Kelley delivers state of the university address

By Marie Monson
The Dakota Student

Last week, UND President Robert Kelley gave his eighth State of the University address, in which he laid out the five goals for the university. The goals that comprise the “Vision 2020 - Road to Success,” a five-year plan charting UND’s route to becoming an “exceptional university,” which centers around retention and graduation, enrollment, research, external funding and capacity.

Speaking to a full Memorial Union Lecture Bowl, Kelley talked about the five core institutional goals he has and will be pressing for the next half decade.

UND spokesman Peter Johnson said he thinks the goals are somewhat high-reaching, but that they aren’t impossible.

“President Kelley would agree that many of the goals are stretch goals, but I think they are attainable,” Johnson said. “It will take faculty, staff, administrators and students working together to achieve the goals.”

The five goals include moving from this year’s nationally below average 80 percent fall to fall freshman retention rate to 90 percent, increasing enrollment from just under 15,000 students to 16,000, boosting sponsored program expenditures from $99.1 to $125 million, supporting faculty and increasing scholarship funds by an additional $100 million and renovating approximately 100 classrooms.

Despite the ambitiousness of the plan, audience members were overall supportive of Kelley’s message.

“The State of the University was very well attended and very well received,” Johnson said.

Kelley was straightforward about needing support in the five-year plan.

“I’m going to be asking for a lot of help for the university going forward,” Kelley said in his speech.

Reflecting on the overall state of UND, Kelley recalled the on the school’s last year with pride.

Law school expected to reopen this fall

By Brendan McCabe
The Dakota Student

UND has several ambitious construction projects taking place right now.

The UND School of Law is still in the process of getting a facelift. The project began last year, and is well underway to creating a new and valuable area for law students to learn.

“Right after graduation last year, we began the process of moving,” Director of Alumni and Public Relations Rob Carolin said. “At this point everything is on time, and we’re expecting to be back next fall.”

The project is not only a new addition to the old building, but also a renovation of the building itself. The 15,000-square-foot addition to the law school will give students ample room to learn, with one of the more prominent features being a mock courtroom.

“We will have a new case study room, new deliberation room, a reworked legal aid clinic and most importantly a new teaching courtroom,” Carolin said. “You need to have a courtroom to practice law, and it will certainly be to the benefit of the students.”

Human rights talk series begins

By Megan Hoffman
The Dakota Student

An international studies speakers series of talks about “exploring international human rights” kicked off on Feb. 4, featuring UND professors Paul Sum and Brian Urlacher.

The first talk was on “Exploring the Focus of Transnational Human Rights Groups” and was held at the Empire Arts Center.

“We are interested in the role human rights organizations play in shaping human rights internationally,” Sum said. “What’s striking is the growth of these organizations over time.”

Sum said the growth of human rights organizations started to take off around 1975 due to the Helsinki Accords, increased democratization, the communication revolution and the codification of human rights standards.

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“Moments” by Bill Rerick

The groups of people around Jeff made him feel sort of isolated. He had talked to several people and the conversations went well, but he couldn’t shake the feeling that everyone else was connecting on a deeper level than he was. He went into another room where Bryan was and sat next to him. Bryan was talking to a girl he must have just met. Across the room Jeff noticed someone he knew from his math class. He noticed that she was pretty, but in a subtle way. She wasn’t laughing unnecessarily loudly like the other girls, and she wasn’t overly dressed just for the party. It was intriguing for him to see her interact in a social setting. She turned her head and made eye contact with him for a moment and quickly turned back to talking to her friends. A minute later her friends left to go talk to some guys they knew while she decided to stay there. Jeff figured it was weird enough that he was staring at her, so he got up to go and try to say “Hi”.

Judy’s TAVERN

HAPPY HOUR: Monday-Friday from 5-6
Beers $1.50 • 32oz $2.50
After 10pm 32oz $3.50
1221 North 20th St. Grand Forks, ND (next to Hugo’s)
“We are doing what it is the state wants us to do, and we are doing it, I think, exceptionally well,” Kelley said.

This year UND’s freshman class ACT score average was just under 24, and the group of students maintained a median grade point average of 3.4, the highest in the history of any entering class.

Kelley thinks that UND will be able to increase the enrollment without lowering admission standards, and the president said his goal is to have students get their degrees in four years, increasing the turnover and pushing more young adults through the university.

“If we retain our students, and if we graduate our students in a reasonable amount of time, and if we recruit more students through all of the incentives that we put before students primarily outstanding exceptional programs we will be able to increase the enrollments on this campus to the goal of 16,000 students in five years,” Kelley said.

Kelley also talked about continuing to build up UND’s library, stating that the institution plans on spending approximately $7.8 million on library expansion and renovation.

“We are doing what it is the state wants us to do, and we are doing it, I think, exceptionally well.”

Robert Kelley
UND President

“A strong library is absolutely core,” Kelley said. “It’s central to the success of our research enterprise.”

Kelley said he wants to keep the public informed so it understands what changes are being made and how it’s all working.

“I want to keep it transparent so people understand the goals and actions of the university,” Kelley said.

“We want to know, have they made a difference?” Urlacher said. “Have they changed anything? How have they changed policy, changed states? Have they made oppressive countries a little less oppressive?”

Sum and Urlacher used Genocide Watch, a human rights organization out of Washington, D.C., as an example.

“When they start seeing deterioration, they start sounding alarm bells,” Sum said. “They look at eight stages of genocide. But, they are one organization and can’t throw the same amount of weight to every situation.”

The two relied on event data from 1992-2004 in newspapers where human rights organizations went after countries.

“What we found, the good news is that human rights organizations are more critical of states that have horrific violations,” Urlacher said. “This suggests that the organizations are doing what they say.”

The United States is one country that is targeted by human rights groups in regards to Guantanamo Bay, incarceration rates, racial discrimination and racial profiling.

“This is not looking exclusively at genocide,” Sum said. “It’s looking at human rights violations, and the U.S. is regularly called out.”

There will be three more talks on March 4, April 1 and April 29. All are sponsored by the UND International Studies program.

“The United States is one country that is targeted by human rights groups in regards to Guantanamo Bay, incarceration rates, racial discrimination and racial profiling.”

Marie Monson is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at marie.iva.monson@my.und.edu

Megan Hoffman is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at megan.hoffman@my.und.edu

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COMMENTARY

Concealing the Problem: Bringing guns into schools won’t help

Colin Mummery
The Dakota Student

Last week a HB 1195 passed in the North Dakota House of Representatives that would effectively allow concealed weapons in schools. When I first read about this bill I had to make sure I wasn’t reading an article on The Onion. The bill, which is on its way to the state Senate, would allow approved concealed and carry license holders to carry weapons in schools. I know this sounds absurd, but I am not joking. Addressing the issue of gun violence should not be done with the very beast that’s causing the problem.

The proponents of the bill claim it protects for rural communities, in which first responders can take more than thirty minutes to respond to emergencies. I admit this is certainly a prevalent issue. But allowing the general public to handle emergencies on their own with their own guns, is not the way to solve the issue.

Unfortunately, the issue of gun control has faded from the national spotlight. I, however, still find gun control has faded from the national spotlight. For instance, when we are allergen challenged, we focus on the winner. Instead, we target the allergen. Instead, we target the allergen. Instead, we target the allergen. Instead, we target the allergen. These logic are terribly misguided. Children should not have to go to school knowing there is the possibility of a looming threat. With this bill we would be acknowledging there’s a problem with gun violence. But instead of attacking the problem head on, we choose an alternative that seems conceptually easy as a path of least resistance.

For instance, when we are allergic to something we don’t fix our allergic reaction with more exposure to the allergen. Instead, we target the problem, (the allergen), isolate it and, most importantly, avoid it. The same thought process could be applied to responsible gun ownership. The focus needs be toward education regarding responsibility. We need to cultivate school environments that focus on a sense of safety, community and confidence. Allowing guns in schools cultivates an environment of fear, which is no doubt a preposterous atmosphere for children.

I will admit this approach is hard, time consuming and even a little bit grandiose. I do think attacking responsible gun ownership head on is a possibility. But the first step is addressing the problem, not delaying the issue with band-aid solutions such as HB 1195. In other words, we need a step back and recognize the intricacies of the issue instead of merely approving haphazard measures that are entirely temporary.

I fear the bill’s passage in the Senate, but I can only hope wiser minds prevail.

In the meantime, I encourage you to research the bill yourself, and if you are as inclined as I am give state lawmakers a call. More importantly though, I hope we can all give gun control another thought.

Responsible gun control is still a prevalent issue, and I welcome any argument otherwise. As an informed citizenry it would be irresponsible to let a silly and altogether misguided bill such as this become law.

Colin Mummery is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at colin.mummery@my.und.edu

The VIEW Dogs

By Roger Waters

You gotta be crazy, you gotta have a real need. You gotta sleep on your toes, and when you’re on the street. You gotta be able to pick out the easy meat with your eyes closed. And then moving in silently, down wind and out of sight. You gotta strike when the moment is right without thinking. And after a while, you can work on points for style. Like the club tie, and the firm handshake. A certain look in the eye and an easy smile. You have to be trusted by the people that you lie to. So that when they turn their backs on you, You’ll get the chance to put the knife in. You gotta keep one eye looking over your shoulder. You know it’s going to get harder, and harder, and harder as you get older.

And in the end you’ll pack up and fly down south. Hide your head in the sand, Just another sad old man, All alone and dying of cancer. And when you lose control, you’ll reap the harvest you have sown. And as the fear grows, the bad blood slows and turns to stone. And it’s too late to lose the weight you used to need to throw around.

So have a good drown, as you go down, all alone, Dragged down by the stone. I gotta admit that I’m a little bit confused. Sometimes it seems to me as if I’m just being used. Gotta stay awake, gotta try and shake off this creeping malaise.

If I don’t stand my own ground, how can I find my way out of this maze? Deaf, dumb, and blind, you just keep on pretending. That everyone’s expendable and no-one has a real friend. And it seems to you the thing to do would be to isolate the winner.

And everything’s done under the sun, And you believe at heart, everyone’s a killer. Who was born in a house full of pain. Who was trained not to spit in the fan. Who was told what to do by the man. Who was broken by trained personnel. Who was fitted with collar and chain. Who was given a pat on the back. Who was breaking away from the pack. Who was only a stranger at home. Who was ground down in the end. Who was found dead on the phone. Who was given a pat on the back. Who was broken by trained personnel. Who was fitted with collar and chain. Who was given a pat on the back. Who was breaking away from the pack. Who was only a stranger at home. Who was ground down in the end. Who was found dead on the phone. Who was dragged down by the stone.

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Editorial Policy
The Dakota Student is dedicated to the free exchange of ideas. Opinion columns and letters to the editor will not be edited for content, except in cases of criminal or civil liability. The Dakota Student reserves the right to edit or reject columns or letters for various reasons. The ideas expressed in columns and letters reflect the views of the writer and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the staff of The Dakota Student.

Letter Policy
The Dakota Student encourages readers to express their opinions on the editorial pages. Letters to the editor are published based on merit, general interest, timeliness and content. All letters must be limited to 250 words.

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Tuesday February 10, 2015
Books were one of the few sources of entertainment come in hopes to find a job that will give me the right, you must be incredibly close to the person that to get it. Someone a book is the most personal thing you can do. It makes so many different assumptions about the person that to get it, you must be incredibly close to both their gift and the receiver. Books are my life — this isn’t an understatement. I study literature in hopes to find a job that will keep me close to books. My primary source of entertainment comes from my bookshelves. I grew up with my favorites the way a person grows up with a childhood friend. Since I moved around as a kid, my books were one of the few constants in my life. On top of that, growing up with an immune disorder meant that there were many lonely days where all I had were my antibiotics and my books. My professor’s question wasn’t out of line or inappropriate — it was simply incredibly personal to me. It was like he was asking me to name my best friend (I often am reading three or four books at once). Musicians have their instrument — they spend hours upon hours with it, honing a craft, learning the ins and outs of the way a piece of wood or brass can create something beautiful. I assume it’s the same for readers — but instead of music, we are creating worlds. Authors can only put so much into words — there has to be some left to the imagination. The reader’s mind fills in these gaps, creating a world completely unique. To use the musician example again, it is like a cellist playing Bach — every cellist plays the notes slightly differently. This isn’t to say they deviate from the music or play it incorrectly, but that there is something going on behind the scenes. The musician has parts of the music he loves, hates and struggles with. There is a relationship between the musician and the notes, there are inside jokes and points of pain and points of sheer joy — the same can be said for readers and their books.

What a person reads says volumes about the person in question. Think of the suggested differences between a person who reads essays on poetry (yes, for fun) and the person who reads poetry straight. Think of the difference between the person who reads fantasy novels and the person who reads pop-philosophy. Think of what a reading list that combines all of the above says about a person.

To use myself as an example, when the question was asked of me, I was currently reading three books: a favorite fantasy novel, a book of essays on late 20th century British poets and their use of the ideas of entropy and a My Little Pony comic book. Had I responded, my response would have revealed more about myself to the class than I was comfortable with. The fantasy novel is one of my favorites and a book that I hold close to my heart the way a child holds their favorite teddy bear. The essay reveals me as someone who likes to look at the gears turning beneath the work and could characterize me as possibly pretentious. I don’t think I need to explain what conclusions a person could draw from the comic book. My reading list can say a lot about me — both correctly and incorrectly. The same can be said of any reader. Is it any wonder, then, that I was more than reluctant to respond? It would have felt like reading a page of my diary aloud to a room full of strangers. We each have something that brings us joy, something more than a hobby that defines us as a person. Mine happens to be books — find yours. Embrace it, enjoy it, love it.

Kjerstine Trooien is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at kjerstine.trooien@my.und.edu

The rights and wrongs of jury nullification

In most U.S. jury trials, there are two answers a juror can be expected to give — guilty or not guilty. However, there are two more decisions those serving on a jury are likely never told about. These decisions are known as jury nullification, and it essentially means that a jury may find a guilty man innocent, not for insufficient evidence, but because the jury doesn’t believe the law is valid. For example, if a man is guilty of possession of a controlled substance, the jury could let him go free because they believe he should be punished. This is not a written law, but is created as the logical conclusion of two other laws. First, that juries cannot be punished for “wrong” decisions, and, second, that a person cannot be tried for the same crime twice. The logical creation of these two laws gives us four different verdicts a juror can come to: Not guilty, not guilty nullification, guilty or guilty nullification. The U.S. legal system relies on strict rules and on juries enforcing the laws that are created by the government to keep order. This is why many district attorneys will ask you, although in a very indirect manner, whether or not you know about nullification. The question is usually phrased “Do you have any belief that may prevent you from fulfilling your duties to carry out the law?” If you answer yes, you may be swiftly rejected. This is some, including George Donnelly and James Babh, important jury nullification is an important safeguard against unjust laws and wrongful imprisonment. Donnelly and Babh started a crowd-funding campaign to use jury nullification to end the prosecution of victimless crimes in New York City. However, jury nullification is not necessarily the embodiment of democracy it may seem to be. Juries also can find an innocent defendant guilty on the grounds of jury nullification. Judges can override a guilty verdict they believe was not reached on the evidence provided. However, this still poses a very dangerous prospect for innocent people that have been charged with a crime.

Studies have shown juries that are aware of nullification will often let the more sympathetic defendant go free for a crime, while convicting a less sympathetic defendant for the same crime. This creates problems with nullification, as it is often not applied because a law is unjust, but because a jury sympathizes with the defendant.

Nullification is not a good or a bad thing really. It occupies a space that is necessary to have a fair and balanced judicial system. Nullification is simply the accidental creation of other laws, and the hindering of its practice is almost always necessary in order to ensure a fair system. The job of a jury is not to interpret or change the law. It is to execute the law to its fullest extent, whether that law is just or not. I won’t argue that citizens should have the right to change the laws, but criminal trials are not the place to do it.

Alex Bertsch is the opinion editor of The Dakota Student. He can be reached at alexander.j.bertsch@my.und.edu
The School of Graduate Studies is accepting abstracts for the 2015 Scholarly Forum, to be held at the Memorial Union, March 10 & 11. We encourage submissions from graduate students and faculty.

If you would like to schedule a special session for your department, or would like to volunteer to moderate a session please contact Mark Danes at mark.danes@gradschool.UND.edu, 701-777-2945.

Deadline: February 6, 2015.

“I think it will also help the state,” Carolin said. “We are the only law school in the North Dakota, and it will give our students better opportunities to learn and ultimately give back to the state.”

In the meantime, law students attending UND have been taking the lack of an official law building in stride.

“We currently have classes in 10 different buildings, including Leonard, Education and Merrifield,” Carolin said. “It’s been a challenge, but everyone has been great and we know the end result will pay off.”

When asked about the groups charged with the actual construction and renovation, Carolin had nothing but kind things to say.

“Construction Engineers has worked very closely with ICON Architectural Group on this project, so both have really made our project move along in a positive way,” Carolin said. “Kudos to them.”

Brendan McCabe is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at brendan.mccabe@my.und.edu
North Dakota is not often seen as the melting pot that the rest of America is known as.

In fact, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, a staggering 89.6 percent of the population is identified as Caucasian.

This can be an intimidating statistic to some, but the UND International Organization is looking to foster diversity in the state with its 53rd annual Feast of Nations, a multicultural event designed to break down the walls separating people from differing ethnic backgrounds.

Feast of Nations started in the early ’60s as a small get-together where citizens from around the world brought traditional dishes from their home countries for others to sample. These humble beginnings soon blossomed into an event so enormous that it filled every corner of the Alerus Center Ballroom on Saturday night.

One of the most effective ways to take in a new culture is to try its native cuisine, and the Feast of Nations certainly lived up to its name. Guests were treated to a five-course meal with origins from Senegal to Sri Lanka, with each dish being more delectable than the last.

The night began with traditional baba ganoush and pita bread appetizer from Lebanon and ended with chocolate biscuit pudding from Sri Lanka.

“I really liked trying all of the different foods, they were all very fresh,” sophomore Taylor Blaine said. “I loved the dessert at the end.”

As the food was being served, more than a dozen groups from all across the globe provided the night’s entertainment.

The lively opening performance was given by UND’s very own Hip Hop Crew to an enthusiastic and welcoming crowd. Led by choreographer Eller Bonifacio, the crew gave a performance that set an upbeat and energetic mood for the remainder of the night.

The FIRST LEGO League Robotics championship was held Saturday at the Memorial Union. The event was sponsored by UND and the College of Engineering and Mines and put on with the help of many UND students and community volunteers.

Each team displayed its robot’s abilities throughout different obstacle courses and provided information on their creations.

The robotics competition consisted of 38 teams started at 11:45 a.m., and concluded with awards at 4 p.m. More than 25,000 teams expanding across 80 countries make up the The FIRST LEGO league organization, which includes teams of students between ages 9 and 14 worldwide.
A night at the Ballet: Sleeping Beauty

By Serianna Henkel
The Dakota Student

For an all-ages night on the town, the Chester Fritz Auditorium was the place to be Friday night. Set to a colorful garden backdrop and original songs by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, the North Dakota Ballet Company performed its rendition of the classic ballet Sleeping Beauty.

Originally written as a three act ballet, it was the final act that came to life on the stage of the Chester Fritz. Picking up after the Sleeping Beauty story we know from Disney, the third act is a performance depicting the grand wedding of the sleeping beauty herself, Aurora, to her prince.

In an interesting twist, well-known characters from outside the world of Sleeping Beauty are present at the wedding ceremony. Several musical numbers showcasing the likes of Little Red Riding Hood, Puss in Boots and more worked together to interwine classic fairy tales.

A notable group of attendees were Cinderella and her stepsisters, dancers acting out a comical struggle for attention, all while moving gracefully across the stage in a carefully choreographed scene.

All ages and skill levels were showcased on stage from the beginners in their first pairs of ballet shoes, to the seasoned dancers flowing effortlessly en pointe. The mixture of age and talent gave the show its character.

This rendition of the ballet was choreographed by Emily Grizzell and Chalnessa Eames of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, brought in as guests of the North Dakota Ballet Company.

Dancers from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet also joined the company for the night, featured as Aurora and the prince. Julia Jones Whitehead and Ryan Vetter, respectively, were the final dancers in the wedding scene, with two couple dances and a solo each.

The crowd was dazzled as the pair made every intricate move with elegance and precision that made it look easy. The chemistry between the two dancers made the performance all the more charming.

The closing scene filled the stage with all of the dancers involved in the show. A colorful array of costumes gave the audience their final glimpse into the world of Sleeping Beauty, and a standing ovation confirmed the success of the evening’s production.

Serianna Henkel is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at serianna.henkel.und.edu

North Dakota Ballet Company ballerinas perform in Sleeping Beauty Friday at the Chester Fritz.

JENNIFER FRIESE | THE DAKOTA STUDENT

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It was great to experience some of the cultures I had never gotten a chance to before,” freshman Austin Holtz said at the end of the night.

“Just to name a few,” Senior DJ as well as Servers and Bartenders. Apply in person at 9 N 3rd St, Downtown Grand Forks. EOE.

The Grand Forks Park District is currently taking applications for Arena workers. For more information or to apply online go to gfpark.org or you may apply in person at the Grand Forks Park District Office at 1060 67th Ave South, located in the ICON Sports Center.

Choice Health & Fitness is taking applications for Childcare, Deli and Maintenance workers, you can apply at Choice Health & Fitness at 4401 11th Ave South or online @ Chociefh.com.

Director of Youth Programming, The Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre is seeking a quarter-time, Director of Youth Programming for Feb. – April and Sept. – Dec. 2015 (approximately 12.25 hours a week). Current programming consists of 1-3 hours for our pre-school program (1.5 hours on a Saturday & another day during the week TBD), 5 hours once a month for our Play Day program (grades 1-8), on days when the GP Schools are closed, 1-5 p.m. (Feb. 26, Mar. 20, April 3), 4 hours/twice a week for our new after school program for elementary (or middle schoolers, TBD by the instructor), 3:30 – 5:15 p.m. Applicant must have experience performing theatre & leading workshops for youth, preferably holding a degree in theatre or education. The individual should be self-directed, have strong classroom handling skills, be creative and enthusiastic. Pay is $15 an hour. This is not a benefitted position. “We might consider splitting hours between two exceptional applicants. Please apply by sending a letter of interest and resume by Jan. 31st via e-mail: info@ggfct.com or by U.S. mail: GGFCT, 412 N 2nd Ave. Columbia West has what you need in an apartment! Many and spacious floor plans. Many updates and incentives. 701.765.3024 or columbiawest@goldmark.com

Level 10 is now hiring a Resident DJ as well as Servers and Security Personnel. Apply in person at 10 N 3rd St, Downtown Grand Forks. EOE.

Brendan McCabe is a staff writer for the Dakota Student. He can be reached at brendan.mccabe@my.und.edu
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contributor as well ... I fully expect big things from him."

Laron is familiar with North Dakota territory. As a Minor native, Larson is a left-handed first baseman who is expected to be an impact player in the lineup.

He will be added to a list of players from Minot, such as Ryan Kraugh, Mark Olson, Luke Tegle and many others.

"Him being from North Da-

Kraugh, Mark Olson, Luke Tegle and many others.

UND women claim victories
— Basketball team wins two at home

Sophomore guard Leah Szabla dribbles the ball against Northern Arizona University last Saturday at the Betty Engelstad Sioux Center.

Staff Report
The Dakota Student
Just over a month away from
20-6 all-time record at home in

the Big Sky. In the last two sea-

sons, that record has risen to 15-1.

Mia Loyd, Emily Evers and

Mark at home as it now holds a

20-6 all-time record at home in

the Big Sky. In the last two sea-

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Mia Loyd, Emily Evers and

Makailah Dyer had standout per-

formances last Saturday as the trio

The wins improved UND's

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**Rivals split weekend series**

— Gophers rebound from Friday loss to defeat UND on Saturday

By Elizabeth Erickson

The Dakota Student

Twelve seniors on the UND baseball team will begin their final campaigns in green and white jerseys this weekend — and their season opener may be the toughest of their careers.

North Dakota will begin its 2015 season on the road Feb. 13-15 against an Arkansas team that has found itself in the NCAA tournament for the past 13 seasons and garnered a No. 16 national ranking this year.

Looking back on the Razorbacks’ 49-25 record last season may be daunting. But UND’s veteran lineup has proved its capability in settling in and making strides forward.

“It’s without a doubt, probably the best league, best conference for college baseball in the nation,”UND coach Jeff Dodson said. “For us to play a team of that caliber right out of the gate, it’s going to be fast paced. It’s a transition we’re going to have to get through really quickly, but I feel like with 12 seniors, we’ll be able to close the gap a little bit quicker than maybe in years past.”

The three-game series will be more than a tough test for North Dakota’s lineup. It will be a challenge in the national spotlight.

“I think the biggest thing for us is guys getting to go compete,” Dodson said. “We’ve got a chance to be on the national stage and show what our club can do, and also find out some things we’ve got to work on. If we ever get to NCAA postseason play, we’re going to have to beat teams like Arkansas. So we want to get used to it now and try and find out what our guys can do.”

**New commitments**

After the team’s seniors finish their careers, new faces will join the lineup.

Last Wednesday, Dodson announced six commitments set to enroll at UND this fall: Tyler Berg, Jack Collins, Joe Fedrickson, Grant Larson, Hayden May and Connor Moroder.

Berg, a right-handed outfielder, hails from St. Michael-Albertville High School in Minnesota and wore a captain’s “C” on his chest for both the baseball and football team.

“We feel very fortunate to get him in,” Dodson said. “We were losing a lot of pop in our lineup this year, and going into next season, we feel like Tyler is going to be a guy that can come in and make an impact as a freshman.”

A Wisconsin native, Collins is a left-handed pitcher. Fedrickson feels has the potential to create swings and misses at the Division I level.

“We’re going to put him out there early, and see what he can do,” Dodson said.

“Fredrickson will take a spot on the lineup as a right-handed infielder. He is from Anden Hills, Minn., and helped his Mounds View High School team notch a championship last year while batting .344.

His abilities also resonate off the field.

“We’re excited about Joe for his leadership capabilities, as well as being a good player,” Dodson said. “We feel like he is going to be a definite

The UND women’s hockey team takes on Minnesota last weekend at Ralph Engelstad Arena.

By Ben Novak

The Dakota Student

The UND women’s hockey team split its series against No. 2 ranked Minnesota at home last weekend — winning in Friday night’s game 3-0, but falling to the Gophers 3-1 on Saturday at Ralph Engelstad Arena.

The 4,818 fans packed into the Ralph for Friday night’s game witnessed Minnesota’s first loss at Ralph Engelstad Arena since Jan. 13, 2012 as the Green White shut out Minnesota.

Both UND goals in the second came after big saves by Amsley-Benzie that forced turnovers.

Good defense preserved the lead for North Dakota in the third period. Eleven of Amsley-Benzie’s 25 saves came in the final period of play.

North Dakota also blocked 12 shots in the third, while Menke scored her second of the night on the empty net to secure the win over North Dakota.

**Saturday switch**

North Dakota went into Saturday’s game with momentum, as it claimed an early lead just over one minute into the game when Jakobson scored her second goal of the weekend with a wrist shot from the high slot.

The Gophers were able to get on the board for the first time on the weekend just over midway through the first period.

Minnesota scored off a turnover behind the North Dakota net after UND struggled to break the puck out of the defensive zone, making the score 2-1 early in the second period.

Minnesota went on the power play for the second time in the game midway through the second period, this time capitalizing on the odd man opportunity just 18 seconds into the power play.