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Five things to watch in  
 UND's exhibition game  
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# Grand Forks Herald



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2018

## HISTORIANS OF HOCKEY

### Hill to receive Rough Rider Award

Burgum honors ND native,  
 former Secret Service agent

By John Hageman  
 Forum News Service

BISMARCK — Gov. Doug Burgum named North Dakota native and former U.S. Secret Service agent Clint Hill as the 44th recipient of the Theodore Roosevelt Rough Rider Award Friday.



Hill served in the Secret Service from 1958 to 1975. He is perhaps best known for leaping onto the back of President John F. Kennedy's vehicle when he was shot in Dallas in 1963 and urging the driver to get to the hospital. "Every day, there's something that reminds me of either the Kennedy administration, Mrs. Kennedy, or President Kennedy or the children," Hill told the Herald last year. "There isn't a

HILL: Page A2

### Reporter claims threat by council member

By Tess Williams  
 Grand Forks Herald

ROOSEVELT, Minn. — A northwest Minnesota reporter said she was threatened during a Roosevelt City Council meeting Monday after asking pressing questions.

City clerk Alyce Siats allegedly swore at Doris Knutson, a reporter at Baudette's weekly Northern Light Region, and council member Arlyn Stewart allegedly got up from his chair, towered over her and berated her after she questioned whether the council was

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Sports writer Virg Foss, left, and radio broadcaster Tim Hennessey have decades of experience covering UND hockey.

### Virg Foss and Tim Hennessey have covered UND hockey for a combined 11 decades

By Brad E. Schlossman  
 Grand Forks Herald

Virg Foss was working at the La Crosse (Wis.) Tribune in 1969 when he saw a job posting for the Grand Forks Herald in Editor and Publisher magazine.

He knew he was going to apply.

It was hockey, and Foss already got a taste of UND hockey and Grand Forks.

He previously lived in Grand Forks for three years from 1952-55 while his father, Virgil, opened Calvary Lutheran Church.

During that time, at about

age 13, Foss attended a UND-Minnesota game with his father. Having come to Grand Forks from Minnesota, Foss cheered for the Gophers.

His father, the new pastor in town trying to build a congregation, told Virg that him cheering for the Gophers isn't going to help. He said, "If you're going to cheer for Minnesota, go sit by yourself."

Foss did. He went across the rink at the old Winter Sports Building and sat alone.

"He banished me," Virg said, laughing.

But he got hooked and

wound up back in Grand Forks as the UND hockey writer in 1969.

Tim Hennessey was bouncing around jobs in the Twin Cities when he decided to give news reporting a try at KNOX. Although sports was his preference, he thought, why not try everything?

A year and a half into his stint there, the UND hockey play-by-play job came open. Hennessey, who had been doing some high school sports at night, was offered the gig. He accepted.

That was 1977.

Tonight, Foss and Hennessey will be in the press box together in Ralph Engelstad Arena as UND takes on the University of Manitoba at 7:07 p.m.

Foss will covering the UND hockey program from press

row, something he started doing 50 seasons ago.

Hennessey will be calling the game on the radio for the 40th season.

Their remarkable runs covering the program and telling the stories of the team and players — Foss through print and Hennessey through the airwaves — are evident in the numbers.

Together, they've covered UND hockey for a combined 11 different decades.

Nearly everything has changed in that time, except for Foss and Hennessey in the press box.

There have been five different head coaches. They've both covered UND through the coaching tenures of Rube Bjorkman, Gino Gasparini, Dean Blais, Dave

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## Candidates vie for 10-year term on North Dakota Supreme Court

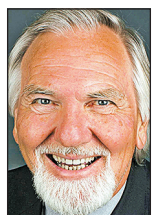
By Emily Allen  
 Grand Forks Herald

Two opposing candidates for the North Dakota Supreme Court agree on one thing — they're not sure many voters know about the race to fill a 10-year seat on the highest judicial platform in the state.

"When it's nonpartisan and we don't have parties to help get the message out, it's very difficult for people who are running offices like this to get information to the people," said incumbent Justice Lisa Fair McEvers Wednesday afternoon. "They don't know much

about it, and they don't know about the candidates," candidate Robert Bolinske said Thursday. "It's a big state, it's very expensive and it's hard to get the word out. A lot of people unfortunately don't know much about the courts."

Both McEvers and Bolinske have been campaigning as much as they can according to rules of judicial conduct, laws that forbid them from soliciting



Bolinske



McEvers



with the coyotes. I go to the truck stop and take a shower for 10 bucks," Bolinske said. "I'm going to take my shotgun and my fishing rod when I get to Devils Lake."

McEvers has served as the North Dakota labor commissioner, a prosecutor and later a district judge in Cass County and she practiced law for a short time with a private practice. Gov. Jack Dalrymple appointed her

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# Communities mourn victims of fatal Minn. crash

By April Baumgarten  
Grand Forks Herald

THIEF RIVER FALLS — Family and friends in the Thief River Falls area are mourning a mother and her two children after they died in a tragic crash.

Cassandra Flatland, 28, of Viking, Minn., and her two sons, 4-year-old Hudson Jones and 1-year-old Cooper Jones, died Wednesday afternoon when the vehicle they were in collided with a pickup north of Thief River Falls. The crash remains under investigation by the Marshall County Sheriff's Office.

According to a Friday news release from Sheriff Jason Boman, Flatland was southbound on 120th Avenue Northeast when she failed to yield at 260th Street Northeast.

Flatland's vehicle was struck by the pickup, which was eastbound on 260th Street. The 16-year-old driver of the pickup was not injured, but Flatland and her two sons were ejected from their vehicle and were killed, the release said.

Deputies believe Flatland was wearing her seat belt and her two sons were in car seats. It's possible the impact of the crash

was so strong the seat belts broke, deputies said.

The release did not name the teenage driver.

Westside Motors in Thief River Falls, where Flatland's father works, has set up a memorial fund to help cover funeral costs. A GoFundMe page also has been created.

Flatland grew up in the Thief River Falls area, close family friend and Thief River Falls resident Michael Hron said. The mother had an infectious, positive attitude, and one friend said she made the most of whatever "cards she was dealt in any

given day."

"She was always very positive," Hron said. "She just made people feel better around her because of that."

The family is doing as well as can be expected, Hron said as he spoke on their behalf. The community has been very supportive.

"When you lose a young mother and her two sons in an instant, it's heart-wrenching, and I think a bit unbelievable still at this point," he said. "They have been very grateful for the love and support that has been provided by not just the

community of Thief River Falls but other communities."

Hron said everyone needs to remember the teenager involved in the crash and keep him in their prayers.

To donate to the GoFundMe page, go to [gofundme.com/cassandra-flatland-and-boys](http://gofundme.com/cassandra-flatland-and-boys). Donations also can be mailed to Northern State Bank at P.O. Box 639, Thief River Falls, MN 56701 with the subject line "Cassandra Flatland Benefit."

Baumgarten is a reporter with the Herald. Contact her at (701) 780-1248 or [abaumgarten@gfherald.com](mailto:abaumgarten@gfherald.com). Follow her on Twitter @aprilbaumsaway.

## HOCKEY

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Hakstol and Brad Berry. In fact, they covered both Hakstol and Berry when they were players.

The buildings have changed. Foss covered the team when it played at the Winter Sports Building, the old Ralph Engelstad Arena and the new one. Hennessy has covered games in the last two.

The outlets have changed, too.

Foss covered UND hockey for the Grand Forks Herald through the 2004-05 regular season. He then retired from full-time work and started covering the program for the school's website. Hennessy has called UND games on several different Grand Forks stations and now he's employed by the school.

"It's mind-boggling if you think of every significant happening in UND hockey history, those two have seen most of it — three-fourths of it," UND sports information director

Jayson Hajdu said. "It's hard to wrap your head around the longevity. And after all these years, they've still got it. Virg can still write a lede like nobody's business. Tim remains, I think, the best radio guy in hockey, not just college hockey. To still have that ability after all of those years, the rest of us can only hope to do that."

"To still be working is one thing. To still be as good as they are is something else."

They've covered national championship teams in 1980, 1982, 1987, 1997, 2000 and 2016, and can tell you behind-the-scenes stories about each of them.

Their respect for each other runs deep, too.

While Foss no longer travels on road trips with the team — he just covers home games — he doesn't subscribe to NCHC.tv to watch webcasts. He prefers to listen to Hennessy's call on the radio.

"He can paint the picture for me," Foss said. "I can follow the

game exactly. I can see the game through his broadcast. I love his passion and his opinions, but he does a fantastic job of painting the pictures. He's one of those broadcasters where you can follow the puck."

Foss and Hennessy have had opportunities to move on during their careers, but both have decided to stay.

"I just didn't have any big desire to go anywhere else, especially after the hockey team started getting good," Foss said. "Ten years into it, I just decided, this is a pretty good setup. I love the hockey program. That kept me here. I didn't look very hard. A couple of opportunities came up, but I didn't really pursue them."

Hennessy interviewed with the New Jersey Devils in 1987 and the Minnesota Wild in 2000. He also had a chance to do color commentary for the old Winnipeg Jets, but Hennessy preferred play-by-play, so he stayed in Grand Forks.

"I really believe unless it's the NHL, there's not

a better hockey job," Hennessy said. "I never really thought that I should find some other work to make more money, because I really loved doing it."

In addition to their work, they've both become top historians.

"They're walking encyclopedias," Hajdu said. "There are times when I cross-reference statistics with Virg's memory. He's right 99 times out of 100."

"And they're just so accessible to folks who have come after them. They're always willing to talk and share a memory."

Another season of college hockey is about to begin. There will be new faces on the ice and new stories to tell.

But the one constant for UND hockey remains: Foss and Hennessy will be in the press box.

"As far as I'm concerned, they both have lifetime passes," Hajdu said. "I can't imagine being around UND hockey without those two involved."

Reach Schlossman at [bschlossman@gfherald.com](mailto:bschlossman@gfherald.com) or (701) 780-1129.

## NDSC

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to the Supreme Court, effective Jan. 1, 2014, where she has been since. Before all of this, McEvers said she was a law student at UND.

"And right out of law school I was a law clerk here at the North Dakota Supreme Court," she added. "So I started out my career as a law clerk and now I am back here. I've kind of come full circle."

Though she acknowledged having aspirations of becoming a judge while in school, McEvers realized in the field there are only few judicial positions ever open in the state of North Dakota.

"I think I've spent my career practicing and improving and taking the next challenge and not doing the same thing over and over," she said.

Bolinske also received an undergraduate degree from UND, but left the state afterward, he said, to graduate from Harvard Law School. Since then he has been an active lawyer for 40 years, working in Minneapolis and Bismarck.

"I've been an attorney for over 40 years. I've got an awfully good idea of what the system is and how it operates," Bolinske said.

This will be his second time on the ballot for the Supreme Court, after losing his first to Justice Jerod Tufte in 2016.

Earlier this year, a disciplinary board admonished Bolinske for falsely accusing court justices of withholding information from him in the 2016 race. He has had a longstanding argument against certain justices, which he considers inspiration for his campaign. Bolinske said he's working on suing those justices right now.

"It's one of the issues I'm running on, because if they have in fact covered up their buddies' felony, they're all implicitly guilty. And I can't get anyone to take a look at it."

The state Bar Association recently conducted a survey to rate the candidates' professional competence, legal experience, judicial temperament and moral character. A majority of 386 respondents, all state lawyers, voted in favor of McEvers over Bolinske.

"You have to realize that for eight years I've been deciding cases," McEvers said. "And somebody loses every one of those cases. And despite that fact that I have ruled against lawyers many times, those same folks are saying I have a good judicial temperament."

## THREAT

From Page A1

complying with open meeting laws, Knutson said. He ended the meeting after the outburst, less than five minutes after it began.

Stewart and Siats did not respond to multiple phone calls or emails from the Herald. One council member declined to comment and another did not respond to the Herald's attempts to contact him.

Knutson spoke with her editors and cooperated with a Roseau County sheriff's investigation after the meeting.

"The safety of our employees is paramount to us," the paper's publisher, Julie Bergman, said. "Doris held her cool completely through the meeting. It wasn't until she got to her car (when) she had to sit in her car for a while because she was shaking so bad she didn't feel safe to drive."

Neither Roseau County Sheriff Steve Gust or County Attorney Karen Foss returned the Herald's phone calls. A court records search did not show any charges against Stewart or Siats.

The council met for a special meeting Sept. 19 after only one of the four members showed up to the planned monthly meeting. Council member Stan Derosier said they met on short notice after learning about an impending deadline to finalize a city levy. He said meeting notices are physically posted outside the doors of the community center, but the

fliers recently have been torn down.

The League of Minnesota Cities handbook states that by law, all government meetings must be posted three days in advance or published in a newspaper. Attempts must be made to reach all parties requesting notification. The Northern Light Region requested to be notified, Knutson said. The law aims to promote transparency, keep the public informed and allow them to present their viewpoints.

Knutson reported Stewart said the meeting was not posted. The situation escalated when she pressed the legality.

Knutson, who also is the Northern Light's managing editor and one of two staff reporters, said she began covering the Roosevelt City Council early in 2017 after she heard rumors of dysfunction. The town falls just outside the Northern Light's coverage region, but publishers Julie and Rollin Bergman agreed with Knutson they were obligated to investigate claims about lack of transparency.

Julie Bergman published a column this week and said it was a difficult decision to cover the meetings because her family has been heavily involved in Roosevelt's government. Bergman's brother stepped down last year as the town's mayor partly because of the dysfunction on the council, she said. The council did not appoint an interim mayor, but Derosier said Stewart has unofficially stepped into the role.

Knutson said the council was unable to produce city financial records for the past eight years, disregards open

meeting laws, and council members are short-tempered, defensive and have screamed at citizens during meetings. She said she's been to meetings where law enforcement has been present.

Derosier, who was late to the Monday meeting and did not witness the reported threats, denied allegations about council misconduct. He said financial files are recorded digitally by clerk Siats, but he did not know where they're kept. The Herald was unable to verify if the documents exist because Siats did not return phone calls or emails.

Derosier said he does not feel council members act aggressively.

Council members Timothy Friesner declined to comment and Steven Brodahl did not return the Herald's phone call.

Julie Bergman called for voters to elect new council members during the November election. Three of the four members are up for re-election. Gerald Landby is the lone mayoral candidate.

She said Monday's meeting highlights the dysfunction in Roosevelt and said the council's behavior is unacceptable.

Knutson said she will continue covering the meetings. The Bergmans plan to attend the November meeting with her.

"I guess I'd like to see them start going by the book, be more open, follow the law for the sake of the citizens of Roosevelt and because it's the right thing to do," Knutson said. "That's why we cover these things."

Reach the writer at 701-780-1267, [twilliams@gfherald.com](mailto:twilliams@gfherald.com) or on Twitter @ByTessWilliams.

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