



# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

## *News, Photography, & Photo of the Year Awards*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

132nd Annual Convention  
May 3 -5, 2018  
Bismarck, ND





**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*News & Editorial  
Awards*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
NDNA  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

# *Reporting*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# Reporting: Small Weeklies

---

## ◆ Third Place

- McClusky Gazette

*Everyone goes home*

Allan Tinker

## ◆ Second Place

- Medora, Billings County Pioneer

*History of Orthodox pioneers remembered*

Richard Volesky

# Reporting: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press

*Our Little Hero: Park River Veterinary Clinic patient selected*  
Allison Olimb

## 'Our little hero': Park River Veterinary Clinic patient selected as North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association Hero of the Year



By Allison Olimb  
of The Press

PARK RIVER, N.D. — Earlier this month a dog named Riley, a Siberian Husky owned by the Benny Martinez family of Niagara, N.D., was honored for her act of bravery.

Brenden, 7, Daniel and David, 5, and Ruben, 3, were playing outside.

"Daniel ran to the road when suddenly a truck who did not stop at the stop sign was about to run over my son," said the boys' mother Sara Martinez. "Riley our 10 month husky pushed Daniel onto the ditch."

Daniel was frightened. He saw how Riley had been thrown off the road and he ran to his mother, screaming, "Mommy! mommy, Riley died!"

"I went to where he was pointing and there was Riley, very badly injured," Sara said.

The Martinezs took the dog to Park River Veterinary Clinic where Dr. Gerard Dahl examined her.

"When we took her to the vet we were told that she had to be in observation," Sara said.

Dr. Jeanette Bjornstad was brought in to help when Dahl discovered the amount of damage that had been done.

"We had to amputate," Dahl said and he trusted Bjornstad to help with the major part of the surgery. Bjornstad explained that there had been no fractures, but Riley had suffered

Left: Brothers David Martinez (Left) and Daniel play fetch with Riley. The loss of her leg hasn't slowed her down. Right: Dr. Jeanette Bjornstad checks in on Riley who was injured when she saved Daniel (Left) from being hit by a truck. She was named Hero of the Year by NDVMA for her actions.

Hero of the Year  
Cont. page 2

# Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies

---

## ◆ Third Place

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Bracing for state cuts*  
**Frank Stanko**

## ◆ Second Place

- **Harvey, The Herald Press**  
*Investigation reveals charges of drugs,  
bribery, corruption*  
**Anne Ehni**

# Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Washburn, The Leader-News  
*Drug market boiling over*  
Alyssa Meier

## Drug market boiling over

*Record-setting bust reflects growing meth problem*

BY ALYSSA MEIER

Editor

A 25-pound drug bust near Turtle Lake last week is evidence of a rapidly-booming drug market in McLean County, and targeted efforts by local law enforcement to combat the problem.

McLean County Sheriff J.R. Kerzmann had mixed feelings after a record-setting drug seizure south of Turtle Lake last week. The bust, which uncovered over 22 pounds of meth in a car's hidden compartment, is cause for celebration, but also for concern, Kerzmann said.

"It's a proud moment for our department, but it's sad in the same sense that we have this big of a problem in the state," Kerzmann said.

An officer driving on Highway 41 north of Turtle Lake Oct. 10 observed a vehicle with out-of-state plates driving erratically on the road. After pulling the driver over, the deputy noticed some red flags.

"When the traffic stop was made, (the officer) asked her some questions, and she said she was going to a baby shower in Fargo, and then it was in Parkshak," McLean County Detective Aaron Matties said. "She couldn't keep her story straight."

The driver, 34 year old Selica Feaster of Sacramento, Calif., consented to a search of her vehicle, a seemingly-risky



McLean County Sheriff J.R. Kerzmann holds up a box full of confiscated drugs inside the department's evidence room, which is becoming crowded as a result of increased drug activity in the county. The box contains the full 22.09 pounds of meth and 2.15 pounds of marijuana seized in last week's record-setting drug bust.

ALYSSA MEIER

decision made intentionally, Matties said.

"She let us search, she consented right away, which helps her because we don't run the dog," Matties said. "Then, if we search

the car and don't find anything, she thinks she'll get let go."

Matties said a K9 unit would have immediately sniffed out the drugs hidden in the car. Instead, officers took their time searching.

uncovering suspicious elements throughout the vehicle.

"There was a homemade cover over the wheel in the trunk,"

Drug market page 9

# Reporting: Large Weeklies

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Crosby, The Journal  
*Concern expressed after standoff*  
Brad Nygaard

## ◆ Third Place

- Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer  
*Watford City couples survive Las Vegas shooting*  
Betsy Ryan

## ◆ Second Place

- Bottineau Courant  
*Fecho comes home from Pearl Harbor*  
Scott Wagar



# Reporting: Large Weeklies

## First Place

- Garrison, McLean County Independent  
*Death of Roseglen*  
Alyssa Adam

### The death of a booming community

Roseglen sees no celebration for centennial

BY KYRA ADAM

It isn't the Roseglen centennial year, but people celebrating Roseglen, he says, there was still for the 100th. This year, Roseglen celebrates its centennial, with a lot of people.

There will be no parade, no fireworks and no pageantry during the week of the centennial in Roseglen, but a quiet celebration with a shared sense of pride.

The leaders of the Roseglen area and the residents of the town have often shared a sense of pride.

"It's been a tremendous change. We just don't have the same people anymore," she said. "It's sad but it's the way it is."

Kidder explained about the past in Roseglen.

"We use to have a community hall with a lot of activities. Now the hall is gone," she said. "We had a general store and sold everything, from to paint, everything anyone wanted the store got it for them, and now there's not a store just the post office."

Along with the store and hall, Kidder said the bar was closed but never opened again.

"So that's changing there with nothing going on," she said. "It's just the post office and an gas station but that we still have that. It's open on most every day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m."

Kidder said the people near Roseglen also are fortunate enough to have a country church.

"That church use to be full on Sunday mornings and now there are only an 40 people," she said. "I don't know, it's kind of sad."

Kidder said the community planning for the big centennial.

"We wanted to have for that, like my grandpa we had three weeks of people," she said. "I can see the food committee and we had food from three morning food and everything. That had a huge area."

Kidder said she couldn't hardly believe the celebration had been such a great success.

"We wanted to do it ourselves," she said.

An Kidder said, Roseglen isn't always a quiet ghost town. Roseglen has a history that

is changed to however, but the old-timers don't want to see the town to be Roseglen. During its history, Roseglen had various plans of business. At one time, the town used mostly in its homes, there were two general merchandise stores, a hardware store, restaurant, garage, community hall, bank, and a barber shop.

The town was established by W.C. Clement in 1870, and was known as the Roseglen State Bank. Some of the first people brought stores to it.

When things began to slow at Roseglen, Mr. Clement decided to liquidate the bank and, in 1875, the bank moved to West. One week later, however, the bank moved, the bank sold, and that's how the town was known again, and the bank added.

Roseglen came very close to getting a railroad, intending to add two branches and the route of track to the Great Northern Railroad, which on the railroad grade was started near Roseglen, and about four miles of track was laid before work was stopped, and the crew pulled out.

Before the railroad came a mine for the area. It was all open mine, used by workers to the north. In 1885, Patrick Clement worked on an open mine to what is now known as Clement's Mine. When the mine was opened to the community as a mine, he had set a horizontal shaft.

When other businesses and workers arrived, Patrick's Mine was added to those who came to the town. The Clement mine was the goldmine of the region, having large gardens in which there were gardens and many other vegetables, starting their land in large mine, which could be used or sold to their neighbors.

Their post office could have gardens and vegetable plant stand, without anything.

The early residents made their homes out of whatever material was available, the brick used. Some brick and wood, others to the paper shacks. When, as soon as they were able, built better stone houses, which were usually constructed from a coal mine the area, or from brick.

By using the people from Roseglen Township led that they needed a post office, so the mail was sent to what is now West Hill Township, but was originally known as the Roseglen Post Office.

A post office for the establishment of a post office was signed and



and to the Post Department in 1884, although a hotel with the assistance of its early citizens (the public houses at Roseglen).

The town submitted some Bill, Clement, Sapping, Kidder, then, and several of the town names were rejected by the post office. A group of men then met at the Roseglen Post Office for the purpose of finding a name for the new post office.

A group of men at a meeting sought the aid of one of the men, and he suggested that the "rose" be combined with neighbor's surname, Clement, and the name "Roseglen" was submitted to the Post Department. They chose that the name be "Roseglen" and accepted it.

The post office was open for six months before the next delivery route was established in Roseglen. During this time, John Sapping, the Postmaster, made the trip to West every day to pick up the mail and bring it back to the Roseglen Post Office.

The post office remained on the main highway from 1884 to 1885, when it was moved to its current location, after the Roseglen business was moved back to that time, John Sapping was the Postmaster.

Mr. Peter Kidder took the first large house in 1885. In 1885, a part of the Post Office building was built and opened to the community. These workers to have a chance of getting their mail by wagon for it in West or Roseglen. The land was to be distributed by lottery, those with the best descriptions of the best chance at the land.

In 1885, a coal mine was opened in Roseglen Township. The mine was an underground mine located on the side of a hill. John Sapping and Bill Roseglen owned the mine.

The owner of the Roseglen Mine, John Roseglen, was with a large mine on the hill of 1885. He worked through a plan to make a mine while developing, one thing to mine in his area. The

mine to the nearest neighbor, who took him to see by Richard. He died before reaching the doctor. The mine was then taken over by Bill Roseglen.

The price of coal was one dollar per ton but followed an about twenty five cents at the mine.

The Roseglen School District was organized in 1885, during the following to purchase on the school property. John Sapping, one thing to mine in his area. The



A weathered wood sign hangs off the side of what was the flower shop bar. Evidence left to hang on the doorway leading to the entrance of the business, which is located shut.

held to a horizontal shaft on the front street. To raise the shaft, a wheel building was built. It was known as the Stone Wheel.

The legend is, the operation of Roseglen Township that had been within the first Roseglen Indian Reservation and the Roseglen School District continued, to become known as Roseglen School District No. 12.

On March 9, 1885, the petition for incorporation was granted, and, on March 24, 1885, Roseglen

# *Reporting: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*STD cases up in ND, Stutsman*  
**Katie Fairbanks**

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Coming Home*  
**Frank Stanko**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Dickinson Press**  
*The last straw*  
**Iain Woessner**

# Reporting: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
*Holler deals with PTSD*  
Elizabeth Hackenburg

### “I’m going to tell my story”

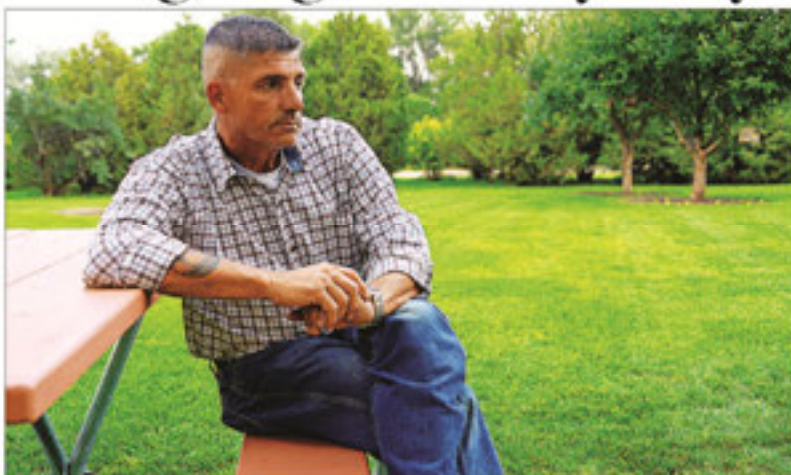


Photo courtesy of Williston Herald

Williston police officer Will Holler was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder in June after returning a prisoner custody. He is now sought help and fighting for benefits with the North Dakota Workforce Safety and Insurance, despite the state's denial of his claim.

#### Williston officer fights for benefits after traumatic call results in PTSD

BY ELIZABETH HACKENBURG  
www.willistonherald.com

A Williston police officer who was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder several months ago after responding to a shooting call is fighting for financial assistance from a state agency that helps workers who are injured on the job.

Officer Will Holler says he is paying for medical treatment, including psychiatric visits and medications, with his own money, and has appealed to North Dakota Workforce Safety and Insurance three times to help cover the costs after

his claim was denied.

The agency told Holler that under the state's Century Code, physical injuries, as well as mental health that is accompanied by physical injury, are eligible for compensation, but "a mental injury arising from mental stimulus" is not covered.

As a result, Holler's claim was denied, an adjuster told him in a letter.

The issue seems to be fairly clear-cut according to officials at the agency, and despite the assistance of a court hearing that Holler said he received from an adjuster, Chase Carlson, deputy director of Work-

force Safety and Insurance, said that he is not aware of pending judicial action.

"WSI has no knowledge of a hearing," he wrote in an email. "NECC 63-03.10-04 defines a compensable injury as 'injury by accident arising out of and in the course of business employment' supported by medical evidence in the listing of what is defined as an injury and what is specifically excluded, 'a mental injury arising from mental stimulus' is excluded."

The agency, while sympathetic to Holler's situation, is essentially bound by that statute, Workforce Safety

and Insurance Director Bryan Elphel said in a statement.

"There is no mechanism in North Dakota Century Code that allows WSI to pay for mental injury such as PTSD or any other health services, without a physical injury on the job. The last time the North Dakota legislature looked at this issue was during the 2011 session, and the bill was defeated."

No information was available on the number of claims the agency receives from workers suffering from PTSD. Holler, 33, has been on unpaid medical leave since mid-June, after he began

experiencing nightmares and other symptoms as a result of an experience he had about two months prior.

He was on duty in late May when a 911 caller reported that a young woman was threatening suicide. Holler was the first to arrive at the apartment, where he was met at the door by a woman who said she'd taken a gun from her friend who'd tried to use it on herself.

Out of the corner of his eye, Holler saw another woman running down the hallway. In an instant, she'd kicked

# Reporting: Large Dailies

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Moorhead tornado sirens*  
Archie Ingersoll, Tu-Uyen Tran

## ◆ Third Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*The geography of cancer*  
Pamela Knudson

## ◆ Second Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*Campbell makes run at Heitkamp*  
Sam Easter, John Hageman

# Reporting: Large Dailies

## Officer-involved shooting sparks further questions

Incident pits safety concerns against mental health issues

CAROLINE GRUESKIN  
Bismarck Tribune

When Mandan Police officers arrived at 502 Fourth Ave. N.E. on April 14, they entered through a hallway splashed with blood, unsure what they'd find inside.

A neighbor had called in a fight downstairs, and four officers were dispatched. The first to enter the split-level duplex was Sgt. Nicholas Pynnemon, and, as he pushed through an open door, he heard a woman say, "put the knife down," the officer told Bureau of Criminal Investigation agents who investigated the incident.

Gun out, Pynnemon walked to a back bedroom. There, he encountered Ivan Wilson and a woman whose name is redacted in reports released under an open records request to the attorney general's office.

Wilson was holding a Paula Dean kitchen knife in his right hand, Pynnemon told BCI. His left hand was bleeding, and the woman stood on the opposite side of the bedroom. Pynnemon said he pulled her out of there, for fear she might be injured. At the left, she asked Pynnemon not to kill Wilson, Pynnemon told BCI. He said he would not, because that was not his intention.

Pynnemon turned back into the room and observed Wilson holding the knife to his own neck. He recalled telling Wilson to put down the knife. When he would not, he used his Taser on Wilson in an effort to keep him from harming himself. Pynnemon told BCI, a move that falls within department policy. At first, Wilson fell back, but then he got up, which Pynnemon said was abnormal.

Now, Pynnemon recalled, the knife changed directions - to Pynnemon not Wilson. So, he dropped the Taser and pulled his handgun. Wilson allegedly took one to two steps toward Pynnemon, who said he feared for his life and fired five



Ivan Wilson

to six shots. Pynnemon holstered his weapon and tried CPR. But it was too late, and less than two minutes after he arrived, the 24-year-old ex-Marine from New Town was dead from gunshot to the chest.

Mandan County Assistant Male's Attorney Gabrielle Golan reviewed the shooting investigation and concluded the it was justified.

Mandan Police spokesman Lt. Pat Haug added that the incident, while tragic, is an example of an officer doing everything in his power to avoid pulling his gun.

"He tried everything in his power to stop it," Haug said.

Pynnemon's attorney, Justin Vinje, said in a statement that the officer could not comment further on the case, per department policy.

"There was an extensive review, and the state determined that Sgt. Pynnemon's actions were warranted under the circumstances," Vinje said. "In my own opinion, Nick probably saved someone's life that day, and I know that he is doing his best to move forward and continue serving the community."

But a high school classmate of Wilson said friends and family are questioning what her police could have tried harder to talk to him, as he might have posed a greater danger to himself than police.

"He was just a veteran having a PTSD moment," said Larissa Danks, a radio announcer in New Town, who has talked about the situation with Wilson's family.

## ◆ First Place

### ■ Bismarck Tribune

*Officer involved shooting sparks further questions*

**Caroline Grueskin**



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Reporting  
Series*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# Reporting Series: Small Weeklies

## SHOPPING SMALL AND FRIENDLY

By ALLAN TINKER

The weather cooperated with Small Business Saturday in North Dakota, bringing shoppers out for special buys, tasty treats, grab bags and door prizes.

In McClusky Holen's Super Valu and McClusky Rexall Drug were both open for business, of which there was a steady stream. Small Business Saturday

was reported to be successful in North Dakota, with local restaurants, pubs, specialty, and clothing stores showing the most traffic, with coffee shops the store most customers wished to find as they shopped.



Ariene Bentz, half of the Bentz Supply Store ownership, was a customer at Holen's Super Valu, where owner Diane Holen bagged Bentz' purchases.



Showing everyone where to sign up for door prizes or try their luck at the grab bags is Holen's Super Valu clerk Lynn Helm.

## ◆ First Place

- McClusky Gazette  
*Shopping small*  
Allan Tinker

# Reporting Series: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- New Rockford Transcript  
*The 3 Million Dollar Question*  
Amy Wobbema

## ◆ Third Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Child care coverage*  
Cole Short

## ◆ Second Place

- Hankinson, News-Monitor  
*Cyber bullying victims often  
do not report attacks*  
Karen Speidel, Frank Stanko,  
Carrie McDermott



# Reporting Series: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Carrington, Foster County Independent  
*Midkota school bond referendum*  
Erik Gjovik

### Midkota to vote on \$7.4m renovation

New gymnasium, cafeteria at Glenfield, bathroom facilities, entryway in Binford —



Midkota High School floor plan

This floor plan for a proposed new addition to Midkota High School would add new classroom space, a gym with regulation-size floor and bleachers with concessions area, and several parent-parking rooms into new classrooms. The original school building, built in 1974 and located adjacent to the present school on the north side, would be razed.

(The general contract estimate shown below is for 10

BY ERIC GJOVIK  
OF BISMARCK

Voters in Midkota Public School District No. 7 will be going to the polls on Tuesday, February 21, to decide on a planned \$7.4 million dollar renovation/renovating project to the high school in Glenfield and Binford school in Binford.

The project will be funded with general-obligation bonds totaling \$6.4 million, with the remaining \$1 million coming from the school district's General Fund.

Most of the costs will focus on a planned addition to the high school building on the east side of the present school, which will feature a brand-new gymnasium, bleachers, restrooms and administrative offices, along with three new classrooms.

The project, according to plans provided by Superintendent Lee Dale, covers 44,281 square feet of space. New construction will total 26,627 sq. ft., with the removal of existing square footage of 17,657 sq. ft.

Dale said the planning process for undertaking this facility has been several years in the making.

"There have been some discussions over the past few years, with research conducted this past year," said Dale. "The district hired an architectural (ACOR) and a construction management firm (Cousins



and Cousins) to help us through the process."

The superintendent gave several reasons for the district's decision to move forward with the project.

"We need this because we have to address health and accessibility through the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act), along with current issues with our heating system and security," Dale said.

He also added that the overall condition of the high school is something to be something to be greatly costly, with the latest addition with the original 1974 structure over 30 years old. Two portable structures were erected to the east in the 1990s, which would be removed for reorganized to make room for the new construction.

As part of the project, the first school building, which is connected to the 1964 addition via stairs on the north side, would be demolished.

The present administrative offices would become a staff break room and the current cafeteria space would be reworked into new social science and English classrooms. The computer lab will move to the east side of the 1964 building, just off the library.

From the old school, the title I, business and science classrooms will move to the new facility. There also include a

### Could dome face removal?

Snow plowing costly, no help likely from state; spring flooding —

BY LEANA A. LOMA  
OF BISMARCK

The Foster County Commission learned at their meeting last week that removing the dome on the courthouse could

be an option to the falling structure, instead of fixing money for repair.

During the meeting held on Tuesday, January 17, the Board Small took minutes about District of KAN, who presented an

estimate on the repair of the dome.

He explained how the dome could be fixed, but it would be a shame to not repair it, but this based more on the cost of approximately \$420,770.

He explained that was had in Copenhagen."

District reiterated that in two years, the dome will be in a critical condition and it will cost more to repair.

Via telephone, Commissioner Rocky Magill said the courthouse is the most significantly historical building in the county and it would be a shame to not repair it, but this based more on the cost of approximately \$420,770.

He explained that was had in Copenhagen."



See COUNTY, page 2

See MIDKOTA, page 2

# Reporting Series: Large Weeklies

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Bottineau Courant  
*Jail escape*  
Scott Wagar

## ◆ Third Place

- Garrison, McLean County Independent  
*CANDISC*  
Alyssa Adam

## ◆ Second Place

- Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer  
*School Enrollment*  
Neal Shipman

# Reporting Series: Large Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

### ■ Crosby, The Journal

*Standoff continuing coverage*

**Cecile Wehrman, Brad Nygaard**

## Standoff ends with no injuries

By Cecile Wehrman

A standoff between officers from five law enforcement agencies and a Crosby man created a Valentine's Day bang for residents who were awakened around 3 a.m. Tuesday to the sound of what is believed to have been semi-automatic gunfire.

Eight hours later, Jeremy Kessler, 35, was taken into custody after a series of six "flash bangs" – concussion rounds and tear gas – used to bring the standoff to a peaceful conclusion.

Video circulating by text within minutes of the arrest shows Kessler on the ground in

front of his residence. He was quickly disarmed by officers and restrained, around 11 a.m.

A few hours earlier, Divide County Deputy Zach Schroeder called the situation "fluid," but contained.

According to Schroeder, a deputy who lives a few blocks from the scene was awakened by gunfire and officers quickly determined the source – a home on the 200 block of 4th Street Northwest.

Nearby residents were evacuated for their safety and by 3:45 a.m., a reverse 911 call went out

(See STANDOFF, Page 7)



A tactical team from the Minot Police Department disembarks from an armored personnel carrier in northwest Crosby on Tuesday morning.

# *Reporting Series: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*Dry Stories*  
**Keith Norman**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Shriners Walk*  
**Kathleen Leinen**

# Reporting Series: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*Point of View*  
Karen Speidel,  
Carrie McDermott,  
Frank Stanko

## READY FOR THE NEXT STEP



Hamner Burns, top photo, and Lakin Klauk, above, are among the many area high school seniors who are preparing themselves for college next year. PHOTOS BY KAREN SPEIDEL, DAILY NEWS

Nerves, excitement surrounds seniors preparing for their high school graduation – but Point of View wants to know if they are ready for higher education

BY KAREN SPEIDEL, DAILY NEWS  
news@dailynews.com

Preparing each student for high school graduation may seem like an impossible task. The many variables spring forth in this preparation, not the least of which is the work ethic and personality of each student.

College readiness is not all about ACT scores and high school transcripts.

Hankinson High School guidance counselor Danielle Luebke said there are just too

many elements to fully prepare each student.

Since it is seemingly impossible, small school districts do what they can to get students ready for that next level.

Some students may never be comfortable in a four-year school, pointed out Kent Dennis, Hankinson High School principal. The idea of being “swallowed up” by large lecture halls has them

buffed and nervous. Students at Hankinson are used to small class sizes, so when some find themselves

rubbing elbows with hundreds of other students in a lecture hall, it

may only take one year at a large university before they switch gears and transfer to a smaller school such as Valley City State University or University of Mary.

“To the best of our ability, we get these kids ready for college,” Dennis said. “Throwing our students into schools like (North Dakota State University) or UND, that is a very big challenge for kids to adapt to.”

Which is why Luebke

## Point OF VIEW

wants to create a stronger partnership with North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton. While offering strong academic oppor-

tunities, this college also has smaller class sizes. She has taken middle and high school students to campus at different times in the year to

showcase what NDSCS could offer, everything from allowing students

SEE POINT OF VIEW PAGE 4B

# Reporting Series: Large Dailies



---



## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Grand Forks Herald  
*Health Care Checkup*  
Staff

## ◆ Third Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Radon exposure series*  
Robin Huebner

## ◆ Second Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Savanna Greywind series*  
Blake Gumprecht, Dave Olson, Tu-Uyen Tran,  
Helmut Schmidt, Robin Huebner, Kim Hyatt

# Reporting Series: Large Dailies



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017



Photos by Andrew Haffner / Grand Forks Herald  
Melissa Kruse recently opened Quick Draw Bar Studio in downtown Williston. She said a shop like this wouldn't have worked during the boom and while things are not so busy as they were five years ago, the town can support an art studio like this.

## Community finds calm after frantic years

By Andrew Haffner  
Grand Forks Herald

**WILLISTON, N.D.**  
It was a quiet afternoon in a downtown Williston art studio.

A painter might quickly recognize the price of the "quickdraw" art studio by the distinctive brushes with paint-dipped handles that hang in their studios. Once inside, one would find supplies lining the walls and stools standing at the ready in the center of the studio room, waiting for students to sit before them.

Watercolors and acrylics might be an unexpected find in a place that gained international attention — and well-known names — as an oil-field boomtown. But then owner Melissa Kruse was optimistic behind the sign: "It's been open for three weeks now," Kruse said, looking around a room that, not long ago, stood as an empty shell. "It still smells fresh in here."

Like many who came here in Williston, Kruse is a transplant, brought to northern North Dakota by the promise of lucrative work in a hot economy last August. Today, some two years after plunging oil prices slowed the frantic pace of life in the state's oil fields, she's part of a new class of business



A well site sits near apartments in Williston.

owners taking root in what many in town describe as a city transformed, a place that's now striving to regulate its natural wealth while fostering a more family-friendly community.

### NEW ROOTS

Kruse, who is originally from Wisconsin, never worked in the oil field, but she did spend two of her five years in town as a journalist at the local newspaper, the Williston Herald. She says that work introduced her to people from other parts of the country who had flocked to the patch, working new prospects much on the land.

Over time, she says she "felt I wanted to contribute all these hopes and dreams of what brought them here, to bring them to mine, and what they wanted it to be."

## AFTER THE BOOM

**TRAILER:** The boom is over in North Dakota's Oil Patch. How has the Bakken played to the town since its frantic past?

**Monday:** Oil Patch cities struggled to absorb the flood of workers into small towns, and the downturn later found workers under the cover of their build-outs.

**Wednesday:** The boom made North Dakota an oil state, but coal, wind and other sources also find our energy industry.

**Thursday:** Six years and more gradually took root, but how to approach the Williston economy? Development officer and resident in the state the operators today.

**Friday:** Six years and more gradually took root, but how to approach the Williston economy? Development officer and resident in the state the operators today.

**Oil Boom Page 25**



## First Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*After the Oil Boom*  
April Baumgarten,  
Andrew Haffner



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Feature  
Reporting*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION





# *Feature Reporting: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Parshall, Mountrail County Record  
*Cemetery holds untold stories*  
Jerry W. Kram

## ◆ Third Place

- New Town News  
*Building the future*  
Jerry W. Kram

## ◆ Second Place

- Lakota American  
*He's Home*  
Katherine Sears

# Feature Reporting: Small Weeklies



## First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press**  
**Closing Shop: Edinburg's barber hangs up his clippers**  
**Allison Olimb**

### Closing shop Edinburg's barber hangs up his clippers



Left: Greg Hahnberg writes while waiting for his haircut on Leffley's last day of cutting hair. Cutting his hair out in the shop is the way, Leffley makes sure he's got good before making his afternoon. The barber's last day of cutting hair is the last day of his life.



Photo by Greg Hahnberg

**By Allison Olimb**  
**of The Press**  
**EDINBURG, N.D.** — Ask Leffley Paul what he's doing behind the sign in the shop. "I'm not working for the business anymore. I'm just here for the love of it."

As a point in his career, Edinburg's barber shop could be closed today. But on Leffley's last day of cutting hair, he's not leaving. When he last shaved his hair, Saturday was a day for the shop. He could be open until 11 or 12

at night on the town was happening. Then closed, and with it, the barber did as well. He's 67 years old, Leffley recently had gone to a hospital schedule. He would need his 2000+ clients, and open for just a few days to finish before closing his doors for good, hanging up his clippers for the last time.

His old shop, built in 1954, has been a constant flow of customers in Edinburg. Customers from all over the town usually come straight in to visit. Every one has a story and a connection to it. Some of the regular customers in the old shop had

would travel to the morning hours to give a few cuts.

Leffley has had customers come from all over the town since he opened the shop. The first customer was a young boy in Walsh County. Leffley has had three generations of clients. At one point, he had 30 17-year-olds coming through his doors at one time — the most from any one family.

His career spans 47 years. Right out of high school he took a county job. Working heavy equipment until someone suggested that a career as a barber would be where the

real money is.

He went to Mohr Barber College in Fargo. His first job was in Devils Lake, N.D., working for 15 a decade. His hair was straight, waiting for the new hair on the job was eventually decided by his hair in the Grand Forks and his hair in the Grand Forks. He had a lot of hair in the Grand Forks and a lot of hair in the Grand Forks.

It was in 1998 when he met with Leffley. He decided that his hair was in Edinburg, where they would start their family, to that

time there were 18 barbers in Walsh County.

Through the years they have seen the town change. Back in the '50s Edinburg was a little different with more grocery stores, two of which were department stores, a variety store, a restaurant, a drug store, and that's about it. And he has seen the business change from a \$1 a cut to the final price of \$11.

**Leffley the barber**  
**Cont. page 2**

# *Feature Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- **Bowbells, Burke County Tribune**  
*Baby Presley Born in Ambulance*  
Lisa Thomas

## ◆ Third Place

- **Washburn, The Leader-News**  
*Making strides*  
Alyssa Meier

## ◆ Second Place

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Hitting the trail*  
Karen Speidel

# Feature Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

### ■ Hillsboro Banner

*Birds of a feather*

**Cory Erickson**



Allen: Detail of local Hillsboro man, Wilbur, an abandoned Canadian goose abandoned by Datto in Hillsboro last week, on the farm in north east of Ohio.



Wilbur: The article Datto's pickup was one of a recent trip over Hillsboro.

## Hillsboro man tends flock of new feathered friends

**A**fter Datto's abandoned flock added another feathered friend earlier this month, Wilbur, an abandoned Canadian goose abandoned by Datto in Hillsboro last week, on the farm in north east of Ohio. Already in the process of taking care of five abandoned geese on his farm 4 miles east of Hillsboro, Datto took in a sixth goose - named Wilbur by Datto's son - last week. Datto also officially adopted the latest addition to his flock, the Wilbur may have adopted him. In a night in bed, Wilbur said his feathered friends have begun to fly and as Datto's birds on the border to get the replacement goose strong enough for the migration across the fall. "I thought it would just be Wilbur following me around," Datto says of GEESE

Continued on page 7

KIDNEY  
BY  
CORY  
ERICKSON/  
HILLSBORO  
BANNER

# Feature Reporting: Large Weeklies

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer  
*Keene parents seeing double*  
Betsy Ryan

## ◆ Third Place

- Grafton, Walsh County Record  
*Just by being Charlotte*  
Chelsea Wysocki

## ◆ Second Place

- Lisbon, Ransom County Gazette  
*Entire community rocked by  
death of local teenager*  
Jeanne Sexton-Brown

# Feature Reporting: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer Couple survives winter blizzard in Christmas miracle Jack Dura

### Couple survives winter blizzard in 'Christmas miracle'

*Pregnant with twins and stuck in snowdrifts, Zurchers try to walk home*

By Jack Dura  
Former Staff Writer

Adam Zurcher says it's a Christmas miracle his family survived the Dec. 25 blizzard that stranded them along the road to their home, leaving him and his pregnant wife to walk home in -20 wind chills and snowdrifts.

The Sweet Home, Ore., natives had left Samantha Zurcher's parents' house earlier that evening, turning west onto 21st Street Northwest as the notorious blizzard was beginning.

"As soon as we got off the highway, we're in 2 feet of snow and we're down in the ditch," Adam said. The couple's Range Rover, equipped with hydraulic lifts, was unable to get back on the road, even after 90 minutes of digging by hand, the hydraulics froze, he added.

Zurcher, 32, then called his father-in-law, Frank Updegraw, who lives north of Watford City. Updegraw drove out to 21st Street without incident, Zurcher said, before turning onto the street and going into the ditch.

"So now he's behind us about a quarter mile," Adam said. "By this time, it's 7 o'clock, it's dark, the snow's coming down hard, we're all stuck, it's white-out blizzard."

He added they knew the storm was coming, but forecasts showed it appearing to head south before the couple left Samantha's parents' house.

Adam Zurcher then called the McKenzie County Sheriff's Office, which dispatched three deputies, all getting stuck on the highway, Zurcher said, though he was able to speak with another deputy who Zurcher said recommended they walk home before the worst of the blizzard.

Calling Updegraw, the Zurchers planned for Samantha's father-in-law to walk to them and then to their house, but before his cell phone died, Updegraw said he couldn't make it through the drifts, Adam said.

With a 5-foot snowdrift over the

Range Rover and snow coming in through the heater, the Zurchers gathered their Christmas, with one under Adam's shirt and one wrapped in a blanket in Samantha's arms, and set out for home.

With an eighth of a tank of fuel, Adam Zurcher said it was the right decision to walk.

"We got 200 yards and my pants are a short of ice," he said. "She's a short of ice."

Dressed in street clothes, the couple made it to a neighbor's driveway as Adam yelled for their neighbor while Samantha struggled in snowdrifts.

"She's on her hands and knees," Zurcher said. "She can't move north or south. She's had it. It's miserable."

Their neighbor heard them and brought them inside where they warmed up, he added, with one Christmas tree death as it stranded, deflated and went limp during the walk.

Samantha's hands and feet were purple for four or five days afterward, Adam said, and she could only crawl the next day.

He dealt with a purple heel from snow packed inside his left shoe, he added.

Meanwhile, the couple's unborn twins had stopped moving.

"We thought we'd lost the kids," Zurcher said. "They didn't move for another 26 hours, so we were both in tears thinking we'd lost them. We both thought they were gone."

Fortunately, they both began moving within hours of each other the next day, he added.

"They're fully back to normal," he said. "The kids are moving like crazy."

As for Updegraw, he was able to get home safely after a neighbor's backhoe pulled him out and plowed the road in front of them, Zurcher added, early Monday morning, Dec. 26.

"That was the other part of the story, was worrying about him," he said, adding that his father-in-law got



**BLIZZARD SURVIVORS** . . . . . Adam and Samantha Zurcher survived walking through tall snowdrifts to their neighbor's house in -20 wind chills during the Christmas Day blizzard, wearing a light jacket and the clothes pictured above. They and their two-Christmas had been stuck in a ditch along the road to their home with Samantha's father stuck behind them as the blizzard bore down on them.

(Photo courtesy of Adam Zurcher)

home just as he and his mother-in-law were able to speak by phone.

The Zurchers' Christmas, Dante and Bentley, also pulled through.

"To me, it's a Christmas miracle," Zurcher said. "I don't see it as the worst Christmas of my life. To me, I got my family home safe, my wife's OK, none of us were seriously injured. Our babies made it. I can't

thank God enough for what we went through. It's humbling. Now we know how to handle storms like this."

With expensive emergency lifts for their vehicles now and their knowledge about severe winter weather, the family is better prepared, Adam said.

"I take a blizzard warning a helluva lot more serious than I used to," he added.

# *Feature Reporting: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Duel with the dead*

**Frank Stanko**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Dickinson Press**

*Call to Coachella: DHS graduate will perform*

**Ellie Potter**

# Feature Reporting: Small Dailies



## FOWLERS DISCOVER NEW SPECIES OF DINOSAUR

How many? Larry Fowler identified a new species of dinosaur from the Princeton University collection. He says the dinosaur was about the size of a car. The fossil was found in the Princeton area. Fowler says the dinosaur was about the size of a car. The fossil was found in the Princeton area. Fowler says the dinosaur was about the size of a car. The fossil was found in the Princeton area.

**D**iscovering a new species of dinosaur is a big deal. It's a discovery that can change our understanding of the world we live in. It's a discovery that can change our understanding of the world we live in. It's a discovery that can change our understanding of the world we live in. It's a discovery that can change our understanding of the world we live in.



Dinosaur fossils are often found in the Princeton area.

Continuation, but with no more than a few lines. The article was a continuation of the article from the previous page. It was a continuation of the article from the previous page. It was a continuation of the article from the previous page.



What they do have is the discovery of a new species of dinosaur. It's a discovery that can change our understanding of the world we live in. It's a discovery that can change our understanding of the world we live in. It's a discovery that can change our understanding of the world we live in.

When Fowler says the dinosaur was about the size of a car, he is referring to the fossil. The fossil was found in the Princeton area. Fowler says the dinosaur was about the size of a car. The fossil was found in the Princeton area.

It has been reported that the dinosaur was about the size of a car. The fossil was found in the Princeton area. Fowler says the dinosaur was about the size of a car. The fossil was found in the Princeton area.

## ◆ First Place

### ■ Dickinson Press

*Fowlers discover new species of dinosaur*

Linda Sailer



# *Feature Reporting: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Spectacle of snakes*  
**Brad Dokken**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*City auction*  
**Caroline Gueskin**

# Feature Reporting: Large Dailies



Photo: Steve Peltz was created on the farm this is not baseball field, complete with bleachers, a dugout, scoreboard and an announcer. Steve Tuckel (Chattanooga, TN) was around the house after taking the field and began to think he had found a great spot on July 25.

## 'IT'S HERE FOR ANYBODY'



### Baseball field built on a farm near Fertile, Minn., becoming summer spot

By Chris Murphy  
murphy@fertilepress.com

**Fertile, Minn.**  
The town, as pleased as punch, has a right to be proud of its new baseball field. The new spot, at 2.5 acres, is a real gem for the sports fans who love to play in the outfield at great prices. The new field is a great spot to sit on the grass, especially in the summer heat, sitting at the outfield fence. Steve Tuckel's idea of this new

spot is to build a great field for playing, along with the hot dogs, but he was joined by other residents who wanted to build on the grounds for the neighborhood in right field. The neighborhood had "Steve Tuckel's Home Run" on it.  
Steve Tuckel was the first to arrive with his daughter, Mimi, who was a high school student at the time with special needs.  
"I was going to get a picture of Mimi running on the field," Steve Tuckel said.  
"Yes, Sir," Mimi replied.

John McHenry's way "White House" was having over the ground. In the middle, McHenry was "Yes" that was it. Some of the best "Yes" were from that people, around with food, drink and like to do, would be sitting at the house's newly open, air conditioning, to see what else he had for the day.  
"Yes" that was it. Steve Tuckel was the first to arrive with his daughter, Mimi, who was a high school student at the time with special needs.  
"I was going to get a picture of Mimi running on the field," Steve Tuckel said.  
"Yes, Sir," Mimi replied.

FERTILE PRESS Page 10

## ◆ First Place

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*It's here for anybody*  
**Chris Murphy**



# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

## *Feature Reporting Series*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# Feature Reporting Series: Small Weeklies



Helen Holbrook displays the handmade Christmas card that will be sent to Mildred and Marvin Kusan. All the members of the McClusky Senior Center are pictured on the card. A crocheted angel, also made by Helen, sits to the right of the photograph.

## CARING ENOUGH TO SEND YOUR BEST

By ALLAN TINKER

The days seem long since the McClusky Senior Center members have seen their friends Marvin and Mildred Kusan.

The letters and cards from them indicated they missed their home community a great deal. Helen Holbrook took the opportunity to use her talents to help solve the loneliness feelings of her good friends.

The need designs in her own, as are many of the others she has made over the years. The members of the Senior Center are pictured around the greeting and printed on Helen's photographs.

Mildred already had received a birthday card from Helen, one she called "better than Hallmark." Now she will have another memory-filled, made by hand, gift from Helen.

Holbrook uses her own photos but designs on her program. She has been doing this since she joined the Senior Center in "what" 2000.

But her craft talents stretch back to her childhood, when she learned to sew, crochet, and patch. She added more talents in painting on wood, and



Granddaughter Serena in the dress Helen made for her and the other two girls in the wedding of daughter Jen. Serena is now in her 30's.

ing lamps, and strangely Accidents. She makes stuffed animals such as chick horses and presented an others and others for graduation gifts. The letters were even search facilities and could be photographed by the

graduates' friends and family. Crocheting talents? Count the ways: scarves, dresses, table runners, hats, and special family wedding dresses.

She learned from her mother the skills she uses today, adding experience to her skills that make her a gift giver of necessity.

One of 16 children, a middle child of Loren and Clifford Dodge, she has six older and several younger siblings and also to visit.

With husband Dale, they left the Shoshone County family farm in 2002, moving to their current lot home near the high school in the valley. Her home is filled with her completed projects, Christmas presents in progress and the smell of good things baking in the oven.

The cards as well as her other crafts are her own, made to fit the occasion thought through so carefully to see the stuffed animals, baby items, she made for the boys when they were little. "Oh they wouldn't let each other with the sticks," she smiled.

**CARING**  
continued on 1

## ◆ First Place

### ■ McClusky Gazette

*Caring enough to  
send your very best*

Allan Tinker

# *Feature Reporting Series: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **New Rockford Transcript**  
*Where Are They Now? alumni series*  
Kristi Frahm

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Unsung Heroes*  
Karen Speidel, Frank Stanko, Carrie McDermott

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Tioga Tribune**  
*Book release puts spotlight on Tioga's DeMoe clan*  
Cecile Wehrman

# Feature Reporting Series: Mid-Size Weeklies

## Coming up for air

“If I don't have the strength to walk away, then I don't have the strength to take care of my kids.”  
—Domestic Violence Victim

a survivor's story of domestic violence

By Ryan Johnson

The individual whose story appears below is not identified for her safety, and the privacy of her family. She will be referred to as “Katie,” which is not her actual name. In 2010, Katie could say she’d recently survived 20 years of domestic violence and 12 months in jail. Every year 1,000 women die from domestic violence across the U.S., (a

statistic, Katie felt as though she wasn't worthy of love. She couldn't see the only good person she could love and walk for the rest of her life. She had no friends, she had no family, she had no one to turn to. “I was alone,” she said. “I was alone.”

“I thought I was doing good,” Katie said. “I was doing good for my family. I was doing good for my kids. I was doing good for my future. I was doing good for my future.”

“I was alone,” she said. “I was alone.”

“I thought I was doing good,” Katie said. “I was doing good for my family. I was doing good for my kids. I was doing good for my future. I was doing good for my future.”

“I thought I was doing good,” Katie said. “I was doing good for my family. I was doing good for my kids. I was doing good for my future. I was doing good for my future.”

“I was alone,” she said. “I was alone.”

“I thought I was doing good,” Katie said. “I was doing good for my family. I was doing good for my kids. I was doing good for my future. I was doing good for my future.”



**TOYS R US ANNUAL INDOOR SALE**  
ND STATE FAIR CENTER - MINOT

SHOP 3 HOMES IN PICKED COUNTRIES! MODULAR AND PEX-TOE HOMES

**4 Day Sale!** Feb. 17-20

FRIDAY 10 AM - 7 PM  
SATURDAY 9 AM - 7 PM  
SUNDAY 10 AM - 5 PM  
MONDAY 9 AM - 2 PM

As low as \$79,999

As low as \$44,999

**TOYS R US**

www.toysrus.com 701-438-0039

## First Place

- Beulah Beacon

*Coming Up For Air*  
Kate Johnson

# *Feature Reporting Series: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Michelle Donarski ALS*  
Sue Matcha

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Faces of the Patch*  
Betsy Ryan

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Garrison, McLean County Independent**  
*Not So Ordinary People*  
Alyssa Adam

# Feature Reporting Series: Large Weeklies

## about a Girl



St. Luke's Medical Center therapy pool provides enriching activities to girl who has autism

She is the daughter of a...



The young woman...

## ◆ First Place

- Crosby, The Journal  
*About a Girl*  
Sydney Glasoe Caraballo



# *Feature Reporting Series: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Film reviews*

**Frank Stanko**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Point of View - Unsung Heroes*

**Karen Speidel, Frank Stanko, Carrie McDermott**

# Feature Reporting Series: Small Dailies



## Green thumb

A local greenhouse operator shares her expertise with our interns

**A** vibrant red flower is featured prominently on the left side of the article. The text is arranged in columns, with a small photograph of a person working in a greenhouse interspersed within the text. The article discusses the experience of a local greenhouse operator sharing her expertise with interns.

## ◆ First Place

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*Out and About*  
Katie Betz

# *Feature Reporting Series: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Seniors living solo*  
Janelle Vonasek

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Surviving the system*  
Kim Hyatt

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*BehiND the scenes at the museum*  
Amy Dalrymple, Jessica Holdman,  
Blair Emerson, Jack Dura

# Feature Reporting Series: Large Dailies



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

## THE BOOM'S BILL

After years of boom, Oil Patch cities paying off growth debt



David Tuan, Williston's city administrator, talks about the various upcoming infrastructure projects over the next couple of years.

By Andrew Haffner  
Grand Forks Herald  
Williston City, N.D., for North Dakota oil boom turned black gold into green for profits and private interests over its high-flying boom.

But now, leaders in Oil Patch cities that counted hundreds of millions of dollars to cope with the stretch of boom activity are focused on answering questions about how to pay off the real risk of high municipal debt while anticipating future spending needs.

"The thing to remember are the challenges that happened when similar communities had to build out infrastructure at a pace that couldn't be supported," said Greg Iverson, a member of the McKenzie County Board of Commissioners and Williston City's head of economic development. "The big one-year projects were all built within like five years here."

Iverson lists off new additions to the area that have been common installations in



The Rough Water Center in Williston City.

### AFTER THE BOOM

Today: Oil Patch cities scrambled to absorb the flood of workers into small towns. But the downturns leave towns straining under the cost of their build-outs.

Thursday: The boom made North Dakota an oil state, but coal, wind and other sources also had an energy industry.

Wednesday: Williston, North Dakota was not the only place feeling the oil downturn. Many businesses and their families in the boom.

Thursday: North Dakota has had its share of oil booms and busts, now do we prevent our economy from a vicious cycle?

City also went from a population of approximately 1,600 to 8,000, though he says "the initial outgrowth was as much as 11,000."

Putting in the amenities to handle that spike didn't come cheap, and the city now holds more than \$400 million in debt that it hopes to pay off within the next 30 years.

**OIL BOOM: Page A3**

## ◆ First Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*After the boom*  
April Baumgarten,  
Andrew Haffner



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Government  
Reporting*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Gov't. Reporting: Small Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **New Town News**

*School District buys Sunset Apartments*

**Jerry W. Kram**

# Gov't. Reporting: Small Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- **Medora, Billings County Pioneer**  
*Change in refinery plans questioned*  
**Richard Volesky**

## Change in refinery plans questioned

By Richard Volesky  
Editor/Reporter

MEDORA - With an armload of photocopies and printed documents, Laura Grzanic on Sept. 7 approached the Billings County Commission regarding her concerns about a change that developers of a proposed refinery made.

The Davis Refinery, which would be located between Fryborg and Belfield, is planned by Meridian Energy Group of Irvine, Calif. The company submitted a refinery-related application to the county in March 2016, and later received county approval. The company is now awaiting air quality and other state permits.

Meridian's 2016 application with

the county said that truck traffic for supplying crude oil and shipping refined products "will be minimized in favor of rail and pipeline transportation."

Grzanic, who lives along a road that would lead to the refinery, told the County Commission on Sept. 7 that she has been studying documents related to Meridian's requests for permits. A few other residents who indicated they shared Grzanic's concerns attended the meeting, but no one from Meridian attended. The meeting's agenda stated only that Grzanic would talk about "road concerns."

Refinery paperwork sent to the state regarding emissions and road dust in September 2016 labeled as

"With that many trucks, I'm afraid that Belfield and the surrounding area is going to be bumper to bumper ...,"

Laura Grzanic

being from Meridian and Vecpica USA, an engineering firm, states what are referred to as "assumptions" that crude oil would be brought into the refinery by rail, not trucking. Twenty five percent of the liquid products, except fuel oil, would be sent out by trucks. The estimated number of trucks per day was listed at 81.

Refinery products sent from the facility would include gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, fuel oil, butane and

others.

The same type of paperwork in March 2017 stated it was assumed that crude oil would arrive by pipeline, not trucking or rail. However, with refinery products considered, the number of trucks was revised to 170.

Grzanic in May contacted Craig Thorntonsen, permitting supervisor for the N.D. Department of Health's Division of Air Quality, about the change in the number of trucks. Ac-

ording to an e-mail she sent to him, she said it was her understanding that trucks would be used until a pipeline system is created. She asked him to consider the dust raised by trucks if they travelled unpaved roads, emissions created by idling trucks, failure of roads due to truck weights and speeding by drivers trying to meet schedules. Thorntonsen replied to Grzanic that such issues were important, but truck traffic, speed and road maintenance were under the purview of local officials. Grzanic therefore took that matter to the Sept. 7 meeting.

"With that many trucks, I'm afraid that Belfield and the surrounding area is going to be bumper

to bumper ...," Grzanic told the commissioners.

She also reminded commissioners of the county's comprehensive plan, a document intended to guide development in the county. The plan includes promoting a safe and adequate transportation system and providing a healthy and safe environment, and promoting small towns and rural lifestyles.

Commission Chairman Jim Arthaud told Grzanic that county roads are capable of handling the traffic.

A woman who didn't identify herself asked who would be responsible for road damage.

**Refinery**  
(Continued on Page 8)

# *Gov't. Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies*

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**

*Legislators challenged by the 2017 session*

**Frank Stanko**

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**

*Marsys Law not so easy*

**Karen Speidel**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Parents rally around Tot Spot*

**Cole Short**



# Gov't. Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies



## Petition seeks recall election

BY ALYSSA MEIER  
*Editor*

For the second time in a little over a year, a petition is circulating around town to replace the head of the city commission.

Resident Kristi Jager approached the Washburn City Commission Monday as chairman of the new petition, which seeks a recall election that would force commission president Larry Thomas to re-run for his position. Jager said a committee, which consists of her and four other residents, has received approval from the Secretary of State to gather signatures from community members.

"We find no pleasure in this task, but we also feel that our community has reached a point where we find it necessary to ask commissioner Larry Thomas to step down from his position as president of the commission," Jager stated.

Jager said the committee's motivation for pursuing Thomas's removal included his discussion of city matters that were not included on meeting agendas.

"This includes the opportunity for our citizens to be informed and participate in discussion," Jager said. "As citizens of Washburn, it is our right to be given that opportunity to discuss our city business and to have it listed on a published agenda."

The circulating petition also states Thomas violated open meeting laws, created a hostile work environment, behaved unprofessionally with the general public and showed an unwillingness to change. Jager said the committee would pursue the recall election, but preferred a more timely solution.

"We request that commissioner Thomas resign more dutifully so that our community can avoid the expense of a special election and move forward with our city business," Jager said.

Commissioner Keith Jacobson addressed Thomas directly, expressing some frustration over the situation and repetitive debates that had already been settled.

"Larry, you've done a lot of good things, but we keep going back to some of the same things we did a few weeks ago, and it's frustrating. It's very frustrating," Jacobson said.

Jacobson said he and commissioner Ronne Boehm had both stated previously

Petition page 11



## First Place

- Washburn, The Leader-News  
*Signature count reached*  
Alyssa Meier

# *Gov't Reporting: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Senate bill seeks to affirm state minerals*  
**Jack Dura**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**  
*Mystery lot to be sold at tax sale*  
**Brad Nygaard**

# Gov't Reporting: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Is the need for essential worker housing ending?*  
**Neal Shipman**

## Is the need for essential worker housing ending?

*City contemplates getting out of the landlord business*

By Neal A. Shipman  
Farmer Editor

When the rush to develop the Bakken and Three Forks oil formations exploded six years ago in western North Dakota, thousands of workers showed up on Watford City's doorsteps looking for a place to live while they worked in oilfield jobs.

With no housing or apartments available, mansions and other assorted workforce housing sprang up to fill the need. But it wasn't just the oil industry that couldn't find adequate housing for their employees. The McKenzie County Public School District No. 1 couldn't recruit new teachers nor could Watford City and McKenzie County fill openings in city or county government offices due to the lack of affordable housing.

The only solution that the school system, the city and the county had was to build their own housing for "essential workers."

And having affordable housing

for their employees worked as Wolf Run Village I and II were constructed and soon filled with teachers, law enforcement officers and other city and county employees who could not afford the \$2,000 per month rents that were being charged by apartment owners.

But the days of the apartment shortages in Watford City soon went away as more and more apartment buildings were constructed and new single family homes were built.

Today the 62 units that are in the two essential worker apartment complexes owned by Wolf Run Village LLC, a 501(c)3 comprised of the city, county and school, are only half full.

"We have become victims of our own success," states Curt Mosen, city administrator. "Two years ago, our apartments were packed full. Today, we're about half full."

According to Mosen, the idea of providing housing for essential city, county and school employees was to give them a chance to get settled into the community and ultimately move



### CITY PONDS SALE OF WOLF RUN VILLAGE . . . . .

With more housing options now available in Watford City, the city of Watford City is considering the sale of Wolf Run Village, an essential worker housing complex used by the city, county and school district.

(Former Photo by Neal A. Shipman)

into larger apartments or a home.

"And that is just what we are seeing now," states Mosen. "Our employees are buying homes and moving out of the Wolf Run Village apartments."

The city soon discovered, just as other private apartment owners found out when oil activity started waning as a result of lower oil prices and apartment rents began to tumble, lower rent prices and more vacancies quickly cut into the bottom line.

"It's all about debt service," states Mosen.

Currently, according to Mosen, the city, which is carrying a \$5 million debt for the Wolf Run Village apartments, is losing about \$10,000 a month.

Which is why Mosen and other Watford City council members think the time has come for the city to get out of the landlord business.

"At the height of the boom, we (the city), had to do it. This is a nonprofit

See Housing  
(Continued On Page 3)

# *Gov't Reporting: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Dickinson Press**

*Proposed tax cuts may help industry,  
but leave questions*

**Iain Woessner**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**

*Pay to Play*

**Keith Norman**

# Gov't. Reporting: Small Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
*Hub City day 2*  
Renée Jean

## Area leaders stump for continued hub city funding



Sen. Rich Wadnes, R-Dickinson, left, talks with Sen. Brad Bekkedahl, R-Williston, right, after a legislative hearing Thursday investigating the need for continued hub city funding.

BY RENÉE JEAN  
R.JEAN@WILLISTON-HERALD.COM

The highly skilled labor force that comes to work in the Bakken pays more to eat, sleep and drink than they would pay in other areas of the country where they could put their highly lucrative skills to work. Those other areas include some of the Bakken's biggest competitors, like the Permian Basin, which is now busting-out busy with 400-some oil rigs in play.

Cost of living is one of many factors that gives other basins a big edge over the Bakken when it comes to keeping the oil and gas sector investing in North

Dakota, industry representatives told lawmakers on the Energy Development and Transmission Committee today in Williston. The hearing is the first of a series that will also take place in Minot and Dickinson to investigate whether hub city funding needs to continue.

The fact that the Bakken is competing with other basins for oil and gas investments is a big part of why the state must continue to support the infrastructure improvements created by Williston, Williams County and its school districts, industry leaders testified. These improvements will serve not only industry de-

mands, but also the needs of residential customers — their workforce — who want to live in a community with the same level of services they have become accustomed to elsewhere, in what feels to them like an affordable manner in a city where the cost of living is generally higher than average for everything from a gallon of milk to a carton of eggs.

The point was made after local officials were peppered with questions by eastern lawmakers about all the multi-million infrastructure investments that the city, county and school

SEE HUB CITY PAGE A3

# *Gov't. Reporting: Large Dailies*



---



## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Six ND, Minn. health lobbyists  
also count Big Tobacco as client*  
Archie Ingersoll

## ◆ Third Place

- Bismarck Tribune  
*Ruling changes DAPL focus*  
Amy Dalrymple

## ◆ Second Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Toxic, hostile, scary*  
Wendy Reuer

# Gov't. Reporting: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Oil money flowed to Burgum*  
Amy Dalrymple



Donor	Title	Company	Donation
John Hess	CEO	Hess Corp.	\$25,000
James J Walker Family Trust	CEO	Whiting Petroleum	\$21,000
John Schmitz	CEO	Select Energy Services	\$18,750
Taylor Reid	President	Oasis Petroleum	\$13,500
Thomas Muzi	CEO	Oasis Petroleum	\$12,500
Cody Ortowski	President	Select Energy Services	\$6,150

Source: North Dakota Secretary of State's Office Photo by John Hegeman/The Forum News Service

By Amy Dalrymple  
Forum News Service

**G**ov. Doug Burgum accepted more than \$100,000 in campaign contributions from oil company executives last fall, despite comments he made as a candidate that accepting donations from the oil industry would be a conflict of interest. Burgum did not accept contributions from oil company political action committees, but he did receive contributions of up to \$25,000 from individual oil industry executives. North Dakota's governor regulates the oil industry as chairman of the state Industrial Commission.

Ahead of the June 2016 primary, Burgum received no apparent contributions from the oil industry while his opponent Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, also a member of the Industrial Commission, received at least \$70,000 in donations tied to the oil industry, according to campaign disclosures filed with the secretary of state.

At the time, Burgum told Forum News Service he believed a conflict of interest exists when candidates accept donations from industries they regulate.

"If you're a member of the NIDC and you're asking for someone's support and you regulate that industry and they know you're going to continue to regulate them, think about the power dynamic," Burgum said in a May 2016 interview.

OIL MONEY, Page A5



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Government  
Reporting Series*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK



# Government Series: Small Weeklies

---

## ◆ Second Place

- McClusky Gazette

*Plans bringing events;*

*Parallel signs; Handshakes*

**Allan Tinker**

# Government Series: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Parshall, Mountrail County Record  
*Parshall School Referendum*  
Jerry W. Kram

### Community helps school plan for the future

BY JERRY W. KRAM

More than 30 community members packed the Parshall High School library for an informational and planning meeting to look at the future of the buildings that serve the Parshall School District.

Jim Ferras of Consolidated Construction and Trevor Hufaker of EngTech presented their study of the condition of the school's current infrastructure and what the cost would be to maintain those buildings for another 10 years.

They said Parshall School District superintendents, both Schwartz and Ferras, all emphasized that no decisions have been made and won't be made until a committee of community members has reviewed the situation.

"What we did is dig into the condition of the school buildings," Ferras said. "Nobody is giving up on those buildings, but we want to share the red flag we have found."

Ferras explained what capital maintenance means. He said that organizations like the school district have to plan on replacing and repairing their buildings in order to make them safe and a good environment for learning.

"One of the questions an organization has to ask is how long does it make sense to keep investing in these buildings," Ferras said.

Ferras started by talking about the elementary school building, which is in the best shape. He said that over the next 10 years, the school dis-

trict can expect to put 965 a square foot into repairs and preventive maintenance over the next 10 years. He said that is about 30 percent of the cost of a new building and is fairly typical of a building of that age.

He said that the most urgent problem at the elementary school is the plumbing. He said the school should also consider some upgrades including asbestos abatement, modifications for handicapped accessibility and addressing some security concerns.

He moved on to the high school gymnasium, which he said is in better shape than the rest of the high school building. The biggest need in the gym is to upgrade the windows because some of them are starting to leak. New windows would also improve the building's energy efficiency. The capital maintenance cost for the gym is estimated to be 680 a square foot, or 40 percent of a new building.

The high school has several problems, Ferras said, including asbestos abatement, high- or then expected corrosion in the boiler room heating system, structural cracking of walls and floors, and water problems in the tunnel that runs along the perimeter of the school. He said the district could expect to spend \$121 a square foot to correct those problems, or about 60 percent of the cost of a new building.

Kenton Ostrud asked if the engineers were sure a new building could be built for \$220 a square foot. Hufaker said that construction costs had



Jim Ferras of Consolidated Construction writes down the feedback from Parshall community members at a community meeting to help plan the future of Parshall's school buildings. Photo by Jerry W. Kram

dropped with the end of the oil boom, and that was the cost other school districts have paid recently for new buildings.

After finishing his analysis, Ferras moved on to the community input portion of the meeting. He asked what were the good and bad things that the Parshall schools were known for. Audience members gave a range of responses that included the area's rural character, cultural diversity and growing opportunities in the oil industry. Some of the problems noted were a low graduation rate, poverty in the community and widespread substance abuse.

Ferras concluded by asking

what things people would like to see in the school district's future. Most of the responses centered around preparing students for life in the "real world." Some of the particular points were making sure students were ready for work even if they didn't plan on going to college, having more challenging material for more advanced students, learning to write in cursive, and preparing students for careers that don't even exist today.

Schwartz was pleased with the outcome of the meeting. He said the turnout was about twice what she expected.

"I was pleased with the discussion," Schwartz said. "I think

a lot of people spoke up and put out some really good ideas. I think that is important when you are trying to build a community that supports the school."

Schwartz will continue to solicit community input until Monday, March 6. Then she will be organizing a citizens committee to review the data and make recommendations to the school board.

"We may hold another session like this," Schwartz said. "It will depend on what people think. The citizens committee will help the school board figure out what the community wants for their kids in terms of facilities."

# Government Series: Mid-Size Weeklies

---

## ◆ Third Place

- Hillsboro Banner

*Policing contract coverage*

Michelle McLean

## ◆ Second Place

- Hankinson, News-Monitor

*St. Gerards: little hope for funds;*

*Lawmakers promise*

Karen Speidel

# Government Series: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Hankinson, News-Monitor

*Cyber bullying victims often do not report attacks*

Karen Speidel, Frank Stanko, Carrie McDermott

**Point of View**

## Cyber bullying victims often do not report attacks against them

BY KAREN SPEIDEL  
kspeidel@news-monitor.com

Technology has changed the world. But like anything powerful, technology can have a darker side. Technology is being used to hurt people — most notably children and teenagers — through social media attacks that often go unreported. The proverbial bully is no longer the child who likes to catch someone weaker on the playground or after school. They use social media programs like Snapchat, Instagram and Facebook to attack someone else, the faceless predator whose intent is to hurt another.

The News-Monitor put together a panel of children in southeastern North Dakota schools to see how prevalent cyber bullying is for area children. While informal, the result was still staggering as 61 percent of children in the panel reported knowing a close personal friend or relative who has been victimized by cyber bullying. One panelist knew of three people in her inner circle who were hurt by separate cyber bully attacks. Lexi called for stricter enforcement, that “somebody” should step up and stop people from using online sources to hurt someone else.

When asked, she had no idea who that somebody could be. She was just tired of having people close to

**Types of social bullying by gender**

Type of Bullying	% of female students who're bullied	% of male students who're bullied
Being publicly humiliated	61	60
Having their reputation damaged	48	42
Being purposely excluded	41	33

- 1 Social bullies humiliate victims by embarrassing them in public and continue to do so even if the victims show distress or ask the bully to stop.
- 2 Social bullies harm others' reputations by gossiping, authoring, signing or spreading false petitions — signatures from people who agree they hate or dislike someone.
- 3 Social bullies harm others' relationships by convincing people to exclude their victims from social events as well as everyday interactions.

21 POINT OF VIEW, PAGE 10  
NEWS-MONITOR QUOTE BY KAREN SPEIDEL FROM REVISION BY LIZZY

# Government Series: Large Weeklies

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Crosby, The Journal  
*Park tax renewal series*  
Jody Michael

## ◆ Third Place

- Crosby, The Journal  
*Skjermo Lake camping coverage*  
Brad Nygaard

## ◆ Second Place

- Grafton, Walsh County Record  
*Life Skills and Transition Center*  
Cheryl Osowski

# Government Series: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Crosby, The Journal  
*Pit bull cases*  
Cecile Wehrman

### Two pit bull cases in as many months

By Cecile Wehrman

Though a ban on pit bull dogs has been in place in Crosby since 2003, two citations for ownership of pit bulls within city limits have been issued in the past few months.

In both cases, owners say the animals are for therapy or comfort, but unless certified, they may not be able to keep the dogs in town.

"That's kind of what we're seeing now," said City Auditor Kristi Imhoff, "comfort animals."

Crosby resident Calley Sass came before Judge Robin Schmidt on Aug. 8, claiming her dog is a comfort animal. According to court documents, Sass disputed that her dog is a pit bull and said it is registered online as a service animal.

The judge found, however, that the mixed breed dog falls within the "expansive" definition for pit bulls used in the city ordinance and ruled hearsay a letter from a doctor, noting that neither a representative from the registering agency or the doctor was present to testify.

In a case coming up this week, Jenny White, whose daughter Elizabeth has epidermolysis

bullosa, wants to keep their dog. Epidermolysis bullosa is a painful condition that makes Elizabeth's skin as delicate as a butterfly's wings.

Jenny White said the dog has alerted her on occasions when Elizabeth stops breathing or her monitoring equipment loses power. She has no papers or registration for the dog, but does have a doctor's prescription.

Imhoff said the city became aware of the Whites' dog based on a public complaint. In the previous case, she said the owner learned of the pit bull ban when applying for a dog license.

"Everybody is supposed to have their dog licensed," said Imhoff.

According to the city ordinance, breeds covered under the pit bull ban include: bull terriers, Staffordshire bull terriers, American pit bull terriers, American Staffordshire terriers and any mixed breeds of the above, along with "any dog which has the appearance and characteristics" of being predominantly of one of the breeds.

Another ban exists on a breed of dogs known generally as canary dogs.

# Government Series: Small Dailies

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Jamestown Sun  
*Wind Energy Series*  
Keith Norman

## ◆ Third Place

- Williston Herald  
*Coffee kiosk coverage*  
Renée Jean

## ◆ Second Place

- Williston Herald  
*Williston teacher contracts*  
Jamie Kelly

# Government Series: Small Dailies



Housing was pinpointed as a problem years ago, prompting cities to create a solution

“

*People who live here are willing to accept basic needs as what we have. They are looking for a family-friendly town. We may be below the mark on housing, but we are doing well everywhere else.*

Jon Neik, Fairmount



Editor's Note: It has been a year since the News-Monitor walked the streets of Fairmount, Lidgerwood, Hankinson and Wyndmere, N.D., asking residents what their communities need. This month's Point of View revisits this story to see how responsive the communities have been to fulfill resident wish lists.

BY KAREN SPEIDEL - DAILY NEWS [karen@wahpetondailynews.com](mailto:karen@wahpetondailynews.com)

Housing is a perennial problem for many small communities that lack desirable homes for sale.

Milnor solved this problem. A bedroom community to Bobcat in Gwinner, Milnor, North Dakota, created a development that Hankinson is modeling – a new 40-lot addition on the city's north side in Richland County.

Housing was pinpointed as a problem years ago, prompting the city council to work in partnership with the Community Development Corporation to create a solution.

Housing was also determined to be the biggest problem last year when the News-Monitor asked residents of Hankinson, Lidgerwood, Wyndmere and Fairmount, North Dakota, to determine what is needed in their communities. This became a major hurdle for Don Dalchow, who wanted to move to Wyndmere after he accepted a position as the public school superintendent, but could not find a house he wanted to buy.

Other options such as buying a house taken from the Fargo flood plain and moving it here was beyond his budget, so he drove to and from his lake home on Clear Lake, South Dakota, he said. This 108-mile round trip happened daily from July until February.

"I heard through the grapevine that someone was thinking about selling. I went over there, knocked on the door and told him I was interested if he was thinking about selling. That's how I got my house," Dalchow said.

Now when Dalchow interviews potential teachers for a position at Wyndmere, he comes armed with available housing options.

**Point**  
OF VIEW



## First Place

- **Wahpeton,  
The Daily News  
Point of View  
Frank Stanko,  
Karen Speidel,  
Carrie McDermott**



# Government Series: Large Dailies

---

## ◆ Third Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Fargo mill levy series*  
Helmut Schmidt

## ◆ Second Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Lobbyist package*  
Archie Ingersoll

# Government Series: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

### ■ Minot Daily News

*Death of Dustin Irwin;  
Inside the Jail;  
In the Shadows*

**Kim Fundingsland,  
Jill Schramm**

**AN INMATE'S FINAL DAYS**  
**The death of Dustin Irwin**  
**JAILGATE PART 1**  
By **KIM FUNDINGSLAND**

**EDITOR'S NOTE: JAILGATE** is a recurring series detailing the tragic death of 25-year-old Dustin Irwin after being denied medical attention at Ward County Jail, the ensuing investigation and the abrupt circumstances under which charges related to the incident disappeared. Multi-media files and documents provided by the N.D. Dept. of Corrections are included with the online version of the stories at [minotdailynews.com](http://minotdailynews.com) so readers can review case file materials independently. Warning: some case file contents can be disturbing and are not recommended for children.

"Dustin Irwin was denied appropriate medical care," wrote Dr. John J. Hagan in his review of the death of the inmate who had been incarcerated at the Ward County Jail.

Irwin, then 25 years old, was arrested by a Ward County deputy shortly before midnight on Oct. 2, 2014 and subsequently booked into the Ward County Jail at 12:03 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 3, 2014. Irwin was arrested for driving under suspension and for two outstanding warrants out of Grand Forks and Bismarck counties. Video and audio obtained by the Minot Daily News shows that Irwin was courteous and cooperative at the time of his arrest. **VIDEO OF IRWIN'S ARREST POSTED ON 10/13/14**

**"A 'Report of Death,' REPORT OF DEATH POSSIBLE ON INTEREST,"** issued by the South Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation following that agency's investigation into Irwin's death a few days later says Irwin submitted a written request to go to the hospital at noon, approximately 12 hours after his arrest, Irwin wrote. "I wasn't really sick and need to see someone at the hospital. Please help me see someone."

Irwin's request, which included a reference to back problems, was denied. A request on duty at the jail thought Irwin was delirious and needed him to a different cell for closer observation rather than seek advice from a medical professional. Video from that afternoon shows Irwin vomiting, defecating, falling and sobbing and appears at a state of rest until the lights are turned off in his cell 30-45 minutes later.

The following day, with none of the video with Irwin vomiting and churning, he was placed in a cell with another inmate. At approximately 9:30 p.m., Irwin was unresponsive. The cellmate pressed the emergency button to summon help. A correctional officer who responded put on rubber gloves and rolled back Irwin's eyelids. Irwin remained unresponsive on the floor of his cell. **VIDEO OF IRWIN IN CELL WITH TWO OTHERS POSTED**

See **WPNL** — Page **A7**



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Spot News*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Spot News: Small Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **New Town News**

*Phone call causes big stir*

**Jerry W. Kram**

# Spot News: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press  
*Bin Buster Takes Down Two*  
Allison Olimb

### Bin buster takes down two



By Allison Olimb  
of The Press  
10/17/11, P. 1, N. D.  
On Tuesday, Sept.  
12, two 20,000 bushel  
bins gave way at  
Furness Farms  
near Park River, N.D.

Elevator Manager  
Gay Phelps said that  
they had about an  
hour notice before the  
bins collapsed as it  
started to grain and  
out bins.

The bin had been  
full for two weeks.

He said that they  
started taking grain out  
to relieve the pres-  
sure, but the damage  
already had been  
done. The bin was  
down and long after  
Phelps said that it  
was structural failure.

"I don't have any  
reason why it would  
have failed," he said  
adding the bin was  
equipped with well-  
vents.

An overhead con-  
veyer connected the  
bin to another. As the  
bin was down, it  
took the second,  
which was also full,  
with it.

A couple of legs  
were damaged and  
possibly, he said, that  
grain drier.

Winkler from Park  
River County  
was on-site to work  
to assist in clean up  
prior to the weekend  
rain.

# *Spot News: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Kenmare News**  
*Hunter Rodin*  
**Marvin Baker**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Wildfire burns 800 acres of land*  
**Karen Speidel**

# Spot News: Mid-Size Weeklies



Hillsboro resident Cory Erickson, right, and Tony Nelson (center) clean up debris from Tuesday's severe weather through Hillsboro.

## DAMAGING WINDS RIP THROUGH HILLSBORO

Storm uproots trees, knocks out power to city residents

By David Brown

A severe weather system, big 40- to 100 mph winds tore through Hillsboro on Tuesday, uprooting trees, snapping power lines and flooding city streets.

The storm moved through the area around 7:40 p.m. Tuesday, sending residents fleeing to their basements or outdoors as trees fell and power lines snapped.

Reports with the National Weather Service in Clatsop County reported a large, oak-trunked tree uprooted 4 miles north of Hillsboro at 7:17 p.m., sending workers to clean up debris.

The weather service warned about 100 mph winds with the storm brought down and even snapped power lines in Clatsop County.

"The rain is pretty heavy here," said Cory Erickson, Hillsboro resident.

"There's a pile of destruction from the northwest corner of the property from the storm striking in



Storm clouds at dusk captured the photo of Tuesday's severe storm as it passed through western Hillsboro.



David Nelson of Hillsboro helps his wife clean up debris from Tuesday's severe storm.

STORM DAMAGE  
Continued on page 7

Meteorologist: Conditions ripe Tuesday for severe weather

By Tony Erickson

A severe weather system appeared on Tuesday, with rain and a tropical storm front hitting the Clatsop County area, Tuesday evening.

Forecasters reported rain, thunder, lightning and hail in Hillsboro, Clatsop and Clatsop counties as part of a big weather system that moved west Tuesday evening.

Strong winds, gusts up to 100 mph, were reported in Hillsboro and Clatsop County Tuesday evening.

David Nelson, Hillsboro resident, said the rain was heavy and the wind was strong.

"The rain was pretty heavy here," said Cory Erickson, Hillsboro resident.

"There's a pile of destruction from the northwest corner of the property from the storm striking in

SEVERE WEATHER  
Continued on page 7

## ◆ First Place

### ■ Hillsboro Banner

*Damaging winds rip through Hillsboro*

**Cole Short, Cory Erickson, Neil O. Nelson**

# *Spot News: Large Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**

*Christmas Day blizzard:  
It looked like an ocean*

**Jack Dura**



# Spot News: Large Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer Threat heightened security at W.C.H.S.**  
**Neal Shipman**

## Threat heightened security at W.C.H.S.

*Former juvenile student arrested, faces charges of terrorizing following threat at W.C.H.S.*

By Neal A. Shipman  
Farmer Editor

A former juvenile student at Watford City High School was arrested and taken into custody by the Watford City Police Department on Wednesday, Oct. 25, on charges of terrorizing.

According to Steve Hoken, McKenzie County Public School District No. 1 superintendent, custodians at the school found a threatening message written in the girl's room locker room on the evening of Friday, Oct. 20, and notified school officials. Since the school was closed on Thursday and Friday due to Teachers Convention, Hoken did not know when the threat was written.

"It wasn't a direct threat to anyone in particular," stated Hoken. "It was a threat to the safety of the building and was to happen on Oct. 25."

Hoken says that the school immediately notified the Watford City Police Department and began to follow their established protocol.

In addition, on Tuesday, the school district issued an Instant Alert to parents of students attending the high school that an unsubstantiated threat was being investigated by the school district and local law enforcement at W.C.H.S. and that all precautions and preventive measures were being taken in response to the threat. The alert also noted the district felt that it was safe for students to attend school and normal activities.

"We couldn't inform the parents of everything that we know at the time because it was an ongoing investigation," stated Hoken of the district's Instant Alert. "We know that can cause some confusion. But we didn't want to hinder law enforcement."

While the majority of students did attend classes on Wednesday, security was definitely increased at the school with Watford City police officers visibly present inside and outside the school.

According to school officials, in addition to the school resource officer, at least two additional officers were present as well as several other undercover officers.

"As part of our protocol, all district staff members were directed to enter the high school building only through the main entrance doors," stated Hoken. "In addition, all student backpacks were hand-checked when students entered the building."

While the majority of the school's students attended classes on Wednesday, according to a school official, approximately 190 students chose to stay away.

"It's the parent's right to keep their children home if they felt uncomfortable," stated Hoken. "But I want my kids to school, if we had thought that the threat was substantial we could have closed the school."

Following the juvenile's arrest on Wednesday, the district sent parents another Instant Alert notifying them that the situation had been resolved.

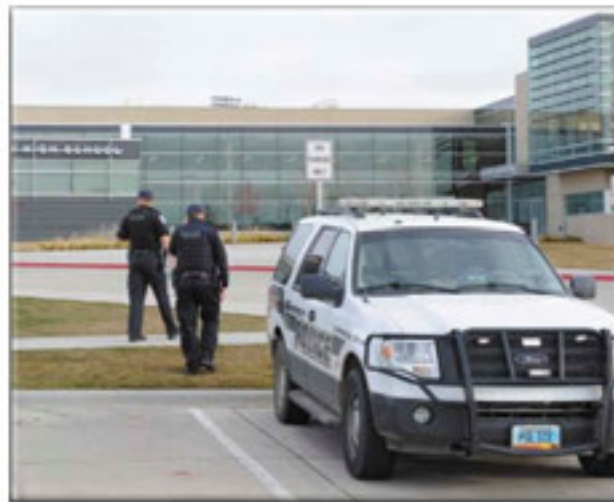
"At this time, the Watford City Police Department and Watford City High School consider the investigation of the threat incident to be closed and there should be no further alarm for parents and students involving the previous alert," stated the alert. "The school district appreciates the support of parents and the community during these difficult situations; the information that is available during an investigation is limited in order to work effectively with our police department to resolve the situation in a safe and timely manner. The school district addresses every situation with caution as protecting our students is the highest priority during these events."

While the threat has been resolved, Randy Cranston, high school principal, said the district takes these kinds of threats very seriously.

"In this city and age, you don't know what can happen," stated Cranston. "What students have to learn from this is that there are consequences to their actions."

According to Shawn Dobbie, Watford City police chief, the department does not believe that any other individuals are known or believed to have been involved in the threat.

"We consider the investigation of the terrorizing threats affecting Watford City High School to be closed," stated Dobbie in a prepared news release.



**PATROLLING THE SCHOOL . . . . .** Two Watford City police officers prepare to enter the Watford City High School on Oct. 25 after the school received an unsubstantiated threat.

*(Photo Photo by Neal A. Shipman)*

# *Spot News: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*Smoke Damage Displaces Businesses*  
Tom LaVenture

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Barn fire*  
Karen Speidel

# Spot News: Small Dailies

## ◆ First Place

### ■ Williston Herald

*Man killed in Friday morning shooting*  
**Jamie Kelly**

## Man killed in Friday morning shooting

*27-year-old charged  
with murder*



**Eggleston**

BY JAMIE KELLY  
EDITOR@WILLISTONHERALD.COM

A Minot man has been charged with murder in the Friday killing of the stepson of the chairwoman of the State Board of Higher Education.

Police charged Alex Eggleston, 27, with murder and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, according to an affidavit of probable cause filed Friday. Police say he shot Vance Neset, 43, of Williston. Neset's stepmother is Kathleen Neset, chairwoman of the State Board of Higher Education and a potential GOP candidate for U.S. Senate.

"The family is absolutely shocked," Kathleen Neset said. "He was just a wonderful, fun-loving guy. Everybody loved Vance."

Vance Neset worked for Kathleen Neset's oil consulting firm, Neset Consulting, as a shop hand and gas technician, she said.

"Big guy and a heart of gold," she added.

Neset recently has been mentioned as a possible Republican challenger for the Senate seat held by Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D., who will be up for re-election next year if she chooses to run again.



Police had part of the parking lot by DK's Lounge and Casino, as well as part of First Avenue West and portions of the parking lots of the Super 8 Motel and Quinn's Bar and Grill, blocked Friday as part of the investigation into the shooting death of Vance Neset.

# *Spot News: Large Dailies*

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Iced out*  
**Brad E. Schlossman**

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Fire destroys ND church*  
*Craig Cobb was buying*  
**Kim Hyatt**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Deputy killed*  
**Andrew Hazzard**

# Spot News: Large Dailies



A large crowd representing a majority of the remaining Dakota Access Pipeline protesters marches out of the Doot Sakom camp before the 2 p.m. deadline set for evacuation of the camp mandated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on Wednesday. In the background, one of several structural fires started by protesters over the course of the day flames.

## 'WITH DIGNITY'

Pipeline camp evacuation goes fairly peacefully, Burgum says

Two hurt, 10 arrested  
as of early Wednesday evening.

By Amy Dalrymple and John Hageman  
Forum News Service  
Cannon Ball, N.D.

Pipeline opponents camp groups said and exchanged verbal taunts as they vacated the state Dakota Access encampment camp Wednesday, but they said they were not looking to defeat.

"It's a victory because this has inspired a movement that will continue," said this team, a camp media volunteer from Massachusetts.

None of the remaining residents of the Doot Sakom camp left voluntarily.

Wednesday ahead of the governor's 2 p.m. deadline, walking together on the highway and holding a ceremony on the bridge over the Cannonball River.

Some returned to the camp, knowing they could be subject to arrest as Gov. Doug Burgum and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers emphasize the need to accelerate cleanup of the camp ahead of potential spring flooding.

Officers in riot gear made no arrests as of early Wednesday evening after leaving an order to vacate Highway 180 in the area of the camp. They have possible misdemeanor charges of obstructing a government function.

CAMP-Page A5



Dorothy Sun Bear, a member of the Pine Ridge Ojibwa Nation, pictured Tuesday, has spent seven months at the Doot Sakom camp and is moving to higher ground as the camp closes.  
Amy Dalrymple  
Forum News Service

## ◆ First Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead 'With Dignity' Amy Dalrymple, John Hageman



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Business News  
Reporting*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Business News Reporting: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **New Town News**  
*From belly to birth*  
**Edna Sailor**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **New Town News**  
*Rensch's to close*  
**Jerry W. Kram**

# Business News Reporting: Small Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

### ■ Mandan News

*Rhone, Zachmeier bring franchise to Mandan*

**Tyana Johnson**

## Rhone, Zachmeier bring franchise to Mandan

Dickey's Barbecue Pit to open on the 'Strip' in June

**TYANA JOHNSON**  
Mandan News

Slow-smoked meats, classic sides, sweet tea and free ice cream all have the makings of Mandan's newest barbecue joint, Dickey's Barbecue Pit.

Owners Randy Rhone and Ben Zachmeier plan to open the new eatery in early June at 4524 Memorial Highway, Suite 103, in the Memorial Square Shopping Center off of Mandan's "Strip." "We want to give back to this community, it's a great com-

munity and it's growing," said Rhone.

Dickey's Barbecue Pit is a national franchise that has been around since 1941, according to their website. Rhone said he discovered the company three years ago while driving through Minneapolis and told his neighbor, now business partner, Zachmeier about his experience, "When I walked into it I was like, 'wow,' delicious meat, fast service and just a great environment," said Rhone.

Zachmeier said he discovered the restaurant the year before and they agreed that it was a one-of-a-kind dining experience. So the duo decided to get the ball rolling on the first franchise in North Dakota and in May of

2014 Dickey's Barbecue Pit in Minot opened.

The new Mandan eatery will include a full menu, 12 tap beers and craft brews, complimentary ice cream, catering services, as well as a conference room that can seat 60 individuals, equipped with televisions, projectors, said Rhone.

"Eighty-percent of the total population of both cities is within a 10 minute drive time of this center," said Rhone, noting the centralization of the Memorial Square Shopping Center. There will be customer-to-go and online orders.

Rhone, a businessman for a number of years, also owns the Little Caesars Pizzas in Bismarck, Man-

dan, Minot and Dickinson as well as Edible Arrangements in Bismarck. A Center native, Rhone says he's been in the food industry most of his life.

Co-owner Zachmeier previously worked for a local utility company for 20 years before changing careers and going into business with Rhone. "It's an opportunity for me to build a legacy for my family," said Zachmeier.

Zachmeier said the best part about bringing the franchise to Mandan is, "Being able to provide back to the community that has provided for you."

Rhone and Zachmeier say their wives play a major part in helping to run the franchises. Amanda Zach-

meier spent a month in Dallas attending "Barbecue University" at Dickey's corporate office, making her a certified pit master. Amanda Zachmeier also is the chief purchasing agent for goods and services at both the Minot and Mandan locations. Lisa Rhone, provides office and bookkeeping support for the two restaurants.

Mandan's Dickey's Barbecue Pit will be open seven days a week, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and closed for holidays. For more information on Dickey's visit, [www.dickeys.com](http://www.dickeys.com). To reach Rhone or Zachmeier call 701-663-4227.

Reach Tyana Johnson at 701-250-8250 or [editor@mandan-news.com](mailto:editor@mandan-news.com).



# *Business News Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

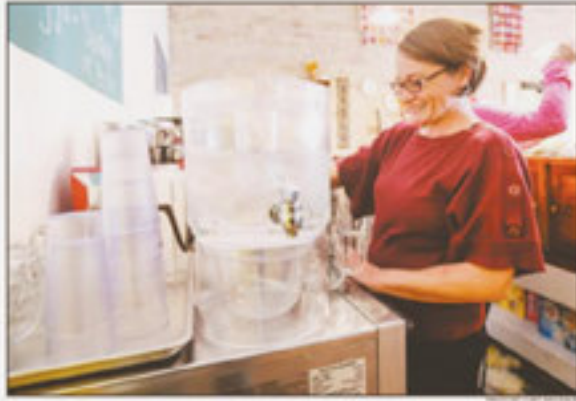
## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*Popular mechanics*  
Neil O. Nelson

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Tioga Tribune**  
*Microretail concept*  
Jody Michael

# Business News Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies



The Hillsboro Cafe owner, Kate Short, fills a water pitcher for a customer Monday morning. The cafe is open for about a year, Monday through Friday.

## COOKING UP BUSINESS

The Hillsboro Cafe opens Monday morning to patrons on Main Street

**BY KATE EDWERT**  
A steady stream of local food-loving locals prepared for the Hillsboro Cafe for its debut Monday.  
The downtown store at 2 N. Main St. opened up its doors at 8 a.m. Monday offering pastries and breakfast specials to heat back doors and commuters headed for I-5.  
Downtown with its diverse target audience is by 7 a.m. for a quick bite before work and school.  
The owner's Larissa Clark gave her business through its wife, Ryan, 43, and Charles, 36, to the restaurant to allow them to pursue other ventures.  
Hillsboro said Hillsboro has been enjoying a mid-dinner gathering spot for breakfast since the Country Church annex was closed in 2015.  
"This is timely and significant

what this community has been hungry for," Johnson said. "I see people in here this morning that I haven't seen at breakfast in nearly two years."  
"There's something about food that connects people in a small town. It's a bit of magic and that's the way it feels to have this morning."  
Clark and Kate Short called into work at 4 a.m. Monday and were happy to see a message in return on their first morning rather than a message at the door.  
"I was little terrified we were going to have a slow start but we're really happy that we're here," Kate Short said. "We're still working a few bugs out as we go along but everyone has been super gracious and happy with everything so far."  
— KATE EDWERT  
The Hillsboro Cafe  
Continued on page 2

"We're still working a few bugs out as we go along but everyone has been super gracious and happy with everything so far."  
— KATE EDWERT  
The Hillsboro Cafe  
Continued on page 2

## ◆ First Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Cooking up business*  
Cole Short

# *Business News Reporting: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**

*Three new businesses open up in Watford City*

**Betsy Ryan**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**

*Crosby, Tioga stores must find new supplier*

**Cecile Wehrman**

# Business News Reporting: Large Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Grafton, Walsh County Record  
*Edinburg barber cuts out Sue Matcha*

## Edinburg barber cuts out

Lefley Pederson calls it quits after 65 years in business

BY SUE MATCHA

Saturday afternoon, barber Lefley Pederson and his hair were together at his shop in Edinburg to close the doors for the last time. Pederson is final in calling it quits to a career that has spanned 65 years. All but two of those years his business has been in the small Walsh County community. Before he purchased the barber shop in Edinburg in 1954, Lefley cut hair in Devils Lake and Grand Forks. A man with a keen sense of humor, Pederson said becoming a barber was a good alternative to working out in the cold in a heavy coal-mining operation. From Devils Lake, Pederson said he chose to quit there the shop in Edinburg for two reasons: it had new paint and flooring and there was a nice kitchen in the back.

"The barber before me was here 17 years and I thought something had to be wrong with him that he spent 17 years here," Pederson stated. "Now I've been here 65 years so something must be really wrong with me."

The apartment behind the shop is where Pederson and his wife Louise lived and raised their three sons—Robin, Martin and Thomas—that the first 17 years they were in Edinburg. In those early days, it wasn't unusual for the boys to ride their tricycles around the shop and run in and out while their dad cut hair. Louise said all the activity

was something her husband's customers seemed to enjoy. Louise also mentioned with a smile and a twinkle in her eye that whenever a young woman came in, she opened the door between the shop and the apartment so she could keep watch on what was going on out front. Plenty of stories were exchanged between Pederson and his customers over the years, but some he was willing to share.

"Everything is pretty un-Edinburg you know," he said with a chuckle. "It wasn't growing," Robin added as family members laughed in the background. "It was the truth, confidential facts."

When Pederson first started in the barbering business, there was a barber shop in nearly every town and nearly 90 percent of his clients came from within six miles. From 65, he was busy six days and two evenings a week, often cutting hair past midnight on Saturday nights. Several years after starting his business in Edinburg, Pederson also traveled to Washburn one day a week to cut hair there.

The distance his customers traveled for a haircut has completely increased in recent years. About 80 percent of his clients now drive more than six miles, some from as far as Lakota, as the number of area barbers has drastically decreased. Before it closed on Saturday, Pederson's barber shop was one of only three shops still doing business in Walsh County. The other regular customer is a 97-year-old man who drives

from Lakota. Some of his younger clients are toddlers just over a year old.

One thing that never changed was Pederson's dedication to providing good customer service. Even if he had to step out of the shop during business hours, he was never more than a block away. Right up until the day the shop closed during business, a paper sat on a table near the entry next to a note that read "Thank you Lefley and I will be right with you. Thanks, Lefley," Saturday morning was Robin pointed out the irony of the sign—the word "I" is printed in red.

Pederson estimates he has given approximately 100,000 haircuts in his 65 years in business and knows he has cut the hair of four generations of at least one family—that being the Hills. The last cut of his career would be for 7-year-old Leah Hill who was accompanied to the shop on Saturday by her dad, 71. He had her grandfather, Gary Hill.

Pederson is also somewhat of an artist. He was the first barber in the area to share magazine and logo into the hair official youth starting in 1967 when Edinburg's barber hall team won the state Class B championship. He cleaned his last shag, a lightning bolt—just last week.

After closing the doors on the shop Saturday at noon, the Pederson family would make their way to Trinity Lutheran Church where members of the community were hosting a thank you and retirement party for Lefley and Louise. Already living in Grand Forks, the couple was saying farewell



Photo by Sue Matcha

Lefley Pederson cuts the hair of his son Robin one last time at his shop in Edinburg Saturday. It was one of his last cuts before calling it quits after a 65-year career, 62 of those years in Edinburg.

In a community they called home for 62 years, a place where they were involved with so many civic organizations as they were eligible for and had many friends.

Pederson said his departure has left his customers wondering what they are going to get for their next time. Many have never gotten a haircut from anyone but him.

"I enjoy people and that is why it was hard to quit. I got to see people I would never see otherwise," Pederson said. "I enjoyed going to work every day. If you don't enjoy your job, you should find another one. If you don't enjoy your work—it's a long day."

**RIGHT** Lefley and Louise Pederson stand outside Pederson's Barber Shop before closing the doors on the Edinburg business Saturday.



# *Business News Reporting: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Last day to shop*  
Carrie McDermott

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Store isn't going anywhere*  
Kathleen Leinen

# Business News Reporting: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
*New name for MODE  
Renée Jean*

### Name change, same owners for boutique at Renaissance on Main

BY RENÉE JEAN  
ED@WILLISTONHERALD.COM

Their store was off to the proverbial flying start, and then they got a phone call that changed everything all at once.

Kim Wenko and Deannette Piesik opened the Mode clothing store last year in November in the Renaissance on Main building. It was the first boutique to open in the Renaissance, and it sold designer fashions at closeout prices for women of all ages.

It was the 11th store in the Mama Mia franchise to open nationwide, and seemed to be among the few brick-and-mortar retail outlets that were on the rise. But in August, less than a year after opening, the two received a phone call from their parent corporation, informing them that Mama Mia was closing its Mode stores.

Wenko and Piesik were guests at the October Million Cups meeting Wednesday, where they did next to reopen their store with a fresh new name and look. The two had a soft opening Wednesday

and as of today are open for business again with a new name in the same location.

Wenko happened to be on vacation at the time of the call, so Piesik had to take the initial news alone. She learned they had two options — to continue with the Mode name and pay a yearly fee, or just be free of their 10-year agreement.

To each of them the decision seemed absolutely clear. And, to their consternation, completely different.

Wenko knew immediately she wanted to leave the brand. The idea of the store truly becoming their own, with their own vision, was "super exciting." They would be the captains of their own ship.

But Piesik's gut reaction was equal and opposite to stay.

"I didn't want to go through a rebranding process," Piesik recalled. "We'd have to buy new bags, change all the stickers."

Replacing everything would be a big expense. It would be time-consuming. And all the money, time and advertising they'd already done for branding with



Photo by Renée Jean • Williston Herald

Kim Wenko puts a shirt on a hanger while customer Sandi McEwan looks through the selection of shades.

Mode would be wasted.

They had one week to make a big decision. It would have lasting implications for their business. And maybe even their friendship.

"It wasn't easy," Wenko said. "And I want to say that was probably the first time Deannette and I really challenged each other as business partners. But we got to be better business

partners because of it."

They talked the option over with each other, and with friends, family and other business owners. Ultimately, Piesik agreed that a name change could be good for their business long term.

The Mode name hadn't yet been integrated into the Williston community, so they weren't really losing any ground there. What they

had spent on branding was a "sunk cost." It couldn't be recovered, and that is often a psychological barrier in making business decisions, but isn't always the best deciding factor.

Once past that, Piesik agreed with Wenko that a name change would let them strike out in new and better

SEE BOUTIQUE PAGE A4

# *Business News Reporting: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*They feel this is wrong*  
April Baumgarten

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*Flaring challenge persists*  
Amy Dalrymple

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*In the middle*  
Andrew Hazzard

# Business News Reporting: Large Dailies



The Digi-Key campus in Thief River Falls.

Photo courtesy of Digi-Key

Thief River Falls business has grown to become the world's largest seller of electronic components that are available for immediate shipment

By Tom Dennis  
Grand Forks Herald  
Thief River Falls

**A** little alternative history can help us tell this tale. You've Ray Kroc, it's 1955, and you've just started selling McDonald's hamburgers. Except — and here is where our history veers way off course — your burgers don't sell very well. In fact, soon they're not selling at all. So instead, you start selling the ketchup, the pickles, the lettuce, the mustard and the beef. That works.

Boy, does it ever. Because a few decades later, you and your 3,500 workers now stock millions of different food items, and you ship grocery orders totaling \$2 billion a year from your giant warehouse in Thief River Falls.

Substitute a hand-held radio accessory for hamburgers, electronic parts for foodstuffs and (most important) Ron Stordahl for Ray Kroc, and you've got a fair sense of the Digi-Key story.

Oh, and shorten the timeline, too. Because the Digi-Key story starts as recently as 1972,

when Stordahl incorporated his business in Thief River Falls, and the staff selling his original "Digi-Keyes" accessory numbered only two, including Stordahl.

Today, the Digi-Key Corp. is the world's largest seller of electronic components that are available for immediate shipment.

The company stocks chips, diodes and other electronic parts in its shopping-mall-sized warehouse. A sales team processes 16,000 orders a day, using a system that accommodates 10 languages and 16 currencies while sending parts to 170 countries.

More than one out of those of the jobs in Hennepin County, Minn., are located at Digi-Key. The company runs buses bringing in workers from Crookston, East Grand Forks and Bagley, Minn., the latter

some 65 miles away.

Digi-Key now has announced a \$100 million expansion, one of the biggest in the region's history. Over the course of 10 years, Digi-Key will build an additional, even bigger warehouse and hire 1,000 more workers — all in Thief River Falls.

Not bad for a town of 8,600, especially one that's 20 miles from the nearest four-lane highway. But Thief River Falls' remoteness is a big part of Digi-Key's success.

Let's go back to the beginning — and this time, we won't need an alternative. The real-life history is dramatic enough.

Back then, you didn't have a choice. If you wanted to be a ham (or amateur) radio operator in the 1960s and '70s, you had to learn Morse code.

DIGI-KEY: Page A3

## ◆ First Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*The story of Digi-Key*  
Tom Dennis





**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Sports Page*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Sports Page: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Second Place**

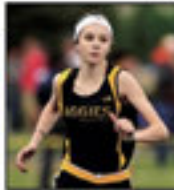
- **New Town News**  
*Sports Page*  
**Staff**

# Sports Page: Small Weeklies

## SPORTS

Full  
Court  
Press

### One final drive...



### Aggie teams impressive in Last Chance Qualifier

**By Kevin Skavhaug**  
The Aggie boys' and girls' track and field teams had a successful weekend at the Last Chance Qualifier in Park River, S.D. The boys' team finished in second place, while the girls' team finished in third place. The boys' team was led by senior runner Kevin Skavhaug, who finished second in the 100-meter dash. The girls' team was led by senior runner Allison Olimb, who finished first in the 100-meter dash. The Aggie teams will compete in the state meet in Rapid City, S.D. on Saturday.

### Aggies girls take region track third place finish

**By Kevin Skavhaug**  
The Aggie girls' track and field team had a successful weekend at the regional track meet in Park River, S.D. The team finished in third place, earning a total of 100 points. The team was led by senior runner Allison Olimb, who finished first in the 100-meter dash. The Aggie girls' team will compete in the state meet in Rapid City, S.D. on Saturday.

## ◆ First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press  
*Sports Page*  
Allison Olimb, Larry Biri,  
Kevin Skavhaug

# *Sports Page: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**

*News-Monitor Jan. 31 sports page  
and jump*

**Karen Speidel**

# *Sports Page: Mid-Size Weeklies*



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*Hillsboro Banner*  
*Sports Sections*  
**Pace Maier**

# *Sports Page: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Grafton, Walsh County Record  
*12-Jul*  
Peyton Cole

## ◆ Third Place

- Grafton, Walsh County Record  
*26-Apr*  
Chelsea Wysocki

## ◆ Second Place

- Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer  
*Sports Page*  
Neal Shipman

# Sports Page: Large Weeklies



Bottineau Courant  
**SPORTS** SECTION B

---

By Matt Semisch

## "FAME" FACES TRAGIC FORTUNE

Assessment elimination of USD's women's hockey program casts cloud over sport closer to grassroots level

**By Matthew Semisch**  
Bottineau, N.D. — It's a cruel twist of fate for the women's hockey players at the University of Dakota. Just as they begin to make a name for themselves in the sport, the program is being eliminated. The school's athletic director, Steve Schaefer, announced the decision on Monday, saying the program is too expensive and not profitable enough to continue.

The school's athletic director, Steve Schaefer, announced the decision on Monday, saying the program is too expensive and not profitable enough to continue. The school's athletic director, Steve Schaefer, announced the decision on Monday, saying the program is too expensive and not profitable enough to continue.

"I thought it was really discouraging, and it was really hard to see what was happening to our program because the girls' UND team is a big dream to most kids growing up, and it's just hard to see that where so many successful players come out of UND."

— Matt Semisch



**DCB's Fofana commits to D-I Mo. State**  
Fofana Fofana returns to sign L&L later this week

**By Matthew Semisch**  
Bottineau, N.D. — The University of Dakota's women's hockey program is being eliminated. The school's athletic director, Steve Schaefer, announced the decision on Monday, saying the program is too expensive and not profitable enough to continue.

**DCB lands five on all-NCAA list**  
Queens earn last-year juniors hockey all-American honors

**By Matthew Semisch**  
Bottineau, N.D. — The University of Dakota's women's hockey program is being eliminated. The school's athletic director, Steve Schaefer, announced the decision on Monday, saying the program is too expensive and not profitable enough to continue.



## Veteran standouts lead way for BHS

Six state qualifiers from last year return for team low on high school numbers

**By Matthew Semisch**  
Bottineau, N.D. — The University of Dakota's women's hockey program is being eliminated. The school's athletic director, Steve Schaefer, announced the decision on Monday, saying the program is too expensive and not profitable enough to continue.

## ◆ First Place

- Bottineau Courant  
*Bottineau Courant Sports*  
Matthew Semisch

# *Sports Page: Small Dailies*

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*Daily News of Wahpeton*  
Turner Blaufuss

## ◆ Third Place

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*Daily News of Wahpeton*  
Carrie McDermott

## ◆ Second Place

- Dickinson Press  
*Sports section entries*  
Meghan Dowhaniuk



# Sports Page: Small Dailies

B SPORTS

Friday, May 16, 2014

## HITLESS WONDERS

No-hitters from Jones, Sickler lead to DHS sweep of Braves

**J**ones and Sickler were the stars of the day, combining for 12 strikeouts and 10 walks to lead the Braves to a 10-0 victory over the Cougars on Friday night. Jones pitched a no-hitter for the second time in his career, while Sickler pitched a no-hitter for the first time. The Braves' offense was shut out, with no runs, hits, or errors.

**Wagner cards 68 in Cougars home win**

**Magicians too much for Dickinson tennis**

**PLAYERS**

WAGNER CARDS 68 IN COUGARS HOME WIN

WAGNER CARDS 68 IN COUGARS HOME WIN

WAGNER CARDS 68 IN COUGARS HOME WIN

## ◆ First Place

- Dickinson Press  
*Sports section entries*  
Cole Britton

# *Sports Page: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Forum Sports Pages*  
**Forum staff**

# Sports Page: Large Dailies

**SPORTS** Friday, February 26, 2010 | Section 2

## Seniors deliver, UND holds on to first in Big Sky

**NIGHT OF KNIGHTS**  
OF CENTRAL CAPE OFF PERFECT SEASON WITH 7-2 WIN OVER BISMARCK



**Mavericks drop Hawks**



**Stanon**

- ◆ **First Place**
  - **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Night of Knights*  
**Staff**



**MARK SCZCZEPANSKI, MD**

**EYE Clinic**

Trust Your **LASIK** Procedure to Mark Szczepanski, MD

**18 YEARS EXPERIENCE**



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Sports Reporting*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Sports Reporting: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Park River, Walsh County Press**

*Back to State: Aggies  
are Region 4 champs*

**Kevin Skavhaug**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **New Town News**

*Eagles prevail in double header*

**Jerry W. Kram**

# Sports Reporting: Small Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- McClusky Gazette

*Wildcats sweep all three matches with Trojans*

**Tim Hanson**

## Wildcats sweep all three matches with the Trojans

BY TIM HANSON

The Center-Blanton Wildcats took the Trojans in three sets last Monday night.

The Trojans put up a good fight the first two sets but were totally outplayed the third set.

The Trojans slip to 3-6 in region play and sixth place while the winning Wildcats are alone at the top of the region with a 7-0 record. Washburn and Wilson-Wing are both still winless and at the bottom of the region with 0-4 records.

Washburn and Wilson-Wing tangle this week and the Trojans travel to Standing Rock Oct. 12 for a region match.

The volleyball season is quickly winding down with just four more matches after the Standing Rock match.

The girls are on the bus to

Drake/Ansonoma Oct. 16 and Oct. 17 they travel to Nebraska.

The last home match is with Denmark (Shah Christian Oct. 14 and the last regular season match is at Wilson-Wing Oct. 11.

The first set saw the Wildcats with a slight lead until Abby Hantz scored back-to-back kills and back-to-back aces to put the Wildcats up 25-7.

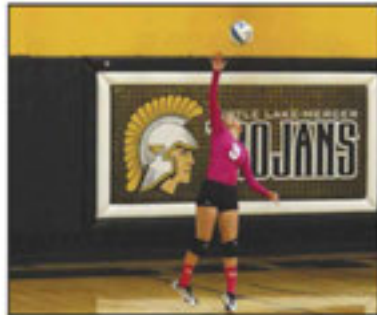
Kills from Morgan Reiser and Kaley kept the Trojans from falling further behind but four consecutive kills from Morgan Vitak put the Wildcats up 20-11.

An ace and kill from Sophie Sparrow late in the set cut the Wildcats lead to 20-16.

A kill from Amber Frank sealed the first set at 20-16 Wildcats.



TL-M Trojans #12 Brooke Goven with a return in action against the Wildcats.



The Trojans played well the second set but the lack of offensive points were the downfall as just three kills in the set were not going to be enough as the Wildcats took the set 25-16 on a set ending kill from Amber Frank.

The Wildcats dominated the third set jumping out to a 9-2 lead and coasted to the win 25-6. Trojans Hantz got an ace to

end the set and match.

TLMM 5165

Center-Blanton 25 20 20

TLMS: Aces: Mya Smalls 1, Sophie Sparrow 1, Shantayya Kopycky 1, Kelli Kaley Sease 3, Brooke Goven 5, Morgan Reiser 2, Sophie Sparrow 1, Digi Easton Logsdon, 14, Sophie Sparrow 10, Shantayya Kopycky 2, Kaley Sease 7, Hantz Kaley Sease 1, Anissa

Sophie Sparrow 16.

Center-Blanton: Aces: Abby Hantz 4, Trojans James 4, Morgan Vitak 3, Kelli Abby Hantz 11, Amber Frank 9, Morgan Vitak 9, Mykavia Jacobson 7, Digi Morgan Vitak 17, Ashley Frank 17, Amber Frank 9, Hantz Amber Frank 5, Anissa Ashley Frank 15, Kaysa Haug 13, Morgan Vitak 4.

# *Sports Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Carrington, Foster County Independent  
*Overtime blues*  
Erik Gjovik

## ◆ Third Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Hockey co-op*  
Cole Short

## ◆ Second Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*3X Champ*  
Pace Maier

# Sports Reporting: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*New meaning of sacrifice*  
**Karen Speidel**

## **New meaning of sacrifice**

*Moffet and Churchill give up 1st football game for military*

BY KAREN SPEIDEL

newsmonitor@walspitondailynews.com

Charlie Moffet did something uncharacteristic. On the first football game of his senior year, under the Friday night lights, this Wyndmere-Lidgerwood senior lineman stood on the sidelines.

Moffet is a first team all-stater known for harassing quarterbacks, of being a defensive nuisance for opponents facing him Friday nights.

His coach Scott Strenge calls him a playmaker, a football bully in that he can take over a game.

But that Friday night, Moffet stood on the sidelines wearing his jeans and Warbird jersey, watching the game with the focus of someone wishing to be in the thick of action.

His teammate Hunter Churchill is also noticeably absent, another senior playmaker the Warbirds were missing to open the 2017 football season. Churchill is the go-to running back for the Warbirds, a speedster with quick pivots that makes him hard to pull down.

Both Moffet and Churchill underwent basic training this summer. Moffet returned from Fort Jackson in South Carolina the night before the opener against LaMoure-Litchville-Marion, while Churchill was in the car with his parents Chris and Christine Busche driving home for Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri.

They chose military service to do something for themselves different than the summer typically

SEE BASIC TRAINING, PAGE A10



# *Sports Reporting: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Lisbon, Ransom County Gazette**  
*New sports complex 'second to none'*  
**Mattie Richardson-Schmitz**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Ropin the win*  
**Jack Dura**

# Sports Reporting: Large Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- **Mayville, Traill County Tribune**  
*An all-time great Bengal*  
**Harry Lipsiea**

## An all-time great Bengal

Mayville's Jim LeClair earns special honors from NFL franchise

By Harry Lipsiea

Jim LeClair played his final football game in a Cincinnati Bengals uniform 34 years ago. Still, the Mayville resident's impact on the gridiron and in the city is not forgotten.

Revering fan mail is still a regular occurrence, Jim's wife, Betty, noted. No less than a couple pieces of mail are sent to their home each week.

"There are a lot of fans that continue to write to Jim on a regular basis," she said pointing at a stack of letters, photos and cards that sit in a corner of Jim's den in the basement. "Just last week, he got a letter from a man who grew up watching Jim play. Now as an adult, he is telling his kids about the player he looked up to when he was younger."

That love and respect from fans was shown recently as LeClair earned a pair of special honors from the organization he played his entire NFL career for.

The middle linebacker was named to the Bengals' First 50 list. Celebrating their 50th season, the Cincinnati Bengals released a list of the team's top 50 players of all time as voted on by fans and national media members.

"We thought our 50th season was a great opportunity to recognize our Bengal legends that have meant so much to this organization," Eandy Parker, Cincinnati Bengals director of communications, said. "It's a chance to tie our past while also looking to the future."

A week later, LeClair was announced as a member of the the All-50th team. The roster included 26 retired players, just three of them linebackers, and two coaches, including one of Jim's favorites, Forrest Gregg, on the all-time squad named by organization officials. According to Parker, the team is based on stats, awards and fan voting. The players and coaches will have their faces featured on banners at Paul Brown Stadium this season.

"There was some tough competition there," Parker said. "To make the list, the player needed to be the best of the best of the Bengals."

The 1976 Pro Bowl linebacker finished his NFL career with 30 interceptions and 39 fumble recoveries while leading the team in tackles for five seasons. He helped lead the team to its first ever Super Bowl appearance in 1971. Cincinnati came up just short 26-21 in Super Bowl XVI to the San Francisco 49ers.

"I had confidence we were going to win that game," he told the Tribune in a 2013 article.

However, the Bengals were down



Harry Lipsiea / Tribune

Mayville resident Jim LeClair has added several more honors to his resume. The long-time professional football player was recently named to the all-time Cincinnati Bengals roster. He played all 12 of his NFL seasons for the Bengals including 1976 in which he made the Pro Bowl.

# *Sports Reporting: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Lipp joins the legends in emotional win*

**Turner Blaufuss**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Williston Herald**

*Moody hits scoring record*

**Jeffery Guiliani**

# Sports Reporting: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

### ■ Dickinson Press

*Boore emerges to win  
Champions Ride  
Parker Cotton*



Allen Boore, of Arden, Utah, rides Spider for 80 points during the short-go of Saturday's Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match.

Photos by Parker Cotton / The Dickinson Press

### Boore emerges to win Champions Ride

By Parker Cotton  
The Dickinson Press

**L**ast Friday, Allen Boore was attending a wedding in his home state of Utah. By Saturday afternoon, he was the newest champion of the Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match. In between, he had to drive nearly 800 miles and then conduct a who's

who of the world's best riders. He first attended the Champions Ride in 2001 and placed in the top five or six, he recalled. His second visit saw him post an 85-point ride aboard Comedini, setting himself up nicely to earn a spot in the short-go. There, he rode Spider to 80 more points, giving him a total of 165.5 and making him 24,500 richer. "It's come up on the second year and who is it phenomenal," said Boore, 36. "It's what all 30 guys wanted to do." In 2002, Wade Standell and Curt Belcher participated in a ride-off to break a tie after the short-go, and a

new tradition was born. Starting in 2002, the year's winner would take on the previous year's champion in a ride-off — adding a bit more entertainment value to a day that already features plenty of it. In keeping with that tradition, Boore matched up with Big Valley, Alberta, cowboy Luke Thurston on Saturday to cap the final tradition of the Champions Ride. Thurston, 2001's winner and a runner-up to Boore this year by a mere two points in the average, put up an 80-point ride aboard J Bar J Home without. Boore followed with a ride-off to Bar J's Cat Man Do for 80.5 points,

edging Thurston a second time. "When it comes down to these final hours, it's just a point or two separation with the riders and the horses," Boore said. "That's the way we want it. The closer the better. That makes it more competitive." And it was competitive the whole afternoon. After Thurston set the bar in the first round with an 82-point ride aboard J Bar J's Buglock, Boore came in with his 85.5. Spencer Wright of Hilliard, Utah, and Toss Henry of Corona, N.M., posted scores of 85. BOORE: Page 02

# *Sports Reporting: Large Dailies*

---

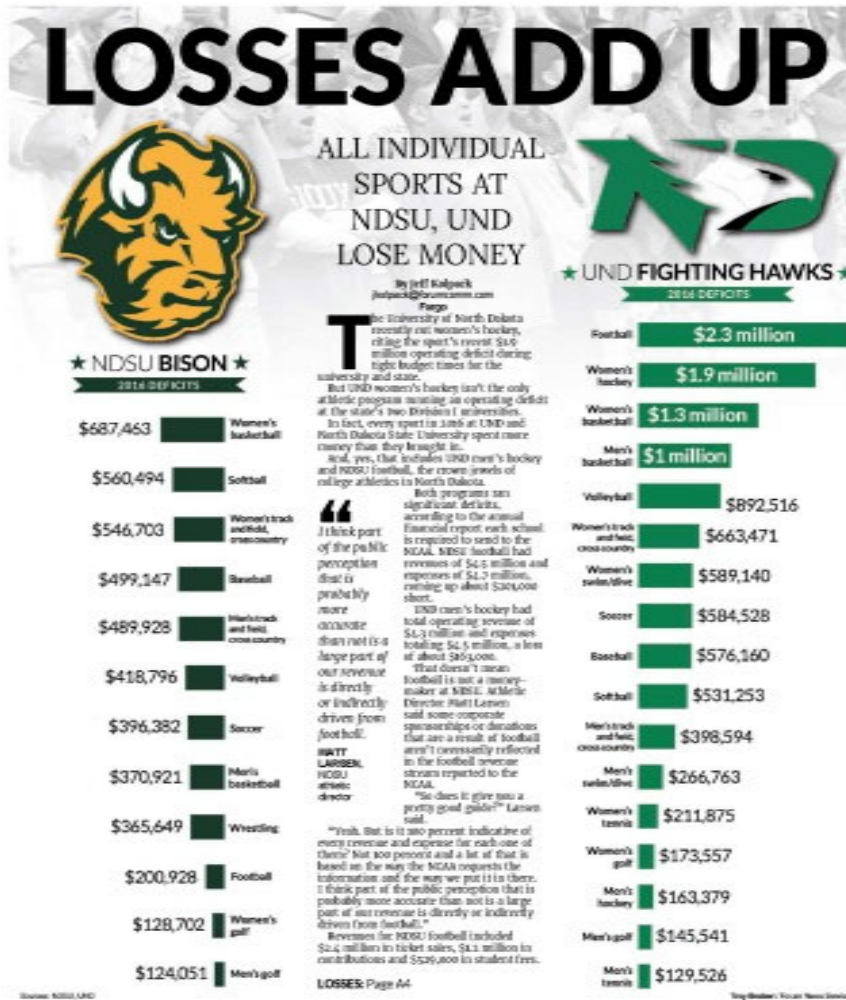
## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*'He always had a plan'*  
**Chris Murphy**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*UND set to leave the Big Sky*  
**Brad E. Schlossman, Tom Miller**

# Sports Reporting: Large Dailies



## First Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Losses add up*  
Jeff Kolpack



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Sports Reporting  
Series*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# Sports Series: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- New Town News  
*Region 8 Tournament*  
Jerry W. Kram

### Parshall headed to the Region finals

BY JERRY W. KRAM

It looked like the top seeded New Town Eagles were headed to another Regional Championship showdown with the Watford City Wolves, but the Parshall Braves had something else in mind in the semifinals of the Region 8 Girls Basketball Tournament held in Watford City. The Eagles jumped out to an early lead, but Parshall dominated

for three and a half quarters to outscore the Eagles 23-10.

"That class's a class," said Braves Head Coach Dusty Olson. "Our girls worked hard all week. They needed this win, not just for the fans but for themselves."

"Tonight, we didn't execute the way we had in the past," said Eagles Head Coach Doreen Brady. "I don't know how many lapses we missed. We didn't rebound. We missed a lot of free throws. You're not going to win a lot of ball games doing that."

The Braves victory will send them to the Region 8 Championship against the Wolves Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Watford City beat the Forest Lake Ranchers handsily, 50-29, to secure their berth in the final.

The Eagles started fast and got five points from Nicole Donald to lead 13-4 in the first four minutes of the game. The Braves got warmed up and ended the quarter on a 8-0 run to trail by three after the first eight minutes, 12-9.

New Town will play the Ranchers for third place at 8 p.m. "We have another game left," Brady said. "Twenty games in a lot of games to win. We did that and hope

to get the 23rd win on Thursday. I'm really proud of these girls. It's just like life. You have ups and downs. Deliberately tonight we were on the short end of the stick. Parshall played hard and did a good job."

The Eagles hung on to their slim lead for most of the second quarter, but a basket in the game by Adonia Severance tied the game up at 21 with three minutes to go in the half. For the entire first half, Leanne Turner proved adept at drawing fouls while driving in the lane to the basket. While she was only four for 10 from the free throw line in the first half, three New Town Eagles wound up with three fouls, which opened up the door for the Braves offense.

"We wanted to play defense tonight," Olson said. "That's what we are known for. We normally come out flat and it seems like we are always hustling up half. It was one of those times we needed to regroup. I told them to settle down and the points would come."

In the last three minutes, the Braves went on a 10 point run to go into the locker room with a 30-21 lead. They never looked back. The Eagles battled hard in the third quarter, but weren't able to make a dent in the Braves lead. The Braves started the second half with a 10-2 run to take an 18 point lead at the 5:27 mark. But the Eagles clawed their way back and were down 31 at the start of the third quarter, 51-40.

Olson said the Braves' game plan was to neutralize Eagles center, Tylagh Brady. He used a box and over defense to isolate her. He noted that when she did get open, Brady hit her shots, but the defense limited her to three three-point baskets for nine points.

In the fourth quarter, all

of the Eagles' stars are had four fouls, but were still only 10 points down with four minutes left in the game. In the last two minutes of the game, the Braves were on another 12 point run to put the game out of doubt. Marvonn Ross and Donald finished out of the game in the last minute. The Braves wound up attempting 28 free throws in the game, converting 21. The Eagles were just down for 11 from the charity stripe.

"We know they play some a lot, so we had a game plan to attack their zone," Olson said. "Our goal was to go to the line as much as we could tonight and control the game."

Turner led all scorers with 23 points for the Braves, including going nine of 17 from the free throw line. She was also two for seven on three point shots. Adonia Severance had 18 points, followed by Shalynn Turner with 15.

"We have a lot of experience on this team," Olson said. "Tonight that experience showed up to play."

Caitlyn Turner led the Eagles with 17 points. Donald touched with 11.

The Eagles opened the tournament by dropping the Braves by five days 17-47. The Eagles never trailed in the game and had four players in double figures, Marvonn Ross, 18, Caitlyn Turner 17, Tylagh Brady 15, and Tamara Fox 11.

Parshall had a tougher time with their opening game with



The Parshall Braves' Leanne Turner puts up two points against the New Town Eagles in the semifinals of the Region 8 Girls Basketball Tournament in Watford City. Turner led the team with 27 points including 9 of 17 from the free throw line.

Photo by Jerry W. Kram  
the Ray Japs, but prevailed 70-64. Olson said the Braves were flat in that game, which saw the lead change hands nine times with 10 ties. The Braves were hurt by their free throw shooting, making just eight out of 26 attempts. Ray led at halftime 37-33, but the Braves outscored them 15-5 in the third quarter and 20-18 in the fourth to secure the win.

Sherrilyn Fackness led all scorers with 22 points, followed by Adonia Severance with 21, Shilby Hall and Shalynn Severance each contributed 11.



Caitlyn Turner scores for the New Town Eagles as they disposed of the Watford City Japs in the opening round of the Region 8 Girls Basketball Tournament. Turner scored 15 in both games against Stanley and the Parshall Braves.  
Photo by Jerry W. Kram



# *Sports Series: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Carrington, Foster County Independent**  
*M-P-B Volleyball*  
**Erik Gjovik**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Warbirds*  
**Karen Speidel**

# Sports Series: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Hankinson, News-Monitor  
*Point of View*  
Karen Speidel,  
Frank Stanko,  
Carrie McDermott

### POINT OF VIEW

## On the SIDELINES

Editor's Note: In this month's Point of View we talk to fans in the stands to see what drives their support.

BY FRANK STANKO

frank.stanko@news-monitor.com

For over a decade, Scott and Rhonda Thiel have been two of Walpole's most devoted "fans in the stands." Even if the day runs long, with a golf match followed by a baseball game, they're proud of having mixed little to none of their sons in action.

"Our boys are so close in age. Most of the time, they're all pretty much involved with the same team for a sport, if it's variety or junior variety. We've been really fortunate in that aspect," Rhonda said.

The Thiels moved to Walpole in 2001. Scott Thiel, now a board director for Walpole Public Schools, said he wanted to live in a community with a small enough school system. A former high school and college football player who liked weights and ran track, Scott also wanted his sons to have more extracurricular opportunities than if they continued living in Fargo.

"I guess I always hoped they would want to be involved. I was never going to push them or make them, though," he said.

At one point, the four Thiel brothers were all involved with Walpole Public Schools' wrestling program. Eldest brother Jacob was a coach while his younger siblings Brandon, Chris and Turner were the athletes.

Young men are different

from young women, recalls Rhonda. When they get to fights, it doesn't necessarily stop with name calling. She remembers the rousing jabs that by the end of the season, at least one of her sons was going to end up killing at least one other.

"But when Christopher lost his match to go into the finals, he bypassed his head coach," Rhonda said. "The one he went to and hugged was his brother. Sitting in the stands, there were lots of emotions."

For sons all grew up a bit more during that wrestling season, Rhonda added. It was also fun for her and husband Scott to watch their sons work together.

The Thiels have active lives off the playing fields, of course. Each enjoys hunting and fishing. Brandon Thiel joined the powerlifting team at North Level Performance in Walpole. Chris Thiel was recently on Walpole High School's Homecoming court.

As for Scott and Rhonda, some of their closest friends are fellow parents.

"Every Wednesday night is 'Family Supper Night,'" Rhonda said. "We get together plenty, but this is the one night everyone knows is planned and concrete. Our kids have learned how important family time is." The Thiels even co-own a



Scott and Rhonda Thiel of Walpole are shown here with some of their four sons, Jacob, Turner and Christopher. They are the perennial fans in the stands while following Walpole High School sports.

has with three other families, which they've used for every thing from talking to bring students to a dance in style.

"When we first moved to the community, these were the friends we made," Scott recalled. "The parents of other children in activities with the boys. It's a wonderful that just keeps adding down."

Prior to their adventures in wrestling, Chris and Brandon Thiel also played football together. Chris' athletic skill wasn't guaranteed, as he lives with asthma. Because of his positive experience with Dr. Alina Winkler, he's considering either studying chiropractic medicine or business management in college.

"When he was little, Chris didn't go outside or play," Rhonda recalled. "He was in the house all the time. We never thought he'd be the true three sport athlete."

Turner Thiel's sporting high school even if more than a few people confuse him with Chris. His parents are just

grateful he attends a school that closely monitors students' academic progress.

"We were real fortunate," Scott said. "I think back on all the years our boys have been in activities. We only had one phone call from school. It boiled down to there was work that was on the desk that hadn't been seen yet."

Scott and Rhonda both agree that sports opportunities start early for Twin Turner's sons.

"I was playing basketball and soccer when we moved," said Jacob Thiel, now 22. "When we moved, I started wrestling, then took up cross country and track. My middle school physical education teacher, Wayne Hample, got me interested in wrestling. I joined and just kept going. I took up cross country to stay in shape and for something else to do."

Jacob, who studies business management at North Dakota State College of Science, added baseball to his repertoire as

high school. He continues to wrestle in college.

"It's my most loved sport, the one I have the most fun with," he explained.

Golfing has been Brandon Thiel's perennial sport. Brandon, now 18 and also a business management student, was unable to make it home from Mayville State University in Mayville when the News-Monitor visited his family.

"He did play a little bit of baseball and some football, plus he wrestled. When you're a golfer, you kind of have to pick one over the others," Rhonda explained.

As for Christopher Thiel, now 27, baseball has always been his favorite sport. In fact, he now coaches it through Walpole Parks and Recreation.

Turner Thiel, now 15, currently plays football, basketball and golf. He likes to think of himself as trying out everything.

"I like all three of the sports the same. I guess, I enjoy all of them a bit," Turner said.

# *Sports Series: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**

*Lady Aggies take second in Super Region*

**Chelsea Wysocki**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**

*Park River Baseball*

**Peyton Cole**

# Sports Series: Large Weeklies

## Hoff accepts offer from USA Hockey

By Matthew Semisch  
Bottineau Courant

David Hoff's United States passport expires near the end of this year. Last week, he produced as good a reason to renew it as any.

Hoff, head coach of the Bottineau-Rugby (B-R) boys high school hockey team and a math teacher at Bottineau High School, accepted an offer to become an assistant coach with the U.S. national sled hockey team. He will be among the staff accompanying the team to the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

The Americans have won sled hockey gold in three of the past four Paralympics, and most recently finished first at the 2014 Games in Sochi, Russia. Hoff will work under Jeff Sauer, a former two-time national championship-winning men's hockey coach at the University of Wisconsin before joining the national sled hockey program ahead of the 2010 Paralympics.

The Bottineau Courant first reported in its Dec. 27 edition that Hoff, who also serves as BHS athletic director, had

been offered the assistant role by USA Hockey officials around last Thanksgiving. Hoff is already well known in wider hockey circles, serving as the coach-in-chief for USA Hockey's northern plains district.

After careful consideration and discussions with, among others, his family and B-R assistant coaches Eric Herbel and Joe Handeland, Hoff made his decision regarding the Team USA role.

"There were a couple of things that I wanted to make sure I just felt good about," he said. "I just really wanted to make sure I could be all in with it, and I feel comfortable with where it's at and knowing what I have to do with what my job is, still back here as a math teacher, which obviously is the priority, but it's just an opportunity where, every time I've looked at it, when I would say I don't know if I should do it or whatever, it's just one where I kept telling myself I can't pass the opportunity up."

"To work with Jeff Sauer, the old Wisconsin Badger head coach, it's a great opportunity, and the 17 guys that'll be on the national team are just qual-

■ HOFF Continued on 4A

## ◆ First Place

- Bottineau Courant  
*BHS coaching news*  
Matthew Semisch

# *Sports Series: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

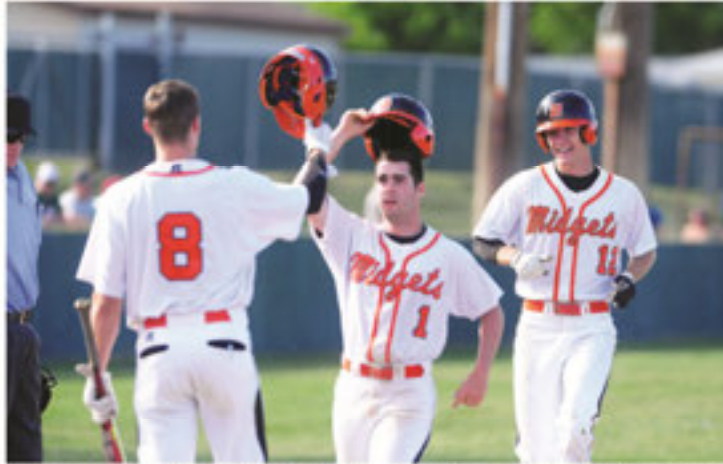
- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Wildcat domination*  
**Turner Blaufuss**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Point of View*  
**Frank Stanko, Carrie McDermott, Karen Speidel**

# Sports Series: Small Dailies

## MONSTER MASH



Dickinson High's Cain Janda (8) greets Kambel Jones (1) at home plate following Shawn Staffer's (12) fourth-inning home run against Grand Forks Red River on Thursday in the quarterfinals of the Class A state baseball tournament at Veterans Memorial Ballpark.

### Seven-run fourth inning carries Midgets baseball past Red River

**By Parker Collins**  
The Dickinson Press  
Dickinson —  
The Midgets' — as it is known to the locals, sports all that will — with their bats at the top and outfield wall at the bottom — in left field at Veterans Memorial Ballpark, producing all seven touchdowns from one well-timed home run with a ticket to ride.

The home run of an era on Thursday. With three batters of each team, Dickinson High's Shawn Staffer and Shawn Staffer challenged Grand Forks Red River pitcher Connor Richardson with powerful energy, deflating towering short fast ones. The Midgets could not contain.

The Midgets — called by the name, Richard's by the name — were the most-damaging bats in a series run tonight during the Dickinson High in the quarterfinals of the Class A state baseball tournament, and the big home run carried the Midgets to an eventual 12-3 victory over the Mustangs.

The home run Staffer drove to distant innings in the East Region tournament, as he struggled to see a lot of

balls, a lot of strikes," Richard said at Richardson. "He had to get to him early and get him out of the game. The more we were sent out of the game, the the more just called completely."

**MIDGETS: Page 83**



Dickinson High senior Abby Janda swings at a pitch against West Fargo Strayhorns on Thursday in the quarterfinals of the Class A state softball tournament.

### Midgets hold off Mustangs to open state softball tournament

**By Parker Collins**  
The Dickinson Press  
MIDGETS — It was shaky in the beginning, and some winking of the end, but it ended with smiles.

The Dickinson High softball team received a comeback in the middle innings of its Class A state tournament quarterfinal game against West Fargo Strayhorns on Thursday, earning two runs to reach home from the third through the fifth, and the Midgets held off the Mustangs

in the final two innings for a 4-3 victory at Ft. Lincoln Elementary school. After falling behind 3-0 in the first three innings, Dickinson's three-pack of two-run innings gave the Midgets a 6-3 victory. A two-run single from Stacy Staffer got the Mustangs back within 4-3 in the top of the sixth inning.

**SOFTBALL: Page 83**

## ◆ First Place

- Dickinson Press
  - Midgets baseball - Parker Cotton*
  - Parker Cotton*

# *Sports Series: Large Dailies*

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Grand Forks Herald  
*UND BB heads to NCAA tourney*  
Wayne Nelson

## ◆ Third Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*100 seasons strong*  
Eric Peterson

## ◆ Second Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*Iced out*  
Brad E. Schlossman, Tom Miller

# Sports Series: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*Cuts to UND athletics*  
Tom Miller

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017

## UND MAY CUT SPORTS PROGRAMS

**Statement says Burgum proposed to decrease UND state funding 20 percent**

By Tom Miller  
Grand Forks Herald

UND's athletic programs are back on the chopping block, according to a joint statement Tuesday from UND President Mark Kennedy and his Executive Council.



Kennedy

ment said.  
According to the statement,

"It is likely that we regrettably will need to consider again the number of sports we sponsor if we are to support competitive efforts of the remaining teams," the statement said.

UND athletics will be given a target budget savings goal on Feb. 10 and will be asked to submit a budget reflecting those goals by March 15.

Last April, UND cut baseball and men's golf and has since reinstated men's golf dependent on external funding.

This fall, Kennedy asked the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee to review sports spon-

sorship and consider conference affiliation.

In October, the IAC elected to keep all 20 UND sports and Kennedy accepted that recommendation.

At that time, Kennedy said: "I have made it clear this is a once-in-a-Kennedy-tenure opportunity to review sports sponsorship and consider conference affiliation."

UND: Page A5

UND's statement also said substantial cuts in overall university funding will need to be made to meet reductions in state budget appropriations. Additional funds will be reallocated from the current budget to meet strategic investment goals. Full story: Page B1.





**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Sports Feature*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Sports Feature: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Beach, Golden Valley News**  
*Remembering coach Waldal*  
Richard Volesky, Jane Cook

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Mandan News**  
*Local nonprofit to host*  
*basketball tournament*  
Tyana Johnson

# Sports Feature: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

### ■ New Town News

#### *Pickup men make rodeo safer*

Jerry W. Kram

## Pickup men make rodeo safer

BY JERRY W. KRAM

Rodeo is making a big comeback in the region. With cowboys pitting their strength and skill against 1,200-pound broncos and one-ton bulls, it takes a lot of people to make sure both the people and the animals come through the event safely.

Pickup men are among the unseen heroes of the rodeo. These men and their horses separate the cowboys from their mounts (at least those who aren't bucked off) and calm animals held for a half an hour or more so they can be guided back to their stalls.

Ryan Hanna, of Berthoud, has been working with stock contractor Bailey Poe Rodeo for about six years and was riding as a pickup man in this summer's Adrian Focke Rodeo in New Town. Bailey Poe Rodeo provides broncos, bucking balls and other stock to rodeos across the Midwest. He said his job in the arena is to watch out for both rider and bronco.

"Our main job, first and foremost, is to make sure to get the riders off safely," Hanna said. "But it is almost as important to keep the bucking horses safe. Their job is to back. People might say flunk straps and caudal attachments cause to back, but they are naturally going to back if they have made it this far in professional rodeo."

The pickup men don't work alone. Their horses are more than a tool, they are the cowboy's partner in the arena.

"It sure does take a special horse to be a pickup horse," Hanna said. "I probably never through 50 horses or get to the set of horses I have now. I think any pickup man will tell you there isn't any other reason to what makes a pickup horse."

Hanna said it can take years to develop a good pickup horse. Part of that time is spent developing a rapport between the rider and the ride. It also takes time to work on the horse's temperament, so it will remain calm in front of lights and crowds and the booming announcements in the rodeo arena.

"You go to a practice," Hanna said. "You don't want to go to a rodeo with a new horse to see if they will work. Some of the smartest horses in the world don't like it. You just have to weed through one."



Pickup men are responsible for keeping both cowboys and animals safe in the rodeo arena. Kelly Klein was one of the pickup men working this summer's Adrian Focke Memorial Rodeo in New Town.

Photo by Jerry W. Kram

"If you find the ones that like it,"

finding a horse that can stay calm in the busy arena is just the first step.

Hanna said even a horse with the aptitude to be a pickup horse has to learn to back.

"There is an art to it," Hanna said. "They learn and it takes time. You try to do some stuff at home to get them used to the rodeo."

Some use harnesses and flags and people in the arena and the crowd and the music. "There is a lot of stuff going on. But you can lead it out early on if they are going to like it or not. Then you just work with them and find their strengths and weaknesses."

"There are usually a pair of pickup men

working in an event. One moves to get the riders safely off their rides while the other guides the broncos out of the arena.

ing. To keep everyone safe, the pickup men have to know how to work together."

"There are some general rules that all pickup men know," Hanna said. "You give where and down what is the team work. You have to know your partner."

Every year does things a little different. But there is a general set of rules about who goes where. You have read the situation. But there is no set pattern because each bucking horse is different."

"Getting the rider off of a bucking horse can be an aerobic exercise some-

times," Hanna said as far as getting riders safely back on the ground, handback and caudal horse riding are two completely different events.

"In the handback riding, the rider has his hand cinched in a roadside rigging," Hanna said. "In the professional level it can take them longer to get their hand out of the rigging, so as a pickup man you get to them and get the bucking horse lined up. Then you have to release the flank strap on the horse to get them to stop bucking. That gives less stress on the handback riders who can get his hand out. Then things go fast."

Hanna said that for handback riding, the pickup man needs a fast and athletic horse. The horse needs to be fast to keep up with the bronco, but then stop quickly to let the rider off.



It sure does take a special horse to be a pickup horse.

I probably never through 50 horses or get to the set of horses I have now.

—Ryan Hanna

# *Sports Feature: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Washburn, The Leader-News**

*Making strides*

**Alyssa Meier**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Hall pass*

**Pace Maier**

# Sports Feature: Mid-Size Weeklies



Representatives of Henningsgard siblings - Carson, Taylor, Kennedy, Cole and Kyle - have been prominent basketball players in western Tall-Corral County through decades.

## 'ALWAYS IN OUR BLOOD'

Henningsgard siblings look back, ahead on family's basketball legacy

By COLE SHORT

Taylor Henningsgard's accomplishments on the basketball court speak for themselves. The 22-year-old Eastern Washington all-star forward twice and was named a Most Outstanding Player last season for playing for the Hillsboro-Central Valley Braves.

Two years later she led the Lake Region State College women's basketball team in Duvall Lake, N.D., to the NAJCA Division I National Championship tournament.

Henningsgard has biggest handfuls of games on the hardwood, but on Monday, she'll suit up against an opponent she's never faced before: her sister.

Taylor Henningsgard's Dickinson State Blue Hawks tip off at 6:30 p.m. Monday against Kennedy Henningsgard and the Valley City (N.D.) State Vikings.

"This may be the greatest of a game that you'll never lose my dad," Taylor says, laughing.

"Normally when you're at a game you're cheering for one team or the other. In that's definitely been a common question: 'What are your parents going to do?'"

A look at the Henningsgards may have been inevitable at some point. Last year, Taylor Henningsgard's 3-pts have dominated local sports headlines the past decade. The family's three daughters - Jane, Taylor and Kennedy - all earned all state honors, scored more than 1,500 points in their prep careers and went on to play college ball.

And then there are the Henningsgard brothers, Kyle and Carson. Kyle, an 18-year-old senior, became the "Premier" all-time assists leader in December and averaged 13 points Tuesday to reach 948 points in his high school career.

**HENNINGSGARDS**

Continued on page 2



The Henningsgard girls, from left, Carson, Taylor, Kennedy, Jane and Kyle, often laugh while trying to spot basketballs on their laptops during a photo shoot Monday, Jan. 2 at Central Valley School. The trio of sisters averaged more than 1,500 points in their high school playing careers. Kyle, a senior for the Hillsboro-Central Valley Braves, needs 30 points to reach 1,000 in his career while his brother Carson, a freshman, needs to reach 100 in his career. Carson's Tuesday

## First Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Always in our blood*  
Cole Short

# *Sports Feature: Large Weeklies*

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer  
*Trauger honored for 31 years  
on football chain gang*  
Neal Shipman

## ◆ Third Place

- Bottineau Courant  
*Stories of a superfan*  
Staff

## ◆ Second Place

- Mayville, Trail County Tribune  
*Looking Back: Central Valley  
remembers state titles*  
Harry Lipsiea

# Sports Feature: Large Weeklies



GIRLS HOCKEY

## "FAME" FACES TRAGIC FORTUNE

Announced elimination of UND's women's hockey program casts cloud over sport closer to grassroots level

By Matthew Semisch

It was 17 long ago that playing for Bottineau's girls hockey team, Jenna Gilje realized a goal felt tall enough to inspire legitimate pride.

Gilje finished during her sophomore season with the Stars but was particularly vital to Bottineau's success as a senior. After finishing the spring in regular season with six goals and 17 points — highlighted on the team only by then sophomore Marissa "Moby" — Gilje helped guide the Stars to their second North Dakota Amateur Hockey Association state tournament third place finish in six years. She also earned second all-state team honors.

It also wasn't long ago that a player in some capacities still remembered for the first she left them to feel disappointed continuing to play hockey when high school.

After standing at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., however, Gilje found the odds of playing for the school's 2003 Division II team were stacked against her. Nevertheless, Bottineau youngsters were looking for her to lead them to glory.

Gilje, a bridge substitute major, ultimately joined Concordia's elite women's hockey team. She had some early success's but never played again in a season-opening tournament two weeks ago. But she's looking for her to lead to what's known as a better position among the College Hockey.

Although her hopes of playing college hockey

long life and 17 goals and 17 points during her sophomore season. She was Bottineau's girls hockey team, which finished second in their year. She was announced Gilje to be a leading scorer in the state of North Dakota in her senior season.

But, Gilje never accepted the team's loss or her resignation to her state's leading scorer. She is Bottineau but having been named in her state's leading scorer in North Dakota at the age of 16. Gilje grew up as a UND hockey fan, occasionally attending games of the Fargo High school team during her years in Bottineau's girls team.

"I said, we would always give her shots to the game, and you'd get out it was better than an NHL game and you would get to meet the players and it was like meeting a celebrity," Gilje said. "It was so exciting."

"She'd also go to Concordia and meet the players, and getting to share the Fargo was like that. That's what playing for UND was like. It was equal to being a celebrity."

With her but now had memories of UND's women's hockey team and their North Dakota

■ HOCKEY Continued on p. 11



"I thought it was really discouraging, and it was really hard to see what was happening to our program because the girls' UND team is a big dream to most kids growing up, and it's just hard to see that when so many successful players come out of UND."

## ◆ First Place

- Bottineau Courant  
*"Fame" faces tragic fortune*  
Matthew Semisch

# *Sports Feature: Small Dailies*

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Put Whitey In*  
**Turner Blaufuss**

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Dickinson Press**  
*With a narrow focus,*  
*White led the way for Blue Hawks*  
**Samuel Evers**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*Forever Friends: Holen,*  
*Meiklejohn leading Loboes to state*  
**Mike Savaloja**



# Sports Feature: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

### ■ Dickinson Press

*Herauf looks to repeat  
as Class A pole vault  
champion*

**Parker Cotton**



Parker Cotton / The Dickinson Press  
Dickinson High's Mike Herauf pole vaults in a  
cut for his senior pictures on June 13, 2016, at  
the David Activities Center.

**By Parker Cotton**  
The Dickinson Press  
The Herauf was looking sharp.  
He took off his jacket and rolled up the sleeves of his white button-down shirt. His silver tie was tucked neatly underneath a black vest, which matched his suit pants.  
But instead of leather shoes to complete the look, Herauf sported his Nike's — gold and white with black laces.  
As the sun beat down on him, Herauf picked up the vaulting pole he brought with him and began stretching.  
It was later in 2014, and Herauf was set to take his senior pictures. A yearbook photo was truly supposed to embody one's personality and values, Herauf chose an appropriate setting.  
"A lot of people know obviously know I'm a pole vaulter — some people refer to me as 'The Pole Vaulting Guy,'" Herauf said, laughing as he recalled the scene. "That was just before going to a

pole vaulting competition, so I wanted to get some training in, and my mom wanted to get some senior pictures. And me being a pole vaulter, I thought we could get some cool pictures... It was very difficult. I thought I was going to rip my pants every time down the runway... that was pretty heavy, and we got some good pictures that day."  
Pole vaulting has been a part of Herauf's life since he fell in love with it in seventh grade.  
Several years later, he is now a senior at Dickinson High and widely regarded as the best Class A pole vaulter in the state. In the fall, he is off to the University of Minnesota to continue his track and field career as a decathlete.  
In April of this year, Herauf cleared 17 feet, 3 inches, breaking Derek Bruggen's 2004 school record of 17-1.5, and he has since vaulted up to 17-3, the second-highest in the state's Class A history behind Brock Larson of Empire Junior, who vaulted 18-0 in 2011.  
Herauf was last season's Class A

pole vault title by clearing 14-9.5, beating Fargo South's Connor Fugels to a silver medal.  
Herauf hopes to repeat as Class A's pole vault champion on Saturday, the second day of the North Dakota State Track and Field Meet in Bismarck.  
"I'm not sure what the heights will be, if I'll do it, how I'll do it," he said. "But if that's the case, then that's what I've been shooting for my whole high school career. I'm just a lot of time into it, and I'm hoping for the best."  
**Up in the air**  
The emotion felt while falling down is like no other. To know he has hit the bar unscathed is a feeling Herauf cherishes on.  
"I'm getting goosebumps thinking about it," he said.  
"Sometimes I'll do a first jump or I'll stay in the air or I'll stretch on the way down, and seeing that bar still up there as you're coming down opposite side, and you hear everybody cheering and screaming. It's the perfect moment."

Getting to that point — or even getting in the air at all — is the culmination of several other minute aspects of the event that make a world of difference.  
"There's a coping in pole vault that 90 percent of what you do is on the runway and the approach," said John Wilson, one of Herauf's head coaches at DHS. "Pole vault is a really unique event in that there's so many things you have to do right, so many mental and physical parts — from the runway, to the plant, to the takeoff, to the rock back, to what we call getting levered, to the turn, to the finish. There's just so much to do."  
Herauf has always been an eager learner, however.  
"Coaching a kid as talented as Mike and as driven as Mike, coaching him is pretty easy in a lot of ways because you don't have to do things to drive or motivate him that you have to do with other athletes," Wilson said.  
**HERAUF: Page B2**

# *Sports Feature: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*On the fly*  
Colton Pool

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Recalling history*  
Tom Miller

# Sports Feature: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*That's what I'm striving for*  
**Chris Murphy**

## 'THAT'S WHAT I'M STRIVING FOR'

On her deathbed, mother of Kindred-Richland's Miller tells her to go win state softball title

By Chris Murphy  
cmurphy@fargomoorhead.com  
Kindred, N.D.

Kindred-Richland senior catcher Olivia Miller graduated from Kindred High School on Sunday, May 28. Her mother put her a card with a note inside that was difficult to read, scribbled with the pain that comes with liver and kidney failure.

"I'm so proud of you. I love you more," the note read.

Stacey Miller wrote that message to her youngest child on April 11, from a hospital bed, four days before she died.

There's a simple perfection in Stacey's response whenever Olivia would tell her she loved her.

The words don't demand attention. They aren't loud, just as Stacey did every morning in the kitchen of the Miller home in Chadron, the words quietly sing.

"I love you more," Stacey would always reply.

Those words are tattooed on Olivia's left wrist, right below where her catcher's mitt rests, so she sees them on every pitch. Those were the last words Stacey



Miller sports a tattoo and wears a graduation necklace given to her from her mother.

said to her family.

"For about two years, she fought so hard, but she just couldn't hold on anymore," Olivia said. "She played a big role in my sports life and my life in everything, she pushed me and taught me to work for the good in life."

In her final conversation with Olivia, before she went to the Palliative Care Unit at Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, Stacey talked about Olivia's best qualities. She told Olivia to work hard in life and go get a state softball championship.

"That's what the undefeated defending state champs plan to do, opening the Class B tournament at 11 a.m. today against Heart River in Jamestown."

"That's what I'm striving for," Olivia said.

While planning the funeral of her mother on a Saturday, Olivia recalled her father she had a softball game the next Monday. Olivia was behind the plate against Hillsboro-Central valley, two days after her mother died.

MILLER: Page D2



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Sports Column*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Sports Column: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Hankinson, News-Monitor

*Warbird fans have reason to give thanks*

Karen Speidel

## ◆ Third Place

- Hillsboro Banner

*Nor-man, Nor-man, Nor-man*

Keith Meyer

## ◆ Second Place

- Hillsboro Banner

*Wearing my superstitions on my sleeve*

Alyssa Short

# Sports Column: Mid-Size Weeklies



## Camrud roars when his team needs him the most

GRAND FORKS, N.D. — I've been a Jack Conrad fan all season.

The Hillsboro Central Valley junior forward has proved to more than his share of dominant performance this year.

Conrad

jumped as high to tip down a rebound to clear out H.C.V.'s

45-54 win over

Purple Oak Grove

Dec. 19 that I mean he par-

ticular from the stands.

The 6-foot-2 forward big

was less-averaged more than

14 rebounds a game this season

and piled up 19 boards in last

Thursday's Region 1 title-

clashing win over Thompson.

He's a hard-working, blue-

collar kid who anchors the

Banner' frontline and allows his

high-flying teammates to fill up

the box score.

So I shouldn't have any

complaints with Conrad.

And as all know, I don't.

But I've been telling people

all year there's one thing Con-

rad should be doing every year

and then on the court season.

Your advice here falls stop

praying attention to the teacher

who pulls all the time?

But then on up straight pretty

quickly when the great, well-

spoken man says.

Conrad has Thursday's show-

down with the Trojans, I've

never seen Conrad pull. Even

the Banner's even seems to get

up when an opponent leads

as others in his class.

"Jack's a quiet leader out

there," says Edith Howard,

Conrad's head coach.

"He's usually pretty straight-

forward and never lets up or down

the down's down much emotion

—although he's a little bit of a

joker in practice."

Apparently that's just Con-

rad's personality, says his dad,

Rick, who lives near Benton.

"I'd give him a task, he just

gets out and does it," Rick

says. "He never complains

about having to work. He

doesn't even get mad — except

at his little brother."

Conrad's coach and dad say

the H.C.V. forward is a shining

presence for his teammates.

"I've always said with the

and Kyle (Hawkins) have

to be the police force," Rick

says. "One of them's here if they

mess up by 10 or down by 15."

CAMRUD

Continued on page 11



## First Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Camrud roars*  
Cole Short

# *Sports Column: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Baby on the go*  
Chelsea Wysocki

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**  
*From this angle - Talk is cheap*  
Jody Michael

# Sports Column: Large Weeklies



EDITORIAL



In fact, non-scholarship junior college football programs like that at DCH have been ignored by Netflix's original documentary series "Last Chance U." The second season of the series debuts on the streaming service this Friday. © Justin K. Janda / AP Photo/Justin K. Janda

## THE OTHER HALF

Netflix smash hit misses part of juco football equation

By Matthew Semisch  
Bottineau Courant

One of Netflix's top original programs — one of the streaming service's best shows, period — debuts its second season this Friday. While I recommend "Last Chance U" to adult viewers, it's not perfect.

Fast and foremost, there's the name.

The show's first two seasons see filmmakers embed themselves inside the football program at East Mississippi Community College, EMCC, already was almost as big as it gets on the NCAA football scene before Netflix showed up, having won three junior college national championships, all in this decade.

The Lions are one of many juco teams that have built a reputation for taking top talent and developing it further on its way to the NFL. Recent examples include LeGarrette Blount, who originally intended to attend college at Auburn, didn't qualify academically and instead headed to EMCC before transferring to Oregon. These days, he's a Philadelphia Eagle.

Often, for one reason or another, EMCC will take players who transfer in from a different four-year school. Current Denver Broncos quarterback Chad Kelly started at Clemson before enrolling at EMCC and then at Ole Miss. John Franklin III, a leading subject in Season 1 of "Last Chance U," lacked playing time at Florida State, transferred to EMCC and was back in the NCAA Division I

spotlight last fall at Auburn.

It seems a stretch to say that all players in those types of situations want to go to somewhere like EMCC, located in Scooba, Miss., with a population hovering just above 900. Still, it's their choice. Kelly was dismissed from Clemson's football team in 2014 for conduct deemed detrimental to the Tiger program. He then bounced back in Scooba.

With EMCC regularly sending players to the D-I level, if nothing else, heading to a town that makes Bottineau look like Devil's Lake can very much become worth prospect's while.

To that end, I get why Netflix rolled with the "Last Chance U" title. It's not about an attitude — although he warned that there is a lot of colorful language in the show, hey, is there swearing — it's about players trying to earn a scholarship from a big-time four-year school and maybe even end up playing on Sundays or whenever else works for the NFL and its media partners.

Where I take umbrage with the name is not necessarily that it gives the wrong impression but that it doesn't paint the whole picture. Not every junior college football program can reel in prospects with scholarships. For its own history, DCH's whole league, the Mississippi College Athletic Conference, can't.

And yet, success stories happen up here, too. Head up Sistrunk Boulevard and you'll find some.

Most DCH football shows who keep playing

■ JUCO Continued on 20A



## First Place

### ■ Bottineau Courant

*The other half*

Matthew Semisch



# *Sports Column: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*AFC preview*  
Preston Yaggie

## ◆ Third Place

- Dickinson Press  
*A requiem for those fired at ESPN*  
Parker Cotton

## ◆ Second Place

- Williston Herald  
*District 15 column*  
Jeffery Guiliani

# Sports Column: Small Dailies



## Beyer ran with victims of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing

The 121st Boston Marathon was a fantastic experience.

It was blessed by both daughters and a son-in-law flying from Texas as we try to make recreation a family affair whenever possible. We have enjoyed similar "truncations" at the Twin Cities.

The Boston Marathon shuts the city down. Many there are so passionate about Patriots Day they feel it should be a national holiday.

Our hotel - Taj Boston, overlooked Boston Commons, the first park in our country, established in 1634. Centuries later, many thousands of park users daily use the same green space, effectively designed within urban development.

All runners have their own routines and many well-conditioned athletes ran shake-out runs on park trails on Easter Sunday morning. My every-other-day running schedule continued and it was a day off. Instead, we walked along the Freedom Trail to a few historic sites associated with Paul Revere, pilgrims, churches and cemeteries.



Wayne Beyer

Wahpeton Parks & Rec

Picking up the bib number and spending time at the crowded Runners Expo was a lot of fun. A bonus was getting Bib Number 14420 autographed by Ryan Hall, an Olympian and Boston Marathon veteran, who added John 10:10 as an inspirational verse.

The Boston Marathon is like football's Super Bowl, hockey's Stanley Cup and baseball's World Series. Its difference is allowing amateur athletes like myself to compete with the best professional runners in the world.

Early on race day, runners are bused 26 miles to the nearby city of Hopkinton, where you are staged in an Athlete's Village, much like the Olympics. It is a worldwide event with runners from every state and many countries and it is incredible to be amongst them.

There are four waves

with eight corrals in each. About 1,000 runners are in each corral to make up the 30,000 participant field. Wave Two, Corral Seven is about in the middle.

The race starts downhill and a flatlander North Dakotan quickly learns the hilly course will be like no other. There are a half million spectators on both sides of Massachusetts streets who cheer loudly and provide much energy.

Running conditions bordered on brutal, with temperatures in the 70s. With 2,300 runners, about 8 percent needed support from a medical tent. Runners' body temperatures rose to as high as 100.0. If it is comfortable for the spectators, it is not for the runners.

Water and Gatorade stops every mile, running through sprinklers and fire hydrants and short walking distances are maximized to combat duress.

Heartbreak Hill is menacing at Mile 20, even with Boston College accompanying you uphill. Runners know Mile 20 as "The Wall."

Family members cheer on a tiring

60-year-old about a mile from the finish and definitely inspired one to reach deep and keep going. You never want to finish a race without leaving it all on the course. It is obligatory to do the best you can at whatever you do.

There is much inspiration running with victims of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing, some who are leg amputees. Security is very tight to ensure a safe race.

A runner's high is experienced as you turn onto famed Boylston Street, then crossing the finish line. The five-year journey to get to Boston is reversed. It is good for the time to be under four hours, not nearly pre-race ambitions, but realistic that heat will slow you down, a good thing for your health so you can run another day.

There is a feeling of shared happiness and accomplishment as daughters Brittany and Kayla escort their wobbly-legged father, arms around shoulders in a memorable slow walk back to the hotel, a time that will never be forgotten.

WAYNE BEYER is the director of Wahpeton Parks and Rec

## ◆ First Place

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*Boston Marathon*  
Wayne Beyer

# *Sports Column: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*This move makes sense*  
Wayne Nelson

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Century Club*  
Jeff Kolpack

# Sports Column: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- **Fargo, The Forum  
of Fargo-Moorhead**

*Wentz knows he walks a fine  
line when preaching his faith*

**Mike McFeely**

## Wentz knows he walks a fine line when preaching his faith



MIKE  
McFEELY  
The Forum

Commentary

The story has been told before about the deepening of Carson Wentz's faith. He was at a North Dakota State football practice his freshman year when

a fellow quarterback, Dante Perez, asked if Wentz had ever read the Bible.

After initially rejecting the question because Wentz didn't think it was

the right time or place for such a conversation, he and Perez eventually talked.

The result was Wentz diving head-first into his Christianity. He led

the Bison chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and weekly Bible studies. His senior year, Wentz had "AO1" tattooed on the underside of his right wrist. It stands for

Audience of One, the tattoo acting as a public display that Wentz lives his life only for Jesus Christ.

**McFEELY:** Page A8



# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

## *Editorial*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# Editorial: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Drayton, Valley News & Views

*Maybe Patriotism is Not Dead After all*  
Lesa Van Camp

### Valley News & Views Editorial Maybe Patriotism is Not Dead After all

*Students remind us all that honoring our country is still the right thing to do.*

Valley News & Views was at a High School Volleyball Game in Grafton last week. As always, the game started out by introducing the players from the visiting team and then the home team. Then as everyone turned to the flag and waited for the National Anthem to start there was silence. There was no anthem. Whether there was some technical difficulty or it had not been arranged ahead

of time remains an unanswered question to most of the fans.

What happened next is the important part. There were comments from the fans in the stands ranging from questioning looks to a comment about it being the equivalent of taking a knee while the anthem is played. The players took their positions on the court and the game was about to start when there was noise from the crowd that was getting louder and disrupting the beginning of the game.

The student fans from the home team had started singing the Star Spangled Banner. Pretty soon more and more of the fans were joining in to include the student section from the visiting team. This was not sung in tune, nor was it necessarily pleasant sounding, but it was music to everyone's ears as well as sung with heart.

It was nice to see a group of students not let the game start without the traditional singing of the National Anthem, when it would have been so easy to just

start the game.

In doing a little research, although it is not a requirement that the anthem be played before sporting events it is a tradition. This tradition started somewhere around World War II. It was done to show respect for those who served our country.

*The Valley News & Views editorial reflects the opinion of the Editor Lesa Van Camp and Publisher Lyle Van Camp.*

# *Editorial: Mid-Size Weeklies*



## **Honorable Mention**

- **New Rockford Transcript**  
*The development dilemma*  
Amy Wobbema



## **Third Place**

- **Beulah Beacon**  
*What are the women marching for?*  
Kate Johnson



## **Second Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*Schools made the right call on hockey co-op*  
Cole Short

# Editorial: Mid-Size Weeklies



## POINT OF VIEW

### Newspapers are vital partners

When picking up today's News Monitor, you likely noticed the front page is blank. No eye-catching pictures or graphics. No stories. No content of a local athlete trying to tempt you toward the Sports page.

There is nothing other than the words "What if ... there was no local newspaper?"

Life without a local newspaper becomes increasingly difficult for residents, especially in small communities. We all appreciate when Fargo TV stations come to town, but the reality is they come infrequently and only when something is incredibly big. They may attend events like Vinze's blind dog in rural Lidgerwood, but that's during the event and they certainly don't do stories ahead to alert people that something big is happening.

The News Monitor is in the communities of Fairmount, Hankinson, Lidgerwood and Wyalusing on a weekly basis. We are in the schools talking to teachers and students, on the sidelines of sporting events and we certainly attend the events that make southeastern North Dakota special. We cover Polka Fest, Heritage Days, Oktoberfest, graduations, Homecoming coronations — to report the news important to our communities.

No Homecoming Queen at Fairmount because the entire senior class is boys ... we were there when the boys made a pitch to Ellen DeGeneres to become their Queen.

Two high school athletes decided service to their country was more important than the first football game of the season — we were there to report on Charlie Moffet and Hunter Churchill when the two Wyalusing High School seniors completed Army basic training.

Hankinson took on Tri State in a local girls volleyball match — we were there when these two rivals competed their hearts out to beat girls many consider their friends.

Now picture being without the News Monitor being delivered to your homes each week.

Who will you turn to for news about the latest city improvement such as is taking place in Hankinson today with Prairie Pines addition going up on the city's northwest corner? How will you know what the news is going to be at Wyalusing High School? Which seniors make up their school's Homecoming court? Who was crowned King and Queen? How will you know that it's time for the Multi-Community Chorus to start rehearsing and looking for new members to participate in the annual Christmas Carols?

Instead of relying on the News Monitor for items like public notices, consider having to scroll through websites to find information that previously was right at your fingertips. Fairmount doesn't even have a website, so that information becomes even harder to obtain.

We are there — each and every week — trying to do the monumental task of reporting the news to keep our incredible readers informed about what is happening within their communities. It is our vocation and pleasure to serve residents inside the News Monitor territory.

We aren't going anywhere and will continue to serve southeastern North Dakota. Thankfully we won't have to answer the question "What if ... there was no local newspaper?" because of our dedication



## First Place

- Hankinson, News-Monitor

*Newspapers are vital partners*

**Karen Speidel**



# *Editorial: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Legislature wrong in grabbing oil monies*  
**Neal Shipman**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Keep it a Carnegie Library*  
**Jackie Thompson**

# Editorial: Large Weeklies



## Journal Publishing Editorial

### New retailer will do their due diligence, but not the city?

Why would the Crosby City Council agree to sell public land to an entity with no input from the public?

Why would they agree to do this without knowing the identity of the company in question? Or what limitations would be placed on retained property?

Why would the city do so without following the advice of its attorney to ensure this land is used for the purpose asserted?

These are questions residents may well ask of the council, following last week's Crosby City Council meeting.

The deal was first voted on at February's meeting, with the agreed sum of \$30,000 accepted for the lot and a half, on the word of Community Developer KayCee Lindsey that a retailer wanted the property for an 8,500 square foot facility. The fee is in line with what the city accepted for other commercial parcels, but this one had been held out of previous offers on the potential for future development of a public facility such as a fire hall or new city hall.

The issue of the land sale came again before the city council last week, due to the city attorney's concern that if the city really wants to be certain the land is developed within two years, and not just held on speculation - as many other Southridge Acres lots have been - the preferred method would be to require a developer's agreement specifying that the city has the right to purchase the land back if it sits idle for two years.

There was no discussion about whether the arrival of this new company would be a good thing or a bad thing for existing businesses or for the community as a whole. Indeed, it was clear that the majority of the members present did not even know the identity of the business or have even a slight idea of the line of products to be sold there.

City Attorney Seymour Jordan referred to the company as "this magical person that no one knows who it is." He wanted to disclose the identity of the company, but did not.

Early Tuesday last week, Lindsey, at the behest of the company, still declined to name them.

After Council President Troy Vassen signed the purchase agreement late Tuesday, however, it became a public record. Based on associations that company has, it appears the retailer interested in Crosby is Family Dollar. Vassen

confirmed Monday, to the best of his knowledge, that is who is expressing interest, though the store's name is not on the purchase agreement. The purchase agreement was signed with the blessing of the council, even though Jordan warned the two year provision for development was probably "unenforceable" after the sale closed.

Upon review of the agreement, it also places restrictions upon the city that the seller retained property - a half a lot - not be used for a number of, presumably, undesirable businesses - everything from a car wash to a bar. In other words, it's not likely the half lot left over is going to be usable for much of anything. This begs the question, why would the city agree to have a parcel that will have limits placed upon its future use? Especially when, at the time the council agreed to accept the deal, some council members didn't even know the company's identity?

By Tuesday morning last week, Councilman Brian Lund still didn't know who the company was and bemoaned the secrecy surrounding the deal. Pressed by other matters, Council Member Denise Johnson declined to comment. Steve Dwyvetter and Brian Haugence, who both found out the identity of the company after the meeting, expressed their belief the addition to the community will be "fine." Lindsey, on Tuesday, said she feels the addition will be welcomed by most people in town.

More shopping opportunities was, after all, one of the key wants identified in a recent "Main Street Success" survey. The problem here is not that Crosby will have new shopping options as a result of the council's action, but that the council acted without public input and without due diligence.

Having learned the folly of previous sales to people who now appear to have no intention of developing Southridge lots, the council should have made sure they aren't locking up the one piece of frontage for which they still retain control without greater consideration of the offer and who was making it.

It is quite possible that, even with public comment, the city council may have come to the same conclusion. But given the reality of the company's identity becoming public the next day, it would have served the public's interest if council members had been better informed before the agreement was made.

## ◆ First Place

### ■ Crosby, The Journal

*Retailer will do  
their due diligence,  
but not the city?*

Cecile Wehrman

# *Editorial: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Economic growth*

**Kathleen Leinen, Frank Stanko**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**

*Preserve ND's wind energy future*

**Sun Staff**

# Editorial: Small Dailies



Our View

## Legislature scoffs at public's right to know

It is a bitter irony that the North Dakota Legislature voted to pass an enormous assault on the public's right to know during Sunshine Week, which celebrates open government.

The House voted 41-21 to pass Senate Bill 1011, which would shield the identity of every applicant for jobs with a public entity until those entities are selected. If the position isn't filled, then all of those records would be secret.

The rationale put forth by supporters, including Gov. Doug Burgum, is fairly at best. Supporters of the bill claim it will help attract better talent, because applicants won't be afraid of their names becoming public.

A few candidates for a university president position mentioned their concern about this in a hearing and supporters have been steady with assertions and apologetics. Beyond that, however, there is essentially no real evidence that this is an issue that applicants even consider.

Because of the way the bill is written, city committees, school boards and other public bodies will be able to hold executive sessions — meetings that are closed to the public — to discuss applicants. As Steve Anderson, executive director of the North Dakota Newspaper Association, rightfully pointed out, there is already evidence that when boards and commissions hold closed meetings, they talk about things outside the legally allowed parameters of that meeting.

In pointed to a history of opinions from the state attorney general's office that point out this phony issue.

Even setting aside that glaring problem, though, this is a bad law. It closes off access to records that the public has always had access to in the hopes of a small benefit.

Burgum and some lawmakers argue that running the government more like a business will bring better results, especially in hiring.

We are totally in favor of making government operations more efficient. But Burgum and other supporters of the bill need to understand that getting more is not a business. Openness, transparency and accountability aren't corporate buzzwords, they are bedrock principles of a functioning democracy.

We very much hope that this point will sink in before Burgum signs the bill into law, but realize that hope is almost certainly in vain. Perhaps in the next legislative session the evidence shows whether the protections from the bill's supporters come to pass, the Legislature will reconsider.

We don't have much hope of that, either. We would like to single out some of our local legislators for praise for their opposition to this bill.

Rep. Pat Harstad, R-Williston; Council Longmire, R-Memphis; and Gary Isak, R-Williston, all voted against the bill, as did Sen. David Brun, D-Fargo.

We appreciate their commitment to keeping the open access of government open and accessible to the people who pay for those operations.

To Sen. Ed of Bismarck, R-Williston, and Rep. Scott Anderson, R-Crosby both of whom voted for the bill, we have a question: Why did you choose to sign the law when it goes over the interests of the public?

The Williston Herald welcomes letters to the editor from members of the community that address issues of concern to the local area. Letters may be edited and abbreviated for clarity. Letters should be addressed to: Herald, c/o North Dakota Newspaper Association, 1000 Broadway, Williston, ND 58801. The Williston Herald, P.O. Box 7487, Williston, ND 58801.



## First Place

### ■ Williston Herald

*Public's right to know*

Jamie Kelly

# *Editorial: Large Dailies*

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Reject oil spill free pass in ND*  
Jack Zaleski

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*Governor, keep doors open to the public*  
Steve Wallick

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Wrong, wrong to blame victim in sex assault case*  
Korrie Wenzel

# Editorial: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

### ■ Minot Daily News

*An open letter to Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem*

**Michael Sasser**

## An open letter to Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem

**M**r. Attorney General,  
First, a thanks and congratulations for your long-time public service and your contribution to the state's broad recognition as a good place to live and to do business.

However, there is a cancer eating at the very core of civil society in North Dakota, a disease infecting the body politic, an ailment that threatens the relationship between the governed and those who govern and administer. Left unchecked, this cancer threatens to destroy this important bond of trust and mutual respect. In fact, that bond might well be in tatters now.

Furthermore, sir, you might be the only individual in the state who can address the problem.

What has people infuriated is a sense that there are two justice systems in this state – one for the average person and one for those people who make up the government class, particularly elected officials.

In Ward County, taxpayers are furious about the county's handling of the case revolving around former sheriff Steve Kukowski. A prisoner died in transit in the aftermath of being denied medical attention

at a jail that was then operating outside the legal parameters set by the state. Yet, after some year-and-a-half and two investigations claiming wrong-doing, there was no one held accountable for the death. The specter of political intervention loomed large when Kukowski walked away having never faced trial and with a nice bonus from taxpayers for all the pain and suffering he endured during his year-plus paid time off. Someone died. No one was accountable. Taxpayers got the bill.

Meanwhile in McKenzie County, another sheriff found himself in hot water – well, it would be hot water if he was maybe just a taxpayer. According to the investigating agent with the state Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Sheriff Gary Schwartzberger “did commit the crime misapplication of entrusted property.” Special Agent Tim Erickson went on to attest: “Gary Schwartzberger... willfully and without authorization used the McKenzie County Sheriff's credit card to make unauthorized purchases and charges of items intended for personal use... These charges included purchasing a plane ticket to Las Vegas for his wife... paying for a golf outing in Las Vegas,

paying the conference registration fee for his wife, charging a rental vehicle upgrade fee for a convertible car, unauthorized food purchases, and various other unauthorized charges...”

So what form does a quest for answers and accountability in this case take? Ward County's own William John O'Driscoll, who was special prosecutor in Schwartzberger's removal proceedings, withdrew from the case, writing that a removal of the sheriff “is not appropriate.”

Respectfully, please re-read the previous two paragraphs.

*Is not appropriate?*

Perhaps Mr. O'Driscoll, witnessing the chicanery in the Ward County case, just figures it's a waste of time.

Is there any crime an elected official can be accused of that even warrants a day in court? How many young people must die unnecessarily before a responsible party in the political class is held accountable? Is there a book available for residents so that they can have a better idea of the laws that only apply to people who just pay taxes but that don't apply to those who live off the taxpayers?

Now, Mr. Attorney General, you might re-

spond that these are local matters. That's valid to a degree. But you're the state's top law enforcement figure and if you aren't charged with policing other law enforcement officials statewide, exactly who is? You'd be hard-pressed to find someone who doesn't feel that

there is something at least unsavory about these incidents; and at worst, many believe this has been outright public corruption. Doesn't that fall under your purview?

A sense that there is a two-tier justice system, one for everyday citizens and one for government figures has been a key motivator in the political unrest in the country. Maybe folks in North Dakota should just expect it. But North Dakotans are fair-minded and decent and project this onto their leaders. Is that trust misplaced?

Taxpayers in Ward County and supporters of justice and fairness statewide anticipate your response.

**TODAY'S TOPIC**  
Public figure  
accountability

**OUR VIEW**  
Does it exist in ND



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Editorial  
Page*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
NDNA  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Editorial Page: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **New Town News**  
*Editorial Page*  
**Staff**



# Editorial Page: Small Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Drayton, Valley News & Views  
*Editorial Page*  
Lesa Van Camp

# *Editorial Page: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Beulah Beacon**  
*Beacon*  
**Kate Johnson**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*News-Monitor Aug. 22 Edit page*  
**Karen Speidel**

# Editorial Page: Mid-Size Weeklies

4 Hillsboro Banner  
Friday, June 16, 2007

## Opinion



**Banner**  
HILLSBORO BANNER  
1000 N. Main St., Hillsboro, OR 97123  
Phone: 503/638-3300  
Fax: 503/638-3301  
www.bannernews.com

**NDNA**  
NATIONAL DIVERSITY NEWS ASSOCIATION

**Over the Years**  
By [Name]  
[Text]

**EDITORIAL**  
**Celebration to challenge weather forecasts**  
[Text]

**COLUMNIST**  
**Parenting's like learning to ride a bike**  
By [Name]  
[Text]

For more information, please contact:  
[Name]  
[Phone]  
[Email]

## ◆ First Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Hillsboro Banner  
Editorial Pages  
Banner Staff*

# *Editorial Page: Large Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
***28-Jun***  
**Staff**

# Editorial Page: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Mayville, Trail County Tribune  
Tribune Editorial Page  
Tribune Staff

# *Editorial Page: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Valley City Times-Record**  
*Valley City Times-Record Opinion*  
**Valley City Times-Record Team**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Daily News Editorial Page*  
**Kathleen Leinen**

# Editorial Page: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

### ■ Dickinson Press

*Editorial Page submissions*

**Harvey Brock**

# *Editorial Page: Large Dailies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
**3-Sep**  
**Angie Wieck**







**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Standing News  
Fronts*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Standing News Fronts: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Dickinson Press**

*Press Express - October 15*

**Meghan Dowhaniuk, Linda Sailer**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Survivor, wife, mother*

**Kathleen Leinen**

# Standing News Fronts: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*Carrying on the name*  
Carrie McDermott

# *Standing News Fronts: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Minot Daily News**

*Autumn in the Air*

**Mandy Taniguchi, Kim Fundingsland**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**

*A world of superstition*

**Sara Slaby**

# Standing News Fronts: Large Dailies



BUSINESS Thursday, August 10, 2017 • Grand Forks Herald • 46

**Northrop Grumman expanding at tech park**

**A** contract for a new building at the Northrop Grumman tech park in Grand Forks is expected to be awarded soon, according to a company spokesman.

The new building will be used for the company's research and development work, and is expected to be completed in late 2018 or early 2019.

The tech park is one of the largest in the region, and has attracted many high-tech companies to the area.

Northrop Grumman is a leading provider of defense and aerospace products and services, and has a long history of innovation and excellence.

The company's expansion at the tech park is a testament to its commitment to the community and its focus on research and development.

The new building will provide a state-of-the-art workspace for the company's employees, and will help to attract and retain top talent in the region.

The project is a major investment in the local economy, and is expected to create many new jobs in the area.

Northrop Grumman is proud to be a part of the Grand Forks community, and is committed to supporting the growth and development of the region.

The company's expansion at the tech park is a key part of its long-term strategy, and is a sign of its confidence in the future of the area.

The new building will be a landmark addition to the tech park, and will help to solidify Grand Forks as a hub for high-tech innovation.

Northrop Grumman is excited to see the project move forward, and is looking forward to the many opportunities it will create for the community.

The company's commitment to the region is unwavering, and it is proud to be a part of the Grand Forks story.

The new building will be a testament to the company's dedication to excellence and innovation, and will help to drive the growth and development of the region.

Northrop Grumman is committed to being a good neighbor, and is proud to support the community in which it operates.

The company's expansion at the tech park is a key part of its long-term strategy, and is a sign of its confidence in the future of the area.

The new building will be a landmark addition to the tech park, and will help to solidify Grand Forks as a hub for high-tech innovation.

Northrop Grumman is excited to see the project move forward, and is looking forward to the many opportunities it will create for the community.

The company's commitment to the region is unwavering, and it is proud to be a part of the Grand Forks story.

**VOICE OF AG SIGNS OFF**

**Mike Hergert, co-founder of Red River Farm Network, to retire after 46 years in radio**

**M**ike Hergert, co-founder of the Red River Farm Network, is retiring after 46 years in radio. Hergert, 68, has spent the last 46 years of his life in radio, and has been a prominent voice in the Grand Forks area for decades.

Hergert founded the Red River Farm Network in 1971, and has since built it into one of the most successful radio stations in the region. The network has a long history of providing news, information, and entertainment to the community.

Hergert's retirement is a significant loss to the radio industry, but he will continue to be involved in the community through his work with the Red River Farm Network. He will be missed by his colleagues and listeners alike.

Hergert's career in radio has been a journey of growth and learning, and he has many fond memories of the years spent on the air. He is proud of the work he has done and the impact he has had on the community.

Hergert's retirement is a testament to his dedication and hard work, and is a sign of his success in the radio industry. He will be remembered for his contributions to the community and his legacy in radio.

Hergert's retirement is a significant loss to the radio industry, but he will continue to be involved in the community through his work with the Red River Farm Network. He will be missed by his colleagues and listeners alike.

Hergert's career in radio has been a journey of growth and learning, and he has many fond memories of the years spent on the air. He is proud of the work he has done and the impact he has had on the community.

Hergert's retirement is a testament to his dedication and hard work, and is a sign of his success in the radio industry. He will be remembered for his contributions to the community and his legacy in radio.

**Up to 160 Applebee's and IHOP stores slated to close**

**Parent company sees decline in sales; no list of closers available**

**P**arent company sees decline in sales; no list of closers available. The parent company of Applebee's and IHOP has announced that it is planning to close up to 160 stores across the United States.

The parent company, which is not naming the specific stores to be closed, says the decision is based on a decline in sales and a need to streamline operations. The company is looking for ways to improve its financial performance and is focusing on its core markets.

The closures are expected to be completed over the next several months. The parent company is providing assistance to the affected employees and is working to ensure a smooth transition for all involved.

The closures are a significant loss to the restaurant industry, and many employees are expected to be affected. The parent company is committed to supporting its employees during this difficult time and is providing resources to help them find new opportunities.

The closures are a testament to the parent company's commitment to financial responsibility and its focus on long-term success. The company is confident that the remaining stores will continue to provide high-quality service and excellent food to its customers.

The closures are a significant loss to the restaurant industry, and many employees are expected to be affected. The parent company is committed to supporting its employees during this difficult time and is providing resources to help them find new opportunities.

The closures are a testament to the parent company's commitment to financial responsibility and its focus on long-term success. The company is confident that the remaining stores will continue to provide high-quality service and excellent food to its customers.

**Up to 160 Applebee's and IHOP stores slated to close**

**Parent company sees decline in sales; no list of closers available**

The parent company of Applebee's and IHOP has announced that it is planning to close up to 160 stores across the United States. The decision is based on a decline in sales and a need to streamline operations. The company is looking for ways to improve its financial performance and is focusing on its core markets.

The closures are expected to be completed over the next several months. The parent company is providing assistance to the affected employees and is working to ensure a smooth transition for all involved.

The closures are a significant loss to the restaurant industry, and many employees are expected to be affected. The parent company is committed to supporting its employees during this difficult time and is providing resources to help them find new opportunities.

The closures are a testament to the parent company's commitment to financial responsibility and its focus on long-term success. The company is confident that the remaining stores will continue to provide high-quality service and excellent food to its customers.

**For businesses that just need to get down to business.**

The world is moving fast. It's time to get down to business. Bremer Bank is here to help you succeed.

**Bremer Bank**

Commercial Banking Division

1000 Broadway, Grand Forks, ND 58201

701.775.1234

www.bremerbank.com

## ◆ First Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*Business: Voice of ag signs off Staff*



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

# Ag Coverage

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# Ag Coverage: Small Weeklies

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Drayton, Valley News & Views

*Drayton Students spend an afternoon on a local farm*

Lesa Van Camp

## ◆ Third Place

- Beach, Golden Valley News

*Judge orders return of rancher's cattle*

Richard Volesky

## ◆ Second Place

- New Town News

*Helping Farmers Prosper*

Edna Sailor



# Ag Coverage: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

### ■ New Town News

*Rains finally come, but too late for many*

**Jerry W. Kram**



Harvesters south of Sarrish worked overtime this week to get wheat and barley cut before mid-week rainstorms rolled through the area. Sadly, the rains came about a month too late to make a difference to drought-affected crops.  
Photo by Jerry W. Kram

## Rains finally come, but too late for many

BY JERRY W. KRAM

The rains finally came, but it was too late for many producers in Sakakawea Country.

Over the past three weeks, some areas of the region have gotten nearly 2.5 inches of rain after a summer that saw grass wither and crops struggle against what is being called the worst drought in a decade. The rains were welcome, but they came too late for many producers, said Mountrail Agricultural Agent Jim Hennessy.

"It isn't going to do anything for small grains," Hennessy said. "It's pretty much too late to help soybeans too as the plants have set their pods so their yield potential is set."

Hennessy said that wheat and barley growers in the region have come to expect yields of 50 or more bushels an acre. He thinks the average for the country

will be more like 40 bushels and acre this year and many areas will struggle to make 20 bushels. A lot of the crop is likely to be discounted for low test weight caused by the drought as well.

"In that Farnham country they might be looking at 35 bushels this year," Hennessy said. "There were parts of the county that got an extra shot of rain that don't look too bad. But there are a lot of areas that just look tough."

Hennessy said it is also going to be a tough winter for livestock producers since hay supplies were decimated.

"Hay supplies are really tight," Hennessy said. "A lot of guys are going be

just trying to get by. The guys who have a lot of reserves should be able to make it. The guys who didn't have reserves are tight on hay are going to be culling. There are going to some cows hitting the market or shipped out for someone else to feed."

In some parts of the state, small grains were cut for hay, but Hennessy said only about 5 percent was used that way in Mountrail County.

"The only grains that may have more than 5 percent cut may be oats," Hennessy said. "I don't believe there was much barley planted for malting that was cut for hay. But oats, I think a lot

was cut."

Hennessy said the hay donation program set up by the North Dakota Department of Agriculture may help a few producers, but he doesn't think there is enough surplus hay available to help the majority of cattle producers.

"I think what will happen is that you will have a pool of people who need more hay and you are only going to satisfy 5 or 10 percent of them," he said.

Hennessy said that with prices where they are now, some producers could be taking a \$600 to \$900 loss on each animal they are forced to sell. With local herds reduced, cattlemen will be at a disadvantage when they start to rebuild their herds when the rains and grass come back. He thinks that most of the larger opera-

#### AREA RAINFALL

Week	Berthold	Garrison	Hazen	Hofflund	Minot	Plaza	Ross	Wafford	City	Williston
2017-07-16	0.22	0.25	0.19	0.06	0.24	0.75	0.46		0.18	0.04
2017-07-23	0.00	0.78	0.58	0.83	0.08	0.75	0.56		0.67	1.24
2017-07-30	0.92	0.97	1.42	1.22	1.10	0.94	1.12		0.86	1.06
Totals:	1.14	2.00	2.19	2.11	1.42	2.44	2.14		1.70	2.34

Source: North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network

See  
**RAINS**  
page 12

# Ag Coverage: Mid-Size Weeklies



---



## ◆ Honorable Mention

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Technology is revolutionizing agriculture*  
Frank Stanko

## ◆ Third Place

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*Counting sheep*  
Cory Erickson

## ◆ Second Place

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Drought continues to spread across ND's farmland*  
Karen Speidel

# Ag Coverage: Mid-Size Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*ND growers want safety:  
2018 Farm Bill*  
Kathleen Leinen

### ND growers want a safety net when it comes to the 2018 Farm Bill

BY KATHLEEN LEINEN  
kathleen@news-monitor.com

Agriculture growers around the country are gearing up for a future battle with the 2018 Farm Bill.

Farmers are used to the seasonal deadlines faced each year, but the looming battle over the next Farm Bill will be fought in the nation's capital between national lawmakers.

The biggest difference between the 2018 Farm Bill and its 2014 predecessor is the state of the agricultural economy. The new Farm Bill will be written at a time when farm income is down, the prices of many commodities are low and farm-debt loads are concerning.

Although the future bill is in a state of turmoil, Congressman Kevin Cramer, R-N.D., said having Republicans controlling the House may prove to

be an ally in the reauthorization of the 2018 Farm Bill.

The next bill needs to authorize programs for the crop years 2019-2020 and should be adopted before any new crop harvest in 2019. The earliest crop harvest that year will occur in mid-to-late May when the wheat harvest begins in the southern portion of the country in 2019.

Depending upon how complex the new policies are, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will likely need anywhere from nine months to one year to implement the new Farm Bill in front of the first 2019 crop, which is why Congress began hearings the week of Feb. 15. According to Cramer, Congress needs to reauthorize farm programs by September 2018 to meet the deadlines of a 2019 growing season. It is a bill that will be challenged on both sides of the aisle, he said.

The 2014 Farm Bill faced major challenges, he said. It was started late and did not meet the deadline for a seasonal start, so Congress was forced to grant a one-year extension to get a farming program in place.

"I'm glad we are getting an early start," he said.

The current Farm Bill is coming in under budget, Cramer said. It's a good story due to the commodity price collapse since the 2014 Farm Bill was passed. Experts across the country say the new Farm Bill will face some tough challenges:

- Not enough money – when experts are already talking about lower crop prices, finding additional dollars to pay for the Farm Bill may be a tough row to hoe.

- Crop insurance – is a target because it costs more than a commodity program or the conservation program.



# Ag Coverage: Large Weeklies

---

## ◆ Third Place

- **Mayville, Traill County Tribune**  
*Pride for projects, care for animals on display*  
**James R. Johnson**

## ◆ Second Place

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*A brand new season*  
**Betsy Ryan**

# Ag Coverage: Large Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

### ■ Crosby, The Journal

*This extended family has a love affair with farming*  
**Sydney Glasoe Caraballo**

FAITH+TAIN      Wednesday, September 27, 2017      Wednesday, September 27, 2017      FAITH+TAIN

## THIS EXTENDED FAMILY HAS A LOVE AFFAIR WITH FARMING

By Sydney Glasoe Caraballo

**B**altimore, Iowa is a small town with a big heart. It's a place where the old-fashioned values of hard work and family are still alive and well. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.



Members of the Crosby family, including children and adults, are shown in front of a combine harvester. A sign on the harvester reads "LIVING IN NEXT YEAR LAND -- AND NEXT GENERATION LAND".



It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation. It's a place where the love of farming is passed down from generation to generation.

# Ag Coverage: Small Dailies

---

## ◆ Third Place

- Dickinson Press

*Decade-old Hettinger wool class  
sees record attendance*

Iain Woessner

## ◆ Second Place

- Wahpeton, The Daily News

*Organic grower*

Karen Speidel

# Ag Coverage: Small Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
*Hemp hopes dashed*  
Renée Jean

## Low prices dash farmers' hemp hopes

Drought, market forces work against farmers

BY RENÉE JEAN  
LENN@WILLISTONHERALD.COM

At first when Wade Fischer was harvesting his industrial hemp, he thought he had a pretty good yield.

That was before he weighed the crop. "I thought we had 800 bushels, but it's so light," Fischer said. "We only had 500. I'm definitely not making money on that. I'm going in the hole on it. Pretty bad."

Fischer was one of 37 producers statewide to try growing industrial hemp this year. It is the third year running for the state's pilot of the federally regulated crop. Between them, they had 3,000 acres in production. Fischer had 7 percent of that.

There's no crop insurance for industrial hemp, and the market is not yet well de-

fined in North Dakota. The crop also faces many restrictions, because it is listed as a Schedule I controlled substance.

Industrial hemp is a close cousin to marijuana, even though it doesn't itself contain any appreciable amount of the psychoactive THC. But because it's in the same plant family and has a visually similar appearance, it has been federally regulated for decades.

The 2014 Farm Bill paved the way for U.S. states to begin growing industrial hemp for research purposes. It allowed state departments of agriculture and universities to apply for permission to begin a pilot program.

However, states wanting to start pilots have had to walk a fine line with the Drug Enforcement Agency, and some, like Kentucky,

did run afoul of the federal agency. The DEA confiscated Kentucky growers' seed, and it took a court battle to retrieve them.

"I am making sure DEA isn't impeding our ability to do what Congress has given us the right to do," North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said. "But I don't need to be sideways with DEA or the federal government. I'm trying to make sure all the i's are dotted and all the t's are crossed, and that I have a defensible position in everything I do."

Among those efforts are out-of-state sales, Goehring said, as well as additional processors so there are more options for farmers trying to market their crops.

### NO FREE MARKET

Since it is listed as a Schedule I substance, industrial hemp comes with a lot of rules that other

crops don't have.

Industrial hemp can't just be harvested and taken to a grain elevator to search out the best price. It must be sold within the state, and right now, North Dakota has just one buyer.

That individual is on the east side of the state and interested only in buying the seed for food-grade oil.

There are other potentially lucrative products for hemp. The stalks can be harvested for use in textiles. But there's no processor in North Dakota to buy it for that.

So the stalks, which might have been a secondary crop to boost Fischer's bottom line, will likely be wasted. Fischer isn't even certain whether the rules would allow it to be used for cattle bedding.

The prices for Fischer's crop came out a few weeks

SEE HEMP PAGE A8



# Ag Coverage: Large Dailies

---

## ◆ Third Place

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*History is being made*  
John Hageman

## ◆ Second Place

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*Army Corps drought plan*  
Lauren Donovan



# Ag Coverage: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*City farming*  
**Blake Gumprecht**



Blake Gumprecht / The Forum

Charles Richard farms soybeans just south of the Deer Creek subdivision in southeast Fargo and has lost considerable farmland to the development.

By Blake Gumprecht  
bgumprecht@forum.com

### West Fargo

When Pat Shirley drives farm machinery from a field where he grows soybeans south of the Red River Valley Falmouth to another field a mile away on Greenway Street in West Fargo, he has no choice but to drive through a suburban neighborhood.

But the subdivision has a median at its entrance, which makes the road too narrow for his machinery and forces him to drive on the median or up on the grass of a home across the street. "When he does that, the owner of the house sometimes sees outside grilling at him."

"It's not wide," he says. Such is the life of the city farmer, farming in close proximity to urban development. It's nobody's idea of a beautiful life. In fact, it can be a pain in the rear.

Although the growth of the metro area has eliminated much agricultural land, there are still a few conventional farms within the city limits of Fargo and West Fargo, and many more around their edges. Cain County remains one of the top agricultural



A tractor cultivates a field Aug. 23, 2017, on the 3000 block of 28th Street South, Fargo.

Robert Gumbrecht/Forum Photo Editor

consider to the nation. But the challenges of farming near the city are fundamentally different than those faced by farmers in less populated areas. Farmers must be careful about when they spray chemicals near homes. They must navigate urban traffic on slow-moving

farm machinery (and deal with the inevitable snide remarks of impatient commuters). They face constant uncertainty about whether the land they farm will be sold to developers.

Shirley, 44, farms more than 4,000 acres with partner's Mark Klett and Tony Gumprecht. Their

farming operations are based in the town, 2 1/2 miles south of Fargo, but they use 12 different parcels of land within 30 miles of their home, including several on the edge of the Fargo metro area.

They farm a parcel across the

FARMING: Back Page



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Personal Column-  
Serious*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Personal Column- Serious: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **New Town News**  
*Shocked*  
Jerry W. Kram

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fordville, Tri-County Sun**  
*Reel Reviews*  
Tony Northrup

# Personal Column- Serious: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press  
*From the Editor's Desk - 2-15*  
Allison Olimb



### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

BY ALLISON OLIMB  
EDITOR, WALSH COUNTY PRESS

I feel like feminism has gotten a bad rap. It is not about hating men. It is not about marching in the streets wearing pink hats. It is not about women being the same as men. It is about empowerment.

I recently had a friend who reposted an article about how feminism has left her behind. As a stay at home mom, she said that she gets put in the "just a mom" category.

I know that feeling. That is the feeling of feminism shouting in your face every day that you can be

anything you want to be and that still shouting voice that makes it seem as though your choice is not good enough: "Your pay should be higher. Your title should be better. You should work harder. Being a mother is settling. Unless you are president you are settling."

I wanted to disagree with her. I wanted to stand up for the ideal. The truth is that when you look at how society views feminism, that is true.

True feminism should be the idea that you can do whatever you

want regardless of your gender. True feminism should mean supporting your fellow woman regardless of choice.

When I was a kid, my brothers were taught to drive tractors. I made cookies.

I didn't learn how to drive tractors until college. I want my daughters to know that if they want to drive tractors, I will support them.

Anyone considering selling the farm because they had daughters instead of sons should be a feminist.

Women are entitled to the world, whatever world they may choose.

My friend is an amazing mother. She set aside her career to raise her family. She is one of those mothers whose home looks like an elementary school classroom with vocabulary building, days of the week, thought-provoking play activities. She is one of those moms

who doesn't have the TV on all day. I only wish I had the patience to be that kind of mom.

She should never feel as though she settled for being a mom. The problem is that society doesn't support the person, it supports the ideal. Not every woman wants to be president. Not every woman wants to wear a pink hat. Not every woman has the same ideals.

Women are separate, in that they can do things that men cannot do. But they need to be equal in the idea that we toss off the hang-ups of yesterday. Feminism isn't just for women. It is for everyone who has ever had a daughter. For everyone who has ever loved a woman. One thing we should all be equal in is respect.

*"Like" the Walsh County Press on Facebook.com.*

# *Personal Column- Serious: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Mister Rogers would have been proud*

**Cole Short**

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Parenting a weekly newspaper no easy task*

**Alyssa Short**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Sportsmanship doesn't end after the last out*

**Cory Erickson**

# Personal Column- Serious: Mid-Size Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

### ■ Hankinson, News-Monitor

### *Protecting Richland mile by mile*

Karen Speidel

#### POINT OF VIEW

## Protecting Richland mile by mile

Most people aren't wired to actively seek danger. We're trained from a young age to avoid situations that can hurt or kill us.

Some occupations actually put people in danger. Firemen run into a burning house, soldiers fight and police officers stand between us and lawlessness.

This month's Point of View is a fascinating look into the life of law enforcement. We decided as an editorial board to let the stories speak for themselves — without worrying about length.

Today, officers are often treated with disdain or suspicion, portrayed by mainstream media as being blood thirsty and racist toward the black community. Case in point, three weeks ago Jeronimo Yanez, a St. Anthony, Minnesota, police officer who fatally shot Philando Castile during a traffic stop last summer, was found not guilty of second-degree manslaughter. The case became a matter of race. While Richland County deputies were not in any way associated with the Castile case, this

is an example of the culture existing today regarding law enforcement.

We wanted to tell the other side of the story, where officers balance the need to uphold the law while maintaining their humanity.

I rode for several hours with Sgt. Pat Lettow of the Richland County Sheriff's Department. It was a relatively quiet evening, which gave me the ability to ask more questions to try and discover what it really is like working in law enforcement today. There is danger around every curve in the road, every call, even something as simple as a routine traffic stop has the ability to go awry as a Glyndon, Minnesota, police officer discovered June 26 when someone shot over the top of his head after he pulled a motorist over for speeding.

Men and women — officers of the law — go to work each day just like me, but their jobs involve an element of danger I find difficult to fathom.

"I tell you that people aren't wired to go where the action is. You want to get to safety. But, somebody has to do that. It doesn't change what we have to do when we know there is danger. We still have a job to do," Lettow said as he knowingly puts himself into a position of being hurt or shot, because

as long as he stands between us and danger, he is doing his job.

It was a fascinating glimpse riding along in his cruiser one Tuesday evening. Lettow talked about his job without reservation. He is a 22 year veteran of the sheriff's department so has worked in various capacities, including patrol and investigations.

Lettow has a lot of stories to tell because he has seen both the seedy and violent side of life, and heard the laugh of a child during a softer moment on the force. He is a person, a human being, who is only trying to do his job and keep the citizens of Richland County safe.

A sad reality of his job is that people really don't want to see him. He used the example of people not inviting him to their barbecues, to share a hot dog or hamburger. When he shows up at that barbecue, it's because something untoward happened. People want him to take care of the situation and leave as quickly as possible.

He shrugged as if that is insignificant. My job puts me into dicey situations at times, but for the most part, people are usually pretty happy to see someone at the newspaper covering their events. I'm used to that type of support. It saddens me to think people

expect law enforcement to hover in the shadows until they are needed.

"I liken it to, 'I don't want to intrude in someone's life until you make me.' That's how law enforcement is," he said.

A bond exists between officers out of necessity. When lives are on the line, law enforcement expects their brethren are going to have their back. "I know their moods when they come to work and when they leave work. I am entrusting my life to them. That's the bond. I would say," he added.

Lettow isn't married, nor has he ever been married. He said it's difficult for most women to understand his job. It takes a strong person to let a husband or wife walk out the door knowing they can be in danger just by the nature of their jobs.

"I think people who are married probably have a tougher time. But you're right about it being nice to have someone at home to bounce ideas off. But can your other half, your girlfriend or otherwise, can she take what you're about to give as far as information? Because you're about to tell her something she may not be wired to hear," he said, which is why it is difficult for officers to maintain relationships outside the force. That makes this series especially poignant, and lonely.



Karen Speidel  
Managing Editor

# *Personal Column- Serious: Large Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**

*Reinstatement of Sheriff begins a time for healing*

**Neal Shipman**

# Personal Column- Serious: Large Weeklies



## **A bright light has gone out**

Some times a community doesn't know what they have until its gone. Other times, we know all too well and it is very hard to say goodbye.

Betty Ann Tufty was a bright light in our community. She has called Lisbon home since 1996. Prior to that she blessed the inhabitants of Bison, SD with her personal style and grace.

Betty Ann never met a stranger. She always had a smile on her face and a funny story to tell. She brought so much joy and laughter where ever she went. From dressing up like Mavis for Halloween to displaying her Betty Boop collection at the Senior Center.

Her final day was spent at the Senior Center, playing cards and laughing with all of her friends. She made it her mission that day to teach the new driver how to play Hand and Foot, a card game that requires a great deal of patience. The experience was filled with laughter.

Helping people was Betty Ann's style. And the lady, she did have style!

Always with her hair perfectly coiffed she would attend every funeral in and around our town. It did not matter if they were Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Catholic or Assemblies of God. If they were from this area, she went to support the family, whether she knew the deceased or not, but generally she knew them, because Betty Ann knew everyone.

Last year, during Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer, Betty Ann had a wonderful story to tell. When I arrived she caught me to tell me of her latest adventure.

"I stayed a bit too long at the Center this morning and had to rush to get out here for my inter-

view on the radio," said Betty Ann, through peels of laughter. "I was trying to get the top off my finger-nail polish so I could do my nails for the interview. When I got to the stop sign, I saw Woody, and rolled down the window to ask for help. I told him I needed help getting my nail polish opened. He was able to help and I was on my way, doing my nails as I drove."

While retelling the story to the radio talent that was going to interview her, who by the way was also cracking up, he was telling her to, "Wait Betty, save the good stuff for when we get on air!"

Never mind that it was a radio interview and no one would see her nails 'on air.' Betty Ann always wanted to look her best.

It was that desire to look her best that helped us find her. On Friday, February 10, at the age of 83 years, 11 months and 15 days, she missed her hair appointment. Her hairdresser called her daughter Cindy to ask about Betty Ann. It was not like her to miss her hair appointment. Her life revolved around that hair appointment.

When Betty Ann's granddaughter in law arrived at the house, she found that Betty Ann had passed away, as she had lived, full steam ahead, rushing into her home from the Senior Center. It is believed that her death was quick and sudden.

She is now shining her light with her Lord, at peace and I'm sure she is regaling all in the Kingdom with her laughter and story of "Wow, what a ride!" Because, Betty Ann knew...Life is good!

(Editor's note: This column was read as a tribute to Betty Ann at the family service on Tuesday, February 14.)



## **First Place**

- **Lisbon, Ransom County Gazette**

***Life is Good: A bright light has gone out***

**Jeanne Sexton-Brown**



# *Personal Column- Serious: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Pray for him*  
**Turner Blaufuss**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Watchdog*  
**Ken Harty**

# Personal Column- Serious: Small Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
*Open government*  
Jamie Kelly

Editor's Column

# Keeping government open matters

Last week I was at the North Dakota Newspaper Association annual conference, and apart from the Herald's staff winning a few awards — always a nice feeling — the most interesting part was the induction of Bill Devlin into the North Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame.

Devlin was the owner and publisher of the Steele County Press in Finley for 33 years, and now serves in the state Legislature.

I like it when media types hold public office, especially newspaper people, because no matter what their other political beliefs, I know we'll probably have one thing in common: a passion for open government.

Devlin didn't disappoint. At one point during his speech, which he gave the day after the end of the Legislative session, he talk-

ed about Senate Bill 2152, which Gov. Doug Burgum signed into law on March 30.

That bill, he noted, is a blow to the state's long and proud history of open government. It allows any public body that is hiring someone to keep information about all but the three finalists secret.

He took particular exception to a column former Gov. Ed Schafer wrote in support of SB 2152 for Rob Port's Say Anything blog in which Schafer joked — I'm giving Schafer the benefit of the doubt there — that no one reads newspapers anymore.

Devlin also criticized Burgum for thinking about running North Dakota like he's still the CEO of a company.

Legislators like Devlin are increasingly few. Too many who hold elected



Jamie Kelly

office or who work for government are unconcerned about or even irritated by the public's right to know.

Asking someone like Schafer, who spent eight years as governor, whether they want more public oversight is silly — of course he wouldn't.

But as the Herald wrote in an editorial, and as I think Devlin would agree with, the wishes of an elected official are completely irrelevant in such a case. When hiring a public official, every step of the process should be open to the public.

Good government can't happen in secret.

In a phone call with Burgum on Friday, SB 2152 came up. He told me that although he understands the position that Devlin, the Herald and the NDNA have taken on the bill, he's excited by it.

He said that he was on a hiring committee for the president of the University of North Dakota at one point and was disappointed at the number of applicants. He argued that people don't want to put their name in for public positions, because they don't want their names to be public that early in the process. SB 2152 is a compromise in his view, because it still keeps the finalist names as open records. It's an interesting argument.

I'm not convinced that fear of names becoming public is the reason for low

application numbers. I do take Burgum at his word that he respects the public's right to know, though.

My biggest fear isn't that SB 2152 will end public participation in hiring all by itself. I worry because every time government bodies have the chance to hold closed meetings, they do so. And a look at the Attorney General's list of opinions shows that when government bodies hold closed meetings, the discussions aren't always limited to topics allowed by statute.

Devlin made the point that on bills like SB 2152, the public needs to get involved, otherwise legislators won't know their constituents oppose it.

Media organizations like the Herald have a role to play as well. We need to keep the public informed about potential changes to open records and open

meetings laws.

We also need to speak with elected officials at all levels to make sure they understand the importance of open government.

Another thing we need to do is ensure the public can access government records. We regularly make requests for records from federal, state, county and city offices, and we write stories using the information we get.

Making sure that the public understands the inner workings of government is one of the responsibilities a news organization like the Herald has. We take open, honest government seriously. I hope our readers do, too.

Jamie Kelly is the managing editor of the Williston Herald. He can be reached at (701) 572-2145.

## *Personal Column- Serious: Large Dailies*

---

### ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*What no one warns you about parenting*  
**Alicia Strnad Hoalcraft**

### ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*I became a witness to a one-punch homicide*  
**Archie Ingersoll**

### ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*A conversation about the Herald*  
**Korrie Wenzel**

# Personal Column- Serious: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**

*North Dakota nice turns  
North Dakota nasty*

**Mike McFeely**

## North Dakota Nice turns to North Dakota Nasty

**I**t's been a nice facade we've put on all these years. A bunch of stoic Scandinavians and Germans living and letting live, lending a helping hand, looking out for their neighbors, smiling and saying "hello" to everybody. You betcha.

That wasn't exactly the truth. If you paid close enough attention, you knew Fargo-Moorhead, North Dakota and western Minnesota weren't



**MIKE  
McFEELY**  
The Forum

Commentary

all they were being marketed as. If you kept your ears open in the small-town bars or metro hangouts or pretty much anyplace, you heard

enough racial slurs and off-color jokes to fill a book. But the comments stayed there, in the shadows, and everybody continued to think this was the friendliest place on Earth. "Everybody is so nice here!" is the compliment we liked to hear the most. It made us so proud. They liked us, they really liked us.

The Band-Aid started to be peeled back a few years ago when some in the media

began to target refugees and immigrants as a problem and, with Facebook and talk radio at our disposal, we began to hear some of the ugliness that previously hadn't crawled out from under the rocks. More recently, a city commissioner and a county commissioner began to question the cost of refugees to the almighty taxpayer – hey, they were just innocently asking questions and most certainly not playing to a

base of racists and xenophobes – and the warts were exposed some more. And then North Dakota and rural Minnesota voted overwhelmingly for Donald Trump's white nationalistic platform.

Still, we just smiled and humbly accepted all the accolades coming our way for being one of America's hippest and friendliest places.

**McFEELY: Page A6**



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Personal Column-  
Humorous*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
NDNA  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Personal Column- Humorous: Small Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Park River, Walsh County Press**  
*From the Editor's Desk - 7-12*  
**Allison Olimb**

# Personal Column- Humorous: Small Weeklies



## Far Afield

BY JERRY W. KRAM  
LONDON



### Everything new is old

Every now and then I am forced to admit that I am not as young as I used to be. I like to think I am "with it" as we used to say, but I have to admit, really, that there by the time I have heard of a new trend or gadget, it is probably passé.

I thought of this recently when I noticed that Amazon.com (does anyone still bother to use the old.com in regular communications anymore?) there old guy Douglas there has a page that tells you how long you have been a customer and if you are curious, every single time you have ever purchased, it was a little checked when I realized I made my first purchase from them before the science whose graduation ceremony pictures I ran in this paper a few weeks ago were even here.

That was almost as big a shock as realizing that "back in the times" it seemed to be an amazing future time... that was two years ago.

There is a small college in Wisconsin called Beloit that has gained national attention for creating an annual list monthly to record its growing professors that the incoming freshmen have grown up in a world that is different from their own. In the spirit of this column, it should be noted that what was once an interesting exercise is now another used tradition that is older than the freshmen it seeks to understand.

The lastest list of freshmen lists a few interesting names, like that for them, "sideboard" and other "big names" have always been part of the Chicago language before have come here in the midland state for her. John Deere and Wagner County have always been noted. For the one that caught my eye in the fact that for them, the list has always existed.

I was one of the early adopters of technology. I bought my first Macintosh, the work it came out, although I had to wait nearly two months before it was delivered. That is something that that's changed. The major manufacturer would now think of all development time to build up the months for a new product. But that was I did for you.

For years I was almost the only person I knew with their own computer at home. Then I was the only person with one who wasn't a college student. Then this thing called web was invented and there was a laptop in every office in every coffee shop, OK, and way back when we didn't even have coffee shops - we gathered in diners or that new place, "Purple Teardrop". Now there are web-bes that are far more capable computers than my old original Macintosh, and always at coffee bars or

or New Town had the same access to books, and movies, and computers, Minneapolis or New York had. That was a good thing. Of course, someone has put these little compact discs and DVDs, so now some about Mr. Binkham are on the endangered species list instead of obsolete.

I remember wanting to become a better photographer for years and years. Not for a long time I could afford to buy film or get it developed, but not both at the same time. I first went digital about the time the first crop of high school seniors were here. I've never looked back. I have to admit I was nervous to buy my first digital camera, because back then they were as expensive and I was cheap. Plus, the early camera models as good as even a cheap film camera. But by 2001 I could afford a my first digital film and I am so glad since then, I can take thousands of pictures a month now when I need to take dozens of I was back.

Many people of my generation are worried by the coming new technology and change. I like to point out to them that our own parents were just as worried by film, tape, growing pains, and so-called crime. There was even a brief debate about whether education should be allowed in schools. I think the kids today are being behind the backs of us old-farts, but I don't mind.

No, I bet that 50 years from now the kids and grandchildren of today's teenagers will be laughing about Junior's new fangled brain implants or that little Gene wants the monomolecular animal tissue that she can control with her thoughts. They'll wonder what ever happened to the simple joys of paper airplanes and phonies. (Just like us old fags wonder what ever happened to Larders (cars) and Facelias.)

The times they are a changing, using a Nobel Prize award. But times always will remain the same. Young people will be amazed to what I now and did. Times, old folks will remember those days of what was new and different those decades earlier. The new and different "innovations" of today will become the "old-fashioned" skills, and your grandparents of tomorrow. Perhaps one day someone will say "Remember Amazon?" because we have realized were more when these books were checked up on the shelves to be used out of and they were just when every new home came with a 3-D printer and all you had to do was download a file.

So you kids, enjoy your youth, but remember that you are someone's old people.



## First Place

- New Town News  
*Everything new is old*  
Jerry W. Kram

## *Personal Column- Humorous: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

### ◆ **Third Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Decline startling, sharp, devastatingly quick*

**Neil O. Nelson**

### ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Playing phone tag with a 7-year-old*

**Alyssa Short**



# Personal Column- Humorous: Mid-Size Weeklies



## BETWEEN YOU & ME

BY ALYSSA MEIER | EDITOR

### Alternative resolutions

So we're a couple weeks into the new year, and those resolutions are getting a little harder to keep. Whether you wanted to lose weight, get organized or save money, usually at this point, our motivation is wearing a little thin and we're about to give up.

But fear not. This does not have to be over yet. Maybe the goals were a little intimidating, and you're feeling overwhelmed, so let's find some ways to make some healthy, unique changes that will let us grow without ever stepping foot inside a gym.

From one unorganized individual to another, I can say this goal can be hard to keep up with. But ironically, I've found the easiest way to organize a plethora of items in your home or at work is to actually bring more items in. Containers. Containers, everywhere.

Maybe it is simply the illusion of organization, but taking my pile of cords and making them a bit of cords is oddly satisfying. Look at that - the bin is FIVE cords. I sure have my life together.

And those random pieces of paper you aren't sure if you will need or not? Don't worry, we have a place for those, too. A cute cork board with some matching push pins will help fill up some wall space and give us a spot for that receipt, phone number or gum wrapper we might need someday.

For those wanting to lose weight, you may want to actually try and avoid being organized. Here's why.

Think of how many extra calories you will burn if you are always waking up late and having to rush to get ready? You'll probably forget something at home and end up running up and down the stairs a dozen times, or turning around to make sure the door is unlocked.

And when you're always rushing around, you're probably going to snack less because who has time. I have to be at work in three minutes. Stress will surely keep that heart pumping.

Other quick tricks to tone your body:

Lower your shower head so you have to constantly huff and puff when

you bathe. It may take a while to get used to, but you'll have the thighs of a marathon runner soon. Maybe.

Make up for the extra junk food you splurged on by carrying all the groceries in one trip. That's basically a full workout, right?

Be expressive when you talk to people. Wave your arms around, overuse gestures and nod superfluously - aim to break a light sweat with every conversation.

Rearrange your furniture. Not only will this help your physical health - reclining couches are so janky - but you can try and master that frog abait thing people are always talking about.

As far as saving money, I've found the best cure for an empty wallet is to be somewhat of a slut. It's easy to spend money when you're driving by coffee shops, eateries and stores you like. But with online shopping, that one may not be entirely foolproof. I'm still doing research.

Maybe you don't have to lose 10 pounds this year, and your home can be a little cluttered. Change doesn't happen overnight. So work on little changes, small choices you make every day.

But, and this is important, don't forget that January 1 is not the only day of the year you can start over. Maybe we'll hit some setbacks with New Year's resolutions. Maybe you weren't ready to make one right now. Everyone is experiencing different things in life right now, so why would we all be ready to make a change on the exact same day?

Motivation to change doesn't always happen in accordance with Earth's revolution around the sun. So maybe your new start hasn't happened yet. Maybe you're in the middle of finding that happy place and reaching those goals right now.

Follow your own internal rhythm. Change what you want, when you want, but remember not to be too hard on yourself, either. And don't forget things can start over at any moment. You can always throw the old habits - or the old goals - into a little bin and shove it in the back of the closet. Bins always do make things better.



## First Place

- Washburn, The Leader-News  
*Alternative resolutions*  
Alyssa Meier

## *Personal Column- Humorous: Large Weeklies*

---

### ◆ **Third Place**

- **Lisbon, Ransom County Gazette**  
*Road Apples: Summer is time for S'mores!*  
**Mattie Richardson-Schmitz**

### ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Seven inning scenarios*  
**Chelsea Wysocki**

# Personal Column- Humorous: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Mayville, Trail County Tribune  
*About Getting It*  
Myrna Lyng

### ... about "getting" it

The other day the "Carpe Diem" cartoon absolutely puzzled me. I didn't "get" (understand) it. It went right over my head. Unfortunately I tossed the paper before I remembered to dip it out so I could ask someone about it. So that niggling memory continues to rattle around in my head.



#### Random Thoughts

Myrna Lyng

entertainment via TV, movies and music these days. So there are lots of references that go over my head. Unfortunately that often happens when I'm doing the crossword. For example, the other day I had no idea what the answer was to the clue "Like most Judd Apatow comedies." Judd who? (In case you don't know, either the answer was "barwy.")

Except for the frustration of not being able to finish a puzzle, sometimes my expanding mind wants to know and sometimes it doesn't.

Case in point: I discovered a list of the "World's Shortest Books." It was meant to be humorous and it seemed to be, but sometimes the "titles" were sarcastic and even mean. I'm sure a French patriot would not appreciate the titles "French Military Victories" or "French Hospitality," for example. And "Ready Steady" by Janet Reno seems a bit unkind, as does "Beating a Drug Addiction" by

Darryl Strawberry.

Some of the titles I just didn't get. For example, "How to be Funny" by Gilbert Gottfried. Who is he? Is that title funny or not? Do I want to take the time to Google Gottfried for more information so I can say "yes" or "no"? Nah. I'm not that interested.

I also didn't get "How to Look Good" by Zach Galifianakis. I dunno know who he is, either.

"Fun With Units"? Over my head.

But I "got" "Hair Care" by Albert Einstein. And "The Amish Phone Directory."

I also smiled at "Distressed Ways to Spell Bob" and "George Foreman's Big Book of Baby Names."

"Everything Men Know About Women" and "Everything Women Know About Men" were sort of amusing. As were "Things I Would Not Do For Money" by Dennis Rodman and "America's Most Popular Lawyers."

"Spotted Owl Recipes" and "Healthy Fast Food" gave me pause. (Had to think about those a bit.)

The list also included "How to Get a Tan With a Blowtorch" and "How to Lead a Train to a World Series" by Barry Bonds.

I liked "The Engineer's Guide to Fashion," "A Pictorial Appreciation of Women's Fashion Shows In Iran," and "Viking Table Manners."

I vaguely know about Miley Cyrus and Paula Abdul, so I "got" "My Boring Teenage Years" by Cyrus and "People Who Respected Me" by Abdul. Sort of, anyway. And I don't know who Amy Winehouse is, so is "How to Be Cool" by her funny or not? Same with "Motherhood" by Britney Spears.

I'd have to look up something

to understand "Home-Built Airplanes" by John Deere.

"Career Opportunities for Liberal Arts Majors" I got. Same with "Things I Can't Afford" by Bill Gates, "The Wild Years" by Al Gore, and "Zagat's Guide to Cities Without a Starbucks."

See? I have paid attention sometimes.

Depending on your political inclination, you might or might not find these "shortest books" funny. "My Successful Presidency" by George Bush, "Gun Safety" by Dick Cheney, "The Book of Virtues" by Bill Clinton, and "The Value of Pre-War Intelligence" by George W. Bush.

"Australian Book of Etiquette" puzzled me. In my travels I found the Finns to be less knowledgeable about common courtesy than the Australians were. In fact, our travel guide in Finland told us not to expect much courtesy in Finland. And it was true. So I would say that one of the world's shortest books could be "Finnish Book of Etiquette."

Well, whether any of these "shortest books" are funny just depends. It's said that "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder" and perhaps humor is in the mind of the reader. But for something to be funny, you gotta "get" it. So should I start watching more TV, listening to contemporary music and hitting the flicks so I can "get" more references?

Nah. I'll go with what I can "get," because not to brag or any thing, my percentage of completed crossword puzzles is pretty good. Better than Harry Truman's approval rating 70-some years ago.

Get it!

## *Personal Column- Humorous: Small Dailies*

---

### ◆ **Third Place**

- **Valley City Times-Record**  
*My Trip to Boston: Day 1*  
Ashley Limesand

### ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Run, don't walk*  
Frank Stanko

# Personal Column- Humorous: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
*Gladiator airlines*  
Jamie Kelly

### Editor's Column: *You'll be glad you flew Gladiator Airlines*

At this point in time, I think you'd have to drag me, bloody and kicking, to get on a flight by United Airlines.

But I already hate flying.

It's enough of an indignity flying — paying obscene amounts of money to be treated shabbily by everyone from the TSA screeners to the gate agents, only to see flight after flight delayed — without worrying about being bumped, let alone physically hauled off of a plane.

But United CEO Oscar Munoz has assured everyone that the airline will no longer call the police to forcibly remove a passenger on an overbooked flight.

That is almost as comforting

as when Munoz had an apparent change of heart over who was to blame for the incident.



**Jamie Kelly**

Shortly after David Dao was dragged off a plane bound from Chicago to Louisville to make room for four United employees, Munoz sent a companywide email essentially saying that Dao had brought the treatment upon himself by refusing to comply.

About a day later — after the company had taken a billion-dollar hit to its stock prices, I should note — Munoz said that no one

should be treated that way.

Given my limited math skills, it looks like it wouldn't have cost a lot more — after big stock market fluctuations, the company has lost about \$255 million in value — to buy a brand new Boeing 757 or Airbus A330 to carry the crew.

But, as so often happens, the misfortune of others gave me an idea for a new business venture.

Welcome to the very very unfriendly skies — Gladiator Airlines.

Our business model won't be much different than a regular airline. We're going to overbook every flight, trying to squeeze the most money out of fliers.

Carry-on bags, like checked lug-

gage, will cost extra, of course.

Our very special enticement to fliers is what will set us apart, though.

We'll bring passengers on board just like a normal airline, but we'll stop boarding when there is only one seat remaining unfilled. Then, everyone not yet on board will have to fight it out. The last person standing gets to board the plane, and, as an added incentive, gets a full refund.

I think this one is a sure-fire moneymaker. Not only would we get the fares from all of those who failed in combat, we would also be able to charge the lucky passengers who already made it on board for the entertainment of watching

the fight.

We could even have a uniform gimmick. Southwest Airlines lets workers wear shorts during part of the year, but we could have pilots, flight attendants or baggage handlers wear helmets, sandals or armor. They probably couldn't have swords, what with it being an airport and all, but we can do without.

Now I just need to come up with a few hundred million dollars for a fleet of planes.

*Jamie Kelly is the managing editor of the Williston Herald. He can be reached at [editor@willistonherald.com](mailto:editor@willistonherald.com) or (701) 572-2165.*

## *Personal Column- Humorous: Large Dailies*

---

### ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**

*When your kid can't poop,  
life comes to a screeching halt*

**Kris Kerzman**

### ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**

*A girl and her skeleton*

**Alicia Strnad Hoalcraft**

# Personal Column- Humorous: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Nowadays, you can be convicted  
of disorganized crime*  
**Tammy Swift**

## Nowadays, you can be convicted of disorganized crime

Organization is the new thin.

Think about it. Organization is a 4 gobtrillion-dollar industry, what with professional organizers, thousands of organizing products and all sorts of best-selling books on the topic. I hear there is also an international society for professional organizers called WOO (World Organization Organization).

Likewise, disorganization is the new way to shame and judge people. Do you not have an 11- by 17-inch, 4,000-page Passion Planner,



TAMMY SWIFT

which is embedded with a mini-micro nanoplanner that keeps track of vital information such as the serial number of every valuable in your home, an allergy inventory of all the kids in your children's class (in case you need to bring treats), the optimal bowel movement schedule for the dog; the number of grains of

fish food to keep your daughter's goldfish, Mr. McOrangerson, in peak swimming condition; the carb counts of every meal you intend to eat in 2018; the flight schedule of every US airline; the numbers for everything from the Poison Control Hotline to the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament and the shoe size of your mail carrier?

Is your spice rack alphabetized and organized according to color, texture, purchase date, origin of cultivation and thermogenic effects?

Have all the spices been

removed from their tacky plastic bottles and placed in identical, organically blown, decorative glass jars that have been meticulously labeled in Sofia font with the miniature label maker you keep inside your pocketbook for just such occasions? I mean, what if there wasn't a system and you couldn't find the paprika? The PAPIKA, people! Mass chaos would ensue.

Do you own no fewer than 45 fabric bins, and do you have a bin for the aforementioned bins? Are your belts appropriately suspended from a belt

tree, rather than left in a shameful pile of slothful incompetence on the floor?

Do you get Google Alerts for "Marie Kondo?"

Are your i's dotted, your beans counted and your ducks aligned?

Do you have an app that keeps track of what you're doing every seven minutes so you can maximize productivity?

Have you started a spreadsheet to compare potential grad schools for your toddler? I mean, he's not going to be 3 forever.

If so, we hope you are balancing these day-to-day obligations

with measurable steps toward larger life goals, such as launching an International Panda Rescue, learning how to levitate and becoming the winningest competitor in the Spartan Death Race.

If you're not living up to this, well, shame on you. No offense, but you are a complete failure.

At least, you are according to the expectations and laws of What It Takes To Be a Perfect Person Who Looks Perfectly Perfect. You know what they say. I file, therefore I am.

SWIFT: Page B2



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Special News  
Section*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION





# *Special News Section: Small Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Drayton, Valley News & Views**

*Christmas Section*

**Lesa Van Camp, Lyle Van Camp,  
Cindy Bronson, Alice Sorrel**

# Special News Section: Small Weeklies

## **Established 1914** **WALSH COUNTY** **FAIR**

Post-Fair Supplement • November 8, 2017 • Complimentary



**P** WALSH COUNTY PRESS **OCTOBER 18-21, 2017**

Justin Pitt concentrates on backing up the garden tractor into a designated spot in the tractor driving contest at the Fair.

### ◆ **First Place**

- **Park River,  
Walsh County Press  
Post Fair Supplement  
Allison Olimb, Brook  
Dahlgren, Larry Biri**

# *Special News Section: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Carrington, Foster County Independent**  
*Fall Sports Preview*  
Erik Gjovik, Linda Duursma

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Best of the Valley*  
Kathleen Leinen, Candace Engstrom

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*Christmas Section*  
Banner Staff

# Special News Section: Mid-Size Weeklies

## Rendezvous Region 2017 Summer Tour Guide



Photo by Larry Stokke

**Cavalier County  
Republican**

### ◆ First Place

- Langdon, Cavalier  
County Republican  
*Rendezvous Region  
Tour Guide*  
Staff

# *Special News Section: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Crosby, The Journal**  
*Faith in the farm*  
**Journal Staff**

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**  
*100th Commemoration of WWI*  
**Cecile Wehrman**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Ag Section*  
**Staff**

# Special News Section: Large Weeklies



- ◆
**First Place**
  - **Garrison,  
McLean County Independent  
Hunters Haven  
Alyssa Adam**

# *Special News Section: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Southern Valley Living*  
Candace Engstrom

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Flood*  
Daily News Staff

# Special News Section: Small Dailies

*Barnes County*  
**A Place Called Home**  
*A Tribute To Our History!*

*Our Communities Have A Long And Rich History From The First Settlers To Those Who Live, Work and Play Here Today. They All Have One Thing In Common, They Call Barnes County Home!*

*Join Us with Your Stories, Memories, Anecdotes, and Photos When We Publish "A Place Called Home"*

Join us in this award winning edition by emailing your photos and stories to [mediator@times-online.com](mailto:mediator@times-online.com) or stop by Valley City Times-Record office, 146 3rd St NE, Valley City, ND 58072 or drop off by the office.

*Deadline For Submissions: November 15, 2017*

## ◆ First Place

- **Valley City Times-Record**  
*A Place Called Home 2017*  
**Heidi Harris,**  
**Ashley Limesand,**  
**Megan Kjelland,**  
**Tina Olson,**  
**Brenda Tompt,**  
**Bill Parsons**



# *Special News Section: Large Dailies*

---

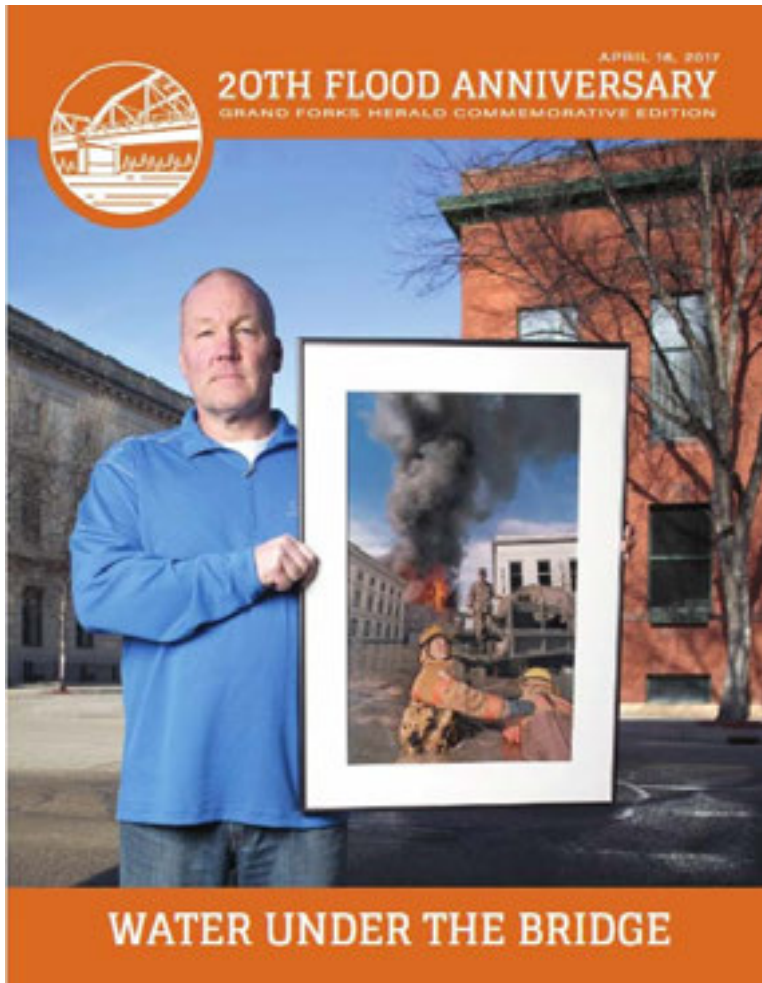
## **Second Place**

- **Minot Daily News**

*Hometown 2017*

**Mandy Taniguchi, Eloise Ogden,  
Jill Schramm, Andrea Johnson,  
Kim Fundingsland, Michael Sasser,  
Kent Olson**

# *Special News Section: Large Dailies*



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald  
*Flood of 1997  
Anniversary Magazine  
Staff***



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Section/Feature  
Fronts*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# Section/Feature Fronts: Small Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- **Drayton, Valley News & Views**  
*Christmas Section Front Design*  
**Lesa Van Camp**

# *Section/Feature Fronts: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Community*  
**Karen Speidel**

# Section/Feature Fronts: Mid-Size Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Undeclared*  
Cory Erickson

## *Section/Feature Fronts: Large Weeklies*

---

### ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Winter Sports Cover*  
Chelsea Wysocki

### ◆ **Second Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**  
*WWI Commemoration*  
Cecile Wehrman

# Section/Feature Fronts: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Crosby, The Journal  
*Faith in the Farm*  
Cecile Wehrman,  
Brad Nygaard



## *Section/Feature Fronts: Small Dailies*

### ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Devils Lake Journal**  
*Cookbook Front Cover*  
Joey Good

### ◆ **Third Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*Lock the bin*  
Meghan Dowhaniuk

### ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Twin Towns & About*  
Kathleen Leinen, Candace Engstrom

# Section/Feature Fronts: Small Dailies



## First Place

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Agricultural landscape*  
**Kathleen Leinen**

# Section/Feature Fronts: Large Dailies

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Read 'em and sing*  
Mindy Wirtzfeld

## ◆ Third Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*The Playmaker*  
Sara Slaby

## ◆ Second Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*Frankenstein*  
Roberta Fultz

# Section/Feature Fronts: Large Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*Dreams run big*  
Carli Greninger



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Front Page  
Design*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
NDNA  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Front Page Design: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Parshall, Mountrail County Record**  
*Mountrail County Record*  
Jordon Ost

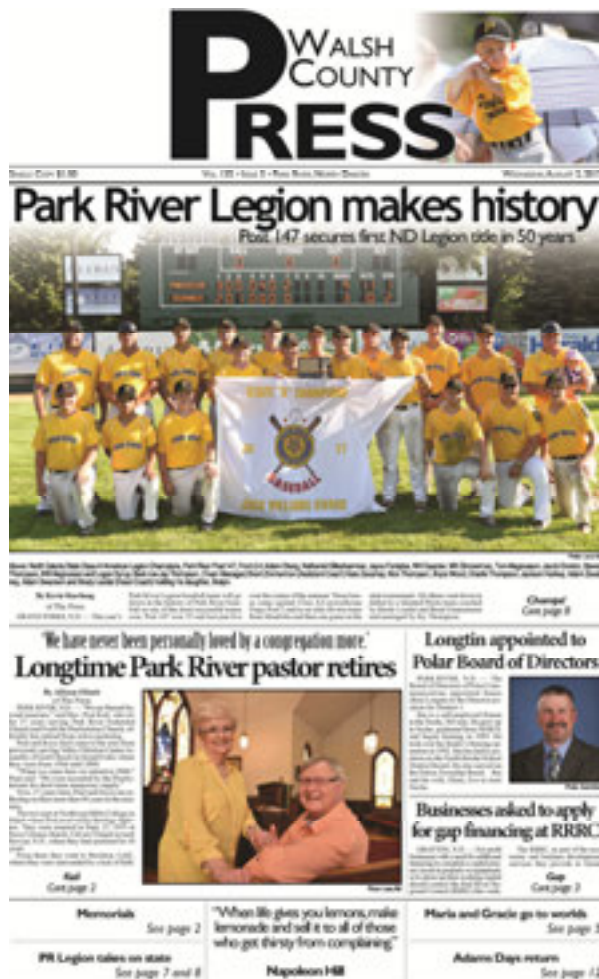
## ◆ **Third Place**

- **New Town News**  
*Front Page Design*  
Connie Krueger

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Drayton, Valley News & Views**  
*Front Page Design Excellence*  
Lesa Van Camp

# Front Page Design: Small Weeklies



## First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press  
*Front Page Design*  
Allison Olimb

# *Front Page Design: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Beulah Beacon**

*Beulah Beacon - July 13, 2017*

**Holly Doe**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Hillsboro Banner*

**Banner Staff**



# Front Page Design: Mid-Size Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Hankinson, News-Monitor  
*News-Monitor May 30 Front*  
Karen Speidel

# *Front Page Design: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Front Page Design*  
Neal Shipman

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Bottineau Courant**  
*Bottineau Courant A1*  
Scott Wagar, Lynn Evenson

# Front Page Design: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Crosby, The Journal  
*The Journal*  
Cecile Wehrman

# *Front Page Design: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**

*3-Feb*

**Stephanie Selensky**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Daily News Front Page*

**Kathleen Leinen**

# Front Page Design: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
Lee Zion  
Front Page Design

# *Front Page Design: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*Front Page Design*  
Staff

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Flood, 20 years*  
Stephanie Proffer

# Front Page Design: Large Dailies



## TWO CHAIRS, TWO VIEWS



**THE BARBERSHOP**  
"You better know who you're talking to"

**A** barber shop is a place where you can get a haircut, a shave, or a trim. It's a place where you can relax and get a good massage. It's a place where you can meet new people and make friends. It's a place where you can feel like a king.



**THE SALON**  
"Women are able to speak out and feel okay!"

**A** salon is a place where you can get a haircut, a manicure, or a pedicure. It's a place where you can relax and get a good massage. It's a place where you can meet new people and make friends. It's a place where you can feel like a queen.





**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Headline*



# *Headline: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **New Town News**

*Holidays don't have to go to waist*

**Jerry W. Kram**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **McClusky Gazette**

*Everyone goes home*

**Allan Tinker**

# Headline: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- **Medora, Billings County Pioneer  
Historic tree's fate  
in Medora left hanging  
Richard Volesky**

### Historic tree's fate in Medora left hanging

By Richard Volesky

Editor Reporter

MEDORA - The future of what remains of the city's historic "hanging tree" is undecided.

The Medora City Council on Nov. 7 discussed what to do with the tree's trunk, which is located in front of the Post Office and First State Bank. The top of the tree was blown down during strong winds on Oct. 23.

At the Nov. 7 meeting, Mayor Todd Council read a letter from Doug Ellison, local historian, which supported leaving the remainder of the tree in place. Resident Sheila Marie reported that a photo of Medora dating from 1896 shows that the tree existed at that time.

Other discussion at the meeting, according to the meeting's unofficial minutes, was that perhaps the tree should be left in place for a least a year to see if new growth starts.

Ben Branson, council member, said the tree's interior is hollowed out. He said an expert should look at the tree, and that he didn't feel there was a rush to do anything at this time. Council tabled a decision.

The Billings County Pioneer asked the North Dakota Forest Service (NDFS) about the possibility of re-growth of cottonwoods such as the Medora tree.

Sprouting can be vigorous from both roots and stumps of young trees, but declines as trees grow older, said Glenda Pascoe, NDFS information and education coordinator.

Jeff Smette, NDFS nursery manager, said he would recommend cutting the tree back to about 1 foot from the



The remaining trunk of the historic hanging tree in Medora isn't yet out of the woods, considering an option may be to remove it entirely. (Photo by Richard Volesky)

ground if the city chooses to try and see what happens within the next few years.

"Odds are it will regrow some sucker sprouts. These sprouts tend to be very weak in nature and may break down in a windstorm," said Smette. "Being in a public place it may be best to remove it totally. But I do understand the significance of such a historical tree. This is a tough one (decision)."

"Given the age of the tree, there is a

possibility there will be no successful sprouts," said Pascoe. "They may want to give it a try and see what develops. If the tree dies completely, it could be replaced with another cottonwood and an information sign indicating this was the historical location of the original cottonwood hanging tree."

Several of Medora's old large trees over the years have been called hanging trees, according to the State Historical Society of North Dakota. One that many people remember was at the

intersection of Fourth and Broadway, which was believed to be more than 100 years old and fell in about 1896.

There is no record of an actual hanging or lynching ever happening in Medora, according to the State Historical Society. There was, however, a mock hanging in December 1893 during which residents who were upset with a murder trial's verdict decided to hang the jury in effigy from a tree near a hotel.

© 2017 GVN-BCP

# *Headline: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Steele Ozone & Kidder County Press**

*Pickleball Strange name, serious game*

**Maralee Kalianoff**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Washburn, The Leader-News**

*Shooting for the moon*

**Alyssa Meier**

# Headline: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Taking an elfie*  
Cole Short

## TAKING AN ELFIE



Children flocked to see Santa Claus at Reynolds Community Betterment's annual Christmas party Saturday night. After visiting with Jessica Groez of Reynolds and her daughter, Brynn, 3, top, the jolly old elf welcomed Layton Syverson of Thompson, far left, and his sister, Evie, who shed a few brief tears during their visit. Paul Geray of Hillsboro, above, gave parents and children wagon rides through Reynolds to take in the city's Christmas lights.

PHOTOS BY CORY ERICKSON

# *Headline: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**

*A case of lefse supply and demand*

**Brad Nygaard**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**

*Sister Bohing in the dirt*

**Peyton Cole**

# Headline: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Grafton, Walsh County Record  
*Honor*  
Todd Kjelland

# *Headline: Small Dailies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**

*Rinking in the new year*

**Stephanie Selensky**

# Headline: Small Dailies



Students at St. John's School cheer on the Wahpeton Lady Huskies as their bus completes its Wednesday, March 9 journey past the city's schools. For more photos go to [www.wahpetondailynews.com](http://www.wahpetondailynews.com) and click on the photo button.

## Small town. One team. Big dreams.

*Wahpeton cheers on the Bismarck-bound Lady Huskies at state 'A'*

BY TOM CHAMBERLAIN  
[tom@wahpetondailynews.com](mailto:tom@wahpetondailynews.com)

Nobody cared that the temperature was only 27 degrees on Wednesday afternoon, with a wind chill that started with the mid teens.

Crowds lined 10th Street and Dakota Avenue as the Wahpeton Lady Huskies' bus left town for the North Dakota 'A' State Basketball Tournament.

They're facing the Bismarck Century Patriots at 3 p.m. Thursday, March 9 in Bismarck. That game, in addition to the entire tournament, will be broadcast on WDAY.

"We drive the ... No. 1 team in the state the most of the year, but we really don't care," said coach Brian Watson dur-

ing a pep rally at Wahpeton High School. "We're going to play what we have to play. In order to win a state championship, you have to beat everyone. Our plan is to beat everyone."

Escorted by the Wahpeton Police Department and the Wahpeton Fire Department, the Lady Huskies rode by Wahpeton Elementary, Wahpeton Middle School, Zimmerman Elementary and St. John's School, giving students, teachers and the public a chance to cheer them on their way.

The 'A' State Basketball Tournament is a double elimination event. If the Lady Huskies win today, they next play at 1 p.m. Friday, March 10. If they lose today, they next play at 4 p.m. on Friday.



The Lady Huskies face the Bismarck Century Patriots at 3 p.m. Thursday, March 9 in Bismarck at the state tournament.

WDL 326, NO. 517

Published for the Red River Valley and Lori Mahe of Wahpeton, N.D.

## ◆ First Place

- Wahpeton, The Daily News

*Small town. One team. Big dreams.*

**Kathleen Leinen**



# *Headline: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Smitten kittens*  
Stephanie Selensky

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Legal clash between  
sunflower seed firms gets salty*  
Archie Ingersoll

# Headline: Large Dailies



Jane Berg is president of S&S Transport, a Grand Forks truck company that ships freight across the contiguous U.S. and into Canada. The female business owner started the company with her husband in the 1980s.

## THE XX FACTOR

By April Baumgarten  
Grand Forks Herald

When Jane Berg and her late husband, Steve Berg, started S&S Transport in 1986, they had two employees and a borrowed line.

The firm took its sweet time to grow, but it was an appointment for Jane to call her husband to the trucking company at night.

"He started on a Saturday," she said of the early days. "We started from scratch."

In the early 1990s, S&S was acquired as a diversified Business Development/Investment-Owned Business Enterprise, which meant it could take on bids that required the use of that type of certified business.

From there, the company grew to employing 500 workers and operating in seven and a half states. The business transports freight to every state in the contiguous U.S. and across Canada. It also is certified as a women-owned business in multiple states.

"We have a great group of employees that are very dedicated," she said. "We own it as a woman." She said S&S is one of 23,300 businesses in North Dakota owned by a woman, according to the year-to-date of business-owned business report released this month. The study, commissioned by American

North Dakota ranks first in U.S. for job creation among women-owned businesses, report says

Business found North Dakota ranked first in the U.S. for growth of job creation among the top 10 states, as well as third in that category for growth in women.

"These numbers aren't surprising for all state, because there's a lot of women-owned businesses in North Dakota," she said. "We are very fortunate to have a lot of women-owned businesses."

By the numbers

The annual report report from American Express found women-owned firms, women growth and employment across the U.S. and compares these figures over a 10-year period. Nationwide, there were 23.3 million women-owned firms in 2010, an increase of about 2.5 million from last year and a similar change of 2.5 percent from 2009. Employment has increased to 3.9 million by 20 percent in the last 10 years.

North Dakota was an estimated 2.5 percent of job creation among women-owned firms last year, but it will rise over the next 10 years, according to the report. North Dakota ranked first in the U.S. for job growth, with 1.1 percent in 2010.

With the report, North Dakota is a leader in job creation and economic growth, a combination of firms, employment and economic growth over the last 10 years. The most rapid growth in that category, with North Dakota, the District of Columbia and North Dakota topping North Dakota, according to the state.

North Dakota's employment rate among women-owned businesses grew from 1.44 percent in 2001 to an estimated 2.5 percent this year, an increase of about 1.1 percentage points, according to the report.

Spokane states like California, Florida, Texas, New York and Chicago may have the most women-owned businesses, but still trail

North Dakota's employment rate among women-owned businesses grew from 1.44 percent in 2001 to an estimated 2.5 percent this year, an increase of about 1.1 percentage points, according to the report.

Spokane states like California, Florida, Texas, New York and Chicago may have the most women-owned businesses, but still trail

North Dakota's employment rate among women-owned businesses grew from 1.44 percent in 2001 to an estimated 2.5 percent this year, an increase of about 1.1 percentage points, according to the report.

Spokane states like California, Florida, Texas, New York and Chicago may have the most women-owned businesses, but still trail

## First Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*The XX factor*  
April Baumgarten



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Informational  
Graphics*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Informational Graphics: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **New Rockford Transcript**

*Building on the move: Photo map*

**Ashley Schuster**

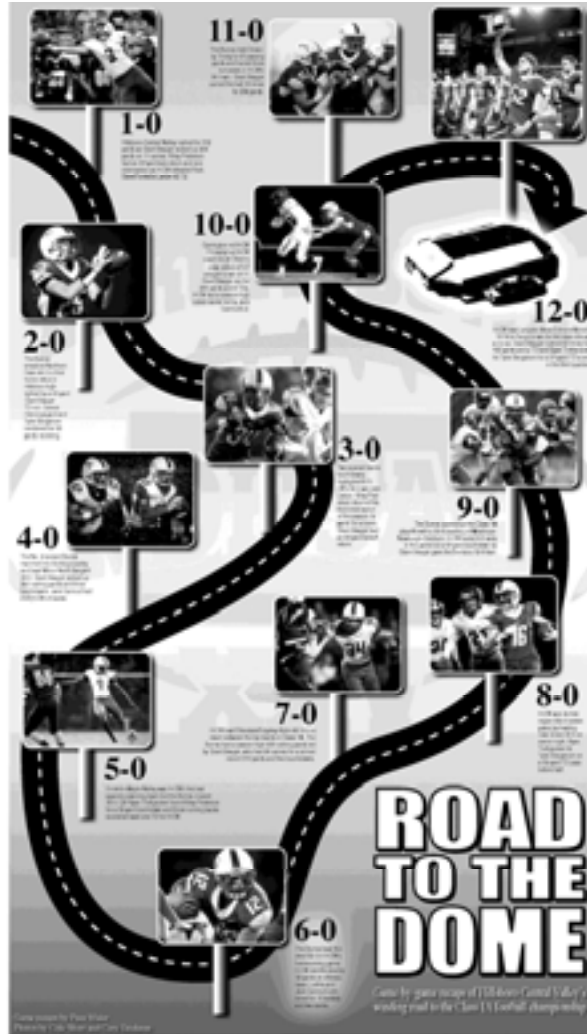
## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**

*Cyber bullying*

**Karen Speidel**

# Informational Graphics: Mid-Size Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Road to the Dome*  
Cory Erickson, Pace Maier

# *Informational Graphics: Large Weeklies*

---

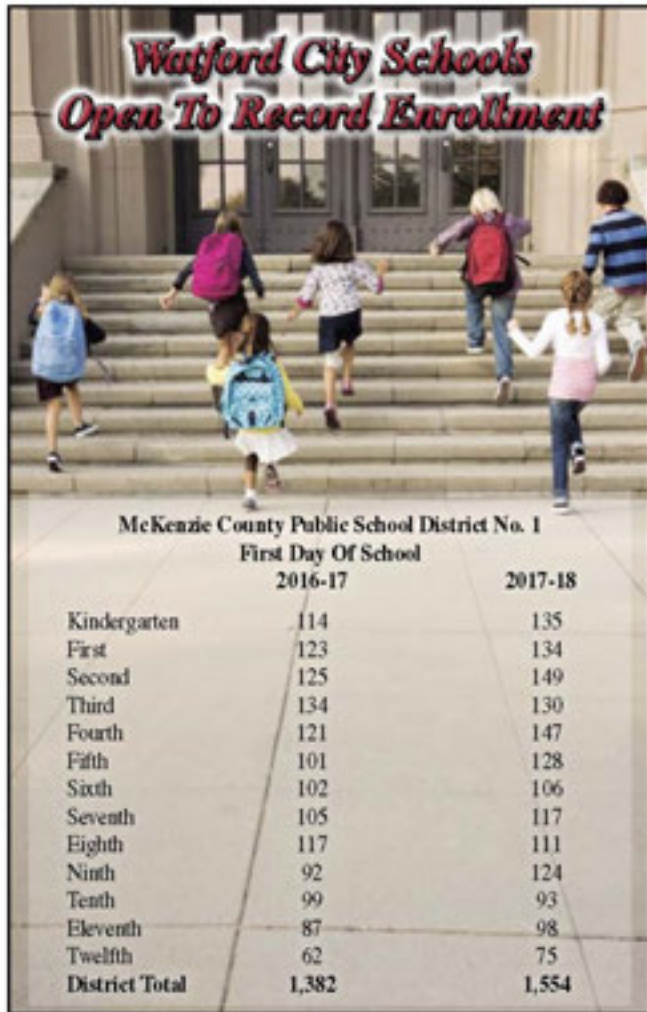
## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Bottineau Courant**  
*DCB students*  
**Lynn Evenson**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Bees by the numbers*  
**Andrew Spratta**

# Informational Graphics: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Watford City,  
McKenzie County Farmer  
*Watford City Schools Open  
To Record Enrollment*  
Neal Shipman

# Informational Graphics: Small Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
*Optimized well graphic*  
Jamie Kelly

### Optimized wells paying off

BY ERIC ANNE  
CONTINENTAL/CONTINENTAL

Continental Resources started the year with 20 uncompleted Bakken wells in its inventory and projected it would begin 2017 by completing a substantial number of wells.

Not only has the company made good on that promise, but it has exceeded its own oil production-by-production, according to its second-quarter earnings report.

"Our optimized completions are another game-changer for the Bakken," Continental President Jack Stark said. "This technology is delivering record-in-day production rates and almost doubling the value of reserves

expected from our previous economic model."

Last quarter, the company had an improved production profile for seven optimized Bakken completions. This quarter, the company reported that those wells are continuing to respond to the 90-McFoe Estimated Ultimate Recovery type curve by 25 percent.

An additional 10 optimized completions have since been performed, Stark said.

"Fourteen of those had over 30 days of production and all 14 are experiencing curve lifts above 60 to type curve of an average of 45 percent in the first 30 days," he said.

"Four of those wells delivered record 30-day

Original rate of return projection



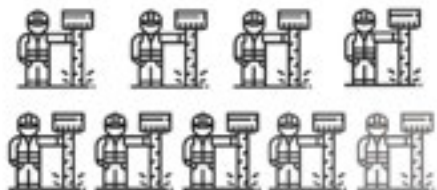
New rate of return projection



41  
Number of drilling rigs Continental has in the Bakken



Continental stimulation crews currently active



1 being added in May

1 being added by mid-year



# *Informational Graphics: Large Dailies*

---

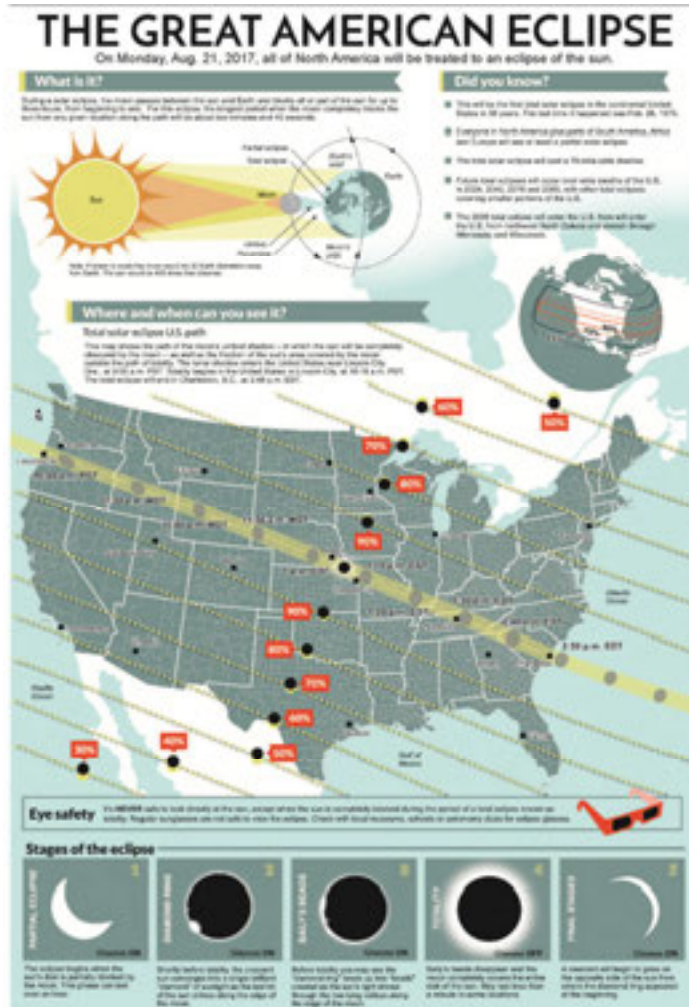
## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Rocking the house*  
Carli Greninger

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*United Nations*  
Meaghan MacDonald

# Informational Graphics: Large Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
*The Great American Eclipse*  
Troy Becker



# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

*Best Web Site*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# Web Site: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Hankinson, News-Monitor  
*News-Monitor web site*  
News-Monitor Staff



# Web Site: Large Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Crosby, The Journal  
*The Journal*  
Journal Staff



The screenshot shows the website for 'The Journal Publishing'. The header includes navigation links for Home, History, Staff, and Newspapers. The main banner features the title 'The JOURNAL' over a sunset background with an oil pumpjack. Below the banner is a navigation menu with links for Online Edition, Subscribe, News, Advertising, Links, Community Events, Videos, and Contact Us. The breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > Newspapers > The Journal >'. The main content area displays a news article with a photo of four young women in a store. The article title is 'Divide County FBLA chapter racks up its 16th state title' and the text mentions that some winners were not even born when the school won its first award. A 'Read More' link is provided. Below the article are two sections: 'Latest News' with two items, 'Medical enrichment training comes on a truck' and 'Divide County FBLA chapter racks up its 16th state title', and 'View Current Issue' which shows a thumbnail of the newspaper's front page with the headline 'Divide ambulance service provider quits, files complaint' and another article 'Neighbors show growth in taxable sales and purchases'. A 'Sports News' section is partially visible at the bottom.

Journal Publishing

Home History Staff Newspapers

The **JOURNAL**

Online Edition Subscribe News Advertising Links Community Events Videos Contact Us

Home > Newspapers > The Journal >

**Divide County FBLA chapter racks up its 16th state title**

Some of the winners were not even born when the school brought home its first Top Chapter award.

[Read More](#)

**Latest News**

 Medical enrichment training comes on a truck  
4/23/18 (Tue)

 Divide County FBLA chapter racks up its 16th state title  
4/23/18 (Tue)

[More Latest News](#)

**Sports News**

 Fishing the low for Blue Line Boaties

**View Current Issue**

**JOURNAL**

**Divide ambulance service provider quits, files complaint**

**Neighbors show growth in taxable sales and purchases**

# Web Site: Small Dailies

---

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Devils Lake Journal  
*Devils Lake Journal*  
Staff

## ◆ Third Place

- Dickinson Press  
*TheDickinsonPress.com*  
The Press Staff

## ◆ Second Place

- Williston Herald  
*willistonherald.com*  
Williston Herald Staff

# Web Site: Small Dailies



## Daily News MEDIA

1 | **Linda left Blue Bloods - But for good reasons** [Tragic? Read the truth now \(pic\) google.com](#)

2 | **Public Arrest Records** [Enter Name & State Then View Arrest Records Instantly! peotop.com](#)

3 | **Texas Roadhouse Coupons** [Free Coupons for Texas Roadhouse. Print Your Free Coupons Here! carmag.com/TexasRoadhouse](#)

4 | **Part Time job for Seniors** [Learn about part time jobs that may be right for you \(pic\) com](#)

5 | **2018 Grant Applications - New Grant Applications** [New Funding Released All the Time. Deadlines Approaching. Apply Now \(pic\) funding.com](#)

6 | **Accurate Forecasts** [Check Weather Today App For Forecasts On Your Device. \(pic\) weather.com](#)

**LOCAL NEWS STORIES**  
**Annual DREAMS Auction this Friday**  
North Dakota State College of Science is certain Friday, April 23 will be a lucky day.  
Tymonika

**LOCAL NEWS STORIES**  
**Songs in the hearts, smiles on their faces**  
These Towns Area sons of all ages have a song in their hearts and they're ready to sing it.  
Tymonika

**LOCAL NEWS STORIES**  
**PIE-ZAZZ**  
Roger Jacobs talks about identifying a former bank building as Wahpeton's future home for the arts, which is now the Red Clay Art Gallery.  
Mark to him in. Tynon garrett

**LOCAL GUIDE**  
MEMBERSHIP    RECENT ART  
Northside Improvement    October  
Wahpeton, ND

## ◆ First Place

- **Wahpeton,  
The Daily News  
Daily News website  
Staff**

# *Web Site: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Minot Daily News**

*minotdailynews.com*

**Minot Daily News**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**

*Grand Forks Herald website*

**Staff**



# Web Site: Large Dailies

The screenshot shows the INFORUM website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for NEWS, SPORTS, OPINION, ENTERTAINMENT, BUSINESS, LIFESTYLE, WILDFIRES, OUTDOORS, and WEATHER. A search bar and a weather widget displaying 38°F are also present. The main content area features several news articles with images and headlines, including 'Bison men's basketball parts ways with center Dylan Miller' and 'Fergus Falls police investigating suspicious death of child'. There are also advertisements for Dakota Fence and a 'THE FORUM SUBSCRIBE NOW' banner.

## ◆ First Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead  
Forum website  
Forum staff



**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Overall Design  
Excellence*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Overall Design Excellence: Small Weeklies*

---

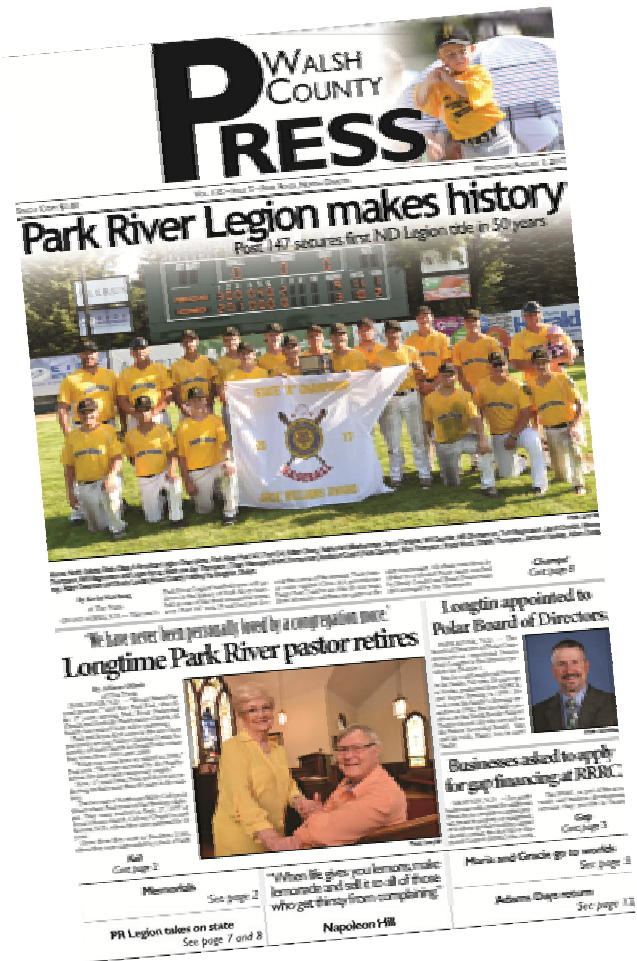
## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Drayton, Valley News & Views**  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
Lesa Van Camp

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Medora, Billings County Pioneer**  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
Richard Volesky, John Rosinski,  
Samantha Hoerer, Jane Cook

# Overall Design Excellence: Small Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
Allison Olimb, Brook Dahlgren,  
Larry Biri, Kevin Skavhaug

# *Overall Design Excellence: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Carrington, Foster County Independent**  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
Staff

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Tioga Tribune**  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
**Cecile Wehrman, Marcus White**

# Overall Design Excellence: Mid-Size Weeklies



## First Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
Banner Staff

# *Overall Design Excellence: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
Cecile Wehrman

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
Staff

# Overall Design Excellence: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Bottineau Courant  
Overall Design Excellence  
Staff



# *Overall Design Excellence: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
**Daily News**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Dickinson Press**  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
**The Dickinson Press**

# Overall Design Excellence: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
Williston Herald Staff

# *Overall Design Excellence: Large Dailies*



## **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Overall Design Excellence*  
**Staff**

# Overall Design Excellence: Large Dailies



## First Place

- Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead Overall Design Excellence Forum staff



# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

## *Photography Awards*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION





# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

## *News Photo*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *News Photo: Small Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **McClusky Gazette**

*Shopping small and friendly; Top photo*

**Allan Tinker**

# News Photo: Small Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press  
*Harvest Begins*  
Larry Biri

## Harvest begins

STATEWIDE — For the week ending August 15, 2017, moisture and cooler temperatures brought relief to most of North Dakota, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Rainfall amounts ranged from one half to one and a half inches, with some isolated areas receiving over three inches. The moisture benefited corn crops and soybeans to, but the effects of earlier drought conditions were still being felt. Temperatures across the state averaged near to night degrees below normal.

There were 9.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Soybean moisture supplies total 12 percent very short, 14 short, 41 adequate, and 2 surplus. Soybean moisture supplies total 12 percent very short, 14 short, 41 adequate, and 2 surplus.

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 7 percent very poor, 17 poor, 52 fair, 24 good, and 4 excellent. Corn silking was 96 percent, near 92 last year, and equal to the five-year average. Drought was 17 percent, behind 49 last year, and near 16 average. Harvested was 1 percent, near 7 last year and average.

Soybean conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 14 poor, 57 fair, 24 good, and 2 excellent. Soybean flowering was 94 percent, behind 99 last year, and near 97 average. Harvesting pods was 78 percent, behind 83 last year and average.

Winter wheat moisture was 98 percent. Harvested was 73 percent, behind 69 last year.

Spring wheat conditions rated 19 percent very poor, 19 poor, 27 fair, 33 good, and 4 excellent. Spring wheat silking was 98 percent, near 97 last year. Moisture was 75 percent, harvested was 26 percent, behind 41 last year, but

Right: Dan Migardson of confidence when he drives southward of border on Saturday afternoon. This is Migardson Farm's first fall of the year.

Harvest Report  
Farm Report 2





# *News Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Carrington, Foster County Independent**

*It's just a little pinch...*

**Erik Gjovik**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Tioga Tribune**

*Gingerbread kid*

**Marcus White**

# News Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- **Tioga Tribune**

*Tioga football remembers teammate killed in rollover*

**Dave Tengesdal**



# *News Photo: Large Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Bottineau Courant**

*Fecho comes home from Pearl Harbor*

**Scott Wagar**

# *News Photo: Large Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Wreath for those lost at sea*  
**Chelsea Wysocki**



# *News Photo: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**

*What goes up ...*

**Tom LaVenture**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Saying goodbye*

**Turner Blaufuss**

# *News Photo: Small Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Williston Herald**

*Cara Mund crowned Miss North Dakota  
Jamie Kelly*



# *News Photo: Large Dailies*



---



## ◆ Honorable Mention

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*Bison roundup*  
**Mike McCleary**

## ◆ Third Place

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Funeral of deputy*  
**Jesse Trelstad**

## ◆ Second Place

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Jason Moszer's wife, Rachel, and their children*  
**Michael Vosburg**

# *News Photo: Large Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum  
of Fargo-Moorhead  
*No better place*  
David Samson**







**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Spot News  
Photo*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Spot News Photo: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **New Town News**  
*Shadlynn Severance*  
**Jerry W. Kram**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Drayton, Valley News & Views**  
*Drayton Volunteer Firefighters battle the blaze*  
**Lesa Van Camp**

# *Spot News Photo: Small Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Park River, Walsh County Press**  
*Edinburg's changed skyline*  
**Larry Biri**

### **Edinburg's changed skyline**



# *Spot News Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*



## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Washburn, The Leader-News**  
*Answered prayers*  
**Alyssa Meier**

# *Spot News Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Wildfire burns 800 acres of land*  
**Karen Speidel**



# *Spot News Photo: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Highway 17 accident*  
Jackie Thompson

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Bridge accident*  
Cheryl Osowski

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Bottineau Courant**  
*Combine fire*  
Scott Wagar

# *Spot News Photo: Large Weeklies*



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Lisbon, Ransom County Gazette**  
*Shelf cloud south of Casselton*  
**McCall Manske**



# *Spot News Photo: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Fire*

**Frank Stanko**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*Garage fire*

**John M. Steiner**



# Spot News Photo: Small Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- Williston Herald  
*Hedderich rainbow*  
Jamie Kelly



# *Spot News Photo: Large Dailies*



## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Fatal beet truck accident*  
**Michael Vosburg**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Bad day for hay*  
**Joshua Komer**

# *Spot News Photo: Large Dailies*



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Edinburg fire*  
**Eric Hylden**





**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Feature Photo*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Feature Photo: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **New Town News**  
*Slime Time*  
Jerry W. Kram

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Beach, Golden Valley News**  
*Hundreds arrive for centennial*  
*(Girls Scouts photo)*  
Richard Volesky

# Feature Photo: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press

*Broad stripes, bright stars, Legion members present colors*

Larry Biri



# *Feature Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*



## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Carrington, Foster County Independent**

*Dog days*

**Erik Gjovik**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Tioga Tribune**

*Topsy Turvy*

**Dave Tengesdal**

# *Feature Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Tioga Tribune**  
*Make a Wish*  
**Marcus White**





# *Feature Photo: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**

*A colorful run*

**Neal Shipman**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**

*About a Girl*

**Brad Nygaard**

# *Feature Photo: Large Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**

*Moment of truth*

**Chelsea Wysocki**



# *Feature Photo: Small Dailies*



## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Pup travels*

**Carrie McDermott**

## ◆ **Second Place**

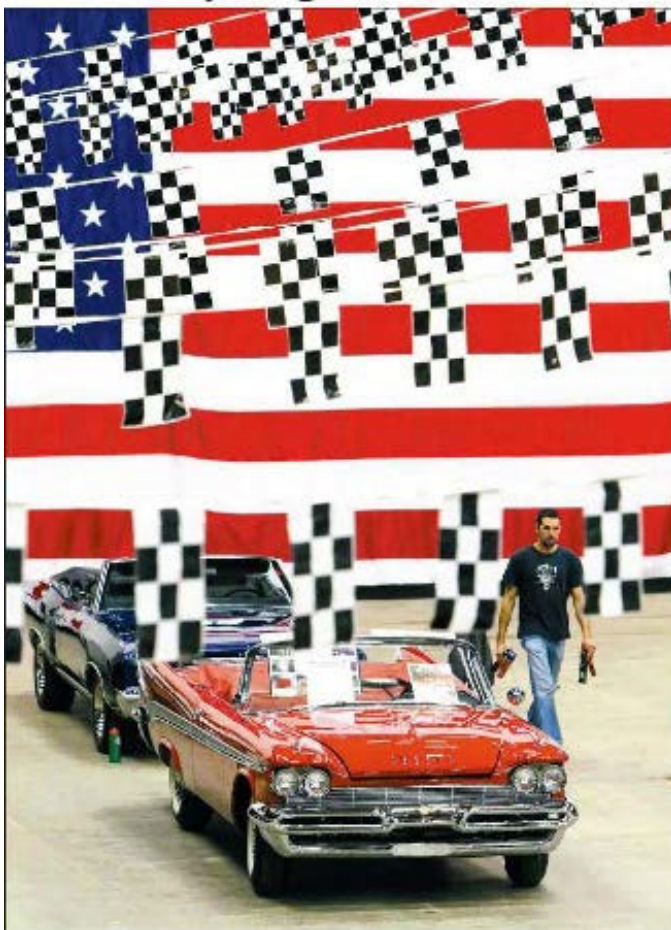
- **Williston Herald**

*Mutton busting fall*

**Elizabeth Hackenburg**

# *Feature Photo: Small Dailies*

Readying the wheel



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*Car show*  
**John M. Steiner**

# *Feature Photo: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**

*Fatuma Alli*

**Eric Hylden**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**

*Jay Gibson jumps into a team photo*

**Michael Vosburg**

# *Feature Photo: Large Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Alex McElroy takes flight*  
**David Samson**





**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Sports Photo*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Sports Photo: Small Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Drayton, Valley News & Views**

*Gavin Prigge*

**Lyle Van Camp**



# *Sports Photo: Small Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Park River, Walsh County Press**  
*PR Fights it out in Fargo*  
**Larry Biri**



# *Sports Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Power play*

**Cole Short**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**

*Ben Dryburgh hurdles*

**Pace Maier**

# *Sports Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*State Bound*  
**Cory Erickson**



# *Sports Photo: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**  
*Buckin' Bulls*  
**Brad Nygaard**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Emilee glides over pole*  
**Chelsea Wysocki**

# *Sports Photo: Large Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Bottineau Courant**  
*DCB football vs Mesabi Range*  
**Matthew Semisch**



# *Sports Photo: Small Dailies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Jamestown Sun  
*Celebration*  
John M. Steiner**

# *Sports Photo: Small Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Junior Legion*  
**Turner Blaufuss**



# *Sports Photo: Large Dailies*

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*Wounded Warrior*  
**Mike McCleary**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Miles Wosick and Talon Hoffer*  
*hold back John Nordberg*  
**Michael Vosburg**



# *Sports Photo: Large Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Out of reach*  
**David Samson**





# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

## *Picture Story*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Picture Story: Small Weeklies*

---



## **Second Place**

- **Park River, Walsh County Press**  
*A celebration of dedication*  
**Larry Biri**

# Picture Story: Small Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- New Town News  
*Warrior of the Plains races*  
Jerry W. Kram

# *Picture Story: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Holiday Train*  
**Karen Speidel**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*Hillsboro Days*  
**Cory Erickson**

# Picture Story: Mid-Size Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Hillsboro Banner  
*Banner Year in Sports*  
Banner Staff



# Picture Story: Large Weeklies

---

## ◆ Third Place

- Crosby, The Journal

*Neighborly ways -- Branding time*

**Don Anderson**

## ◆ Second Place

- Crosby, The Journal

*Divide County Fair coverage*

**Brad Nygaard, Don Anderson**

# Picture Story: Large Weeklies

## about a Girl



St. Luke's Medical Center therapy pool provides enriching activities to girl who has autism

She is the cousin of a three-year-old.

By **Tracy Diana Carullo**  
 The three-year-old cousin is the inner potential of what long-haired blonde hair in front of her wide-open blue eyes as she surfaces with a gentle splash. She swings her legs off her forehead and glides.

"Yes, yes, yes, yes," says the woman. "Cristina, Cristina."

The three-year-old - her hair is reaching toward the pool floor, blonde hair, after three years ago. Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.

The girl clearly understands the concept of the Spanish as she floats up over that line and remains above water after the fourth jump.

"Good job, Audrey!" says the woman.

The girl smiles like her eyes and legs too.

Audrey Nygaard, who is 7 years old and is seventh grade at Elberta County Elementary School, maintains under the direction of her physical therapist, Niki Lewis, in the indoor therapy pool at St. Luke's Medical Center.

Audrey, who otherwise has normal skills and can communicate for nearly a full sentence, works with Lewis twice a week for a half-hour every session. Lewis works with her on coordination, strength and stability. Audrey has a genetic condition that places her on the autism spectrum and she has poor leg strength from autism and overall weakness.

Lewis began working with Audrey when she was 4 - all for the second wife her parents from Las Vegas to Elberta County.

Audrey couldn't jump or run. She couldn't alternate between getting upstairs, then primary



Audrey Nygaard enjoys the sensory experience of being under water. She and Niki Lewis, working with therapist Niki Lewis, above.



and stabilizing her Audrey. The girl, but she's getting on with



Audrey's parent, Niki and Stephanie, right, appreciate the work of completing the Lewis, with Audrey in the pool, above.

spills (S.B.R.E.N.) and currently there are 100 in the state.

people providing these services that ultimately make the difference.

"We have outstanding people," both say.

Stephanie adds, the long-term commitment and the ability of staff also sets local providers apart.

"Some people who support her have really become attached to Audrey," says Stephanie. "I feel like we have all the pieces in place - right now."

Audrey works hard to get a three-dimensional animal picture. Trainers ask her to push against pieces from below to help her feel active strength, as well as problem-solving skills. Audrey says she has fun.

"I never stop saying how great it is being around. You know where it goes," Trainers say as

## ◆ First Place

- Crosby, The Journal About a Girl series Brad Nygaard



# *Picture Story: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Williston Herald**

*Alexander Old Settler's Day*

**Lee Zion**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Fair opening day*

**Staff**

# Picture Story: Small Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Jamestown Sun  
*Merlin bird banding*  
John M. Steiner



Photos by John M. Steiner / The Sun

Wildlife biologist Tammy Olin is positioned near the top of a spruce tree grabbing merlin nestlings Wednesday in Jamestown. Merlins are small falcons, and a team of biologists is documenting their existence in North Dakota. The nestlings were bled with leg bands and then placed back in the nest.



An adult merlin, a small falcon, flies above its nesting area in Jamestown.

## RESEARCHING FALCONS

Scientists band merlins in Jamestown

By Tom LaWentzen  
The Jamestown Sun

Scientists banded young merlin falcons nesting in Zorn's Park on Wednesday to help build research on the birds in North Dakota.

Wildlife biologist Matthew Sobrowsky and Tammy Olin, both of Jamestown, said the merlin falcons of North Dakota are not well documented. The two do the banding on their own, separate from state employees' research, and are possibly the only scientists known to be conducting merlin banding in the state, Sobrowsky said.

"Before I started banding five years ago less than 20 merlins had been banded statewide since the 1960s," Sobrowsky said.

Sobrowsky and Olin banded two adult merlins recently in Zorn's Park. On Wednesday, with permission, the two climbed to the nest and banded captured two male and two female nestlings for banding.

"The merlin chicks are just at the



A merlin nestling is shown with a leg band in Jamestown. The young falcon, which is only about 2 weeks old, shares a nest with three siblings, right age for banding," Sobrowsky said.

Merlin chicks have a 99 percent mortality rate before adulthood, he said.

FALCONS: Page A4

# *Picture Story: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Spuds hockey*  
**David Samson**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Lord of the Dance*  
**Michael Vosburg**

# Picture Story: Large Dailies



## ◆ First Place

- Grand Forks Herald  
*Flood anniversary series*  
Staff



# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

## *Pictorial Photo*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Pictorial Photo: Small Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **New Town News**  
*Rockets Red Glare*  
Jerry W. Kram

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Medora, Billings County Pioneer**  
*Spring has sprung*  
Richard Volesky

# *Pictorial Photo: Small Weeklies*



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Park River,  
Walsh County Press  
*Jaylie Woods and  
her horse "Mariah"  
silhouetted*  
Larry Biri**

# *Pictorial Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*Fourth on the fifth*  
Cory Erickson

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Washburn, The Leader-News**  
*Saying 'Thank you'*  
Alyssa Meier

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Carrington, Foster County Independent**  
*The presentation of colors*  
Erik Gjovik



# *Pictorial Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Weather Monitor*  
**Karen Speidel**



# *Pictorial Photo: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**

*What's crackin'*

**Chelsea Wysocki**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Bottineau Courant**

*Lemons and warmth in the winter days*

**Scott Wagar**

# *Pictorial Photo: Large Weeklies*



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**  
*Thanksgiving weather scene*  
**Brad Nygaard**



# *Pictorial Photo: Small Dailies*



## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Hoar frost*  
Kathleen Leinen

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*Up and away*  
Tom LaVenture

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Off the Beaten Path*  
Carrie McDermott

# *Pictorial Photo: Small Dailies*



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*Singing a song*  
**John M. Steiner**



# *Pictorial Photo: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Horses in the frost*  
David Samson

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*Birds in flight*  
Tom Stromme

# *Pictorial Photo: Large Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Snowy day*  
**Eric Hylden**





# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

## *Portrait Photo*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION





# *Portrait Photo: Small Weeklies*

---

## **Second Place**

- **Medora, Billings County Pioneer  
Couple to celebrate 70 years  
together (Malkowskis)  
Richard Volesky**

# Portrait Photo: Small Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Park River, Walsh County Press

*Can't keep a good man down  
Dr. Gerard Dahl*

Larry Biri



# Portrait Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies

---

## ◆ Third Place

- Hillsboro Banner

*Bringing the past into focus*

Cory Erickson

## ◆ Second Place

- Washburn, The Leader-News

*'Tin Man' celebrating 100 years*

Alyssa Meier

# Portrait Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- Hankinson, News-Monitor

*One step at a time*

**Karen Speidel**



# *Portrait Photo: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Grafton, Walsh County Record**  
*Just by being Charlotte*  
**Chelsea Wysocki**

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Crosby, The Journal**  
*Bunny love*  
**Don Anderson**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Bundles of joy arrive in double*  
**Betsy Ryan**

# Portrait Photo: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Grafton, Walsh County Record  
*Back to school kids*  
Peyton Cole

# *Portrait Photo: Small Dailies*

## ◆ Honorable Mention

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*Style show*  
Frank Stanko

## ◆ Third Place

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*MN Artist*  
Carrie McDermott

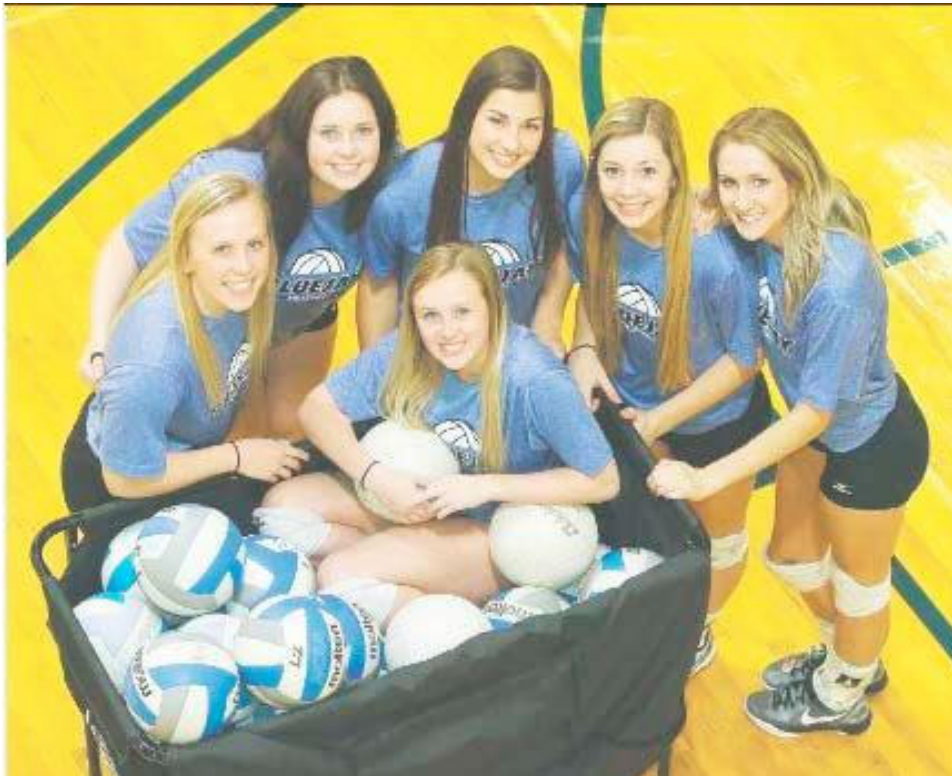
## ◆ Second Place

- Wahpeton, The Daily News  
*Prometheus Zoo Run*  
Kathleen Leinen

# Portrait Photo: Small Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*JHS Volleyball seniors*  
**John M. Steiner**





# *Portrait Photo: Large Dailies*



## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Parking meters*  
**Jesse Trelstad**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Amber Schaack*  
**Amber Schaack**

# Portrait Photo: Large Dailies

## ◆ First Place

- Grand Forks Herald

*Grave site, Sandy Bullinger Kovar, suicide, let's talk about it*  
Eric Hylden





# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

## *Agricultural Photo*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



# *Agricultural Photo: Small Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Park River, Walsh County Press**  
*Running Spuds*  
**Larry Biri**



# *Agricultural Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*

## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **New Rockford Transcript**  
*Equity Co-op's new elevator- View  
from the Top*  
**Amy Wobbema**

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Kenmare News**  
*Rail cars*  
**Marvin Baker**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Hankinson, News-Monitor**  
*Weather Monitor*  
**Karen Speidel**

# *Agricultural Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*



## ◆ **First Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*Wheat harvest*  
**Cory Erickson**



# *Agricultural Photo: Large Weeklies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Wrangling a steer to the ground*  
**Betsy Ryan**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Mayville, Trail County Tribune**  
*Here to make it black*  
**James R. Johnson**

# Agricultural Photo: Large Weeklies



## ◆ First Place

- Crosby, The Journal  
*Ag tab cover shot*  
Brad Nygaard



# *Agricultural Photo: Small Dailies*



---



## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**

*Which one to buy*

**John M. Steiner**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**

*Corn harvest*

**Karen Speidel**

# *Agricultural Photo: Small Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Amber Waves*  
**Katie Betz**



# *Agricultural Photo: Large Dailies*



## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Banquet in a field*  
Michael Vosburg

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Bismarck Tribune**  
*Fertilizing*  
Tom Stromme

# *Agricultural Photo: Large Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**  
*Manvel farmer*  
**Eric Hylden**





**BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST**

*Outdoor Recreation  
Photo*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

GET YOUR  
**SWAGGER**  
BACK

# *Outdoor Recreation Photo: Small Weeklies*



## **Second Place**

- **New Town News**

*Footie Rodeo steer wrestling*

**Jerry W. Kram**

# *Outdoor Recreation Photo: Small Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Park River,  
Walsh County Press  
*WOJO's brings the  
Fourth of July WOAH!*  
Larry Biri**



# *Outdoor Recreation Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies*



## ◆ **Honorable Mention**

- **Carrington, Foster County Independent**  
*Having a blast at National Night Out*  
Erik Gjovik

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Hillsboro Banner**  
*All downhill from here*  
Cory Erickson

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Steele Ozone & Kidder County Press**  
*Truck Pull mud flying*  
Misty Iszler



# Outdoor Recreation Photo: Mid-Size Weeklies

## ◆ First Place

- **Tioga Tribune**  
*Kids in foam*  
**Dave Tengesdal**



A crowd of kids cool down in foam provided by the Tioga Fire Department on Saturday afternoon during Freedom Fest.

Dave Tengesdal photo

# *Outdoor Recreation Photo: Large Weeklies*



## **Second Place**

- **Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer**  
*Enjoying the new snow*  
**Neal Shipman**

# *Outdoor Recreation Photo: Large Weeklies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Bottineau Courant  
*Club de Skinautique*  
Matthew Semisch**



# *Outdoor Recreation Photo: Small Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Wahpeton, The Daily News**  
*Tackle football*  
Carrie McDermott

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**  
*Rodeo action*  
John M. Steiner

# *Outdoor Recreation Photo: Small Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Jamestown Sun**

*Kratz gets  
safely back to first  
Mike Savaloja*



# *Outdoor Recreation Photo: Large Dailies*

---

## ◆ **Third Place**

- **Grand Forks Herald**

*Wild Hog, runner in Bison gear*

**Eric Hylden**

## ◆ **Second Place**

- **Bismarck Tribune**

*Walking on water*

**Tom Stromme**

# *Outdoor Recreation Photo: Large Dailies*

## ◆ **First Place**

- **Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead**  
*Sleds and sky*  
**David Samson**





# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST



*Photo of the Year*

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION





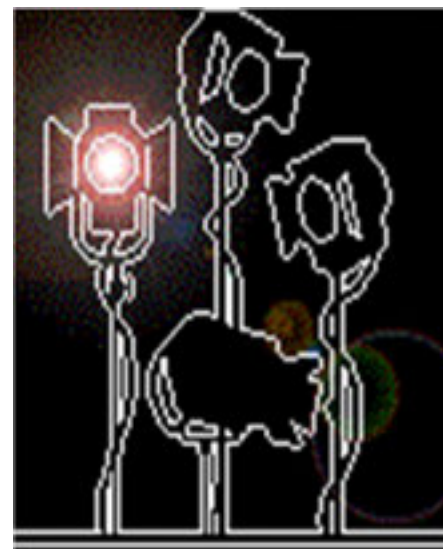
# *Photo of the Year: Daily Division*



◆ **Williston Herald**

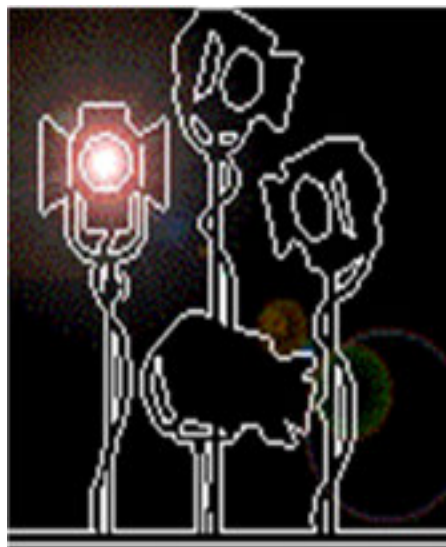
*Rainbow over fire*

**Jamie Kelly**



# *Photo of the Year: Weekly Division*

◆ **Park River,  
Walsh County Press**  
*Silhouette with horse*  
**Larry Biri**





# BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

*Be sure not to miss the . . .*

## *Final Awards Banquet*



**Tonight!**

- **5:45 pm: Past Presidents' Social**
- **6:30 pm: Banquet, Special Acknowledgements & Special Awards**  
*NIE Newspaper, High School & Rookie Reporters, Public Notice Journalism, Community Service, First Amendment, General Excellence, & Sweepstakes*
- **9:00 pm: Hospitality lounge & 50/50 Raffle downstairs after awards**

**NDNA**  
NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

132nd Annual Convention  
May 3 -5, 2018  
Bismarck, ND

