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We're hiring!

Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, Assistant Professor https://shorturl.at/8oSCI



Events energize summer



ummer has been an exciting and productive season for the Department of Animal Sciences at North Dakota State University, filled with learning, outreach and professional achievements. Recently, two new faculty members joined the

department: Jacob Klaudt and Dr. Justin "Jake" Galbreath. You will learn more about them and their work in this issue. Dr. Christopher Byrd was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure and Dr. Lisa Christenson to Professor of Practice. Both are excellent examples of hard work in their respective positions.

Faculty and students actively participated in the Central Grasslands and Carrington Research and Extension Center annual field days. These events were well attended and offered a great opportunity for our team to share current research and connect with producers, stakeholders and community members.

Meanwhile, several faculty and graduate students represented our department at the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Annual Meeting (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada), at the Reciprocal Meat Conference (Columbus, Ohio) and at the joint American Society of Animal Science—Canadian Society of Animal Science—Canadian Society of Animal Science Annual Meeting (Hollywood, Fla.). Their involvement included poster and oral presentations, meetings, and invaluable networking that enhances collaboration and visibility of the department's work on a national as well as an international stage.

We are also proud to share that NDSU's Bison Strides program has been reaccredited as a *Premier Accredited Center* by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.). Congratulations to Dr. Erika Berg, director of the program and an Associate Professor in the

department, her staff, students and volunteers.

More great news that we would like to announce is that for this academic year (2025-2026), the department has awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships to 89 recipients. Scholarships from alumni and industry are invaluable for students pursuing higher education. These contributions can significantly impact students' academic success and future careers. Thanks to all of you for your constant support.

Looking ahead, we are excited to inform that planning is underway for our annual Moos, Ewes, and More event! This free, family-friendly event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the NDSU Equine Center on 19th Avenue North. Attendees of all ages can meet the animals of NDSU, talk to the people who care for them, and explore the science behind animal agriculture. Highlights include up-close encounters with baby animals, hands-on learning stations, learning what animals like to eat, and hearing about what veterinarians do each day, plus so much more!

Finally, we are thrilled to share that the College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources has launched a new *Master of Agriculture* degree. This non-thesis program is designed for professionals seeking advancement in agricultural education, leadership, or industry roles. Learn more about the program and its stackable certificates at https://www.ndsu.edu/agriculture-masters.

Whether through field days, academic engagement or community events, the Department of Animal Sciences continues to make a meaningful impact this summer and beyond.

See you next time; for now, keep enjoying this weather! Hope all your activities are going as planned.

Best, Guillermo

Department comings and goings since April

Warm welcome to...

Danielle Jensen – BCRC assistant manager

Justin "Jake" Galbreath – Extension veterinarian and livestock stewardship specialist

Jacob Klaudt – Lecturer and livestock judging team coach

Matthew Erceg — Ag maintenance mechanic and livestock caretaker

Fond farewell to...

Stephanie Sculthorp-Skrei – administrative assistant

Summer 2025 graduates

Graduate students:

Jaime Chambers, M.S. Yssi Entzie, M.S. Garrett Havelka, M.S. Brooklyn Kuzel, M.S. John Stables, M.S. Joshua Wianecki, M.S. (completed in April)

Undergraduate students:

Animal Science:

Nickolas Cooper Samantha Ellison

Vet Tech:

Rachel Bosserman
Emma Gilles
Katie Hazel
Morgan Jarandson
Halle Johnson
Rainah Laughlin
Hailey Leingang-Markham
Carli Merkel
Gabrielle Paulson
Birdie Stevenson
Angelica Warren

NDSU represents at CattleCon

Direct engagement with stakeholders aids researchers

by Kathlyn M. M. Hauxwell Research Specialist

Earlier this year, three representatives from the NDSU Department of Animal Sciences traveled to San Antonio, Texas, to attend the 2025 NCBA CattleCon. Kathlyn Hauxwell, Dr. Rebecca Swanson and Dr. Rachel Gibbs represented NDSU among more than 20 universities as they participated in the annual CattleCon Trade Show, which drew over 8,500 stakeholders from across the beef industry.

The event featured a wide range of timely topics, including seasonal weather projections, cattle market trends and cutting-edge innovations in animal health and production management. A standout component of the trade show was the "University Pavilion," a dedicated space where attendees connected with university faculty and alumni, explored ongoing research, and identified opportunities for future collaboration between academia and the livestock sector.

For students and faculty alike, participation in Cattle-Con offers a unique opportunity to better understand the pressing challenges facing the beef industry. It also highlights the practical applications of university-led research in addressing those challenges.

For land-grant institutions such as NDSU, these national events reinforce their commitment to serving producers, educating future agricultural leaders and delivering science-driven solutions to real-world problems.



From left, Dr. Rebecca Swanson, Kathlyn Hauxwell and Dr. Rachel Gibbs represented NDSU among more than 20 universities as they participated in the annual CattleCon Trade Show. This year the event took place in San Antonio, Texas.

Direct engagement with producers, allied industry professionals and other universities enables faculty to align research priorities with stakeholder needs, while ensuring relevance and maximizing impact. At the same time, students gain exposure to internship and career opportunities, expand their professional networks and engage with prospective collaborators. The exchange of ideas fostered at CattleCon plays a crucial role in keeping academic research both progressive and grounded in industry realities.

NDSU's presence at the 2025 CattleCon serves as a

strong reminder of the vital role land-grant universities play in driving innovation, building industry partnerships and shaping the future of the beef industry. Looking ahead, the NCBA Booth Committee at NDSU will begin meeting regularly to plan for the 2026 CattleCon Trade Show, which will be held in Nashville. Individuals interested in supporting this initiative or joining the planning committee are encouraged to contact Kathlyn Hauxwell at kathlyn.hauxwell@ndsu.edu, Lydia Trandem at lydia.e.hansen@ndsu.edu, or Guillermo Scaglia at guillermo.scaglia@ndsu.edu

New judging coach ready to build team

by Jacob Klaudt Lecturer and Livestock Judging Team Coach

Jacob Klaudt started as an animal science lecturer and livestock judging team coach at NDSU at the end of May. Klaudt's core responsibilities include recruiting, developing and instructing team members and students involved and interested in livestock evaluation.

Klaudt recently graduated from Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in animal sciences and industry and a minor in journalism and mass communications. At K-State, Klaudt was a member of national champion livestock judging and meat animal evaluation teams, experiences highlighted by being the high individual overall at the 2024 National Collegiate Livestock Judging contest and a team victory at the 2024 American Royal.

Before his time at KSU, Klaudt attended Casper College and earned two associate of science degrees in agriculture communication and animal science. At Casper, he was a member of the 2022-2023 livestock judging team, achieving All-American status.

Klaudt originates from Beulah, N.D., and grew up around production-oriented Simmental and Angus cattle, also showing some throughout the Northern Great Plains. He has been judging youth livestock shows since 2021, working with the industry's young people in 10 states. Klaudt is also an inaugural Top Judge Mentorship program member — a premier professional development event for young livestock evaluators.

Beyond livestock evaluation, Klaudt enjoys communicating about agriculture through audio and written media. He also spends his time judging youth livestock shows, fishing for walleye on Lake Sakakawea, playing cards and being involved in the beef cattle industry.

Klaudt will instruct ANSC 231 Livestock Evaluation and ANSC 240 Meat Animal Evaluation in Fall 2025.

With Klaudt at the helm, the NDSU Livestock Judging Team will start practices this fall with competitions beginning in December.

Follow Klaudt and the program online at https://www.ndsu.edu/agriculture/animal-sciences/students/livestock-judging-team or find updates on the Facebook page titled "North Dakota State University Livestock Judging Team."



Jacob Klaudt brings a wealth of experience to his new role as livestock judging team coach and animal science lecturer.



Above, visitors to the 2025 Central Grasslands Research Extension Center field day listen to a presentation about grazing winter cereal cover crops. Below, graduate student Josh Wianecki shares findings from his virtual fencing research.

Professors, students share research during field days

Josh Wianecki and Katrina Kratzke, two graduate students advised by Dr. Miranda Meehan, presented their work at the 2025 Central Grasslands Research Extension Center field day. The students kicked off the NDSU field day season speaking about their ongoing research on integrating livestock into cropping systems.

Josh and Dr. Meehan shared an overview of cover crop grazing using virtual fencing technologies and the impacts of intensive grazing practices. Katrina and Dr. Meehan discussed their findings on grazing winter cereal cover crops within a corn and soybean



rotation.

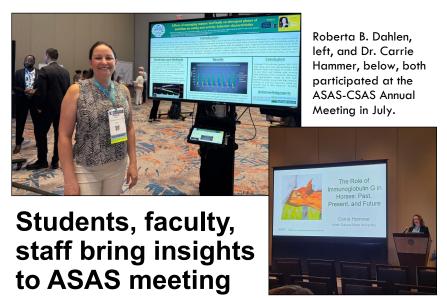
Both emphasized the benefits of integrated livestock systems on production economics, soil health and agricultural resiliency.

— Josh Wianecki



From left,
Dr. Miranda
Meehan,
Dr. Kevin
Sedivec
and grad
student
Katrina
Kratzke at
field days.

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The department was well represented at the ASAS-CSAS Annual Meeting in Hollywood, Fla., this July.

Giving presentations were graduate student Omowumi Olatinwo, postdoc fellow Pauliane Pucetti and visiting scholar Antonio Braga.

Dr. Christopher Byrd chaired two symposia, and Dr. Carrie Hammer received the Equine Science Award. In conjunction with the award, she gave a presentation titled "The role of immunoglobulin G in horses: past, present and future." Dr. Hammer was a longtime equine science professor before becoming associate dean of the college.

Recent grad Kelsey Hooker presented in the undergraduate student poster competition, while grad student Jennifer Hurlbert and research specialist Roberta B. Dahlen also presented posters.

Future vets



Three campers learn how to safely approach a dog and perform the basics of a physical exam at the Prevet Club's "I Want to Be a Vet" camp in April. Annie, a 3-year-old Labrador retriever, is happy to help.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Ashley Hoffmann



What was your field of study at NDSU? Veterinary Technology

When did you graduate? 2015

What are you doing nowadays?

I am a field support representative for IDEXX Laboratories and also the past-president of the North Dakota Veterinary Technician Association.

What is one of your favorite classroom/campus memories?

Of course I loved working with all of the animals in classes. We had large and small animals, and exotic pets too (think gerbils and birds). Some of these species I had never gotten to interact with before.

What did you learn at NDSU that has helped you the most in your career/life?

Having hands-on experience of these unique skills was invaluable. The educators were passionate and kind — they helped build us up well to have confidence going into practice. That is no small feat!

If you would like to be featured in an upcoming Alumni Spotlight or know someone you'd like to nominate, please contact Darla White at 701-231-7401 or darla.white@ndsu.edu with the information.

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Hannah Strong, left, and Haley Maro compete in the IHSA National Championships in May. Hannah placed 5th in her division, while Haley finished 6th in a highly competitive field.

Students place 5th and 6th at nationals

Two members of the NDSU Western Equestrian Team showcased their skills on a national stage at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) National Championships, held May 2-4 at Tryon **International Equestrian Center** in Mill Spring, N.C.

Haley Maro, a senior Equine Science major from Monticello, Minn., qualified for nationals by winning the Open Reining division at the semifinal competition hosted by West Texas A&M national level, finishing 5th in University in March. At nationals, Haley delivered an outstanding performance, finishing 6th in a highly competitive field.

Hannah Strong, a junior majoring in Equine and Animal Science from Rolette, N.D., earned her spot at nationals by placing Reserve Champion in Ranch Riding at the semifinal round.

She also impressed at the her division.

Congratulations to Haley and Hannah on their remarkable achievements and for proudly representing NDSU on the national stage. Their hard work, talent and dedication continue to elevate the success of the NDSU Western Equestrian Team.

— Tara Swanson

In June, the

Summer Ag Academy



department welcomed 16 high school students for the 3rd annual Northern Crops Institute Summer Aa Academy to learn how livestock are fed in our region. Here, the students calculate and create their own "feed" (aka snack) using the Pearson Square method.

Extension's new vet is Dr. Jake

Dr. Justin "Jake" Galbreath joined the department as the Extension Veterinarian on May 30. Dr. Jake is a native of Oakes, N.D. He attended NDSU and received his bachelor's de-

gree in Animal & Ranae Science in 2007. He attended the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary

Medicine and araduated in

Dr. Jake practiced as a mixed-animal veterinarian in southeast North Dakota and northeast Colorado, most recently at Casselton Veterinary Service in Casselton, N.D., since 2018. His practice focus was primarily on beef cow-calf operations but also included some backgrounding and feedlot medicine.

As a mixed-animal practitioner, he also provided services for small ruminant and companion animal clients. Dr. Jake has provided emergency services for both small and large animals during his career. He is a strong advocate for preventative care and implementing best management practices for herd health.

In his spare time, Dr. Jake is an amateur beekeeper and an overly ambitious gardener. He can sometimes be spotted kayaking on rivers, lakes and sloughs in the area or, more consistently, at NDSU home football games.

NDSU's shepherd, Steven "Skip" Anderson,



was spotlighted in the Fargo Forum's sports section in July. The article, titled "Sharing his passion for horse racing," discussed Skip's role as director of hospitality at the North Dakota Horse Park.

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Two faculty members earned promotions effective July 1. Dr. Lisa Christenson was promoted to professor of practice. while Dr. Christo-



pher Byrd was promoted to associate professor.

NACIA NACTA

Lecturer Lydia Trandem and graduate student Josi Solsaa attended the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference in Edmonton, Alberta, in June. Josi presented a portion of her graduate research, and they both learned new strategies to implement in the classroom this fall.

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In June, Bison Strides was reaccredited as a Premier Accredited Center by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International. This designation shows that Bison Strides has met a rigorous set of quality and safety standards.

Briefs



An article by Dr. Larry Reynolds titled "Importance of Livestock to Humans" appeared recently in Dakota Digital Review, which is published by the North Dakota University System.

Undergraduate students Ella Syring, Kelsey Hooker and Amy Volk presented at the 2025 NDSU Student Research Days in April. Ella gave an oral presentation, while Kelsey and Amy did poster presentations. Their abstracts can be found at https:// www.ndsu.edu/fileadmin/research/ Documents/EXPLORE/ SRD 2025 Abstract Book.pdf.

Ph.D. student Kazi Sarjana Safain published



her first-authored paper in the journal Metabolites. It is titled "Early Gestational Hepatic Lipidomic Profiles Are Modulated by One-Carbon Metabolite Supplementation and Nutrient Restriction in Beef Heifers and Fetuses" (https://

doi.org/10.3390/metabo15050302).



Research specialist Roberta B. Dahlen partic-



ipated in the ASAS CSAS Annual Meeting in Hollywood, Fla., propagating knowledge on "Effects of managing mature beef bulls on divergent planes of nutrition on eating and activity behavior characteristics."

Two undergraduates were featured in the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association's recent publication of Gobbles. Cora Huhn, a junior minoring in animal science, and sophomore Adriana Behl, who is majoring in animal science, received recognition as recipients of 2025 Ranelius Scholarships.

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Ron Johnson, ag research technician, received the Spirit, Pep and Motivation Award in May. He was given the award by Yssi Entzie, nutrition lab manager, who cited his positivity and willingness to help with events.

Associate Professor Erika Berg has been given a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program award. She will travel to Iceland during spring 2026 and work with faculty and students at Holar University to develop a global curriculum in equine-assisted



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services.

Amy Volk, a senior from Rugby, N.D., majoring in animal science, was one of six recipients of the American Meat Science Association's 2025 C. Boyd Ramsey Mentor Recognition Award. She received support to attend the associa-

tion's Reciprocal Meat Conference in June.

Correction:

The article about Little 'I' in the April newsletter should have said Catie Erickson was the sweepstakes champion. We regret the error.

Beef Cattle Research Center helps producers find answers

Unit can customize, monitor individual feed consumption

by Darla White
Administrative Assistant

It's summertime, but 71 steers at the Beef Cattle Research Center think it's Thanksgiving. They are part of a nutrition study, and at this point in the research the goal is for them to gain weight. These lucky steers get to eat as much as they want whenever they feel the urge. They are helping NDSU researchers determine the effects of dry rolled corn vs. whole corn diets with a 5 or 15 percent inclusion rate



Sarah Underdahl, left, has been the manager of the BCRC since 2019. Her assistant manager is Danielle Jensen, who started earlier this year.

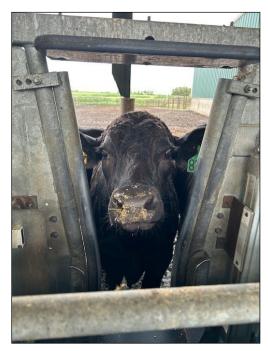
of forage on efficiency and carcass characteristics in finishing cattle.

Carcass data from Tyson will be used to calculate the differences the four diets had on yield grade and quality grade. This knowledge could be very beneficial to producers, as the input cost of using dry rolled corn is higher than using whole corn. If the whole corn diet yields the same results as the more expensive diet ... well, you can see why that would be of interest to cattle owners.

This is just the latest (specifically the 44th) research project that has been conducted at the BCRC since it opened in the spring of 2011. Sarah Underdahl started as the assistant manager in 2013 and moved up to manager in 2019. She says the goal of all the research is to help beef producers.

"I like when we do producer-driven research," Sarah says, "just coming up with ways we can help our producers." Studies can focus on a wide array of topics, such as genetics, meat quality, heifer development, nutrition and more. Sarah and assistant manager Danielle Jensen are already gearing up for the next project that will start in the fall.

The BCRC uses Insentec technology that allows researchers to customize and monitor individual feed intake in cattle. In fact, the BCRC was just the third site



This steer is part of a research study at the BCRC to determine the effects of dry rolled corn vs. whole corn diets.

in North America to get that system. A recent acquisition is the new feed truck, which lets the driver fill the feeding stations without stepping foot out of the vehicle. Sarah says feeding the cattle the correct diets and correct amounts is job No. 1 every day, so anything that helps in that endeavor is much appreciated.

Like the other animal units in the department, the BCRC gives quite a few tours. Guests can be daycare centers want-

See BCRC, page 8

Animal Science graduate student wins Gunkelman Award

Graduate student Chuti
Kanjanaruch received the
Gunkelman Recognition
Award from President
David Cook at a ceremony in May. Chuti is a
doctoral student working
under Dr. Larry Reynolds. She makes the department a back-to-back
winner, as last year's
recipient was longtime
staffer Jim Kirsch.





State FFA comes to campus



The North Dakota State FFA Horse **Evaluation Contest** was held at the NDSU Equine Center in May. FFA participants judged classes of Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, Reining, Horsemanship, and Conformation in Halter, It was a great day to wear corduroy!

Beef Cattle Research Center helps stakeholders



Above, steers line up to eat at the BCRC, which uses Insentec feed technology. At right, Danielle drives the new feed truck. It allows the driver to fill the feeding stations without stepping foot out of the vehicle.

BCRC from page 7

ing to see the animals or international groups hoping to get ideas to take back with them. In June, the North Dakota Stockmen's Association included the BCRC on its feedlot tour. About 100 people visited and were able to learn about the BCRC's research capabilities. "It was great to get producers on site, and a lot of them were interested in the facilities and asking about our results," Sarah said.

Despite its emphasis on research, the BCRC also contributes to the teaching mission of NDSU. A few Animal Science course labs regularly visit the site, as do vet tech students.

Sarah says the biggest change she's seen over the years is the variety of research done at the BCRC. What hasn't changed is the biggest challenge: the winter weather. Feeding the cattle is necessary whether the snow is piling up or the wind is gusting 50 mph. That makes things difficult, but no matter the conditions, Sarah, Danielle and their handful



of student workers make sure the feeding stations get filled. And that's something all the animals at the BCRC are grateful for, whether it's Thanksgiving or not.

2025-2026 Scholarship Recipients

Animal Sciences Academic Quadrathlon Scholarship

Allee Boyer Kathryn Schneider Madison Scott

Arthur and Elvera Moyer Family Scholarship Jayden Donley

Bernard and Mabel Orton Scholarship Joshua Braxton

Bruce J. Beilke Memorial Scholarship Jayden Donley

Dr. Larry Corah Outstanding Animal Sciences Graduate Scholarship

Chutikun Kanjanaruch Omowumi Olatinwo

Eugene R. Hinsz Animal Husbandry Scholarship Endowment

Cora Schaunaman Hannah Strong

Frank Bain Agriculture Graduate Scholarship Endowment

Imtiaz Ali Keara Leong-Machielse Josi Solsaa

George Fisher Memorial Scholarship Mikayla Kraft

Gertrude Ostby Memorial Scholarship for Women in Veterinary Science

Samantha Krienke

Harold E. Vettel Memorial Scholarship

Daysha Erdman Rudi Wendel

Institute for Feed Education and Research and Equipment Manufacture's Committee Scholarship

Carly Olson Cora Schaunaman Elias Traut

Jim and Judy Tilton Scholarship Endowment

Megan Larson Johanna Zeise

Kelly S. Swanson Travel Fund

Kiersten Gundersen Omowumi Olatinwo

Kempton Cooperative Shipping Association Scholarship

Hannah Anderson

Kenneth and Rachel Kellogg Family Scholarship Endowment

Aubrey Dahlen
Samantha Melling
Allison Mouche
LeiLani Ringer
Josie Schieno
Kathryn Schneider
Myah Thomas
Isabella Tichy

Kevin Anderson Animal Sciences Memorial Scholarship

Emily Curren

Leland Red Angus Ranch Scholarship Endowment

Jasmine Floden Hailey Jaeger

Lutovsky Little International Scholarship

AJ Heins Jolie Sanders

Malina Ellingson Larson Memorial Scholarship

Raeanne Frost

Martin J. Marchello and Barbara Handy-Marchello Animal Sciences Scholarship

Adriana Behl Lauren Dolezal Leah Kruse Katherine Maxwell Talia McDaniel Gwendolyn Peterson Forrest Sears Amy Volk

Merle R. Light Memorial Scholarship Hailey Jaeger

Michael Guenthner Memorial Scholarship

Sheyenne Hilde Kyla Sonstegard Isabella Tichy Anastasia Wingenbach

M.L. Buchanan Scholarship Madison Scott

North Dakota Livestock
Endowment Foundation
Arlon G. Hazen Memorial Scholarship

North Dakota Livestock

Endowment Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship

Christian Melby

Jewel Factor Megan Larson

Palmer and Sheryl Holden Animal Science Scholarship

Olivia Rosenthal Vanessa Ternes

Petcetera Veterinary Endowment

Hannah Anderson

Rase Family Scholarship

Ty MacDonald Jocelyn Vachal

Rick and Janna Lutovsky Little International Scholarship

AJ Heins Jolie Sanders

Roger and Ruth Ann Van Prooien Scholarship

Katelinn Beck Ruth Bellrichard Cristina Ehlers Code Enright Raeanne Frost Seth Miller Karolyn Papon Laura Ryder Abby Sigvaldsen Kyla Sonstegard

Russell Danielson Endowment

Forrest Sears Amy Volk

Thomas M. Cook Animal Science Scholarship Sheyenne Hilde

Truman Kingsley Family Scholarship

Kadence Reindel Reanna Schmidt

Verlin and Eloise Johnson Animal Science Livestock and Meats Judging Freshman Scholarship

Jaclyn Duchscher Abigail Dunham Chance Follmer Reid Hartman Alex Johnson Baily Kunz Landen Roemhildt Allison Selensky Aubryee Showalter Addison Strong

Verlin K. and Eloise E. Johnson Scholarship

Isabella Nyreen