Diego Comic-Con," O'Kun said.

O'Kun also frequents Anthrocon in Pittsburgh, Penn., the most attended furry convention in the United States, at about 6,000 participants.

O'Kun said he has seen much success within his career as a furry author, seeing awards for his books, that are also in the BSC library. He also teaches several classes that are available through the enrichment program. O'Kun encourages students looking to learn and have a good time to come and check them out.

(Meghan McNeil is the Scoop editor for The Mystician. Reach her at editor@mystician.org.)

In the photo:

Tempe O'Kun is a published furry author and an enrichment instructor at Bismarck State College. These are graphics from his publications. Photo submitted





In the photo:
 Capitol Shakespeare will be performing *Much Ado About Nothing* July 20 - 24 at the N.D. Heritage Center.
 Photo submitted

Much Ado With Capitol Shakespeare

Story by: Krystle Jackson

EVERY SUMMER, Bismarck is exposed to the words and times of Shakespeare through various events such as a Children’s Renaissance Faire, travelling children’s theater and, of course, Capitol Shakespeare’s production of one of Shakespeare’s iconic plays. This year’s production is “*Much Ado About Nothing*.”

“‘*Much Ado*’ is a wonderfully witty and sharp-tongued comedy about two couples,” Dan Rogers, a retired professor from Bismarck State College, said.

Rogers has been on the Capitol Shakespeare board of directors since the company was founded nine years ago and has acted in every production to date.

“It contains two of my favorite characters in Shakespeare’s comedies, Beatrice and Benedict, who are strong, highly argumentative, really cuttingly witty people who initially hate each other,” Rogers said.

For this production, Artistic Director of Capitol Shakespeare Erin Weichel said they are keeping things historically accurate to the Elizabethan Renaissance, the time period in which Shakespeare lived and wrote.

“The costumes will be ornate and detailed and the set will be as close to a recreation of the Globe Theatre as we can get,” Weichel said. “The actors will

also have training in stylized movement of the time period as well.”

This year’s production coincides with the North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum hosting of one of Shakespeare’s first folios, on tour from the Folger Shakespeare Library.

“The board and I wanted to do another romantic comedy, but we also wanted to do something in the first folio and ‘*Much Ado*’ fit both those categories well,” Weichel said.

The folio is the first published collection of Shakespeare’s plays and is the first printing of 18 plays, many of which may have potentially been lost. Its printing was the first time Shakespeare’s plays were grouped into comedies, histories and tragedies.

“Plays were the entertainment of the day. They were not meant to have a long life,” Curator of Education for the State Historical Society of North Dakota Erik Holland said. “After Shakespeare’s death, a couple of guys that had been on stage with him recognized the value of his words and pulled together as much as they could find.”

Published in 1623, there are only 233 of these rare items left in the world, and the Folger Library has 82. The tour is in honor of the 400 year anniversary of Shakespeare’s death and his legacy.

“We are one of the few places in the state that can take on something this rare and offer the appropriate security,

environmental settings, light settings and has the knowledge of how to collect and protect materials,” Holland said.

The exhibition will also feature a teacher’s workshop and presentations as well as film screenings and panel discussions on Tuesdays.

This extraordinarily rare and priceless item will be on display at the N.D. Heritage Center July 6 - 31.

The Children’s Renaissance Faire is July 9 on the capitol grounds and the travelling troupe will be performing in July at various locations throughout the Bismarck-Mandan area.

Auditions for *Much Ado About Nothing* are scheduled for May 26 and 27 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Sidney J. Lee Auditorium.

Capitol Shakespeare will be performing *Much Ado About Nothing* July 20- 24 at 6:30 p.m at the Prairie Amphitheater south of the new entrance to the N.D. Heritage Center.

For more information on Capitol Shakespeare, go to www.capitolshakespeare.org.

For more information on the First Folio exhibit, go to www.history.nd.gov/shakespeare/ or www.folger.edu/first-folio-tour.

(Krystle Jackson is a reporter for The Mystician. Reach her at editor@mystician.org.)



In the photo:
 (Above) Dan Leingang,
 Ryan Astle, Ryan
 Pitcher, Greg Ross.
 (Below) Tamara Barber,
 Linda Fossum,
 Rita Lindgren,
 Rosemarie Kuntz.
 Photos submitted

Annual Campus Tournament Set For June

Story by: Ashlee Hilzendeger

FOR OVER 20 years, The President's Cup Golf Classic has been raising money for athletic scholarships.

The Bismarck State College Foundation started the tournament. Last year, they raised nearly \$22,000 to go toward student athletes.

The tournament is capped at 39 teams of four, which totals to be 156 golfers. The registration fee is \$135 per golfer, or \$540 per team. It is open to the public.

To register, go to the BSC website and search President's Cup Golf Classic. Registration information is suggested to be in by June 13.

The tournament will take place at the Prairie West Golf Course in Mandan on Friday, June 17. Registration begins at 8 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 9 a.m.

After registration, there are 18 holes to golf, a putting contest, lunch, door prizes and a 19-hole social.

"I love seeing the same golfers come back year after year because they enjoy the tournament, plus all the food is great," Amy Brown, a coordinator of the tournament and administrative assistant for College Advancement, said.

Last year, there were 148 golfers, and in 2014, there were 152.

"We are blessed to have great participation in the tournament by BSC employees, both as golfers and volunteers," Brown said.

(Ashlee Hilzendeger is a reporter for The Mystician. Reach her at editor@mystician.org.)



Athlete Spotlight

Story and photo by: Anika Rovig

Name: Mckenzie Elliot
Sport: dual athlete - Basketball and Softball
Year: Freshman
From: Clifford, N.D.
Favorite athlete: Janie Takeda



MCKENZIE ELLIOT is from Clifford, N.D. and is a freshman at Bismarck State College. Elliot competes in basketball and softball, but softball is her real passion.

"I enjoy the game a lot, and can continue playing it for the rest of my life," Elliot said.

She started playing softball her sophomore year, making this her fourth season. Elliot knows what it takes to be on a competitive team, especially when it comes to the off-season.

"Personally, I would still be playing basketball, but the team lifted, did field work and would hit up the batting cages," she said.

Elliot is ninth in the batting line-up. Coach Harris uses her softball IQ everywhere on the field, mostly at second base, but he also has Elliot playing in the outfield and first base.

"I played outfield in high school, so I was really used to playing that position and was satisfied with it, but now that I've been playing second I've learned to enjoy different parts of the field I wasn't

completely comfortable with," Elliot said.

The Mystics are 2 - 14 so far in the conference, with wins against Wahpeton and Lake Region. Elliot has confidence in her team chemistry.

"We have really good chemistry, making us work well as a team," Elliot said. "We just have to not get down on ourselves so much on the amount of errors we get."

(Anika Rovig is a reporter for The Mystician. Reach her at editor@mystician.org.)

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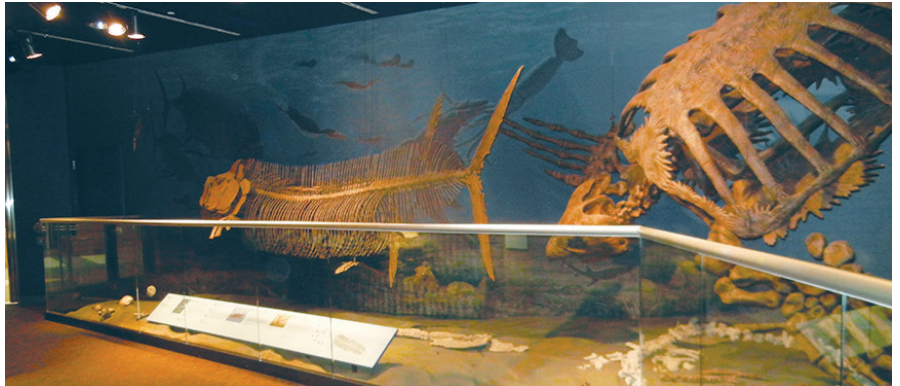
**NORTH DAKOTA
NATIONAL GUARD**
NATIONALGUARD.com

So Much Room For Activities

Story and photos by: Ashley Thorpe

A common question college students have is, "What is there to do in Bismarck?"

I spent a day with some of The Mystician staff doing various activities around town. We also compiled a list of other fun things to do, depending on the time of year or what the weather is like. Here is what we did:



THE HERITAGE CENTER

This was our first stop of the day. Jordan and I dragged along a couple friends and started our adventure at the North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum, an attraction which definitely brought out my inner child and gave me flashbacks to middle school field trips. One of the best aspects to the Heritage Center is that it's free; a bonus to college students. The building is split into different time periods, making it easy to navigate. You want to learn about the dinosaurs that roamed the Earth millions of years ago? There's a "Geologic Time" section for exactly that. Are you interested in the more recent events that shaped the North Dakota we know today? Head into the "Yesterday and Today" gallery. Make sure to stop by all of the interactive stations you can: it's definitely the best part.



TEN SPOT LANES

After a quick bite to eat at Denny's, Jordan, Hunter, John and I headed to Ten Spot Lanes in Mandan. Now, you may be wondering why we didn't just go to Midway Lanes, the bowling alley we all know and love. But here's the thing: At Ten Spot, we got the whole place to ourselves. We went bowling at 6 p.m. on a Sunday night, and it turned out to be the perfect time. This may be unappealing to some people, but to us, it was a blast. We googled bowling tips in the middle of the game, and it seemed to make our bowling skills even worse. Bowling is always a great time, even if you are horrible at it. Just ask Jordan.



BAKE-IN

Last but not least was baking. Sometimes I find myself getting too caught up in trying to think of insane and off-the-wall activities. The thing to remember is, sometimes, it's better to keep it simple. After I won by a landslide in bowling, we all headed to my house to conduct a bake-in. The choice of treat was chocolate chip cookies, a dessert you can never go wrong with. It's made up of basic, cheap ingredients, and it can be completely free, too, if you take the liberty of ransacking your mother's pantry. Now, I'll say right now that I hate to do anything in the kitchen, and I am a horrible baker. But when you're with friends, the whole kitchen atmosphere changes. Dropping a cup of flour on the floor can go from irritating to entertaining when surrounded by the right people. We listened to Taylor Swift while we were waiting for the cookies to bake, and then we pulled out milk to have a proper treat.



These are only a few examples of activities that can entertain in the Bismarck/Mandan area. Other options, some that are dependent on weather, time and date, include:

- Dakota Zoo
- Paintball
- Camping
- Super Slide Amusement Park
- Raging Rivers
- Mini golf
- Hang out by the Missouri River
- Rhythm Records
- Sledding
- Go to the movies
- Frolfing
- Kayaking
- Fort Lincoln
- YMCA
- Experience "Trapped"
- Roller Derby
- McDowell Dam
- Concerts at Bismarck Event Center
- Ice Skating
- Aquatic Center
- Shopping
- Dance lessons at Harvest Brazillian Grill
- Urban Harvest

MASTER SWORD REVIEW

A Prescription For Fun
Story By: Brett Williamson

STAR WARS BATTLEFRONT

LOVE IT or hate it – it is downright fun once you get past the red tape and shady business practices of EA. There's no actual story mode and a ton of DLC, but EA was fair about giving the players some extra free content to extend the enjoyment of the game to make up for the \$60 dollar price tag.

The player will grab their E-11 blaster and a pack full of explosives and jump into the heart of Star Wars universe. Choosing to either play as a rebel or an imperial, players kill each other on various Star Wars worlds to an array of battle scenarios. Rebel players can pilot X-wings and A-wings while the imperials players get all the sweet toys; AT-STs, AT-ATs and Tie fighters. Outside of playing the roles of a foot



soldier in galactic trench warfare or a pilot in classic ship-to-ship dogfights, players can also take the role of classic Star Wars heroes like Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader. Nothing is more fulfilling in-game than wasting 30 stormtroopers to the sound of Luke Skywalker's buzzing lightsaber.

The immersion is the bread and butter of Star Wars: Battlefront. Hunkering down behind the trees of Endor to take cover from an advancing AT-AT while the sounds of blaster fire pelting the ground around your feet are heard as your buddies give their departing screams in the onslaught of blistering orbital strikes ... it is enough to develop PTSD. The sounds are there, the sights are there and the game continues to grow through DLC.

With the semester coming to a close, Master Sword will be taking the time to share a few games that will help ease the pain of summer break. These games were either released before the Master Sword Review graced the pages of The Mystician or the review couldn't make print before The Mystician's demanding deadlines.

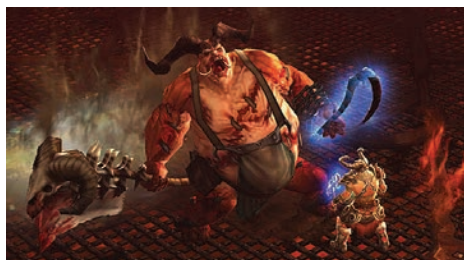
DIABLO

After a rocky release in 2012, Blizzard was able to pull their collective resources together and get this game patched into place.

It really is the MMORPG for the lone wolf player. Players will pick a class with unique abilities and begin a satisfying, yet challenging, dungeon crawl. The game features a five-act story mode, an adventure mode and seasonal play.

The player will slay hordes of demons to find that one piece of gear needed to improve their performance. It is satisfying to watch a level one noob, armed with a 2x4 and a burlap sack, evolve into a level 70 god with glitzy armor and enchanted weaponry.

The seasonal play is what makes this game live on. Every few months, Blizzard opens the game up on an independent server from the community's main server. This character will be isolated and have to complete the game without the assistance of built up resources from the player's other characters. The perk is that the seasonal character will have access to special seasonal loot dropped from baddies. Progress of the character is ranked on a worldwide leaderboard. Once the season ends, the character is transferred back over to your main server with all loot and levels found while in seasonal play. The summer season kicks off this May and should last well into fall.



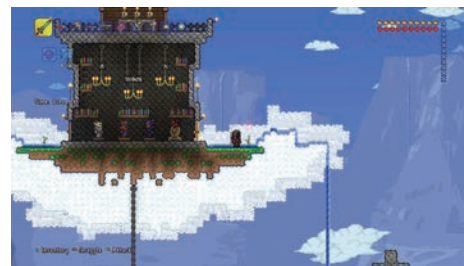
The game is available on PC via digital download for \$39.99.

Terraria

This 2011 sandbox-RPG-survival-platformer has a little bit of everything needed to kill the summer boredom. Terraria takes everything Minecraft does great and adds an element of Final Fantasy with a dash of Metroid.

As the player, you awaken in an unfamiliar land with no weapons or armor. After surviving the first night against a zombie invasion, the quest becomes clear. The name of the game is survival.

Players will adventure further and further from their starting point in



their quest to find materials to craft items for protection. Players will need to build a structure to survive. The creative element of building your own structures is only limited by the imagination. Build a cool underwater city, build a gigantic stone castle or build a sweet Ewok village - if you can think it, you can build it. If all building goes well, players will even discover NPCs moving into their structure's spare rooms and setting up shops.

Every tool will need to be utilized to take down the game's over-the-top bosses and minions. But if that is too much for you, you're in luck; multiplayer is available.

The PC version of game is available on Steam for \$9.99.

(Brett Williamson is a reporter for The Mystician. Reach him at editor@mystician.org.)

#LetsGetMystical

 **brianerickson96**
Bismarck State College



It was fun featuring your posts this semester! Have a great summer.

 **aubrevendsel**
Bismarck State College



 **brodynieuwsma**
Bismarck State College



 **rumorychel**
Bismarck, North Dakota



 **heatherkaiser**
Sidney J. Lee auditorium -Bismarck Sta...



 **joshybosh87**



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Mission Statement:

The purpose of college media is to serve and give voice to students. We, as the student-based forum of journalism on campus, provide content that is informative, fair and concise. With this goal in mind, this newsmagazine is dedicated to accuracy and maintaining ethical practices.

The Bismarck State College 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.

Disclaimer:

Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual writer and not necessarily shared by Bismarck State College or The Mystician Staff. We welcome comments and letters from our readers. All letters to the editor must be signed and include contact information.

Agenda:

We, as the student-based forum of journalism provide information that is important to Bismarck State College's campus. The Mystician staff strives 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 truth, fact-based opinions and informative sources are important to us as a staff. With these three standards, The Mystician will be well-written, respected and relevant.

Letters to the Editor:

Growing up and attending school in North Dakota has taught me to work hard for what I believe in, and do what we think is right.

Unfortunately, that is not how the Bismarck State College Student Government Association (SGA) has been operating this last academic year. The senators and advisers have varying opinions on how things should operate in this organization. One of the most contentious topics in SGA is student activities. BSC students pay fees to this organization and elect senators to represent the interests of the student body. Right now, the voice of the students is not being heard. Each time an activity is in the works, it gets shot down or taken over by an adviser. Advisers do not know what students want, students know what students want.

When a member of this association stands up against an adviser's beliefs, the member is then subject to ridicule, lectured and talked about behind his or her back. Being a member of SGA or any college function

should be a good experience, not an experience that makes your self-esteem drop to an all time low.

After being elected senator last fall, and assuming the role of vice-president in January, I have tried my hardest to make it so my peers at BSC have a better experience. In some ways I have succeeded; however, in many others, I feel as if I have failed because of the repercussions I would face from those in charge. I want to take this opportunity to apologize to my constituents for those failures, and to inform you that I will not be seeking any office in the next academic year.

Here in North Dakota, we make changes when changes are necessary. I am making these statements public in the hope that it will prevent future SGA members from experiencing what I, and others, have had to experience this year.

-Student Government Vice President, Hunter Andes

I just have one concern that I feel strongly enough about to share my thoughts.

The April edition of the Mystician contains a lot of good content. One issue I have is there are two articles about alcohol/bars. I get that a portion of your audience is legally able to participate in the

bar scene but I think you could be encouraging more broad activities to all students. Your articles choices reflect the culture of the campus. Is that the image you want BSC to perpetuate?

-Associate Professor of Chemistry, Jacklyne J. Carlson

Student Government

THERE IS an overarching issue the Bismarck State College Student Government Association is presented with: students not being allowed to run the organization.

It is a very simple concept – SGA should be run by the students.

The advisers of the organization are exerting far too much control. Now, we certainly acknowledge the necessity for advisers. They are there to guide, inform and support students on decisions they make as leaders or representatives of campus organizations. They are not there to control, micro-manage or dismiss students and their goals. College students are adults and are fully capable of making decisions.

Several representatives of SGA have shared concerns with our staff. One universal complaint is student involvement on campus. Let us start off by saying glitter tattoos do not appeal to the interests of college students. More money and effort should be invested in larger events such as dances, hypnotists, comedians and bands.

After the student body expressed the desire for dances and festivals, representatives pursued organizing these events, however were prevented by the advisers. One senator cited an adviser saying he or she will do everything to prevent a dance from happening. There needs to be compromise and discussion instead of complete opposition to ideas students have.

Another way in which the advisers are exerting too much control over the organization is by choosing what can and cannot be talked about in the office. A representative reported to us

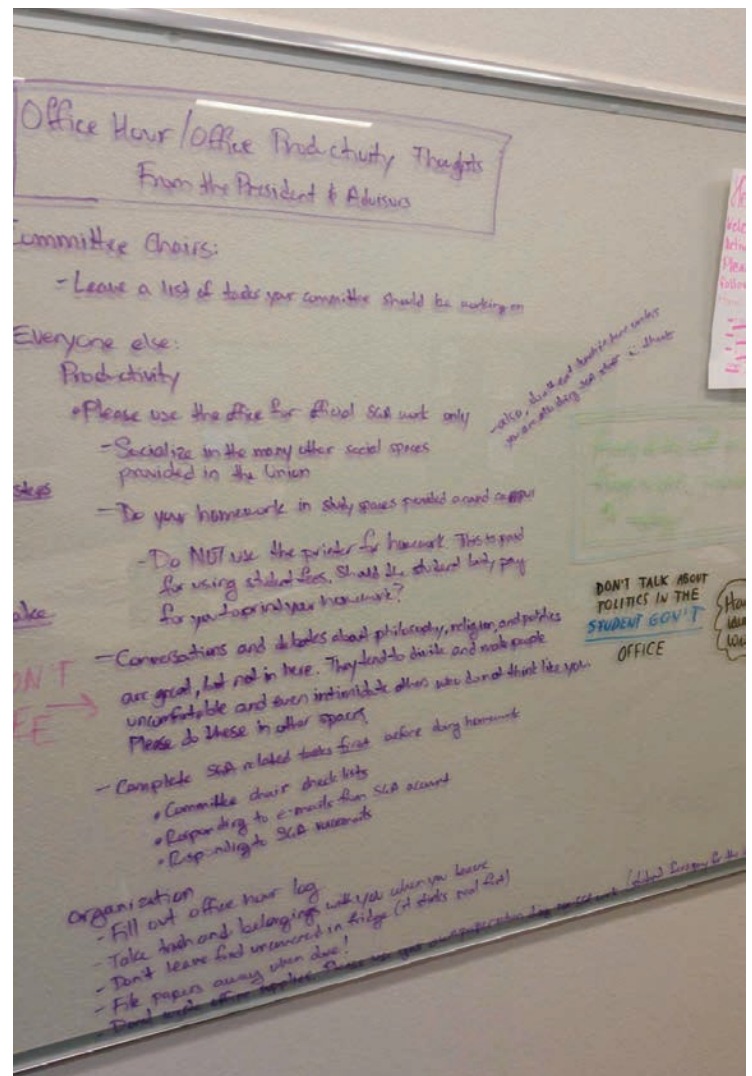
that topics such as religion, politics and philosophy are not to be discussed within SGA's walls. It is outrageous that advisers are discouraging freedom of speech. Divides cannot be bridged if open conversation of differing points of view is discouraged.

A key aspect to conversation is communication, which SGA is lacking, according to several representatives. Communication is difficult within a large organization of people with different personality types and ways of expressing themselves. Therefore, it should be a top priority. Meetings have been conducted without the committee chair and proper representatives being informed. There has been no actual resolution regarding the issues. This has created an underlying tone of conflict between advisers and some representatives.

There is an obvious problem when the current vice president of SGA has dropped out of the presidential race for the next term. Can this be blamed on a lack

of student involvement or could it be frustration and feelings of helplessness within the office?

We hope the advisers take a step back and look at what they're doing. We hope they see the frustration and the yearning for something better. We hope they work toward using positive communication. We hope they realize how successful SGA could be next year with their guidance, not control.



Panama Papers

Story by: Devin Stelter

AHHH YES, another juicy scandal that I can sink my teeth into!

If you have payed attention to global news for the past two months or so, you will have heard about something called the Panama Papers.

For those of you who have been living under a significantly large rock, the Panama Papers are about 11.5 million documents that were leaked to a German newspaper a year ago that provide information on more than 200,000 offshore accounts in Panama.

You might be asking yourself, who cares? You. You should care.

These offshore accounts are owned by some of the wealthiest people on the planet and, although not illegal to own in Panama, have been used for such things as fraud, money laundering and tax evasion.

What makes this story even more insane is the people who opened some of these shell accounts. The now ex-

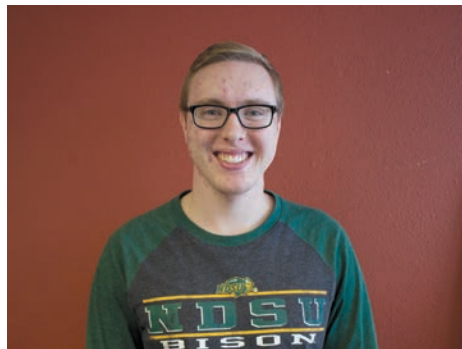
prime minister of Iceland, Sigmundur Davíð Gunnlaugsson, England's Prime Minister David Cameron and Russian President Vladimir Putin have all been tied to these leaked documents.

The main issue I take with storing large sums of cash in offshore accounts is that, in most cases, those funds are not taxable.

So me, a 20-year-old college student, has to pay 20 to 25 percent of my annual income in taxes, but a CEO of a billion dollar corporation can end up paying practically nothing back in taxes on millions of dollars. That seems fair, right?

This is an issue that needs to be dealt with ASAP.

Now, of course, no sole nation has the legal jurisdiction to change these laws in Panama, but there are definitely steps we can take to place pressure on places like Panama and the Caymen Islands (another tax haven).



Since there is no true authority in international law, one of the most powerful things that can be done to a country is refusing to trade with them.

Panama is a relatively small nation with a relatively small GDP, so losing major trade partners throughout the world could have devastating effects.

The international community could say something like, "We are going to end trade with you, unless you enact more transparent banking and tax laws."

Regardless of how it is accomplished, something must be done to ensure that everyone is paying their fair share to their respective governments around the world.

(Devin Stelter is the P.O.V. editor for The Mystician. Reach him at editor@mystician.org.)



Freshman Reflection

Story by: Alexis Larson

MY FRESHMAN year was a whirlwind of emotions filled with confusion, fun and stress. I went from worrying about classes and making friends to having some of my best memories. I grew academically and socially, but the most important parts of my year were not lessons learned in the classroom.

Being alone isn't a bad thing. In high school, I had a room to myself where I could always go to get away from everyone. Now, I have to share a small room with a person I had never met before. I never realized how valuable alone time can be.

Managing time is a must. This isn't high school. Professors don't give out a study guide to go over, which was something I found myself struggling with. Quickly looking at the study guide before the test is not going to help you in college.

Math is my least favorite subject. My grades started to slip in the class because I couldn't motivate myself to do the work. I soon realized the professors are more than willing to help struggling students. Never be afraid to ask for help.

I had to find my place and my friends. It took me two months before I made any real friends in college. The hardest part was trying to find my way into a group of people who had already determined who their friends were. I learned that I didn't have to pretend to be something I'm not. I found some of my best friends

by just being who I am. No one cares about what anyone wears or how their hair looks. It's socially acceptable to wear sweatpants every day, but one thing students shouldn't ever wear is a lanyard around their neck. Please – it is not an accessory.

Don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone. This is the time when I tried new things and found out what I am and am not passionate about. I joined classes I never thought I would be interested in and turned out loving them. I also joined organizations I thought I would love and it turned out they weren't for me.

My freshman year was full of ups and downs, but it was such a great experience. I cannot wait to see what my sophomore year will hold for me.

(Alexis Larson is the producer of MystiCast. Reach her at editor@mystician.org.)

Point of View

Pen a Friend

Story by: John Bettger

IT BEGINS with the hand. A marvelous instrument of the human body; our fundamental means of interacting with the world.

During the dawn of civilization, humanity learned to communicate ideas through simple symbols. Our systems of linguistics developed into the written word – a message encoded in text. We imprint our thoughts onto paper through a dance with the pen. This is how we feel language.

Unlike striking a button on a keyboard, penning the letter “F” is distinct from “G,” each letter a unique experience. Handwriting the words creates a deeper connection with the message. Cursive writing provides an even more intimate affair.

“Cursive writing, compared to printing, should be even more beneficial

because the movement tasks are more demanding, the letters are less stereotypical, and the visual recognition requirements create a broader repertoire of letter representation,” wrote William R. Klemm in *Psychology Today*. “Cursive is also faster and more likely to engage students by providing a better sense of personal style and ownership.”

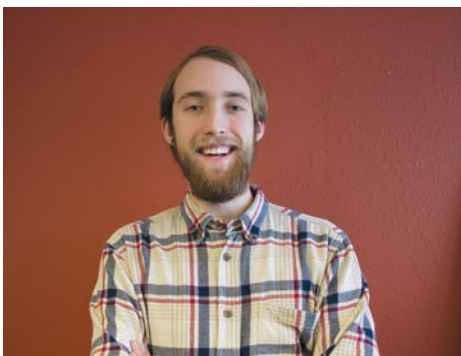
In other words, writing in print is Polka dancing, while cursive is the Tango.

Pick up your pen and let it dance across the page. Write to a dear friend about your adventurous life. Send a thank you letter written in your own hand expressing your gratitude. Record your daily activities in a journal. Jot down your class notes, make them creative. Demonstrate your love to a significant other, gifting them something personal to cherish for years to come.



Feel how the message becomes real in a way texting never can. Feel the loops and swirls come alive in a way only you can make them. Make that connection between yourself and your thoughts. Feel language.

(John Bettger is the content editor for The Mystician. Reach him at editor@mystician.org.)



Thoughts Regarding Food I've Eaten

Story by: Jordan Bitz

connected to the Excalibur and Mandalay Bay resorts.

One of the evenings we were there we decided to wander over to the Excalibur and pay a visit to the Johnny Rockets burger joint. Johnny Rockets was founded in Los Angeles in 1986 and has evolved into a global restaurant chain with locations in Dubai, Mexico and even out at sea on the Royal Caribbean Cruise Ships. Johnny Rockets also has a location in North Dakota at the West Acres Mall in Fargo.

We both ordered “The Rocket Single” burger which has a single patty, lettuce, cheese, tomato and a special sauce. The burger was big, thick, juicy and tasted just right. The patty was cooked to perfection, the lettuce and tomato were fresh and the bun was toasted just right. If you are ever in the mood for a burger, and there’s a Johnny Rocket close by, I highly recommend you eat there.

(Jordan Bitz is the director of the MYX. Reach him at editor@mystician.org.)

RECENTLY I had the privilege of traveling with Mystician Senior Editor, Katie Winbauer, to Las Vegas, Nev. for the National Association of Broadcasters annual convention and trade show. One thing that Vegas doesn’t struggle with is places to stay and places to eat. We stayed at the Luxor Resort, which is conveniently

#StayMystical

