

Katherine Betz

Hometown: Wolverton, MN

School: MSU-Moorhead

Internship: Daily News, Wahpeton



This has been my third summer interning at the Daily News. When I look back over the past three years, it is humbling to see how much the experience afforded to me through this internship has benefitted my college career. When I look ahead at the years to come, I hope to see how the experiences gained in this internship will aid my career moving forward.

The staff of the Daily News has pushed me to grow over the past three summers, honing my reporting skills through giving me a variety of assignments.

I started out mainly covering soft news, human interest pieces and the like. These were fun to do and helped me learn to listen to people and show interest in what they were telling me. Doing the “softer” stories helped me fall in love with being involved in the local community and with journalism as a whole.

As I moved into the second and third summer, (especially this summer) I have moved from doing normal intern pieces to essentially filling the role of a general assignment reporter, if only for a brief period of time. This shift meant that I was expected to write more stories, averaging about one per day, at a variety of lengths.

I covered county commissioners meetings, and from doing so learned to make myself stay awake and not look bored. But seriously, the meetings I covered were an amazing learning experience because they helped me filter through the tons of paperwork and information that may go on in a meeting, and find the nuggets of information that are newsworthy.

I also started covering crime stories, which was a unique challenge and invaluable experience. I learned how to get a criminal complaint and how to write an article with information from the same.

One new experience of the summer was covering a court hearing for a criminal case. This event helped me understand what happens in court during a case and also allowed me to practice taking hand-written notes and not rely heavily on my recorder.

Overall, working with the Daily News this summer has been, as always, a pleasure and a learning experience. Freelancing at this newspaper is what got me into journalism in the first place and I don't regret a minute of it. So, please pay them.