



From left to right: Patrick Watson and Max Wild act out a scene from BSC's production of "A Year With Frog and Toad" on March 27, 2023. (Credit: Zachary Weiand).

bscmysticmedia.com

INFORMATION

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello Fellow Students!

We are slowly inching towards the finish line of the semester, and if I'm being honest, it can't come any quicker. I'm totally over school, and this is coming from someone who is always excited to begin school every semester.

It's that point in the semester where everything feels like it's just going to \$*!& and there is no end in sight because every teacher feels the need to assign every major project all at once. However, there is an end in site, it's in only a month. I'm using that as motivation to keep me going, even as the stress of the semester is increasing.

Despite the semester feeling like it's moving at a snail's pace, I'm also surprised that it is already April. This is the seventh issue of eight for the year, but it doesn't feel like it's been that much. As difficult as it is to run this publication (and you'd be surprised how difficult it can be at times), I've been having so much fun.

On top of all that, we still are dealing with this dang weather. I wrote about this last issue, but it's still a major annoyance! It's April, we should be enjoying some nice 50 degree temperatures, not record lows. Hopefully, spring will be here soon.

With all that said, I hope everyone is doing alright. Hang in there, y'all, the finish line is in sight. It'll be finals week before you know it!

Once again, I wish all good vibes and good times, Zachary



Contact: Zachary Weiand, EIC, with letters to the editor or any concerns/comments regarding this publication. E-mail: bscmysticianeditor@bismarckstate.edu

MYSTICIAN STAFF

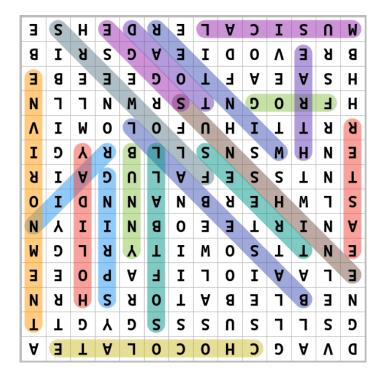
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MYSTIC MEDIA MISSION STATEMENT AND DISCLAIMER

The purpose of college media is to serve and give voice to the students. We, as the student-based forum of journalism on the Bismarck State College campus, provide content that is informative, fair, concise and of importance to students and the community. With this goal in mind, Mystic Media is dedicated to accuracy and maintaining ethical journalistic practices. We strive to give a voice to student issues and policies within the local community. Our goal is to incorporate as many students as possible and be an outlet for student expression. Mystic Media strives to be objective and is not affiliated with any outside 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. Thoughts expressed may not be the opinion of all the staff or BSC community.

GAMES ANSWER KEYS

Games can be found on Page 12.



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KEEPING BSC SAFE IN A WORLD OF VIOLENCE

By Taylor Aasen MYSTICAST EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

In the evening hours of February 13, 2023, East Lansing, Mich. police were alerted to an active shooter on the Michigan State University campus. Arielle Diamond Anderson, Alexandra Verner, and Brian Fraser were all students at MSU, and all lost their lives during the shooting.

There have been at least 33 school shooting incidents as of March 2023 resulting in over eight deaths and over 20 injuries, according to everytownresearch.org. With school shootings being a common occurrence, officials at Bismarck State College regularly discuss how the campus would respond to such an event.

BSC Campus Police Chief Matthew Giddings says that every year, the campus police will team up alongside local law enforcement agencies and fire departments to train themselves on active shooter situations. This helps them understand one another's processes if something were to ever happen around the BSC community.

"We always pray and hope that nothing like that would happen, but we also know that we need to train to be prepared for if and where it does happen," Giddings said.

One process that the BSC staff is working on is installing keyless entry across the entire campus. If an event were to ever happen on campus, with the flip of a switch, campus officials could lock every building on campus.

Much like when students and faculty receive campus-wide weather alerts, the same procedure would take place if there were any kind of threatening situation on campus. An alert would be sent out in the form of a text message, phone call, and email to the whole campus community.

Michigan State students received an alert on their phones that told them to "Run, Hide, Fight."

"If you can, run. Get out of the area and get out as safely as you can. If you can't run, hide-find a place you can secure yourself in and hide yourself in," Giddings explained. "If you can't do either of those two, you have to be prepared to fight."

Giddings said if it does come down to the 'fight' scenario, a person should think about their own safety and getting themselves home at the end of the day. Giddings said the best way to prepare for a threatening scenario is to be educated and for the campus community to be transparent.

"I want to provide awareness. I think what happens at times is we all get scared, especially with the unknown," he said. "Being able to provide that additional information that they can have in their back pocket to prepare themselves is what's most important."

Giddings is considering producing a video that would explain "run, hide, fight" in an effort to raise more awareness for the procedure.

Giddings stressed the importance of getting the campus community to help with the video. Anyone interested in helping with the video can contact Giddings or the Campus Police Department at 701) 224-2700.



IF YOU CAN. GET OUT OF THE AREA AS SAFELY AS POSSIBLE.

IF YOU CAN'T. FIND A SECURE PLACE TO CONCEAL YOURSELF.

IF YOU HAVE TO. MENTALLY PREPARE YOURSELF AND USE EVERYTHING TO YOUR ADVANTAGE.

BSC PARTNERS WITH LOCAL CORRECTIONAL CENTER TO ADDRESS WORKFORCE NEEDS

By Zachary Weiand THE MYSTICIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Since the COVID-19 Pandemic, many institutions have faced struggles filling

She says inmates are a good group of people for the types of jobs BSC is trying to fill on campus.

"This group of people are very able bodied, they are willing to work. Working is a privilege for them," Miller said. Miller says the program will start small. Applications first became available to inmates back in March while students were on spring break. So far, three residents have applied for jobs through the program and can start as early as this month. we get those positions filled, we can provide more services and better services to the students, staff and faculty. And [the residents] have meaningful, hopefully long term work." Some on campus have raised concerns to Miller, which has allowed her to show others the benefits of the program. She also said that if anyone, MRCC resident or not, is not following campus protocols, to report it to HR. All employees at BSC are held to the same standards and code of conduct.

service positions. In an effort to address workplace shortages, Bismarck State College Human Resources has found innovative solutions by partnering with a local correctional center.

BSC is working with Missouri River Correctional Center in an effort to fill a number of entry level positions around campus. BSC Human Resources is hoping this program can help them address shortages in the departments of Buildings and Grounds and Food Services.

BSC Human Resources Manager Meagan Miller is leading the charge for this program.

Her idea to partner with MRCC came about thanks to her eight years of experience working in the North Dakota Department of Corrections before coming to BSC. She started working on this program last fall. Miller started speaking with the Deputy Warden at MRCC to come up with a proposal to present to the executive committee.

"There was a lot of work on the front end, and we really took our time putting the proposal together and really looking at it holistically," she said. Miller says that BSC will only consider "low-risk" inmates, which are inmates that have a shorter remaining length of their sentence, and who are convicted of less serious crimes. Both BSC and MRCC have lists of requirements candidates must fulfill to apply for a BSC job. Candidates go through the standard hiring process which includes a background check. Part of starting small is to allow the campus community to become comfortable with the program, which gives it the best possibility of success.

"Ultimately, when those guys get out, our ultimate goal is to retain them as employees and have them work–if there is an opportunity full time," Miller said.

Retainment is a major goal, but it's not the only focus of the program. Miller says this program carries many benefits to campus and the community at large. She says BSC and MRCC share a similar mission of strengthening communities, supplying support and allowing people to be successful.

"It's really a win-win for us," Miller explains. "We get skilled workers; "We are working to provide better neighbors. We're helping to set these guys up for success, and we're able to be successful on campus as well," Miller said.

Anyone with questions or concerns about the program can reach out to Miller or Chief Human Resource Officer Nicole Mikkelsen, or stop by the Human Resources Department located in the Meadowlark Building.

BSC LIBRARIAN CONCERNED WITH BOOK BANNING BILLS

By Zachary Weiand THE MYSTICIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With the North Dakota Legislative Assembly in session, lawmakers in Bismarck have been discussing a wide range of topics. A controversial topic that has been floated is the restriction of certain library materials.

Two such bills are HB 1205 and SB 2360. Both bills mainly focus on prohibiting materials lawmakers see as "obscene" from all public libraries. SB 2360 passed both chambers and is waiting for the governor's signature. HB 1205 was signed by Gov. Doug Burgum in March.

"This bill attempts to discontinue having public libraries maintain or promoting certain books that contain explicit sexual material," House Majority Leader Mike Lefor, R-Dickinson, said during testimony on HB 1205.

Many who have opposed the bills say the legislation would infringe on First Amendment rights by limiting people's right to choose what they read. Other parties that oppose the bills, such as the North Dakota Librarian Association, see the legislation as an attempt to censor the lives of those in the LGBTQIA+ community and People of Color.

"We stand opposed to censorship and any effort to coerce belief, suppress opinion, or punish those whose expression does not conform to what is deemed to be orthodox in history, politics, or belief," NDLA said in a January statement.

Bismarck State College Director of Library Services Marlene Anderson is concerned about the bills going through the legislature. She says that the role of the library is to serve the community and book banning bills hamper the libraries ability to be a resource.

"People need all kinds of resources in order to learn what they want to learn, in order to have materials that support their research projects, for papers or speeches, or sometimes simply for their own curiosity," Anderson said

Anderson doesn't believe any of the current legislation will affect BSC. Both SB 2360 and HB 1205 mainly focus on prohibiting materials for minors. While the BSC library is open for the community at large, the library primarily functions for students and faculty on campus.

Anderson is more concerned about the implications of these bills on public and school libraries, but believes increased oversight of material in college and university libraries could be a possibility in the future.

The BSC library has yet to receive any complaint about material in LEA Hall. Anderson says that she doesn't anticipate current material being an issue in the future.

"Could there be any individual thing—a page, a word, a section, a poem that someone might not like? That's certainly possible but I really don't anticipate many concerns or challenges brought to us," she said.

Anderson says another reason these bills are unnecessary is because libraries often already have policies to address potentially controversial material. The process involves the library working with the party filing the complaint to analyze material from cover to cover.

This can lead to the book staying put, being moved to a different section of the library, the library restricting one



Marlene Anderson is the Director of Library services at Bismarck State College. (Credit: Zachary Weiand)

specific child from checking out a book or the book being pulled. Anderson says that librarians do not force anyone to read anything, and she doesn't feel comfortable having to make those choices for other people. Many other librarians share that sentiment.

"I think [legislators] need to focus on

the things that really are problems, and I don't think people reading and having freedom of choice on what they want to read is a problem," Anderson said.

For more information on these bills, and other bills throughout the session, visit www.ndlegis.gov.

BSC FOUNDATION DISCUSSES UPCOMING SHOLARSHIPS AND EVENTS

By Robert Mechaley III ALUMNI REPORTER As the spring academic semester enters its final month, preparations are already beginning for the summer and fall semesters and important recognitions of achievement across the Bismarck State College community. "It's our busy time of year and a lot of it always goes in conjunction with graduation," Bismarck State College Foundation Development Manager Corv Wrolstad said. Wrolstad's words are underselling how busy the BSC Foundation is in the final two months of the spring academic semester. The BSC Foundation is in the process of distributing one million dollars in scholarships and is part of the planning process for five events in April, May, June and July. On the subject of scholarships,

Wrolstad said that four out of five students that apply for scholarships will receive one. The one million dollars in scholarships comes from community donations and the interest earned on endowments from previous BSC alumni.

students and their peers and coworkers," Wrolstad said. "There's a selection process that happens through an outside group of our board of trustees that go through all the applications on that." Finally, for awards, there will be the BSC Alumni Awards and Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner on May 11. The three awards distributed that night will be for Alumni of the Year which recognizes an alumni who has done outstanding work in the community first. The second award is the Rising Star Award which recognizes the accomplishments of a recent graduate of the college. Lastly is the Legacy

Family Award to recognize families with a lasting impact on the college. The final two events the BSC Foundation is helping to plan are the 28th Annual President's Cup golf tournament on June 9 and the BSC President's Run on July 14. There is still time to register for a spot in the President's Cup or to sponsor the event at https://bismarckstate. edu/alumnifoundation/events/ PresidentsCup/. Students can apply for scholarships to Bismarck State College by visiting www.bismarckstate.edu/scholarships.

"I think that hitting a million dollars in scholarships is big," Wrolstad said. "It shows the commitment that people in our community and industries in our community feel about what happens at Bismarck State College." The BSC Foundation is also in the process of distributing awards to

students, faculty, staff and alumni of the college.

There will be an award ceremony for recognizing outstanding students of BSC on April 19. In May, there will be awards for faculty and staff to recognize the work they do.

"We recognize outstanding staff and faculty that were nominated by



IT'S TIME TO CHANGE THE CLOCKS ONCE AGAIN, BUT WHY?

By Ashlee Presser MYSTIC MEDIA CREW

Spring time means it's time to change the clocks again. Daylight Savings Time began on March 12 at 2 a.m., when an hour was lost as clocks were sprung forward. On Nov. 5 at 2 a.m., the clocks will fall back an hour, returning to standard time. Some may wonder why we participate in this change every year.

According to www.almanac.com, the earliest account of Daylight Savings Time was in 1784 when Benjamin Franklin promoted laws for saving daylight to cut the cost of buying candles. DST was eventually adopted after the start of World War I as a way to conserve coal for heating.

The idea of DST is to have more daylight in the evenings to do activities. However, daylight isn't gained. The time at which it occurs has just been shifted by an hour.

Not all states are required to participate in DST, but if a state chooses to, it's required to follow the set guidelines of what date and time the change is to occur. The only states that don't change their clocks are Arizona and Hawaii.

Time changes typically occur at 2

a.m. for a couple of reasons. First, it was to standardize the process. Second, most people are asleep at 2 a.m., preventing the confusion of losing or gaining an hour during the day.

Daniel Brothers, an adjunct professor of meteorology at Bismarck State College and a meteorologist at the North Dakota Department of Water Resources, explained that during the summer solstice on June 21, without DST the sun would rise at 4:48 a.m.

and set at 8:41 p.m. "Without daylight savings time, the sun would be coming up very, very

early," Brothers said. One effect of DST that is most prominent when clocks spring forward is losing an hour of sleep at night, which can disrupt the body's natural sleep rhythm. Easing into an hour less of sleep before DST by getting up about 10 minutes earlier the week before can help adjust to the shift in time.

"With daylight savings time, [the] sun [is] coming up closer to when people are getting up ... it's shifting it to what is more reasonable with the schedules that most of us live by," Brothers said.

Camille Gebur, who is a counsellor in the Mystic Advising and Counseling Center at BSC, explained that time changes can also cause mood disturbances and mental health issues-

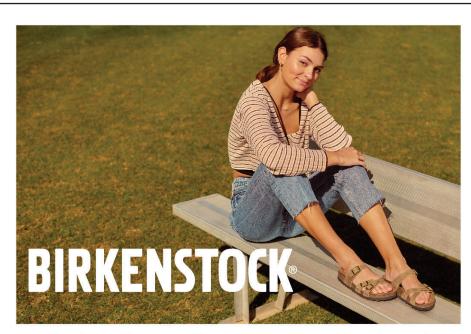


specifically pre-existing conditions, such as anxiety or depression.

Establishing healthy routines can help reduce the negative effects of the time shift. These can include eating and sleeping habits, exercising and spending time outside.

"Even that hour can really substantially affect someone's mental health, which we don't always think about," Gebur said. "It's like, 'oh, it's just an hour'... when it comes to our sleep rate and rhythm, those are so important."

For more mental health tips, visit Camille Gebur in the MACC in BSC's Student Union, or contact the office at (701) 224-2449.



Available online at gliks.com and at select locations.



NEWS BRIEFS

Three Authors to Visit Bismarck State College

BISMARCK, N.D – The Bismarck State College Visiting Writers Series brings published authors to the BSC campus for public readings and student interaction. The series features state and regional authors, as well as nationally known authors.

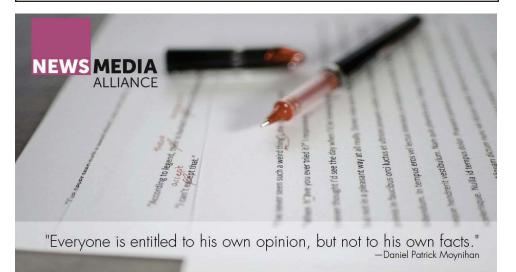
This semester, BSC has invited Susan Power, a Native American (Standing Rock) writer whose first novel is The Grass Dancer.

Her on-campus events are scheduled for Thursday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Friday, April 28 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. She will be discussing her book and writing in the main area of the BSC Library. The event is open to the BSC community and the public. Classroom visits are welcome. Also, on Friday, a panel discussion is scheduled with Tommy Orange, Susan Power and Laurel Goodluck from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Belle Mehus Auditorium in downtown Bismarck. On Friday evening at 6:30 p.m., Power will be hosting an evening event with Tommy Orange at the Belle Mehus. Registration is free and the event will be livestreamed for those unable to attend.

writer whose first novel, There There, is this year's Campus Read selection and a New York Times Best Book of the Year.

Laurel Goodluck is a Native American (Mandan & Hidatsa) writer of children's picture books whose debut Forever Cousins (October 2022), illustrated by Jonathan Nelson, has been named a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection.

The BSC Visiting Writers Series is sponsored by the English and Mass Communications programs of BSC as part of Bringing Humanities to Life and Humanities North Dakota. Funding for the series is also provided by grants from the Bismarck State College Foundation. Published authors interested in being part of BSC's Visiting Writers Series can contact: Dr. Kimberly Crowley, Professor of English Email: kimberly.crowley@ bismarckstate.edu



Tommy Orange is a Native American (Cheyenne & Arapaho)



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BSC COMMUNITY REFLECTS ON SPRING SEASON TRADITIONS

By Irie Townsend MYSTIC MEDIA REPORTER

Brynn Wright

Honestly, I don't really have any interesting traditions to share, besides putting away Christmas decorations that I kept up for way too long. For Easter, my family and I go to my nana and papa's house and meet up with more family from out of town. We usually will go to church and then head to my grandparents house and eat lunch. Sorry, this is a kinda boring answer but usually I am working, so when I get time off I enjoy doing low key things with people I enjoy.

Professor Rachael Southam

My mother will always host an Easter dinner for the family. After my dad died, she was willing to give up hosting some holidays, but not Easter. She raised us as strict Catholics, so attending church is essential to her. My brothers' families often go to Mass with her. Sometimes, she will go alone.

My husband, children and I are "Fallen Catholics." Despite her neverending hopes, we do not attend church. However, the question–and guilt–regarding who will attend church with great-grandma has become an annual tradition.

The women of each family always ask great-grandma what can be brought to the dinner. These women include me, my two sisters-in-law and my two daughters. The "boys" get beer or wine and come ready to eat. My husband likes to cook and will often help my mom cut the ham or whatever meat we have for the meal.

Great-grandma always wants people to come at least two hours before the meal, so there is always an assortment of vegetables, dips, cheeses, cold meats, crackers and wine before dinner. These items are nibbled on by whoever is in the kitchen to visit great-grandma while she finishes her preparations. She spends the majority of her time in the kitchen the entire day.

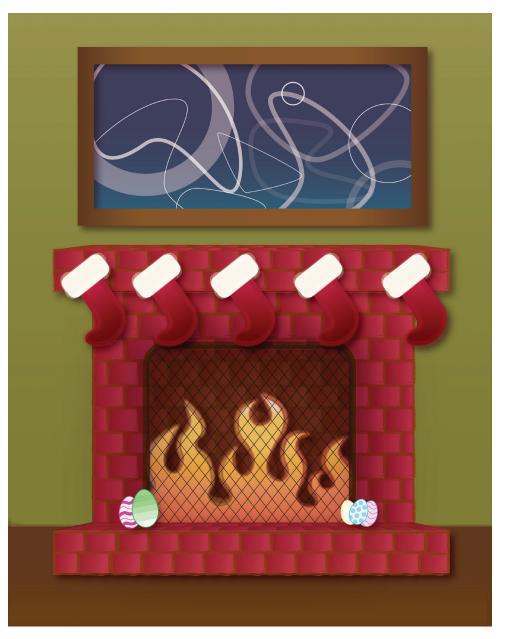
The meal is most often served buffetstyle because there are too many people to sit at the dining table. First, we come together to say grace, but then people tend to eat in shifts, taking turns sitting at the table and the island in the kitchen. Because this is my greatgrandma's house, no one eats anywhere but the kitchen or the dining room, even if that means people have to stand around while eating.

After the dinner, grandchildren and great- grandchildren will look for Easter baskets filled with candy and little toys. This is always fun because she still makes baskets for all the grandchildren, even if they are adults. These adults usually need help from the little ones to find their baskets, which keeps the search going for a while.

Once all the baskets have been found, the little ones play and the adults visit for about an hour before greatgrandma brings out the homemade pies she made. Of course, no one is hungry, but everyone has at least one piece of pie with ice cream or whipped cream.

That is our Easter Sunday every year.

Illustrations by Kaia Lehman



MULTICULTURAL AND LGBT+ CLUBS PREPARE FOR SPRING DANCE

By Seth Iverson THE MYX PRODUCTION MANAGER

The Spring Equinox brings the changing of the season and the hope of improving weather. This spring, the LGBT+ and Multicultural clubs plan to celebrate the new season with a dance

Discussed as far back as December, the LGBT+ Club asked the president of the Multicultural Club, Veronica Bohrer, to help with organizing a dance party to act as a college prom for couples. Throughout the next couple of months, they continued discussing dates for the event until one was decided in February for Valentine's Day. Due to complications with coordinating schedules and the ever



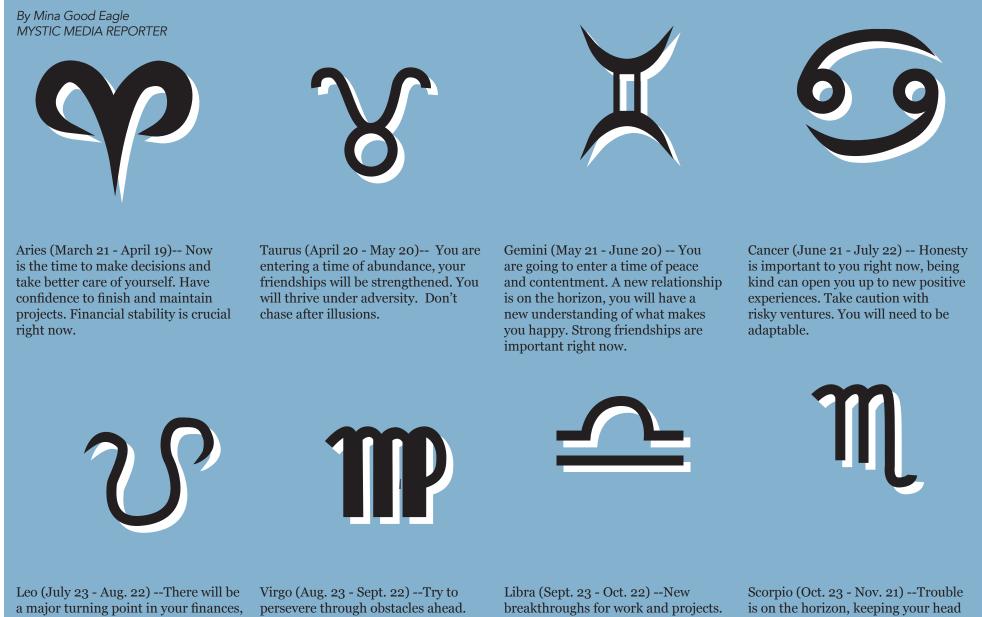
encroaching deadline, the dance was postponed to April 20. Although the Valentine's Day dance was canceled, they still plan to do the couple's discount at the door that was originally planned for that day. At the ticket stand, if somebody comes with another person, such as a partner or a friend, they will get a discount of a couple of dollars off of their ticket price. Admission costs are still being discussed by the clubs. While the LGBT+ and Multicultural clubs are still discussing plans for the dance, the presidents of these clubs said that they will make them the best possible and they hope that people will come to celebrate the spring season. The dance begins at 7 p.m. in the Multimedia room inside the Career Academy building, east of the Student Union along College Drive.





APRIL HOROSCOPES

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

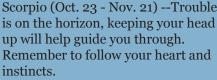


use this time to reassess career goals. There will be more options than you realize. Start to achieve balance.

Take caution with new projects, stay open to new concepts.

Taking responsibility for actions is pivotal, be decisive. If you have been wronged, justice will prevail.











Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)-- Your personal faith and ethics will be tried, a possible artistic block. Keep good instincts and common sense as you move through this time.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) --Your charisma is high; this will follow you through love and career. Education and study will be successful. Don't try to force people or situations, things will work out.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) -- Dreams for the future are coming true, stay focused. You are entering a period of serenity and satisfaction. While others overreact, stay calm.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) --A personal battle will end, and anxious feelings will end. Stay strong, people are competing for your attention and energy.

COMM 283

Video Lab | MystiCast

Participate in the student broadcast production. TTh 11 a.m.

COMM 281



Reporting and Editing/ | The Mystician

Join the student news publication. TTh 12 p.m.

INFORMATION

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MARCH NEWSLETTER

SGA Elections

Upperclassmen elections for the 2023-2024 will take place on April 25. If you are interested in joining SGA next year, sign up with the QR code below or stop by one of our upcoming events to get more information.

Members from SGA will host the annual Coke and a Smile event on April 15 where students will receive a coke, information about how to become a member of the student government, and a smile.

April 17-23 is SGA campaign week! Students who are running for election get the word out to vote for them during this week.

SGA will also be helping out at the Spring Carnival, which is hosted by the Business Management class and will take place on April 20. We encourage students to come and enjoy the carnival as well as ask any questions you may have about SGA or any other clubs on campus. You can identify senators by both their SGA shirts and their SGA pins.

NDSA at BSC

The North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) is coming to campus in April. They represent students in the NDUS system and meet on a monthly basis to discuss subjects that affect the higher education system. If you are interested in voicing any thoughts or concerns to them, feel free to join us at 3 p.m. in the Alumni Room on April 13.

April 4 - Collage Concert with Figments Reading

April 19 - Juried Visual Art Student Exhibition

April 1, 2 - A Year with Frog & Toad

April 4 - Red Flag Campaign

April 5 - Wing Wednesday

April 6 - Easter Egg Hunt

April 11 - Coke & A Smile

April 12 - Spring Fling

April 12 - Spring Slushies

April 13 - Chamber Concert

Upcoming Events

April 20 - BSC Choir Concert April 21 - Pre-Earth Day Craft April 25 - Spring AG Academy April 26 - Ducks In A Row April 27 - Intention Bracelets April 28 - BSC Jazz Ensemble



SGA Food Pantry Have you seen the new base cabinet of the indoor food

pantry in the Student Union? Check out our extra shelves where you can pick up more items including soups, dry pasta, snacks, PB&J, etc. We'd also like to thank everyone who participated in the Giving Hearts Day event! These donations will be used to stock our food pantries to

support those in need in the BSC community.

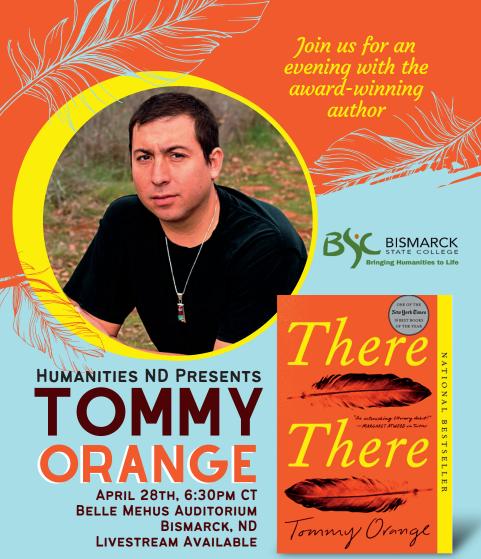
Updating Feminine Hygiene Dispensers

It has come to the attention of SGA that the napkin dispensers in the woman's bathroom are a bit outdated. Currently, we are working with the custodians to update the dispensers so these products can be free to use. As always, we encourage student advice and feedback about this topic or any others. We will keep you updated as we receive more information. If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at bsc.sga@bismarckstate.edu.

More details at https://bismarckstate.edu/events April 20 - BSC 2023 Spring Carnival April 25 - BSC Wind Ensemble Concert April 25 - Build Your Own Mini Garden Baseball Games - April: 5, 8, 16, and 23 Softball Games - April: 2, 5, 8, 16, and 23

THE MYX **ON-AIR SCHEDULE**

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:00	Рор	R & B	Alternative	Нір Нор	Rock	Blues	Alternative
8:00	Country	Levon	Рор	R&B	Alternative	E.V Podcast	contemperary
9:00	Veronica	Zachary	Seth	MyxTalk 2	Veronica	Emily	Rock
10:00	Нір Нор	Humanities	Tinashe	Zachary	Нір Нор	MyxTalk 1	Нір Нор
11:00	Levon	MyxTalk 1	R & B	Blues	Country	Tinashe	Country
12:00	Humanities	Country	Emily	Humanities	MyxTalk 1	R & B	Humanities
13:00	Alternative	Seth	Blues	Нір Нор	Levon	Veronica	Seth
14:00	Рор	Blues	Alternative	MyxTalk 1	Рор	Humanities	Blues
15:00	Zachary	Veronica	Zachary	alternative	Seth	MyxTalk2	Alternative
16:00	R&B	MyxTalk 2	рор	Tinashe	Emily	Blues	Rock
17:00	Contemporary	Rock	Levon	alternative	Нір Нор	R & B	Tinashe
18:00	Alternative	Emily	Нір Нор	Levon	Blues	Zachary	Alternative
19:00	Нір Нор	contemporary	Alternative	Рор	Нір Нор	Alternative	R&B
20:00	Emily	Country	Country	Seth	MyxTalk 2	Country	contemperary
21:00	Blues	Tinashe	R & B	Blues	contemporary	Alternative	Country
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SPORTS

BSC INTRODUCES FIRST STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH

By Caleb Herr MYSTIC MEDIA REPORTER

Bismarck State College continues to find new ways to grow their athletics department staff with the hiring of BSC's first ever Strength and Conditioning Coach.

Before the 2022-23 school year started, BSC's athletic department announced the hiring of the school's first-ever Strength and Conditioning Coach. Ethan Bakken started coaching in late August through a contract between Sanford and BSC. Bakken is responsible for the athletic training and strength conditioning services for the athletes on campus.

Bakken experienced collegiate training from an athlete's perspective along with the coaching outlook.

"I played football at the University of Mary. That's where I kind of started in strength conditioning as a student athlete," Bakken said. "It really lit the fire underneath me just being there for five years and being through a true program. [UMary] really turned me on to strength conditioning."

After Bakken's college football career came to an end at UMary, he focused his study on becoming a part of athletic training through an internship at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

"As an intern, [I] handled men's and women's hockey, track and field, swimming and baseball," Bakken said.

It was not until a graduate assistant position opened at Northern State University in Aberdeen, S.D. that Bakken would take on a coaching role. As a grad assistant, he coached baseball, track and women's soccer. Bakken said he was also an integral assistant with the football and basketball teams.

"[I] really dove into the coaching realm as far as handling the teams, within programming and leading teams and teaching the movements," Bakken said.

In the summer of 2018, he completed his final internship with North Dakota State University. Bakken was tasked to handle all sports except football. After the summer, he was presented with an opportunity for a head position at Valley City State University. Bakken was there for the past four years until he decided to come to Bismarck.

"My wife is from Bismarck. Our goal in life has always been to get back to Bismarck so when an opportunity came up within Sanford and BSC, we had to jump on it," Bakken said. "It's been a journey all over."

Along with family being an important part of Bakken's decision to take the BSC job, he is excited about the continued growth of the school and athletics department at BSC.

"BSC is growing. I want to be a part of that growth," Bakken said.

From volleyball to baseball, Bakken is responsible for coaching all athletes at BSC. Athletes are training year round, but their training sessions vary on the time of year. Offseason and preseason sessions are typically 45 to 50 minutes and in-season sessions could be 35 to 45 minutes with recovery time near the

end. Bakken will slightly adjust his program depending on the sport and season.

"When it comes to preseason, we're kind of gearing up and getting more speed movement. In the offseason, [we're] addressing some weak points and some things we need to work on," Bakken said. "[We're] laying the groundwork for what that yearly plan looks like."

Bakken said he is big on overcoming adversity and wants to see his student-athletes learn from mistakes and failures. He emphasizes how weight training can help with real-life scenarios. Bakken said he understands

that many BSC student-athletes go into hard-nosed professions that involve physical work and believes part of his job is to get his athletes ready for life after college.

Bakken enjoys the growth of confidence in each athlete as they get more comfortable with the weight room



Rozalind Strong works with coach Ethan Bakken on an interval drill in the BSC Armory weight room on March 30, 2023. (Credit: Kaia Lehman)

and his coaching. He likes to see the realization on athletes' faces when they lift a heavier weight that they never knew they were able to lift.

"I think confidence is huge in athletes," Bakken said. "Showing them that path of 'you can do this' and 'it's going to be a process' excites me as a coach the most."



SPORTS BRIEFS

Gustavsson named Region XIII Women's Basketball MVP

BISMARCK, N.D -Bismarck State College sophomore guard Sydney Gustavsson has been named NJCAA Region XIII women's basketball Most Valuable Player Gustavsson averaged 20.3 points per game, 7.4 rebounds, 2.9 assists and 2.5 steals during the regular season for the Mystics. She also shot 40% from the field and made 32% of her 3-point attempts. Her season highs included a 34 point performance during a loss to North Dakota State College of Science on Jan. 23, along with a 15 rebound game in a Feb. 20 win over Miles Community College. Gustavsson was also named to the all-region team for Region XIII. She is joined on that team by teammate Aston Kinnebrew. Gustavsson and the Mystics finished the season with a 16-11 regular season record. The Mystics' season ended March 1 after a 60-55 loss to Miles Community College in the Region XIII Quarterfinals.

Martinez Selected to Mon-Dak Second Team in Men's Basketball

BISMARCK, N.D – Bismarck State College sophomore guard Deonte Martinez has been selected to the all–Mon-Dak Conference men's basketball second team. Martinez was a leading force for a Mystics offense that averaged 77.2 points per game, scoring an average 14.6 points per game. He shot a team-best 59% from the field and hit 90.1% of his free throws, both of those numbers being a conference best. He made 48% of his 3-pointers, second best in the conference. Martinez and the Mystics finished the regular season with an 11-16 record, allowing them to advance to the Region XIII tournenment. In the tournement, the Mystics defeated Lake Region State College 69-65 before falling to Dawson Community College in the semifinals.

MystiCast Executive Director Taylor Aasen ascends a mound of snow outside of the BSC Armory while Levon Schulz sets up a shot with a video camera and Mina Good Eagle takes a photo on her phone. The group was filming a segment of the 100th episode of MystiCast, which can be found on the BSC MystiCast YouTube page or the BSC Mystic Media Facebook page. (Credit: Zachary Weiand)

EXPLORING THE EMPIRE STATE OF MIND

By Seth Iverson THE MYX PRODUCTION MANAGER

This year, a group of students and I from Mystic Media were given the chance to visit New York City for a conference in late February. With the easternmost place in the United States I visited being Minneapolis, I jumped on the chance as soon as I could.

Although a winter storm came the day we were supposed to depart, our nervousness was alleviated when we were told it was still possible to fly out the next day.

It might sound strange to those who have visited, but I had a very fantasized image of NYC in my head. Because of the number of movies and TV shows that made this city their setting, this place felt fictional to me in nature. Part of me didn't believe it even existed.

Upon arrival, I noticed the astounding differences between Bismarck and NYC that made them feel like two different worlds. The first thing I noticed driving into town were the flocks of pedestrians walking in every direction. Like the traffic on a highway, people were rushing around expecting others to get out of their way.

The second thing I noticed were the piles of garbage on almost every street corner. There was a lot more trash per square mile than any other city I previously visited. In the areas I stayed, the rotting smell of trash and the skunk-like smell of marijuana mixed together creating a unique scent that I've never experienced.

Looking up from the ground, the next thing I noticed were the vast number of tall buildings on every street. The tallest building in our area would be one of the smaller skyscrapers in New York City, with the Chrysler Building (1,046 feet), The Empire State Building (1,454 feet) and the One World Trade Center (1,792 feet) dominating the skyline. Our tallest building, The North Dakota State Capitol, in comparison, stands at 242 feet.

Along the lower levels of these skyscrapers were a series of billboards advertising the latest brand name products and services 24/7. The most common place to see these signs was Times Square. I saw advertisements for news outlets, musicals and multiple brands with the most iconic being the advertisement sign for Coca-Cola, which played non-stop on the main building of the plaza.

Along with advertisements, Times Square offered many shops and restaurants appealing to tourists. Because of this tourist-focused nature, it felt like the most crowded place I ever visited. Along with the restaurants and the stores were hustlers trying to get money by all means. Some tried to sell us tickets to bus tours and concerts. Some tried to sell us mixtapes. Some tried to take pictures with us while they wore costumes of popular characters, and then tried to sell the photo to us.

Among the leagues of civilians, the most common animal that is iconic to the entire city's identity is the pigeon. Flying in groups or walking along the ground, they make themselves at home in this city feeding off the trash and tossed bread of the residents and tourists. While these groups fly about leaving a mess in their wake, there is a certain charm to this urban bird.

Before we left, we took a quick trip to Central Park. Compared to the small parks back home with playgrounds and picnic tables, this was of a completely different caliber. Inside its two and a half miles long and a half-mile wide border were lakes, a zoo and various unique landmarks.

The main landmark we visited was the "Strawberry Fields" memorial dedicated to John Lennon of The Beatles. A street performer was playing covers of The Beatles on a guitar while tourists took photos with the "IMAGINE" mosaic, named after one of Lennon's most famous songs.

With centuries of culture and history, the city is no longer a fantasy but has become a reality filled with garbage, pigeons and people.

The variety of experiences in this city could last me a lifetime, and I barely scratched the surface of what this city has to offer.

GOODBYE WINTER, YOU WON'T BE MISSED

By Taylor Aasen

MYSTICAST EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Winter, the worst season of them all, died at the age of 4 billion years old. But don't worry, it'll return from the dead again in December.

Because the sun crossed over the line of the equator on March 20th, 2022, this means that Winter died on our calendars. However, in Bismarck, Winter still feels very much alive.

Winter first began, when one would assume the world began, 4 billion years ago. However, according to this season in particular, Winter was born on December 21st, 2023. It was gifted to us by none other than Mother Nature herself.

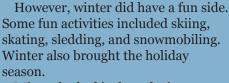
Winter was the oldest, and longest, of the four sibling seasons. However, Winter was always Mother Nature's least favorite child. Summer, Autumn, and Spring would be jealous of Winter because it got the most months out of the year with their mother.

This led to Winter's icy cold heart, which caused it to never marry and make other people's lives miserable.

Winter worked hard to impress her mother. In Winter's last season, it had several months to gain snowfall. Winter neared record-breaking numbers this year by accumulating a whopping 93 inches. However, Winter fell short of breaking the record of 103 inches.

Winter resides mostly in the Northern half of the United States, but North Dakota was always Winter's favorite. Winter had a sadistic side, especially when it came to North Dakotans. Though it liked spending time in the state, it enjoyed torturing the people that live there.

Winter enjoyed laughing at people as they slipped on ice and threw their hip out. Winter would force people to stay at home by shutting down ALL of the roads. But Winter really enjoyed biting people's faces with the cold wind while pelting them with ice crystals that would embed into their skin.



Winter looked its best during December when it was most magical during Christmas. However, once March rolled around, Winter did not look so nice anymore and people started to hate it. The hate Winter would receive from the people of North Dakota would lead up to its timely death.

It could not stand the hatred anymore, and died in March, leaving the lives in the hands of its younger and shorter sibling, Spring.

Winter is survived by its babies; Snow, Flakes, and Ice; its mother, Nature; and it's more likable siblings; Summer, Autumn: and Spring.

Winter joins its father; Time in heaven, for now until Father Time gets sick of keeping Winter around and sends it back to Earth.

Winter's memorial service will take place on the day its babies die; Snow, Flakes, and Ice.

Pallbearers: Boat Goers, Sun Soakers, and Warm Waters

Their service will include a celebration of the beginning of Summer. There will be grilled food, water balloons, and mosquito spray available at the service for everyone's enjoyment.

If you would like to know more information about the service, just ask Spring how to prepare for the green grasses ahead.

Thank you to the public service crew for working over time and keeping our roads plowed. Thank you to the Meteorologists who we blamed for Winter's arrival and longtime stay.

And a special 'thank you' to Winter's life. Thank you for keeping us Northerners so chilled, that all the warmth went to our hearts. They say we're "North Dakota Nice," and that's because we're already too cold for hate.





DREADING THE DRIVE: A COMMUTER'S CALAMITY

By Robert Mechaley III ALUMNI REPORTER

When I was a first-year student at Bismarck State College, I lived right next door to the school in an apartment on Xavier Street. Even while I lived next to the school, there was always a concern about where I could find parking space near the Armory.

Years have passed. I live further away, and now I'm a student at the University of North Dakota doing online courses, but now I dread the drive onto campus for work with Mystic Athletics and alumni reporting for The Mystician for different reasons. A bad parking situation is one thing, but my concerns over the ice and snow management is a whole new can of worms I didn't expect to deal with. I'm gonna level with you, while I'm not sure what parts fall on the city's snow removal and what is BSC's responsibility, the brief moments I spend on the campus have me gripping the wheel and praying to an ambivalent god or goddess.

There I am on my way to an interview at the BSC Foundation going down Ward Drive headed to Edwards Avenue when I see an obstacle at the intersection: a sheet of ice - not just any sheet of ice, but as I made the turn slowly, I found myself on recentlydriven-on-snow tracks and I start to slow down because I don't have enough momentum to get through it.

Listen snow and ice removal is an arduous process, especially with the awful weather we've had this spring and fall, but many other folks I've talked to with lower-riding cars are worried about their next checkups, and so am I.

Your next question may be: "Well, there are two other entrances onto campus, why not go those ways?" I don't want to deal with pedestrian foot traffic is my answer, and I believe that's valid. If I have other options available with fewer people crossing the street, then I'm gonna go that way.

That sheet of ice was reduced in size during my trip back to campus later that day for a meeting, but it was still a sheet of ice and my car was still riding the doom rails at points. That doesn't stop the fact that some places on campus are difficult to maneuver.

Overall, I hope that the campus and the city can find more effective methods for removal after these long winters, so we can all enjoy a drive to our daily activities.

BIG BURGER, BIGGER COST

By Kaia Lehman MYSTIC MEDIA GRAPHIC DESIGNER

The pizza burger is a staple in the Bismarck-Mandan area. The Bismarck Big Boy is the only one that sells the burger. It is a fan favorite with people often lining up in the street and oftentimes spending over 45 minutes just to get the classic pizza burger. Most order the pizza burger "flying style" which is very similar to a panini. It is made using regular sandwich bread instead of buns.

The original is delicious, ringing up for a total of \$3.29 per burger, though most people order two burgers because they are not very large in size. Some order a side of fries and a drink to bring the total to \$10.17, without including the gas it takes to get there. If the meal had been made at home, the cost comes out to \$38.24 for 6 servings, which equates to \$4.01 per serving. Calculations are based on Walmart current prices.

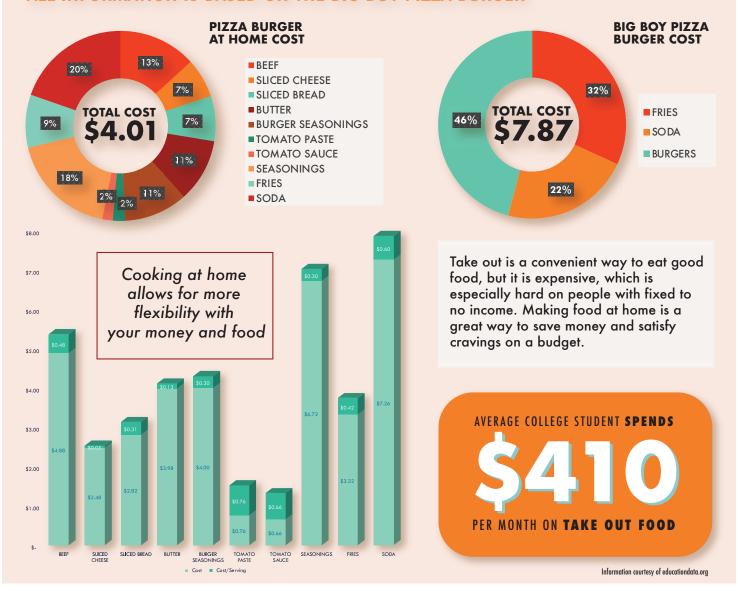
For the cost of one burger after tax, one could have the entire meal as well as groceries to spare.

To start off, make the pizza sauce by combining the tomato paste and the tomato sauce in a bowl. Add oregano, salt, garlic powder, onion powder, pepper, Italian seasoning and the sugar to the tomato mixture. If questioning how much of each seasoning to put in, start with a teaspoon of each, taste the sauce and go from there, adjusting the flavor as necessary.

Next, season the beef. I am unsure of the exact seasonings Big Boy uses in their burgers; however, any burger seasonings will work. Typically, I use Lawry's seasoning salt, green tabasco, garlic powder, onion powder, and pepper. But season it to your own personal taste.

Create hamburger patties about the size of the palm of your hand and cook on medium heat until both sides are browned with no pink in the middle. Keep the patties small and on the thinner side. On the last flip of the

TAKE ON TAKE OUT IS COOKING AT HOME REALLY CHEAPER? ALL INFORMATION IS BASED ON THE BIG BOY PIZZA BURGER



burger, add a slice of cheese. To make "flying style," butter the outsides of the bread and assemble the burger, making sure to add the pizza sauce on the inside of the bread, then place the

burger, and add an additional layer of pizza sauce, then the last piece of bread on top.

To emulate the "flying style," either use a panini press or place the sandwich on a hot pan and use a heavy piece of cookware to press down on top of the burger to flatten. Sear until golden brown.

INTEREST INQUEST

AN ANALOG RENAISSANCE IN A DIGITAL WORLD

By Zachary Weiand MYSTICIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Technology as we know it is a constantly evolving organism, and how we interact with media is no exception to this. The 1980s ushered in the beginning of the digital age; soon the internet came along, and now almost everything we do is stored in a mysterious cloud. Media in the physical form has fallen into obscurity-at least that's what we thought. Recent years have seen the resurgence of various types of nondigital media. The most notable, at least to me, is the comeback of the art of film photography. Eastman Kodak, one of the largest and most influential film companies, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in January 2012 after years of refusing to evolve in the world of digital photography-a format they invented in 1975. Kodak had been a driving factor in evolving photography technology for

decades, so many thought this marked the end of film photography. However, the film photography industry didn't die.

all have in our pockets.

For those of us that do participate in photography, myself included, digital is the default. Whenever I do a

and step away from the world of connectivity. The feeling of snapping a photo and not knowing until weeks later if it even turned out well is exhilarating for those that still practice the art, and it's a feeling I want to experience myself. I haven't had the opportunity yet to shoot film, but it's on my nucket list of analog media to try. Unfortunately, Bismarck offers no stores to buy film or film cameras, or even to develop film. This makes the hobby expensive, even more than photography already is. My hope is that someday soon, I can find myself in a city with a more readily available film photography community. The resurgence of film photography has given me a window to test the waters with film, but it is only a matter of time before the art form dies for good. Thanks to Gen Z, at least that window has opened for a few more years to come.

Ten years later, film photography has made a surprising resurgence thanks to Gen Z and the constant pursuit of nostalgia. Film allows an aesthetic that is not easily replicated by digital means, and as we all know, Gen Z is obsessed with vintage aesthetics.

Beyond aesthetics, film photography allows for a hobby that is disconnected in an ever-connected life, which is most intriguing to me.

Gen Z is the first generation to entirely grow up in a world where digital photography, and the digital age in general, reigned supreme.

For Gen Z, digital photography is a major factor of life, whether they participate in the art of photography or not. Social media has allowed young people to document their lives with the little 12 megapixel point-and-shoot we photoshoot, it usually concludes with hours upon hours of time in front of a computer moving sliders in Adobe Lightroom Classic.

This, of course, is on top of the hours of screen time I already participate in daily. From working on school work to consuming entertainment media in my free time, I spend a lot of time during the day in front of a screen. This is the case with most young people as well.

Many within the younger generation, having grown up in the age of social media drama and coming of age during a social life obliterating Pandemic, have a longing for a simpler time. I relate to this feeling, and that is why I find film photography so intriguing.

For many fellow photographers of my age, it has allowed them to learn a medium they are not familiar with

COMICS AND GAMES

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Comic submitted by Bismarck Legacy High School senior Malia Wolf.

EVERY STUDENT'S VOICE

What did you do over spring break?

Ashlee Presser

I didn't do a whole lot over sping break. I went home once the roads were nice enough to drive on and spent some time with my family. I also did some homework and read a book. Overall, it was a good spring break!

Robert Mechaley III

Over spring break, I attended a baby shower for my best friend's wife. It was a fantastic time, and while I went in confident that I could win many of the games, I won absolutely none of them despite my best efforts. The rest of the break was spent on phone calls, celebrating birthdays and playing Magic: The Gathering at Parallax Computers and Games

Taylor Aasen

Over Spring Break, I did what I always do which is work. I worked, then worked, and worked some more. That's a part of growing up and being an adult. You no longer get Spring Breaks, Summer breaks, or holiday breaks. I do have to say, I have always been envious of

Zachary Weiand

I spent my spring break much like I've been spending every week since January: chasing legislators (not in a creepy way, I promise). Even though I had no school work to do, I still had to work on my internship at the Capitol. Beyond that, I watched a lot of baseball since the World Baseball Classic was on-going, and I binged-watched a whole season of "Is it Cake?" on Netflix.

Kaia Lehman

I spent spring break with my family, but they all still had work and school to attend to so I spent the time working on homework. Best spring break ever. :/

those who get actual breaks. But, working hard has taught me to provide for myself and be self reliant. So, I look at this as another life lesson. Those who work hard, play hard eventually, right?

Irie Townsend

I spent most of my spring break with my friends that came home from college. I guess the most exciting thing I did was getting my guy friend to let me do his make-up.

Seth Iverson

I went to Las Vegas with my family since they went house hunting. I've never been there before, and it was kind of nice, even though I wasn't a fan of the Vegas strip's number of people. PHOTO ESSAY

A YEAR WITH FROG & TOAD







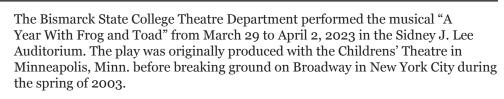








PHOTO ESSAY



BSC's production was directed by Daniel Walstad. Lighting and set design was done by Dean Bellin. BSC Professor of Music John Darling served as music director and orchestra conductor. BSC Director of Choral Activities Dr. Jason Thoms was the vocal director for the production.



Photo Credit: Zachary Weiand





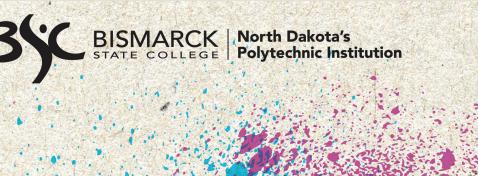
Cast List:

Max Wild - Frog





Patrick Watson - Toad Brittany Bearsheart - Snail Adam Michal - Bird 1/Father Frog Kaitlin Collins - Bird 2/ Mother Frog **Paige Jung** - *Bird 3/Terrible Frog* Margaret Brink - Bird 4/Mouse/ *Terrible Frog/Mole 4* Fischer Ackerson - Bird 5/Squirrel 2/Terrible Frog Veronika Linstrom - Bee/Squirrel 1/ Young Frog/Mole 2 Alyssa Lechler - Turtle/Terrible Frog/Mole 3 Millie Hyatt - Butterfly/Lizard/ Terrible Frog/Dancer/Mole 3



Celebrating the Arts March 29 - May 4

- » Musical: A Year with Frog and Toad
- » Musical and Vocal Concerts
- Poetry Readings
- Visual Art Exhibition $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$
- Raku & Pottery >>
- Author Visits with Tommy Orange } and Mona Susan Power
- >> Short Play Festival

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