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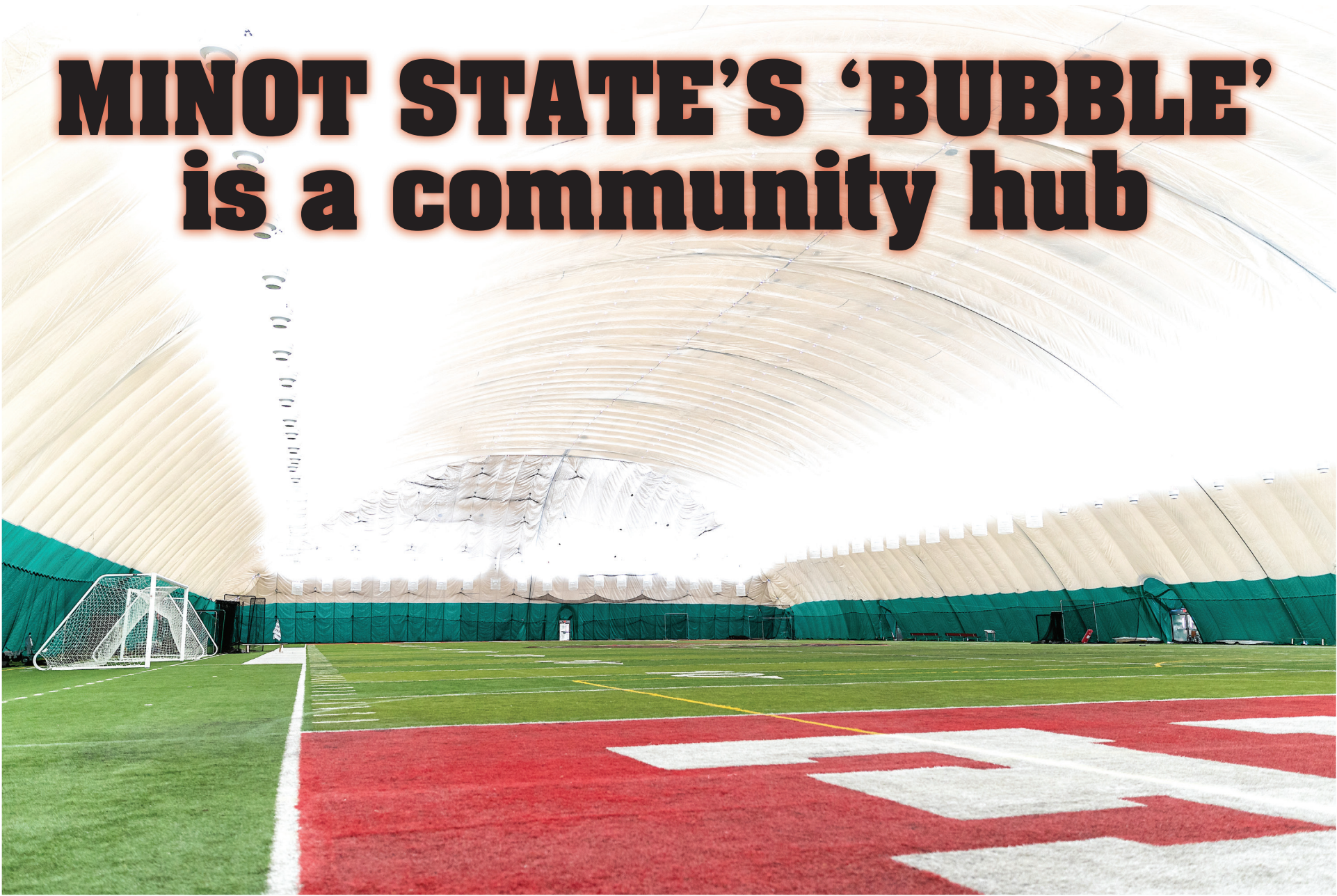
# MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY

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# RED & GREEN

Vol. 110, Issue 7 • February 21, 2025

## MINOT STATE'S 'BUBBLE' is a community hub



Sean Arbaut

Top: A view from the playing surface inside the Minot State Bubble.

By **BOB PATCHEN**  
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Forget shivering on the sidelines. Minot State University's colossal indoor sports facility, affectionately known as "the Bubble," isn't just defying North

Dakota's winter, it's making the most of it. This massive, air-supported dome encasing Herb Parker Stadium hosts a nonstop flurry of sports and community events, proving that even when the snow flies, the Beavers and their neighbors stay active and engaged.

"The Bubble is a tremendous

asset for our community," said Kevin Harmon, Minot State University vice president for student affairs and intercollegiate athletics. "It's in use from 5:30 a.m. until 11 p.m. on a regular basis."

First inflated in December 2017, the Bubble covers more than 86,000 square feet and cost

\$2 million to construct. Funding was secured through a Community Fund grant from the City of Minot and contributions from private individuals, foundations, and local businesses. The facility is used by Minot State athletics and for high school and community sporting events.

"The Bubble is a tremendous

asset for our community. Our athletic teams train from 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; we then have community groups in from 7-10 p.m. on a nightly basis. Youth baseball teams are our primary tenant on weeknights," said Harmon. "On weekends, we host MSU practices as well as

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## MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT PROFILE

### American journeys of a Japanese student, a Hong Kong student

By **ARIANNA POLONIO**  
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Minot State has that special touch that draws international students, whether it is the friendly tuition or the alumni that root for the fellow Beavers. The students in Minot have shared what their experiences have been like so far.

Aina Murata is a junior from Ibaraki, Japan pursuing her bachelor's in professional communication. She initially studied English and cross-cultural communication in a women's university in Japan, and later decided to continue in the U.S.

"While taking a year off, I worked, studied English, and searched for an affordable university," Murata said. "This is what brought me here."

Murata was drawn by the flexibility Minot State offered to transfer her credits from Japan. Also, she felt safe in a small city, compared to bigger areas. Additionally, while some international students try to run away from the cold, she thought it was one of the perks of coming to Minot.

"The winter weather is brutal, but for me who doesn't like the humid Japanese weather, the dry weather throughout the year is perfect," she added.

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Aina Murata

### Minot State graduate hopes to spark change

By **VERONICA COREY**  
Communication & Marketing Specialist

Encouraged to return to school to advance in his career, Lance Kennedy '24 found Minot State University and a passion for an assignment close to home.

The Morris, Alabama native is the director of continuous process improvement at Teksouth Corporation. Kennedy's job includes reviewing processes and working on strategic planning, facilitation, documenting processes, and annual reviews of every process they do within the company and their customers. With advice from his senior leadership to pursue a master's in management, he was on the hunt for a school that would accommodate his busy schedule as a full-time employee and family man.

With a bachelor's and master's from the Univer-

sity of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), Kennedy first looked locally.

"Being 100% online was obviously the first thing I needed to have, regardless of where it was actually located," Kennedy said. "I looked at some (schools) in the state of Alabama, but they weren't completely online. I found Minot State was completely online, and that worked out well for me."

"What really stood out to me was the availability for class scheduling. It allowed the master's in management program to be taken one class at a time, but it was not one class per semester. I really liked the eight-week semester option. It really worked well for me to be able to do that and work at the same time."

Kennedy began classes in the fall of 2022, and

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Dear Readers,

The wind howls outside, rattling the windows and piling snowdrifts against the walls. The air bites with a ferocity that seems to penetrate even the thickest layers of clothing. It's the kind of cold that makes you want to burrow under the covers and stay there until June. But even in the depths of this seemingly endless winter, there's a flicker of hope on the horizon: the promise of spring.

It might not feel like it now, as you trudge through snowdrifts and brace against the icy blasts, but spring is coming. The days are already getting longer, and soon the sun's warmth will begin to melt the snow and ice. The trees will bud, the flowers will bloom, and the air will fill with the sounds of birdsong.

Spring is a time of renewal, of rebirth, of hope. It's a reminder that even the harshest winters don't last forever. That no matter how dark and cold things may seem, there's always light and warmth on the way.

This is a message we all need to hear sometimes, especially during those challenging moments in life when it feels like the cold and darkness will never end. Whether you're struggling with a difficult class, a personal setback, or just the general weight of the world, it's easy to lose sight of the hope that spring represents.

But that hope is always there, even if it's buried beneath a layer of snow and ice. It's the hope that things will get better, that the sun will shine again, that the warmth will return. It's the hope that sustains us through the tough times and reminds us that there's always something to look forward to.

So as you bundle up and brave the cold, remember that spring is coming. Remember the promise of renewal, of rebirth, of hope. And let that hope warm you from the inside out, even on the coldest of days.

Take care of yourself, too. The winter months can be tough on both our physical and mental health. Make sure you're getting enough sleep, eating healthy foods, and staying active. And don't hesitate to reach out for help if you're struggling. Even in the winter, there are plenty of things to appreciate. Take some time to enjoy the beauty of a snowy landscape, the warmth of a cozy fire, or the company of loved ones. Spring is a time of new beginnings, so look forward to the future. What are you looking forward to in the coming months? What goals do you want to achieve? What dreams do you want to pursue?

Spring is a reminder that there's always hope, even when things seem bleak. So keep your chin up, keep moving forward, and know that warmer days are on the way.

**Bob Patchen**  
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Please feel free to contact me if you have a story idea, a club event, or any item that you'd like to see in the Red & Green.

Another record for Bailey Wride, career-best throw for Dallas Reese

BROOKINGS, S.D. – Minot State distance runner Bailey Wride led the way for the Minot State women on Saturday, while thrower Dallas Reese set the tone for the Beaver men as the South Dakota State Indoor Classic track and field meet wrapped up.

Wride broke her own all-time school record in the women's 600 meters as she finished 3rd in the event on the day, while Reese was fifth in the men's shot put with a career-best throw that ranks third in Minot State NCAA Division II indoor history and 10th-best in the NSIC this winter.

Another strong showing for the Beavers as they continue to fine-tune their performances in preparation for the NSIC Indoor Championships at the end of this month.

Wride, the defending NSIC indoor 600 meters champion, cut more than a second off her all-time school record in the event Saturday as she clocked a time of 1 minute, 35.74 seconds to finish 3rd at the meet hosted by SDSU. Her previous record was 1:36.76 run last season.

She had turned in one of a handful of top performances by the Minot State women at the NCAA Division I meet on Saturday, as teammate

Kaydee Boyce was 8th in the shot put with a career-best throw of 39 feet, 0.25 inches, and Bailey's younger sister, Afton Wride, had a career-best performance in the triple jump with a leap of 35-6.5, finishing 10th in the event.

While they led the way for the Minot State women, Reese led the way for the men as he was 5th at the SDSU Indoor Classic in the shot put with a throw of 51 feet, 7 inches which demolished his previous career-best mark of 50-0, which ranks third indoors in Minot State's NCAA school history, and 10th this winter in the NSIC.

Joining Reese in turning in a top performance Saturday were Ramon Duran, who was 8th in the 400 meters in 49.08 seconds, a season-best effort that ranks him No. 11 in the NSIC, and Marco Murrillo, who was 9th in the 800 meters.

The Beavers compete in one more regular-season meet before the NSIC Indoor Championships, hosted by Minnesota State, Mankato, on February 28 and March 1. That final meet is next Saturday in Bismarck, North Dakota as Minot State competes at the Marauders Tune-Up hosted by the University of Mary.

UPCOMING Events

February

**23:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.:** "No Man's Land" Student Show  
**10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.:** Meet Minot State  
**11:30 a.m.:** Group X: Spin (Wellness Center members only)  
**1:30 p.m.:** Men's basketball vs. Wayne State College  
**3:30 p.m.:** Women's basketball vs. Wayne State College  
**24:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.:** "No Man's Land" Student Show  
**3:00 p.m.:** Minot Chamber Choral Winter Concert  
**8:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.:** MSU Life Event: Ice Skating at Maysa Arena  
**25:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Last day to withdraw from all classes and receive a 75% refund for 16-week classes.  
**8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.:** "No Man's Land" Student Show  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**4:00 p.m.:** Group X: Kickboxing (Wellness Center members only)  
**26:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.:** "No Man's Land" Student Show  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**3:30 p.m.:** Group X: Spin (Wellness Center members only)  
**4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.:** Conversations with Colleagues  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** E-sports Movie: "Dune 2"  
**27:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**7:00 a.m.:** Group X: Spin (Wellness Center members only)  
**8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.:** "No Man's Land" Student Show  
**2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.:** Group Projects: From Groan to Great!  
**3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.:** Faculty Senate Executive Board meeting  
**4:00 p.m.:** Group X: HIIT (Wellness Center members only)  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** Arizona Alumni & Friends Social  
**7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** Collegiate Day of Prayer  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Open Studio Options  
**7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** SGA Meeting  
**8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.:** MSU Life Event: "Ratatouille" Taste Film  
**28:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.:** "No Man's Land" Student Show  
**12:00 p.m.:** Arizona Alumni & Friends Party in the Pavilion, Angels vs. White Sox  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** Arizona Alumni & Friends Social  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Continuing Throwing  
**7:30 p.m.:** MSU Concert Band Concert

March

**1:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.:** "No Man's Land" Student Show  
**1:00 p.m.:** Arizona Alumni & Friends Golf Scramble  
**5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** Arizona Alumni & Friends Social  
**2:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)

**3:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Midterm grades due to Registrar's Office at noon.  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**3:00 p.m.:** International Artists Series presents: "Window in a Wall" by Tajci Cameron & Sanya Mateyas  
**4:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.:** Tuesday Soup  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life Event: Beast Games  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Open Studio Options  
**7:30 p.m.:** MSU Big Dam Band and Jazz Combos Concert  
**5:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Final exams for first 8 weeks.  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**7:00 p.m.:** Men's Hockey vs. Jamestown (exhibition)  
**7:30 p.m.:** MSU Concert Choir Concert  
**6:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Final exams for first 8 weeks.  
**3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.:** Faculty Senate meeting  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Open Studio Options  
**7:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Summer and fall graduation applications due to Registrar's Office.  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Continuing Throwing  
**8:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**9:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**10:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Spring break.  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**11:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Grades due to Registrar's Office at noon for first 8 weeks.  
Spring break.  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Hand Built Cup or Mug  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Open Studio Options  
**12:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Spring break.  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**7:30 p.m.:** Region 8 Large Group High School Music Competition  
**13:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Spring break.  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Open Studio Options  
**14:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Spring break.  
**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Race to the Top  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Continuing Throwing  
**15:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.:** Prospective student visit  
**7:30 p.m.:** Michael HarriSon Recital  
**16:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**17:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**18:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.:** Staff Senate  
**10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.:** Tuesday Soup  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Hand Built Cup or Mug  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Open Studio Options  
**19:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.:** Mental Health Matters: Relationships Can Be Hard  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life Event: Pong Tournament  
**20:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Last day to drop a class or withdraw from all classes and receive a 100% refund for second 8 week classes.  
**2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.:** Summer Job Search Strategies  
**3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.:** Faculty Senate meeting  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Open Studio Options  
**21:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Race to the Top  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**22:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**12:00 p.m.:** Softball vs. Wayne State (doubleheader)  
**7:00 p.m.:** Minot Symphony Orchestra presents: The King of Instruments  
**23:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**12:00 p.m.:** Softball vs. Sioux Falls (doubleheader)  
**24:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**25:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Registration for currently enrolled students.  
**10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.:** Tuesday Soup  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Open Studio Options  
**26:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Registration for currently enrolled students.  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga  
**4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.:** Conversations with Colleagues  
**27:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
Last day to withdraw from all classes and receive a 50% refund for 16-week classes.  
Registration for currently enrolled students.  
**9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Building Resilience One Thought at a Time  
**3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.:** Faculty Senate Executive Board meeting  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Open Studio Options  
**7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.:** SGA Meeting  
**28:** All day: "Badlands: Ephemeral Horizons" by Michael Baum (exhibit)  
**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.:** MSU Life-long Learning Institute: Race to the Top  
**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Yoga

MSU student launches free productivity tool

By KAIF KHAN  
Red and Green Writer  
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Minot State University senior Saif Khan, a computer science major with a data science minor, has launched a free, web-based productivity tool called The Task-it. Designed to help students, faculty and professionals manage daily tasks, The Task-it aims to simplify organization and boost productivity.

The Task-it, which can be accessed on the internet by going to thetaskit.com, offers a clean, simple, and intuitive interface that allows users to create, edit, and delete tasks. The simple design helps visualize your complex schedules into manageable pieces, giving users a clear picture of their day.

"I created The Task-it to address the complex overhead of remembering infinite amounts of tasks to do. Managing classes, deadlines, meetings, and personal tasks can be messy. I wanted to build something

that simplifies this process," said Saif Khan. "Tailored for everyone in the community and around the world, due to its ease of use. This is just version 1.0; I would like to build more features on top of this application."

Unlike many apps on the internet, The Task-it is completely free. Saif developed the tool entirely in his own time and outside of any school projects, "I was driven by my passion for building new applications and launching it for everyone to use, it has been a big learning curve".

The Task-it is built using modern web technologies that ensure the application is not only responsive but also works well across various devices and browsers. This means whether you're using a desktop computer, a laptop, or even a tablet, you can access your tasks easily from anywhere. Saif made a deliberate choice to focus on accessibility; by keeping the interface uncluttered, "I aimed to ensure that even those who aren't particularly

tech-savvy can benefit from the app without a steep learning curve".

In today's digital age, many productivity tools come loaded with features that can sometimes complicate rather than simplify by adding unnecessary advertisements or complex subscription plans. The Task-it stands out for its minimalist and user-friendly approach.

Looking ahead, Saif envisions future updates that could include integration with other calendar applications, enhanced analytics to track productivity trends, and additional customization options. However, even in its current form, The Task-it provides an easy solution to a common problem. Its simplicity is its strength by focusing on core features that matter most.

Students, faculty, and anyone in the community should test out The Task-it. "I welcome any suggestions or criticism about the application on how it can be made more user friendly with different features that help the community". Visit the-taskit.com to test it out.



RED & GREEN

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# Semester off and running

By JACK JOHNSON  
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Not one complaint. When students were informally polled at the Minot State University Beaver Dam, the group generally had positive reports when asked about the semester had started. Jada Farmer is a general studies major wrapping up her senior year and graduating in Spring 2025. She felt the semester was going as well as possible. “Terrific, I have not one complaint!” Farmer said. Freshman Lane Devereaux and senior Jake Swirple were also in agreement with Farmer. “So far the semester’s been great actually,” Devereaux said.

“The semester is doing good,” Swirple added. While there were mainly positive statements, students have found themselves on the busy side of things since the start of the semester in mid-January. Students have quite a bit going on both in and outside of school. Emma Tayler, a sophomore in the Minot State Honors Program and a dual major in business education and accounting, has to mix her time as vice president of Minot State’s Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) chapter, a tax internship, and multiple jobs outside of school.

“It’s been pretty busy, but so far so good,” Taylor said when asked about her semester so far. “I work two jobs. I get up at 4 (a.m.) and go home by 6 (p.m.) and try to go to the gym. So, it’s been pretty busy. But, so far so good.” While her schedule is busy, she believes the faculty at Minot State have been accommodating for her and her schedule. “The professors are all super nice. They’re all super lenient, able to work with me,” she added. “Like I feel I’ve had so many problems in one of my classes, but the professor has been amazing and like helping me figure it out and stuff like that, so it’s been awesome!” Swirple agreed with

Taylor’s assessment of the faculty at MSU. As an Academic All-American on the football and wrestling teams who is taking 21 credits, he appreciates the help he gets from his teachers. “The teachers are doing really good, because I’ve been on the road a lot for wrestling, so that’s kind of a big thing being a student-athlete, you’re gone a lot,” he said. “They’ve been a huge help because obviously missing class, missing lecture I have to read the notes by myself. When I get to that class, just finding some time, whether it be 10, 20 minutes, just helping me on the side, kind of getting caught up on the lecture; from having to read it myself and watch it, to being able to ask those questions is huge.”

Junior elementary education major Max Bray, also a student-athlete competing in football for the Beavers, a leader in CRU on campus, and a full-time student, feels a big thing around campus is “busyness.” “This semester’s real-life is, the best way I can explain it,” he said. Still within his schedule he finds a way to squeeze a job into it. “I have a couple clinicals right now requiring a lot of planning, actually dealing with real students,” he added. “Then with the balance — so, real-life semester, mixed with real-life living, mixed with balancing football, work, all that stuff, it is challenging. I won’t lie, it is pretty difficult.”

Finding a grove within all the work that is expected during the semester is key for Rex Keltner. “It’s (the semester) has been going good,” he said. “I’ve been trying to figure out what to make important at the times that they do need to be important, but as the as the semester is going, I’ve been getting in my groove, it’s been easier to figure out.” Though the semester may be busy, Minot State students say overall it is going well. And with that busyness, Bray might have the best overall outlook. “It’s challenging,” he added, “but I know that these challenges will make a better version of me.”



Sean Arbaut

The Minot State softball team huddled before the final day of the MSU Bubble Invite on Sunday, February 2, 2025. The Beavers defeated the Providence Argonauts, 6-0.

## □ Bubble

Continued from Page 1

events like the Minot Junior Golf Clinics, Minot High School and Minot North football sessions, Minot Youth Softball, Minot Golf open nights, MSU softball tournaments, MonDak college softball tournaments, high school softball tournaments and games, lacrosse tournaments hosted by Montana State, and the Minot Youth Soccer Tournament. These tournaments bring over a hundred teams and thousands of people to Minot to enjoy our indoor facility.” The Bubble is a testament to the university’s commitment to community engagement and part-

nerships. Minot State collaborates with local school districts, offering use of the facility for high school sports teams when weather conditions prevent outdoor practice. “We host high school softball tournaments in March and April,” said Harmon. “Minot High and Minot North football teams train in the Bubble as we trade services; we use their outdoor track, and they use our Bubble for offseason workouts.” Erecting and dismantling the Bubble is a significant undertaking, requiring about four days and the combined effort of the entire athletic department. The process typically occurs in late November or early December, often battling challenging weather conditions. “I am amazed by the number of

hours the Bubble is in use in any given week. Just last week, we had college softball teams playing well past midnight and back at it again the next morning by 8 a.m. We can be hosting a softball game at 5 p.m., and in 30 minutes, the facility is transformed into a practice arena for youth softball and golf,” said Harmon. “Five hundred people out the door, and hundreds of new users entering the door. We do it over and over, every week.” The Bubble stands as a testament to Minot State’s dedication to providing year-round opportunities for athletics, recreation, and community engagement, proving that even in the heart of winter, there’s no need to let the cold put a freeze on activity.

## □ Journeys

Continued from Page 1

Something she thought was worth studying abroad for was a different perspective from being in a different place. Also coming from East Asia, Asmita Pun is a senior from Hong Kong majoring in computer science at Minot State. She was encouraged to study abroad and she also shared what made her come to Minot. “My relatives were in the U.S. and recommended me to study aboard,” Pun said. “Other than affordability, I knew an alumnus who used to go here, and I liked the stu-

dent to teacher ratio.” Among the many challenges that international students go through, culture shock is the main struggle. “One of the most shocking parts was that you don’t see people walking around in the neighborhood, majority of them just travel through a vehicle,” Pun added. Meeting people also proved to be difficult, but

there is a chance for everyone. “It can be difficult making friends but with time, you will eventually find someone who gets along with you,” said Pun. Similarly, Murata experienced other culture shock symptoms. “I was okay with American culture, food, and people, but homesickness dragged me for the first two weeks,” Murata said.

“I just missed my family and Japanese friends.” When deciding to come to study to the U.S. both Pun and Murata recommend to do thorough research since this will determine the whole experience. Even though it is a little tough in the beginning, they have zero regrets about their decision to study in the United States.

## □ Change

Continued from Page 1

even as an online student, he has never felt disconnected. “I was worried that I would get left behind, forgotten, or that I wouldn’t gain as much as I used to because I’m older,” Kennedy explained. “When I went to college for the first time, everything was in person, and that was how I learned everything. And so, I was worried about that difference, but it’s been really great. I’ve been able to learn a lot from all of my instructors. “They’ve been very helpful in getting me ready, not just for their classes, but for the next ones.” Last December, Kennedy completed his program. With the help of his business professor, Andy Bertsch ’92/’02, he was able to find a subject for his capstone close to home. “Dr. Bertsch was giving general ideas of stuff he’s heard about in the past,” Kennedy recalled. “The topic was about urban revitalization, downtown revitalization projects, stuff like that, and Birmingham, the city I’m near, has been going through that for at least the last five to seven years. There are a lot of initiatives that are doing that, and that got me thinking. “The project had to be something that was personal to you. And so, my initial thought was that the interstate coming very close to my house counteracts a lot of the downtown revitalization that’s going on because it’s intended to create new suburbs, and so it’s going to pull away from the city.” The initial direction sparked further interest, which Bertsch encouraged Kennedy to refine. “Dr. Bertsch has been really helpful and supportive in letting me change the direction I want to focus on in my paper. It’s really morphed into something that, I think, really is interesting to me, and that’s what he really pushed,” he said. “If the right people were able to see this transparency that I’m trying to pull out by looking at different sources, it could change some potential down-the-road practices that the government uses to

decide on where to build infrastructure interstates. “If I had to do some topic that I didn’t really care about, this would have been very difficult for me.” Kennedy’s project then shifted from revitalization to interstate development. “Part of the problem is they started in 2012 and ran out of funding for a two-mile stretch of this project,” Kennedy explained. “Then they stopped. That was from 2012 to 2014 when they worked on it. They did a reevaluation of the environmental impact but not a new environmental impact study, so almost 12 years have gone by. They’ve changed a lot of specs on the construction. Both these things raise red flags for me. Now, they’re projecting aggressive timelines to still get us close to a 30-year full completion on this project, and the aggressive timelines are not typical. “I don’t think they’re even realistic about the federal government or the state government getting projects like this moving forward.” Kennedy hopes that after his project is complete, he can share his findings with local news stations and grow awareness in the local community. “So far, the only external audience that I have to see the paper is the Southern Environmental Law Center,” Kennedy said. “They’ve also done some research on this project, but more from an environmental standpoint. The lead lawyer wants to see the report. She recommended giving my information to a local news station to bring light to this project because the only thing that’s been publicized is how widespread the citizen support is for this project, and it’s not really true. Then, if they had a person like me to be able to voice that and get a petition or Facebook group and get the information in front of the city, like the mayor of the City of Birmingham. To show that this interstate is only going to hurt the city of Birmingham. Maybe that could grow into going to the state level, congress, and, if possible, federal representatives could make changes. “If it can get that high, that’s the only way to really change, but you have to start somewhere.”

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# MSU FB lands impressive class for fall of 2025

**By MSU ATHLETICS**

There is no doubt the future is bright for Minot State University (MSU) football.

Coming off the best season in the program's NCAA history, the Beavers bring in a huge and talented Class of 2025 – arguably the team's best in more than a decade – to continue MSU's march up the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) standings.

Joining seven transfers who already began class at MSU and were introduced last week, head coach Ian Shields is proud to introduce the incoming freshmen class of 42 recruits, a power-packed group of players featuring ten star student-athletes from right here in North Dakota.

"I'm very pleased with the quality and depth of this 2025 class," Coach Shields said. "We have addressed all of our needs by position and set ourselves up well for future successes – both short- and long-term. We made a conscientious effort to recruit here in our own backyard – we're gaining significant traction within the region and that is reflected in this class," Shields added. "In addition, we have aggressively maintained a national presence that has been critical to our turnaround. The bottom line is we're bringing in high-character young men from all over who are serious about their education, have the ability and measurables to win the NSIC, and have a sincere passion for the game."

A recruiting class of 42 new MSU student-athletes who will be freshmen in the classroom and on the gridiron this fall.

A group featuring 9 two-sports athletes as seven of the new Beavers will compete in track and field and two will wrestle.

A group that saw 40 with GPAs above 3.0 and 20 with a GPA of 3.5 or better in high school.

A group featuring the sons of three former MSU players.

A group from 14 states (North Dakota, Texas, Florida, Arizona, Montana, California, Nevada, Wyoming, Utah, Minnesota, Colorado, Virginia, Washington, and Alaska) and three Canadian Provinces (Alberta, Ontario, and Saskatchewan).

"I would like to thank our entire staff, led by our recruiting coordinator Mike Famiglietti, for their tireless efforts in bringing in a class that is capable of competing for championships," Minot State's coach said. "I would also like to thank our faculty, administration, support staff, and – most importantly – our players for their support and involvement in this process – it takes all of us to get where we're going."

Here is a look at the newest members of the Minot State football program:

**Khaliel Abdurrahman, a 5-10, 170-pound cornerback from Bottineau HS in Bottineau, North Dakota**

Offensively, Khaliel amassed 1,262 yards with 14 touchdowns. Defensively, he had 62 tackles with 1 sack and 9 tackles for a loss along with 2 interceptions and forcing 4 fumbles. He is a 2-time All-Region performer and earned All-State honors this past season. He also holds the Bottineau High School record for receptions in a single season with 52. Khaliel also played hockey, baseball, and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Khaliel is a talented young man from right here in our backyard. We're excited about Khaliel's athleticism and upside. He will be a dual-sport athlete here at Minot State.

**Taven Backman, a 5-11, 180-pound safety from Minot**

**HS in Minot, North Dakota**

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Taven brings speed and toughness. We have great familiarity with him being from Minot, and his brother Camden is also on our team. Trevor intends to major in Management and also competed in track and field in high school.

**Samuel Benson, a 6-3, 250-pound defensive lineman from Underwood HS in Underwood, North Dakota**

Benson made 69 tackles with 6 sacks and 9 tackles for a loss this past season. He also forced a fumble, had an interception, and recovered 4 fumbles. A varsity player all four years, he was named Rookie of the Year as a freshman, most improved defensive lineman, best defensive lineman, and an All-Region offensive lineman as a sophomore, best defensive lineman, All-Region offensive lineman, and All-State 2nd Team defensive lineman as a junior, and to the All-Region Team as a senior. Academically he was named to the Region 4 All-Academic Team and to the President's list honor roll (3.8-4.0 GPA) all four years. Samuel intends to major in Chemistry and also played basketball in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Samuel is a North Dakota product who really impressed us this past summer at multiple camps. He has a great frame and work ethic; he has a high ceiling on the defensive line.

**George Bradley, a 5-11, 240-pound defensive lineman from Standing Rock Community HS in Fort Yates, North Dakota**

George had 64 tackles (38 solo, 25 assists) with 5 sacks and 24 tackles for a loss, along with forcing 5 fumbles last season. Geroge also played basketball and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** George is a local product that came to our Big-Man camp and really impressed our staff. He is physical, gives great effort, has a positive attitude, and plays hard.

**Graden Buckhanan, a 5-10, 190-pound slot back/safety from Gunnison HS in Gunnison, Colorado**

Graden ran for 1,244 yards and 13 touchdowns in just 6 games last season. He was the Western Slope runner-up Player of the Year, Western Slope Returner of the Year, and Intermountain Defensive Back of the Year. Graden ranks 17th all-time in Colorado history in rushing yards per game at 420 ypg. Academically named First Team All-State. Grady intends to major in Corporate Fitness and also played baseball and hockey in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Graden is the younger brother of Sam, our current B-Back, and is a prospect with great position flexibility that could translate to either side of the ball."

**Kendale Cade, a 5-10, 175-pound wide receiver from Casa Grande Union HS in Casa Grande, Arizona**

Kendale was a two-time First Team All-Region selection, Casa Grande's 2024 Team MVP, and earned All-State honorable mention honors. Kendale also ran track and field and twice competed in state in the 4x100 relay and in the 100 meters.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Kendale is a playmaker out of Arizona that brings tremendous ball skills and speed (10.8 seconds 100 in the meters as a junior) to the WR position. A dual-sport athlete, he has a bright future here in the Magic City.

**Gage Cavanaugh, a 6-0, 190-pound**

**quarterback from Ore City HS in Ore City, Texas**

Gage ran for 521 yards and 10 touchdowns while also passing for 768 yards and 7 more TDS last season for Ore City as he was a unanimous 1st Team All-Conference pick at quarterback and also earned Academic All-District honors. Gage intends to major in Exercise Science and also played baseball, basketball, tennis, and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Gage is a 5-sport athlete from East Texas who can do it all; he's a dual-threat quarterback who has been highly productive in a similar style of play. He's tough and talented, which is a good combination.

**Nick Cook, a 6-0, 270-pound offensive lineman from Bishop James Mahoney in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**

Nick was named the Offensive Lineman of the Year last season. Nick intends to major in Criminal Justice and also wrestled in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Nick is a legacy athlete as his dad played at Minot State, and he is one of three Canadians in this class. Nick will bring quality depth to our offensive line.

**Samuel Eddy, a 6-5, 220-pound tight end from Rock Springs HS in Rock Springs, Wyoming**

Samuel had 54 tackles with 13 sacks, an interception return for a touchdown, and 9 pass breakups as he earned All-Conference honors this past season. Samuel intends to major in Physical Therapy and also played basketball and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Our lone Wyoming recruit in this class, Sam is an athletic and explosive big kid with some length. His best football is in front of him and he will develop into a great one.

**Christian Faletoi, a 6-1, 210-pound linebacker from Anchorage West HS in Anchorage, Alaska**

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Christian is an outstanding linebacker who we anticipate doing great things. He was the State Defensive Player of the Year in Alaska as a senior. He flies around the field and plays with an edge.

**Jaden Ferguson, a 6-1, 270-pound offensive lineman from Centennial HS in Burleson, Texas**

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Jaden is an outstanding offensive lineman prospect out of Burleson, Texas. He has great feet, is athletic, tough, quick, and plays at a low pad level. Jaden is a dual-sport athlete and a district wrestling champion.

**Tristen Fitzpatrick, a 6-2, 190-pound wide receiver from Blue Ridge HS in St. George, Virginia**

Tristen is a two-time All-BRAC Conference player, a two-time All-State player, and a two-time All-Central Virginia player.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Tristen is a big wide receiver who has speed and physicality out of Virginia. With development and commitment he could really turn into something special.

**Jaden Fox, a 5-10, 210-pound B-back from Key West HS in Key West, Florida**

Jaden rushed for 2,004 rush yards and 22 touchdowns on offense and had 50-plus tackles and 2 interceptions this past season. Jaden was named Monroe County Player of the Year, to the FHSAA 3A All-State Team, and was named a Scholar Athlete. Jaden in-

tends to major in Health and Sports Management and also wrestled and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Jaden was one of the most productive running backs in Florida this past season as he rushed for more than 2,000 yards in coach John Hughes' Conch-Bone offense at Key West. Jaden is fast and physical with a GPA over 4.0.

**Ngonkra Fuangunyi, a 5-11, 195-pound slot back from Empire HS in Tucson, Arizona**

Ngonkra rushed for 1,177 yards with 11 touchdowns and a 7.3 yard per carry average as he was named the Region Offensive Player of the Year in Tucson for football and was a 1st Team All-Region. He also was the 3A Conference Player of the Year in soccer and a 1st Team All-Conference and All-Region performer. Ngonkra intends to major in Chemistry and also played soccer and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Ngonkra is a talented running back from Arizona with excellent speed and size. He is a three-sport athlete who ran track (11.0 seconds in the 100 meters) and played soccer (Empire HS's leading goal scorer).

**Deacon Gackle, a 6-0, 220-pound linebacker from Fairview HS in Fairview, Montana**

Deacon had 122 total tackles with 90 solo tackles and is a two-time All-State player and a two-time State Champion. Academically he was named All-State all four years. Deacon intends to major in Finance and also played basketball and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Deacon is another legacy athlete as his dad, Derek, played at Minot State. A 2-time State Champion out of Fairview, Montana, he is an explosive and strong linebacker from Carson Cayko's hometown.

**Mason Haertel, a 6-0, 210-pound slot back/B-back from Brighton HS in Brighton, Utah**

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Mason is a big, fast, physical running back out of Utah who can really run (11.0 seconds in the 100 meters). Mason is a very versatile player who will make an impact here at Minot State.

**Ben Hagan, a 6-1, 210-pound linebacker from Plentywood HS in Plentywood, Montana**

Offensively, Ben ran for 782 yards on 151 carries with 12 touchdowns and 3 2-point conversions, and caught 28 passes for 454 yards and for 6 touchdowns. As a kick returner he had 19 returns for 348 yards and a touchdown and returned 4 punts for 69 yards. Defensively he had 74.5 tackles, including 39 solo tackles, with 2 interceptions, 1 fumble recovery, and 1 forced fumble. He earned 2nd Team All-Conference Offense and Defense honors as a junior team captain, and earned All-State honors, 1st Team All-Conference offense and 2nd Team All-Conference honors as a senior team captain. Ben set the Plentywood High School record for most points scored in a game with 36 points and became just the 5th player in school history to score over 100 points in a season with 104 as a junior and 120 as a senior. Academically, Ben earned All-State honors in football, basketball, and track and field all four years. Ben intends to major in Sports Management and also played basketball and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Ben is another kid

from Montana who we see with upside. He's tough, has good size, runs well; Ben could really develop into something special.

**Jordan Hernandez, a 5-10, 190-pound slot back from Alexander HS in Alexander, North Dakota**

Jordan amassed 1,350 total yards of offense and scored 20 touchdowns for Alexander. He is a 4-time All-Region Second Team selection, was All-State his senior season, and named Athlete of the Year for Region 6 as a senior. Academically he also was named to the honor roll. Jordan intends to major in Business.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** We saw Jordan multiple times on the camp circuit this past summer, he has the tools to be an excellent slot in our offensive system.

**Dylan Huber, a 6-4, 260-pound defensive lineman from Minot HS in Minot, North Dakota**

Dylan had 19 tackles (6 solo and 13 assists) with 4 sacks and 10 tackles for a loss this past season. Dylan was named an All-State player 2023 and 2024, and an All-WDA player in 2023 and 2024. Dylan intends to major in Entrepreneurship and also played basketball and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Dylan is a local product who was a very high priority for us to keep here at home. He has the size, athleticism, and power to be an impact performer.

**Luke Johnston, a 6-4, 260-pound defensive lineman from Jesuit HS in Carmichael, California**

Luke had 20 tackles in 5 games this past season. Luke intends to major in Business and also played rugby in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Luke is a long and athletic defensive lineman who will compete. We're excited to get the Johnston twins out of Jesuit High School in Carmichael, California.

**Wade Johnston, a 6-3, 270-pound offensive lineman from Jesuit HS in Carmichael, California**

Wade was named All-SFL Honorable Mention this past season. Wade intends to major in Business and also played rugby in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Wade is a big and athletic offensive lineman who loves to compete. We're excited to get the Johnston twins out of Jesuit High School in Carmichael, California.

**Vila Jozama, a 6-1, 180-pound safety/cornerback from Fort Lauderdale HS in Fort Lauderdale, Florida**

Offensively, Vila had 248 receiving yards with 3 touchdowns, rushed for 385 yards with 6 touchdowns, and 415 passing yards with 5 touchdowns. Defensively, he added 39 tackles with 6 interceptions, returned 2 for touchdowns, and forced 2 fumbles. Vita was named Team MVP, led the team in interceptions, touchdowns, and tackles. Vila intends to major in Business Administration and also competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Vila is a very long, fluid, and athletic defensive back out of South Florida. He has a high upside; he will be a tremendous addition to our secondary.

**Messi Kalenda, a 6-3, 260-pound defensive lineman from East Grand Forks HS in Grand Forks, Minnesota**

Messi played in 11 games and was named to the All-Section Team this past season. Messia also played basketball and com-

peted in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** We worked with Messi at multiple camps this past year and were impressed with his traits. He is a hard worker, explosive, tough, coachable, and bright. He threw the shot 52 feet, as well, at East Grand Forks.

**Samuel Larson, a 6-2, 315-pound offensive lineman from Bismarck HS in Bismarck, North Dakota**

Samuel was a North Dakota AAA All-State selection this past season. Samuel intends to major in Finance.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Samuel is another home-grown North Dakota kid. Sam is a force up front on the offensive line with size, strength, and aggression. He projects as a guard in our system who will play with force and change the line of scrimmage.

**Nicholas Lauc, a 6-1, 265-pound offensive lineman from Shakopee HS in Shakopee, Minnesota**

Nicholas intends to major in Accounting.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Nicholas will have a smooth transition to our offensive style coming from Shakopee High School's flexbone. He is athletic, quick, physical, sudden at the point of attack, and plays well in space.

**RJ Livingston, 6-0, 195-pound safety from Buchholz HS in Gainesville, Florida**

RJ had 80 tackles with 3 interceptions, 5 pass breakups, and he forced 2 fumbles. RJ also was named to the honor roll at Buchholz. RJ intends to major in Biology Pre-Med and also competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** RJ is a quality safety who could compete early. He is a 4.0-plus GPA student from Buchholz High School in Gainesville, Florida, one of the better programs in the region. This guy is a "ballplayer."

**Jett Lundeen, a 6-1, 190-pound quarterback/athlete from Bishop Ryan HS in Minot, North Dakota**

Jett threw for 2,096 yards and 35 touchdowns this past season and added 471 rushing yards and 9 rushing touchdowns for Bishop Ryan. Jett is a 3-time All-State performer, a 4-time All-Region performer, and a Midco game ball winner. Academically he is a 4-time Highest Honor award winner. Jett intends to major in Business and also played basketball, baseball, and golf in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Jett is a talented, multi-sport athlete from Bishop Ryan High School who we're thrilled has "stayed home." He is a dual-threat quarterback who also adds some position flexibility. He adds value as an athlete and competitor.

**Ryan Lynch, a 6-0, 240-pound defensive back/linebacker from Cypress Springs HS in Cypress Springs, Texas**

Ryan was named the District Defensive MVP this past season.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Ryan is a force up front on defense. He will make a difference here with his quickness, power, agility, and tenacity on the defensive line. Ryan also wrestled and competed in track and field in high school.

**Kai Nguyen, a 6-2, 315-pound offensive lineman from Patricia E. Paetow HS in Katy Texas**

Kai was a 1st Team All-District performer and is a two-time Academic All-District award winner.

**Coach Ian Shields com-**



# TRACK&FIELD

## Beavers’ Krebsbach 8th in 200 Invitational to open weekend

BROOKINGS, S.D. – Minot State sprinter Summer Krebsbach led the way for the Beavers on Friday as she finished 8th in the women’s 200-meter invitational event at the South Dakota State Indoor Classic.

Krebsbach clocked a time of 25.39 seconds in the event.

While she led the way for the Beavers, the Minot State women also got top performances from Camryn Adams in the open women’s 200 meters, as she was 5th in 25.69 seconds, and from Macey Moore in the women’s 300 meters as she was 9th in 46.19 seconds.

Peyton Tuhy led the way for the Minot State men as he was 19th in the men’s 800 meters in 1 minute, 56.39 seconds, while Nasir Dilworth led the Beaver men’s sprinters, finishing 15th in the 200 in 22.57.

Minot State continues competition at the SDSU Indoor Classic on Saturday with the majority of the meet’s events being contested.

## Krebsbach and Wride 6th at Bison Open, men’s relay 3rd for Beaver track & field

FARGO, N.D. – Minot State sprinter Summer Krebsbach tied her own school record in the 60-meter dash while distance runner Bailey Wride finished sixth in the mile and the Minot State men were third in the 4x400-meter relay on Saturday, leading the way for the Beavers at

the Bison Open hosted by North Dakota State.

Krebsbach clocked a time of 7.67 seconds in the preliminaries of the 60 on Saturday, advancing to the finals where she finished sixth matching her own NCAA Division II school record time of 7.66 seconds, which she ran three weeks earlier at the Marauders Indoor Opener.

Adding a sixth-place finish on Saturday for the Minot State women was Bailey Wride in the mile as she clocked a time of 5 minutes, 9.63 seconds in the event, her second top finish of the weekend. Wride also won the women’s 600 meters on Friday night in 1:36.96. Wride’s time in the 600 ranks fifth best in the NSIC this winter.

Wride’s younger sister, Afton Wride, added a strong performance in the triple jump for the Beavers on Saturday as she finished ninth with a leap of 35 feet, 2.5 inches, matching her career best from one week earlier at the UND Open.

And adding a win Friday night was Sidra Sadowsky in the women’s 1,000 in 3:00.70 which ranks her second in the NSIC behind teammate Bailey Wride (2:58.02).

On the men’s side, the Beavers’ top finish for the weekend came from the quarter of Devan Daniels, Devontae Daley, Ramon Duran, and Zaccharius Brown in the 4x400-meter relay as Minot State’s team finished third with a season-best time of 3:25.30.

The Minot State track and field teams will be back in action next weekend competing at the South Dakota State Indoor Classic on Friday

and Saturday in Brookings, South Dakota.

## Wride, Sadowsky race to wins on 1st day of Bison Open

FARGO, N.D. – Minot State’s female distance runners set the tone for the weekend for the Beavers as Bailey Wride and Sidra Sadowsky each won their respective races Friday at the Bison Open hosted by North Dakota State.

Wride won the women’s 600 meters with a near-record time of 1 minute, 36.96 seconds – just .2 of a second off her own NCAA Division II-era record – while Sadowsky claimed victory in the 1,000 meters with a time of 3:00.70, a career-best effort in the event for the Minot State senior.

The two wins set a strong tone for the Beavers who started a busy weekend at the Bison Open as the majority of the meet’s events will be decided Saturday when action resumes with field events beginning at 2 p.m. and running back on track at 2:30 p.m.

While Wride and Sadowsky set the tone, Paulette Dominguez, Marco Murillo, and Nikita Neyshtadt added top finishes for Minot State as well.

Dominguez added to the strong showing by the Beaver women’s distance team as she was 4th in 3,000 meters in 10:35.57, while Murillo and Neyshtadt led the way for the Minot State men’s distance group finishing 6th and 7th, respectively, in the 1,000 meters in 2:39.53 and 2:43.23.

# Minot State’s Madilyn Schuck 3rd at Grand View Open

DES MOINES, Iowa – Madilyn Schuck led the way for Minot State, picking up four wins and finishing third Saturday at the power-packed Grand View Open tournament.

Schuck won three matches by pin and claimed third place in the 207-pound weight class, leading the way for the Beaver women’s wrestling team which also saw Ha-leigh Lematta, Pua Beebe, and Nina Sandoval each pick up a win, and Skye Shelmerdine rack up for more wins for Minot State.

Schuck started off her day with a win by pin in 3 minutes, 27 seconds over Madison Haley of Friends University and added a quarterfinal win by pin in 1:00 over Tanairy Esquilin Martinez of Club Titans Humacao.

After a semifinal loss, Schuck quickly rebounded with a pin of Nevaeh Hast from Morningside in 3:45 before claiming the consolation title with a forfeit victory over Ileen Castrejon of Indian Hills Community College.

Adding a big performance on Saturday was Shelmerdine at 124 pounds as she went on a run in the consolation bracket that started with a 16-6 technical fall victory over Wachipi Hamelryck of Oklahoma City.

Shelmerdine then picked up wins by pin in 2:00 over Sammie Vasquez of Dickinson State, in 5:34 over Alexandra Escobar of Askren Wrestling Academy, and in 1:16 over Dylan Hernandez from the University of the Cumberland before her march through the consolation bracket ended just short of medaling.

As for Minot State’s other winners, Lematta won by decision over Haidyn Snyder of Grand View in their 145-pound match, Sandoval won by pin in 37 seconds over Jaclyn Daley of Baker in their 180-pound match, and Beebe won by pin in 2:44 over Kennedy Lewis of William Penn in their 138-pound match.

The Minot State women’s wrestling team wraps up the regular season next weekend on the road, wrestling a dual at Midland on Friday then in the Warrior Open on Saturday hosted by Midland.

# MEN’S BASKETBALL

## Minnesota State-Mankato def. Minot State 96-91

MANKATO, Minn. – Caleb Van De Griend had 28 points and 14 rebounds, but the Minot State Beavers fell to the Minnesota State Mavericks 96-91 on Friday, Feb. 14. All five starters scored in double figures for the Beavers, who dropped to 21-7 overall and 12-7 in the NSIC. Jaxon Gunville and Jalen Cook each added 17 points for Minot State. The Beavers trailed by 18 points in the first half but cut the deficit to nine at halftime. Minot State got within two points in the second half but could not complete the comeback. “We’ve got to be more ready to execute offen-

sively from the opening tip,” Minot State coach Matt Murken said. “We allowed them to play far too comfortable the first 10 minutes and once that happens you have your hands full defensively. I’m proud of our efforts to fight back and make it a game down to the wire.”

## Winona State, Minot State 83-58

WINONA, Minn. – Caleb Van De Griend had 30 points and 10 rebounds, but the Minot State Beavers fell to the Winona State Warriors 83-58 on Saturday, Feb. 15. Sam West added 12 points for the Beavers, who dropped to 21-8 overall and 12-8 in the NSIC. Minot State trailed 45-34 at halftime and could not rally

in the second half. The Beavers shot 26.7 percent from 3-point range, hitting 8 of 30 attempts. 1 Van De Griend, West, and Ayoub Berthe combined for 59 of Minot State’s 58 points.

## St. Cloud State, Minot State 91-81

ST. CLOUD, Minn. – Caleb Van De Griend scored 28 points, but the Minot State Beavers fell to the St. Cloud State Huskies 91-81 on Saturday, Feb. 8. Sam West had a double-double with 18 points and 12 assists for the Beavers, who dropped to 21-6 overall and 12-6 in the NSIC. Ayoub Berthe added 15 points and four steals for Minot State. The Beavers trailed 37-34 at halftime but took a 42-37

lead early in the second half. St. Cloud State then outscored Minot State 54-39 the rest of the way to secure the win. “That was a hard-fought road game,” Minot State coach Matt Murken said. “We played some great basketball in the middle of the game. We were flying around defensively and really sharing the ball. We have to play better at the start and then finish games. They outplayed us at those points in the game.”

## Minnesota State-Moorhead, Minot State 85-73

Ayoub Berthe scored 22 points, but the Minot State Beavers suffered their first home loss of the season, falling to

the Minnesota State Moorhead Dragons 85-73 on Wednesday, Feb. 5. Caleb Van De Griend had a double-double with 11 points and 15 rebounds for the Beavers, who dropped to 21-5 overall and 12-5 in the NSIC. Minot State led 39-38 at halftime but was outscored 47-34 in the second half. The Beavers shot 37 percent from 3-point range, hitting 10 of 27 attempts. “We didn’t guard hard enough to win,” Minot State coach Matt Murken said. “Really disappointed with our effort on the defensive end. Offensively we were okay. We got to clean some things up a little bit there too, but we were probably good enough to win on that end. Defensively we let them play comfortable far too much.”

## Class

Continued from Page 4

**ments:** Kai is an interior offensive line from Katy, Texas who is highly regarded. He is big, athletic, physical, has loose hips, and is a finisher.

## Logan Nibbelin, a 6-2, 270-pound offensive lineman from Naples HS in Naples, Florida

Logan is a 1st Team All-Conference performance who also earned All-State honorable mention honors this past season. He had the strongest 3 lift in Naples history and is the first 4-year starter in Naples High School history.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Logan is an extremely powerful, athletic, explosive offensive lineman who power cleans 390 pounds and has good size. He has played in a similar style at Naples and loves the taste of football.

## Julian Prime, a 5-11, 212-pound slot back/B-back from Edgewater HS in Orlando, Florida

Julian scored 14 touchdowns and averaged 6.8 yards per carry this past season. He also was named to the A/B honor roll. Julian intends to major in Business Management and also competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Julian has been a productive running back at Edgewater High School in Orlando, Florida, a very strong Florida football factory. Julian has the ability and size to play either slot or B-back.

## Kevin Reyes, a 6-0, 260-pound offensive lineman from Fleming Island HS in Fleming Island, Florida

Kevin is a 1st Team All-Country center, All-District performer, and was named the NFI-Jax Lineman of the Week. Kevin also is a two-time weightlifting state champion, and an All-State wrestler. Academically, he is a member of the National Honor Society, an AICE Graduate, captain of the Top 7 Marine Science

Competition Team in Florida, and a 4-year member of the Honor Roll. Kevin intends to major in International Business and also wrestled and competed in weightlifting in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Kevin is a unique talent on the offensive line. He projects as a center in our system. He is powerful, exceptionally quick, and appropriately violent and nasty. Kevin also was undefeated as a heavyweight wrestler.

## Alex Roberts, a 6-0, 180-pound slot back from Kennewick HS in Kennewick, Washington

Alex amassed 1,480 total yards of offensive, is a three-time All-Conference performance, and a two-time team Offensive MVP. He also holds the Kennewick High School record in the 100 meters. Alex intends to major in Computer Science and also competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Alex is a dynamic and talented running back out of Kennewick, Washington. He has the unique combination of size and speed (10.8 seconds in the 100 meters as a junior) we are looking for at slot.

## Tyree Rogers, a 6-1, 220-pound linebacker from Cimarron-Memorial HS in Las Vegas, Nevada

Tyler had 90 tackles with 4 sacks and returned an interception for a touchdown this past season. He was named an All-Desert League Inside Linebacker this past season, was the 2023 and 2024 Defensive Player of the Year, and earned the 2024 Las Vegas Raiders Impact Player Award. Academically he maintained a 3.0 GPA throughout high school. Tyree intends to major in Marketing and also wrestled and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Tyree is one of the more sought-after recruits we’ve signed in this class; a talented linebacker out of Las Vegas, Nevada. Tyree has the size and ability to make an impact early in his career.

## Xavier Sanders, a 6-1, 175-pound cornerback from Pinnacle HS in Phoenix, Arizona

Xavier was a 1st Team All-Conference performer who received 12 NCAA Division II offers.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Xavier is a talented cornerback out of Phoenix; he is long, athletic, physical, confident, and loose. Xavier was a highly recruited young man who saw the vision of what we’re building here at Minot State.

## Brant Stead, a 6-0, 190-pound quarterback from Harry Ainlay HS in Edmonton, Alberta

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Brant is a dual-threat quarterback out of Edmonton who led his team to a National Championship in Canada. He is a competitive and dynamic multi-sport athlete with tools who ran a 4.5-second 40-yard dash at our camp. Brant intends to major in Marketing and also wrestled and competed in track and field in high school.

## Matthew Su’a, 6-0, 205-pound linebacker from Cimarron-Memorial HS in Las Vegas, Nevada

Matthew ran for 391 yards and 8 touchdowns, threw for 648 yards with 4 touchdowns, and had 418 receiving yards with 4 touchdowns catches. He earned First Team All-League honors at fullback and as a punter, was a 2nd Team Offensive Player of the Year, and earned honorable mention honors at quarterback. Matthew also was named to the AB honor roll. Matthew intends to major in Business and also bowled, played basketball and volleyball in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Matt is another exciting Las Vegas prospect who will be a fine addition to our linebacker room. Matt has tremendous instincts and a high football IQ; it will be fun to see him develop here.

## Logan Thompson, a 5-10, 170-pound wide receiver/safety from Berthold HS in Berthold, North Dakota

Offensively, Logan had 95 carries for 771 yards and 10 touchdowns as he averaged 8.16 yards per carry. He also caught 11 passes for 138 yards and 3 touchdowns with a 12.55 yards per catch average. Also a kick-returner, he had 4 kick returns for 64 yards and 4 punt returns for 112 yards. Logan finished the past season with 1,085 all-purpose yards. Defensively, he had 82 tackles with 8 tackles for a loss with 1 interception, 1 safety, broke up 6 passes, forced 2 fumbles, and recovered 2 fumbles. He was named Berthold’s Season MVP, is a two-time Offensive MPV, a two-time All-Conference and All-Region performer, and earned All-State honorable mention honors. Academically he also Highest Honors all four years. Logan intends to major in Biology and also played basketball, baseball, and competed in track and field in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Logan is another local product who we’re excited is joining the program. He has great position flexibility and has been well developed by Coach Paul Rudolph.

## Tiago Tillock, a 6-2, 290-pound offensive lineman from Huron Heights Secondary School in Keswick, Ontario

Tiago was named the 2024 offensive line MVP at Huron Heights and named 1st Team all-Ontario in 2023 and 2024. Tiago intends to major in International Business and also played rugby in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Tiago is a big and talented offensive lineman who has the size and skill-set to play any of the five positions up front. Has played in the flexbone at Huron Heights in Keswick, Ontario, so he’s been well prepared.

## Haven Wade, a 6-2, 285-pound offensive lineman from Dawson County HS in Glendive, Montana

Haven had 16 tackles with 2 sacks in 10 games on defense, and offensively he was named All-State at guard and earned 1st

Team All-Conference honors. He also was named 2nd Team All-Conference at defensive tackle, selected for the 2025 Montana Shrine Game, and was the varsity captain. Academically, he earned Academic All-State honors all four years and was named Valedictorian of Class of 2025. Haven intends to major in Exercise Science and also played basketball in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** We’re fired up Haven has finally signed; he has been committed for quite some time after seeing him in camps this past summer. Haven is a big, physical, and powerful offensive lineman who will get after it.

## Justin Williams, a 6-1, 190-pound quarterback/athlete from Klein Forest HS in Houston, Texas

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** Justin has elite athleticism and speed. He has played quarterback, defensive back, and returner at Klein Forest High School in Houston, Texas. He also is an outstanding track athlete (10.8 seconds in the 100 meters, 21.6 seconds in the 200 meters as a junior). Justin is a potential difference-maker here in the Magic City.

## Drew Zwak, a 5-10, 200-pound linebacker from Bishop Ryan HS in Minot, North Dakota

Drew had 100 tackles, including 50 solo tackles, had 1 sack and 10 tackles for a loss this past season. He is a three-time All-Region performer and earned All-State honors once. Academically he has earned Highest Honors four times, has been named to the Dean’s List, and earned Academic All-State honors all four years. Drew intends to major in Biology and Business Management and also wrestled and played baseball in high school.

**Coach Ian Shields comments:** A Magic City product out of Bishop Ryan High School, Drew is a tough and physical presence who has played both linebacker and fullback. He also is an outstanding wrestler who will be a dual-sport athlete here at Minot State.



MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY  
STUDENT PROFILE

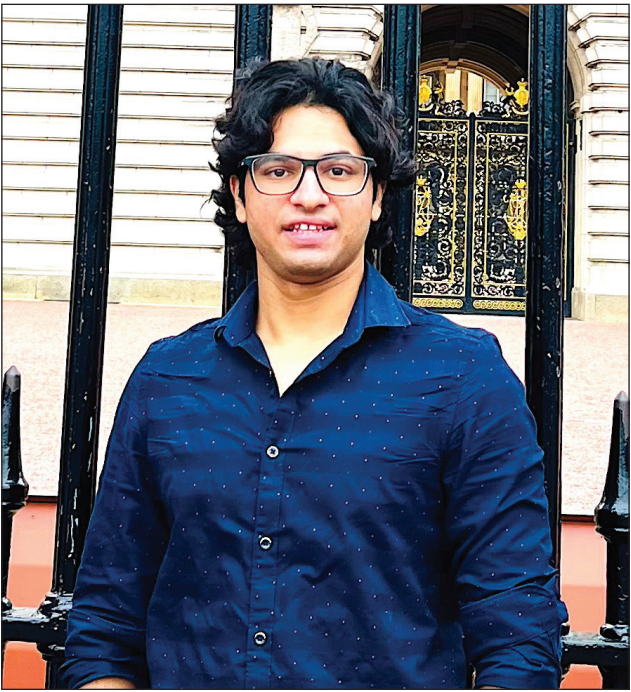
Kaif Khan

Advisor's note: Author Saif Khan and his twin brother, Kaif Khan, the subject of this profile, are both Minot State University seniors majoring in computer science and members of the Red & Green staff.

By SAIF KHAN  
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Kaif Khan, a Minot State University senior majoring in computer science with a data science minor, hails from Mumbai, India, a city of more than 21 million. Growing up in one of the world's largest cities instilled in him the value of hard work and perseverance. "Mumbai is a place of endless energy and determination," Khan said. "That spirit definitely influenced me and pushed me to pursue my passion for technology."

At MSU, Khan is a dedicated learner who continuously seeks to broaden his understanding of the tech industry. "I love studying and working on new things about the tech industry," he explained. "Every day here is a chance to explore ideas that might change how we live and work in



the future." Khan and his twin brother, Saif, began playing tennis at age 10 and have competed in the United States Tennis Association. Their shared interests in tennis, technology and learning have strengthened their bond. When not studying or playing tennis, Khan can be found on the intramural courts playing paddle ball or badminton with friends. "Playing paddle ball or badminton

helps me clear my mind, especially after a long day of classes," he said. Beyond academics and athletics, Khan is a firm believer in the power of community at MSU. He credits his computer science professors for his success. "My success in computer science comes from my teachers who care about us and are there to help me and other CS students whenever we want," he said. "They are very supportive." Khan

also spoke of the camaraderie within the small computer science department. Another aspect of campus life Khan values is MSU's community engagement, including the campus-wide bingo games. For Khan, these moments of collective celebration are as important as the academic challenges.

Khan's journey from Mumbai's Minot State has involved significant adjustments. His approach to life reflects a balance between academics and athletics, which he believes is essential for long-term success. "I think keeping a balance between college and personal life is important to success at MSU, in my experience," he said.

His advice to younger MSU students: "Work extremely hard at whatever your major is. These are the years to develop skills and sharpen them. Also, do not forget to stay active and fit." He also offered advice to international students: "Work super hard at their majors, but also go out and explore the United States. It is a beautiful country, and you should try to visit many places while you are here."

Caleb Van De Griend  
named to Bevo Francis  
Top 50 watch list

Minot State junior forward Caleb Van De Griend continues to lead the way for the Minot State men's basketball team and continues to be recognized as one of the best players in all non-NCAA Division I college basketball.

Named to the Clarence "Bevo" Francis Award Top 100 Watch List last month, Van De Griend moved into an even more elite group as he was named to the Bevo Francis Top 50 Watch List on Saturday.

The Bevo Francis Award is presented annually to the player who has had the finest overall season within Small College Basketball – teams playing at the NCAA Division II, Division III, NAIA, US-CAA, and NCCAA levels.

Award criteria used to determine the award winner include season statistics and individual achievements, awards, personal character, and team achievements. Given to only one player each year, the award is in essence the MVP of all small college basketball.

The Watch List will be narrowed once again to the Top 25 on March 15, the Finalists for the award will be announced on April 5, and the Bevo Francis Award itself will be presented on April 7.



Caleb Van De Griend

A three-time NSIC Player of the Week this season, Van De Griend has 23 double-doubles on the season and is averaging team-bests of 20.4 points and 13.1 rebounds per game while also shooting 72.0 percent from the field (234-of-325), which is 3rd-highest in the nation. Van De Griend leads the NSIC in rebound and is second in scoring.

Van De Griend is one of two NSIC players on the Top 50 Watch List for the Bevo Francis Award and is joined by Concordia, St. Paul senior guard Antwan Kimmons who leads the NSIC in scoring (24.7).

Van De Griend and the Beavers return home to close out the regular season by hosting Augusta- na on Thursday, Feb. 20, at 5:30 p.m. at the MSU Dome and Wayne State on Saturday, Feb. 22, at 1:30 p.m. at the MSU Dome.

MEN'S WRESTLING

Minot State,  
Ohio University 3-2

ATHENS COUNTY, Ohio - William Dyke made 32 saves, and the top-ranked Minot State Beavers defeated the No. 3 Ohio University Bobcats 3-2 on Sunday, Feb. 16, to complete a week-end sweep. The Beavers finished the regular season with a 33-2-3 record. Ohio fell to 17-4-3. Trailing 1-0 after the first period, Minot State scored three goals in the second to take the lead. Trenton Curtis, Colby Joseph, and Jay Buchholz scored for the Beavers. Dyke improved his record to 12-0-1 with the win. Ohio got goals from Nolan Abraham and Drake Nabozny.

Minot State, Ohio  
University 6-5 in  
shootout

ATHENS COUNTY, Ohio - Jake Anthony made 38 saves, and Sheldin Howard scored the game-winning goal in a shootout as the top-ranked Minot State Beavers defeated the No. 3 Ohio University Bobcats 6-5 on Saturday, Feb. 15. The game was tied 5-5 at the end of regulation. Howard also scored in the first period for Minot State, which improved to 32-2-3. Joey Moffatt and Colby Joseph also scored in the first period for the Beavers. Reece Henry and Brett Tataryn added goals in the second and third periods, respectively. Anthony improved

his record to 18-2-2 with the win. Ohio fell to 17-3-3.

Minot State,  
Maryville 5-1

Jake Anthony made 18 saves, and the top-ranked Minot State Beavers defeated the No. 9 Maryville University Saints 5-1 on Saturday, Feb. 8, to complete a two-game sweep. Jay Buchholz, Reid Arnold, Colby Joseph, and Matthew Yakubowski each scored a power-play goal for the Beavers, who improved to 31-2-3. Joey Moffatt added a goal in the third period for Minot State. Lucas Adams scored the lone goal for Maryville, which fell to 16-10-3. Anthony improved his

record to 17-2-2 with the win.

Minot State,  
Maryville 5-2

Jake Anthony made 20 saves, and the top-ranked Minot State Beavers defeated the No. 9 Maryville University Saints 5-2 on Friday, Feb. 7. Colby Joseph and Logan Cyca scored in the first period to give the Beavers a 2-0 lead. Matthew Yakubowski and Reid Arnold added goals in the second period for Minot State. Arnold scored again in the third period. Sam Edwards scored both goals for Maryville. Anthony improved his record to 16-2-2 with the win.

Minot State,  
Jamestown 3-2 in OT

JAMESTOWN, N.D. - Brayden Pawluk scored a power-play goal 2:05 into overtime to give the top-ranked Minot State Beavers a 3-2 victory over the University of Jamestown Jimmies on Friday, Jan. 31. Trailing 2-0 after the first period, Minot State rallied to tie the game on goals by Brett Tatarly and Trenton Curtis. Jake Anthony made 21 saves for the Beavers, who improved to 29-2-3. Jamestown fell to 19-11-1. Darius Makse scored both goals for the Jimmies in the first period. Anthony's record improved to 15-2-2.

MSU Spring enrollment  
up 2.6% in 2025

By MICHAEL LINNELL  
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Minot State University is pleased to announce its Spring 2025 enrollment grew 2.6% for a total of 2,633 students.

It is the second straight spring semester increase and the third consecutive semester in which the University saw growth in its overall headcount.

"We are excited with an increased number of students enrolling at Minot State University for the second consecutive spring semester," said Minot State President Dr. Steven Shirley. "We have seen

nice increases the past couple of years across campus with a variety of student populations at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, so seeing this momentum continue in 2025 certainly bodes well for the future of MSU and our students."

The University saw its biggest growth area in new transfer students with 112 incoming transfers, its biggest spring transfer class in seven years. Minot State also reported nice increases in dual credit students and Canadian students.

Minot State's Hometown Pride Scholarship, now in its third year, continues to attract local students as MSU's Ward County enrollment increased to the highest total in three years. The spring enrollment also included the largest number of full-time graduate students at MSU since 2015.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Minot State, University of  
Minnesota 8-1

MINNEAPOLIS - Cameron Schmidt scored a hat trick as the No. 5-ranked Minot State Beavers completed a two-game sweep of the University of Minnesota with an 8-1 victory on Sunday, Feb. 2. Abby Pineau added two goals for the Beavers, who improved to 20-7-2. Kaitlyn Snyder also scored twice for Minot State. The Beavers led 3-0 after the first period and 4-1 after the second. Minnesota fell to 4-16-2. Caitlyn Leising scored the lone goal for the Golden Gophers. Jillian Ackerman made 14 saves for Minot State and improved her record to 7-1-0.

Minot State, University of  
Jamestown 1-0 in OT.

JAMESTOWN, N.D. (AP) - Paige Kozak scored 29 seconds into overtime to give the No. 6-ranked Minot State Beavers a 1-0 victory over the University of Jamestown Jimmies on Friday, Feb. 14. Jillian Ackerman made 24 saves for the Beavers, who improved to 21-7-2. Jamestown fell to 7-14-7. Ackerman recorded her second shutout of the season and improved to 8-1-0. The two

teams were scoreless through regulation.

Minot State, University of  
Jamestown 3-0

Jillian Ackerman made 26 saves as the No. 6-ranked Minot State Beavers defeated the University of Jamestown Jimmies 3-0 on Saturday, Feb. 15, to complete a week-end sweep. Paige Ackerman and Abby Tallman each scored a power-play goal for the Beavers, who improved to 22-7-2. Olivia Opheim added an empty-net goal for Minot State. Jamestown fell to 7-15-7. Ackerman recorded her third shutout of the season and improved to 9-1-0.

Minot State, University of  
Minnesota 3-0

MINNEAPOLIS - Jillian Ackerman made 23 saves for her sixth win of the season, leading the No. 5-ranked Minot State Beavers to a 3-0 shutout of the University of Minnesota on Saturday, Feb. 1. Cameron Schmidt scored in the first period, and Paige Kozak and Paige Ackerman added goals in the third for the Beavers, who improved to 19-7-2. Minnesota fell to 4-15-2. Makena Welby had two assists for Minot State.

SOFTBALL

Double Header: Minot State  
def. Jamestown 5-3, 5-2

JAMESTOWN, N.D. - The Beaver bats continued to pile up big hits against future NSIC rival Jamestown, blasting three home runs, led by two from Sara Van Wickler, as Minot State beat the host Jimmies 5-3 and 5-2 in a doubleheader Wednesday night.

The two wins gave Minot State (7-2 overall) a season sweep of Jamestown in the two teams' home-and-home double-headers as the Beavers beat the Jimmies 5-4 and 6-2 last week in Minot fueled by two home runs from Taylor Smith.

Van Wickler blasted a pair of solo home runs on the day, the first opening the scoring in game one before Sarah Misner's first collegiate home run, a two-run shot in the top of the fourth, put the Beavers on top 3-0.

Jamestown chipped away with a pair of runs in their half of the inning before Taylor Eatherton came up with another game-winner for the Beavers.

Eatherton, who provided the walk-off RBI single in the Beavers' 5-4 win last week against Jamestown, had a two-run single in the top of the sixth Wednesday night pushing Minot State in front 5-2.

Jamestown got one back in the bottom of the seventh but could get no closer.

Misner and Anna LaCount each had a pair of hits in the victory while Reegan Floyd (4-0) struck out 10 in six innings to earn the win. Calley Olson pitched the seventh to earn her first collegiate save.

LaCount's RBI groundout opened the scoring in game two for the Beavers before Eatherton added another two-run single in a four-run first inning.

Van Wickler's second homer of the day pushed the lead to 5-0 and the Beavers cruised to the win as Kierra Fournier (1-1) earned the victory pitching four innings and striking out four, while Jasmine Blizard added two scoreless innings of relief and Misner pitched a scoreless seventh for her first collegiate save.

LaCount, Paige Kellogg, Smith, and Abbey Kelley led the way in game two with two hits apiece.

Minot State 6,  
Jamestown 2

Taylor Smith hit a two-run homer as the Minot State Beavers defeated the James-

town Jimmies 6-2 on Tuesday, Feb. 4. The Beavers took a 2-1 lead in the second inning and never trailed again. Reegan Floyd earned the win for Minot State, allowing two runs on seven hits in six innings. She struck out five and improved to 3-0 on the season. The Beavers scored three runs in the sixth inning to put the game away. Smith's homer was the big hit in the inning. Abby Lohse had an RBI single for Minot State. The Beavers outthit the Jimmies 10-8.

Minot State 5,  
Jamestown 4

Taylor Eatherton hit a walk-off RBI single in the seventh inning as the Minot State Beavers rallied to defeat the Jamestown Jimmies 5-4 on Tuesday, Feb. 14. Trailing 4-0, the Beavers scored four runs in the sixth inning to tie the game. Taylor Smith hit a two-run homer for Minot State, and Hannah Murray added a two-run single. 1 Jasmine Blizard earned the win in relief for the Beavers, pitching 3.2 scoreless innings. Eatherton's single in the seventh gave Minot State the victory. The Beavers outthit the Jimmies 8-4.

Minot State 6,  
Providence 0

Anna LaCount had three hits and four RBIs as the Minot State Beavers defeated the Providence Argonauts 6-0 on Sunday, Feb. 2. Four Minot State pitchers combined on a four-hit shutout. Jasmine Blizard started and earned the win, allowing four hits in two innings. Reegan Floyd pitched two scoreless innings of relief, allowing two hits and striking out two. The Beavers scored two runs in the first inning and three in the second. LaCount had a bases-clearing double in the second. Minot State finished with 11 hits and went 5-for-14 with runners in scoring position.

Black Hills State 1,  
Minot State 0

Laci Peskey pitched a four-hit shutout as the Black Hills State Yellow Jackets defeated the Minot State Beavers 1-0 on Saturday, Feb. 1. Peskey struck out three and walked one for the Yellow Jackets. Kierra Fournier took the loss for Minot State, allowing one run on six hits in seven innings. The Beavers were held to just one hit in five at-bats with runners in scoring position. Black Hills State scored the game's only run in the sixth inning on a sacrifice fly.



# MEN'S WRESTLING

## Beavers fall in dual to No. 1-ranked St. Cloud State

ST. CLOUD, Minn. – The Minot State men's wrestling team gave their best, but the No. 1-ranked Huskies lived up to their ranking Friday night.

St. Cloud State swept all 10 matches in the teams' NSIC dual, taking a 48-0 victory over the Beavers in the final regular-season match for Minot State.

The Beavers (7-9 overall, 2-7 NSIC) now get a weekend off before heading to South Dakota for the postseason and the NCAA Super Region V Tournament hosted by Augustana on March 1.

While the Beavers didn't pick up a win, they did battle against St. Cloud State as No. 9-ranked heavyweight Jake Swirple lost a close 2-1 decision at 285 pounds to No. 5-ranked La'Ron Parks, and Gavin Turk also lost a close match, a 5-2 decision to Ethan Hendrickson at 174 pounds.

## Northern State 27, Minot State 13

The Minot State men's wrestling team honored its six seniors Sunday, then four of them went out and celebrated with a victory on the mats.

Brendan Barnes, Wayne Joint, Cannon Potts, and Jake Swirple each claimed victory on their "Senior Day" for the Beavers, who despite the strong showing by those four fell 27-13 to visiting Northern State in an NSIC dual at the MSU Dome.

The final home match of the season proved to be the final time competing at the MSU Dome for Barnes, Joint, Potts, Swirple, Kale Farrington, and Evan Vieira who were honored before the match began against the Wolves.

And after Northern State (6-3 overall, 5-3 NSIC) started the afternoon with a pair of wins, the Beaver seniors took over as Potts rolled to a 10-3 decision win at 197 pounds over Tyson Lien, then Swirple battled his way



Sean Arbaut

From left, assistant coach **Tim Mitchem**, **Brendan Barnes**, **Kale Farrington**, **Cannon Potts**, **Jakes Swirple**, **Ethan Vieira**, **Wayne Joint**, and head coach **Evan Forde** pose before Sunday's "Senior Day" dual against visiting Northern State at the MSU Dome.

to an 8-2 decision win at 285 pounds over Nathan Schauer.

The pair of victories trimmed the team total to 7-6 in the Wolves' favor, and after a Northern State pin at 125 made it 13-6, the Beavers came battling right back at 133 pounds as Joint fought for a hard-earned 2-0 win by decision over Clay Gates to make the team total 13-9.

Thoughts of a team win on "Senior Day" slipped away over the next three matches, though, as Northern State picked up a pin, a technical fall win, and a win by decision to stretch the lead in the dual to an insurmountable 27-9 advantage before the final match of the day at 165.

A match dominated by Barnes who cruised to a 14-6 major decision win over Izaak Hunsley, the final victory for a Minot State senior on "Senior Day."

While Sunday's action wrapped up the home slate for Minot State (7-8, 2-6), the Beavers compete in one final regular-season dual at No. 1-ranked St. Cloud State this coming Friday, then get a weekend off to rest and prepare for the NCAA Super Region V Tournament on

Saturday, March 1, hosted by Augustana in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

## Minot State 37, Dickinson State 11

DICKINSON, N.D. – A trio of pins led the way for the Beavers on Friday night as Minot State rolled to a 37-11 non-conference win over in-state rival Dickinson State in men's wrestling.

The Beavers (7-6 duals, 2-4 NSIC) are back in action Saturday once again in Dickinson, competing in the Tyler Plummer Classic tournament hosted by Dickinson State.

Adrian Chavez, Ryan Hrcka, and Cannon Potts led the way for the Beavers on the mats Friday night as each picked up a win by pin for Minot State.

Chavez won his 141-pound match by pin in 45 seconds over Edrich Nortje, while Hrcka won at 157 pounds in 4 minutes, 24 seconds by pin over Ian Mehrens, and Potts won by pin in 50 seconds over Donovan Giangregorio at 197 pounds.

Ethan Wonsler won a 6-3 decision at 149 pounds for the Beavers, who also got

a 5-4 decision win from Brendan Barnes at 165, a 14-6 major decision victory from Gavin Turk at 174, an 11-4 decision win by Jake Swirple at 285, and a win by forfeit for Wayne Joint at 133.

## Swirple wins title as 6 Beavers place at Tyler Plummer Classic

DICKINSON, N.D. – Senior Jake Swirple led the way with three straight wins to claim the title at the Tyler Plummer Classic hosted by Dickinson State as the Minot State men's wrestling team saw six grapplers bring home medals from the event on Saturday.

Swirple opened his perfect run in the 285-pound weight class with a 5-1 win by decision over Dickinson State's Juan Camacho, then cruised to a semifinal victory with an 11-0 major decision win over Jamestown's Chance Robinson.

Swirple then claimed the title, battling his way to a 2-1 win by decision over North Dakota State's Shilo Jones.

While Swirple claimed the lone title for the Beavers on the day, Ryan Hrcka added a third-place finish at 157 pounds, Dylan McDonald (125), Andrew Worthington (141), and Marcus Allen (184) each finished fourth for Minot State, and Kale Farrington was fifth at 174 pounds on the day.

Hrcka turned in possibly the most impressive run of the day as he lost his opener then rattled off four straight victories to claim the consolation-bracket championship at 157 pounds, pinning Djordje Milinkovic in 1 minute, 11 seconds, then scoring back-to-back major decision wins over Montana State Northern's Keegan Hanson, 14-0, and Chadron State's Tate Rusher, 12-3.

In the third-place match, Hrcka finished off his run with a 5-4 decision win over Mary's Danyk Jacobsen.

Allen picked up three wins in his run to fourth place at 184 as he grabbed a 6-4 decision win in his first match over Montana State Northern's Lucas Thacker, then battled through the

consolation bracket as he won a 17-16 decision over Diante Taylor of Jamestown and won by pin in 1:14 over Aden Jorgensen of Jamestown.

McDonald picked up a pair of consolation bracket wins, by pin over Zairyn Ramos-Semana of Jamestown in 2:31 and the other by injury default to finish fourth at 125 pounds, and Worthington won in the championship quarterfinals by pin in 1:47 over Northern State's Nikolas Petsinger, and picked up a 5-1 decision win in the semifinals of the consolation bracket over Riley Davis.

At 174 pounds, Farrington prevailed in the championship quarterfinals over Cayden Lamb from Dickinson State with a 6-5 win by decision, then claimed the win by injury default in the fifth-place match.

The Minot State men's wrestling team now heads back to the MSU Dome to wrap its home schedule next weekend, hosting the University of Mary on Friday night at 7 p.m. in the eighth "Battle for the Barrel."

# Krebsbach, Wride set new all-time records for Minot State track & field teams

**By MIKE STETSON**  
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GRAND FORKS, N.D. – The ladies led the way on an outstanding day for the Minot State track and field teams as sprinter Summer Krebsbach and middle-distance runner Bailey Wride each set a new all-time school record on Saturday at the University of North Dakota Open.

The two new school-best times were part of six records the Beavers set on the day as they began their drive toward the NSIC Indoor Championships at the end of this month hosted by Minnesota State, Mankato.

Krebsbach, who already set a new NCAA Division II-era record in the women's 60-meter dash this winter, broke the all-time record in the women's 200 meters as she finished 5th in the event Saturday in 25.03 seconds. Krebsbach broke the all-time school record of 25.65 run by Kayla Montgomery in 2010.

As for Wride, she provided the lone victory on the day with her record effort as she won the women's 1,000 meters in 2 minutes, 58.02 seconds, breaking her own all-time school record of 2:59.79 she ran last year.

While Krebsbach and Wride set all-time records, ladies teammate Sidra Sadowsky added one of the other records on the day for the Beavers as she finished 4th in the mile in 5:06.66.

She broke the NCAA Division II-era record of 5:06.97 run by Abigail McGee in 2020.

On the men's side, sprinters Deuce Carr and Zaccharius Brown, along with middle-distance runner Peyton Tuhy, turned in record efforts Saturday for the Beavers, as well.

Carr broke the NCAA Division II-era record in the men's 60-meter dash in the preliminaries, clocking a time of 6.97 seconds to advance to the event finals. He then finished 3rd in the event in 7.00 seconds.

His time of 6.97 broke the old record of 7.01 seconds run by Glyn Borel in 2015 and by Franz Boothe in 2020.

As for Brown, he broke the D-II record in the men's 200 meters as he finished 5th in 22.37 seconds, breaking the record of 22.48 run by Devan Daniels last year.

And Tuhy finished 3rd in the men's 1,000 meters in 2:30.63, a new D-II record that bested the previous fastest time of 2:31.84 run by Jacob Jensen last year.

Adding top performances on the day, albeit not records, were the women's 4x400 relay team of Afton Wride, Jessica Sanchez, Sidra Sadowsky, Bailey Wride, who finished 2nd in 4:10.82, and Afton Wride, who was 5th in the women's triple jump with a distance of 35 feet, 2.5 inches, while Ethan Graham was 4th in the men's shot put with a throw of 46-8.75, and Holter Bridwell was 5th in the men's 5,000 meters in 15:50.78.

# WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Minot State, Minnesota State 92-54

MANKATO, Minn. – Maya Aguilar scored 10 points, but the Minot State Beavers fell to the Minnesota State Mavericks 92-54 on Friday, Feb. 14. Emma Mogen added nine points and six rebounds for the Beavers, who dropped to 8-18 overall and 7-12 in the NSIC. Minot State trailed 44-29 at halftime and 68-39 after three quarters. The Beavers got 17 points from their bench. Minot State's defense forced 16 turnovers.

## Winona State, Minot State 82-70

WINONA, Minn. – Emma Mogen scored 29 points, but the Minot State Beavers fell to the Winona State Warriors 82-70 on Saturday, Feb. 15. Sydney Gustavsson added

14 points for the Beavers, who dropped to 8-19 overall and 7-13 in the NSIC. Minot State led 23-22 after the first quarter but trailed 38-33 at halftime. The Beavers could not close the gap in the second half. Mogen and Gustavsson combined for 43 of Minot State's 70 points.

## Cloud State, Minot State 72-62

ST. CLOUD, Minn. – Jessica Mogen scored 18 points, but the Minot State Beavers fell to the St. Cloud State Huskies 72-62 on Saturday, Feb. 8. Emma Mogen had a double-double with 14 points and 15 rebounds for the Beavers, who dropped to 8-17 overall and 7-11 in the NSIC. Maya Aguilar added 17 points for Minot State. The Beavers trailed 30-21 at halftime and 50-35 after three quarters. Minot State cut the deficit to 10 points in the fourth

quarter but could not get any closer. The Beavers' defense held St. Cloud State to 35.3 percent shooting from the field.

## Minnesota State Moorhead, Minot State 71-64

Jessica Mogen scored 21 points, but the Minot State Beavers fell to the Minnesota State Moorhead Dragons 71-64 on Wednesday, Feb. 5. Maya Aguilar added 12 points for the Beavers, who dropped to 8-16 overall and 7-10 in the NSIC. Minot State led 48-46 after three quarters but was outscored 25-16 in the fourth. The Beavers shot 30 percent from 3-point range, hitting 8 of 30 attempts. Minot State's defense held Minnesota State Moorhead to 36.1 percent shooting from the field and 26.5 percent from 3-point range.

# Hockey's Joey Moffatt, wrestler Madilyn Schuck named January's Pinnacle top performers

Junior forward Joey Moffatt had an explosive month on the ice for the top-ranked Minot State men's hockey team in January while freshman wrestler Madilyn Schuck proved to be a dominating force on the mats for the Minot State women's wrestling team.

Both turned in outstanding efforts throughout the first month of the new year as Moffatt was named the Pinnacle Employee Benefits Male Athlete of the Month for January while Schuck was named Pinnacle Employee Benefits Female Athlete of the Month for January.

Pinnacle Employee Benefits became the title sponsor for Minot State's Athlete of the Month award during the 2021-22 academic year. The award recognizes the outstanding athletic achievements each month of one male



Madilyn Schuck

and one female Beaver student-athlete.

Moffatt had a month to remember on the ice for the Beavers, recording his first collegiate hat trick in Minot State's 6-2 home win over Mary on January 26, part of an explosive offensive month that vaulted him into the team lead in goals and points this season. Moffatt has 22 goals and 16 assists this season for 38 points in 34 games. Scoring at least one

point in nine of the Beavers' 11 games in January – all wins – the junior forward from Portage la Prairie, Manitoba had 10 goals and 8 assists for 18 points. That included six multi-point games for Moffatt who scored two goals and had 2 assists in an 8-0 win over Midland at home on January 4, a goal and an assist in a 6-0 win over the Warriors on January 5, 2 assists in a 6-2 home win over Mary on January 8, a goal and an assist in a 10-0 win over visiting Iowa State on January 10, 2 goals in a 6-1 road win at Mary on January 25, and that hat trick – 3 goals – against Mary on January 26.

Schuck, a freshman from Herriman, Utah, has enjoyed a stellar debut collegiate season as she currently boasts a 16-7 record which was helped by a 5-2 performance in January.

Starting off the month with a win by pin over Hayla Hoffman of Dickinson State, she suffered a hard-fought loss to Zoe Adam of Sioux Falls. Still, she bounced back strong with a pin of Grace Todhunter of Jamestown in 1 minute, 43 seconds in a run of three straight duals for the Beavers to start the month as Minot State 1-2 as a team.

On the road in Nebraska, Schuck capped her strong performance for the month with a top finish in the York Open, responding after an opening loss in the 207-pound bracket with three straight wins to claim the consolation bracket championship and 3rd place. The Beaver freshman picked up two wins by decision then a pin in 37 seconds over Esabella Vasquez-Gutierrez of Chadron State for the consolation championship.



# SCENES AROUND CAMPUS

**TOP:** We believe we have another sighting of Dr. Nuttingham. He's moved on to bigger and better trees, reaching new heights. Just look at him, majestic and free, and keeping a close eye on his inventory of food for the winter.

**BOTTOM:** We're going to name this little scamp, Rascal. Such caution. Such grace. Rascal, the squirrel, setting the bar high for all other sidewalk crossers by looking both ways before crossing.

Photos by Gavyn Herfendal and Nick Poolman.



## Conquer midterms with these wellness tips

**By KAIF KHAN**  
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As midterms approach, students often find themselves overwhelmed with exams, papers and projects. The added challenge of cold weather, flu and other illnesses can further affect both mental and physical well-being, making it essential for students during this time to take proactive steps to stay healthy, active and focused during this demanding period.

The impact of midterms on students can be severe, leading to increased levels of stress, anxiety and fatigue as students

manage academic responsibilities alongside personal commitments. The pressure to perform well, coupled with limited daylight and freezing temperatures, can lead to feelings of exhaustion and discouragement. The colder months often limit outdoor activities, reducing opportunities for students to engage in physical exercise and social interactions. To face these challenges, students can establish structured study routines, incorporate relaxation techniques such as mindfulness or deep breathing, and take breaks to engage in enjoyable activities. Additionally, making time for physical exercise, even indoors, and ensuring proper nutrition can significantly improve ener-

gy levels and overall well-being. How can one do that, you may ask? Here are some tips: Students can take advantage of on-campus gyms, home workouts and fitness classes to stay active. Activities such as body-weight exercises, stretching and strength training can be done indoors without the need for equipment. Even in cold weather, brief outdoor walks can provide fresh air and a mental break from studying. Bundling up in layers and wearing appropriate winter gear can make short walks more comfortable and beneficial. Proper nutrition plays a vital role in maintaining energy levels, concentration and immunity during stressful academic periods. Consuming

balanced meals with a mix of proteins, healthy fats and complex carbohydrates can help keep energy levels high and mental clarity throughout the day. Dehydration can lead to fatigue and decreased cognitive function. Students should aim to drink enough water or herbal teas to stay hydrated, especially when consuming caffeinated drinks, which many college students do during stressful times. While coffee and energy drinks can provide a temporary boost, excessive consumption can lead to crashes, stomach disorders and disrupted sleep patterns.

Midterms can be a challenging period for students, but by adopting healthy study habits, prioritizing self-care and stay-

ing active despite the cold, they can manage stress more effectively and perform at their best. Remembering to take breaks, seek support and maintain a balanced lifestyle will not only enhance academic performance but also contribute to long-term mental and physical health. For those struggling with stress or mental health concerns, reaching out for help, whether through Minot State University campus resources, friends or professional counselors, can make a significant difference. With the right mindset, students can achieve the grades they want and remain healthy in the process.

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