

THE MYSTICIAN



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SPIKING FOR A CAUSE



Members of the BSC Women's Volleyball team pose with a four-legged member of Furry Friends Rockin' Rescue. (Credit: Amy Doll)

By Amy Doll
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On September 29th, the Bismarck State College Women's Volleyball team hosted Bump, Pet, Spike night at the BSC Armory. Monetary donations

and items were collected to benefit local rescue Furry Friends Rockin' Rescue. The Mystics were victorious against Williston State College, after previously losing to them in the first game of the season.

"I think that was almost kind of

a blessing in disguise," Coach Kyle Kuether said. "That first loss—it kind of took the pressure off a little bit, and kind of let us play a little more free, and I think we're just having fun at practice; we're having fun in the games."

Up next for the Lady Mystics is an away match against Miles Community College. See the Mystics back home in action on October 13 for Sophomore Night against Lake Region State College.

THE MYSTICIAN

PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS – FOR THE STUDENTS

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The Mystic Media Statement and Disclaimer

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

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

We strive to give a voice to student issues

and policies within the local community.

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

Mystic Media strives to be objective and is not affiliated with any outside organization.

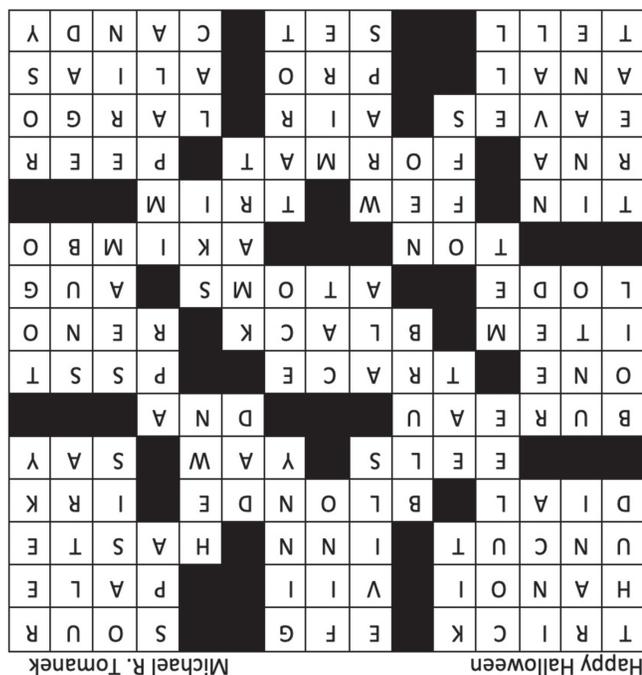
Mystic Media upholds the principles guaranteed by the First Amendment and utilizes these rights to bring diverse, entertaining and thought-provoking material to the college community.

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Crossword Information

BSC's own Language, Literature and Communication Department Chair (and crossword aficionado) Michael Tomanek has created and submitted this month's puzzle. Experiment, explore and try to find the answers yourself for the most satisfaction.



Michael R. Tomanek Happy Halloween

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hey, hi, hello, what's up! I truly cannot believe I am writing a letter from the editor. I never thought I would be in this position, but that just shows you can go after anything you want in life whenever you want to. Anyway, my name is Amy Doll and I am the avocado in the photo. The hot dog next to me is my former work wife, and I could not just cut her out of that iconic photo. You may start to notice that I have a 'go big or go home' attitude about life; hence, why I showed up to work as an avocado for Halloween. If you're going to do something, really do it and go for the gold.



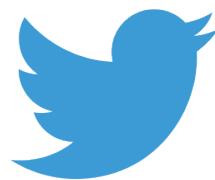
Like a lot of others, Halloween and fall is my favorite time of year. However, any change of season I welcome with open arms. I tend to get bored easily, so a new season and state of mind refreshes and inspires me. I am always looking for a new source of inspiration.

This new role has been challenging to learn, but I am finding it extremely rewarding. It can be a scary thing to put your work out there for others to see and judge, but that is a part of life. That being said, I truly hope you enjoy this issue and the other upcoming ones, as well. We all work extremely hard and enjoy seeing our hard work come to life. Have a fantastic month and Halloween!

Go big or go home,
 Amy

MYSTIC MEDIA

BISMARCK STATE COLLEGE STUDENT PRODUCTIONS



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LEGISLATORS REDRAWING THE LINES

By Zachary Weiland
THE MYX PRODUCTION MANAGER

Men and women in suits roamed the corridors. Briefcases laid open at desks and tables. Unfolded laptops illuminated the faces of those buried behind their screens. Documents waiting to be annotated were sprawled about.

Suits, briefcases, laptops and documents are a frequent sight at the N.D. state capitol; however, these common items have occupied the Rough Rider room for a rather uncommon reason.

North Dakota's legislative branch has been conducting its decennial, post-census tradition of redistricting throughout the month of September. Though this task is tended to less often than others, it is just as important. Its implications can have a lasting impact on state wide politics for years to come.

Redistricting is the act of redrawing the political lines that make up the districts of the legislative body. In North Dakota, this occurs through the committee process by the North Dakota Redistricting Committee. Throughout the process, the Redistricting Committee uses demographic data provided by the U.S. Census to create boundaries that represent the state as fairly as

possible.

Redistricting follows a principle of "one person, one vote," meaning legislatures try their best to keep all districts relatively the same population. As North Dakota continues to flock towards urban areas, this task will prove more difficult.

According to data released from the U.S. Census Bureau, metropolitan areas in the state showed massive growth in population. Around 60% of North Dakotans live in the city. Nearly a quarter of the state now resides in Cass County alone. Shifts in urban population will create new districts in Fargo-West Fargo and in Bismarck. Other metros, such as Minot and Grand Forks, can see changes as well.

Population also swelled in the Bakken oil patch. McKenzie county, home to Watford City, had the largest increase of population by a county in the whole United States, growing by 131%. Other counties in the oil patch, such as Williams and Dunn, had population jumps. New districts can pop up in these areas as well.

On the flip side, rural areas can see larger districts. As population in these areas becomes more scarce, districts will have to compensate for the lack of density.

The changes in districts issued by the Redistricting Committee will

be implemented once approved by the whole legislature in a special session. If approved, voters during the midterm elections in 2022 will be casting ballots for representatives in the newly drawn districts. These districts will stay in place until the next redistricting committee meets in ten years.

The effects of the new districts can have massive implications on politics around the state. Even though the boundaries are only in place for ten years, the policies implemented in that decade can have a lasting impact on communities in the state.

Communities often impacted by redistricting are minority groups. In North Dakota, tribal groups are often discussed during redistricting.

Tribes have historically been underrepresented in state politics. Other groups, such as immigrant groups, which have grown in population over the last decade, can have a larger voice in the future.

Students will also have a larger voice in the future. As more students flock to colleges and universities in the state, the political make-up of the legislature can shift, and we can see younger faces participating in the capitol.

Bismarck State College is projected to stay within District 35. For more information on Redistricting or to view proposed redistricting maps, visit the state legislative branch on their website at legis.nd.gov.



All legislative sessions are held at the State Capitol Building in Bismarck. (Credit: Zachary Weiland)

CLUB FAIR PROVIDES OPTIONS OF ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS

By Seth Iverson
REPORTER

The smell of coffee wafted through the air around Mystic Java. Groups of students were offered free goodies from the multiple booths set up around the Student Union. At the same time, students backed away from the noise in the far off corner as Mystic Media set up camera equipment to interview passing students.

In September, the Congress of Student Organizations scheduled a club fair where members and advisers answered students' questions about clubs on campus. Students were able to sign up to clubs and were offered flyers, pamphlets and treats. Clubs involved included the Multicultural club, the LGBTQIA club, the Drama club, the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, the Art club, the Amateur Radio club, Phi Beta Lambda and Mystic Media. These clubs provided not only a description of what they offer, but also offered insight on why students should be interested to join and the benefits that each one could provide.

"We're here to help students understand a bit more about what amateur radio is and to prep them to become a licensed amateur radio operator." Mike Holman, adviser for the Amateur Radio Club said.

Additionally, Holman said they'll train students about the different types of equipment that they will be using, such as how to design and build antennas and how to interface radios to different pieces of equipment.

Some of the projects that Amateur Radio Club does include maintaining the communications equipment for the on campus high altitude balloon project and doing community service by helping out with weather spotting also known as SKYWARN, where they use radio equipment to predict when and where a tornado or a large storm will hit.

"We teach students about how, as a radio operator, they can assist the community in helping spot bad weather and then reporting it to the National Weather Service," Holman said.

Through the drama program, aside from doing performances, they also do a lot of fundraising for theatrical

productions, as well as trips in the spring. Not only do they raise money through bake sales, but also by scaring people to get them into the spirit of Halloween.

"Additionally, we also do the haunted theater" Alex Brady, President of the Drama club said. "For anyone who would want to be interested, we have that open up. Just come find anyone who is a part of the theater and we can put you in the right direction."

The haunted theater will be hosted two days before Halloween, on Friday October 29 and Saturday October 30 in Schafer Hall.

"Theater and drama and everything like that can really better you as a person. Whether that is learning how to plan and organize things, learning how to work and maintain aspects of life like computers or lightboards, soundboards, that kind of thing, or just acting. A lot of people skills are required to do that." Brady said.

While the Phi Beta Lambda adviser wasn't there, a stand-in adviser from the Cyber Club informed us about the club's plans for the current school year.

"The Phi Beta Lambda part is handled by another adviser, but we are combining the Cyber club and the PBL club this year." Debbie Mantz, Adviser for the Cyber Club said. Through Phi Beta Lambda, she says that "They do competitions, they get together and you get to network with other people who are business directed students"

Additionally, Phi Beta Lambda hosts over 50 different competitions over different subjects such as Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Help desk and Cybersecurity. In the spring, they host a state competition, and if competitors succeed, they can move on to a national competition.

If students are still interested in joining the clubs, Advisers can be contacted by the email address located in the student planner or in the Student Organizations and Activities page on the BSC website. For those interested in joining the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, they have a weekly bible study in LEA hall. Students can join any club at any time.



VARIANTS PERMEATE NORTH DAKOTA

By Samantha Rosario
MYSTIC MEDIA COORDINATOR

COVID-19 cases are increasing once again in Bismarck and four variants have been confirmed in North Dakota. With the Delta variant becoming the dominant variant in the state, predictions from the Center of Disease Control have shown that COVID-19 cases will continue to surge for weeks into November.

North Dakota's statewide mask mandate, instituted by Governor Doug Burgum, expired January 2021. Schools have reopened for the fall with optional mask recommendations. Many businesses and public spaces have also reduced their restrictions regarding masks.

"Masks alone were likely responsible for the extremely low secondary transmission rates of COVID-19 in schools across the country, despite high rates of community transmission of COVID-19," said Dr. Christina Tello-Skjerseth, MD. Tello-Skjerseth is the Chief of Service and Medical Director at Sanford Bismarck Radiology, and Chief of Staff at Sanford Medical Center in Bismarck. She is also the Assistant Clinical Professor of Radiology at the

University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health as well as the Medical Director of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at Bismarck State College.

On July 27, the Central for Disease Control released data that the COVID-19 Delta variant "was more infectious and was leading to increased transmissibility when compared with other variants, even in some vaccinated individuals." Transmission of the Delta variant between unvaccinated people and hospitalization cases linked to the variant are increasing in North Dakota.

"Viruses constantly change through mutation, and new variants of a virus are expected to occur," Skjerseth said. "Most variants cause similar COVID-19 symptoms. Some variants, such as the Alpha and Delta variants, may cause severe illness and death. Currently in the United States to date, the Delta variant is the dominant variant, and it is the most contagious COVID-19 variant we have witnessed to date. The Delta variant is 2-2.5 times more likely to cause severe disease in young persons.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved vaccines are

effective against the COVID-19 virus and other variants, there are still the chances of breakthrough infections within vaccinated people. Vaccinated people spread the virus for shorter periods of time compared to those who are still unvaccinated.

"Although we have made many advancements in the prevention and treatment of COVID-19, the emergence of new variants continues to challenge our control of the pandemic," said Skjerseth.

According to CDC information for North Dakota, as of September 29, the amount of staffed beds available nationwide is just over 10%. There are 128 total patients hospitalized due to COVID-19, including 18 patients in the intensive care unit. "Our hospitals and health care workers are struggling with the large influx of sick patients requiring hospitalization which includes COVID-19 patients and those with other illnesses or surgery needs. When the hospitals are full, new patients get sent away to other sites, sometimes many states away.

Around this time, CDC experts were recommending fully vaccinated people to continue wearing masks indoors. This came within months after releasing guidelines allowing

vaccinated people to not wear masks indoors and then reversing their policy.

"Vaccines continue to reduce a person's risk of contracting the virus that causes COVID-19, including this variant. Vaccines are highly effective and can keep you from getting sick, being hospitalized, or dying from COVID-19."

As of Sept. 21, 2021, the CDC states that "people who are not fully vaccinated should wear a mask indoors in public at all levels of community transmission" and "recommends that people who are fully vaccinated wear masks indoors in areas of substantial or high transmission."

Many places including Washington, D.C., Kansas City, Mo. and Sacramento, Calif. have yet again initiated mask mandates. With the rise in Delta variant cases and the masses of unvaccinated people, North Dakota needs to prepare for an increase in cases. "We must use the same measures we have all along to protect vaccinated and unvaccinated people: Be thoughtful about what you are doing and where you are going; Outdoors is safer than indoors; Wear a mask," said Skjerseth.

BISMARCK STATE COLLEGE SPRING AND SUMMER 2022 REGISTRATION DATES

OCTOBER 18, 2021
Current Student Priority Registration Begins

OCTOBER 25, 2021
New, Returning and Transfer Student Registration Begins

NEW THIS SEMESTER:
Students will be able to register
for both their Spring and Summer classes at the same time!

NOTE: Spring and Summer 2022 class schedules
for current students will be available for viewing October 11.



WELCOME TO SPOOKY SEASON AT BSC

What is your favorite halloween movie?

Halloween
- Hayden Wolf

The Shining
- Ericka Hager

Conjuring 3
- Jaden Mitzel

Glass
- Katelyn Sott

Scary Movie 1-3
- Jordan Waldren

The Conjuring
- Daisy Goldsack

Walking Dead
- Julie Klede

What is your favorite halloween candy?

Twix
- Hayden Wolf

Reese's peanut butter cups
- Ericka Hager

Snickers
- Jaden Mitzel

Popcorn balls
- Katelyn Sott

Popcorn Balls
- Jordan Waldren

Twix
- Daisy Goldsack

What was your best Halloween costume?

Clown
- Hayden Wolf

Pirate
- Ericka Hager

Si Robertson from Duck
Dynasty
- Jaden Mitzel

Hannah Montana
- Katelyn Sott

Willy Wonka
- Jordan Waldren

Clown
- Daisy Goldsack



LITERARY MOVIE NIGHT: “FRANKENSTEIN”



By Chad Erickstad
COLUMNIST

Comparing a movie to the book can be a trying experience. The book almost always contains more information—more backstory, more secondary characters, more side plots. I believe it is more challenging, and rare, for a movie to measure up to the book.

“Frankenstein” is an exception. Each is considered a masterwork by critics. Themes of nature versus nurture and alienation are present in both, along with compelling characters dealing with conflict and tension.

But differences outnumber the similarities—and that may be why both succeed.

The movie is a black and white gothic horror film that is stylized similarly to German Expressionist films from the 1920s: nightmarish sets using light and dark to shake the viewer’s senses.

Frankenstein (portrayed frantically by actor Colin Clive) is a scientist determined to reverse death. He and his helper, Fritz, piece together a creature from the body parts of corpses stolen from cemeteries in the dead of night, including an abnormal brain taken from a school.

In one of the movie’s most famous scenes, Frankenstein brings life to the creature. He cackles and shouts as he raises his hodgepodge of dead body parts into the stormy sky. Lightning strikes and the body moves.

“Look, it’s moving. It’s alive...it’s alive...it’s alive, it’s moving...it’s alive...it’s alive. It’s alive! It’s alive! It’s alive! In the name of God, now I know what it feels like to BE God!” Clive eats the scenery, but his over-the-top acting fits perfectly—he is believably a mad scientist.

As fun as Colin Clive is as Frankenstein, Boris Karloff, who portrays the creature, is the real star of the movie. His depiction, despite being limited to moans and herky-jerky movements, is mesmerizing. It was a career-making performance for Karloff, and his introduction as the creature, backing into the room and slowly turning to face the camera, is

iconic.

Mary Shelley wrote “Frankenstein” because of a competition between her husband, the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, their friend, the poet Lord Byron, and herself. Who could write the best horror story? Mary Shelley was the clear winner.

The book is an epistolary novel that is told from the viewpoint of Robert Walton, the captain of a ship trying to find a passage to the North Pole. During his voyage, he discovers a man marooned on an iceberg; this man is Victor Frankenstein.

Frankenstein tells his story to Walton, and Walton shares the story with his sister, Margaret, through the writing and sending of letters.

Shelley is from the Romantic school of writing, and her language is vigorous and poetic. Even the creature, who learns to speak from a family that he secretly observes over months, is incredibly articulate. Shelley’s creature is abandoned and must teach himself what it means to be human--this is at the heart of the book and what makes it such a good read.

The movie’s creature only groans and wails—never speaking an intelligible word.

The book is often set in nature, a common theme in Romantic writing. This contrasts with the movie, which is often set inside of Castle Frankenstein or in the nearby village.

Compare Shelley’s reanimation scene to the movie’s scene and the differences stand out:

“It was already one in the morning; the rain pattered dismally against the panes, and my candle was nearly burnt out, when, by the glimmer of the half-extinguished light, I saw the dull yellow eyes of the creature open; it breathed hard, and a convulsive motion agitated its limbs.”

Subdued and measured as opposed to the bombast of the movie.

Even the last act of each contradicts the other: the movie ends in fire; the book ends in ice.

Because of their many differences, watching the movie and reading the book are far from redundant experiences. On a chilly October evening, curling up with either one is a highly recommended activity.

“Even the last act of each contradicts the other: the movie ends in fire; the book ends in ice.”

The book: “Frankenstein, or the Modern Prometheus,” by Mary Shelley, 1818.

The movie: “Frankenstein,” directed by James Whale, 1931.

PREPARE FOR WINTER



By Lexi Archambault
COLUMNIST

It is said by our elders when we enter the season of winter, our

spiritual and emotional state will remain until spring. This has led me to ponder what unresolved trauma I will be cuddling up next to as the fire crackles on a cold snowy evening, or what resentment I will be sitting next to as I zoom down the local sledding hill with my family.

Each morning for the past week, as I drank my coffee, and read my daily meditation, this concept hit me, and as I go through the day, I am struck by it again and again.

Growing up with spiritual leaders, I have been taught that these moments do not simply happen by chance but are an opportunity to explore the depths of one’s being for a deeper understanding and intimacy with joy, freedom and peace.

I believe that I have the opportunity to live a life of happiness and internal freedom so long as I choose to address

“I believe that I have the opportunity to live a life of happiness and internal freedom so long as I choose to address any anger, fear or selfishness that comes into my life.”

any anger, fear or selfishness that comes into my life. If at any point I choose not to address these things, their energy will become lodged within me, and I will carry them into each

moment I enter, blocking myself from the Truth. My perspective will be clouded by these things, and I will not see the world as it is, but I will see it from the place I am in.

Imagine how one simple decision could affect and change your entire life.

If, like me, you have allowed anger to build resentment, fear to cause anxiety or selfishness to muster envy, I encourage you to walk hand in hand with the spirit of forgiveness, to dwell in faith and jump into the river of courage, to seek the heart of a servant with the mind of “who can I help today?”

Together, our footprints will crunch along the snowy paths, and we will walk as free spirits through the season of winter.



BSC ATHLETES FUNDRAISE AT DOWNTOWNER'S STREET FAIR

By Taylor Aasen
MYSTICAST EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

As part of a fundraiser, the Bismarck State College Mystic athletes were busy at the September Downtowners' Street Fair helping to make sure that the streets were clean of trash, and people were hydrated by selling sodas.

Garrick Baines, the point guard for the basketball team and business administration major at BSC, was one of the student-athletes helping. They worked in shifts depending on their class schedule.

Baines said that it is important for them to make their team look good and take care of the city. He said he enjoyed seeing all the vendors and interacting with the people. Many would stop them and ask them if they played basketball and where they attended school.

"That part is really good—that we get to interact, and be a part of the community," Baines said. He had plans to check out some of the vendors at the street fair after his job was done. He said he wanted to find a gift for his mom and eat some food.

The two-day event started as a "Customer Appreciation Day" that has been going on since fall of 1973. This will be the 48th year for the Downtowners' Street Fair.



The Downtowners' are a membership group that advocates for the health and vitality of downtown for the benefit of our entire community, CEO of the Downtowners' Dawn Kopp said. They host many events other than the street fair including Downtown Development Days, Small Business Saturday, Neighborhood Events, speakers, seminars, and more.

In order to make sure the street fair goes smoothly, a staff of three people, board members, and dozens of volunteers run the show. The Downtowners' expect about 60,000 to 70,000 patrons every year. With the COVID-19 virus in mind, Kopp said that they saw a decrease in patrons and vendors within the last couple years. Kopp said the decrease of

Men's basketball athletes help pick up trash at the Downtowner's Street Fair. (Credit: Taylor Aasen)

people was beneficial to them because it gave people space to spread out, and social distance.

"The Street Fair has something for everybody to enjoy," Kopp said. "Whether arts and crafts or food, or taking your kids for a day downtown. It's really a great community event that has something for everybody."

The BSC athletes have been doing this for several years, and will be back at the event again next year. The athletes fundraise throughout the year in the Bismarck community. Most of it consists of cleaning, but their main goal is to be a part of the community and give people a chance to get to know the BSC athletes. Look out for student athletes at the next event.

"It's really a great community event that has something for everybody."

October Bismarck/ Mandan community calendar

Papa's Pumpkin Patch
09/12/2021 - 10/23/2021

Haunted Fort
Every Friday and Saturday in
October

Bismarck Arts Bash
10/07/2021

Friends of the Library Fall Used
Book Sale
10/07/2021 - 10/09/2021

Annual Woodcarving Show
10/09/2021 - 10/10/2021

Haunted Walk
10/10/2021 - 10/24/2021

Halloween Carnival
10/29/2021

For more information visit www.noboundariesnd.com



People of all ages visited the booths during the yearly event. (Credit: Taylor Aasen)



LADIES TAKE THE STAGE

By Samantha Rosario
MYSTIC MEDIA COORDINATOR

The Bismarck State College Theatre Program is preparing for their first production since March of 2020. COVID-19 put a pause on many campus activities including school performances. The newly anticipated student production “Silent Sky” is finally in the works after having been canceled last fall because of COVID-19 related risks.

“After a year and a half of not being able to do theatre, I had to cancel four shows as of March 22, 2020,” Dan Rogers, BSC Professor Emeritus said. “I was just beginning a show at North Dakota State. Word came down,

and it was clear to me that this was not going to happen for a long time. It has been a difficult time for the arts.” Rogers is the director of the BSC student production “Silent Sky.”

“I encountered the play about two and a half years ago and initially pitched the play to Danny Devlin and Dean Bellin of the theater department for a student production to be held last fall at this time,” Rogers said. “Of course we encountered COVID-19 and this kind of production was not available to us at the time. Soon after the reopening of schools, the idea to pursue the production came up once again.”

The student cast has been rehearsing 12 hours a week to prepare for opening night. By the time the production is set to open, it will have been seven weeks since the first rehearsal. The student cast includes Brittany Bearsheart as Margaret Leavitt, Lane Kassian as Peter Shaw, Abigail Nicholson as Annie Cannon, and Brooke Ternes as Williamina Fleming. Actress and student, Asa Fox, will be playing Henrietta Leavitt, who the story is based on.

“The actress playing Henrietta—I have worked with her in at least three shows directing her, and she has acted with me in a couple of shows,” Rogers said. “I find her really exciting to work with as an actor and a director because she’s fearless and she is going to bring something to Henrietta that most actors would fear to bring. She is a great actress.”

“Silent Sky” by Lauren Gunderson is based on the life of an astronomer by the name of Henrietta Leavitt. In the year 1900, Leavitt had the opportunity of working at Harvard University as

one of the three women ‘computers’ in the observatory. Their jobs consisted of logging star photographs taken by the men of the observatory.

“These people are librarians. They collect, sort, analyze, and create an organizational format to preserve these snapshots of the sky—the observable universe,” Rogers said.

With plans to begin her own research, Leavitt begins to record

always intrigued me, and I try to let them do their thing, and they come up with all kinds of wonderful stuff, and I try to take a backseat and not try to mansplain anything to them,” Rogers said.

“This is fascinating to watch them find and use their voices in this play about women- strong women, adventurous women, daring women and free women.”

“Anytime you get a cast of women, they find ways of working that have always intrigued me, and I try to let them do their thing, and they come up with all kinds of wonderful stuff, and I try to take a backseat and not try to mansplain anything to them.”

changes in stars. Her personal work soon led to a scientific breakthrough in astronomy that has changed the way we view the sky.

The play focuses on her struggles as a woman of science in the early 20th Century highlighting her dilemma of dedicating her life to her work but receiving no scientific credit. She also deals with issues in her personal life including choosing her work over love, family and her colleagues. The play calls for four women and one man.

“Anytime you get a cast of women, they find ways of working that have

The theatre program not only creates their own props for productions, but Bellin actually constructed the set representing the Harvard Observatory for the production of “Silent Sky.”

Alexander Brady is the stage manager for this production as well as a student in the theatre program under Bellin. Each member has an important job, whether it be managing, constructing or acting.

“What I am confident in is the process. I have been doing this for many years. I kind of know what



Brooke Ternes stands in place during a rehearsal scene. (Credit: Samantha Rosario)

it takes to put it together,” Rogers said. “First of all it takes a team. Dean Bellin is a great designer and technical director.

“It takes stage managers. It takes a cast that is willing to do the kind of work that we do.”

Opening night is Thursday, Oct. 21, with showings Friday, Oct. 22 and Saturday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m. and a matinee showing on Sunday, Oct. 24 at 2:30 p.m. in the Sidney J. Lee Auditorium on the BSC campus.



Asa Fox and Brittany Bearsheart rehearse lines while Dan Rogers looks on. (Credit: Samantha Rosario)



EVERY STUDENT'S VOICE

ASPIRING TO GIVE EVERY STUDENT A VOICE:

This is our mission statement at The Mystician. It is often said that in higher education, we grow as people and become who we are through learning and experience. We know you would like to let yourselves be heard, and this new addition to our student newspaper is just the way to do that. You will often see our reporters and columnists out and about getting interviews. If you would like to have your voice heard here, answer openly and honestly to them and allow your picture to accompany your opinion.

QUESTION: **WHY BSC?**



"Bismarck State College is close to home and affordable."

Daisy Goldsack, BSC Student



"I was planning on playing college sports and when I toured BSC, I knew it was 'home.' I also came here to complete my generals."

Jaden Mitzel, BSC Student

"It's affordable and isn't too far from home."

Ericka Hager, BSC Student

"I chose BSC because it was the cheaper school out of the two top schools in Bismarck. I wanted to move to a quiet environment, so I also chose to move to Bismarck from Rhode Island."

Julie Klede, BSC Student



"I missed the application deadline for UND."

Hayden Wolf, BSC Student

"I chose BSC because when I came for a tour I fell absolutely in love with campus, and all the staff and students were welcoming. I like the city of Bismarck and totally see myself loving school here."

Katelyn Sott, BSC Student



"I am at BSC for many reasons. First, it is close to my hometown. Second, it has great transferrable programs. I was raised in a town of 1,700 residents, so my class size was 13. Coming to a college where class sizes were just about the same as my high school was perfect for me. Third, BSC is super helpful getting me ready to go out into the workforce. Last, it really is just a great overall college."

Jordan Waldren, BSC Student



SPIKING FOR A CAUSE



Mystic Volleyball players pose with members of Furry Friends Rockin' Rescue. (Credit: Amy Doll)

(FROM PAGE 1)

By Amy Doll
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Bismarck State College
Women's Volleyball team hosted

Bump, Pet, Spike night at the BSC
Armory. Monetary donations and
items were collected to benefit local
rescue Furry Friends Rockin' Rescue.



The BSC Agriculture Club treated guests to tailgating events before
game time. (Credit: Amy Doll)



Many items were donated to benefit rescue animals on Bump, Pet,
Spike night. (Credit: Amy Doll)

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SCHULZ SETTLES INTO NEW ROLE

By Amy Doll
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When starting a new job, it takes time to make an office feel like home, especially when the walls belonged to the previous tenant for thirty years.

Myron Schulz has stepped in to fill the role of Director of Athletics at Bismarck State College, a role previously filled by Buster Gilliss for the last thirty years. Schulz brings plenty of experience and talent to take on this position, having coached football for schools of all ranks. This includes schools such as Montana State University, Century High School, Simle Middle School, New Rockford High School and The University of Mary.

Though this role may be new for him, Schulz already has familiarity with the school and the people. A Bismarck native, Schulz grew up close to BSC and attended after graduating from Century High School in 1983. He then went on to earn a bachelor's degree from the University of Mary and a master's degree from Montana State University.

"I've been at UMary either coaching football or I was in charge of sports management," Schulz said. "So that's what kind of led into this; coaching experience and the sports management."

The role of the Director of Athletics holds a variety of responsibilities, ranging from marketing, fundraising, sponsorships and overseeing budgets.

"One thing is called game day operations," Schulz said. "That can be anything from entertaining the crowd to taking tickets to having concessions. So, it's operating game day and obviously you're going to do



Myron Schulz joined the athletics department in August 2021. (Credit: photo submitted by BSC Public Affairs)

a bunch of things with marketing and promote for the program."

Besides offering support on paper, Schulz shared that the role also offers support for the athletes and creates a pleasant atmosphere for alumni fans.

"We want it to be a great experience, we want our players to have a great experience and then we just want to find a way we can support them academically and athletically and then be safe at all times," Schulz said.

With the transition of becoming

a polytechnic institution in Spring of 2021, the possibility of four-year athletics may arrive in the future.

"That's the exciting thing about BSC, and why I was so interested--is this polytechnical concept could bring a lot of neat things in the future," Schulz said.

Though the office walls are bare for now, in time, things will find their place.

"I've always had a warm spot in my heart for BSC," Schulz said.

"It's one of the places in all of my educational journeys that I really felt that everything they did was for my benefit."

Having purchased his childhood home, Schulz finds comfort in being close to the campus to assist in his duties.

"Getting to work in four minutes is kind of a nice thing, too," Schulz said.

LIVING IN A FANTASY

2019 was a big year for me. No, I did not win some sort of big award, get a promotion at work or win an all expense paid vacation to Bora Bora. Something happened that was much bigger than that, something I had been working on for years.

I was finally invited into a fantasy football league.

Now, I know what you are thinking. "Wow, low standards much?" But this really was a big moment for me.

I have been a big sports fan my entire life and could talk about sports all day long if you give me the chance, whether it be local or professional. I have traveled near and far to be close to the action.

Sports are an absolute thrill for me

to witness. Even if my team is not playing, I can easily get into any game and feel my heart pumping as the clock winds down.

"Sports are an absolute thrill for me to witness."

Basketball will always be number one in my heart, but football is a close second.

Fantasy football is a wild ride. You have to throw away the mentality of cheering for your favorite team and really concentrate on individual members in the league.

Drafting players should be carefully crafted and researched, that is if you want to do well. Even so, at the end of the day it is all about luck and having a good time with it. I will not talk about my first year in the league much, as it was atrocious. However, I learned a lot and have greatly improved.

So far this season, I am 1-2 and in eighth place out of ten. Not the start I wanted, but it is early in the season, and I am determined to win.

I may have more gray hair by the end of the season, but to me it is worth it.

Stay tuned for more updates on my fantasy football team. I have a feeling this season is going to be a good one.



By Amy Doll
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



UNASSUMING CITY IN NORTH DAKOTA IS DOING SOMETHING RIGHT



By Mikaela Sanders
COLUMNIST

Live Music, local beer, international food, and warm fall weather for the cherry on top. Where are we?

Denver?
Asheville?

Not quite. Welcome to the Greenway Takeover Festival. Every year, local businesses come together with national music headliners for a weekend of good vibrations and local libations on the lush Greenway Park in Grand Forks, N.D.

This is not simply a money-making venture but just one of the many ways the city of Grand Forks gives back

to the community by bringing locals together to dance, meet new people, mingle with neighbors, and enjoy time outside before winter.

The sense of community that Grand Forks creates is something worth noticing.

Greenway Takeover Festival is not the only one of its kind. The city has something for people all year long. Every weekend seems to be filled with something fun and quirky; the plethora of free events includes everything from concerts to 5k's. Art & Wine Walk, Woofstock, ArtFest, and the huge weekly farmers' market downtown are just a few on an ongoing list.

Just last week, a community

is impressive but it's not just about the events; it's the volumes spoken about the place and the effect they have on the people. It's the sense of community that you feel.

People smile, wave and call you by name.

Local businesses support one another, and the owners get together for drinks at local breweries. Neighbors gather at coffee shops to chat about ideas and goals.

From the diverse immigrant population to the diverse student body, Grand Forks is little melting pot that thrives.

Having grown up in Bismarck and lived in various parts of America, I can tell you that when I walk out of

inspiration from.

In the increasingly divided society in which we live, financing events that encourage community engagement could be a step in the direction of creating solutions to problems that our world faces today—problems that separate people because of where they're from or what they look like.

People in an engaged community think more about taking care of their home and of each other.

If more cities in North Dakota started investing fewer resources into new banks and gas stations and more into connecting everyone through cultural events, they could begin to make this state a more desirable place to live. This would generate incentives to keep younger generations around to build and develop North Dakota into a place that is about more than just crops and oil fields.

Creating a more interconnected, engaged, and culturally aware community makes an enriching environment in which people are proud to call home.

The humble city of Grand Forks could serve to be a good model for the rest of the state, the Midwest, and in turn, the world.

For being in the "middle of nowhere" Grand Forks sure lives up to being "way cooler than you think."

“For being in the ‘middle of nowhere’ Grand Forks sure lives up to being ‘way cooler than you think.’”

picnic invited people of all different nationalities to come together for free food and conversation. Locals sure know how to have fun around here and it shows.

For such a small city, Grand Forks punches far above its weight in accessible cultural events and activities for all ages. Their creativity

my downtown apartment, there is something special happening on the streets that is seldom found these days.

Grand Forks goes above and beyond in making it a desirable place to live by creating a positive community atmosphere that other cities and towns in North Dakota could take

PROFESSIONALISM VERSUS REALISM

WHY DO FAMILY BUSINESSES TRY TO BLEND INTO CORPORATIONS INSTEAD OF STANDING OUT AS UNIQUE?

Working for a small family-orientated business for four years, I find special qualities in it every day—qualities they tend to forget are of great importance. They are always comparing themselves to big-end companies and forgetting the special quality they bring to the table being a small personable family business.

When I started as a Customer Service Representative, I had no idea what I was doing. I had experience talking to customers and anticipating their demands. I spoke to them like they were people, and I got a lot of great reviews. My bosses were posting customer feedback all over the place.

Two years into my position, I was required to take a class about handling customers over the phone.

I took offense to it because it seemed like I was doing something wrong.

They taught us how to take care

of problems as they happen and the perfect phrase to say. They educated us on certain slogans to use like they do at Chic-fil-A as in, "It is my pleasure."

Our bosses wanted us to say this to our customers on the phone as we did business with them.

The entire time, I kept thinking how ridiculous this sounded because

“Customers appreciate being treated like people.”

I thought we were successful without this trait being incorporated.

Being personable, honest and realistic on the phone with our customers was by far more beneficial than using a corporation phase. It made us look like wanna-bes, and we didn't stand out with our own little blend of special.

People liked the fact that we didn't cover up a technician running late to a job and truly appreciated doing business with them by how we replied as a personable human on the phone after a follow up call.

This is being lost as time goes on. People value those little things and special qualities businesses provide. Small businesses forget that, and it gets lost in the transition of corporation. I want to hold onto that and not let small businesses forget their specialness. People appreciate that, and it tends to hold businesses longer.

Small family-friendly businesses need to remember what makes them special. Customers appreciate being treated like people.

It doesn't take away from the professionalism of the business.

It adds to it.



By Katie Pertile
COLUMNIST



THE POWER OF EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS

When I think of unconditional love and comfort, I think of Leo.

Leo, my best friend, has saved my day and my life more than once. If I have a bad day at school or work, he is right there to ease my anxiety by nuzzling up beside me. He is a good listener, and sometimes he even talks to me, too. Leo is my cat.

After high school, I got into a very toxic and controlling relationship. Even though he was never home, I was not allowed to go to work, school, or even see my friends. The loneliness I felt every day that

I spent by myself got to me and my mind. I was

“My cat saved my life that day.”

in a very dark place—depressed and suicidal. One day, I was so sad, I sat on the floor of the shower and sobbed. I wanted to die. I felt so much pain and anger in my heart, I could no longer bear it—suddenly, Leo was at my side. Meowing at me. In the wet shower.

He made me realize if I’m gone, who is going to take care of my Leo? My cat saved my life that day. I dumped my ex after 4 years and never went back. I still have my Leo, and my mental state is better now, but I still struggle. The days where I feel alone and sad, Leo is

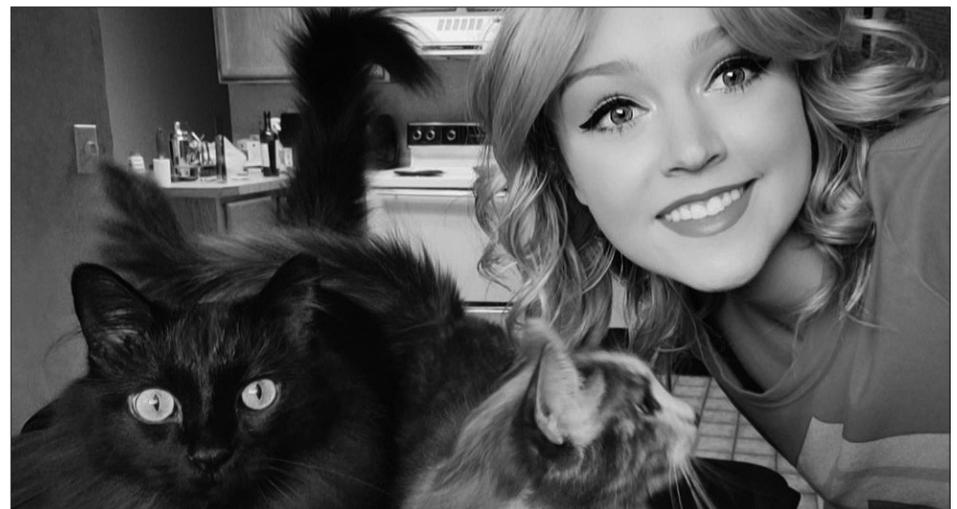
still by my side making sure that his owner is okay.

Emotional support animals consist of a large portion of today’s house pets. As humans, some of our best friends are our pets. Some say that they are a family member. Emotional support animals (ESAs) are companions that offer aid to someone with a mental health condition.

Most of the research behind emotional support animals is still inconclusive, but there are studies that show their effects are positive for their

owners. Benefits from an emotional support animal at your side include trauma support, less anxiety, decrease loneliness and reciprocation of love and care.

ESAs are often misconstrued with service animals. Service animals are trained to a certain duty or task. Service animals are trained to help those with disabilities. Such as sensory, physical, and psychiatric disorders. Emotional support animals offer companionship and happiness to their owners who may have a mental



health condition such as depression or anxiety. Either way, animals are a necessity for some people, and they help support and service us.

Pets serve us unconditional love and support, but perhaps they feel the same way about us. Last year, Leo and I were a duo that could not be stopped, and I had no desire for any other household pet. A friend of mine told me that his cat had kittens, and the mother of the litter rejected one kitten. She was the runt of the group, and it was clear she would not make it without some TLC. Of course, I took the kitten in. I named her Binx, and

By Taylor Aasen
MYSTICAST EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

bottle fed her for the first month of her life. This was not an easy task, and was very much so like having a baby. I was up all hours of the night bottle feeding her and making sure she had the love and comfort that she needed. Now, Binx is one year old and a very loving and playful kitty. I like to say that Leo rescued me, and I rescued Binx.

Emotional support animals are needed for some humans, and in some cases, they need us too.

DIET SMOKES

North Dakota continues to restrict the use of delta-8 THC because of the increase in demand for the substance after the passing of the Farm Bill of 2018.

Because of a lack of knowledge regarding the substance, legislators found it easier to make delta-8 THC illegal. This was done rather than properly educating themselves in order to establish laws that allow people to benefit from the medical properties while reasonably regulating it.

Delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol is a mildly psychoactive isomer of the delta-9 THC compound found in minimal traces of hemp and marijuana. Plants must produce less than .3% THC to classify as hemp. Under the Farm Bill of 2018, hemp was removed from the controlled substance list. As a result, delta-8 THC is not federally prohibited because hemp remains legal whereas marijuana remains criminalized.

As of Apr. 23, 2021, North Dakota House Bill 1045 states that delta-8 THC remains illegal in the state.

According to Michigan’s Marijuana

Regulatory Agency, “Chemically, delta-8 and delta-9 are similar in that they both have a double bond in their structures. Both cannabinoids have a chain of carbon atoms, but delta-8 has the double bond on the eighth carbon, whereas delta-9 has it on the ninth carbon.”

The double bond is what may be producing the psychoactive effects. Delta-8 and delta-9 THC bind to the endocannabinoid system in slightly different ways because of the difference in locations of the double bonds. This may be what causes delta-8 THC to be less potent than delta-9 THC.

Delta-8-thc comes with milder effects compared to delta-9-thc. According to the National Cancer Institute, the substance is, “an analogue of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), with potential antiemetic, anxiolytic, appetite-stimulating, analgesic, and neuroprotective activities.” If taken in low doses, delta-8 THC offers the same health benefits as delta-9 THC without the risk of increased anxiety, and paranoia

because of the psychoactive effects.

There are some negative side effects to using delta-8 THC, similar to those of delta-9 THC, including anxiety, paranoia, dry eyes and mouth, as well as both mental and physical impairment. Large doses can cause strong effects. If taken irresponsibly, it can impair coordination, which can affect how one operates a motor vehicle or physically functions.

More research is needed regarding delta-8 THC and its effects. People are going to continue to find ways to obtain illegal substances and abuse them. Michigan has done right by passing legislation to classify delta-8 along with all THC isomers as marijuana. As a result, it will be regulated by the MRA for production, distribution, and sale. According to the Michigan Marijuana Regulatory Agency, as of October 11, 2021, it will be illegal for businesses to sell delta-8 THC without proper licensing from the MRA.

If North Dakota legislators pass laws regulating the manufacturing, selling and consumption of delta-8 THC,



By Sam Rosario
MYSTIC MEDIA COORDINATOR

citizens will be able to responsibly enjoy the benefits of the substance.

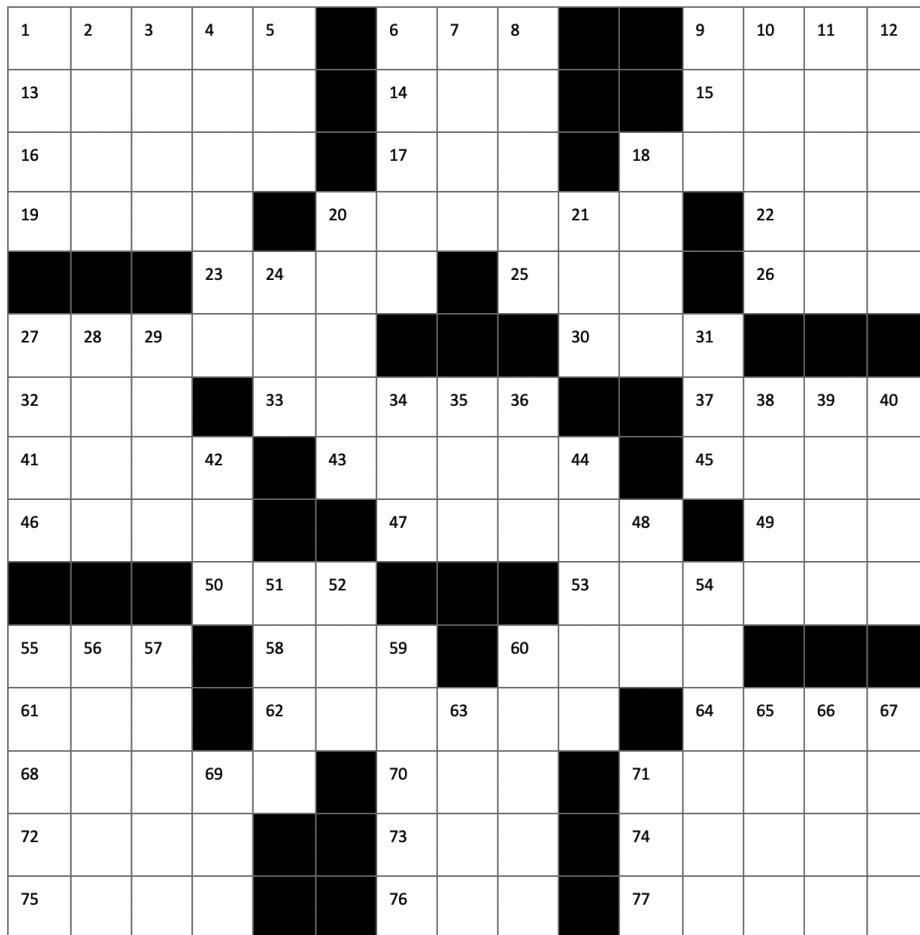
CONTACT US: BSCMYSTICIANEDITOR@BISMARCKSTATE.EDU



CROSSWORD

Happy Halloween

Michael R. Tomanek



ACROSS

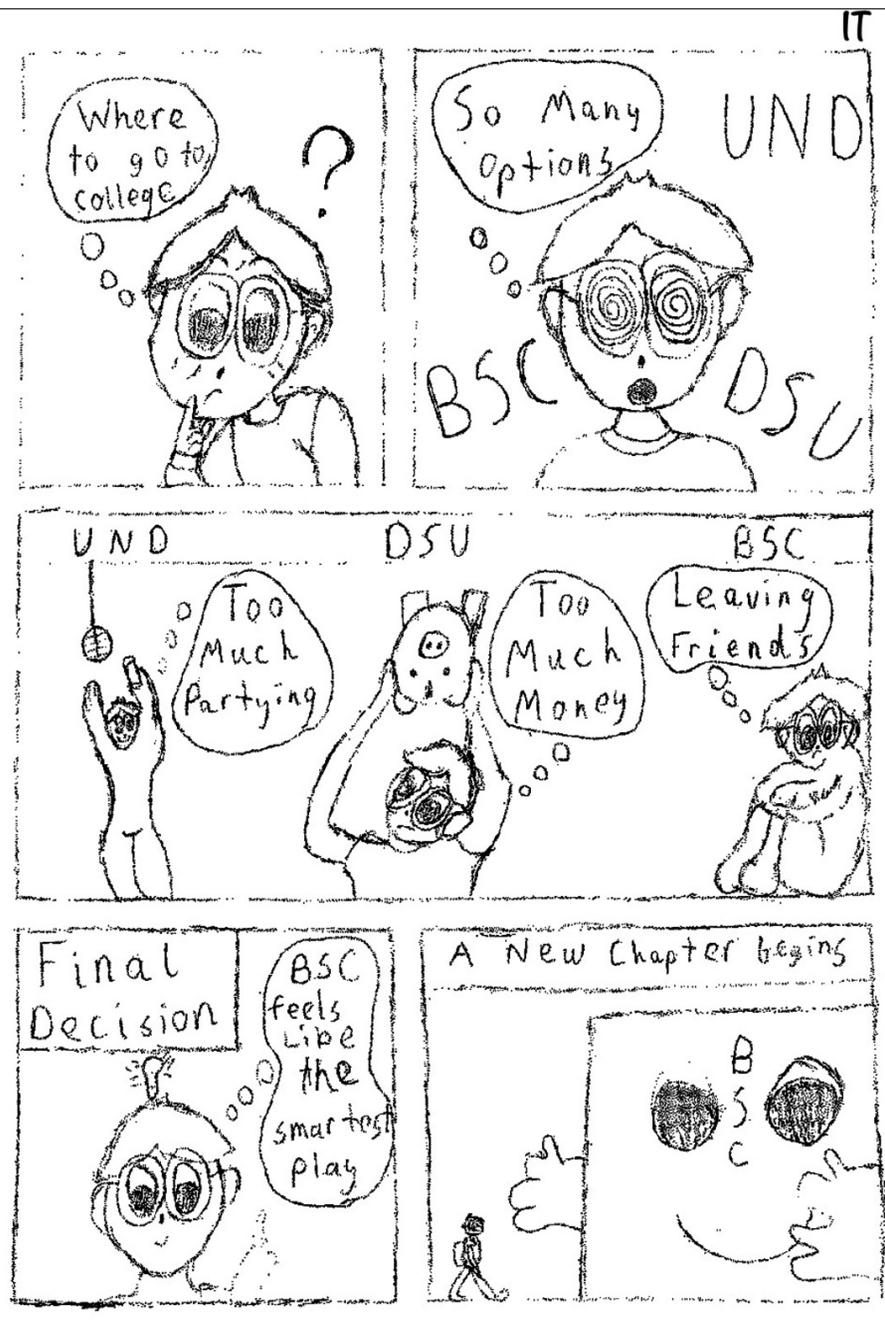
- *1. One or the other (with 55-down)
- 6. D --- H
- *9. Sweetarts, for example (with 77-across)
- 13. Vietnam's Hilton locale
- 14. Caesar's 7
- 15. _____ as a ghost
- 16. Pure or complete
- 17. Roadside stay
- 18. It makes waste
- 19. Outdated phone verb
- 20. Golden color
- 22. Anger
- 23. Slithery fish
- 25. Yodel's yes
- 26. _____ it ain't so
- 27. _____ of Indian Affairs
- 30. Genetic letters
- 32. Meth or Prop follower
- 33. A ghost vanishes without a _____
- 37. A secret's lead-in
- 41. One of ten or less in the express lane
- *43. Halloween's omen (with 35-down)

- 45. "A poor man's Vegas"
- 46. Mineral find
- 47. Physicists split them
- 49. Precedes Sept.
- 50. Heavy weight unit
- 53. Crooked
- 55. Sn
- 58. Three
- 60. Cut bangs
- 61. Genetic letters
- 62. Design, as in an essay
- 64. Mentoring type
- 68. Overhangs
- 70. It makes the sky
- 71. Florida City
- 72. Obsessively neat
- 73. For it
- 74. Other identity
- 75. Show's partner
- 76. Harden or congeal
- *77. See 9-across

DOWN

- 1. Thump
- 2. Hindu queen
- 3. Peruvian native
- 4. Ravine
- 5. A football uniform (British)
- 6. Very bad things
- 7. Very dry Sherry
- 8. Ron's sister or Harry's love
- 9. Sauna's locale
- 10. Desert illusion
- 11. Extreme
- 12. Stinky
- 18. Axe cut
- 20. Book jacket praise
- 21. Papa
- 24. Consume
- 27. Leave abruptly
- 28. Golden rule verb
- 29. Saxophone's wood
- 31. CC variable
- 34. It joins ice cream and pie
- *35. See 43-across
- 36. System type
- 38. Where edges meet
- 39. Rudely avoid
- 40. Restaurant order type
- 42. What Harry did Sally
- 44. Walmart rival
- 48. Resort type
- 51. Kills
- 52. Nazi type
- 54. Old Chevy
- *55. See 1-across
- 56. Trivial
- 57. Nautical
- 59. Sub alternatives
- 60. Card type
- 63. Swamp
- 65. Ms. Brockovich
- 66. Golly!
- 67. Blushing
- 69. Corner bend
- 71. Fond du _____

**REMEMBER
to take care
of yourself.
Mental health is
important!**



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CONSTITUTION DAY 2021

BSC CONSTITUTION DAY SCAVENGER HUNT TAKES STUDENTS AROUND CAMPUS

Celebrations happen each year on Sept. 17, acknowledging the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787.

Bismarck State College students were invited to participate in a Scavenger Hunt with a chance to win prizes from the Bookstore.

The hunt included a trip to the

Library to find the catalog card signed by President Jimmy Carter; a visit to Schafer Hall to view the documents of the Freedom Shrine; and stop by The Mystician office, which is the student newspaper on campus, to locate the First Amendment plaque.

Dr. Karmen Sorenson's political

science class participated as a group and received a tour of the Mystic Media Studios and some reusable coffee cups.

Winners of the Scavenger Hunt were given \$20 spending allowances at the BSC Bookstore.

WINNERS:

Brooke Duchsherer
Cade Garcia
Brianna Geigle
Katie Hazel
Sam Rosario
Jordan Waldren
Michelle Wikenheiser



Nathan Burgess
Abby Balkowitsch



Jordan Waldren



Karmen Sorenson's American Government class participated in the Constitution Day Scavenger Hunt. Their hunt included a tour of the Mystic Media studios and The Mystician newspaper office. Pictured: Garrett Joyce, Cade Garcia, Dr. Karmen Sorenson, Chad Wiege, Carson Kidd, Sophie Hedge, Kristin Johnson, Matt Heilman, Austin Horn, Jefferson Jacob, Braden Ressler, Reece Trottier



Brianna Geigle
Brooke Duchsherer



Sam Rosario
Zachary Weiand
Taylor Aasen
Seth Iverson



Cade Garcia



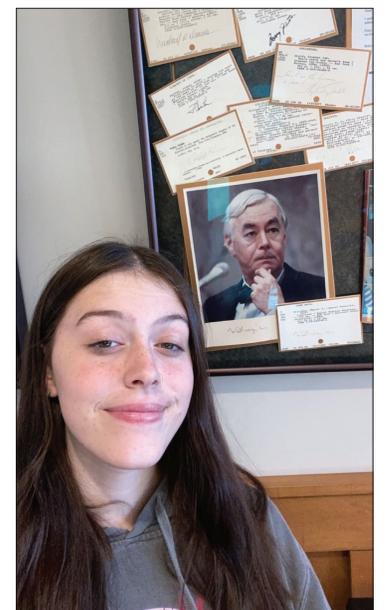
Ericka Hager
Katelyn Sott



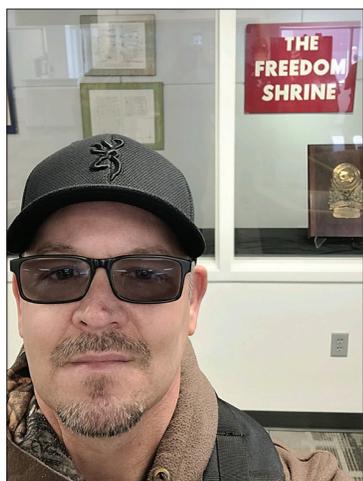
Katie Hazel
Michelle Wikenheiser



Garrett Joyce



Daisy Goldsack



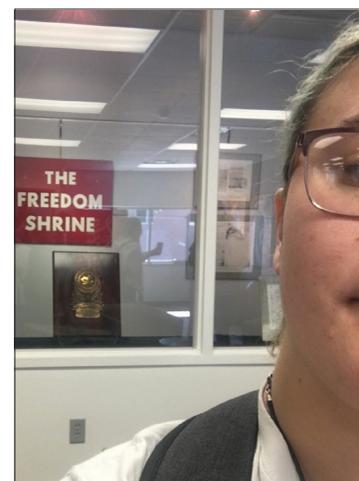
Chad Wiege



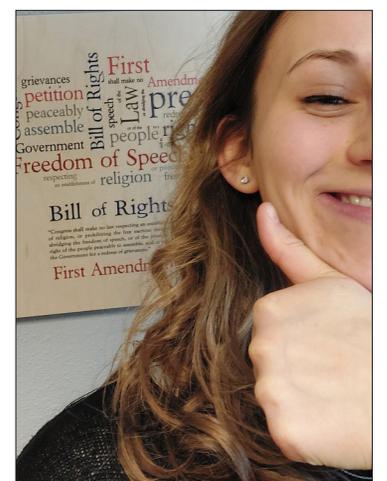
Austin Horn



Julie Klede



Kristin Johnson



Lyss Joy



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