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Art Museum opens African exhibit

The Dakota Student

A recent donation to the North Dakota Museum of Art has expanded upon the museum’s current collection of African art pieces. The new exhibit, “African Affairs,” opened on Feb. 15 and contains art pieces from Thomas McNemar. McNemar is a collector of African art and was introduced to the museum through Barton Benes. Benes’ collection of art came after his death and is on permanent display. “He willed his apartment to the museum,” Associate Museum Director Matt Wallace said. “It is on exhibit on our top floor.” McNemar previously donated 30 ceramic vessels in 2012.

| Sessions prepare for Writers Conference |

By Marie Monson
The Dakota Student

Like many of the past UND Writers Conferences, this year’s brings together a group of women with varying levels of experience, who together cover a broad range of genres and mediums and come from an assortment of backgrounds. Anyone interested in the conference is encouraged to attend the Writers Conference 101 sessions, which are held every Sunday leading up the conference at 2 p.m. and provide a foundation for discussion and information on the writers coming to the event.

So far, UND Professor Heidi Czerwiec has led a discussion on author Tara Betts’ “Arc and Hue,” and English Instructor David Haezelin facilitated discussion this past Sunday on Roxane Gay’s “Bad Feminist.”

Eric Wolfe, Chair of the English Department at UND, encourages students to get to know the authors attending the conference. “It’s a great chance to listen to and interact with some of the most creative, interesting contemporary writers working today,” Wolfe said.

There are still four Writers Conference 101 sessions scheduled for the next four Sundays leading up to the conference itself. These provide community members and students, faculty and staff the opportunity to get to know more about the individual authors before the six guests arrive in Grand Forks March 25.

The writers

The most widely known of the group, Roxane Gay, is currently no. 4 on Bookaholic’s list of top contenders for 2015 Pulitzer Prize Predictions with her most recent book, “An Untamed State.” A Yale and Michigan Technological University Graduate, Gay spends her time writing, teaching at Purdue University, and working on her nationally-ranked Scrabble game. Gay has over 17 thousand followers on Twitter.

A well-respected storyteller, author Gish Jen has received several awards of her own, including the Guggenheim Fellowship for Creative Arts, US & Canada, and the Lannan Literary Award for Fiction. Jen’s lectures address questions of self-narration and she has played an integral role in starting discussions about ethnicity and what it means to be an American.

UAS program receives gift from MotionDSP

By Colin Johnson
The Dakota Student

Last week the UAS center at the University of North Dakota received a gift from the Silicon Valley based company, MotionDSP.

MotionDSP makes advanced image processing, computer vision and video analytics software that helps companies extract critical information from real-time video to answer high-stakes questions. Some of the customers of MotionDSP include Raytheon, Lockheed Martin and Boeing as well as many police departments in major cities. “We received two software packages from the MotionDSP company from UND alumni who work for...”

Taylor Butterfield carries a UND unmanned aircraft. Photo via UND relations.
UND Professor Sheila Liming will be leading a discussion on Jen’s “In the American Society” from “Who’s Irish?” and an excerpt from “Art, Culture, and Self” on March 8 at Ferguson Books and Media.

With a National Bestselling Novel — Once Upon a River — and a critically acclaimed short fiction collection — American Salvage — already on her resume, author Bonnie Jo Campbell, who grew up on a small Michigan farm, will feel right at home in the North Dakota prairie. However, her background is far from simple. Campbell has hitchhiked across the United States and Canada, sailed the Swiss Alps on her bicycle and traveled with the Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus selling snow cones, just to name a few of her adventures. Campbell’s “Once Upon a River” will be discussed this Sunday with UND English lecturer Kim Stewart at the UND Bookstore.

Although she is the youngest author coming to this year’s conference, author Tara Betts, a Cave Canem fellow, brings with her a multi-faceted background. Betts, who just received her Ph.D. in English from Binghamton University, is also a poetry-oriented author. Betts is the Poetry Editor for “Blackberry: a magazine” and a Contributing Editor for Radius. She also has worked with other mediums of art, including film, and appeared in the Black Family Channel Series “SPOKEN,” and HBO’s, “Def Poetry Jam.”

The final author for the 46th Annual UND Writers Conference will also be flying in from Southern California. Los Angeles based author Alexandra Grant’s interests include not only literature but also painting, drawing and sculpting. Grant has collaborated with other big-name artists on projects in the past, including philosopher and playwright Helene Cixous, hyper-text pioneer Michael Joyce and famous actor and writer Keanu Reeves. Grant’s work has been exhibited in various museums, including the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LAMCA). Writers Conference Director Crystal Alberts will lead an overview of Grant’s work and the rest of this year’s authors with Todd Hebert on March 15 at the UND Bookstore.

Alberts said she hopes UND students take advantage of the opportunity to meet these well-versed women and also talk with one another.

“I hope that (students) will be moved to read something new,” Alberts said. “I hope that they will be inspired to think about things in a different way; I hope that they will take a chance and talk to each other (and the community members) about literature and culture; I hope that they learn something that they didn’t know before; I hope that they have fun.”

Details about the sessions can be found on the Writers Conference website: und.edu/org/writers-conference.

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Economic inequality

Colin Mummery

The Dakota Student

Anytime I try to discuss the economy, I tend to draw blank stares and an overwhelming lack of interest. For the average student, the economy is probably far down on the list of concerns. Rightly so, economics can be boring, intangible and filled with lots of numbers. As an economics student, I find the field highly captivating. As such, I think there is a key economic deficiency that the public fails to realize. Trust me, it's important for college students preparing to enter the professional workforce.

Since 2000, the median earnings for full time workers aged 18-24 has actually fallen 10 percent, adjusted for inflation. Simply put, wages aren't rising in line with broader economic growth. Now, there are a myriad of reasons why this is, but I will not delve into that for the sake of retaining your attention.

What is absolutely imperative is the understanding that wage growth is frozen. There is hardly any trickle down occurring for the middle class, which means the middle class is not becoming better off.

So, there needs to be more pressure on employers to pay higher wages and salaries. Part of this pressure needs to come from the general public. Perhaps wages will rise if there is demand from the bottom. College students should speak to their employers and request pay increases. Students should negotiate new job offers and place particular importance on pay.

As income gaps become larger, it will become increasingly important that the middle class takes matters into their own hands. This brings me to my next point, which is the issue of wealth and income inequality.

There is absolutely no disputing the fact that income inequality is becoming much larger. The issue is gaining traction, but it should be clear which data is trustworthy. I have heard and seen statistics online that are incredibly blown out of proportion. Personally, I prescribe to data collected by Emmanuel Saez. He's a renowned economist who's dedicated his life to the study of inequality.

By his measure, the share of total income received by the top one percent of Americans exceeds 20 percent. In the 1970s, it was hardly 10 percent. But the more indicative metric is the measure of wealth, or total value if you will, of a household. The top 1% of American households hold 22 percent of wealth.

Now, some perspective may help to understand these numbers. The wealthiest 160,000 families own as much as the poorest 145 million families, which is also 10 times as unequal as income. Just let that sink in.

Now I won't bore you with further explanations of how this has happened or what needs to be done. That is the subject of sophomore economics classrooms and novel research.

I can, however, make a few simple points that hold valuable relevance for college students.

First, one may argue that inequality is simply a by-product of healthy capitalist economies. While this holds true, it should be clear that the current levels of inequality are approaching severe levels.

More importantly, extreme wealth inequality is bad for the middle class. Essentially, the rich will continue to get richer, and the poor will remain poor.

One of the first things everyone learns in economics is that other spending is your income. So, when the middle class cannot garner any real growth, we see a correlation with the frozen wage progression I described earlier.

So what should be taken away from all of these abstract facts and figures? Well, a few things should become apparent. Without a more progressive tax system the middle class will fail to see income growth in real terms. Also, it is increasingly difficult to achieve any mobility. In other words, it is nearly impossible to climb from the bottom to the top, as it was once possible with the now defunct 'American Dream.'

I can guarantee the issue of wealth and income inequality will become more apparent in news and politics. In the very least one should recognize the issue holds relevance, and should by no means be passed by as mere fodder. The coming elections will no doubt include inequality as agenda items.

Be sure to do your homework before voting, for politicians may try to sling the issue in their favor.

In the meantime, ask your current employer for a raise, or be prepared to negotiate your salary when you graduate.

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

The 99% needs a raise

Image courtesy of Heathwood Press. Statistics from The Millennials Value Survey conducted by the Berkeley Center.

Image courtesy of fabiusmaximus.com

8) Amass a great fortune, give money to no one and instead build a Scorpio McDuck-esque pool full of beaver breaths and expensive silk rugs
9) Crush the patriarchy, divvy up the pieces amongst my friends
10) Go to grad school, cry a lot, contemplate a better life
1) Pretend to be a nurse or other healthcare professional, or just learn how to do practical things with my hands, like baking cakes or shocking oysters
2) Write a memoir, entitled “No Crying in My Bath Tonight” (alternative titles include: “This Is What Happens When You Go to Derry and Start Asking Around about the IRA,” “I Had Potential Once, Too” and “Did You Know Sanitation Strikes Are a Thing? And Why All of the Hard Work and Research I Did as an Undergraduate Now Mean Absolutely Nothing?”)
3) Thrash around and groan on the floor in despair, call it performance art and command respect from those around me
5) Write a children’s book (ideas for titles include: “Fontil- care,” And Other Important P-Words You Should Commit to Memory,” “What You Definitely Should Do Near a Concord Enclosure,” “Oh, the Places You Won’t Go Because it Would Ruin You Financially,” and “Things that Are Fun to Shoot in Airport Security.”
4) Try not to think too much about my mortality and instead learn how to do practical things with my hands, like baking cakes or shocking oysters
7) Backpack through Europe, “get lost” in Mokota, as some of the identity of a long-dead 15th century orphan, take up with a Marxist or something, live tax-free in a cottage in Cardiff somewhere while my family mourns my apparent death
6) Try not to think too much about my mortality and instead learn how to do practical things with my hands, like baking cakes or shocking oysters
8) Amass a great fortune, give money to no one and instead build a Scorpio McDuck-esque pool full of beaver breaths and expensive silk rugs
9) Crush the patriarchy, divvy up the pieces amongst my friends
10) Go to grad school, cry a lot, contemplate a better life for myself full of soccer games and Viscidin, continue going to grad school anyway, eventually cry my way to a doctorate, desperately wish I had potential, live tax-free in a cottage in Cardiff somewhere while my family mourns my apparent death
2) Write a memoir, entitled “No Crying in My Bath Tonight” (alternative titles include: “This Is What Happens When You Go to Derry and Start Asking Around about the IRA,” “I Had Potential Once, Too” and “Did You Know Sanitation Strikes Are a Thing? And Why All of the Hard Work and Research I Did as an Undergraduate Now Mean Absolutely Nothing?”)
Discrimination is not a North Dakota value. Plain and simple.

We do not value our friends being fired for reasons having nothing to do with job performance; we do not value our family members being turned away from housing opportunities; and we do not value our neighbors being unable to seek aid from the Department of Labor should discrimination occur.

It's this very reason that SB 2279 was introduced for the third time in state. SB 2279 travels through the legislative process, our colleagues in the state senate have the chance to be a truly representative body by passing this important legislation. Just three weeks ago a phone survey conducted by DFM Research of 400 North Dakota residents over the age of 18 found that 68 percent of North Dakotans would support SB 2279 had they the chance to cast a vote. Additionally, 65 percent of self-identified Independents and 65 percent of those who consider themselves moderate, regardless of party support this legislation. These North Dakotans are joined by the cities of Fargo and Grand Forks, NDSU Student Senate, NDNU Faculty Senate, UND Student Senate, the State Board of Higher Education, ND-AFL-CIO, ND United, ND Association of Realtors, ND Human Rights Coalition, ND Women's Network, ACLU of ND and a number of faith leaders from throughout the state.

Our colleagues cannot bury their heads in the sand and continue to be naive that discrimination against LGBT North Dakotans does not occur. While we know that the majority of businesses and landlords in our state do not discriminate, it has long been the argument of the opposition that it is in fact, their right to discriminate in whom they hire, rent to, or even provide service to in facilitating commerce. History has shown us that it may take courage for elected leaders to say “No More” to protect groups that have historically been discriminated against. Now is it North Dakota’s turn to ensure that our LGBT family members, friends, co-workers and neighbors are judged by the content of their character, not whom they love or family that is a true North Dakota value.

Sen. Carolyn Nelson, District 21
Rep. Joshua A. Becenec, District 42

Kjerstine Trooien
The Dakota Student

In my bedroom, directly across from the foot of my bed, hangs a gigantic collage. It’s roughly five and a half feet long and a couple feet tall. It’s made up of hundreds of images, some found on the internet, some of them of family, some even taken by yours truly. It’s the first thing I see every morning and one of the last things I see at night. Its one and only purpose is to make me happy — it’s not a decoration, a way to heighten or a beige wall. It’s there because it serves a function. It’s my Wall of Happiness. I started making one about a year and a half ago after I started following Youtuber Lilly Singh, also known as iSuperwoman. I was sifting through some of her older videos and came across one challenging her followers to create something she dubbed a Wall of Happiness. The Wall is simply a mass of pictures that make you happy — no explanation needed. I won’t lie, I thought the idea was kitchy at best, messy at worst. No rhyme or reason to something you hang on a wall besides it “making you happy” meant that color schemes would get thrown out of the window. My careful decorating system would be completely upset — the idea of that made me cringe. Perhaps this is why I took Sing’s challenge, I needed to get creative, color outside of the lines, splash some proverbial paint on the walls. I don’t really know, or remember, my reasoning, but before I knew it, I had ordered prints of some of my favorite pins on Pinterest and taped them haphazardly to the wall. My Wall of Happiness has taken on a life of its own — it’s like a plant, constantly growing so long as I remember to nurture it. I’ve forgotten half of what’s on it, meaning I always feel like I’m looking at something different when I pause to examine it. The Wall has actually affected ed my moods. I wake up on a good note and have a distraction on bad days. I use it to distract myself from bad thoughts simply by looking at the pictures. If my anxiety is acting up, I start working on expanding the Wall again. Somehow, something so simple has become almost a hobby, and definitely a part of me.

I’ve passed the idea on to some friends and family, and they report the same success. Each Wall is as unique as they are. Some are covered with nerdy references, some are covered with Moneys’ waterfilies. Mine is a combo of snark and geek with a dash of vulgar and a pinch of quirky.

The best part about the Wall is how there is no judgement involved. The pictures pasted to the closetboard (after my Wall grew to be larger than a square foot I decided to make it a more permanent fixture) are there because they make me happy. I don’t have to worry about the logic behind what I pick — this was part of the challenge of creating a Wall and an admirably part of the appeal.

For example, on picture on my Wall makes light fun of people who go to the gym daily — a handspan away is a picture encouraging daily visits to the gym. They directly contradict each other, something that would have my biting my nails in frustration were it to occur anywhere else. But on my wall, they both make me happy. The joke reminds me not to take myself too seriously (and not to beat myself up when I miss a day or month at the gym) while the other reminds me to love myself by taking care of myself.

So, I encourage all of you to start your own Wall of Happiness. iSuperwoman’s 2012 video “Superwoman’s Project + Challenge 1: Wall of Happiness” is a great place to start. Now what are you waiting for? Go grab some tape, find a blank wall, and create your own Wall of Happiness.

Kjerstine Trooien is a staff writer for the Dakota Student. She can be reached at Kjerstine.trooien@my.und.edu
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Amenities vary by property

Where you want to be...Welcome Home!

- Secure Buildings
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- Pet Friendly

es and juries can clearly see the facts that only experts could discern before.

Ikena Forensic is currently used in law enforcement, commercial security, intelligence, test & measurement and transportation.

“It is a greater way to enhance images than ever before,” Palmer said. “It’s like if you wanted a panoramic view of a landscape using several pictures, this program will piece it all together.”

This MotionDSP will greatly enhance the video and picture capabilities of the software found on the UAS using the Ikena Forensic program. With it, the UAS program will continue to develop into an even stronger program.

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

The hundreds of pieces that McNemar has donated are now part of the museum’s permanent collection.

“It’s a new focus or new realm for the people in the state and the region,” Wallace said.  

Interest to see the new exhibit has been strong in the first couple of days since the opening.

“There’s been a strong showing so far,” Wallace said. “There’s been lots of classes coming in to see it. We’ve gotten lots of calls from the general public as well asking about it.”

The exhibit will run until April 12.

All exhibits at the museum are free and open to the public.

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

African artwork at the ND Museum of Art.  
Photo by Nick Nelson/The Dakota Student.

Ikena Forensic helps analysts to quickly identify objects such as license plates on cars to produce forensically valid evidence. Now, decision makers like judges and juries can clearly see the facts that only experts could discern before.

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By Serianna Henkel
The Dakota Student

Continuing education through graduate school is seen by many as an opportunity to not only extend learning in a classroom setting, but to embark on extensive individual research.

With the time and work put into developing new ideas and research, the costs of graduate school are far more than monetary.

Cody Stanley is a Ph.D. student in history, with a cognate in women and gender studies. He is in the process of working on his dissertation, a continuation of his master's work on the first female Supreme Court justice in North Dakota, Beryl Levine. The extended work will add research on Minnesota's first female Supreme Court justice, Rosalee Wahl and will compare and contrast the two.

Such a project involves extensive research, which for Stanley will include conducting interviews and in-depth looks at the Supreme Court cases the respective justices were involved in.

The grad school experience on the Ph.D. level consists of coursework, comprehensive exams and a dissertation, which will ultimately round off at about two hundred pages. In several disciplines, candidates must also demonstrate proficiency in two foreign languages, or one foreign language and a specialized research skill.

Stanley is proficient in Spanish and utilizes oral history as his research skill — a skill that is going to be necessary for his dissertation.

Equally necessary is the funding behind the research.

"As a grad student, if you do it right, school shouldn't cost you anything," Stanley said. "The idea is that it's a research university, so they want to sponsor research."

By means of assistantships, tuition waivers and scholarships, funding may be accumulated by the school. It's in part due to this funding that the university holds the right of ownership to any and all research completed while enrolled as a graduate student.

"I'm technically an employee of the university; I'm doing it on their dime," Stanley said. "I'm doing it on their dime." The argument is that okay, they're funding it, they've paid for it, I do the footwork.”

However, a harsh truth is that in addition to university funding, he has had to find outside means of income to assist in the costs.

"The reality is, for the last 25 years, every state has drastically cut education," Stanley said. "Assistantships (once) paid for way more than they do now; more needs to be done outside.

Students have options to look at outside funding such as loans, as well as non-university grants and jobs.

"There you could make the argument that UND shouldn't own it, or can't claim full ownership, because an outside entity is (assisting in) paying for it," Stanley said. "It's an antiquated model. If you use their very own argument, it doesn't hold as much water anymore.”

Stanley also makes note of variation in research funding based on discipline and the type of work that goes into it. In comparing humanities to hard sciences, the latter can be measured in lab research and like facilities that are provided by the university.

"In humanities, a lot more of the financial burden is going to be on the student," Stanley said in reference to equipment and facilities in place for science research. "The university, due to the nature of the work, has to provide way more stuff for hard sciences. A historian, or a sociologist, you could go on and on about equipment and facilities."

"As a grad student, if you do it right, school shouldn't cost you anything," Stanley said. "The idea is that it's a research university, so they want to sponsor research."

Graduate student Travis Clark is a doctoral candidate in psychology. Photo by Jennifer Friese/The Dakota Student.

I'm poor. There, I said it. And because of this rampant poorness, I usually only eat at fine restaurants that offer a dollar menu and an indoor jungle gym for kids to play on. But since their employees are far too judgmental of a 19 year old playing in the ball pit, I figured I would go out of my comfort zone and give Darcy's Café in Grand Forks a try.

According to one reviewer on the popular restaurant evaluation site Yelp, a person should visit Darcy’s, “At 7:00 a.m. after the farmers leave and before the college students pile in.”

But that was unlikely to happen, since the only thing I’m getting up before 7:00 a.m. for is an 8:00 a.m. class, and even that only works about half the time.

In the end I decided to go for it and arrived at 7:30 a.m. on a Tuesday morning and was surprised to see that the tiny restaurant was already half full.

The morning I visited Darcy's was a balmy -15 degrees outside, which certainly made me appreciate the fact that it was only a few minutes away from UND.

This trip can be made a little lonelier if your car doesn’t want to start, like mine did, so plan accordingly.

The only part of my experience at Darcy's Café that I didn't enjoy was when my hand froze to the door's metal handle. On your next trip to the restaurant, I would recommend bringing mittens or somebody tougher than me to open the door for you.

Darcy’s Café has been affectionately referred to as the farmer’s Perkins. By me. Just now. The farmer’s portion of the name is earned by the restaurant's ram-bunctious clientele, which I got the pleasure of people-watching for half an hour.

I got to listen in on quite a bit of farmer gossip, which is a lot like regular gossip except there is more talk about the fastest way to skin a coyote.

My cherry red Pontiac Vibe looked a little out of place in a parking lot filled with burly pickup trucks, but that car looks out of place everywhere so I wasn’t too worried.

The second half of the name comes from the fact that Darcy's Café is pretty much Perkins. I mean this in the most...
on … is sort of an island unto themselves."

Travis Clark is currently a doctoral candidate in psychology. Like Stanley, he senses a bias toward the hard sciences in terms of funding. As a social science, psychology requires different types of resources. However, subject matter has the potential to overlap between disciplines.

“It’s unfortunate that someone involved in neuroscience and someone in cognitive psychology might be studying almost the exact same thing,” Clark said. “But the neuroscientist will probably get more funding due to their work experience.”

Clark notes that grants in certain fields, such as the hard sciences, are often better funded than others.

Clark’s research for his dissertation is working toward the goal of developing a new method of measuring sexism. Though such a tool already exists, Clark proposes to use a different, more indirect approach that will yield more accurate results.

So far, Clark says he has received an adequate level of financial support when needed, such as grants from UND to study, travel and talk to other researchers.

What has proven more difficult to fund is a resource vital to such a project, as well as many psychology projects — the use of human subjects.

Clark has used undergraduate students in the past to further his research; however, that pool only represents a certain type of person.

In order to generate the most accurate results in his current project, an online survey of all types of people will prove to be better representative of the U.S. as a whole than the campus would be.

For this to happen, funding needs to be secured to pay online survey participants.

“The more funding I get, the more quality the data for my dissertation will be,” Clark said, who is currently working on self-generating funds by working for the university rather than solely seeking outside funding.

As far as ownership of his future findings goes, Clark labels this a non-issue.

“Being able to freely share the data that I collect is more important to me than formal ownership over the manuscripts,” Clark said.

“If the university were to ever try to secure my data so that other scientists couldn’t readalyze it to try to prove me wrong, then I would get upset. So far, I don’t think that has happened at UND.”

Over all, Clark and Stanley both consider doing research through the graduate school to be a fair trade — Clark noting a difference between doing research for a private team versus the university system.

“It’s easier to publish things if you are affiliated with the university, because you are kind of held to the greater good,” Clark said.

By Katie Haines
The Dakota Student

Earlier this year, a HuHot Mongolian Grill opened in Grand Forks. This is the third HuHot to open in North Dakota. The restaurant, which has locations in Fargo and Bismarck, is known for its cooks preparing food on a large circular grill using ingredients that customers have picked out themselves.

“You can pick the product that you like, and that’s what goes into your meal,” president of Pentex Management Bryon Itterman said, who operates the other two HuHot restaurants in North Dakota and another in Wisconsin. “You can’t get a fresher meal when they pull it right off the grill and hand it to you.”

Since its opening, HuHot has been packed nearly every night, but according to some restaurant goers, the experience was lacking.

“We were very excited to try it out, and we were turned away at the door — the gentleman was unapologetic,” sophomore Melissa Drum said. “The restaurant closed at 7:00 p.m. on a Saturday night.”

According to an employee at the new restaurant, there were a few problems immediately after opening.

“They didn’t prepare well at all for a restaurant this size opening,” UND junior and HuHot waitress Kaitlyn Lucas said. “There wasn’t enough staff at first, and they weren’t trained well enough to be working by themselves. We closed early almost every night at first, which really bothered a lot of customers that would come expecting us to still be open. I think it’s getting a lot better as time goes on, though.”

It seems, however, that the new restaurant has made a good impression on some.

“I have gone to HuHot a couple times since it opened,” UND freshman Kadence Smith said. “It was always really good. The employees were really friendly, and the food was delicious. I will definitely be going back.”

Graduate student Mathew Long also commented on the new restaurant.

“My friends and I went to HuHot on opening day,” Long said. “Our experience was awesome. The restaurant looked really nice, everyone was really friendly and on the ball. I loved it. Plus, the food was great.”

HuHot is located on South Columbia, at the former site of the Frandsen Bank & Trust. The previously vacant building was demolished to make way for a 10,000 square-foot commercial space, with HuHot occupying half.

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

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

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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 GF 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. Please apply by sending a letter of interest and resume by Jan. 31 to via e-mail: info@ggfct.com or by U.S. mail: GGFCT, 412 N 2nd Avenue.

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DARCY FROM PAGE 7

The entire meal cost less than $7 before tax, which is an exceptional price for the amount of food you get. I couldn’t even finish my plate, something I didn’t think was possible for a ravenous college student before 8 a.m. They even have Wi-Fi, if you’re the kind of person that picks your restaurants based on accessibility to Facebook.

Because of it’s excellent food and great value, I’m giving Darcy’s Café 5 out of 5 stars. It doesn’t matter if you’re as rich as a newspaper editor or as poor as a newspaper columnist, go to Darcy’s. You won’t regret it.

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they get here and play. It’s exciting to watch because you know they’ve got the potential to do it. The other part of it is, we also know they’ve got a lot of fight in them. There’s no reason for anybody to panic or anything like that. We’ve just got to take care of ourselves.”

though the two road losses spurred a reevaluation of the team’s goals, Saturday’s game against Sacramento State at 2 p.m. will prove a chance for redemption.

North Dakota played Portland State on Thursday, and will continue its home stretch against the Hornets on its familiar home court.

North Dakota has been successful at the Betty this season, losing only once at home on Dec. 10 against Minnesota.

“You can feel the home court advantage when you walk in the door,” Brewster said. “I think the other things is our players have a lot of confidence playing at home — they just do. It’s harder to have that confidence on the road. It takes a little bit more will, and, at the same time, you have to execute a lot better, obviously.

“But they feed off our crowd. Our crowd is great; they’re tremendous. I can’t put it into words. It’s just been awesome. We’re very fortunate to have that type of backing.”

That energy will be evident this weekend against Sacramento State, a team that defeated UND 93-86 on Jan. 8. The Hornets hold the series advantage over UND, winning four of the five total games played.

North Dakota has been focusing on its rebounding and defense as of late, hoping to come out strong and hungry in front of loyal fans.

These games are more than a run toward the top.

The seniors on UND’s roster know these games will be some of their last. Four more regular season games at home, and a few more chances to take in the closing weeks of their college basketball careers. Brewster knows it, too.

“You’ve got seniors — they’re starting to trickle down to their last few home games of their career, things like that,” Brewster said.

“You get more excited for those games. At the same time, those games mean a little bit more.”

Elizabeth Erickson is the sports editor of The Dakota Student. She can be reached at elizabeth.e.erickson@my.und.edu

SENIORS FROM PAGE these wins will come easy.

Minnesota State came to Grand Forks at the end of last season around the same time and ended up sweeping North Dakota on home ice.

“We lost two games last year to them at the end of the year,” said Dalen. “They are going to come out hard, and even though they are ranked lower than us, they could still win if we’re not doing our job.”

North Dakota has been playing good hockey down the stretch, winning nine out of its last 10 games, all of which came against WCHA opponents.

Shelby Amsley-Benzie continued her great play in net, adding to her career shutouts record by posting back-to-back scoreless against St. Cloud State last weekend, stopping 38 shots on the weekend. Amsley-Benzie moved to 47 career wins with 12 shutouts, both UND records.

Now for the third time in five weeks, the junior goaltender has been named the WCHA Defensive Player of the Week. Amsley-Benzie’s currently leads the nation with a .953 save percentage since Jan. 1.

North Dakota, now 18-11-3 moves to No. 7/8 in the national polls, passing ahead of Minnesota Duluth.

Minnesota State Mankato has struggled with its last stretch of games as it picked up only one conference win since coming out of the holiday break. The Mavericks also have had problems with scoring goals this season, getting outscored by conference opponents 120-30.

The Green and White, on the other hand, hold on to a conference record of 14-9-3, outscoring their opponents 58-43.

Before entering the first round of playoffs, North Dakota will look to end its final homestand of the season on a high note when Minnesota State comes to Ralph Engelstad Arena this Friday at 7:07 p.m.

Ben Novak is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at benjamin.novak@my.und.edu

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consistent focus drives men's hockey team

— North Dakota prepares for NCHC opponent Western Michigan series on the road this weekend

By Elizabeth Erickson  
The Dakota Student

One day at a time. That’s the cliche that’s taken the UND men’s hockey team into the latter portion of its season without worries of making the NCAA tournament, or a steep climb out of a hole it started digging in October. There’s only one thing on the mind of each member of the team.

“We’ll worry about one win on Friday — nothing else,” UND coach Dave Hakstol said. “I know that sounds boring and playing things down, but it’s not. You’ve got to take care of your business one day at a time. ... If you have that every day approach, you don’t have to be too concerned about the future. You know what you’re going to get.”

This year was different. A single non-conference loss — the opener that instigated a steady focus on consistency. Tight conference battles strung each team into a close race to the top. The year prior, North Dakota’s fate depended on the success of a former conference opponent. That test will be elevated when UND goes up against the top power play in the league at 23.1 percent, and a Bronco team with just as big of a desire to raise the Penrose trophy in the coming weeks.

The crowd makes it even better. With a student section filled with eager fans deemed the “Lawn Lunatics,” the atmosphere is elevated. But that doesn’t intimidate North Dakota.

“It’s fun,” Mattson said. “You grow up wanting to play college hockey, and those are the kinds of atmospheres that you want to play in. It’s an absolute circus there and students are crazy. We love those places. We’re going to have a fun time.”

It’s not just the fans or the place the team skates, it’s the time of the year. Points are at high stakes, and the race for the conference title or a spot in the NCAA tournament is fast approaching each team, whether they’re cruising close to the top or fighting from the bottom for an other chance.

A feeling of excitement resonates in nearly every locker room.

“Obviously it’s fun to be a part of,” MacMillan said. “This is the time of the year that everybody always loves. It’s always the best time of the year. Games always get even more intense. Some teams already are playing for their playoffs lives and their Pairwise lives, so it’s always fun to be a part of. Every weekend from the start of the year, college hockey is always a battle, and this time of the year it’s even more — so it’s a lot of fun for sure.”

North Dakota may not be fighting for its life, but its mentality is much the same as it was in prior years — controlling its own fate in hopes of achieving the goals it set out to accomplish from the start.

“We can’t really win the league on Friday night, and I think this team more than any other team did a really good job not getting ahead of themselves,” Mattson said. “We know we just have to win a game Friday. That’s what we’re focused on now. It sounds cliche, but I think we truly believe that’s how we’re approaching it.”

Elizabeth Erickson is the sports editor of The Dakota Student. She can be reached at elizabeth.e.erickson@my.und.edu

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JENNIFER FRIESE | THE DAKOTA STUDENT

UND sophomore defenseman Troy Stecher skates against Denver last weekend at Ralph Engelstad Arena.

Every game last year was life or death.
It was pretty stressful. I think we gained a lot of character out of that, and that’s carried over to this year.
Nick Mattson
UND senior defenseman

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North Dakota shoots for strong finish
— UND women’s basketball team plays at home, prepares for Sacramento State matchup

By Elizabeth Erickson
The Dakota Student

Tuesday’s practice was different.
By the time it was over, the players on the UND women’s basketball team had reviewed what they wanted to accomplish and laid out their goals for the season.

North Dakota returned to Grand Forks last weekend after a roadtrip to Montana and Montana State, neither outcome as successful as the team had hoped.

Two losses — more ambition to mentally refocus.

“I think for myself as a coach, the reason I approached it that way was because I really thought we needed to kind of take a step back and reassess some things,” UND coach Travis Brewster said.

Montana’s victory over UND kept it alive atop Big Sky standings, putting North Dakota at No. 4 as of Wednesday. With a handful of critical games left on tap, glancing at the scoreboard is nearly unavoidable.

“As a coach, you’re always going to watch the scoreboard,” Brewster said. “I think the thing about it is you can only control your scoreboard, and that’s it. The key is we have to take care of ourselves at this point. This team,

Women prepare for Maverick battle on ice
— North Dakota women’s hockey team sets up to play Minnesota State at home this weekend

By Ben Novak
The Dakota Student

The UND women’s hockey team will host its last regular season matchup of the season this weekend as WCHA rival Minnesota State travels to Grand Forks.

The series also marks the final regular season games played at Ralph Engelstad Arena for the four seniors on North Dakota’s roster.

“It’s going to be really sad,” senior captain Andrea Dalen said. “It’s exciting finishing up with school, but being done with hockey will be tough.”

Senior forwards Dalen and Josefine Jakobsen, along with defensemen Tori Williams and Johanna Fallman, will take the ice for a crucial series. It also will be the final regular season games of the players’ collegiate careers. Picking up at least one win this weekend is important for North Dakota when it comes down to the seeding of playoffs. The Green and White currently sit in third place in the WCHA and are at risk of being moved into fourth place if the team fails to pick up points this weekend, potentially being passed by Minnesota Duluth in the standings.

“If we win this weekend, we will be better seeded for the playoffs,” Dalen said.

Minnesota State currently sits in last place in the WCHA conference with a conference record of 1-24-1 but that doesn’t mean the team should think

Seniors Tori Williams and Andrea Dalen speak with referees at Ralph Engelstad Arena earlier this season. The seniors will be playing in their last regular season home games this weekend.