

Cole Anderson *Continued*

he is. The person he admires the most is his grandma, Linnae. She has gone through many hardships as a widow, but has always been loving, supportive, and encouraging. As a former nurse, she has inspired Cole's future career and given him advice throughout his life.

A familiar phrase I have heard many times from Cole is "I might be a little late", and he shows up late, but with a smile. Whether he's walking into work, class, or meeting up with friends, he brings the energy.

Outside of school, Cole has always had a great work ethic. He worked at the Dairy Queen for eight months, then spent one year at Caribou Coffee/Hugo's, and has been working at McIntosh Senior Living since June 2024. These experiences have helped him grow and have helped him figure out his future goals in health-care.

One word that describes Cole is determined. From taking on the challenge of PSEO to balancing school and work, he has always pushed himself to do more even when it isn't easy. Cole participated in track most

of his high school career and stayed committed until his senior year. Academically, he earned his spot on the dean's list at Bemidji State University.

After graduation, Cole plans to attend Bemidji State University to major in nursing and minor in Psychology. His goal is to earn his RN, BSN, then move to Washington and become a CRNA. He encourages underclassmen to challenge themselves, taking opportunities like PSEO, because it will greatly benefit their futures.

Cole's most prized possession is his AirPods, he says it helps him focus and relax while he is studying and working out. A memorable moment with Cole was when he tried to walk down the stairs on crutches at his grandma's house and ended up falling with his broken foot. At the moment, we both thought it was really funny.

Cole's most memorable moment throughout high school was driving around at lunch and sneaking out to eat with his friends. As he moves on to Bemidji State University, there is no doubt he will continue working hard towards his goals and making an impact on the people around him, even if he is always a little late.

Ari Maximus Balstad



By Micah Malmanger

Ari Maximus Balstad was born on July 27, 2008, and is a senior graduating from Fosston High School. He is a member of a family of six, including his parents, Sterling and Tessa Balstad; his older sister, Skye; and younger brothers, Silas and Asher.

His plans after high school are to attend the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks next fall to study chemical engineering.

He is heavily involved in Fosston through sports like football, activities like Knowledge Bowl and trap shooting, and volunteer work at Bethel Assembly Church, where he runs slideshow slides for Sunday services and youth group.

Among his favorite memories in high school was when the girls' basketball team went to State, and the pep band accompanied them to cheer them on. Particularly in the game against Walker, when we humiliated their pep band by echoing their sad rendition of "Jenny/867-5309" with a loud, boisterous version of our own.

His favorite teacher is Mr. Berntson, and some of his favorite memories from class are setting magnesium on fire during chemistry labs and melting down stearic acid, along with the long hours after school with Ms. O'Shea and Mr. Berntson working on chemistry or physics assignments. He'll also miss getting to play Knowledge Bowl for Mr. B. I hear his team was pretty good.

The advice that Ari has for underclassmen is to make sure not to be too overconfident in yourself. "No matter how sophisticated you think you are, you're not." Ari also said that it's pretty important to be active in school activities to make the most of the time you have in high school.

His greatest inspiration and the person he admires most is his father. Ari's goals in life are not just to have a nice job and retire at 65, but to have a great big family and to live up to the example that his father has shown him.

Ari Balstad is a pretty cool dude. As a good pal, I'm excited to see where his life goes next.

Madison Lynne Bailie



By Tessa Zitzow

On July 3, 2008, Madison Lynne Bailie was born in Fosston, MN, to her mother, Crystal Munter, and her father, Flyn Bailie. Shortly after she was born, she received her most prized possession—a stuffed animal monkey she still loves today. Madison has two siblings, Dawson and Alexis, and a dog named Phoebe, whom she loves very much.

Madison loves to stay busy and participates in softball and volleyball, and she is also the boys' basketball manager. She enjoys helping people, working as

a summer rec coach during the summer and as an ice rink supervisor during the winter. Madison plans to attend the University of North Dakota to study occupational therapy.

Madison's most embarrassing moment was when she opened a car door that looked exactly like hers. She quickly realized it was not her car because it was full of people she did not know. Embarrassed, she left the door open and walked away. Her most memorable moment was going on a cruise from Florida to Honduras, Belize, and Mexico. While in Honduras, she had the opportunity to hold monkeys while exploring, which she thought was especially cool since she loves monkeys.

Madison's school activities included playing softball and volleyball. She was also one of the boys' basketball team managers. Madison has been on the A or B honor roll since 7th grade. She was selected for the all-conference softball team and has received varsity letter awards for volleyball, softball, and basketball.

Madison's favorite teacher was her 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Norland, and she believes the best class is Medical Careers with Mrs. Mac. Her advice to underclassmen is to not stop in the middle of the hallway.

Madison's favorite activity is baking, and she makes the most delicious goodies. Her goals in life include graduating college with a doctorate in occupational therapy, traveling the world, and living a happy life. Her pet peeve is when people chew with their mouth open.

Madison wants to go into occupational therapy because, "I want to help people get better at everyday activities and be able to see everyone's progress." She loves helping people and seeing them thrive with things they have struggled with. Madison is an amazing and driven person who will be able to accomplish anything she puts her mind to.