

Red and Green

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Minot State University

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In this issue:

News in Brief
Page 2

Listening in:
'Crime Culture'
Page 3

Homeschool
Halloween
Page 4

Conservative
students share
their perspective
on the election
Page 5

The Democratic
perspective
Page 5

Minot State
University
professor runs for
District 40 seat
Page 6

Minot State
Athletics rise to
vote
Page 9

Minot State
Athletics
adds diversity
committee
Page 10

Measures propose constitutional amendments

By Shalom Baer
COMM 281

The presidential election that will take place on Nov. 3 has taken center stage in America, but that's not the only thing that citizens will vote on. Voters will decide on state and local candidates as well as ballot measures which allow voters to decide on laws more directly.

Some measures start out as petitions which require signatures from voters before being placed on the ballot. These take three forms: statutory initiative, constitutional initiative, and referendum. Statutory initiatives propose an amendment or addition to the North Dakota Century Code, essentially the book of laws for the state. Constitutional initiatives propose a change to the state's constitution, and referendums seek to reject legislation already passed by the legislative assembly. These petitions require different percentages of the state's population to sign them before they appear on the ballot as measures.

In the case of constitutional amendments, the state legislature can place them on the ballot with a simple majority vote in both houses. Once on the ballot, the amendment must be approved by a simple majority of voters.

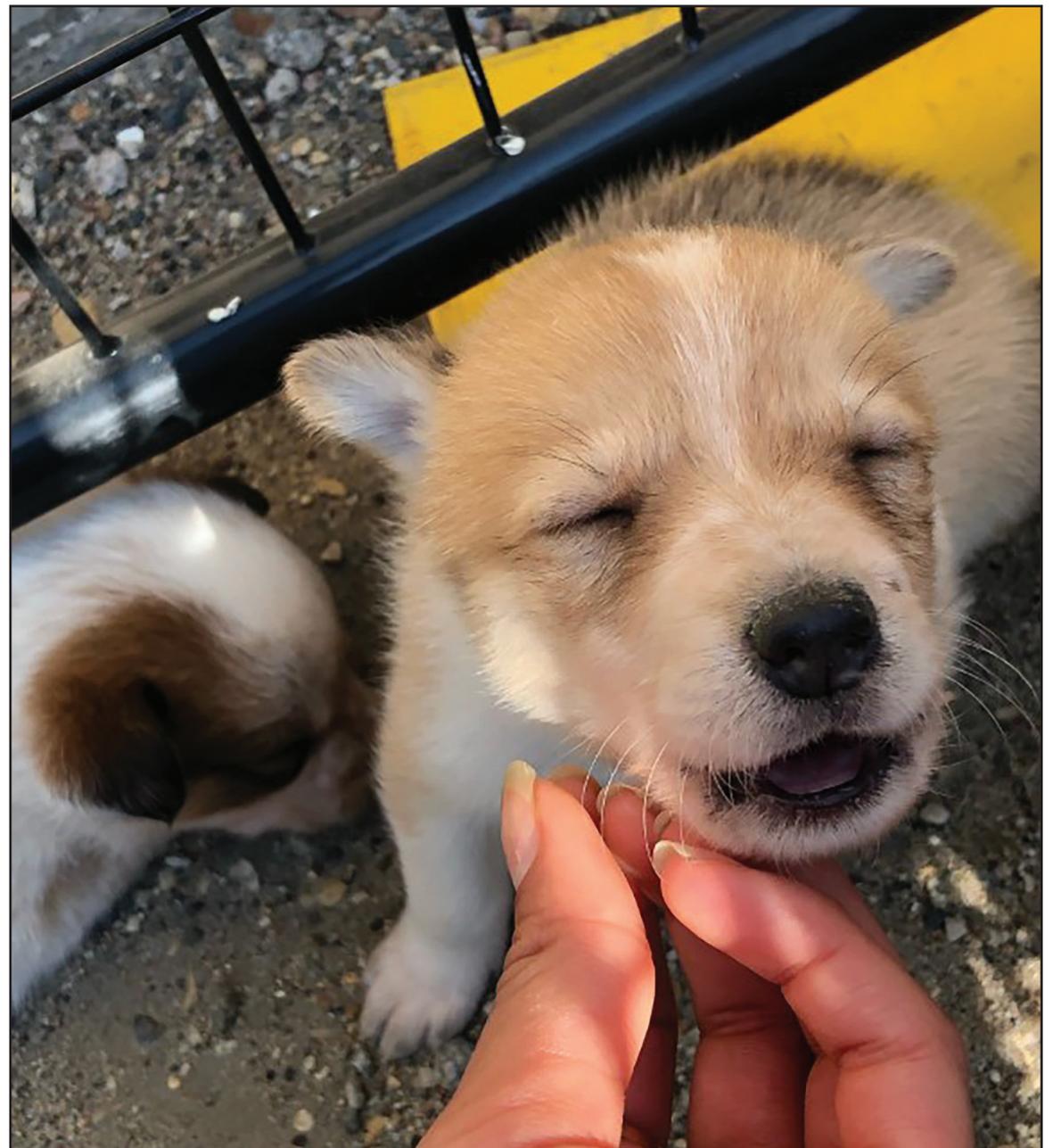
This year there are two measures on the North Dakota ballot. They are both constitutional amendments that were introduced by the state legislature. Measure 1 makes adjustments to the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education which oversees 11

See Measures — Page 2

For Belle's Sake showcases puppies

By Nina Arias
COMM 281

See Belle's Sake — Page 7



A puppy enjoys a pet during For Belle's Sake adoption event.

Photo by Nina Arias

News in Brief

Minot State COVID-19 hub

minotstateu.edu/covid

COVID-19 testing on campus

Upcoming testing dates include Oct. 29, Nov. 3, Nov. 6, and Nov. 10 from 9-11 a.m. on the third floor of the Dome. Participants are encouraged to pre-register to facilitate an efficient collection process and minimize the amount of time spent at the testing site. A pre-registration link is on the Department of Health's website at testreg.nd.gov/.

Northwest Arts Center presents 'Malao'

"Malao," by artist and printmaker Reinaldo Gil Zambrano, "Americas 2019: Paperworks" Best of Show artist, will be displayed in the Northwest Arts Center Oct. 15–Nov. 19. Zambrano, originally from Caracas, Venezuela, moved to Spokane, Washington after receiving his Master of Fine Arts from the University of Idaho. His desire to promote printmaking and artistic collaboration has led him towards the development of such projects as "The Ink Rally" and "Spokane Print Fest" with other local non-profits. He is currently an assistant professor of art at Gonzaga University. This solo exhibition presents relief printing as a storytelling tool — using the medium to explore human relationships, universal experiences, and the idea of home.

A limited public reception and online viewing is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 13 from 6:30-8 p.m. Both exhibition and reception are free and open to the public.

The Northwest Arts Center, located in the lower level of Gordon B. Olson Library, is open with adjusted hours this fall: 1-5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Zambrano will also present as part of the Art Seminar series on Friday, Nov. 13 at noon in Aleshire Theatre, Hartnett Hall.

MSU Life events

Follow MSU Life on Facebook and Instagram for more information and updates.

Harry Potter Movie + Build-a-Wizard

Nov. 6 from 7-9 p.m.

Virtual 500 Ways to Win

Nov. 11 5:00 p.m.

Haunted Hills at 52 Pines

Join a haunted adventure through the hills at The Barn at 52 Pines. Some will find the experience thrilling, others will find it terrifying. Tickets are \$20 per person.

A voucher for a free drink will be given with each entry. This drink can only be used after completing the trail.

Tennis shoes or walking boots must be worn on the trail. Please be aware that the pathways are dirt, mulch, and leaves and may be uneven while navigating through the hills.

To keep the trail COVID-19 friendly, individual groups will only be allowed on the trail every three minutes. This time scheduling restraint means the number of guests allowed on the trail each night is limited.

Guests who appear to be intoxicated or under the influence of drugs will not be allowed on the trail.

It is recommend to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your desired start time. Entry fee and waivers will be required prior to entering the trail.

The Haunted Trail will be open tonight, Oct. 29, 7-10:30 p.m. and Oct. 30 and Oct. 31 from 7 p.m. until midnight. The Haunted Trail is outdoors so it may close if it rains or snows. The 52 Pines Facebook page and website will be updated if the trail is closed due to inclement weather.

Student Center Renovation election

Students are encouraged to participate in the election for the Student Center Renovation project. Ballots will be sent via campus email accounts on Nov. 10 and responses will be accepted until Nov. 12. For more information, email questions to sga@minotstateu.edu.

Spring registration

Registration for the Spring 2021 semester began on Tuesday and continues through Nov. 6 for currently enrolled students. Check campus connection for specific enrollment dates and times.

Veterans Day: no class

There will be no classes on Wednesday, Nov. 11 for Veterans Day.

... Measures continued from page 1

institutions, including Minot State. Measure 2 changes the path measures take to the voting booth.

Measure 1

According to BallotPedia, a nonprofit and nonpartisan political encyclopedia that provides information on American politics, Measure 1 would increase the number of members on the board of higher education from eight to 15; increase the length that board members serve from four to six years; require the board to have one meeting per year with the directors of each education institution that's overseen by the board; exclude state officials, legislators, and state employees from serving on the board; and prohibit employees of an institution under control of the board from being members of the board for two years following the termination of such employment.

In a legislative assembly hearing in March of 2019, North Dakota State Senator Jim Roers (R) said that the amendment would allow the board to better represent the institutions it governs.

"Currently, we basically have one member representing each institution on the Board of Higher Education. What this (amendment) does is puts

two members (representing each institution). We don't feel that that gives enough representation to the institutions to do justice," Roers said.

The student member of the board, Ashley Zarling, expressed concern about the increase in numbers potentially diluting the student voice.

"My biggest concern if the structure changes is in losing that key student voice."

The adjustment in members would cost \$147,000 per biennium.

Measure 2

Currently, measures become law once they win a majority vote from voters. Measure 2 would change that. It would require measures to be approved by a simple majority vote in the legislature before they appear on the ballot. If the legislature were to reject a measure and voters petitioned for it to appear on the ballot a second time, it would be placed regardless of the legislature's approval.

Measure 2 was sponsored by Republican Senators David Hogue, Dick Dever, and Gary Lee and Republican Representatives Ben Koppelman, Mike Nathe, and Scott Louse.

An argument for the measure is that it protects North Dakotans from outside groups. Hogue is quoted in a Feb. 24 Bismark Tribune article saying, "It is in my opinion an improvement on

what the founders established because it still gives the people the last word."

He also referenced Marsy's Law, a measure that was funded by Henry Nicholas, a California billionaire.

"When you have exactly 100% of the measure funded from people out of state who will not be subject to the law, I think that is the strongest indication you can have why maybe some reform is necessary," Hogue said.

The opposition argues that the measure is an overreach of legislative power. Dustin Gawrylow, managing director of the North Dakota Watchdog Network, said that the measure corrupts the process. The network has a website and Facebook page dedicated to garnering opposition to the measure.

"A lot of these issues do end up before the Legislature and they have an opportunity to talk about it and they don't," Gawrylow said. "And so...the initiative process is designed to allow the public to act when the Legislature's unwilling to — and so putting them into the process when they didn't want to be in the process in the first place is kind of an overreach, as far as I'm concerned."

To view more information about both measures and candidates on the ballot for 2020, visit ballotpedia.org or vote.nd.gov.



Photo by Shalom Baer
Minot State is one of the institutions governed by the North Dakota State Board of Education.

Listening in: 'Crime Culture'

By Alyson Heisler

The air is getting colder, leaves are crispier, and the days are shorter — meaning that the spooky season is here. This year may look quite different than past years thanks to the coronavirus, but that doesn't mean that Halloween cannot be celebrated.

In the wide, wide world of creepy, true-crime podcasts, many focus on topics and events of the spooky variety. Those outside the true-crime community may argue that listeners of these podcasts are weird for being so interested in such dark subjects.

"Crime Culture" is one such podcast that embraces the exploration of society's "obsession with the macabre." The show is hosted by friends Hayley Langan and Kaitlin Mahar; the duo discusses true-crime events and the influence they have on our culture through film, literature, music, and the way we live.

The Halloween season is inherently spooky or creepy to some, meaning their connection to or influence over true-crime events is increasingly more common. There's something about a Halloween scary movie being based on a true story. The thing most people don't realize is that there are many true stories that are much scarier than any horror movie.

Since 2018, "Crime Culture" has been releasing episodes discussing unsolved murder cases, the stories of killers, and reviewing true-crime related media. The hosts are very conversational, almost as if the listener is a friend joining their conversation, and are not afraid to give their honest reactions to the person or topic at hand.

During the month of October, the season of "Spooktober" begins with all episodes focusing on particularly festive celebrations of this Spooktacular day.

The following episodes are my picks for preparing to live your spooky life on Halloween:

Episode 33: The History of Halloween

For the short version of the historical background of Halloween, this is a



See *Crime Culture* — Page 11

'Crime Culture' logo

Courtesy of 'Crime Culture'

RG Editorial: Homeschool Halloween

By Shalom Baer

Growing up homeschooled while also working from a young age around non-homeschoolers, I became accustomed to not relating to most people and their experiences. When I'm spending time with friends or acquaintances, I'll casually mention something I find normal — like not being allowed to read Harry Potter, watch SpongeBob, or read books that aren't true stories or based on true stories; that my parents believe all forms of birth control are an affront to God; or that I remember my older sisters fighting for the right to wear pants. The response is usually confusion or shock.

The best way to define my upbringing would be fundamentalist, a general term for people who interpret the Bible literally and follow those literal interpretations strictly. My parents left a lot of churches because of doctrinal disagreements, and we would periodically attend or host home church meetings where I was always fighting with someone about why it was my right to wear skirts above my

knee. Long, complicated story short: I grew up weird, as most of us do in some way or another. Gathering from the responses to a lot of my stories, I guess my weird is a little less common.

One experience that was different, to non-existent, for me was Halloween. I technically wasn't allowed to celebrate it. After all, it is the devil's holiday. According to my mother, Satanists sacrificed babies on Halloween and put razors in trick-or-treat candy. For a child, that's enough of a reason to be afraid. We could attend church harvest parties, which were specifically designed to keep children from trick-or-treating and other secular Halloween activities. Harvest parties featured games, cake walks, drawings — but nothing inherently spooky. Think a pumpkin patch in a church basement. We did wear costumes, but they were usually centered around Bible characters. These harvest parties weren't all bad. I enjoyed it as a child, but it was certainly unusual.

As I grew up and moved away from home, I still didn't really have any

interest in Halloween. It left a bad taste in my mouth, and as much as I don't like to admit it, I probably internalized some things from my upbringing. After a while, though, I got more interested in celebrating it.

In 2018, my fiancé and I decided we wanted to carve pumpkins for Halloween. He grew up similarly and, like me, had never experienced the classic fall activity. We went to every store in Minot on Oct. 30, and they were out of pumpkins, but we got gourds instead. They looked terrible, but it's one of my favorite memories now. Last year, I wore a real costume for the first time and dressed as Princess Peach. I didn't go trick-or-treating, but I did get to go out and drink too much. Now, Halloween is something I enjoy for the simple fact that I can. I have decorations up, and I've discovered that not all horror movies are inherently evil. Sometimes it's okay to just have a good time, even if it is a little scary.

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



Photos by Shalom Baer

Shalom Baer (right) and her fiancé, Travis Gee (left), with gourds (above and below) they carved in 2018.



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Conservative students share their perspectives on the election

By Lauren Reeves

**The beliefs in this article may not reflect the beliefs of the Red and Green or Minot State University and are individual expressions of Peggy Pfeiffer and Alex Williams sharing their personal political beliefs.*

As the election draws near, many young people wonder which of the candidates is worth giving their vote to and which one will be likely to represent them the best. There are some Minot State students who say that Trump aligns best with their political views. Sophomore criminal justice major Peggy Pfeiffer, who is a Republican and conservative, plans to vote for Trump. For Pfeiffer, her beliefs come from her parents encouraging political activism, and she draws information from sources such as the United States Constitution and the Federalist Papers. As a conservative, Pfeiffer states the biggest misconception is that conservatives are narrow-minded.

“Many people tend to view conservatives as narrow-minded bigots, but actually the conservative movement strives to protect the liberties of all people,” Pfeiffer said.

Another student who has sided more with Trump this election cycle is senior psychology and criminal justice major Alex Williams. Williams describes himself as an independent and a Libertarian, as his family has a mixed background of both conservatives and liberals, and he feels he falls somewhere in the middle.

“As I got older, personal freedom, autonomy, and privacy became even more important to me, which is what helped shape the beliefs I have today,” says Williams. “I try to do a lot of research before I form an opinion on anything. I look for information in academic journals, textbooks, and the news. I look at a media-bias chart and choose the channels I listen to from that. I just like to make sure I know all sides to a story before I say anything.”

He does not believe there is a strong enough third-party candidate to represent his beliefs, however, and he is not a very big fan of either of the

candidates, though he does lean more towards Trump. While Williams does not agree with everything Trump says and does, especially when it came to handling the coronavirus pandemic, he still feels Trump is a better choice than Biden.

“Choosing between Trump and Biden, I would choose Trump,” says Williams. “He’s done okay in office so far, and despite whatever he says online, he does have a way with people. I’m not voting for Biden for many reasons including his views on the Second Amendment, taxes, and healthcare.”

Looking at the candidates, Pfeiffer said that she chose the candidate who she believed was most likely to respect individual freedom.

“I’m looking for candidates who respect individual liberties as founded in the U.S. Constitution,” Pfeiffer says. “I would say that my political beliefs align more with President Donald Trump because he strives to protect the liberties of all people, including unborn children. Joe Biden advocates taxpayer-funded abortion on demand without restrictions. He also lacks support for freedom of conscience.”

Pfeiffer believes that one of the most important issues is which candidate is equipped for the job as president.

“It comes down to which candidate is best equipped to govern the lives of citizens,” says Pfeiffer. “Should the government be the one that dictates how people live their lives or should citizens be the ones making those decisions?”

Williams believes the coronavirus pandemic and how it was handled by Trump is a big issue to think about in this election.

“Despite my support for Trump, the way he’s handled the pandemic and his administration’s attitude toward it has really made me lose some respect for them,” Williams says. “Other issues I think are important are national security, debt, and the economy.”

In regards to students, Pfeiffer says that students should be more aware of who is governing their lives.

“All students should realize that their time as a student is short,” says Pfeiffer. “Soon they will be tax-paying citizens who will be greatly affected by the policies that are set by the winners of this election. How much do they want the government to dictate what they are allowed to say, how much of their income they can keep, how they spend their income, and how their children are educated?”

For Williams, he states that what’s important is whatever issues are important to students personally and how those issues affect them.

“I personally am concerned about LGBT issues; gay men are still discriminated against when donating blood,” says Williams. “Being a transgender man, I have to think about cost changes related to healthcare. Overall, I have to be aware of people’s attitudes toward the community to determine whether or not I’m safe; transgender people are murdered at an alarming rate, and the suicide rate is high as well, indicating a mental health crisis which is not being addressed because no one wants to offend anyone.”

Pfeiffer also adds that she finds it very important that people vote.

“I believe it is important to vote, not only in this election, but in every election because as citizens of America it’s not only our right but our duty to vote. I come from a military family. My father has a permanent disability from wounds he received in combat; the least I can do to show my appreciation for his sacrifice and the sacrifice of so many others throughout history is to vote.”

Williams also adds the importance of voting in local elections in order to give voice to important issues.

“That is where things are started, and that is where you make the most difference,” says Williams. “While it is important to vote in the primary elections, the cynical idea that one vote doesn’t mean much has some truth. If everyone becomes complacent, then there is no conversation at all, and then we make no progress.”

The Democratic perspective

Lauren Reeves

The College Democrats club on campus declined to comment on the topic of the election.

The club is part of a nationwide organization called College Democrats of America. For more information about the Minot State University College Democrats Club, look for them on Instagram @minotstate_dems.

Below is the preamble to the Democratic Party’s platform. To read more about what they believe, visit democrats.org/cda.

“America is an idea — one that has endured and evolved through war and depression, prevailed over fascism and communism, and radiated hope to far distant corners of the Earth. Americans believe that diversity is our greatest strength. That protest is among the highest forms of patriotism. That our fates and fortunes are bound to rise and fall together. That even when we fall short of our highest ideals, we never stop trying to build a more perfect union.

When the American people go to the polls this fall, we will be choosing more than a candidate. Character is on the ballot in this election. The character of our president, yes, but more than that: the character of our democracy, our society, and our leadership in the world.

The challenges before us — the worst public health crisis in a century, the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, the worst period of global upheaval in a generation, the urgent global crisis posed by climate change, the intolerable racial injustice that still stains the fabric of our nation — will test America’s character like never before.

The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare deep-seated problems in our society — the fragility of our economy and social safety net, the risks posed by growing inequality, the impacts of racial and economic disparities on health and well-being,

and the profound consequences of deepening polarization and political paralysis.

The bill has come due on the Trump administration’s hollowing out of our public institutions: the sidelining of experts, the rejection of science, the underinvestment in research, and the gross corruption and abuses of power. President Trump’s dereliction of duty has caused the deaths of tens of thousands of Americans, the loss of tens of millions of American jobs, and lasting harm to our children’s education and future.

And it has revealed, at tragic economic and human cost, the emptiness of the Republican Party’s ‘America First’ foreign policy. Under President Trump, America stands alone. Friends and foes alike neither admire nor fear President Trump’s leadership — they dismiss and ridicule it. The Republican Party under President Trump has made America small — when we are a people called to do the greatest things.

Democrats will fight to repair the soul of this nation. To unite and to heal our country. To turn this crisis into a crucible, from which we will forge a stronger, brighter, and more equitable future.

We must right the wrongs in our democracy, redress the systemic injustices that have long plagued our society, throw open the doors of opportunity for all Americans, and reinvent our institutions at home and our leadership abroad. We do not simply aspire to return our country to where we were four years ago. We know we must be bolder and more ambitious.

We must once again stop another Republican recession from becoming a second Great Depression. President Trump and the Republican Party have rigged the economy in favor of the wealthiest few and the biggest corporations, and left working

Minot State University professor runs for District 40 seat

By Shalom Baer

Robert Kibler, Minot State University Division of World Languages and Cultural Studies chair, is running for North Dakota House of Representative District 40 under the Democratic ticket when he isn't busy teaching English courses in Hartnett Hall.

District 40 encompasses the Minot State campus. Kibler has served as a member and chairman of the board of the Mid-Dakota Chapter of the American Red Cross in Minot, on the North Dakota State Board of Education as faculty advisor, and chaired the Broadband Staff Taskforce, which works on expanding broadband coverage. Kibler also owns and manages several apartment complexes in Minot.

Even though Kibler is running on the Democratic ticket, that isn't the first platform he found himself on.

"I was a Republican, but the party has gone to the extremists. I was a Libertarian, but Libertarians have the luxury of condemning governance

structures that we all depend upon, so would not be happy with the results were they to actually succeed to office," Kibler said. "The Democrats at least offer the rhetoric of governance for the people rather than governance for corporations rather than people. Their idea of governance most aligns with my own."

Kibler said he is running to provide a different voice to North Dakota politics because no Democrats were running to challenge the Republican representatives who currently hold District 40: Matthew Ruby and Randy A. Schobinger.

"Without alternative voices, the echo chamber of one-party rule makes a lot of bad decisions. We still do not have a functioning ethics committee exercising proper oversight of legislative actions, for example, and the legislators in the echo chamber want none. I would bring that alternative voice to the discussion."

He also feels that his experience in leadership and business puts him

in a good position to work in the legislature, particularly his current work with the Northern Plains Writing Project, where he serves as the director. The project helps teachers across the state refine their research and teaching skills.

"I have written federal grants worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, gone to meet our state representatives in Washington D.C. to effectively ask them to support our work, and did the same thing at the state legislature in Bismarck," he said.

Should he be elected, Kibler plans to work in the legislature to prevent negative effects associated with the oil industry in North Dakota and strengthen education.

"Oil revenues mostly leave the state, and we make do with the crumbs. My hope would be to save our people from the pain and stress associated with these fluctuations by advocating for creating economic buffers in the state to subsidize businesses, social and institutional

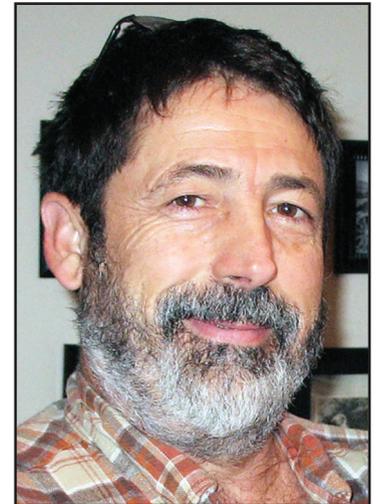
service, and everyday people, so as to safeguard citizens," Kibler said. "Increasing the oil extraction tax would be part of this."

Kibler hopes to find a balance when it comes to government involvement.

"I see the need to regulate corporations and to tax them without hurting them, while at the same time, deregulating our governance hold on people. What people do is none of anyone's business unless it hurts others," Kibler said. "So the great challenge, as I see it, is to regulate corporate wealth without destroying it, for the greater good of people, and to deregulate our hold on people while still maintaining a sufficient level of law and order."

Kibler said he encourages students to vote and act on their opinions.

"College students and young people have strong opinions about politics, but when push comes to shove, rarely vote," Kibler said. "Since the stakes are so high now, I hope they change that habit, because



Submitted photo

the very act of voting matters. It is civic responsibility. And there are consequences to a vote."

To contact Kibler, email him at robert.kibler1789@gmail.com; visit his Facebook page, Kibler for District 40; or visit his website, robertkibler.com

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*Drawing for degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate students only.

... Belle's Sake
continued from page 1

Small yelps could be heard from blocks away as For Belle's Sake Rescue set up crates and dog pita pens. The foundation held an event to increase awareness for adopting animals on Saturday, Oct. 9 and Sunday, Oct. 10 at The Spot. Crowds of people came to engage with the staff and play with the cats and dogs. Dozens of puppies and half a dozen kittens were in attendance

and ready for a new home.

For Belle's Sake Rescue and Rehabilitation was founded by Christian and Shelby Bird. They are active duty military and volunteer their mornings, evenings, and weekends caring for more than 60 dogs and cats rescued from high-kill animal shelters, owner surrenders, or found astray and are waiting for their forever homes. The Birds decided to start the center after they found a critically injured dog in a field that they grew to

love. After taking in the dog and giving her the best care, she succumbed to her wounds, inspiring the two to create a place where animals don't need to suffer.

The facility hosts multiple adoption fundraisers throughout the year to allow the public to see the animals, inform about their other services, and educate on other options besides buying specialty dogs.

According to The Humane Society of the United States, the number of cats and

dogs entering shelters each year ranges from 6 to 8 million while the number of cats and dogs adopted is only 4 million. That's only half of the animals in our shelters being adopted. According to a Humane Society study, of those that are adopted, 47% of the dogs are rehomed in a year.

On For Belle's Sake's homepage, tips for adopting and keeping animals are provided. They also include a thorough adoption application and explain that

there is a great need for volunteers and donations. Because they are a nonprofit organization, they do struggle with making sure they have enough medicine, food, toys, and other essential items for the animals. Currently, they have over 20 cats and dogs available for adoption, sponsorship, or foster care. Leaving the event, I was heartbroken I could not keep one of the weeks-old Labrador puppies, but hopefully the event brought forth a family willing to adopt some animals.



A man holds a young puppy at For Belle's Sake's event at The Spot.

Photo by Nina Arias

VOTE
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LIFE

MINOT RIGHT TO LIFE
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RG Editorial

Philip Green
Sports Editor

Minot State Athletics is ahead of the game in terms of COVID-19 testing. Due to the easy access to free testing, student-athletes on campus are actively receiving consistent test results. This puts the university in front of many other teams in the conference.

If athletics returns in the spring, Minot State will be ready to take all the necessary steps to stay safe and participate in competition. It is hard to see that other teams in the conference will be prepared. Unlike Minot State, most Northern State Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) teams are only requiring testing when student-athletes have symptoms. For the entire semester, Minot State has been testing every athlete on campus weekly.

In order to return to competitions, all teams across the conference will have to test weekly. Minot State will

be able to do so, but it is hard to be confident that other teams in the conference will be able to maintain that testing schedule.

Also, due to the more frequent testing, Minot State has already experienced a spike in positive tests and has been forced to shut down athletics to lower the spike. Other universities haven't necessarily gone through this and, if competitions return, there's a chance they'll be hit with a similar spike in the spring.

A lot of people are wondering if there will be sports in the spring. As much as many student-athletes want to play, it's hard to be confident that other universities will be able to maintain safety protocols necessary to play. Minot State is fortunate to have these protocols in place already.

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

Division II winter athletes granted extra year of competition

By Calli Delsman

On Tuesday, Oct. 20, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) released an article stating that winter-sport athletes who compete during the 2020-21 academic year will be able to receive an additional year of eligibility through a waiver the Division II Management Council approved.

"Previously, the Administrative Committee approved a pair of waivers permitting all student-athletes who competed during the 2020-21 academic year an additional year of eligibility and season-of-competition opportunities if their team completed 50% or less of their sport's maximum contests/dates

of competition," the release said.

Any athlete who competes, no matter the number of games completed during their season, is eligible to receive an extra year. This waiver was recommended due to the likeliness of winter sports seasons being impacted by COVID-19 and student athletes being impacted in ways they can't control.

"Winter student-athletes lost out on their championship opportunity last season and many will have shortened, conference-only seasons this year," said Chris Graham, commissioner of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and chair of the Division

II Management Council. "We believe providing the maximum season-of-competition waiver flexibility is the right thing to do for winter student-athletes who continue to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic."

On top of this news, the start date for competition for the majority of Division II conferences will not be until after Jan. 1, which results in a compressed regular season for basketball. COVID-19 will likely continue to impact all NCAA sports and updates will continue to be presented as needed in the upcoming months.



The Minot State Dome serves as the hub for athletics on campus.

Photo by Shalom Baer

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Minot State University Athletics rise to vote

By Philip Green

For many student-athletes on campus, this will be the first national election they will be able to take part in. The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) is canceling all athletic activities on Election Day to give student-athletes time to vote. Men's golf player and Minot State Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) President Andy Makarchuk has helped lead the way for MSU Athletics' engagement in democracy.

Following in the footsteps of every major sporting league, the NCAA is taking steps to encourage student-athletes across the country to participate in this year's upcoming election. Promotion of student-athlete involvement in voting has been tasked to SAAC throughout college athletics.

"The NSIC and the NCAA have put a ton of emphasis on student-athletes voting this year. They have given all the schools' SAACs the job of promoting and getting student-athletes out to the polls," Makarchuk said.

Charged with the duty of civic engagement, Minot State Athletics has prioritized promoting the election.

"Minot State SAAC has done a ton of promoting through posters and social media campaigns around campus, not only to get student-

athletes to get out and vote, but also the entire MSU student body and faculty. One of the resources we have gotten through the NSIC is called 'Rise to Vote,' which allows people to quickly register and view their voting status. It allows people to get the resources to vote even if they are not from the Minot area," Makarchuk explained.

Athletes are often used for promotion due to the influence they have on those around them. This is the case within college athletics as well.

"It is really important that student-athletes go out and vote because it allows them to be a part of something bigger than their sport. We are a large group on campus and throughout the country, and student-athletes' voices can be really influential. A lot of young kids look up to college athletes and see them as role models. If they see that they are going out to vote, it sets a good example and makes it cool to vote," Makarchuk said.

For many first-time voters, it can be a difficult task without guidance. Minot State Athletics is providing guidance and support for student-athletes across campus.

"We have done a lot of work with risetovote.com which allows people to easily register to vote and see

where they can go to vote on Election Day. Leading up to the election, it is important for student-athletes to check the platforms of the candidates so that they can make an informed decision when voting. That allows them to choose who they believe will be the best leader once they get to filling out the ballots," Makarchuk explained.

Election Day always falls on a

Tuesday. For many student-athletes, weekdays are some of their busiest days. This year, the NCAA has elected to help shoulder that burden.

"The NCAA is dedicating Election Day to civic engagement and showing that students are citizens before athletes. Student-athletes usually have pretty busy days with class, practice, weights, and studying, which makes it tough for athletes to get the free

time to go out and vote during the day when the polls are open. By canceling athletic activity on Nov. 3, it gives all those athletes across the country time to take part in civic engagement," Makarchuk said.

Election Day is just around the corner and due to a well-executed gameplay, Minot State student-athletes are ready to take full advantage of the opportunity.

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More info for Minot State students can be found at:
<https://www.minotstateu.edu/pio/news/2016/10/college-student-voting-info.shtml>



SAAC

Photo courtesy of Minot State Athletics
This poster can be found across campus for easy access to voting registration help.

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Minot State Athletics adds diversity council

Tyler Luban
COMM 281

The Minot State athletic department and its student-athletes have taken a step towards the future with the addition of a diversity council. This group consists of all sporting teams on campus. Minot State Athletics Director Andy Carter, junior softball player Zoya Robbins, and senior volleyball player Karli Koza gave life to the council, which is now overseen by Allison Kelly, coordinator of marketing and promotions, and head track coach Mark Del Monaco.

“The committee was formed a few weeks ago,” Koza said. “The overall goals are just to bring awareness to diversity in athletics and to make sure that the council is a safe space for people to speak their minds and bring attention to some issues that come their way.”

Two representatives from each sports team make up the council. The issues that are going to be brought up at these meetings will be essential to the progress of Minot State, aiming to make everyone feel included.

“We want the university to notice the diversity and to make sure that we are all treated equally and respectfully,” Koza said. “All teams are involved; we have two representatives from each team in the council.”

As for the frequency of these meetings, the council will meet twice a month depending on the number of topics being discussed. As of late, the council has all its members and is getting set to begin meeting as a group.

“The vision for the club isn’t quite

clear yet; but I do know that we only have good intentions and only want the school, along with the sports teams, to be the best that they can be,” Robbins said.

Those on the council will have the opportunity to sit in on interviews for open positions in the athletic department and will have some say on who oversees the department and its teams. The importance of having this council is to provide representation of all different backgrounds to voice concerns and feel respect.

“Our goal is to elevate every sport on campus in every way possible,” Robbins said. “Coaches do great at the physical aspect of keeping up a player’s game, but this is more focused on athlete-to-player relationships. It’s also a committee to make sure every voice is heard throughout all sports teams.”

The vision of the council isn’t set in stone but one thing for sure, student-athletes at Minot State are committed to the future of the university.



... **Democrats**
continued from page 5

families and small businesses out in the cold. Democrats will forge a new social and economic contract with the American people — a contract that creates millions of new jobs and promotes shared prosperity, closes racial gaps in income and wealth, guarantees the right to join or form a union, raises wages and ensures equal pay for women and paid family leave for all, and safeguards a secure and dignified retirement.

We must guarantee health care not as a privilege for some, but as a right for every single American. For a century, Democrats have fought to secure universal health care. In the depths of the COVID-19 pandemic, President Trump and the Republican Party are trying to tear health care away from millions of people who depend on it for survival. Democrats will not allow that to happen. We will not rest until every American can access quality health care and affordable prescription drugs.

We must steel and strengthen our democracy, not distort and debase it. Democrats believe there is nothing to fear from the voices and votes of the American people. We will restore the full power of the Voting Rights Act and stamp out voter suppression in all its forms. We will curb the corrupting influence of money in politics and protect the integrity of our elections from all enemies, foreign and domestic. We will never accept political gridlock as our fate. We will never tire in our fight to deliver results and create opportunity for all Americans. And we will end the war on government that has politicized our institutions, denigrated public service, and left the American people on their own instead of working to make them whole.

We must heal our nation's deepest wounds, not fan the flames of hate. Democrats will root out structural and systemic racism in our economy and our society, and reform our criminal justice system from top to bottom, because we believe Black lives matter. We will ensure that our nation continues to prize diversity and compassion, and welcomes those who yearn to participate in our great democratic experiment by creating a

humane, 21st century immigration system that benefits all Americans.

We will give hate no safe harbor. We will never amplify or legitimize the voices of racism, misogyny, anti-Semitism, anti-Muslim bigotry, or white supremacy. Democrats will protect and promote the equal rights of all our citizens—women, LGBTQ+ people, religious minorities, people with disabilities, Native Americans, and all who have been discriminated against in too many ways and for too many generations. We commit ourselves to the vision articulated by Frederick Douglass of 'a Government founded upon justice, and recognizing the equal rights of all.'

We must lead the world in taking on the climate crisis, not deny the science and accelerate the damage. From Houston, Texas, to Mexico Beach, Florida; from San Juan, Puerto Rico, to Davenport, Iowa, the last four years have seen record-breaking storms, devastating wildfires, and historic floods. Democrats will rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement and go further, building a thriving, equitable, and globally competitive clean energy economy that puts workers and communities first, and leaves no one behind.

We must provide a world-class education in every ZIP code, to every child, because education is a critical public good. Democrats believe in universal early childhood education and affordable, high-quality child care. We will shut down the school-to-prison pipeline and build a school-to-opportunity pipeline in its place. We will make college affordable again and give Americans relief from crushing student debt.

We commit to a foreign policy that accelerates our domestic renewal, not undermines it. We will focus on what matters most to Americans — more and better jobs, greater security, a cleaner environment, and a more inclusive and resilient society. Democrats will lead with diplomacy as our tool of first resort and mobilize our allies and partners to meet the tests none of us can meet on our own. We will stand up to the forces of authoritarianism, not aid and abet their rise, and we will speak and act with clarity and purpose on behalf of human rights wherever they are under

threat. And we will honor our sacred covenant with our women and men in uniform, our veterans, and our military families who have carried the burdens of wars that must — at long last — come to an end.

Above all, Democrats still believe in the American idea — its principles, its purpose, and its promise. We know that four more years of the crass, craven, corrupt leadership we have seen from Donald Trump and the Republican Party will damage our character and our country beyond repair. We pray, as Langston Hughes did, 'O, let America be America again—the land that never has been yet—and yet must be—the land where every man is free.' Democrats call on all Americans to come together and seize this last, best chance to restore the soul of our nation—and vote this November to ensure our greatest days are still to come."

... **Crime Culture**
continued from page 3

winner. Now, we often see Halloween as a mainly commercial holiday where children dress in costumes to trick-or-treat, teens get up to questionable hijinks, and adults (without children) go out to drink and have fun. What if we celebrated in the traditional way by participating in rituals and games to predict the future, especially concerning marriage and death?

Episode 85: Halloween "Decorations"

Each year, stores are filled with more realistic, gory Halloween decorations of severed heads or torn-off limbs — most of the time, these recreated bodies or body parts don't entirely make sense. Why on earth would only one severed zombie arm have found itself into your front yard? More importantly, what if these decorations appear too realistic?

This episode discusses moments when realistic Halloween decorations have been taken too far or the unfortunate times when what people thought were decorations were real dead bodies.

Outside of the spooky season, these ladies continue to post new content every Tuesday and Thursday. "Crime Culture" is available to stream and download on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and wherever podcasts are available.



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