New nickname task force to be formed

By Jamie Hutchinson
The Dakota Student

The UND Nickname and Logo Process Recommendation Task Force is putting the final touches on a plan that includes creating a new 15-person task force in charge of selecting a nickname and logo. The draft recommendation is that a new task force be named and that they actually be charged with choosing a new nickname and logo, including the option for remaining ‘North Dakota.’ UND spokesperson Peter Johnson said.

If approved, this new task force would include five alumni, two current students, one UND faculty member, one UND staff member, two current athletes, one donor, one community member or friend of UND and two people from the athletic department. In addition, two members of the current task force would be appointed to assist the new task force.

The inclusion of members from these backgrounds was influenced by the virtual town hall meetings held last November and by an online survey, both of which asked who should be stakeholders needed more information.

The findings of the survey about the same number said they were in favor of a separate faculty senate, while the other group was against it. The recent survey done on the idea.

University Senate proposes separate faculty senate

By Megan Hoffman
The Dakota Student

University Senate hosted its first meeting of the new semester on Jan. 15 and had several big issues to tackle — one being a faculty governance proposal. The proposal is looking into whether the faculty on campus needs a representative body such as a faculty senate.

"There is no faculty senate, just a University Senate," Chair Melissa Gjellstad said. "This is not a new conversation. It has been going on for several years now. We need to envision what that might look like and what it takes to get there."

So far there have been two drafts of the proposal. There have also been open forums and, more recently, a survey done on the idea.

The findings of the survey were presented at the most recent meeting. Over 30 percent of the faculty said they were in favor of a separate faculty senate, while about the same number said they needed more information.

"There was a lot of good conversations and questions," Gjellstad said. "There is a lot to think about. We need to figure out, how can we best serve?"

The discussion ended with a motion for the faculty senators to go back to constituents for consideration and discussion of the issue.

Other matters

Work groups at the beginning of last semester figured out what some of the biggest issues were that they wanted to work on for the year.

"The goal was to engage senators in dialogue," Gjellstad said. "I assigned them work groups and we came up with a top 10 list, and in December we found that the top two were the library and parking."

Senators agreeing to go out and get feedback from faculty, students and librarians to see what can be done to improve the library.

The body is waiting to hear back from the parking consultant that was on campus last fall to get recommendations on how to move forward with parking at UND.

CVIC always there as a resource for students anywhere.
But by bringing the advisor on campus we’re just trying to make it that much easier for students to access those services.

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Logan Kassa
CVIC counselor
"Moments" — Bill Rerick

Tom’s head ached with boredom. His headache was more likely from his hangover, but he felt exceedingly bored this Sunday afternoon. Sitting at his desk, he hoped his dorm mate, Jeff, would come back soon. Tom didn’t get along with Jeff, but the company would be nice. He got up and wandered around the room for a while. Jeff’s mediocre sketches that were hung up on the wall caught his eye. He went to go take a closer look. The naïve yet passionate way Jeff tried to capture the images of his imagination battled with Tom’s perceptions of Jeff. Tom thought Jeff was a good boy, but these images showed a thorough resume of expressions. The door opened with Jeff noticing Tom viewing his drawings. Jeff asked him what he thought of them, to what Tom responded “hey.” Tom knew he was blatantly ignoring Jeff, but the sense of control gave him a feeling of importance he sought after.
“CVIC was always there as a resource for students anyway,” Smith said. “But by bringing the adviser onto campus we’re just trying to make it that much easier for students to access those services.”

What it means
An act of sexual violence, whether it be sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, can leave a person feeling like they have no control over his or her life, according to Smith. CVIC and UND want to provide victims with a safe environment in which said men or women can take back control in every possible way.

“We want to make sure that we leave the choice in the hands of the person that’s experienced this, because they’ve lost control of so many parts of their lives,” Smith said.

When it comes to reporting the acts of violence, the university and CVIC leave that option up to the victim, and Kassa’s position as a licensed professional uniquely does not require her to file reports for cases brought to her.

Under Title IX, UND employees who have been designated a “responsible employee” for Title IX and know or reasonably should know about a Title IX violation are required to report it to the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator. However, this does not apply to licensed professionals. So although students, faculty, or staff do have several options to pursue if they see Kassa, they are not required to file a report or pursue legal action of any kind.

“Title IX makes an exception for confidentiality for anybody who’s got a professional license, that requires confidentiality so a counselor, social worker, health care provider,” Smith said.

About the position
Although grants in previous years have allowed UND to have short term CVIC advisers on campus, Kassa’s position is the first of its kind. According to the North Dakota University System, the service will cost the school around $20,000 per year, including benefits. Kassa was hired by CVIC and is considered one of its employees, but her position is funded by the school and is a part of the free services offered to students, faculty and staff at the school.

Kassa, a December graduate of UND, has always enjoyed helping people, and is excited to put her social work degree to good use.

“I was social work pretty much from the beginning,” Kassa said. “So working with people and helping people has always been something that I’m passionate about and domestic violence and sexual assault has piqued my interest in the last couple of years.”

When asked if this position was created as a direct result of any specific event or the rising tension in schools all over the nation regarding sexual violence, Smith said Kassa’s place at UND is unrelated but that it is a part of an attempt to stay proactive.

“We’ve been trying to be proactive in everything that we’re doing,” Smith said. “The title IX rules — everything was changing rapidly. It’s not in response to any particular event that happened elsewhere, but as we’re sitting around and assessing what kind of resources we have on campus, that was something that we saw as a need, and was accessible for us.”

Kassa’s office is located in O’Kelly Hall room 4, and students, faculty and staff can all schedule appointments by either walking in or calling (701)777-6550.
Love it or leave it: The nationalistic zeal for America

Alex Bertsch
The Dakota Student

In America, we have always liked to paint all our issues as black and white. We create false dichotomies that prevent us from seeing the actions of our country and the people that represent it as nuanced. In his book, Seth Rogan tweeted that the recent movie “American Sniper” had reminded him of the Nazi propaganda film at the end of Quentin Tarantino’s “Inglourious Basterds.”

As was probably to be expected, this statement caused a lot of controversy. The anger had nothing to do with defending the movie, but instead focused on how “un-American” Rogan’s statements were.

The propaganda film in question is titled “Stolz der Nation (Nation’s Pride),” and depicts a German sniper killing Allied soldiers from a clock tower. “American Sniper,” tells the story of former U.S. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle, who is the most lethal sniper in U.S. History.

While I haven’t seen “American Sniper,” I have heard that its depiction of Kyle is respectful and shows how his work affected his psyche.

However, that’s not what the critics of Rogan’s statements (which have nothing bad to say about Chris Kyle or the U.S. Military) are arguing. They are arguing that saying anything bad about a U.S. soldier, even one who has 160 confirmed kills and claims in his own biography that he “never once fought for the Iraqis.” I could give a flying expletive, not deleted in the book about them,” is anti-American, and that you need to show respect for all of the actions of the U.S. military.

It is this kind of thinking that has driven the American democracy down, as fewer people realize there are positions between the two extremes. I can’t question the actions of the military without being anti-American. I can’t question events like the My Lai Massacre, in which U.S. Army soldiers killed between 347 and 504 unarmed civilians with virtually no punishment.

I can’t question the actions of the military without being anti-American. I can’t question events like the My Lai Massacre, in which U.S. Army soldiers killed between 347 and 504 unarmed civilians in Vietnam, with virtually no punishment. I am barely allowed to question the Haditha Killings, in which U.S. Marines killed 24 civilians in 2006. Questioning these atrocities would be “un-American.”

There is a similar situation with the police in this country. If I question the actions taken by a police officer, and whether or not they are allowed to use lethal force in a given situation, I am immediately branded as a cop hater.

If there’s anything that can be considered un-American, it’s unwavering support of America. Being blind to your country’s problems doesn’t help it grow and become better, it causes it to fall behind and remain stymied by the problems that it so obviously has.

The Founding Fathers didn’t hate government, they hated government that had no responsibility to the people. They created a government in which we can call into question the actions that the country takes, and subsequently punish the government for said actions.

This zeal for all things representing American freedom that threatens freedom everyday. The desire to remain in the status quo, whether created by ignorance or hate, is the driving force that keeps America from becoming a better country. This desire is even being professed off of by corpora-

Blindfolded ignorance does nothing for America, except prevent it from becoming a better country. The more you defend America as representing a particular ideology, the more you undermine what made America different — and that’s its lack of an ideology that allows it to better mold to the ideology of its people.

Alex Bertsch is the Opinion Editor for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at alexanderj.bertsch@my.und.edu.

Free Speech
By Larry Philbin

While most of us were home with our families enjoying the holidays over break, a couple of events occurred that once again made the public take a critical look at the current state of free speech.

First, there were threats surrounding the release of the movie “The Interview” — that no moviegoers would be safe, and that people should “keep yourself distant from the places (showing the movie) at that time.” While the idea of nobody being safe to watch the movie at any theatre in the U.S. seemed unrealistic, the threats brought back memories of the Aurora movie theatre shooting in 2012.

Not long after the threats, movie theatre chains began to cancel showings of the movie, and eventually Sony scrapped the movie entirely. However, the public was displeased with this decision, saying that pulling the movie was cowardly and that Sony was essentially “letting the terrorists win.” After it became clear that people really wanted to see the movie, it eventually ended up being shown in movie theatres all over the USA and released online.

After the controversy surrounding “The Interview,” and on a much more serious note, there was the shooting in Paris. A satirical weekly magazine called Charlie Hebdo was attacked by two gunmen in response to a depiction of Muhammad by the magazine in a previous edition, leaving 12 dead and more injured. After the shooting, the newspaper received massive support on both a local and international level. While the newspaper usually only published about 60,000 copies a week, they ended up publishing 7,000,000 copies of the first edition after the attack.

Freedom of speech does not mean freedom from the consequences of your speech. However, the widespread response to both of these recent events suggests that many people want to live in a society that allows and supports free speech more than they want to live in a society that is too afraid to speak its mind for fear of retaliation.

In my opinion, this is the right stance to take. Free speech is absolutely essential in any democratic society, and without it there can be no progress. Although an average buddy comedy and an edgy magazine cartoon may not seem like they are worth human lives, like anything, it is much more important to see the big picture.

If we give in to threats and let fear dictate our actions and words, it only sends the message that violence is an effective means of accomplishing a certain goal and opens the door to anyone willing to use violence to accomplish their goals.

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The Dakota Student is dedicated to the free exchange of ideas. Opinion columns and letters to the editor will not be censored for content reasons, 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.

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• All letters will be edited to fit the allocated space. Writer may be limited to one letter per month.

Freedom of speech has faced challenges recently and prevailed.
Playing the piano is relaxing and engaging

Mike Rauser
The Dakota Student

I love playing the piano. While probably not my most controversial opinion, it is something I am passionate about.

Interestingly enough, I took four years of piano lessons when I was younger and I still don’t know how to read sheet music. I also have no intention of ever learning. Every single thing I have learned on the piano has been entirely by ear. I have an extremely basic understanding of music theory and chord structure, enough that the lowest score wins. I am so terrible at bowling that if I forced myself to learn to read sheet music, I know I probably would never learn.

Now, I know what you are thinking: “If it’s something I’m good at, why wouldn’t I want to do everything I could to improve?”

That is where the potential damage to my undying superpower of being able to play the piano comes from my hidden refusal to learn how to read sheet music. I also was younger and I still don’t know how to read sheet music. I also was younger and I still don’t know how to read sheet music.

Playing the piano comes easy to me. There aren’t a lot of things that come easy to me. I am terrible at literally every single sport that exists.

I can’t throw a football to save my life, I suck at basketball and I am so terrible at bowling that every time I go I try to convince people it should be scored like golf where the lowest score wins.

I can’t draw anything more artistically challenging than a stick figure. I have trouble comprehending any math beyond basic algebra, and I even suck at playing “Call of Duty.”

Now it is true all of these things are things that I could improve in if I actually put in the effort. However, the fact is I have zero interest in any of these things. The only reason I even try to make other people happy. However, I don’t play piano for other people. I play it for me and me alone. I happen to be really good at it, and some people like listening to it, but I don’t play it for them. I play it because I enjoy everything about it.

I love the ease at which my fingers can find notes, even if I just heard the song. I love the beautiful melodies that can be produced once these pop songs are divorced from the overly obnoxious pop singers. I love writing my own music and creating my own entertainment.

I am not a fan of sports in general. I don’t really enjoy watching them, I don’t really enjoy playing them (because I am always consistently the one who sucks the most in any given sport), they just aren’t my thing. I realize I may have to revoke my man card for that, but sorry, I just don’t care about sports.

Yet music is a field that fascinates me. All music, even bad music, is enjoyable to someone, otherwise it would have never been created. One of my many superpowers is the ability to isolate the enjoyable factors of a song, while ignoring the failures of it.

That is yet another reason I love the piano. The number one failure of pop music in general is the lyrics. They are usually empty, meaningless, and often dumb. Yet once you get rid of the lyrics, the terrible autotuned singer, or all the other nonsense, what you are left are beautiful melodies, that are actually much more enjoyable.

Probably one of the things I love the most about playing the piano is that it relases me. Everything else in my life, I have to think about. There’s worry, there’s stress, there are obligations. But none of that exists on a piano. The only thing that exists is music.

Everything else in my life is judged and graded. My school-work is literally graded, my lack of ability to play sports is the constant subject of (friendly) ridicule, and oftentimes when I fail at things that seem so easy to others I judge myself.

Yet, when I sit down at the piano, I can just do it. So many other things in my life are a constant struggle just to reach last place. Yet, at piano, suddenly everything is easy. I love the piano because every time I sit down to play it, I know I can and will create something beautiful.

Mike Rauser is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at michael.rauser@my.und.edu

Resolutions should be constant, not yearly

Kjerstine Trooien
The Dakota Student

New Year’s resolutions are stupid. There. I said it. I can live and take me to the unpopular opinion prison, because I stand by my statement.

Around this time, resolutions have lost their power and freshness. They lose their excitement from the initial wave of euphoria that the announcement of a resolution yields. To put it simply, they begin to fail. I understand the attraction to the concept of resolutions at the New Year well enough — it’s the end of a year and the beginning of a new one. It makes sense to take stock and decide what went well, what didn’t and what needs to change.

There is nothing wrong with the practice I described above. It’s the next step that I disagree with. When “what needs to change” has been determined, a grand, sweeping promise is made. “I’m going to spend more time with the people I care about!” “I will go to the gym every single day!” Not only are these resolutions almost competitive — each of us trying to one-up the next rather than support each other in our goals — they are doomed to fail. I don’t need to tell you the specifics of why resolutions like the ones I’ve mentioned are doomed to fail — plenty has already been written about why vague and/or over-zealous resolutions rarely work.

But what isn’t talked about, and my biggest problem with the practice, is how easy it is to get out of a resolution. On any arbitrary day where a resolution is not actively achieved — say you missed the gym or had to cancel with a friend — there is an unsaid excuse written into the very idea of a “New Year’s” resolution. It seems almost too obvious: New Year’s happens only one every 365 days. If you mess up, you get up to a whole year before you take stock again! Guilt free through New Year’s Eve.

We shouldn’t be taking stock just once a year. This needs to be a continuous process. Self-improvement is not something based on a year-to-year scale, nor should it be. It needs to be constant, continuous. It needs to be ever evolving as we look day to day inside ourselves and ask “What can I do better?”

This approach completely bypasses the one year problem. If you screw up — and we all do — tomorrow is a new day. Forcing ourselves to look at change in the present moment and not a goal a year away allows us to live in the present moment and adapt to it. It’s ironic that so many problems from New Year’s resolutions — the definitive date to start personal change — come from the practice’s inherent rigidity.

I admit it, I’ve tried the New Year approach — and failed every single time. This other way, the more “common sense” based way, is far more forgiving when we inevitably mess up.

I am all for personal improvement and growth. I want to see you succeed at your goals as much as I want to see myself succeed at my goals. This isn’t about doing away with the idea of resolutions or self-change/improvement, but the practice of only checking in once a year.

Watch yourself. Constantly wonder how you can grow and change for the better. Make it a moment to moment practice. Not only is it far less intimidating than a year, I’ve found, far more effective.

And the best part! We see the change much sooner. Sure, it’s smaller — say losing one pound instead of 200, but it’s a step in the right direction. Though it is true change takes time, the effort to change is in itself a worthy goal and worthy of praise. New Year’s resolutions strip us from this effort — the day to day gains it takes to stick to a new goal — and allow us an easy exit.

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

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“The basic response was do it as soon as you can do it, but do it right,” Johnson said.

While the university isn’t asking for nickname suggestions as of yet, this hasn’t stopped the public from sending them in.

“We decided that we would take those suggestions and catalog them,” Johnson said. However, they don’t know what they’re going to do with them, he said.

Documents detailing the plan have been handed in to the University & Public Affairs office for final copy editing before being turned in to President Robert Kelley.

“The task force is nearing its end,” Johnson said.

Rising costs

The price of going without a nickname has affected royalties UND receives from the sales of university-related merchandise.

At the end of 2014, the task force had cost the university a total of $126,262. Royalties went from $177,877 in 2006 to a high of $691,774 in 2012, but lowered to $174,390 for the first three quarters of 2014.

“There is some cost to not doing anything,” Johnson said.

Suspension

A bill that would have caused UND to wait another two and a half years before adopting a new nickname and logo was recently voted down by the House of Representatives.

Members voted 21-62 on the bill, which was sponsored by Rep. Scott Louser, R-Minot.

The Legislature previously placed a three-year moratorium on choosing a new nickname for UND, which expires this month.

Jamie Hutchinson is a staff writer for The Dakota Student.

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UND police: Free fingerprinting

By Colin Johnson
The Dakota Student

Getting a background check at UND has become less messy over the past two years.

Students required to get fingerprinted for their degree may have noticed no ink is required.

On Jan. 2 the UND Twitter page @myUND updated its profile picture with a thumbprint and a tweet: "#UNDDidYouKnow: @UNDPoliceDept does FREE fingerprinting for your majors/licensing during business hours!"

"Approximately two years ago the UND Police Department upgraded the fingerprinting system, which traditionally used ink, to a new electronic fingerprinting system," UND Police Chief Eric Plummer said. This system is faster and provides higher quality prints without using the traditional ink which proved to be messy.

This upgraded system has made it easier for students to get their fingerprints. These students are required in law, education and other degrees that do require fingerprinting.

To get a decent understanding of average drunk food, I ordered a meal at a local Dairy Queen a day prior to going to the Red Pepper. Did you know that Dairy Queen even serves regular food? Well, you should probably forget because it is not very good. Regardless, with this mediocre food service since I was 17, so I thought about getting their next beer. "But we also get a lot of older people too that are there for the music. It's not about drinking and partying, it's that they really enjoy the hands. We get a lot of touring acts naturally and they are always happy to play places where people aren't concerned about getting their next beer," Swisher said.

Swisher, an experienced musician and music junkie in his own right, has been playing in bands since he was 16. He also found himself working in the food business around this time which prompted his idea for creating a live music venue that also serves good food. "What makes me want to do it, I don't know," Swisher said. "My thought at first was wanting to have a record store, then I had been working in food service since I was 17, so that kind of made me want to get into my own little restaurant so that is what I thought about when starting up."

Swisher’s store has found itself drifting away from trying to make revenue by selling vinyl records. Creating an exciting venue for the musicians to play at while also developing the stores unique hotdog menu has been Jeremy Swisher’s focus for the past six years. "I've been to other cities with hot dog shops, there is..."
Jeremy Swisher’s Dog’ Mahal Doghaus stand. Photo via facebook.com

MUSIC

kind of a weird culture that surrounds it, something I enjoy,” Swisher said. “We have daily dogs that people kept asking for, so we decided to make a menu out of it. It’s always changing up.”

Swisher’s hot dogs are nothing like something you would pick up at your local gas station.

“The Mr. Roper is up there with the top selling dogs,” Jeremy said. “It’s a quarter pound frank with BBQ brisket, provolone cheese, grilled onions, bacon, mayo and horseradish mustard. People really like that one.”

“We love making hotdogs and the live music, the merchandise is kind of just there for extra.”

Swisher, who says he tries to host live shows as much as possible, says there are still aspects of Ojata Records he wants improved for the different rock, hip-hop, folk and punk rock musicians that come to play at his store.

“There’s work we want to still do for the venue part of it,” Swisher said. “We want to build a stage, and there are some lights we’re looking at getting, just to really make it cool looking for the bands.”

FINGER

in any state, some states, are required to have their applicants take a fingerprint examination as part of their background check.

“It is an extensive background check that is a comprehensive overview of the student’s job, education, criminal background and a credit check,” said Hodny. “Some jurisdictions require fingerprinting for the moral character application, though North Dakota doesn’t require fingerprinting for the application.”

At the request of people affiliated with the UND campus, police officers take their fingerprints. This includes an agreement made with the UND Education Department in which more than one hundred teacher candidates are fingerprinted each year.

“The UND Police Department has been providing fingerprinting service to the University for approximately 20 years,” Plummer said with the affirmation that UND will continue to provide free fingerprinting.

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

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**PEPPER FROM PAGE 7**

to “call xxx-xxxx for a good time”

Personally, I thought this added to the laid back mood of the restaurant. Frequently, the food at Red Pepper is compared to that of Taco Bell. The differences between the two restaurants is huge, with the most important being that going to the Red Pepper doesn’t leave your clothes smelling like body odor and your father’s disappointment. The only real similarity I saw between the two was the price point. Almost everything on the menu was less than five dollars, and generously everything on the menu was less than five dollars, and generously everything on the menu was less than five dollars, and generously
to explain how soft the bun of the grinder sandwich was, but it can be best described as somewhere between a pillow and a cloud. The entire half sandwich was 8 inches long and cost a mere $2.60. Subway should be taking notes.

Much like a grizzled street dog or a philosophy major, the Red Pepper’s shabby appearance can make it seem like something that should be avoided at all costs. But quite frankly, the food there is just too good to pass up. Red Pepper certainly lives up to its hype, and it has thoroughly earned its 4 out of 5 star ranking thanks to its quality and affordable prices.

Brendan McCabe is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at brendan.mccabe@my.und.edu

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“The game is a lot tougher and everyone here is really good,” Dalen said. “The overall competition is a major difference.”

While the Europeans focus on a more passing and play-making style of play, North American hockey is known for its physicality.

Andrea Dalen isn’t the lone European on UND’s roster. Seniors Johanna Fallman (Sweden), Josefine Jakobson (Denmark) and junior Tanja Eisenschmid (Germany) all hail from overseas. Her teammates bring a wide array of experiences and aspects to the team.

“It’s really nice to be able to experience the different cultures,” Dalen said.

The senior has had several experiences playing at the national level that have helped her with playing collegiate hockey. “You learn a lot about styles of different players, along with their culture, so all of that makes it easier,” she said.

Dalen had one of her best personal showings at the international level last April when she skated with the Norwegian National team at the IIHF Women’s World Championship.

Dalen scored seven goals in five games, leading Norway to third place while also being awarded the honor of top forward in the tournament.

“This year, the captain’s role on the UND women’s hockey team has given Dalen a new perspective. “For sure it’s a bigger responsibility,” she said. “Just try to stay the same and not change much, but you definitely have to put the team first instead of yourself.”

The senior has skated in 23 games this year, recording six goals and 15 points this season.

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This year, the captain’s role on the UND women’s hockey team would be big for UND as the team would then surpass the Beavers in the conference standings. The potential sweep, along with another two Ohio State losses this weekend, could bounce UND from sixth place in the WCHA to fourth.

Winning five of its last six games, the UND women’s hockey team will look to continue its streak of good hockey when the puck drops Saturday afternoon at Ralph Engelstad Arena.

Dalen knows the team needs to do to keep moving forward. “We have to keep winning games the second half of the season,” Dalen said. “As it goes on, it’s more and more like playoff hockey. We have to be tough and gritty and keep doing what we are in practice.”

Ben Novak is a staff writer for The Dakota Student.
On the ice: From Norway to Grand Forks
— UND women's hockey senior Andrea Dalen faces challenges, thrives at new level of play

By Elizabeth Erickson
The Dakota Student

The Tigers claimed their first NCHC win of the season last weekend at Omaha, yet sit as the lowest-scoring team in the NCHC with 2.25 goals per game. Thanks to a sweep over Niagara at home last weekend, North Dakota has completed its non-conference schedule with a near-perfect record. UND showcased its depth when Austin Poganski, Bryn Chyzyk, Michael Parks and Stephane Pattyn each posted two-goal weekends against Niagara. For the first time since March 2011, UND had five players score at least two goals. But that’s no surprise. “It’s what we expect,” UND coach Dave Hakstol said last Saturday.

For Bryn Chyzyk, who was one goal shy of a hat trick Friday night, his linemates Drake Caggiula and Nick Schmaltz make it simple. “Those two guys, all you’ve got to do is skate around with your stick on the ice.” Chyzyk said. “Their skill level is unbelievable.

“Our team goal is to grow every week. I think there were positives from that weekend. There are also things we’ve got to work on.”

Working toward improvement is the goal for junior forward Colten St. Clair, who is slowly making his way back into the lineup after sustaining an injury earlier this season, though no official timeline is known. “That’s probably the biggest challenge in front of him is conditioning and timing,” Hakstol said. “There’s no quick road back. He’s a guy that’ll do the work. He’s done everything he can to this point to keep himself at that level. Quite honestly, that’s going to be the next big challenge in front of him. He’ll do the work, we’ll take it day by day and we’re not going to accelerate anything — but when he’s ready, he’s ready.”

Until then, UND’s capable lineup has shown consistency in improvement.

North Dakota currently holds the No. 1 spot in the NCHC in penalty killing at 87 percent and leads the nation with eight short-handed goals. Last weekend, UND’s 85 shots on goal were the most in a 2-game series since tallying 96 against Boston University in Nov. 2013.

The familiarity in skating at home in what will be four weekends in a row has shown to be positive for the team. “You can have different outcomes,” Hakstol said. “I think our players have done a good job of it thus far. I judge that mostly by the concentration and the consistency of our practices. Judging by that, we’ve done good job being at home and staying focused on trying to take advantage of these games.”

With a focus on clinching the top spot in the conference, the team knows the value in skating in front of a home crowd. “We love going out there and playing in front of the fans at this beautiful facility,” Chyzyk said. “We’re only down to six games now at home, so we’re going to cherish each last one here and hopefully take care of business here at home.”

Dalen grew up and started her hockey career in Holmen, Norway, and is now playing on a team that is the goal for junior forward Colten St. Clair, who is slowly making his way back into the lineup after sustaining an injury earlier this season.

Media: Andrea Dalen is the UND women’s hockey senior from a family of hockey players, who grew up in Norway and is now playing in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Dalen faced challenges in moving from the European to the North American style of play, such as adjustments to the language, environment, and scoring system. However, she thrived at her new level of play and is now playing against the likes of Drake Caggiula and Nick Schmaltz, who make it simple for her. Despite the challenges, Dalen remains focused on improving and making a positive impact on the team.

By Ben Novak
The Dakota Student

Not only did Andrea Dalen spend time adjusting to hockey at the collegiate level, the senior captain of the UND women’s hockey team also dealt with challenges in moving from country to country.

Dalen grew up and started her hockey career in Holmen, Norway, and is now playing on a team that is the goal for junior forward Colten St. Clair, who is slowly making his way back into the lineup after sustaining an injury earlier this season. “That’s probably the biggest challenge in front of him is conditioning and timing,” Hakstol said. “There’s no quick road back. He’s a guy that’ll do the work. He’s done everything he can to this point to keep himself at that level. Quite honestly, that’s going to be the next big challenge in front of him. He’ll do the work, we’ll take it day by day and we’re not going to accelerate anything — but when he’s ready, he’s ready.”

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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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