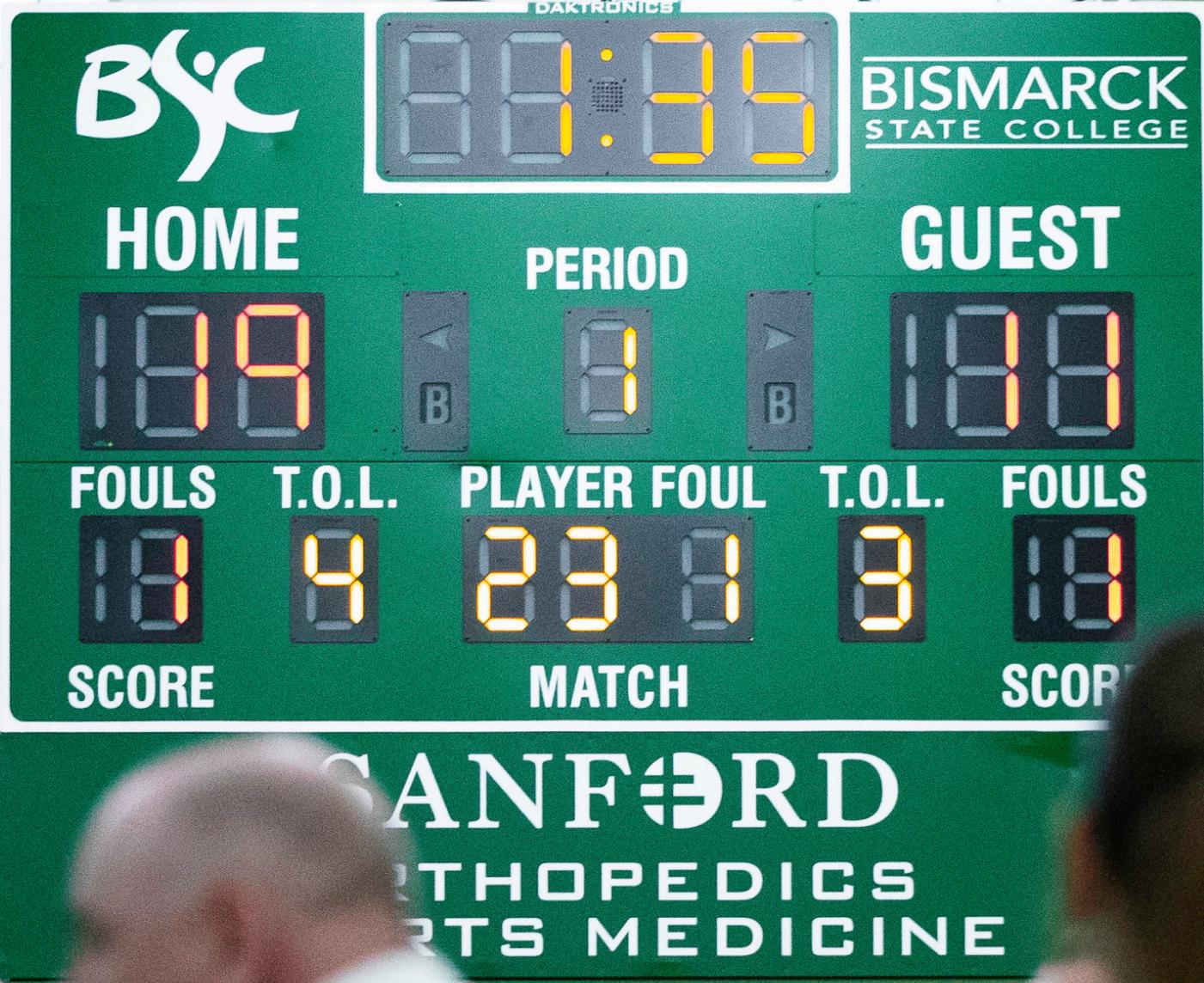


THE **Mystician**

[N E W S] P A P E R

Volume 87 | Issue 12
March 5, 2026



Clayton Sicble-Fox | Photographer

Final Game - Mystics Basketball Team gather around head coach Jason Harris to discuss how to maintain the lead. The Mystics ended their last home game off hot, securing a win in the final game played in the Armory.

Mystics Charge Up the Court in Final Games in Armory

Kade Warren
Reporter

As the Mystics basketball season draws to a close, the last home games gave the men and women's teams one last chance to show off their skills in the Armory before games move into the Bavendick Center.

Both teams played the Mayville State University Comets on Feb. 13 and the Valley City State Vikings the following Saturday. The Women's team gave a historic performance, winning their last two home games

and securing a spot in the frontier conference post season tournament, while the men's team will be getting back to the grindstone this offseason after their two losses, giving them a total record of 1-27 for the 2025-26 season.

Friday the 13th is widely recognized as a day of bad luck, and this superstition proved consistent with the men's bout with the Comets that day. The second half started with Mayville stretching their 8 point lead to 12. Bismarck State retaliated with a slow and persistent effort to whittle back the score in their favor. When

#33 Carter Zeller drilled a contested three pointer with seven minutes left in the game, they found themselves back in the lead. The final minute of the game was the most eventful. When Mayville stole the ball with less than thirty seconds on the clock, Bismarck State forced them to line for free throws. Up three points, Mayville missed their last free throw and gave Bismarck State the chance to put the game into overtime. But without enough time to secure an open shot, a missed half court heave by #13 Jah Gulley gave Mayville the win. But the close game was still enjoyable for all See **Armory** | 9



SCAN FOR WEB

Student Life
Protecting Yourself on Campus | 3

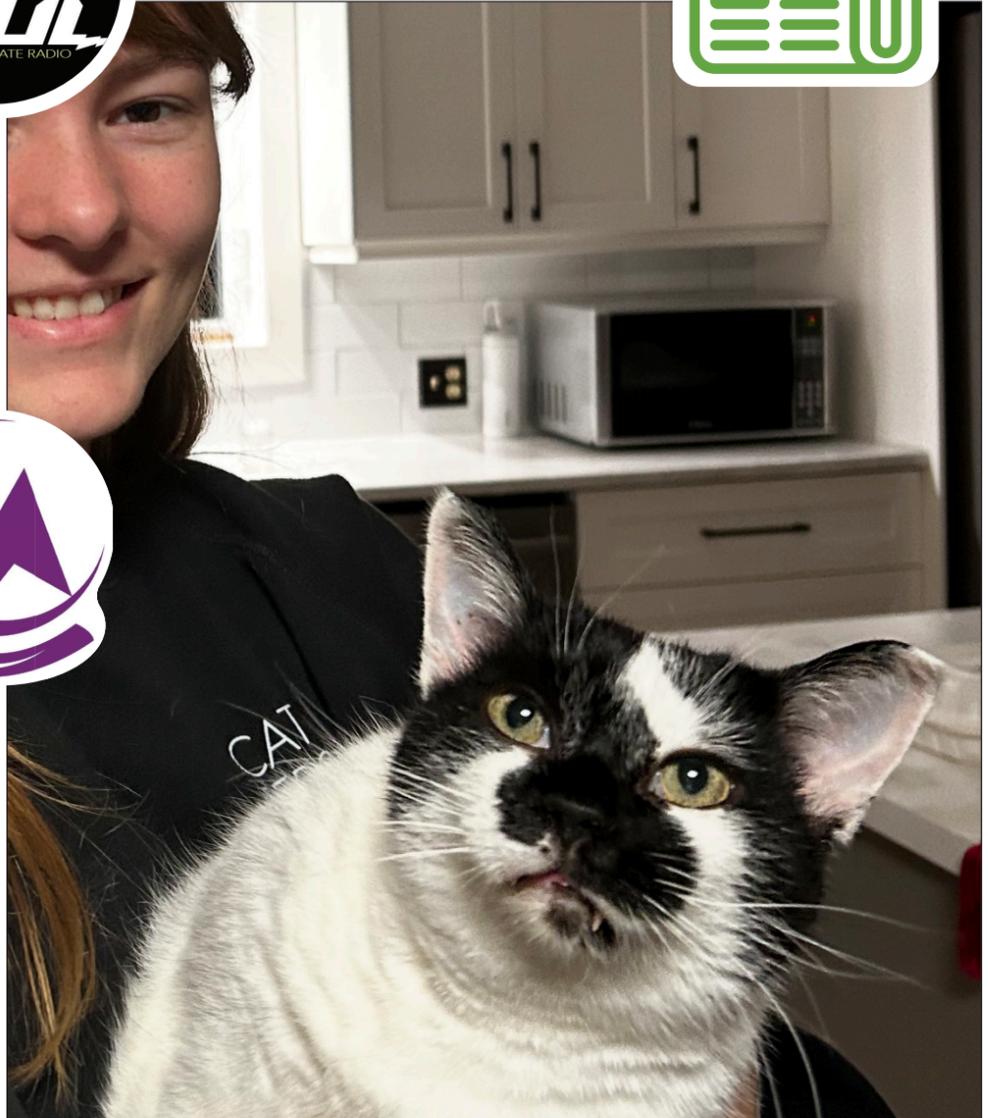
Sports
Softball | 10

MYSTICMEDIA
BISMARCK STATE COLLEGE STUDENT PRODUCTIONS

Opinion
Mel Brooks | 7
Arts & Entertainment
Figments | 5

Feature
Mass Comm students conduct a press conference with the cast of the campus musical "Frozen"
Frozen | 13-16

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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 organizations. Mystic Media upholds the principles guaranteed by the First Amendment and utilizes these rights to bring diverse, entertaining, and thought-provoking material to the college community. Thoughts expressed may not be the opinion of all the staff or BSC community.

Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month

April Dahme
Submitted

March is National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month — a time dedicated to raising awareness about cerebral palsy, increasing understanding, and supporting individuals with cerebral palsy as they live full and meaningful lives.

Cerebral palsy is a group of conditions that affect movement and posture caused by damage to the developing brain. CP is permanent but non-progressive, meaning it does not worsen or spread over time. It is the most common motor disability in childhood and one of the most common lifelong physical disabilities worldwide.

CP impacts each individual differently, varying in both severity and type. Some individuals may have mild involvement that affects only their legs and causes slight difficulty with walking. Others may experience more significant involvement affecting all extremities and may require mobility or communication equipment to support daily activities.

While there is currently no cure for CP, therapies such as physical, occupational, and speech therapy can help



individuals improve strength, mobility, communication, and independence.

For many families, accessing these supports comes with significant financial challenges. Therapy services, medical appointments, and adaptive equipment often create costs beyond what most families anticipate. To help address this need, CPABLE (pronounced “capable”) was formed in 2023. CPABLE is a North Dakota nonprofit that provides financial assistance to children with CP living in western and central North Dakota. Funding helps cover essential needs such as therapy, wheelchairs, hippotherapy, and communication devices that may not be covered by insurance.

CPABLE hosts multiple fundraising events throughout the year to help make these opportunities possible. On March 25 they will host their annual

Ladies Night BINGO event at Sixteen03 Main Events. CPABLE is also selling CP Awareness Month shirts that are available for purchase now through March 13 at cpable.org.

This March, CPABLE and Bismarck State College will partner to raise awareness across campus. We invite the BSC community to wear green throughout the month as a visible show of support.

Join CPABLE on March 25, 2026 (Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day) in the Student Union from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to learn more about CP, connect with others, and discover ways to support individuals and families in our community.

For more information, follow CPABLE on social media (Facebook: CPABLE | Instagram: @wearecpable) or visit cpable.org.

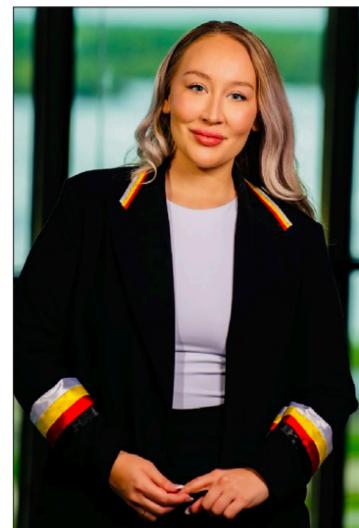
Happy CP Awareness Month!

Faculty Spotlight

Kade Warren
Reporter

This spring semester at Bismarck State College will welcome plenty of changes. Campus and athletic expansion continues, and with it comes new staff to accommodate. A part of this wave of new hires is Dr. Kelsey Peltier Iron Shield, who is spending her first semester at BSC as an academic adviser and adjunct professor for the education program.

Iron Shield is originally from Belcourt N.D., a small town on the Turtle Mountain Reservation that hugs the Canadian border. She first attended the Turtle Mountain Community College in Belcourt before continuing her education at the University of Mary, where she received her Masters in Special Education, and further attended the University of North Dakota where she earned her Doctorate in Educational Practice and Leadership.



Dr. Kelsey Peltier Iron Shield
Counseling & Advising Services

Previously, Iron Shield taught K-12 at the Ojibwa Indian school in Belcourt and as a grad teacher at the Turtle Mountain Community College before relocating to Bismarck to pursue a leadership opportunity. While she said she remains grateful for the previous experience and credits it as a valuable learning experience, she ultimately realised the environment was not the right fit for her. She did not expect to be teaching here on campus, she only expected the role of an academic adviser. Still, she decided to take the opportunity to become a professor for the education program.

Three weeks into the spring semester so far, and Iron Shield said she is already enjoying her time at BSC.

“I am so excited to be teaching here this semester. Everyone has been so welcoming and supportive,” Iron Shield said. Although she greatly credits the Turtle Mountain community as the place that helped her become who she is today, making the move to Bismarck was always the goal for her and her family.

Iron Shield makes plenty of time to stay family oriented. She is a mother of four and was married last May.

“I draw a lot of inspiration from my kids, and from being a mom, I love watching them grow,” Iron Shield said.

Through her experience with advising, Iron Shield had some advice for students to share.

“Celebrate the small wins. The best way to be fulfilled is to cheer for yourself,” Iron Shield said. She also advocated for students to build connections with their professors, advisers, and fellow classmates. She explained that reaching out and creating even a small connection now can make a big difference down the road.

Protecting Yourself on Campus

Liberty Friez
Content Editor

As students live and study on campus, safety is a personal responsibility. While Bismarck State College has security resources for students, students can take control of their own safety with simple actions.

Chief of BSC Campus Security Michael McMerty had much to say regarding safety and what steps students can take in their own personal security. For example, awareness and instincts are an important asset that people naturally have.

“Awareness is the simplest and most effective safety tool anyone has,” McMerty said. “Trust your instincts ... if something doesn’t feel right, assume it’s not right, and go to a place where you feel safe.”

While on campus be aware of your surroundings, do not be buried in your phones, if wearing headphones, know that it distorts one of your natural senses. Try to walk in well lit areas as well. Also know that there is an escort available.

“If any students, staff, or faculty want an escort to some place, maybe it’s dark out or they don’t feel comfortable, you can call us [campus police], and a campus police officer will meet you and take you where you need to go. We encourage it,” McMerty said.

Another resource that is not widely known is clothing. In the Student Union by the MACC offices, there are winter clothes available to students who do not have any.

When it comes to personal valuables, McMerty recommends hiding valuables in secure locations like center consoles, the trunk of your car, or under a car seat. The trick, however, is to hide valuables, not when you park, but

before you get to your destination.

“One thing I would say [if] you’re going to put your purse under your seat ... don’t do it after you park,” McMerty said. “Do it when it is safe to do so, maybe in a red light before that.”

McMerty has found that potential thieves will wait and watch for people to hide their valuables when they park. That shows thieves where to look.

For students in dorms, McMerty advises to keep the door locked and to know all safety exits or alternative safety routes. He also discussed what should be reported on campus.

Any suspicious behavior, threats, weapons, harassment, stalking, suspicious items—like an unattended bag—is grounds for reporting.

“Report stuff. If you see something suspicious, or if you feel something is not right. A lot of people dismiss it because they think they’re bothering someone ... that’s the worst thing to do,” McMerty said. “If it’s nothing major, we’ll let you know. But a lot of times, that’s how we discover things. It’s amazing what that information can lead us to.”

It’s also wise to report missing or broken safety items such as broken exit signs or a missing fire extinguisher.

Students, faculty, and staff should know that if there is an emergency on campus, they should call 911, not the campus police number. The campus police is part of the central dispatch system, so if there is a campus emergency, campus officers will be dispatched.

“If there is an emergency on campus, always call 911. Don’t try to find the campus police number. Always call 911,” said McMerty.

HOW TO REPORT

EMERGENCY SERVICES | 911
Emergency situations, ambulance, fire, police

NON-EMERGENCY | 701-223-9111
Police assistance, file a police report

BSC COUNSELOR/AFTER-HOURS CRISIS LINE | 701-224-5752
Anxiety, depression, hopelessness

TITLE IX COORDINATOR | 701-224-5638
Sexual misconduct and harassment reporting

CAMPUS POLICE OFFICE | 701-224-2700
8am - 4pm M-F
Safety and concern reporting

STUDENT & RESIDENCE LIFE
8am - 4pm M-F | 701-224-5464
Locked out, need advice, safety and concern reporting

Got a Concern?
Let us Know!

THINGS TO REPORT

- Safety & Security:** Threats of violence, weapons, suspicious activity, vandalism, theft, or dangerous behavior
- Harassment & Misconduct:** Bullying, cyberbullying, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, discrimination, or gender-based harassment
- Student Well-being:** Concerns about a student in crisis, severe distress, depression, or self-harm
- Substance Abuse:** Drug or alcohol misuse. Drug possession or distribution
- Discrimination & Bias:** Bias-related incidents targeting individuals or groups
- Hazing Activities:** unprofessional or policy violations, suspicious activities
- Hit and Runs:** Reporting a vehicle involved in an accident that fled the scene
- Campus Vehicle Accidents:** Incidents involving university-owned cars or damage to campus property (fences, signs)
- Traffic & Driving Issues:** Reckless driving, speeding in parking lots, road rage, driving under the influence
- Theft of Property:** Stealing items such as wallets, purses, laptops, or other valuable items belonging to students, faculty or staff
- Burglary or Motor Vehicle Theft:** Breaking into campus buildings, dorm rooms or vehicles
- Vandalism or Damage to Property:** Destruction or damage to school or students property

The campus police should be called for any non-emergencies such as police assistance or filing a report. They can be reached by calling 701-223-9111. Their office is also open to students, located by the MACC offices in the lower

level of the Student Union. The office is open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon-Fri and can be contacted by calling 701-224-2700.

Ahmed Rady: Agriculture Around the World

Sophia Fafard
Co-Editor

In an office located on the first floor of the Career Academy at Bismarck State College, Assistant Teaching Professor of Agriculture, Technology, and Natural Resources Ahmed Rady prepares to teach a small class on precision agriculture.

Precision agriculture is a type of farming that uses technology like GPS, sensors, and drones in an attempt to keep farming more controlled and accurate when it comes to crops and livestock. This is a new form of farming that Rady has the opportunity to teach at BSC, along with other, more technological, topics.

"I teach an agriculture mathematics course—I also teach intro to weed science," Rady said.

Rady's study of technology and agriculture did not begin in the United States. Rather, he began studying agricultural engineering at Alexandria University, in his birth country of Egypt.

"I studied agricultural engineering specifically because I like the idea of applying engineering in agriculture," Rady said. "And this is what made me select this branch of science when I was in Egypt, in Alexandria University, and I was able to kind of score highest amongst the whole faculty of agriculture in Alexandria at this time."

After scoring well in the agriculture faculty in Alexandria, Rady was hired as a teaching assistant at the university. He then finished his masters in agriculture engineering before receiving a scholarship to study his PhD at Michigan State in 2008. There, he earned his PhD in Biosystems Engineering.

Rady started working at

BSC in August 2025. He has completed one full semester of teaching so far and is currently in his spring semester of teaching, which means he has experienced a Bismarck winter. He said that he likes Bismarck, except for the cold.

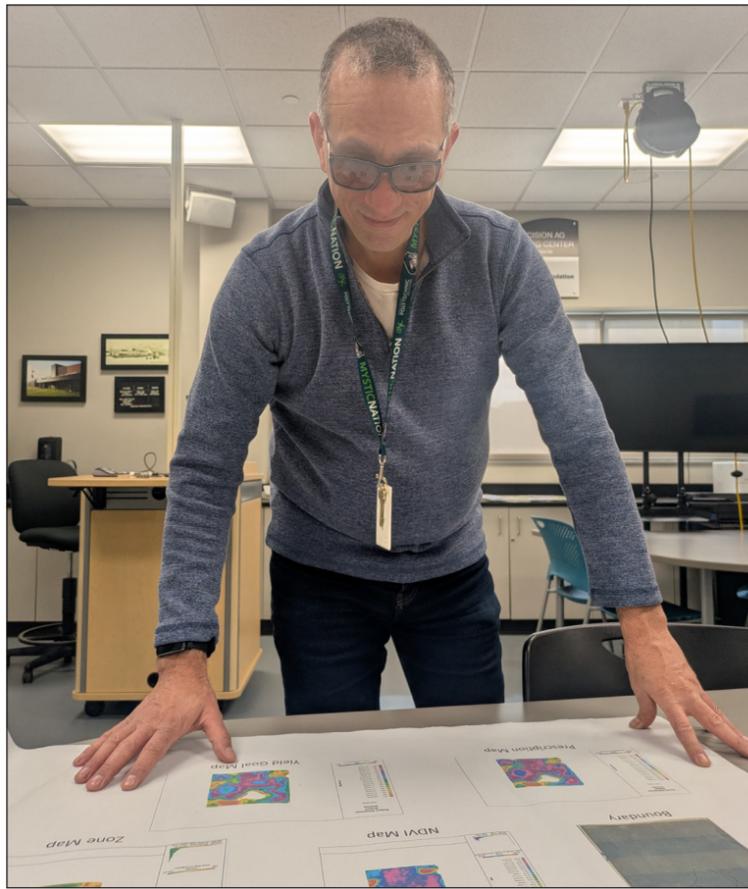
"You know the snow is okay because in Michigan, the snow, I think it's much, much more, much worse than here," Rady said with a laugh. "But the cold is a bit severe. For me, at least."

Rady has lived in six different places since coming to Bismarck. These include Alexandria, Egypt, East Lansing, Michigan, Lexington, Kentucky, Dublin, Ireland, Nottingham, UK, and Cranfield, UK. His favorite places to live have been his home city of Alexandria, East Lansing, and Dublin.

Through the various places he has lived, Rady has seen the differences in agriculture and farming from Europe and the U.S. For example, Europe does not use precision ag technology.

"They are still, maybe you can say, conservative from the environmental point of view. I think they are able to maybe think before applying, they don't take the risk as they do here," Rady said.

Agriculture in Europe is also different due to the area used for farming versus the area for farming in North Dakota. Farms in Europe are generally hundreds of acres smaller than those in the U.S., which means farming techniques differ from each other. Farming equipment is another way farming is different, as some countries in Europe do not have the space or need for such technology. In Egypt, farming equipment proves to be an expensive endeavor for farmers.



Submitted

Ag Professor - Professor Ahmed Rady looks at field data in a precision ag class. Rady teaches precision ag at BSC, a rather new farming technology that uses GPS to help increase crop yields.

"Ownership in Egypt is like two to five acres," Rady said. "The average is two to five acres because, you know, we have like 94, 93, 92% of the whole country as desert. So it's not arable. You can grow the remaining area, you know, with at least 50, 60 million people living in the countryside of that country. So if you divide the number of people by the area, it would be so small."

As different parts of the world continue to evolve in their farming practices, the U.S. seeks to use more digital means for advancing farming techniques. One of the technologies Rady said he would like to have at BSC are drones, or

unmanned aerial vehicles.

"I see it as a trend here in the U.S. and specifically in North Dakota, because you guys have a humungous amount of field heads that you grow with field crops," Rady said. "So the economic profit of applying UAVs or drones in general is really high for farmers here. It just needs some technical skills. A person should be able to equip him or herself with this skill so they can, you know, kind of achieve the accuracy with a minimum price or cost for the farmer."

Rady added that, as the college prepares new four-year degrees, there are other courses he would like to see for a four-

year ag degree, such as statistical analysis for agri business or more courses on digital agriculture, though he acknowledged the department would need the hardware for such things.

As Rady finds himself occupied and busy with teaching ag classes, he said he likes that BSC links science with the industry.

"They try to strongly link the industry with the program here, which makes the program attractive for students," Rady said.

Rady also said he appreciates the support from the other ag department faculty. They have been helpful in giving Rady advice as he learns more about BSC from his first year at the college.

"As a teacher, I'd like to help students to kind of transfer some of the experience that I have developed over the years," Rady said. "At the same time, I am not from a farming background, so I'd also like to get some experience from these guys where I know they have been working and farming since they were so young ... It might help me to open some areas for grants for research, where I can do some small projects with students, so they can know how to brainstorm and do some trials in their own form to use some precision ag technologies that might develop or enhance their farming outputs."

Rady, a professor who has travelled to and lived in many different countries, has only just started his journey at BSC. But with his goals in mind for the future, the college's connection with industry and academia, and his passion for learning, he can continue to share his knowledge experiences with students.

On Wednesdays We Wear Green

Natalie Lawrence
Reporter

The Bismarck State College Student Government Association is sparking school spirit with the colorful initiative "On Wednesdays We Wear Green." The weekly event rewards students and faculty that wear green, BSC's signature color, with a free green stocking hat

and a 20% off coupon to the campus bookstore.

Each Wednesday, students wearing green can visit the SGA office or find a member to claim their hat and coupon. The event encourages students to celebrate Mystic pride, connect with peers, and get more involved with campus life.

"It's just to promote friendly student interactions between people and to

icebreak almost," SGA Senator Gabriel Berbere said. "It's to bring the whole student body together more or less."

Berbere said the event has been around for some time and continues to see regular participation.

The green stocking hats, featuring "#OWWWG," have become a common sight around campus on North Dakota's colder days. The accompanying

bookstore coupon has given students a chance to purchase additional BSC gear at a discount, keeping the spirit of the event.

The event is open to all members of the Bismarck State College community and takes place every Wednesday, inviting everyone to show their Mystic pride by wearing green and participating in the weekly tradition.



Pleased to Meet You

Mygel Porter
Social Media Manager

Brendon Reetz

Q: Where are you from?

A: I'm from Baker MT

Q: What is your Major?

A: Automotive Collision Technology

Q: What is your favorite thing to do on campus?

A: Eat free ice cream.

Q: What is the most overrated sport

A: Basketball without a doubt.

Q: What is your favorite study spot on campus?

A: My room in Warner Hall.



Cyber Security Expert Shares Industry Advice

Lynette Painter
Professor of Cybersecurity

Chris Vandal, Sr. Defensive Cyber Operations Engineer, and Lockheed Martin, spoke to BSC CyberClub on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2026, through Teams. A 2008 BSC graduate in Computer Support Specialist, Vandal's presentation was titled "Cybersecurity for the Department of War (DOW) Career Roadmap."

Vandal currently holds a Security+, Network+, and SAFe 6 Scrum Master certifications; he recommended CISSP and CEH certifications to the Cybersecurity students.

After Vandal graduated from BSC with an AAS in Computer Support Specialist, he continued his studies and earned a

BAS in Computer Technology Management from Dickinson State University, and, most recently, a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Data Analytics.

Vandal shared "lessons learned" along his career path, which he divided into four phases.

"You can't secure a system if you don't know how the users break it," said Vandal in regards to the first phase.

Phase two, Vandal explained, is where you learn the "basics" of the internet.



Chris Vandal
Sr. Defensive Cyber Operations Engineer

"This is where you learn the "plumbing" of the internet (Firewalls, SCADA, and Power Grids)," Vandal said.

In phase three, security becomes life-or-death in the ER and the Air Force according to Vandal. Phase three was when Vandal earned his security clearance with the DoD and worked with Healthcare and defense systems. At the time, he was a Sr. Systems Administrator for Raytheon for the Global Hawk program in Grand Forks.

Phase four occurred from 2022 to now. In this phase, Vandal described his experience as hardening against global adversaries. Vandal shared the differences between a traditional internship and a Lockheed Martin Software Associate Degree Program (SWAP) in addition to outlining two interviewing methods. He emphasized employers want an active self-starter.

Vandal suggested study material. This included listening to professors, getting involved, and studying regulatory material specific to the industry to target and learn everything about that industry. He finished with a heavy emphasis on the STIGs.

Chris stayed after the meeting to answer student questions about security clearances and how to obtain one.

Students Recommend Their Favorite Coffee Shops

Jaxon Miller
The MYX Production Manager

Even with four coffee shops on campus, students sometimes look to find a change of scenery and taste. There are many coffee shops in the Bismarck/Mandan area. Some big names include Copper Dog, Boneshakers, Daily Perks, and Mighty Missouri. With so many places for students to get their fix, it's hard to make a decision where to go. Luckily, students shared their favorite coffee shop recommendations.

Benjamin Wolff, a student at Bismarck State College, revealed his favorite place to stop and get coffee.

"My favorite coffee shop off campus is Coffee Break. It's downtown [Bismarck], kind of on main, and it's this cute little coffee shop ... The guy that runs it is a super sweet guy," Wolff said. "The coffee is really cheap, like I often times come out with like it maybe cost four dollars ... I like any of the banana cream coffees that he makes, but specifically the iced latte version, like banana cream iced latte."

Another student, Jessa Lee, shared her favorite local coffee shop as well.

"I enjoy Daily Perks. They have a great atmosphere," Lee said. "Service is fast; they have a reward system that's nice for college students, and they have pup-cups—they're very dog friendly. My dog loves to come with me."

Some other places were mentioned as well, giving students even more options to choose from. Student Ruby Johnson mentioned Anima Cucina in downtown Bismarck. Izac Turner, another BSC student, brought up Scooters as a good place to get coffee quickly.



Sweet-tea - Come and take a look at the collection of syrups, french presses, tea pots, and other coffee supplies at Coffee Break. All of these items have been tastefully crafted to be sure of best possible quality.

One common theme with all of these places is a nice atmosphere. To students, coffee shops are more than stopping to get coffee and leaving—they're places to talk with old friends, meet new friends, and places to study.



Kayla Hilzendeger | Photographer



Vroom Vroom - Bitty Bean Coffee truck sits out front of their shop located in south Bismarck. You can come visit the quaint shop and have a look at the iconic vehicle while having a sip of their coffee.



Kayla Hilzendeger | Photographer

Tranquil Corner - The feel of Coffee Break coffee shop is one of sweet calmness, just like their coffee. Wind down and lose your troubles to the tranquil feeling of the space.



Coffee Please! - Bitty Bean's drive-thru windows for ordering and picking up a sweet treat. This is a fast way to retrieve your coffee on the go, however, if you have some leisure time they do have the option of outdoor seating.

Figments of Imagination is Now Open!

Liberty Friez
Content Editor

The Bismarck State College's student literary magazine, Figments of Imagination, is now accepting submissions for their upcoming publication.

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to send in their creative works. Figments is taking poems, prose, written stories, videos, music, and art of all mediums.

Figments of Imagination is a class available to all BSC students. The Figments staff is tasked with collecting and editing submissions, laying out a magazine, and designing a theme with the goal to publish a finished publication by the end of the school year.

Students should watch their

BSC email for messages from the Figments staff.

Submission forms can be found on the Mystic Media website along with past issues of the publication. Completed forms and works can be sent to bsc.figments@ndus.edu email. Boxes will be available around campus for those who would like to submit paper copies.

Additional information about submitting and guidelines can also be found on the Mystic Media website.

Any questions can be directed to bsc.figments@ndus.edu or by visiting the Mystician office in room 125 in the Armory. The deadline for submissions is March 18.

Celebrating Creativity Together

Figments of Imagination

Scan Me!!

Due Date, March 18
Submit yours!

videos Photos poetry sculpture stories art Lyrics



How to FOIA

As The Washington Post's Freedom of Information Act director, I help reporters get as many government records as they can.

Here's how to do it!

Federal records are governed by the Freedom of Information Act, or FOIA. Each state has its own version of the law.

Nate Jones
Lawyer and Post Journalist

STEP 1 Find out which state or federal agency has the records you want.

RTW: You can't FOIA Congress or the federal courts.

You can request presidential records five years after the person leaves office.

It can feel intimidating, but it's easy to Google!

STEP 2 Decide what to request. Most laws only cover existing records. Try asking for completed forms, contracts, databases, memos and reports. Check if they're already publicly available.

Requests for emails must be specific - include the account, date range and key words. They could take longer to process or be exempt.

NO fishing expeditions!!

STEP 3 Draft and file your request. Be specific, so it's easier for officials to find the records. Ask that any denials be in writing and include a legal justification for their decision - and what you'd need to do to appeal or sue.

I know right where these records are!

STEP 4 After you file, get a tracking number for your request. Don't hesitate to follow up!

I'm calling to get an estimated date of completion for my request.

Often the squeaky requester gets the grease!

STEP 5 You get your records! Congratulations. How you use them is up to you.

7 U.S.C. § 4908(c)

Or agencies may deny your request, say "no records exist" or redact information.

FOIA requests can be battles. The fight isn't over.

The federal government has over 150 exemptions - even one for records about watermelon handling.

STEP 6 Appeal any full or partial denial. Send a letter explaining why you believe the agency was wrong to use the exemptions they cited.

Are you sure you want to sign off on this denial?

OK, we'll give you a less redacted version.

STEP 7 Requesting public records can be tricky, but it's worth the fight to keep a watchful eye on what your government is up to.

I've already got an idea for my next FOIA request!

I order the records released without redactions...

AND for the agency to pay the requester's attorney fees!

If the appeal fails, consider a lawsuit. The Post has sued to win the release of important records.

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Editorial

OUR VOICE

Letter from the Editors



Kayden Schmitz & Sophia Fafard
Co-Editors

Wow. Spring break is only one week away, and boy, do we need it. The semester has been jam-packed with projects, events, and do not even get me started on the brutal roller coaster that is the weather. It is easy to see students light up at the fact that you can count down the days to spring break on your fingers.

Sophia will be traveling to “Fabulous” Las Vegas after a quick visit to Canada. That is quite the contrast in destinations. The two spots are 1,529 miles apart. Let’s just say our dear Canadian editor is about to get a full taste of what they call “American culture.” I’m

not quite sure if that is a good thing or not. I, on the other hand, will be staying right here in North Dakota, working on some freelance projects, hosting game nights, and hopefully finishing Downton Abbey.

It is wild to think that in just a few months, Sophia and I will be graduating. For two years, we have worked on The Mystician. For two years, we have built incredible relationships with the people around us. Where will we be in another two years? It is such an exciting and slightly terrifying thought.

This issue of The Mystician is packed with student life stories and even a few community pieces. Be sure to check out the staff opinion section. This will be our only issue for the month of March, but do not worry. We will be coming back strong and stacked for April.

As always, thank you for reading. Enjoy the issue, and enjoy the countdown to spring break.

Fallout Series Review: Did They Get it Right?



Michael Huravich
Reporter

“Fallout” is one of the most successful gaming franchises in the world. “Fallout” is set in a retrofuturistic world where technology greatly advances, but culture remains similar to the 1950s. Every game’s story is set after nuclear destruction, specifically around 200 years after the bombs dropped. The games allow you to make choices and allow you to align yourself with different groups and factions. Many different factions try to take control of the wasteland and its inhabitants with differing intentions.

Amazon Prime announced a Fallout series in July of 2020, but with the pandemic and writer’s strike, the series didn’t air until October of 2023. Jonathan Nolan, who directed “Westworld,” led the project as the executive producer. Many Fallout fans were concerned that the show would not be able to capture the vast and unique world that the games present. When a series or movie is based on any

popular source material such as a book, comic, or in this case a videogame, there’s usually a large die-hard fan base. Could the television series please the fans?

The answer is overwhelmingly yes. The series follows four main protagonists. One of these protagonists is a vault dweller named Lucy, who is played by Ella Purnell. Lucy leaves her vault to find her father after being kidnapped by raiders. After she’s lived in a vault for all of her life, she struggles to understand the surface world and the people who inhabit it. Then there’s her brother Norm, who’s played by Moisés Arias. After his father’s kidnapping, Norm decided to stay in the vault and investigate a deep conspiracy. The series also follows Maximus, who is played by Aaron Moten. Maximus grew up in the wasteland as a young child. He was rescued from a tragedy and adopted by a military faction known as The Brotherhood of Steel.

And then there’s the Ghoul, who’s played by Walton Goggins. The Ghoul, or Cooper Howard, is widely considered the fan favorite character. Howard is a ghoul, which is essentially a human that has been exposed to high levels of radiation for a long period of time. I have to say that the Ghoul is definitely my favorite character. He’s an outlaw that could’ve been ripped right out of any old spaghetti western.

The characters are all fairly

Mel Brooks: The Greatest Life in American History



Garrett Froelich
Columnist

Mel Brooks, the greatest life in American history? What kind of claim is that? It’s an outrageous claim to make. Surely George Washington, Martin Luther King Jr., or John F. Kennedy would take that crown. All certainly left bigger historical impacts than Mel Brooks, but what did they leave to the culture? An answer on a test. A funny video to randomly show to your friends. None, however, touched people’s souls in the way Brooks did. He did it with satire, song, and lots and lots of crudeness.

Brooks was born Melvin James Kaminsky on a kitchen table in Brooklyn on June 28, 1926. He was the youngest of four sons to Ukrainian Jewish immigrants. Brooks’ father Max died at the age 34 of tuberculosis when Brooks was two years old. Brooks grew up very close to his mother Katie.

Before the age of eighteen he got drum lessons from Buddy Rich and had already met Sid Caesar while working at the pool of a Borscht Belt hotel. Once Brooks graduated high school he joined the fight against the Axis Powers. Deployed into the European theatre in 1944, he served as a combat engineer during the Battle of the Bulge. After the war ended he began traveling to different bases, performing for his fellow soldiers as a comedian.

Once back from the war, Brooks worked as drummer and pianist at different hotels and resorts in the Borscht Belt where he would also perform stand-up if the hired comic could not perform. His prior relationship to Sid Caesar showed back up in a big way when he was brought into the writing room of Your Show of Shows, the biggest comedic TV show of the 1950s. This is where he met his life-long friend Carl Reiner, father of Rob Reiner.

Their meeting led to the greatest comedic duo in late night during the 1960s where Brooks would appear on Reiner’s show and perform acclaimed characters like the 2000-year old man. This began his ascent to stardom.

(outro music)...

Wife: Bobby is spending the night at his friend’s house, so what do you want to do tonight?

Husband: Good question, it’s been a long time since we’ve had the house all to ourselves.

{indescript noises}

Wife: What’s wrong honey?

[Shohei Ohtani bursts through the door holding a bottle of pills.]

Ohtani: Shinshitsu de tasuke ga hitsuyōna

unique and follow their own path. The show displays how they make different decisions based on their differing perspectives.

The series nails the set design. There are scenes that feel like they’re ripped straight out of the games. You’ll spot bottles of nuka cola, sugar bombs breakfast cereal, radaway, and, of course, a stimpack in case you get hurt.. The vaults featured in the show have a distinct military bunker look, with the

iconic VaultTec blue and yellow.

The plot is centered around different issues that are presented in the games. Dealing with psychotic and aggressive raiders, and members of some not-so-nice factions. Along with the detailed set design, the writers nailed the in-world terminology, slang, and plot devices used in the games. The issues that characters face in Fallout games are issues that are present in the series.

toki wa,-koku no pafōmansu kōjō-zai burūchū ni itte kudasai!

Husband: Thanks Shohei!

Wife: Thaaanks Shohei...

[Shohei smiles back at the wife]

Shohei: Touch all the bases, and get your fast-ball back with Blue Chew.
(intro music)

Welcome back, once the 70s arrived so did Mel Brooks. He rang in the decade with his first film “The Producers,” starring Gene Wilder. The duo would go on to make “Blazing Saddles” and “Young Frankenstein” together. This pairing would shoot Mel into the stratosphere. After these successes Brooks decided to start starring in his own films, starting with “The Silent Movie.” His turns as his own leading man led to the height of his fame. One of his starring roles was opposite his wife Anne Bancroft. Oh yeah, his wife was Mrs. Robinson from “The Graduate!” How did the little funny guy with that funny little face get the most infamous woman in all of cinema! Because Mel Brooks is the greatest man who has ever lived.

He also started his own production company called Brookfilms. This is where he could do more serious films, along with his usual comedy. Brookfilms productions gave acclaimed directors like David Lynch and David Cronenberg help with their first studio films, including “The Elephant Man” and “The Fly,” respectively.

Brooks, not satisfied with his creative endeavors, decided to bring back his first film “The Producers” on Broadway. Now a playwright and a composer, Brooks could not be touched after the success with “The Producers” winning a record twelve Tony Awards.

He fought in World War II, had a bigger impact on comedy than anyone, and did it all with kindness and a hatred of bullies at the heart of it. He was born a showman and he still does his high kicks at 99, showing all of us that laughter is the best medicine.



Overall, I would absolutely recommend the series, even if you haven’t played the games. There’s so much craziness in the world of Fallout. It’s not only suspenseful and action packed, but it’s also filled with hilarious jokes and satire. Seasons one and two were great, and now I can’t wait for season three.

PUZZLE PAGE

March Word Search

N W E W T R W F B F Z K C W R L D J G F
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| Rainbow | Patrick | Equinox | Gold |
| Madness | Martius | Spring | Pot |
| Clover | Break | Green | |
| Coins | Wind | | |

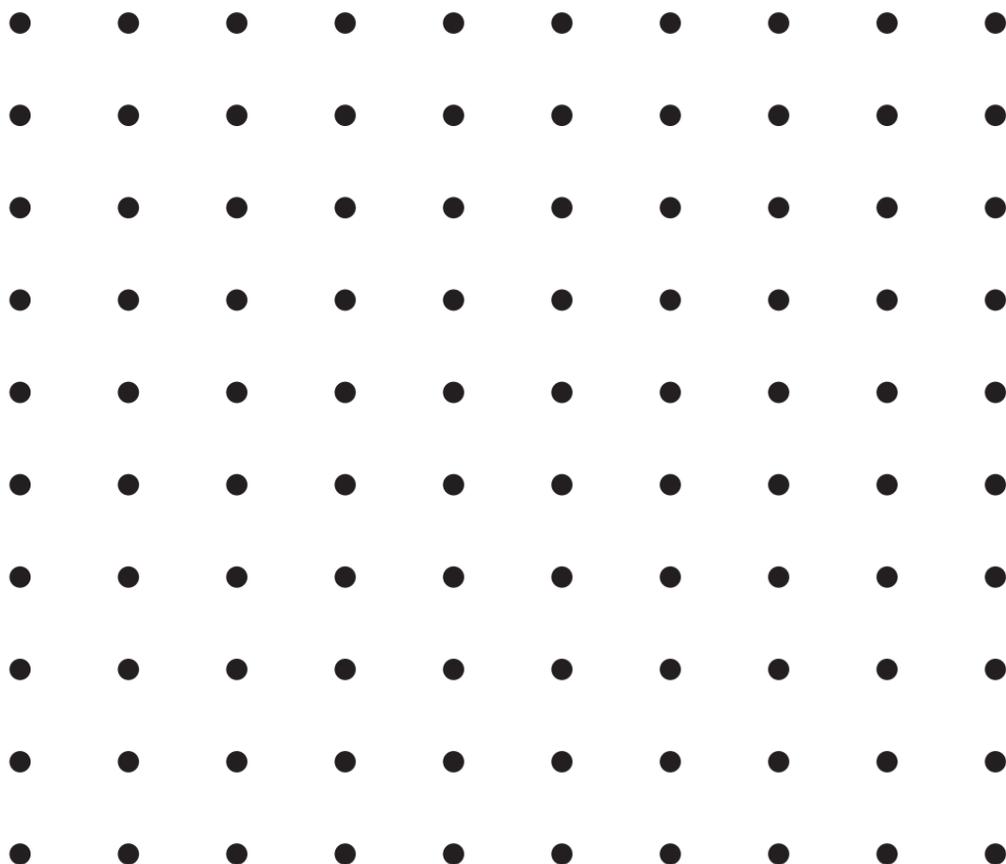
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MARCH TRIVIA

- What Did St. Patrick Drive Out Of Ireland?**
 A. Badgers B. Snakes C. Rats
- What Is Found At The End Of A Rainbow?**
 A. Gold Coins B. Magic Beans C. A Pot Of Gold
- What Kind Of Pie Has A Day Dedicated To It In March?**
 A. Key Lime B. Apple C. Banana Creme
- When Are The Ides Of March?**
 A. March 14th B. March 15 C. March 16th
- Which Sickness First Made Its Way To The United States In 1918?**
 A. Spanish Flu B. Bird Flu C. Influenza
- Which World Leader Returned To France After Being Exiled From Elba On March 1st 1815?**
 A. Emmanuel Macron B. Napoleon Bonaparte C. Charles de Gaulle
- Which President Had An Assassination Attempt On March 30th?**
 A. John F. Kennedy B. George W. Bush C. Ronald Reagan

Dots to Boxes

Two players take turns drawing a single horizontal or vertical line between adjacent dots on a grid. The player who draws the fourth line of a 1x1 square claims the square by putting their initial inside it and gets to take another turn. The game ends when no more lines can be drawn, and the player with the most claimed squares wins.



SAY CHEESE!

Mygel Porter | Social Media Manager

Hanging In The Union - AuBrielle Rebel and Leighton Ressler pose for a photo

BSC ATHLETICS • BSC ATHLETICS

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Last Game

Cont. 1

Kade Warren
Reporter

in attendance, and there were definitely more people in the stands than usual for such an occasion. When asked about the difference, #24 David Shilling had this to say.

“There were more fans that were there than usual and they all were into the game. It made for a great environment,” Shilling said.

The atmosphere created by the large crowd also impacted the women’s games.

On Saturday, the women faced the Valley City Vikings and looked to defend their rivalry after beating them on the road in January. The Vikings came out hot the first quarter but just couldn’t match the Bismarck offense. In the first quarter alone the Mystics shot 38% from deep with five making three point shots off of thirteen attempts. Kennedy Stormer, a BSC senior and a recent recipient of the NAIA player of the week award, had a terrific game, with thirty two points, three steals, and five rebounds. She went three for three from deep in the second quarter which, along with the energy from the crowd, helped the Mystics pull ahead and maintain the lead for the rest of the game. Stormer shared her thoughts on the experience.

“We ranked last in the pre-season polls so we wanted to make some noise this season and prove that that’s not where we really stand,” Stormer said. “Playing Valley [City] was the most important game we played all season. We clinched playoffs and getting the chance to play even one more game is very special.”

The men’s battle with the Vikings was just as competitive. The first half was a struggle to acclimate to

the full court press and the aggressive three point attempts from the Vikings. But by the second half the Mystics came back from a twelve point deficit, tying the game at 43-43 with eighteen minutes left on the clock. The rest of the game the Mystics found themselves searching for their lost momentum, giving the Vikings plenty of unanswered shots in the process. The final score was 70-94 for Valley City.

Now that the season is over, BSC athletes, students, and staff have a lot to look forward to, and a lot to leave behind.

Lisa Miller, a CRM specialist at BSC who has been a season ticket holder for 15 years, was one of many who were in attendance for the last home games, and gave insight into the bittersweet excitement felt by the fans at the end of the season.

“Even though we’re all excited for the new Bavendick Center, there was a little bit of sadness in realizing we won’t all be sitting in the same familiar section next year,” Miller said.

But with the rise in BSC enrollments and intramural sports, there will be solace in the fact that the Armory won’t be completely left behind.

The Bavendick Center will be sure to have a warm welcome when it is opened. A nickname for the building has already been coined by Miller, who also shared her thoughts about the increasing excitement, not just for the athletic departments.

“I’m also excited to see what our media team does with the new space—I truly believe BSC has some of the best livestreams around, and I can’t wait to see how they take advantage of everything ‘The Bav’ has to offer,” Miller said.



Clayton Scible-Fox | Photographer

Full House- Bismarck State draws a crowd, in honor of the last basketball games played in the Armory.

Saying Good-bye - The Armory has been the main place for all Mystic athletic practices. As they move into their new facility memories will still be held in the Armory. Not to mention the Armory will be used for intramurals and small practices.

Kayden Schmitcke | Co-Editor

Mystics Softball Set Sights on More NAIA Competition

Sophia Fafard
Co-Editor

The Bismarck State College Mystics Softball team have dived head-first into their first season competing in the NAIA, with a total of ten games played since the publication of this article. So far, the season is a win-loss ratio of 9-1, with the Mystics having defeated Waldorf University Warriors in Iowa with a score of 11-5. Although other games have been losses, the season started off with some close-scoring games.

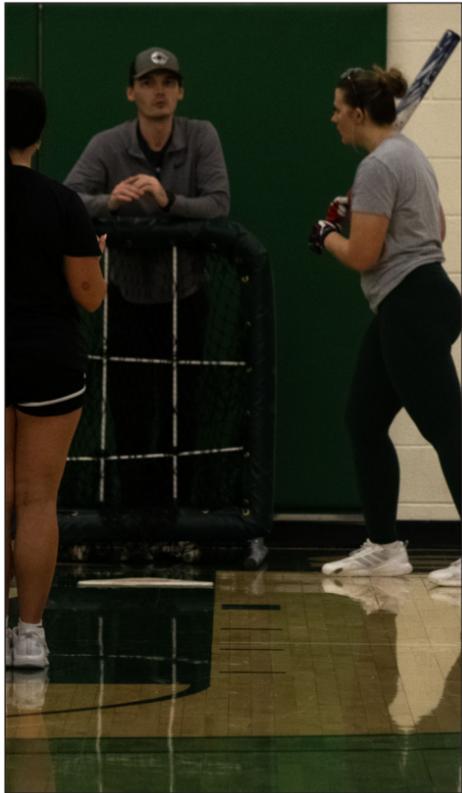
After the win against the Warriors, games have seen the gap between scores widening, though this does not mean the Mystics

Brady Dutchak is the head coach for the Mystics softball team. This is his first season as head coach at BSC. He has been part of five college softball programs, including one other NAIA softball program, Dickinson State. Although he has experience coaching, his position as head coach is still new to him.

"It's fun, it's different," Dutchak said. "It challenges me every day,

but we have a good group and a great assistant coach and they make it fun and definitely worthwhile."

Dutchak has helped lead the Mystics through the first ten games of the season, which gives him the chance to see firsthand what works for the team, and what does not. He noted that the team is younger, with about eight freshmen to around 11 upperclassmen. Not only that, but the shift to NAIA has had an impact on the softball team as well.



Sophia Fafard | Co-Editor

COACH'S CORNER - Mystics Softball Head Coach Brady Dutchak gives advice to athletes on how they can improve their form when batting.



Sophia Fafard | Co-Editor

Getting At It - Jordyn Marcoux throws wiffle ball to batter to practice batting without a pitch. The team has different stations at practice, with some stations being closed off for both pitchers and batters to give it their all



Sophia Fafard | Co-Editor

SWING THAT BAT - Mystics Softball athlete practices her swing. Behind her, a batting area is set up with a tent for pitchers and batters to practice at once.

Go Mystics!

Esports Stars Finish First Weeks

Sophia Fafard
Co-Editor

On Feb. 2, the Mystics Valorant Esports team played their first game. The 0-2 match was secured by the Lakeland Muskies in the final rounds. Despite a great come from behind, Mystics lost the magic and fell 11-13 after a tied game.

The standout leader of the night was Dat Nguyen, with 29 kills and only 14 deaths. He led the team with support from teammates Logan King and Sean Purdy. This would not have been as successful of a match without the other players Garrett Byerley and Mason Smith.

Map two was played far better than Map one for the Mystics. Before the intermission, Lakeland grabbed a 13-5 win over Bismarck State. No Mystic finished the first map with a positive kill/death ratio. This was a

rough start for the Bismarck State Valorant team, but they still have six games to play before finishing the spring Esports season.

The cars of Rocket League blasted around in competition against the St. Mary Spires. After losing the first rounds, the Mystics made a comeback. Gran Risser scored the final goal for a 4-2 win over the Spires.

Mystics Madden player Derek Holen played against the New England Grimms. He took an early one-touch-down lead and did not let up against New England. The pressure was enough to give Bismarck State a win by default when the Grimms conceded.

Meanwhile, week one of League of Legends play brought the Mystics head to head against Southern Nazarene Crimson Storm. The fight in the Lanes started with a loss in game one. Brock Delaplane and Dat Nguyen tied for the best performances. Both Mystics were out-shadowed by three of five Crimson

Storm. The 5/5 kill to death ratio was not enough to beat Southern Nazarene. Game two was a disheartening loss to close out the series. Only one player had a positive KDA of 8/5 and one other was at 5/5. All other Bismarck State players had more deaths than kills.

This first week of play was successful for BSC Rocket League and Madden, but saw losses for Valorant and League of Legends.

Week two Thursday night lights featured BSC Madden Mystics coming face to face with North Carolina Wesleyan Battling Bishops. A strong second half took any chance of winning out from under BSC's feet. Late in the fourth quarter, an interception put the Mystics down by three touchdowns. A final touchdown closed the gap slightly, but the power of the Mystics was not enough to recover from the Battling Bishops dominating score.

Super Bowl LX Recap

Michael Huravitch
Reporter

This year the Super Bowl was a shake up. There were no Chiefs or Eagles this year. The match-up for Super Bowl LX was the New England Patriots versus the Seattle Seahawks. After only winning four games last year, the Patriots had arguably one of the greatest turn-arounds in NFL history. New England finished the regular season with a record of 14-3, which was a shock to many. This season proved that the Patriots are back as top contenders in the AFC.

The Seattle Seahawks also finished the regular season with a record of 14-3. Seattle's defense earned the nickname of the "Darkside." The Seahawks defense was game changing throughout the regular season, and dominated the post season as well. Seattle's explosive offense was considered one of the best this season as well, which made the Sea-

hawks one of the most balanced teams in the NFL.

Levi's Stadium held a total of 70,823 fans and NBC reported that the viewership peaked at 137.8 million. Super Bowl LX was the second most watched broadcast in U.S. history. The Seahawks received the kickoff and started their first offensive drive of the game. Seattle running back Kenneth Walker III managed to break loose for a first down, followed by Seahawk's quarterback Sam Darnold completing a few passes to give Seattle a 33 yard field goal made by their kicker Jason Myers. The Seahawks defense managed to sack Patriots QB Drake Maye and contain the Patriots offense forcing them to punt.

Seattle came into the second quarter leading by a field goal. The Seahawks defense managed to keep pressure on Maye, almost resulting in an interception early in the quarter. The Patri-

ots still remained scoreless, but their defense wasn't ready to break. New England DB Christian Gonzalez broke up a 52-yard pass down-field to Seattle receiver Rashid Shaheed. Unfortunately for New England they had a hard time containing Kenneth Walker, as he had two huge runs, one for 29 yards and one for 30. Jason Myers kicked two more field goals in the second quarter giving Seattle a 9-0 lead.

Entering the third quarter, the Patriots continued to struggle on offense. Drake Maye was under continuous pressure throughout a majority of the quarter. Gonzalez had an even bigger pass break-up in this quarter. He denied Seattle's star receiver Jaxon Smith-Njigba in the end-zone. The Seahawks still couldn't hit pay-dirt, but they did remain in control as Myer hit his fourth field goal which tied the record for made field goals in the Super Bowl, and

increased Seattle's lead to 12-0.

Early in the fourth Sam Darnold managed to throw the first touchdown of the game for 16 yards, which increased Seattle's lead to 19-0. New England was finally able to show signs of life, as Drake Maye threw a 35-yard touchdown to receiver Mack Hollins to keep the game alive. With only five minutes left in the fourth quarter, Jason Myers hit his 5th field goal to break the record. Seattle led 22-7 with little time for the Patriots to mount a comeback. The Patriots offense tried desperately to come up big, but Maye threw an interception to Seahawks DB Devon Witherspoon. Even though the Patriots defense was able to stop Seattle, rally their offense to march down the field, and even score a last minute touchdown. It was too little too late for Maye and the Patriots. 29-13 was the final score, and the Seattle Seahawks are the Super Bowl champions.



Photo and Story Creds- Clayton Sicble-Fox

Show Down - Adrian Steidler stares her opponent down in the final event in the Armory.

In 1959, the state legislature granted North Dakota National Guard land for Bismarck State College to build a gymnasium. In 1962, construction was complete. Since then the Armory has been used for athletic events and schooling.



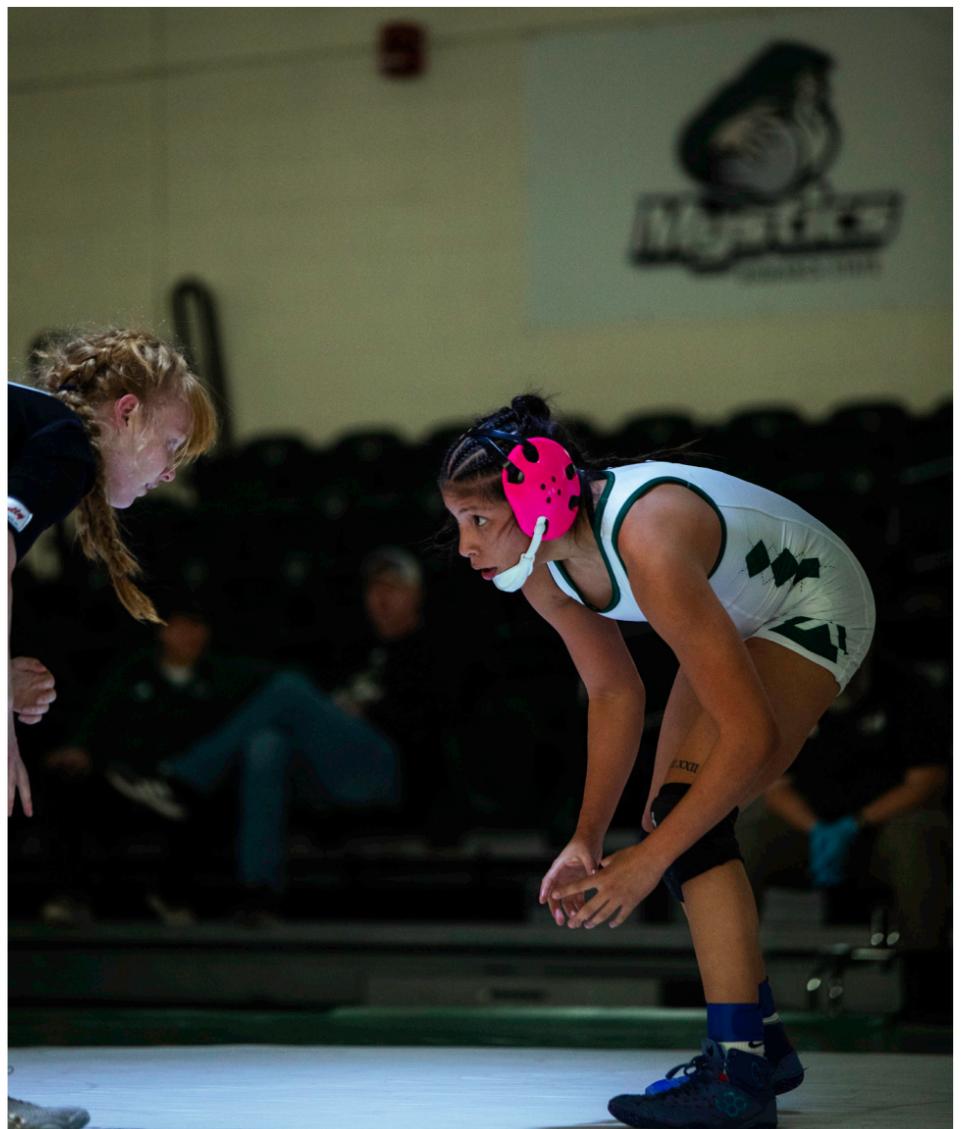
Only Win - Rei Ogden picks up the only Mystic win of the day.

One Last Match in the Armory

Friday, February 13 was the final sporting event in the Bismarck State College Armory. The Women's Wrestling team took on Dickinson State University in a hard-fought battle. The Mystics won only one of four matches. The women's matches marked an end to an historic period for the Armory.



Game Face - Mystics prepare for the matches that mark an end of an era in the Armory.



Show Down - Lakota Rogers squares up her opponent in hopes to gain control of the match.

March 2026

We are excited to share with you all the fantastic events and activities happening on campus. March is jam-packed with events, with both baseball and softball starting up, band concerts, and more! Everything listed here is FREE for you as a student!

Be sure to check out the community events as well—though they might not always be free or hosted by Bismarck State College, they are great opportunities to engage with the wider community. For more details about events, check out the events page on the BSC website.

Don't forget to show your support for our athletes—cheer them on and join in on the excitement! Check out both baseball and softball games this month, or attend track and field at the Bowl. Enjoy all the activities, and make the most of your time here at BSC!

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Spring Concert When: 7 p.m. Where: Sidney J. Lee Auditorium Grad Expo When: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Where: Student Union	5  Mystician 87.12	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
						
15 Mystics Women's Wrestling When: 7 p.m. Where: BSC Armory	16	17 Grief Support with Soul 57 When: 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Where: Alumni Room, Student Union St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Mystics Baseball vs Miles Community College When: 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Where: Haaland Field, Bismarck, N.D.	20 Mystics Softball vs Carroll College When: 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Where: Scheels Field, Bismarck, N.D. BSC Theatre Presents "Frozen" When: 7:30 p.m. Where: Advanced Technology Center	21 Mystics Softball vs Carroll College When: 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. Where: Scheels Field, Bismarck, N.D. BSC Theatre Presents "Frozen" When: 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Where: Advanced Technology Center Mystics Track & Field. Where: Community Bowl BSC
22 BSC Theatre Presents "Frozen" When: 2:30 p.m. Where: Advanced Technology Center	23	24 Band Pops Concert When: 7 p.m. Where: Sidney J. Lee Auditorium	25 Mystics Baseball vs Jamestown When: 3 p.m. Where: Haaland Field, Bismarck, N.D.	26	27 BSC Theatre Presents "Frozen" When: 7:30 p.m. Where: Advanced Technology Center Mystics Baseball vs Dakota State When: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Where: Haaland Field, Bismarck, N.D.	28 BSC Theatre Presents "Frozen" When: 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Where: Advanced Technology Center Mystics Baseball vs Miles Community College When: 12 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Where: Haaland Field, Bismarck, N.D.
29 BSC Theatre Presents "Frozen" When: 2:30 p.m. Where: Advanced Technology Center	30 Campus-Wide Egg Hunt When: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	31				

THE MYSTICIAN

Spring Musical Edition

Bismarck State College presents
“Frozen: The Musical”

A press conference with
the Mystic Media team
highlights the theatre
production



Frozen Cast Members:

Q: How is the musical different from the Disney movie?

Max: Our production of “Frozen” follows the same plot as the 2013 movie except there are added songs. The opening number is different from the movie. Anna and Elsa have a wonderful duet called “I Can’t Lose You,” but it follows that same Elsa, Kristoff, Olaf and Anna plotline that everyone knows and loves.

Q: How does preparation for this musical compare to others?

Dean: This is a very big musical, and we’re doing a lot of theater magic for this show. (For the part) when Elsa makes her ice castle, we’re trying to have the entire auditorium come to life—there’s just a lot of little bits and bobs we get to do with the tech for this show.



Behind the Scenes - The ensemble starts their vocal practice in the Live Event Center. The group meets multiple times a week for hours of practice to prepare for their performances in late March.

Q: How does your cast get along?

Max: Our cast gets along very well. It’s the kind of cast that so many new people have come in, and we have little kids playing the roles of young Elsa, young Anna, and they’re just a joy to work with. Everyone is super talented, and everyone brings their own ideas and talents into the show and really helps others out—like when people may have missed a rehearsal—we are like a tight knit group that helps each other a lot.

Q: How is it working with kids on this production?

Max: Our kids are absolutely awesome. They’re wonderful to work with. They’re super talented. Just wait until you see them, hear them sing, watch them act, because they are just a talented group of kids.

Q: What made you decide to do Frozen out of all the musicals?

Dean: One of the things that we at BSC theater is take a lot of the time and put a lot of effort into picking the right show. We look at the students we have and what scripts are out there that are going to fit the student? And this was one where it felt like, wow, this person fits there. This person fits there.

Also, because this is the very first year opening this facility, we wanted to do a big title that we could get the whole community to come and enjoy. “Frozen” is kind of the perfect fit.

Also the rights were just released, so we were one of the very first [colleges] in the country to to get the rights for this production.



Working Hard and Having Fun - The “Frozen” ensemble take a quick break to visit and discuss during another rehearsal. The ensemble consists of 15 members, with Director Daniel Walstad leading the practice.

About Jack Golden...

Interview with Dean Bellin

For this show we’ve done something special. We invited an alumnus of ours, Jack Golden, to do the design for the show. Jack has had a professional career working in and around the New York metro area, the D.C. area, and the Boston area. He’s been very successful, and I wish I could say he got it from all the things that he learned from me. He’s enormously talented, and we were lucky to get him. He created the beautiful designs and a set that this community has never seen before. We can’t wait to show it to you. It’s been great reconnecting with a former student and now current friend and theater maker. He is going to be in town the week before the show helping us prepare. He is a professor at a college in Massachusetts, and he’s got some time off so he can help make this show come to reality. We’re excited that he’ll get to be part of the process. He’ll be a legit part of the team.



All Together Now - the “Frozen” ensemble get out their music to practice their vocal warm ups.

“LET IT GO”

Q: So you mentioned Olaf. Is it like a puppet?

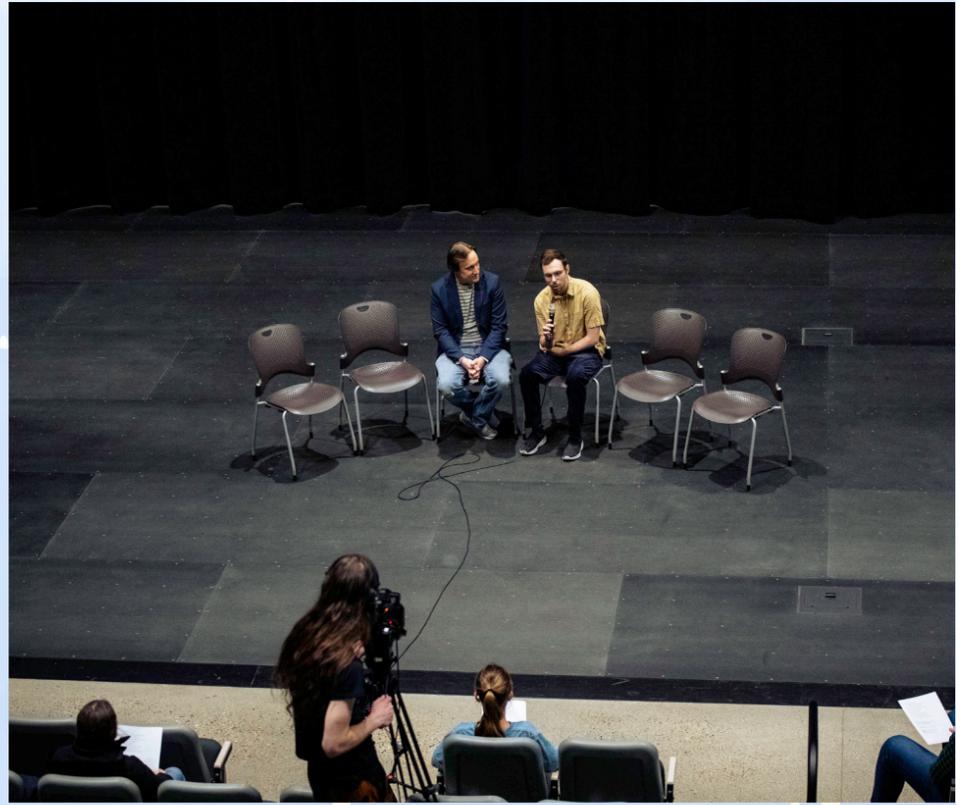
Dean: It is a four-and-a-half foot tall puppet that’s operated by one of the cast members, Austin Saxowsky. Sven is also a puppet. It’s like a half body puppet. Benjamin Wolff will be operating Sven.

Q: When playing this character, being in that role ... does that make it different when you’re trying to build that character?

Max: I have to think about what was my character doing, and what my character was feeling in this situation. You think about that during scenes for songs, or when you’re working with other actors—how do we get the scene in the way that needs to be told? And how can we get that emotion out to the audience?

Q: Do you have a favorite scene or song?

Jess: I love “What Do You Know About Love?” It’s between Kristoff and Anna, and it’s just so whimsical and fun and sassy. It really brings out their own little “why you talking like this?” type vibe.



Press Conference - The Mystic Media crew interviews Technical Director Dean Bellin and Actor Max Wild at a press conference on Feb. 18 in the Advanced Technology Center.



On Camera - Pete DeMille films the interview for a MysticCast news package.

Q: What do you hope the audience takes away from your performances?

Dean: I hope people come here to have a good time. I think that’s one of the great things about this new facility—it gives us another opportunity to connect with our community. I think that’s very important to Bismarck State College, and I hope we can do more of it in the future.

Q: Do you have a song that was hard for the group?

Max: The easiest song was the opening of Act Two, which is called “Hygge.” I think the hardest song is one of our final numbers called “Colder by the Minute.”

What is the Biggest Similarity

Between You and Your Character?



Schatzy Mosbrucker - Anna

The biggest similarity between me and Anna is that we are not morning people.

This is the first time I’ve ever really played a villain, so there’s no [similarities], not really, but it is fun to explore the character.



Max Wild - Hans



Benjamin Wolff - Sven

There aren’t many similarities, since I don’t stink like Sven.

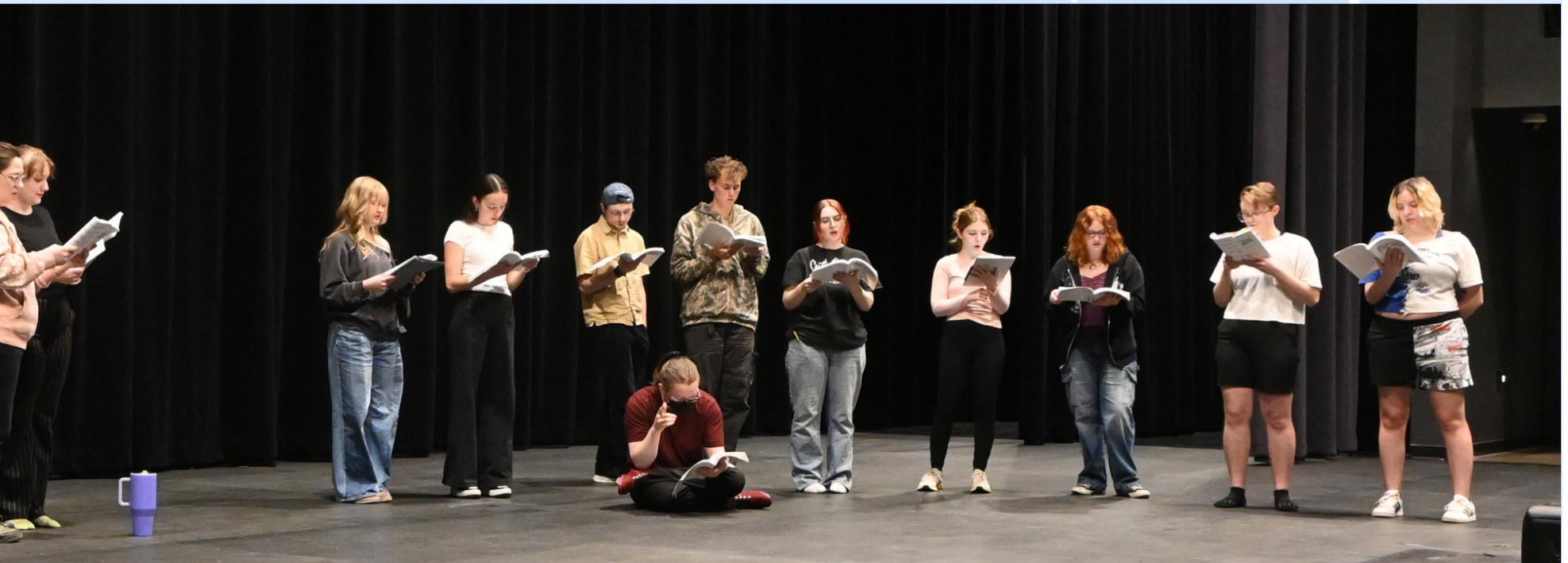
We can both have a rough outer shell but are really a softy deep down. ALSO we both have rock troll families.



Isaac Peterchuk - Kristoff

Sophia Fafard, Natalie Lawrence, Elena Sanchez, Jaxon Miller
Reporters

Clayton Sicble-Fox and Kayla Hilzendeger
Photographers



DISCLAIMER - Quotes edited for clarity



SHOW TIMES

3/20 - 7:30 p.m.
 3/21 - 2:30 p.m.
 3/21 - 7:30 p.m.
 3/22 - 2:30 p.m.
 3/27 - 7:30 p.m.
 3/28 - 2:30 p.m.
 3/28 - 7:30 p.m.
 3/29 - 2:30 p.m.



Directors

Dean Bellin

Daniel Walstad

Brittany Bearheart

Cast

Young Elsa - HAZELLE OELSCHLAGER & AMELIA MOCH
 Young Anna - ANNALEE KASOWSKI & AMELIA KOHLER
 Elsa - KAT ELROD
 Anna - SCHATZY MOSBRUCKER
 Queen Iduna - JOHANNA LESMEISTER
 King Agnarr - BENJAMIN WOLFF
 Pabbie - JAYCE MEIDINGER
 Bulda - JADA LANGE
 Prince Hans- MAX WILD
 Kristoff- ISAAC PETERCHUK
 Sven- BENJAMIN WOLFF

Duke of Weselton - JOSEPH MACDONALD
 Weselton's Guards - EVERETT HORNE, KAI CARPENTER
 Bishop - EL JAY DUGENIO
 Olaf - AUSTIN SAXOWSKY
 Oaken - BRAD GULBRANSON
 Arendelle Staff - PAIGE JUNG, KIANNA KRUEGER, GABBY SIEMERS
 Coronation Dancers - KAITLYN DELABARRE, PAYTON GRAY, JADA LANGE, PEYTON SCHOCK, CLAIRE STOLT

Coronation Dancers - KAI CARPENTER, EVERETT HORNE, JOSEPH MACDONALD, JAYCE MEIDINGER, AUSIIN SAXOWSKY,
 Young Hidden Folk - ELIZABETH BRITTON, FIONA PETERCHUK / MYA DREHER, LEA KESSLER,
 Featured Soloists -KENLEIGH NYE, PEYTON SCHOCK, KAI CARPENTER, EVERETT HORNE, CLAIRE STOLT
 Handmaidens - MORGAN NELSON, JESS RHOADES

Technical Crew

Scenic Designer – Jack Golden
 Costume Designer and Costumer – Daniel Walstad
 Lighting Designer and Technical Director – Dean Bellin
 Sound Design– Frank Vondra

Sound Mixer – Nolan Meeker
 Rehearsal Accompanist – Luke Weber
 Stage Manager – Tatum Spadgenske
 Assistant Stage Manager – Jenna Green, Olivia Thorenson, Hailey Pfligler
 Light Board Operator – Bernie Jean Francious

Set Construction – Jenna Green, Hailey Pfligler, Grace Clinton, Max Wild
 Box Office Staff – Jess Rhoades, Natalie Lawrence
 Poster/Cover Design – Morgen Fischer