

LOCAL

It's Grow Time

By Nick Simonson

Spring is a time of growth, not only in the natural world as tightly wrapped buds unfurl and create the green canopy and carpet around us, expanding their branches and their bound but also in the opportunities provided to expand our reach to others in the outdoors. With the warming days, generally temperate conditions, and the strong bites of fish that cycle through the season leading us into summer, there are nearly uncountable combinations of waters to fish, species to angle for, and methods to use that teach so much about the world around us to young sportspeople. Along that latter path, of taking someone else fishing, we find growth in ourselves a chance to look at things from a new perspective yet again,



Nick Simonson

and an opportunity to share our legacy outdoors. I've said and written it countless times. It isn't hard. It's as simple as taking a young person fishing, particularly one who may not have had the opportunity to explore a stream or lake. A tub of crawlers and a good spot on shore that you know provides easy access to fast biting fish like bluegills, or stocked rainbow trout, or even – dare I say it – bullheads, has been the starting point for so many in the outdoors

OUR OUTDOORS

that blossoms into something more down the road. While I fished for much of my childhood, I was never terribly serious about it. Perch and sunnies from the dock at our family cabin occupied parts of summer days spent staying with grandma and grandpa, interspersed with adventures joining other kids from up and down the shoreline, exploring the nearby creek, swamps, woods, and the starry sky at night around the campfire. While it wasn't the only memory from those formative years, angling became the bedrock on which all my other future adventures in the outdoors would sprout, thanks to a family friend of my grandparents who would take me out in his little wooden boat

when I was three, before he died and let his lessons take root as I continued on my own. And they did. And as those roots grew, I branched out into other fish, and other ways to fish for all of them on rivers, lakes, impoundments, ponds and just about anywhere there was water. A friend of mine once remarked that I'd try to catch a bass in a bathtub if the opportunity was there. With those forays and lessons learned, I passed what I knew on through mentoring programs, fly tying courses, and related outdoors activities to youth, community members, instructors and others. It wasn't hard either. What I've found out about most anglers is they love to talk in generalities, and hold back on specifics, and



Forecasting Growth. Instilling a love for angling and helping another person grow in the outdoors can be as easy as going fishing and sharing what you know about a certain species, method or water. Simonson Photo.

that mindset is really all that's necessary to pass on the tradition, and create the new anglers which will not only keep it going, but also build the next generation of conservationists and advocates for wild places and the waters and fish within them. This spring once again provides that opportunity to undertake a new effort

with a new individual or group and share the things that will help get them started, make them better anglers and ultimately the next vanguard on watch protecting and in turn growing the future of fishing...in our outdoors.

Simonson is the lead writer and editor of Dakota Edge Outdoors.

Gerhardt

From 1 football, which I was able to do." Gerhardt said that he was told that at some practices when he was at UND, there would be scouts there whether they were from the NFL or the CFL. They may be there to watch him, or somebody else like Bo Belquist who played wide receiver and is from New Rockford, North Dakota. Gerhardt said "it was one of those opportunities that was there and I

put so much into the game, the game has given me so much back and I'm the type of person that if there is an opportunity on the table, I'm going to take it and run with it. If it leads somewhere it leads somewhere, and if it doesn't it doesn't." Whether its getting drafted or that possibility of being an undrafted free agent, Gerhardt is ready either way. "I'm hoping there is something maybe that comes across when the day is done, if I'm drafted or



Photos BY Kirstin Gerhardt

Riley as a Viking versus the Jimmies.

that phone call comes across, I would love just to be able to have the opportunity to go wherever and be able to showcase my abilities and see what happens from there." Since those days at Hanna Field, Gerhardt feels he has grown as a football player. "In high school my mindset was to be one of the mean guys on the field and try to make every play possible because I wanted to play college football, I wanted to stand out. It's kind of a selfish way of thinking and

looking back at high school that is kind of how I was." And make those plays he did. He still holds the Hi-Liner records for tackles in a game, season and career. Gerhardt adds, "since then, I have grown as a leader, understanding the game. There is so much more than just x's and o's. There is more than just schemes. It's all built around, you do your job and trust the other ten guys that are out there. Because if you do that, the game slows down for you and you are



Gerhardt as a Viking against Mayville State.

able to play at a much faster pace and everybody around you can see that and feeds off it, its kind of that dominoe effect." And if there is a phone call in the next few days, that 'take the opportunity and run with it' mentality will kick in. "Absolutely, in a heartbeat. Whatever I'm doing, if that phone call comes, I'll pretty much be on the first flight out of here." The question was asked if it is surreal to be talking about the possibility of playing professional football. Gerhardt's response, "Yeah it is honestly. It's crazy to think about, I never thought I would be in the posi-

tion I'm in now. I'm a very day by day person, just take one day and a time. I'm fortunate enough it has led me to great opportunities and just different things in life. When people bring it up, it is kind of crazy to think about that I have made it this far and that I have had the opportunity to showcase my abilities to NFL scouts. Yeah, I'm just hoping." The NFL draft will be held at Lambeau Field in Green Bay beginning Thursday, April 24th with the first round. Friday, April 25th will be rounds two and three. Rounds four through seven will be on Saturday, April 26th.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**CITY OF VALLEY CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
OF PROPERTY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Valley City will offer the following property for sale at a public auction:

2019 Chevrolet Tahoe, Black VIN 1GNSKDEC2KR347462 175,000 miles

Live Auction Details: 10:00AM, Monday, May 5, 2025, City Commission Chambers, City Hall, 254 2nd Avenue NE, Valley City.

Sealed Written Bids: All interested bidders are required to submit sealed written bids to the Office of the City Auditor at the address above, prior to the live auction. Bids received after 10:00AM, Monday, May 5, 2025, will not be considered. Clearly mark the envelope with "2019 Chevrolet Tahoe Bid." Include your full name, contact information, and bid amount.

Terms and Conditions: The vehicle is sold "as-is" with no warranties or guarantees. Engine replaced at 112,496 miles; transmission replaced at 89,427 miles. Emergency equipment and lights will be removed prior to sale. The highest sealed bid will be the starting bid at the live auction. The winning bidder must enter into a purchase agreement and submit a \$1,000 deposit at the time of the auction, with the balance to be paid immediately following review of sufficiency of bids by the Board of City Commissioners. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities in any bid, and to hold all bids for 30 days from date of the auction. If all bids are rejected, the deposit will be refunded.

For more information or to view the vehicle please contact Police Chief Nicholas Horner, 701-845-3110, nhorner@valleycity.us, or visit www.valleycity.us/bids.

(April 17 & 24, 2025)

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT,
SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BARNES**

PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 02-2025-PR-00017
In the Matter of the Estate of George A. Gaukler, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three (3) months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Michael J. Smith, Personal Representative of the Estate, at 10432 Alabama Circle, Bloomington, Minnesota 55438, or filed with the Court.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2025.

/s/ Michael J. Smith
10432 Alabama Circle
Bloomington, MN 55438
Timothy G. Richard, ND #05454, of SERKLAND LAW FIRM.
10 Roberts Street N
Fargo, North Dakota 58102
Phone: 701-232-8957
trichard@serklandlaw.com
Attorneys for: Personal Representative

(April 24, May 1 & 8, 2025)

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NDNA

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