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The Dakota Student

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UND scientists identify Lyme disease in Grand Forks

By Colin Johnson
The Dakota Student

Scientists at UND warn that all the variables for contracting Lyme disease are now present and established in Grand Forks County. Although North Dakota borders Minnesota counties, where the risk of contracting the tick-borne Lyme disease is moderate to high based on confirmed human cases, few studies have been done on the migration of the disease farther west.

A joint research team led by biology professor Jefferson Vaughan and assistant professor Catherine Brissette, a biomedical scientist in the Department of Basic Sciences at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, reports it has verified that Lyme disease has spread to Grand Forks County. Brissette’s laboratory works on the causative agent of Lyme disease, the bacterium Borrelia burgdorferi.

“Jeff Vaughan’s student, Nate Russart, a UND graduate student in biology, was surveying ticks and tick-borne pathogens across the state of North Dakota,” Brissette said. “This suggested that the Lyme disease bacterium was in our area. But it didn’t prove...
“Moments” — Bill Rerick

Jeff stretched back in his seat and slumped down, he was frustrated with how tired he has been lately. He prided himself with being busy and hardworking. Before bed he would even make a list of to-do’s for the next day, but for the past couple weeks he has felt groggy and slow. Watching his eccentric teacher lecture about Trigonometry, Jeff wondered what gave his teacher that kind of energy for math. Jeff cringed at the thought of having to teach the same subject over and over again for years. Then he thought that math might be a weird thing to love, but it was special to his teacher. He figured that maybe he just needs to find that weird special thing he would love to talk about for years. Rubbing his eyes, he started to catch up on note taking by copying the girl’s notes next to him. She looked annoyed at first, but then just ignored him.
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To Kill a Planet
-How we can learn from past extinction events to prevent our own

Will Beaton
The Dakota Student

There have been five mass extinction periods in the history of planet Earth, and though the most well known is the most recent, which includes the asteroid responsible for killing the dinosaurs, the most sinister is also the most preventable — the one that's happening now.

The New York Times reports that human-instigated climate change has resulted in extinction rates in the tropics “on the order of 10,000 times greater than the naturally occurring background extinction rate.” The same report states that up to 50 percent of the species living on Earth today could be extinct by the end of the century if current climate dynamics persist.

The climatic conditions associated with extinction today happen to involve the warming of the planet as a result of human greenhouse gas emissions, but it’s necessary to remember that the relationship between climate and life is far more complicated than “global warming = bad.”

Imagine how long it took for organic matter worldwide to become buried and chemically converted into fossil fuels. Imagine how much the remarkably complex global climate system would have changed over that time.

Then imagine what would happen if we burned all that carbon back into the atmosphere in a couple hundred years — a geological heartbeat of Earth’s ancient lifespan.

That’s what’s happening as we start our cars, flip on our lights switches and mistreat the microorganisms that live in what soil we have left, and scientists in every field are seeing that Earth’s recent climate — and all the life that depend on it behaving in very specific ways — aren’t up for the drastic change.

Of the past mass extinctions on Earth, none are more poignant to humans than that of the Late Devonian, which, like the ongoing mass extinction period, was facilitated by the inputs of living organisms.

Will Beaton
editor-in-chief

“it’s not that the world hasn’t had more carbon dioxide; it’s not the world hasn’t been warmer. The problem is the speed at which things are changing,” scientist and activist Bill Nye said in an interview with Big Think. “We are inducing a sixth mass extinction event kind of by accident, and we don’t want to be the extinc...”

We’re in deep. But there’s still hope. Of the past mass extinctions on Earth, none are more poignant to humans than that of the Late Devonian, which, like the ongoing mass extinction period, was facilitated by the inputs of living organisms.

At the center of Earth’s second mass extinction (about 360 million years ago) were newly evolved plants with unique root systems that accelerated soil formation and proliferated across the land. Many scientists believe the massive amounts of photosynthesis these new plants took part in pulled enough carbon out of the atmosphere to result in global cooling, which, over the course of a couple million years, contributed to the extinction of 75 percent of the planet’s biodiversity.

If a pile of dirt and a few herbarium switches and mistreat the microorganisms that live in what soil we have left, and scientists in every field are seeing that Earth’s recent climate — and all the life that depend on it behaving in very specific ways — aren’t up for the drastic change.

Will we find solace in knowing our homemade mass extinction will likely set the stage for another spectacular round of biodiversity to follow, as has happened after each extinction period so far? Maybe.

But if we have anything to say about it (which we do), I don’t see why we wouldn’t put everything we can into encouraging sustainability now to prevent another 10 million years of lifeless recovery. That starts with reducing greenhouse gas emissions and finding ways to pull more carbon out of the atmosphere.

We forgive the plants of the Late Devonian period for destroying the world as they knew it because they didn’t have the knowledge or the scientific awareness of what they were doing.

What excuse will our descendents find for us?

Will Beaton is the Editor-in-Chief for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at william.beaton@my.und.edu
Kjerstine Trooien
The Dakota Student

Ferguson represents a history of violence against blacks

Just over one hundred days ago, an unarmed man was killed in the middle of the street, hands up in the air while yelling “Don’t shoot!” It seems like a petty cut and dry case when stated that way. A man was murdered. Some eyewitnesses have said differently, that the victim charged the killer, tried to take the cop’s gun away.

But the story has been twisted and reformed over the past 100 plus days. Now, despite a live tweet and video showing bystanders reacting, the person who shot the man was acquitted of all charges. Evidence swirls around the Internet that never seemed to reach the grand jury. Peaceful protests are being attacked with rubber bullets and tear gas. Media members are being told to shut off their cameras, often violently. Conditions were so bad, Amnesty International was deployed on U.S. soil for the first time.

Since moving to Grand Forks, I have spent this in-lieu of the silence, guessing. Bloody Marys and enjoying the feeling that a sense of absolute security brings. This feeling is familiar, recognize, one I'm extraordinarily fortunate to have.

I am fortunate for a number of reasons. I live in a country where I am not attacked for attending school. Generosity, liberty and capabilities are valued, my family is well and whole and we are all relatively comfortable.

As students — young adults with a predisposition for microwaveable socks and Netflix — we exist in a very insular monitored habitat, incubated in a warm and moist environment until we are ready to hatch, chipping, into adulthood. We are in school, a place where, in other parts of the world, an education is a weapon of war and viewed as a threat to be exterminated. As such, we are singularly privileged, and as a general rule, we are also very busy.

The protests in Ferguson, Mo. over the holiday weekend are arresting, but not altogether remarkable for us at UND. Here, we’re cold, launching ourselves into the final couple weeks of school, and likely not as socially conscious as we could be as a result.

But we don’t talk about Martin’s death much anymore. And Fergus- son is getting pushed to the back pages and more and more each day.

Even though the talk around Ferguson is starting to die down, to become “old news” you might say, the issues surrounding it still exist. We can’t afford to stop talking about it. In the past 100 plus days, at least six black teens were killed by cops. One was on a swing, holding a legal BB gun he never pointed at the cops. He was twelve, not even a teenager.

We are beyond the point of discussing whether Wilson was right in shooting Brown (although signs point to “murderer who got off scot-free” rather than “cop who was protecting himself”). We are beyond the point of being able to change what happened with Wilson before he finally resigned. This does not mean we should stop talking about it.

Black male teens are 23 percent more likely to be killed by police than white male teens. Killers Charles Manson, Ted Bundy and James Holmes were all taken into custody without their deaths. Their crimes were much more serious than allegedly stealing cigars and Jaywalking.

We can’t let stories like Brown’s and Martin’s keep getting swept under the rug. We can’t let institutional racism continue to define our society. We need to keep talking, keep protesting and keep our hands in the air until we finally can see some real change.

A little over a week ago, a video showed up on my Tumblr dash- board. It was clips of black men and women being arrested for peacefully protesting, attacked with police brutality for using their voices. For a moment, I truly thought I was rewatching the footage from the protests in Ferguson. It took me a bit to realize I was actually watching the trailer for “Selma,” a movie documenting the 1960s civil rights marches and Rev. Dr. Martin Lu- ther King Jr.’s role in them.

What would the Rev. Dr. King say about the latest loss of black life? We can speculate, but will never know. He was shot and killed by a white man too.

Mary O'Leary
The Dakota Student

The social exchange that has passed in Ferguson is one that leaves some despondent, others angry, some terrified, and others confident that a few correct decisions were made. What distinguishes the currents of emotional energy in this instance is a sense of social relevancy — meaning, some feelings, some realities, are valued more than others. This is certainly troubling, likely devastating, and, if you are a person of color in this country, also potentially fatal.

This is difficult for me to engage with critically, because my fear is far removed from the variables that drive this particular character of social movement. How I feel about Ferguson — about Mike Brown, about the anger that has manifested itself in a man- ner that is, as a general rule, democratically healthy — is not heavy or confident in this context. That I can have any feeling other than abject ter- ror is a sign of my healthy, cleansed privilege that was awarded to me at birth by sim- ple virtue of my outward hue.

But engagement is neces- sary, because anything less than a genuine reexamination of our social perch, what we find comfortable and secure, how we are valued by others and why that is so, is a dis- service to other people. Our lived realities, our aggregate existence, are not static con- clusions. They are not conven- tions that, with a few spates of ethnic cleansing and maybe for the sake of uniformity a genocide or two, can be set- tled. Without lungs or kinks. Without dissonance and mess- nes.

So, as students, as young adults with a burgeoning so- cial consciousness and an abil- ity to think independently, we must assume some manner or degree of social and emotion- al responsibility. The ability to genuinely empathize with another individual and recog- nize the limitations of that ability are endeavors that will not make our lives easi- er — sometimes, this makes them fundamentally difficult. Doing so, however, ensures that the emotional and even physical pain of others is not arbitrary or inconsequential. It means something. It isn’t lonely.

To that effect: Aspire to possess and cultivate an emo- tionally generous spirit. Don’t refuse an emotional challenge and don’t remain unaffected by others’ fear and frustration. Don’t believe Wilson was in the right. I believe Wilson was in the right. I’m confused. I’m angry. I’m talking about the death of Michael Brown...
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Lyme from Page 1

that getting bitten by one of these ticks would transmit the Lyme disease bacterium. We wondered if we could isolate live B. burgdorferi bacteria from those local mice or voles.

Lyme borreliosis, commonly referred to as Lyme disease, is an infectious disease caused by the bite of an infected tick. Brissette explained the process used to identify the disease. "We were able to isolate live B. burgdorferi from the hearts of mice and voles from the Ford River and Turtle River areas of Grand Forks County," Brissette said. "We showed that these bacteria were indeed the Lyme disease bacterium. We were also able to show that these bacteria were related closely to B. burgdorferi from Minnesota, Wisconsin, and eastern Manitoba, demonstrating that B. burgdorferi has migrated westward."

Next the research team tested the ability of these bacteria to transmit disease. In nature, female ticks feed on deer and then lay their eggs. When the eggs hatch, the larval ticks do not carry the Lyme disease bacterium. The larval ticks only become infected if they feed on an infected animal, usually a mouse or other small rodent. These ticks will feed and then molt to the next life stage called a nymph. Infected nymphs can then transmit the infection to another small mammal, maintaining the bacterium in the environment. The nymphs can feed on an end host such as a person or pet. To test and prove that local bacteria were infectious, the research team looked at each stage of the infectious cycle in the laboratory.

"Prevention is key," Brissette said. "The ticks are very small, the size of a poppy seed. The tick has to feed for at least 24 hours before it can transmit the Lyme disease bacterium, so it’s important to check yourself carefully for ticks after being in the woods. Wearing long sleeves and pants can help, as well as using repellents that contain DEET."

Early symptoms may include fever, headache and fatigue. A rash occurs in about 70 to 80 percent of infected persons at the site of the bite after a delay of three to 30 days. The rash is rarely painful or itchy, although it may be warm to the touch. About 20 to 30 percent of infected persons do not experience a rash. Left untreated, later symptoms may involve the joints, heart and central nervous system. In most cases, antibiotics eliminate the infection and its symptoms, especially if the illness is treated early. Delayed or inadequate treatment can lead to more serious symptoms, which can be disabling and difficult to treat.

For future research, Vaughan is interested in whether voles might be an important reservoir in our area for the Lyme disease bacterium. Brissette is interested in what other bacteria or viruses these ticks might carry, and how that influences the transmission of disease.
UND partners to create interactive, online atlas

By Brendan McCabe
The Dakota Student

North Dakota has a reputation of being overlooked, but some UND faculty are setting out to change that.

The North Dakota Online Atlas project is a multi-department collaboration at UND aimed to give the world a better understanding of North Dakota. This project aims to give people an easy-to-use way to learn about the state.

"Once students make changes, the ultimate goal is a Google Maps-like interface of North Dakota," assistant professor Michael Niedzielski said. "There will be toggle readings and narratives, but there will also be an animation component."

North Dakota has had a vibrant history, but Niedzielski said it's not as well known as other parts of the country. The goal of the people behind the new atlas is to change that conception.

"The Midwest is often talked about as flyover country, and that all of the interesting places are on the east and west coast," Niedzielski said. "We plan to put North Dakota on the map."

For several years, Niedzielski has been teaching a cartography class, and every year his students created various maps of small sections of North Dakota. But this year, a brand new idea struck him.

"Earlier this year, I realized that Nov. 2 would be North Dakota's 125th year of statehood," said Niedzielski. "I wanted to make something that helped the community at large."

Niedzielski's cartography class is far from the only group involved in the creation of the North Dakota Online Atlas.

"We have people from geography, history, Native American studies, religious studies, philosophy, humanities, integrated studies, computer science and art departments working on this project," Director of Humanities and Integrated Studies Tami Carmichael said. "Each group creates a narrative for the map."

This is the first time an online interactive map of the state has been created on such a scale.

"We are trying to provide people with a living atlas of the state," Carmichael said.

UND moves toward healthier campus

By Amanda Hefner
The Dakota Student

In a mix between juggling classes, exams and additional extracurricular activities, focusing on a healthy lifestyle may be a priority that falls through the cracks. In order to make healthier decisions on campus easier for students, UND has recently allied with The Partnership for a Healthier America.

The Partnership for a Healthier America is an organization devoted to developing strategies to end childhood obesity and making healthy options more accessible to students across the nation.

PHA is led by some of the nations most respected health and childhood obesity experts and works most notably with First Lady Michelle Obama, who is the PHA honorary chair.

UND announced its collaboration with PHA on Nov. 16 and joined the program in a three-year commitment to make its campus healthier. The announcement of this partnership was made at the American Public Health Associations 2014 Annual Meeting & Exposition.

"In creating a campus-wide approach to health and wellness issues, we can increase the likelihood that students achieve academic and personal success by pursuing a high quality of life and sense of well-being," UND President Robert Kelley said about the program.

With this partnership, UND will aim to deliver healthier food choices across campus and promote additional opportunities for physical activity to help improve the health of students and faculty.

This initiative will impact nearly 15,000 students and more than 2,700 faculty and staff on the UND campus.

UND is one of the first schools to sign on to PHAs Healthier Campus Initiative, which comprises of 19 other colleges and universities," Health & Wellness Marketing Manager Lacey Dahlen said. "With this agreement, UND will plan on developing 23 commitment elements over the next three years."

These commitment elements will include food and nutrition, physical activity and programming.

Also included in this action plan is labeling food and beverage items offered with calories per serving, implementing an annual comprehensive wellness program for individuals on campus and offering a bicycle-share program for all individuals.
First N.D. mock trial team takes a win

By Katie Haines
The Dakota Student

The first competitive undergraduate mock trial team in the state of North Dakota was formed last spring at UND. Since the team’s formation, it had been preparing for its first competition held a few weeks ago.

Six UND competitors traveled to Northfield, Minn., for the Ole Open Tournament at St. Olaf College.

During the course of the four round tournament, UND competed against the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities, the University of Minnesota - Duluth, The University of Wisconsin - Parkside and Grinnell College from Iowa.

After the first round, UND was on top.

“I started the team in the spring semester last year,” Senior Christopher Restemayer said. “I’m a transfer student from Bemidji State University, and I had competed for three years there. When I transferred, I was surprised to find that UND didn’t have a team, especially since it has a resident law school. I figured a mock trial program could have a lot of success here, so I decided to start one. Anyone who is interested can join, and anyone who wants to put in the effort to learn the game can get a competition role on the team.”

Looking at the rest of the year, the mock trial team is looking to do more invitationals in the spring semester, and they have been slated for the American Mock Trial Regional Tournament at Washburn University in Topeka, Kan. on Feb. 20-22.

“As far as the make-up of our team, it is primarily students that are at least thinking about law school,” Restemayer said. “The nature of the program tends to attract students that are interested in attending law school, but it isn’t a requirement, and we aren’t exclusively pre-law students.

“Currently, we have one member who is a criminal justice major and another who is petroleum engineering, and both have played both witnesses and attorneys in competition and been successful, so there is no advantage to being a pre-law student as far as roles and participation goes.”

About mock trial

The mock trial program is a series of competitive trial simulation tournaments held around the country.

There are currently over 300 participating colleges and universities, and its governed by the American Mock Trial Association, who creates case materials every year, establishes the rules for competition and hosts regional and culminating national tournaments in the spring.

The purpose is to develop critical thinking and public speaking skills, and to increase knowledge of the court system and its procedures.

Katie Haines is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at katie.haines@my.und.edu
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atlasm

“it will show cultural and religious shifts, immigration change and changes in population.”

niedzielski also added that the american indian studies department will be working on the reservation boundary changes that have occurred throughout the years.

according to niedzielski, trying to get so much information on an entire state is a daunting task, but many students have taken initiative to be sure it is done professionally.

“It’s a student driven project,” said niedzielski. “they are talking about this, they are invested in this. it’s all about the students and it’s a project they can take pride in.”

even with so many people working to bring the north dakota online atlas to life, it is still a very time consuming process. niedzielski said that it should be ready for public use sometime in the summer of 2015.

“We can’t tell everything about North Dakota in one year,” niedzielski said. “in subsequent years we will continue to add more.”

new history of the state happens every day, and the students and professors working on the atlas are prepared for that.

“We are making a project that can always be added to,” Carmichael said. “the end goal is that it may never end.”

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The UND men’s basketball team is familiar with life on the road. Since its lone home game on Nov. 18, the Green and White have played the last four games away from the Betty, with another three to go before the team experiences the comfort of home again. The results have been mixed so far this season, with some good moments, such as those against South Dakota State and Alabama State. Jaron Nash led the team has shown some growth, which sparked the 75-68 victory.

"We let this one slip away," UND coach Brian Jones said. "In those first four minutes of the second half, I don’t think we competed like we did in the first half. We got back on our heels and let them get back in it. Our guys played hard and battled, but if we make some free throws in the second half, we win that game.”

The Green and White would not make the same mistake twice when it came to playing Alabama State. Jaron Nash led the way with a team-high 22 points, which sparked the 75-68 victory.

Though UND has played some solid basketball at times, the team has shown some growing pains. Against Utah and University of Texas Pan America, UND struggled in almost every facet of the game, which resulted in lopsided victories for the other two schools. UND shot a low 31 percent in the game against Utah, only scoring 53 points in the game. While UND had a tough time on offense, the team also struggled on defense, especially in the second half. Utah scored 53 points in the second half, resulting in a 90-53 loss for the Green and White.

The game against Texas Pan America was better, but not by much.

"Defense would become an issue yet again. While the game was tight at half, with UND leading 31-29 at the break, Texas Pan America would go off for 49 points in the second half. UND could not keep up with that scoring pace, and lost 78-60.

"We let our inability to get baskets on the offensive end affect our defense and that is disappointing,” Jones said. “In the second half, we came out and could not get any stops … This team has to figure that out and understand that you have to defend consistently and not just do it with energy when your shots are falling.”

UND will have the opportunity to clinch its second road win of the season this weekend. The Green and White face Drake University on Saturday, a team that has struggled mightily in the early moments of the season. The Bulldogs are 2-6 so far this year. Every one of Drake’s losses this year have come in blowout fashion, as teams are beating the Bulldogs on an average of 15-8 points a game.

One of the main questions this season was who is going to step up as UND’s leading scorer. Jaron Nash has taken on that duty at the start of the season. The forward is averaging 14.7 points a game with 8.8 rebounds a game. In the first six games, Nash has also had three double-doubles, in points and rebounds. The Green and White will need his production in order to secure a victory against Drake on Saturday.

Any time a team loses a majority of its leaders, the next season is going to have its growing pains. There have been some positive signs, but at 2-4, UND will continue to work at playing better basketball in the upcoming weeks.

Our guys played hard and battled, but if we make some free throws in the second half, we win that game.

Brian Jones
UND men’s basketball coach

Familiar road for UND
— Men’s basketball team continues season with roadtrip

By Alex Stadnik
The Dakota Student

The North Dakota women’s hockey team seems to be turning its season around after a dry spell in late October and early November. UND earned a sweep over WCHA conference rival St. Cloud State last weekend when it hosted the Huskies at Ralph Engelstad Arena. The series win marked the team’s second sweep of the season, and first since Oct. 11.

“We all start in practice,” sophomore forward Amy Menke after said UND completed the sweep last Sunday. “Better, upbeat practices where we’re battling a lot harder — I think that carriers over into games.”

UND changed something in its game as the team rolled over St. Cloud, winning 6-1 on Saturday and 3-1 on Sunday. The nine goals scored by UND are the most the team has accumulated in a weekend series this season.

North Dakota scored five straight goals in Saturday’s game before St. Cloud managed to get on the scoresheet late in the final period. Junior forward Joel Johnson and Guns Hirschbo both found the back of the net twice, leading UND past the Huskies.

Johnson was able to break an 11-game scoreless streak in Saturday’s game. North Dakota found a more efficient way of getting pucks to the net over St. Cloud, out-shooting the Huskies 40-20.

Sunday’s game was won with production from the North Dakota line of Menke, Dufault, and Kohler in which each player scored a goal in UND’s 3-1 win. North Dakota secured the series and improved to a winning record after two straight losses, but Idaho head coach changes the team needs to make in its game.

“If we play like we did today we’re going to be in trouble,” Idalski after Sunday’s game. “I think we understand that, and we’ll be a lot better.”

North Dakota found itself in the penalty box nine times this weekend. Lazy penalties are an aspect of the team’s game that Idalski wants fixed moving forward. North Dakota has been killing penalties with a strong 88.9 percent this season.

The next four games before the break were deemed “very important,” by Amy Menke after Sunday’s win.

UND, after a two-week home stand, goes on the road to take on the current WCHA leader Wisconsin. Wisconsin will prove to be a big test for the team being that the conference leader has only lost two of its 14 conference games this season, outsourcing WCHA opponents 56-20.

“We need a good week of practice,” Idalski said. “We’re playing Friday and Sunday. There are a lot of dynamics that are different for us, then RIT on the road again to close out the first half. It’s a big four games for us.”

North Dakota will play Wisconsin on Friday afternoon and again on Sunday this weekend. UND has been gaining momentum slowly moving up in the WCHA standings as the team was tied for fifth last week, before improving to third place to trail only Minnesota and Wisconsin after the sweep over St. Cloud.

After the series at Wisconsin, North Dakota will close out the first half of the season in a non-conference matchup against RIT on the road.

Women sweep up wins after drought
— UND women’s hockey team succeeds

By Ben Novak
The Dakota Student

North Dakota women’s hockey team seems to be turning its season around after a dry spell in late October and early November. UND earned a sweep over WCHA conference rival St. Cloud State last weekend when it hosted the Huskies at Ralph Engelstad Arena. The series win marked the team’s second sweep of the season, and first since Oct. 11.

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Caggiula claims NCHC honors

By Elizabeth Erickson
The Dakota Student

The score sheet has become a familiar place for Drake Caggiula’s name.

Caggiula tallied six goals and seven assists in eight of nine November games for the UND men’s hockey team to lead all NCHC players in scoring, and was named NCHC Player of the Month, the league announced Wednesday.

“It gives you a small sense of how you’ve been playing,” Caggiula said. “It’s nice to see him gain some of the national accolades,” UND coach Dave Hakstol said. “Kind of the hidden secret is, everybody in our locker room has always known how good of a hockey player he is and how good he is offensively. It’s funny — with some of the spotlight that’s coming now — he’s not getting a lot of credit for how complete a player he is.

“It’s the credit for the offensive production and the offensive numbers, and that’s a little bit of the way it works. That’s what brings the attention. But most impressive is how complete he is. He’s hard in every area of the game. He’s reliable in every area of the game. Right now, his confidence level and his ability to be able to make plays at any given time is taking the next step.”

“But most impressive is how complete he is … He’s reliable in every area of the game.

Dave Hakstol
UND men’s hockey coach

The junior forward was the league’s NCHC Offensive Player of the Week following a success- ful series against Miami, when he posted three goals — one being shorthanded — and two assists.

Caggiula’s highlight reel goal in a 3-2 overtime win over Air Force on Nov. 1 may have proven his offensive abilities, but his teammates know his talents stretch further.

“It’s nice to see him gain some of the national accolades,” UND coach Dave Hakstol said. “Kind of the hidden secret is, everybody in our locker room has always known how good of a hockey player he is and how good he is offensively. It’s funny — with some of the spotlight that’s coming now — he’s not getting a lot of credit for how complete a player he is.

“It’s the credit for the offensive production and the offensive numbers, and that’s a little bit of the way it works. That’s what brings the attention. But most impressive is how complete he is. He’s hard in every area of the game. He’s reliable in every area of the game. Right now, his confidence level and his ability to be able to make plays at any given time is taking the next step.”

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North Dakota takes over No. 1 spot

By Elizabeth Erickson
The Dakota Student

For the first time since the 2010-11 season, the UND men’s hockey team’s success has placed it in the No. 1 spot in national polls.

That doesn’t mean much to UND coach Dave Hakstol or the team.

But for fans watching a team that has suffered only three losses in its past 15 games, the most recent USCHO.com and USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine polls create commotion and a reason to hope.

“They’re great for college hockey fans. I think people do watch them. It hasn’t affected our week in any way, shape or form. We haven’t even discussed it as a staff or a team, and I don’t think it’s anything on our radar. Maybe this week it’s a good thing for our fans. But in general, I think it generates discussion and a little bit of excitement for college hockey fans. Let’s take the good of it.”

North Dakota will host Lake Superior State this weekend at Ralph Engelstad Arena in a nonconference battle and its last home series until January.

While its 3-13 record may not place Lake Superior in the winning column, UND has turned its glances away from the numbers and toward the Lakers’ competitive and hard working players — much the same as it has all season.

Despite setbacks and injuries through the first portion of the season that left UND skaters stepping up to fill roles they expected or not, they developed a mentality of adversity.

“We’ve found a way,” Hakstol said. “We’ve found a way, and that’s good. That’s guys believing in each other. It’s guys really being all in with the team concept, and that’s not always easy to do. You have to recognize not only guys that are maybe playing out of position a little bit, you also have to recognize guys that are in and out of the lineup.”

Women’s team welcomed home after roadtrip

— UND women’s basketball team returns from four-game road stretch, claims 88-40 victory over Bluehawks

By Kyle Beauchamp
The Dakota Student

There’s no place like home — at least that’s what the UND women’s basketball team might be thinking.

After playing four games on the road, North Dakota rushed onto the court to a warm welcome from the 1,300 fans in attendance at the Betty Engelstad Sioux Center on Tuesday night.

UND faced off against Dickinson State, winning 88-40. Prior to Tuesday night, UND had won all six of the matchups between the two teams.

This game didn’t require any come-from-behind miracle or strong individual efforts. The game started with both teams hitting a majority of their shots from the floor.

Dickinson stayed neck and neck with UND, even leading 17-16 at one point. This is when UND pulled ahead and didn’t look back on its way to a 33 to 10 scoring outbreak to end the first half.

UND had to make some in game adjustments to eventually pull ahead from a Dickinson team that made seven of its first nine shots.

“It’s a dangerous game to play when we come back home,” UND coach Travis Brewster said. “Our players realized we had a little bit of work to do. They seemed pretty understanding in the locker room and its one of those tough games, we’ve been gone so long we haven’t really had anytime to practice.”

The second half was all about defense where UND only allowed DSU to score an abysmal 13 points. UND would go on to add 39 points to win in convincing style 88 to 40 to improve to seven straight wins against Dickinson and six straight on the season.

UND’s stars shone bright, Emily Evers recorded her fourth