

# Red and Green

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Minot State University

Vol. 103, Issue 3, Oct. 15, 2020

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## First 2020 presidential debate: a recap

By Tyler Luban  
COMM 281

On Tuesday, Sept. 29, the long-awaited first presidential debate took place between current U.S. President and Republican nominee Donald J. Trump and former Democratic Vice President Joe Biden. Fox News anchor Chris Wallace moderated the debate, and his night was a busy one to say the least. In a 90-minute clash, the two addressed many concerns facing the American public today, including the COVID-19 pandemic, race issues, law and order, and healthcare. Tensions rose throughout the debate, and with both candidates interrupting each other every

chance they got, many Americans are beginning to question if a change needs to be made to the debate structure in order to provide equal speaking times for both sides.

In what was supposed to be a six-topic back-and-forth discussion with two minutes of uninterrupted talking from each candidate, followed by open debate immediately after, the jabs at each other's character began early, leaving Wallace struggling to keep the peace.

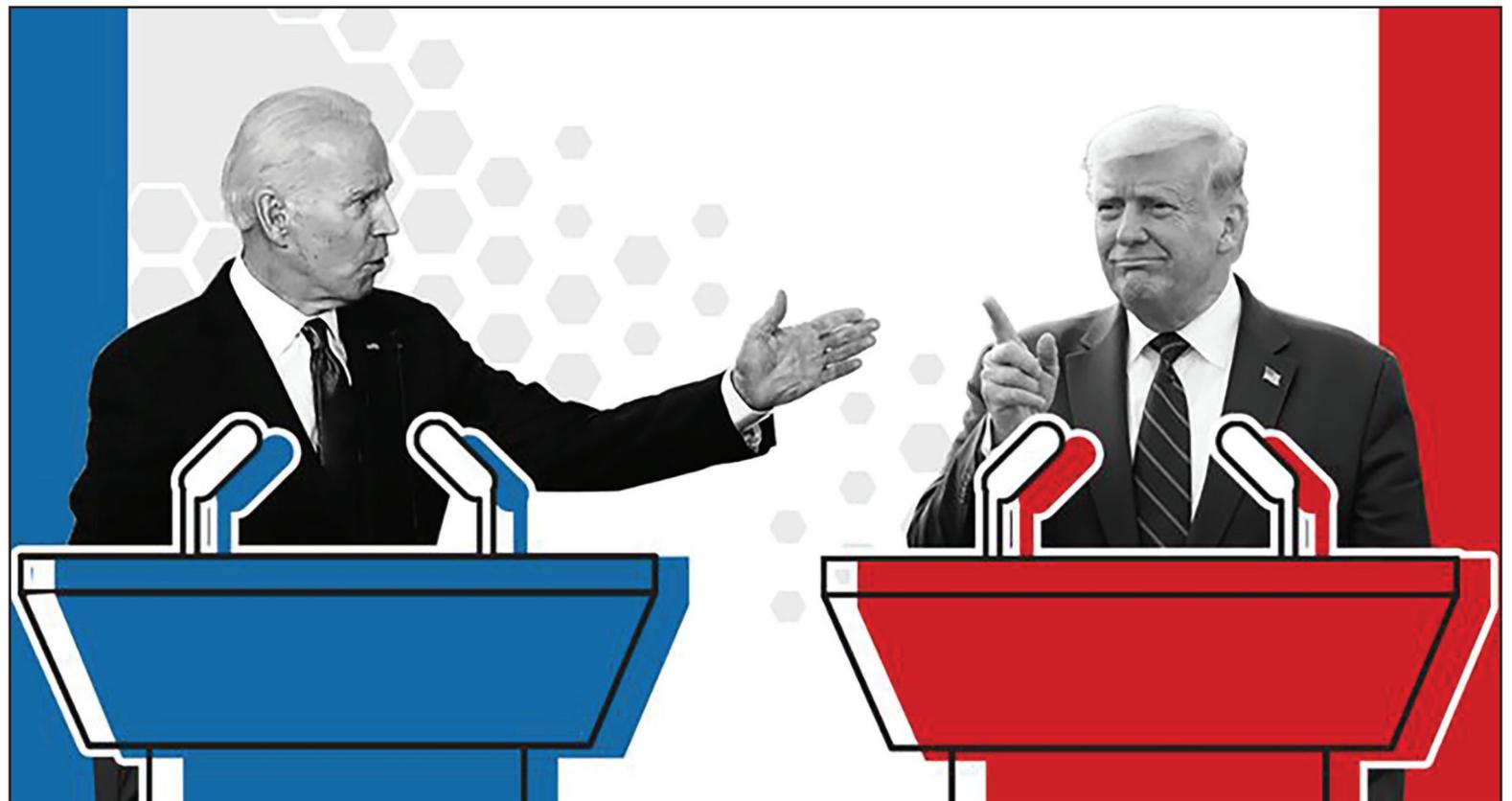
The first topic was focused on President Trump's recent Supreme

Court nomination of Judge Amy Coney Barrett. Trump came out of the gate stating that since he won the 2016 election, it's his responsibility to nominate a judge. Biden announced his stance on Barrett's record, mentioning that since the election process is underway, such declarations should be halted until the American people choose their elected leader. Biden continued, "We should wait and see what the outcome of this election is." Tensions rose when Trump began to question Democratic intentions when it comes to having power in the courts

and the impact of this election in correlation to the judge vacancy.

In what would be a recurring theme throughout the night, the two began going off topic with Trump quickly attacking Biden for wanting to "abolish private healthcare," a statement that was denied as fast as it was stated. In response to Trump's attack on healthcare, the former vice president turned the conversation around, mentioning how Trump's administration was destroying the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which Biden was a part of during the Obama

**See Debate— Page 2**



Graphic courtesy of the BBC

# News in Brief

## Minot State COVID-19 hub

[minotstateu.edu/covid](http://minotstateu.edu/covid)

## COVID-19 testing on campus

The next COVID-19 testing date is Friday from 9-11 a.m. on the third floor of the Dome. Participants are encouraged to preregister to facilitate an efficient collection process and minimize the amount of time spent at the testing site. A preregistration link is on the North Dakota Department of Health's website at [testreg.nd.gov/](http://testreg.nd.gov/).

## Flu vaccination clinic

The Minot State University Nursing Department and MSU Student Health Clinic will be set up on the third floor of the MSU Dome, today and Tuesday, Oct. 20 from 1-3 p.m. to provide students, staff, and faculty their annual flu vaccination. A \$25 charge will be billed to student accounts, and the United Health Care Student Plan does cover those costs. Be sure to fill out the student or staff consent form prior to arriving at the scheduled event. Forms are available on the student health page at [minotstateu.edu/health](http://minotstateu.edu/health). Contact the Student Health Clinic at 701-858-3371 for questions about flu shot clinics.

## International Peace Garden Conference

This year's International Peace Garden Conference will be held online in coordination with the political science program at Brandon University. Students will have an opportunity to share their research on issues related to democracy and political engagement with their peers at an international institution. Attendees and presenters will both have an opportunity to complete their IP2 general education credit via this one-day conference. To do so, students should enroll in the Political Science 095 course via Campus Connection.

The conference will take place on Friday. The exact length is still to be determined, although students should expect the conference to run for most of the day. Student attendees and presenters will be given an access code to the Zoom sessions before the conference begins. Don't miss the opportunity to present original

research and learn about national and international issues from student peers at Brandon University.

For more information, contact John McCollum at [john.mccollum@minotstateu.edu](mailto:john.mccollum@minotstateu.edu).

## Artist reception: Ryan Stander and Rayson Renfrow

"The Sky is Universal" by Ryan Stander and "Window Shopping" by Rayson Renfrow will be on display at the Taube Museum of Art Oct. 14 - Nov. 18.

A joint reception will be held Friday from 6-8 p.m. at the Taube to meet the artists. The artists will be doing live portrait demos of the wet plate collodion process, selecting people from the audience to have their photo taken. The wet plate collodion process is an early photographic technique that involves processing photos onto a sheet of glass. Refreshments will be provided.

This event is free and open to the public.

## Minot Chamber Chorale concert 'I Will Go On'

The Minot Chamber Chorale will celebrate the resilience of the community during COVID-19 with their first concert, "I Will Go On." The concert is based on the text of Burlington-Des Lacs ninth grader Mia Wiese, who was the Minot Chamber Chorale's "Life & Love in the Time of COVID-19" poetry contest winner this summer. The Minot Chamber Chorale artistic director set Wiese's poetry to music, and the chamber chorale will present the world premiere in a virtual choir format.

The premiere concert will be live-streamed on the Minot Chamber Chorale Facebook page on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

## Hartnett Hall Gallery presents 'Pursue \_\_\_\_\_'

The Hartnett Hall Gallery is hosting an exhibition from Minot State Associate Professor of Art Ryan Stander titled "Pursue \_\_\_\_\_" from Sept. 28 to Nov. 6. This crowd-source letterpress project, created in response to current events and the growing division within the country, is free and open to the public. The exhibition features 65

posters printed with letterpress and feature phrases that Stander collected from his community. Each poster features something that a person wanted to pursue, like community and the common good. Stander feels that each phrase gives insight into who the person is and what each person values during difficult times.

The gallery is located on the second floor of Hartnett Hall.

## Joseph Flynn Jr., 'Protests aren't Parades'

The Staff Senate Professional Development committee, MSUWell, Academic Affairs, Diversity Council, and Lutheran Campus Ministries have teamed up to bring in award-winning author of "White Fatigue" and Northern Illinois University Professor, Joseph Flynn Jr., on Thursday, Oct. 22. Flynn will lead a discussion on systemic and institutionalized racism titled, "Protests aren't Parades: Moving from Resistance, to Ally, to Accomplice." There will be a presentation to faculty and staff at 3 p.m. and to students at 7 p.m. Attend in-person at the Wellness Center or online via Zoom (the link will be live for both sessions).

Contact Courtenay Brekhus at [courtenay.brekhus@minotstateu.edu](mailto:courtenay.brekhus@minotstateu.edu) for more information.

## MSU Life drive-in movie 'Hocus Pocus'

Drive-in movies are exactly what they sound like: a large outdoor screen visible from the comfort of a car, while using a radio frequency to hear the audio. This entertainment staple from the late 1950s is making a comeback as a safe social-distancing alternative to a traditional experience.

Join MSU Life on Sunday, Oct. 25 at 9 p.m. in the East Dome Parking lot for the Halloween classic, "Hocus Pocus." Tickets are required and available through MSU Life on Facebook and Instagram.

## Spring registration

Registration for the Spring 2021 semester will begin on Tuesday, Oct. 27 for currently enrolled students. Check Campus Connection for specific enrollment times.

## ... debate continued from page 1

presidency. In an even sharper turn, President Trump took it a step further by claiming that if Biden was in control during the coronavirus crisis, the deaths would be a lot higher. "It would be 200 million people because you would have been late on the draw," Trump said.

As Wallace tried to steer the conversation back to the topic, President Trump began questioning the moderator himself saying, "I guess I'm debating you, not him. But that's okay, I'm not surprised." The two candidates then got into an off-topic clash with Trump continuously interrupting Biden, which led to the former vice president snapping at Trump by exclaiming, "Shut up, man!"

Wallace was able to take back the conversation and changed the subject to the topic of COVID-19. Trump began describing the praise both he and his administration received for their work on the virus since the outbreak started. Biden followed with an attack on Trump's initial lack of response to the pandemic, along with Trump's disregard for safety guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"He's not worried about the people," said the former vice president.

At the end of September, the New York Times released an article about Trump's income taxes and the amount he paid in 2016 and 2017. It was reported that the president paid only \$750 in income tax, well below the national average. Wallace asked the president if he had paid more than the \$750 reported between those years, to which Trump responded that he had paid millions in taxes. Biden saw this as an opportunity to throw a jab about how the president had not released his tax returns since taking office.

After questioning from both sides about the other's family character, the tone finally shifted towards racial issues in the country. The president rationalized his directive to limit racial-sensitivity training by speculating that it taught people to dislike America, and he took it one step further to claim that the training itself was racist. Biden criticized Trump for his response to police brutality and racial injustice. Trump then returned to Biden's career as a politician, mentioning how his

administration created a crime bill that eliminated lengthy prison sentences caused by Biden's days in the U.S. Senate.

President Trump continued to bash the current state of Democratic-run governments and their treatment of law enforcement, even saying to Biden, "Name one law enforcement group that has come out and supported you. One. Think. We have time." The former vice president talked about police reform and denounced full defunding of the police.

Climate change was the next issue that the moderator brought to the floor. The president has made numerous claims against the Democrats' propositions on global conservation efforts and upped the ante by saying that the current plans from the left are outrageously expensive and unnecessary. Biden replied with a claim that his own plan would pay for itself in no time and eliminate all carbon emissions by the year 2035, a plan which Trump immediately proclaimed as not true.

The final topic was the integrity of the election. The current president described his fears of mail-in ballots and tampering of those ballots. Biden threw some shots at the president stating that Trump is "afraid to count the votes," but Trump kept encouraging his voters to watch their ballots.

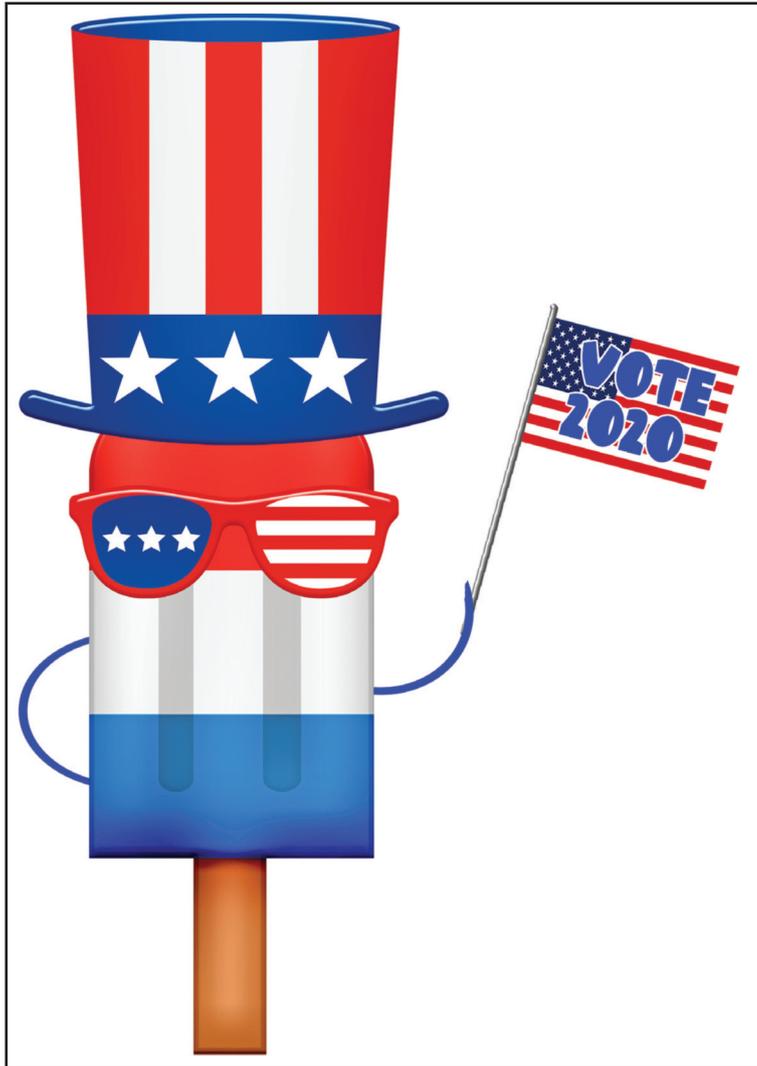
In what many Americans are calling the most chaotic debate of all time, both sides seemed to land blows to their opponent while also losing their cool.

"I thought it was the most unprofessional debate in presidential history," said Minot State University student Matthew Sartwell. "I've had friends across the world, from the U.S. all the way to Australia, tell me how miserable it was to watch. It honestly felt like reality TV, and that's not how American politics should be."

Most polls after the first debate have Democratic candidate Joe Biden ahead of President Trump heading into the second debate, which was scheduled for Oct. 15. However, after Trump contracted COVID-19 on Sept. 30, the Presidential Debate Commission announced that they would hold the second debate virtually. Trump stated in a tweet Oct. 6 that he would not attend a virtual debate.

# Voting methods

By Nina Arias  
COMM 281



Graphic courtesy of Pixabay

Election season is upon us and every vote counts. For some students, this may be the first time they've been able to vote. Registration is not required for North Dakota residents, but some states require registration. While registering is a quick and straightforward process, some people are tasked with requesting an absentee or mail-in ballot.

First, to register to vote, go to the official voting website and fill out a form to become registered. At vote.gov, select the appropriate state to find out directions, deadlines, and

other important information. The process is quick and easy; once done, the recipient will be given three options for their voting preference.

The first possibility is to appear in-person at their designated voting station on Election Day. The second way is an absentee ballot, usually sent to a voter living outside their polling place, which can be mailed in. Lastly, the voter can choose a mail-in ballot. The recipient receives their voting materials ahead of the election to send back before the due date.

A crucial part of the voting population this year is Generation Z, who previously were unable to vote in presidential elections because of their age. Voting for the first time can be scary without knowing the differences between the types of ballots.

An absentee ballot is an application which is sent by mail, typically when a person can't physically be present at their voting center on Election Day. To receive an absentee ballot, a voter must request one through the state government. A mail-in ballot is usually for people who are not currently living in their state but would still like to vote. The ballot is sent to the voter's registered address and must be mailed back or dropped off at the voting station before Election Day. The terms absentee and mail-in are often used interchangeably.

Registering early is crucial in order to receive voting materials in time. However, certain states allow registration as late as the day of an election. The process usually needs to be conducted in-person and requires an identification card as well as proof of residence. There are certain states that automatically register their eligible residents.

Some schools are encouraging voting by helping students register on campus, as well as educating them. Minot State University's College Democrats club put posters up around campus with QR codes that lead to more information on how to vote. Voters can also visit [vote.org](http://vote.org).

Whether you are voting for the first time or the third time, your voice matters. If you have yet to register, hopefully these tips help. Remember to check your polling station if you choose to vote in-person, and do your research to be well-informed before selecting candidates.

## Earth Day ceremony



Photo by Alyson Heisler

Heidi Super, Minot State biology professor, plants a tree.

The Minot State Sustainability Committee hosted a tree planting ceremony on Oct. 6 in honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. The tree was planted between Cyril Moore and Swain Hall. The event was postponed last spring due to the coronavirus precautions. During the ceremony, Mya Temanson, an English major, and Robert Kibler, Minot State humanities chair and English professor, read poems about trees, including "When I Am Among the Trees" by Mary Oliver and "Song of the Trees" by Mary Colborn-Veel. Anna Dykeman of Lutheran Campus Ministries gave a blessing.

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# College students and the flu vaccine

Submitted by Meghan Sutrick  
Minot State University nursing student

The year 2020 has taught us safety precautions to prevent the spread of germs and sickness. We have learned how to wash our hands, wear masks, and implement social distancing. These precautions have helped prevent the spread of COVID-19. With the fall and winter months upon us, we as a community need to continue these efforts in addition to preventing the flu. An extra measure we can take to prevent the flu that isn't an option with COVID-19, is to get the flu vaccine. It is crucial for college campuses to have the flu vaccine available for students at their on-campus student health center. College students are at high

risk for influenza because, according to the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID), "viruses are known to circulate rapidly through constant exposure in close quarters like common living spaces, classrooms, shared restrooms, and through social activities." Getting the flu vaccine protects not only your health, but those around you in the community and city.

During the flu season of 2018-2019, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 35.5 million people reported getting sick with the flu, 490,600 reported being hospitalized, and there were 34,200

deaths in the United States. Symptoms of the flu include fever and chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache, and a runny or stuffy nose.

There are many similarities between the flu and COVID-19. Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 that are not evident with influenza is a change in or loss of taste or smell. Feeling flu symptoms after receiving the vaccine is common because of the body's immune response to the virus' antigens. This means your body is ready to identify and fight the flu if you come in contact with it. It takes about two weeks for protection to develop after vaccination. People with minor illnesses, such as the

cold, may be vaccinated. Those who are moderately or severely ill should wait until they recover before getting the flu vaccine.

Minot State is offering several flu clinics throughout the month of October. Please do not attend the flu clinics if you have COVID-19 or if you are in quarantine. Flu clinics will take place on the third floor of the Dome today, Thursday, Oct. 15, 1-3 p.m. and Tuesday, Oct. 20, 1-3 p.m.

Influenza strikes between the months of October and May so it is beneficial to receive the vaccine sooner rather than later. The CDC recommends annual vaccination for

all individuals 6 months and older as the best way to reduce the chance of contracting the flu. College students, in particular, are unaware of their vulnerability to illnesses. The NFID reported that college students who get the flu on average "experience up to eight or more days of illness along with increased rates of healthcare use, school absenteeism, and impaired academic performance." Taking precautions and increasing awareness of influenza in a community can make a difference in reducing exposure and illness of influenza.



Nurse preparing needle for flu shot.

Photo by Liz Masoner, courtesy of Pixabay

# 'White Fatigue: Rethinking Resistance to Social Justice' author to speak at campus

By Lauren Reeves

In wake of events that took place over the summer following the death of George Floyd, many people are calling for more conversations about race and racism, yet they're uncertain how to discuss the topic. The Minot State University Equality club wants to help solve this issue by hosting an event on Thursday, Oct. 22. A faculty presentation will occur at 3 p.m., with a student presentation to follow at 7 p.m. in the Wellness Center. At the event, the club will sell copies of "White Fatigue: Rethinking Resistance to Social Justice," a book by Joseph Flynn Jr., who will be speaking with Daniel Conn, Minot State associate professor, on his podcast.

Flynn grew up in Peoria, Illinois and attended Michigan State University where he received his undergraduate and doctorate. He teaches at Northern Illinois, where he is also the associate dean of African American studies. In the past, he has served as president of the American Association for Teaching and Curriculum.

In the book, Flynn talks about his life as a Black man and explores the ways in which white people get tired of talking about race and racism. Conn explains that, in the book, Flynn breaks down what is going on with race relations in a real academic and theoretical sense. Conn states that conversations about race often include multiculturalism classes that lack the authenticity and the realness of the experience.

"I think it makes kids awkward because they don't know, and the teacher is awkward. It's just a lot of awkwardness," Conn said. "Joe mentions they want to help, but they don't want to say the wrong thing. They want to be a good ally, but they don't want to offend, and in doing that, it kind of traps them. They feel helpless, and in many cases, develop a fatigue where they just don't want to talk about it, they don't want to deal with it."

Conn met Flynn at an academic conference eight years ago, and since then, Flynn has been a mentor to him. Conn says that Flynn has helped him

become aware not only of his identity as a white man talking about race, but also of the lack of proper teaching of race and racism to students.

"As a former social studies teacher, I know sometimes multiculturalism was reduced to learning about Martin Luther King Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech, not really learning about the nuance and the details," Conn said. "I think something that white kids don't get in the curriculum is that white people can help. I think the way the curriculum is written, you think about slavery through the Civil War and not necessarily about the actual slaves.

**"It doesn't just hurt black people, it hurts poor white people, it hurts women; racist policies hurt everybody. It makes society worse."**  
- Dan Conn

You don't really go into depth of Jim Crow or sharecropping, and there is a lot to be explored. Black Wall Street, a lot of kids don't even know what that is. I think by having somebody like Dr. Flynn here, it will help us to think about multicultural education in a different way. In the case of college students, hopefully you realize you could very much be a part of the solution, you could very much participate and be a co-conspirator of civil rights and all these important things before us."

Conn believes that Flynn's visit to campus will help students become aware of how they can talk about race and justice and have a better understanding of both in general.

"We don't want to be hateful or

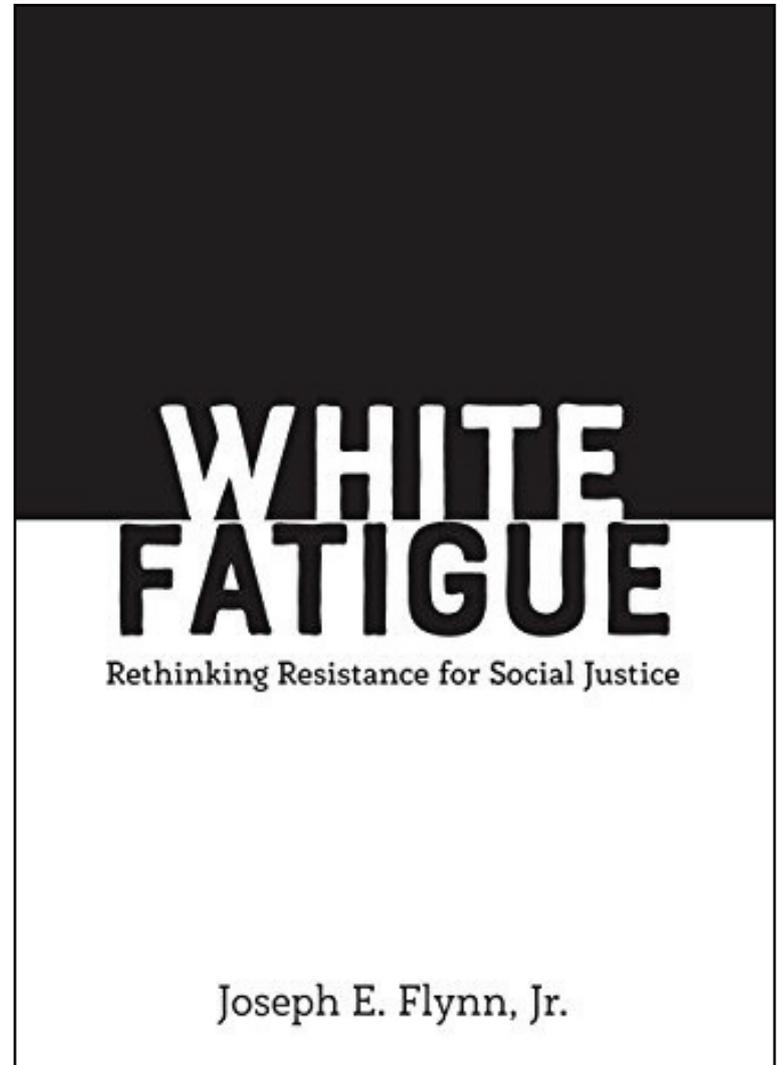
offensive in our language, but we don't want to be so scared that we can't talk either," Conn said. "We need to be real about it. Joe is going to keep it real. He says it like it is, and he's insightful. He's all these things. He's also blunt. He'll tell the truth, and he'll speak about justice, which I think is an important message for today — truth and justice."

Conn feels that even though North Dakota is a state known for their politeness, the state still needs more of an academic drive toward understanding race in the universities.

"I think in a place like North Dakota, where we're so polite and civilized, it's kind of a different culture. But I do think we could take part in talking about race, whether we're professors like myself, thinking about curriculum and how to put race in there in authentic, meaningful ways," Conn said. "As students, how can you become more racially literate? How can you become part of the solution and educate yourself and others that racism hurts everyone?"

It doesn't just hurt black people, it hurts poor white people, it hurts women; racist policies hurt everybody. It makes society worse."

In response to potential misconceptions of the book and the writer, Conn added that Flynn has had a personal attack on him in the past. Flynn shared that recently someone spray painted offensive words on the outside of his apartment. Conn feels that this is misunderstood as only something that can happen in Illinois, but it in fact proves that racism is still alive, and most people only see that through their white privilege. Despite this, Conn states that Flynn is excited to share his beliefs and stories with Minot.



Courtesy of Google Images

Front cover of "White Fatigue: Rethinking Resistance to Social Justice," by Joseph Flynn Jr.

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# Students for Life club draws publicity around campus

By Lauren Reeves

Standing out as a club and getting publicity can be hard; however, the Minot State Students for Life club has proven that they want to be known on campus and that they want people to be aware of their message. Junior Nolan Compere, a nursing major, and sophomore Kenzie Stiefner, a criminal justice major, founded the club after they learned several other students wanted to share their side of the conversation about abortion.

“We want to raise awareness and educate on what happens in the womb. A lot of people don’t know when life begins or what happens at conception,” said Compere.

A notable display that the club set up recently was a Grave of the Innocent outside Cyril Moore Science Center. The display consisted of pink flags to represent the 862,320 abortions that took place in 2017 in the United States. That number comes from the Guttmacher Institute, a non-profit organization that studies reproductive health. Compere and Stiefner explained that the Grave of the Innocent showed people how many lives are ended by abortions and how many people are affected by abortions.

“People don’t necessarily realize how many lives are actually affected by abortion, so we just wanted to bring that to life and use it as a visual to kind of represent that,” said Compere. “It also gave a visual representation for all the women that had abortions. We don’t want to call anyone out. We’re not trying to condemn anyone or what they’ve done. We do recognize that an abortion is a hard procedure. It’s definitely something that they struggle with mentally, sometimes long term. Sometimes it is only short term, but it still does cause mental psychological issues for women.”

Stiefner has done volunteer work for the Dakota Hope Clinic and has helped create an alliance between the clinic and the club in order to provide students on campus with education and resources regarding pregnancies. Stiefner said there will be some events on campus to bring pregnancy and parent classes to students for free.

Compere said he believes life begins at conception. According to Compere, pro-choice people argue that a fetus isn’t a human partially because of its size.

“What we discuss with students is size. Since when has size determined whether or not someone’s a person?” Compere said. “There’s also people that are a lot bigger or taller than me. Are they more human, more deserving of rights?”

Compere went on to talk about the level of dependency of an unborn child and compared it to the level of dependency of an infant or young child.

“They say because the fetus, embryo, or zygote is dependent upon the mother for life, that it doesn’t deserve the same rights that we do,” said Compere. “A 3-month-old infant is still dependent upon the mother or father or whoever’s providing for it to keep it alive. There are all these different people that are dependent on different things for life: people that are on insulin injections because they have diabetes or people that have a pacemaker placed into them to keep the heart beating. That doesn’t mean that they’re not a person because they’re on someone else or something else for life.”

Along with dependency during the stages of life, Compere talked about the location of a living person and the development of living humans.

“Personhood is not determined by location. I can be anywhere in the world, and I’m still a human being. How does moving eight inches from the womb to the world change the fact that someone deserves the right to life?” Compere said.

Another question that Compere addressed is whether the club is against women’s rights and choice with their bodies.

“I think one thing we have to say is we do care about women’s rights and women’s rights beginning in the womb,” Compere said. “We have the right to life, liberty, and property, but our right to bodily autonomy is always taken away when it affects other people. We understand pregnancy is maybe something a woman doesn’t want to do. We’re not trying to necessarily restrict you, but we’re trying to protect someone else’s life and their rights.”

For more information on the Minot State Students for Life club, follow @msu\_students\_for\_life on Instagram, and for more information on pregnancy or parenting, visit the Dakota Hope Clinic website at [dakotahope.org](http://dakotahope.org).



Members of Students for Life pose with signs for their club.

Courtesy of Students for Life

## Alumnus Joe Davis' poem "Raise Up"

We must raise awareness  
as well as raise funds,  
so mothers and fathers can  
raise families, raise daugh-  
ters and raise sons,  
And stop racist police from  
raising their guns.  
Dreams occurred, not  
dreams deferred —  
No more raisins in the sun.  
Let me see you raise your  
fist if you'll raise your con-  
sciousness  
to make this change come —  
I'm talkin' 'bout a love so  
strong even the dead will  
raise up.  
What time is it?  
It's time to raise up!  
I can feel it in my heart, it's  
time to raise up.  
What time is it?  
It's time to wake up!  
I can see it in my mind, it's  
time to wake up.  
Are we ready for peace or  
ready for war?  
We crowned the King of  
Dreams with a head full of  
thorns.  
A legend is born,  
his words are like bread to  
the poor,  
so live each line is like breath  
to a corpse.

Reversing effects of post  
mortem rigor mortis,  
each verse a metaphor for  
metamorphosis,  
a different motive and in-  
tent:  
no Forbes Lists celebrity  
endorsement,  
we working for a world in  
which ghettos don't exist.  
Everyone is rich  
when our souls glow from  
the gold within.  
Been writin' since I could  
hold a pen,  
notebook was my closest  
friend,  
wrote poems in hopes  
homelessness and war  
would end.  
I was so young, mind wide  
open then,  
saw it all through a rose-col-  
ored lens until broken.  
The look in your eyes gives  
me hope again  
Dreams might be born again,  
so let me hear the chorus  
when your voice comes in.  
What time is it?  
It's time to raise up!  
I can feel it in my heart, it's  
time to raise up.  
What time is it?  
It's time to wake up!



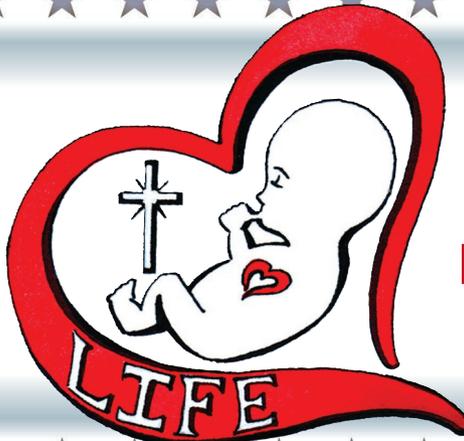
Submitted photo

Joe Davis is a graduate of the English program at Minot State University and tours nationally as an artist, educator, and speaker based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His work employs poetry, music, theater, and dance to shape culture. He is the founder and director of the multimedia production company The New Renaissance, the front man of emerging soul funk band The Poetic Diaspora, and qualified administrator of the Intercultural Development Inventory. "Raise Up" was featured in the Minneapolis Star-Tribune on Sept. 27.



**VOTE**

**ON NOVEMBER 3**



**MINOT RIGHT TO LIFE**  
**PO BOX 1783**

# The Coup hosts virtual publication celebration

By Calli Delsman



Photo by Shalom Baer

The Coup has operated on campus since the 1960s. Above are various past issues of The Coup.

Minot State has many different clubs and organizations that students and faculty may not be aware of or are unsure of the clubs' purposes. The Coup is a group at Minot State that brings opportunities to students in the art and English departments to showcase projects and writing pieces.

"The Coup, Minot State's art and literary magazine, is a student publication that comes out once a year to

feature student artwork, poems, stories, and essays. The Coup is funded jointly by the art and English departments," said Patti Kurtz, associate professor in the English department.

Kurtz and Andrea Donovan, associate professor of art, are the faculty advisors. They also have student positions that help design and edit the magazine, along with other work to create the magazine.

"This year, our staff is Johanna Groesz, art editor, and Praise Okunbor, literary director. Their job is to solicit submissions from MSU students, sort through, and choose the best submissions for the publication," Kurtz said. "Praise, on the literary side, edited the submissions and Johanna worked on the layout and design of the magazine."

This year, due to COVID-19, the

celebration of their publication will be hosted virtually. The event will take place on Zoom, Tuesday, Oct. 20 from 7-8 p.m. Anyone who wants to attend can email [patti.kurtz@minot-stateu.edu](mailto:patti.kurtz@minot-stateu.edu), and she will send the link to the Zoom meeting.

"Normally, we would have an in-person publication party, but with COVID-19, we're going virtual," Kurtz explained.

During the event, audience members can expect to learn about different students' pieces of work, and they will hear from the editors and advisors about The Coup and the process of creating the magazine.

"Our plans are to have both editors speak a bit about their experience editing The Coup and their vision for the 2020 Coup. We also hope to have

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# Ward County coronavirus risk escalates to moderate, cases continue to rise across state

By Shalom Baer  
COMM 281

As of Sept. 25, Governor Doug Burgum elevated the COVID-19 risk levels for several North Dakota counties. Ward County's risk level moved from low risk to moderate risk, or green to yellow, along with Cass, Dunn, Emmons, McKenzie, Richland, Sargent, and Stutsman counties. The risk levels are not completely uniform and consider several different factors.

The most significant factors are active cases per 10 thousand, tests per 10 thousand, and 14-day average percentage of positive tests.

North Dakota saw few cases during the beginning of the pandemic. As of this writing, North Dakota has the second highest number in the country for most new cases per day. North Dakota had a total of 26,628 cases

and 4,129 active cases; Ward County has had a total of 1,426 cases and currently has 266 active cases; 218 of all cases were related to Minot State, but active cases at the university are down to eight. Before classes would go completely online, the governor would have to declare Ward County at high risk. One determination for high risk is a 10-14.99% positive test rate, while

the North Dakota guidelines consider 5-9.99% positive test rates moderate risk.

Minot State has its own specific changes that run parallel to the state's color coding.

### What's changed?

Physical distancing went from "encouraged" to "strongly encouraged."

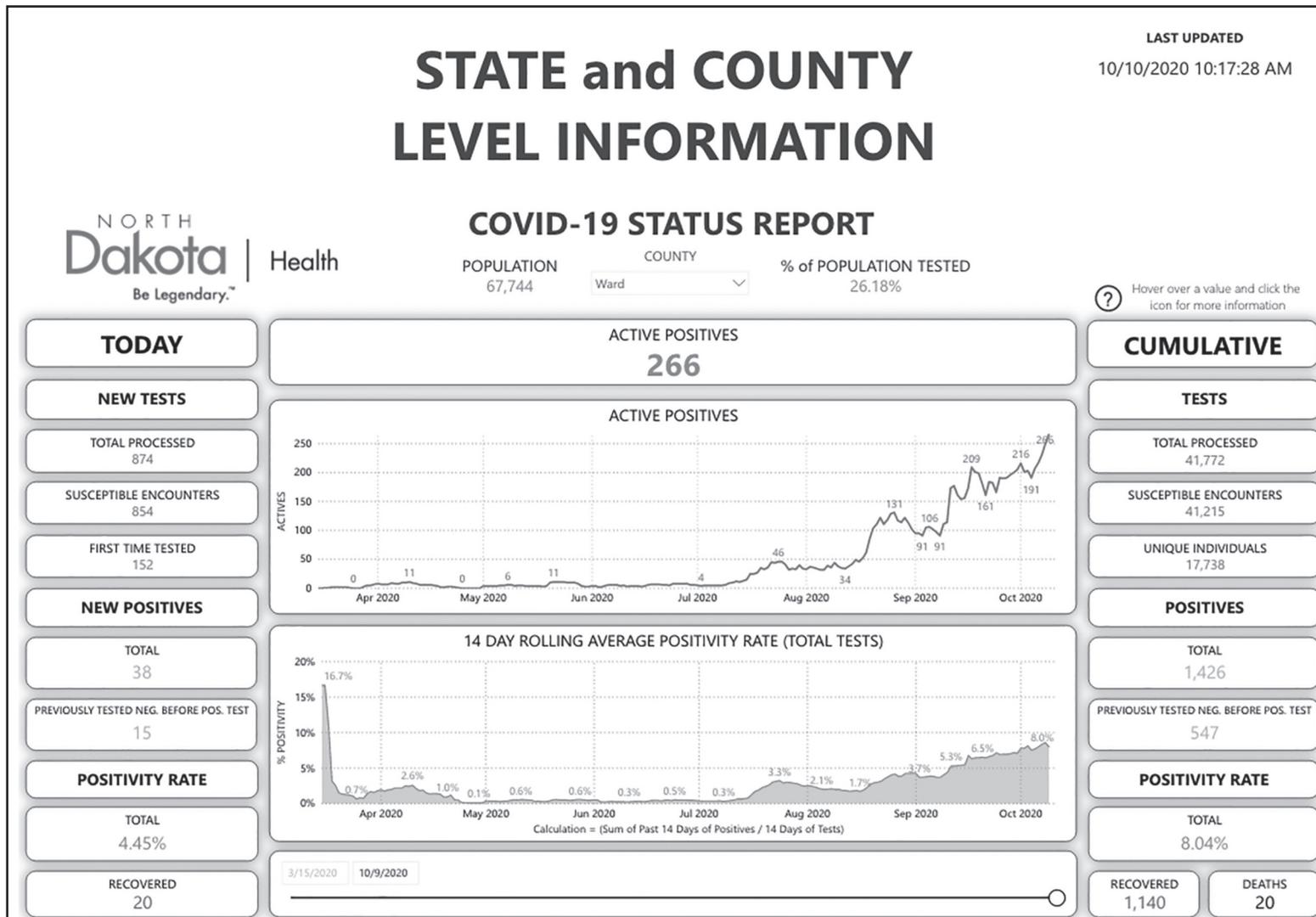
The way that employees interact with students and visitors has changed. When the risk level was low, departments simply followed physical distancing rules and wore masks. According to the university's Smart Restart, they now "limit all interactions with students and visitors, making use of alternative means of communications and services."

The Student Center's swimming pool is no longer open to the public and Wellness Center capacity is limited to 50% rather than 75%, the number under a low-risk level. In fact, the public is no longer welcome at university-sanctioned events unless explicitly invited.

Residence life and MSU Life have also seen some adjustments. Previously, in-person events were allowed if students observed social distancing. The moderate risk guidelines now discourage in-person events and encourage events to take place online, and MSU Life is discouraged from distributing items and giveaways at their events.

The Student Health Clinic and Counseling Services has shifted from limiting face-to-face visits to only seeing students who are emergent, and temperature checks are required at the door. Dining services is limited to 75% capacity. The semester started with dining capacity at normal.

One rule that has not changed is mask requirements. The university still requires face coverings "in a classroom or other instructional space, or when attending an event held indoors; in an indoor common space (lounges, hallways, elevators, study areas, bathrooms, the library, etc.); interacting with others; in the cafeteria, except when eating or drinking; and riding in a vehicle with one or more additional persons on university-sponsored business/activity."



Graphic from the North Dakota Department of Health

Snapshot of COVID-19 cases in Ward County as of Oct. 10, 2020.

# RG Editorial

## Behind the lens of athletics

Philip Green  
Sports Editor

Philip Green  
Sports Editor

The NFL had their first run-in with a COVID-19 outbreak when the season started. Patriots star quarterback Cam Newton, as well as several players from the Tennessee Titans, tested positive leading up to the week four games. This forced the Chiefs vs. Patriots game to be pushed from Sunday, Oct. 4 to Monday, Oct. 5 and the Titans vs. Steelers game to be rescheduled for later in the season. Initially, there was some panic following this outbreak, but the NFL was able to get it under control.

Earlier this summer, Major League Baseball had to navigate multiple outbreaks. The league had a plan if there had to be cancellations and rescheduling. Seeing that the post-season is going on right now, their plan clearly went well.

The NBA also found themselves dealing with a few cases of positive tests during their return to play in the NBA bubble. The NHL had zero positive tests during their playoff bubble.

The two leagues that refused to have a bubble-style return to play have had outbreaks that led to games being canceled and rescheduled. Both the MLB and NFL were able to navigate these outbreaks, but the two leagues with the bubble-style return to play clearly were able to manage the virus better. It's hard to ask players and staff to spend all this time away from their family in a bubble, but that extra step helped keep players safe and prevented any major outbreaks or scheduling conflicts.

\*This editorial may not reflect the views of Minot State University.

Due to COVID-19, the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) cancelled all fall sports. Teams are still allowed to participate in practices and lifting, but no competition will occur at Minot State for the fall semester. Athletes and coaches aren't the only ones impacted by the cancellation of fall sports. All members of the athletic department are adjusting to the lack of competitions, including Minot State Athletics Assistant Photographer Joshua Strong. Strong is usually seen on the sidelines of every Beavers athletics event, capturing the games through his lens. This year, the multimedia studies student has had to make some adjustments.

"It doesn't add difficulty. I don't like to look at it that way. Not having fall sports just adds a challenge to be more innovative with our content," Strong said.

One of those innovations includes capturing athletes in an element that we haven't seen from Strong as frequently.

"(I have been capturing) mainly practices," Strong explained.

This is Strong's first year working under athletics, and not being able to photograph games has been unfortunate, but he is enjoying his role, nonetheless.

"It's been something I have wanted since I started capturing sports here at Minot State. I appreciate Sean Arbaut (director of athletic photography) for everything he has done for me to bring me on board," Strong said.

Despite the changes that COVID-19 has brought to the athletics world this year, some traditions from the past were able to stay. One of those included the annual media day for athletes and coaches. This is a chance for athletes to put their game-day uniforms on and participate in some creative photoshoots and videography. Strong reflected on his experience

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Photo by Sean Arbaut  
Joshua Strong capturing the start of football practices this fall.

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Views expressed by this publication may not be those of the university, its administration, faculty, or student body. The Red and Green is printed at Minot Daily News, Minot, N.D.

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this year.

"Working media days has been amazing. Anyone who has been a part of my photography journey and pursuits knows that working for athletics has been a huge goal of mine. Words don't quite do justice to say how much I appreciate the opportunity to be a part of their team and get experience that applies to what I want to do after graduation," Strong explained.

There's a chance for competitions to return in the spring for the NSIC. Whenever they do return, Strong can't put into words how excited he'll be to get back out there doing what he loves.

"I don't think one word describes that. I'm just looking forward to that incredible game day feeling. There's no way to properly describe it, other than every fiber in my body is exuberant," Strong said.

Strong may have missed out on capturing football, volleyball, soccer, and cross country this fall, but it might just work out that he will be here next fall to make up for what he missed.

"I recently found out that I will be here for an extra semester. I'm hoping I can continue my internship under Sean and be involved with athletics in some capacity," Strong explained.

As Strong continues to innovate with his photography this fall, Minot State Athletics eagerly awaits the magic he can capture with his lens once sports are back. Until then, check out any Red and Green issues from last year to see Strong's work or visit his Instagram account, @joshua.w.strong.

**... coup  
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contributors either read an excerpt of their work or talk about their process for creating the work. Both advisers will say a few words and also try to encourage anyone attending to get involved in the 2021 Coup," Kurtz, said.

The Coup has been published at MSU since the 1960s. Any student can be a part of the upcoming 2021 publication of The Coup.

"We are soon going to be taking applications for an art and literary editor for the 2021 Coup. If students are interested, they should contact me or Andrea (patti.kurtz@minotstateu.edu or andrea.donovan@minotstateu.edu)," Kurtz explained. "If students wish to submit, they should watch for our call for submissions later this semester. We look for artwork in any genre — painting, drawing, photography, etc. — and literary pieces of about 2,000 words — poems, stories, essays."

Students, staff, faculty, and anyone from the Minot community is welcome to join the celebration of students at Minot State. If interested, please contact Patti Kurtz for the virtual link and any other questions.

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