

Caitlin Schereske

Hometown: Washburn, ND

School: Washburn High School

Internship: McLean County Independent

Working at the Leader-News in Washburn has been an incredible experience for me. I've gained so many skills and improved my writing along the way. I have wanted to pursue a career in writing since sixth grade, and this internship has been a great way to explore a possible career path.

Before I took the job as an intern at the Leader News, I hadn't really thought of journalism as a possible career for me. I had, and still have, a job at my local grocery store, and the people skills I had circled around finding items and making small talk. The first time I interviewed someone, I was incredibly nervous because I had to learn how to have a completely fleshed out conversation in an entirely new way. The more interviews I did, the easier it was to let loose and relax around the interviewee. I've definitely grown out of my shell since getting this internship.

One of the sections of the Leader News I covered was the sports section, specifically our local legion baseball team. A part of my job that I quickly came to love was the photography portion. The photos I took were simple, but I loved the thought of getting to capture a moment forever.

Deadlines have never been a huge problem for me, and I've always been able to get my work done on time, if not early, so I was surprised at how much different a deadline felt when it wasn't as simple as a grade. There was no late pass, your story was either in the paper or it wasn't, and as strange as it felt, the deadline was good for me. I could schedule myself around what I needed to do and when it needed to be done, and this gave me a personal clock.

Overall, this internship has been an incredible experience for me. It has given me an opportunity to get my name out to the public while learning how to write in a way that is both interesting to the reader and educational for me. I will always cherish the lessons I've learned, and continue to learn, with Leader-News.

