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The Dakota Student

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Students serve community at annual Big Event

Megan Hoffman
The Dakota Student

Saturday’s warm weather helped bring over 800 students out into the community to volunteer their time in various ways. Promotions Chair Steph Lee said she was pleased with the way the day went, even with a few last minute changes that required her and other leaders to think on their feet.

The turnout this year nearly matched last year’s, but with higher turnout expected based on registration numbers, Lee had to find some last minute solutions, one of which included going out and doing some of the volunteer work herself.

Lee also said some students showed up the day of without registering. There also were some volunteers finished their tasks early and came back to the wellness center to get a second assignment.

“It was great, I think everybody was really excited to help,” Lee said. “We had music going too — I think it’s just a great event where people want to get out and help.”

This year, students were asked to take pictures of themselves at their job sites and send them to Lee, and she had almost 100 photos of students working and standing with elderly couples sent to her.

Students volunteer by preparing food for the annual Big Event. Photo via UND’s Flickr page.

Library archives
911 calls from flood

Marie Monson
The Dakota Student

April 18 and 19 are dates remembered in Grand Forks by its people — and its phone lines.

In 1997, The Red River Valley flood wreaked havoc on the city, devastating many. All calls made to and from 911 dispatchers during those two days are now readily available to the public.

“According to the Head of Special Collections at the Chester Fritz Library Curt Hanson, the calls aren’t what many might expect.

“911 calls on the worst day of a community’s history,” Hanson said. “And yet, not everyone calling is stressed; there are people calling in saying, ‘I’ve got a bus of people coming from Fargo, where do you need them?’ And so it’s not just people crying and calling all worried, but it’s people who wanted to help, too.”

Hanson said he remembers one call in particular in which one man offered up his 15-foot long boat to help others.

“He said, ‘If you need it, you can use it. I can help out,’” Hanson said.

Over 2,100 calls were made in the two-day span, and for over six years, Hansen’s department, along with some help from the library systems department, have been working on digitizing and separating them into individual clips.

“The whole intention was to take the calls and put them on our website so that people could use them — it’s not as if people have to come here to the fourth floor of the Chester Fritz Library to listen to the calls,” Hanson said.

What’s also unique about the recordings is that they portray the fear and concern from both sides. Most of the calls are made by citizens to dispatchers, their family members and 911 calls from flood.

Students still excited for Springfest

Marie Monson
The Dakota Student

The annual event known as Springfest in Grand Forks has been cancelled this year, but it’s not expected to stop people from having parties.

In past, Springfest was an event hosted at University Park by Rhombus Guys Pizza. The party included alcohol, food and music.

But this year, the owners decided not to apply for alcohol permits after President Robert Kelley and Grand Forks Mayor Mike Brown asked the City Council not to grant permits.

However, Springfest has expanded beyond the park, to houses and residences on campus and around the park.

In the past, the University Police Department has teamed up with Grand Forks Police Department, the Grand Forks Sheriff’s Department and the North Dakota Highway Patrol to monitor the situation.

The departments had extra officers on duty to help with problems. Although this year the event has been cancelled, it is expected that the divisions will still have an increased presence in the community on May 9.

When it was announced that...
Jeff stood outside the building for his math class. Even though it was the end of the semester, he had not gone to that class for a couple weeks and because of this he would probably fail. Although he was avoiding Steph, deep down, he desperately wanted to see her. He needed closure or some kind of apology to rebuild the small remains of his self-worth. Brian has been another story. Jeff was not sure how his anger was able to fuel Brian into attacking him since they had been friends for so long. Jeff felt sympathy for Brian though, since he knew him so well, and he could tell that Brian was truly empty inside lately and trying to fill some void. As Jeff checked his phone while still standing there, he pondered what caused Brain to become hollow. The feelings Jeff had for Steph had not changed. He still wanted to be with her and wondered how other people were so lucky to be in relationships. Again he decided not to go to math and walked back to his dorm. As he sat in his desk, he decided to destress by drawing Zengal attacking a T-Rex. He wasn’t very good at drawing, but the pictures were so clear in his mind.
happy everyone was and how much fun they were having,” Lee said. “It’s great that students are getting to know the residents.”

When the Big Event started 11 years ago, all volunteers were required to bring canned goods with them on the day of the event. Over 140 donated food items were brought in, and while it’s not 800, Lee is happy to have this part of the event going again and says she looks forward to next year.

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Although Hanson said it wasn’t an emotional process for him since he wasn’t in Grand Forks during the disaster, he said he has received many calls over his 16 years here from citizens asking whether they could access recordings from the flood. “I suspect that it will be emotional for those who come to the reception on Wednesday, because they lived through it, and it truly was an incredibly difficult and stressful event to live through,” Hanson said.

The unveiling will take place in the East Asia Room at the Chester Fritz Library Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

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

911 FROM PAGE 1

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media networks. However, the dispatchers themselves also made calls out to their families to check up on them and give them updates.

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SPRINGFEST FROM PAGE 1

the event would be cancelled, a lot of students were unhappy. But most say it won’t stop them from gathering to party and celebrate the end of the semester.

“My plans are still just to drink wherever and just not worry about it too much,” sophomore Carl Curtiss said.

Cancelling the event might lead to more problems for the police to deal with, as people may be more spread out.

“I think it may cause more problems now that there’s nothing going on in the park so it’s all going to be more spread out with drunk people everywhere instead of them being more around the park,” Curtiss said. “So I think it was a dumb move for them to cancel springfest.”

People who are able to celebrate the event responsibly are upset they won’t be able to this year.

“I think that it sucks for people who are of age and that don’t cause problems because springfest is a good way to end the year,” senior Jenna Dygert said. “And it’s one of the only activities that go on near campus for springtime.”
Things I’ve done and learned

Maggie O’Leary
The Dakota Student

Saturday April 25, I attended Green Dot training. The Green Dot program here at UND is sponsored by the Dean of Students, and our training was the first. Green Dot is an incredibly valuable addition to our campus security initia-
tives and was a practical, thoughtful expe-
rience for me — but also one that made
me think more generously about violence
and how normalized some aspects of it
have become for me.

The program is, at its most basic re-
duction, a bystander intervention strat-
 egy. More specifically (and, on college
 campuses, more crucially), the program recognizes the social capital in iden-
tifying and preventing instances of
power-based personal violence.

Power-based personal violence (PB
PV) is violence that “is a form of violence
that has as a primary motivator the as-
sersion of power, control and/or intimid-
ation in order to harm another.” Using
alcohol and/or drugs to manipu-
late, control, or hurt a person is also a
form of power-based personal violence.
This violence is perpetuated with the in-
tent to subordinate and lessen the value
of another person, and can manifest itself
directly or more duplicitously. Forms of
power-based personal violence include
sexual assault, intimate partner violence,
stalking and targeting or bullying an
individual, and may be committed by part-
ners, friends, acquaintances or strangers.

Our training focused largely on sexual
assault, intimate partner violence and
stalking.

For reference:
According to the Department of Jus-
tice, 80 percent of all rapes and sexual as-
saults of college students, the offender is
known to the victim. Another 80 percent
of these assaults remain unreported.

College students also report having been
subjected to dating violence by their partner (21 percent according to a 1996
study), and a 2002 study reveals that 40
percent of gay and bisexual men are vic-
tims of intimate partner violence.

Violence is indiscriminate and affects
people simply because they are people.
I don’t think there was a single individual
in our training of over 20 students who
did not either themselves been directly
affected by power-based personal vio-
ence, or who knew someone who had
been violated or harassed.

Point being: UND is not free from
violence, nor is it immune from the ef-
fects of power-based personal violence.

Practicalities and vocabulary out of
the way, the Green Dot program is ac-
cessible, broadly applicable, and not an
over-commitment — three factors that
make it an effective strategy for students.

It equips trainees with three potential re-
sponses to observed instances of PB
PV (e.g. witnessing an assault) but also
teaches them how to recognize potential
places to look for further victims (e.g.
someone leading an obviously intoxicated or incapacitated individual to an isolated
area).

At the end of a single training, stu-
dents understand what PB PV is, how it manifests itself, what different instances
of PB PV are and how to counter vio-
ence capably and effectively. They are
conscious of how different forms of violence reveal themselves in different relationships and with different people.

Competently, assuredly, they may now
negate red dots (an assailant, a bat, a passive acceptance of another person’s violence) and replace them with a green
dot.

In short: A program like this is abso-
lutely necessary.

I received a scholarship last year...

The process has been extraordinary, and
humbling. I am always conscious of the
fact that my scholarship only exists because another woman was raped and
murdered. As a recipient of that award,
I assume a responsibility to negate
violence where I see it and to create, in
whatever limited and small way I can, a
space of safety. Somewhere to exchange
grievances, and frustrations, and anger,
but also somewhere that welcomes the
opportunity for change. This may be in
my writing, my ability to be leadership
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I have in classrooms and in meetings for
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—in the mighty soul of kernels. Kernels
of consciousness, kernels of change, ker-
nels of movement or popcorn. Patience
is difficult when you’ve been hurt; pa-
tience is even more difficult when you
are someone you care for deeply drown-
ing because of another individuals en-
triment or anger. This year — my last,
best year at UND — has given a lot of
me reaffirming the way I excuse violence.

Sometimes, people need to lie down,
be like a cat and heal themselves. More
often than not, however, they need rein-
forcement — knowledge that their ex-
periences and pain are valid and valued,
and there is a multiplicity of voices that
refuse to excuse or apologize for violence.

The Green Dot program does this, and
it does it well and without noise.

I know that this is true because I am
critically conscious of the effort and
terror PB PV creates for victims and for
others, and (for that rea-
son and for many others) desperately
needed and for me absolutely welcome
addition to our campus. I will have here
largely unburdened because of it.

Available resources for students, staff,
and faculty who have experienced
power-based personal violence.

Confidential Options (on campus)

UND CVIC Confidential Advisor
701.777.4500

Community Violence Intervention Center (CVIC)
701.777.4341

University of North Dakota Police Department protect and enhance the quality of life for anyone who lives, work or visit our community.

Violence is perpetrated in different ways to collect evidence after an assault.

Confidential Options

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f...
Say what you mean to say

Kjerstine Trooien
The Dakota Student

Last week, I was chatting with a coworker about my other job as an independent copy-editor. She made a joke — and I wish I could remember the exact phrasing because it was very funny — about editing the jerk out of the paper (taming the language down a bit).

Just to be clear, we weren't talking about any of my clients or any real-life situation — it was simply a very clever quip.

Her funny one-liner got me thinking though — how much do we internally “edit” the conversations we’re having with others so that we avoid offense, hard topics or other potentially uncomfortable conversations? Goodness knows I do it all the time.

Take one of my closest friends — we have opposing views on many, many things political and have had many heated discussions over something the other said. There are times that I simply “edit” something he’s said in day-to-day conversation to avoid a fight. I’m sure he’s done the same to me.

I do this even more with family. In this case, I don’t want to upset the other family members around me. Where with my friend, it was simply avoiding an argument between the two of us, here it involves everyone at the dinner table.

“Sometimes when I talk about the internal editing process is important to function as a member of society. A person can’t jump down another person’s throat every time a stupid comment is made. Society would descend into chaos pretty quickly, especially since we all have vastly different opinions on what “stupid” is.

We have to censor what we say to keep ourselves sane. It’s the reverse of the filter we have from brain to mouth when we speak.

Sometimes, though, the editing has to stop. I’m noticing this as I listen to people talking about the current state of civil rights and equality in America.

How different is ignoring the micro-agression said at a family gathering than blatant hate speech in a public forum? How different is ignoring an ignorant comment made by a friend who means no harm than ignoring a slur screamed at a stranger on the street?

I’ve learned that I keep quiet too often — too often I assume that I can’t change this hypothetical person’s mind while really I don’t want to come across as a jerk who starts fights over “little things.”

But really, I’m just avoiding conflict and furthering the problem. Whether what is said comes from a lack of education, exposure or pure venom, it was still said. It’s been put out there, in the world, slowly worsening the potential for positive change.

It’s time for me to stop editing. It’s time for all of us to stop editing. We live in a world where I’m literally scared for my friends’ lives and good reason. We live in a country where cops hunt down black men and fire on peaceful protesters in Missouri. Baltimore burned last week because of riots. Transgendered youth are killing themselves because they can’t find safety from ignorance and hate speech.

And that’s just the tiniest tip of the iceberg of hate that seems to have sunk our country.

Folks, it’s time for us to start actually thinking about why we stay quiet. It is because we don’t want to offend, or is it because we’re too cowardly to say anything when someone makes an inappropriate quip about a woman’s hijab?

This internal editing process is placed in us early — think back to the elementary school chant of “Sticks and stones can break my bones but words can never hurt me.” Words do hurt though. They are what make up the laws of the land. They are what make up the speeches of pamphlets on our soapboxes. Heck, they make up this very article. Words are powerful and can be tools of change or tools of oppression.

It’s time for the internal to become the external. Instead of ignoring, we should call out. It doesn’t have to be aggressive — we don’t have to dissolve into fighting battles. It can be a simple, “Hey, that was really insensitive of you to say about [insert person’s transition].” Words can change make, sentences at a time.

And sure, the change is small. One person realizing they’ve been an ignorant jerk doesn’t make much of a difference right? Wrong. That’s how change starts. It starts with one person. It starts with me. It starts with you. Our generation is at a crossroads — make the same mistakes of the past or change for the better. I’ve already made my decision, what’s yours going to be?

Misty Meads
The Dakota Student

I’ve been a die hard “Grey’s Anatomy” fan since season one back in 2005, and like all other girls I fell in love with “McDreamy.”

For those of you who aren’t “Grey’s” fans, you should know that Derek Shepherd (McDreamy) was killed off. You also should know the news did not go down well with fans, and there is currently a petition on change.org demanding that McDreamy return to the show.

Tiffany Aguilera from Connecticut wrote on the website; “We’ve been loyal to you and to the show even after you took away O’Malley, Lexie, Mark (McDreamy) and Christina, but I will not accept you taking away our McDreamy.”

Currently 93,305 fans are in support of the movement to bring back Derek Shepherd to the show, but there is a major problem with this.

Derek is already dead.

In all 10 years of the show, no one has returned back from the dead. The characters may save lives but once someone is dead, they call the time of death, there is no bringing them back, and fans need to accept that.

Patrick Dempsey, the man behind McDreamy, tweeted out, “I want to thank all the fans, what an incredible 11 yrs, I love you all.”

Dempsey has accepted his death on the show. Fans need to do the same.

I’ve read that several fans have said they are swearing off Grey’s Anatomy forever, because they killed their favorite character but they need to realize this is only a fraction of the show. There are multiple storylines going on in the show, and just because McDreamy is dead doesn’t mean the show won’t go on.

Dempsey’s co-star Ellen Pompeo has even spoken out about hoping fans continue to watch her journey on “Grey’s”, even though her on-screen husband has died.

“There are so many people out there who have suffered tremendous loss and tragedy … People who get up each day and do what feels like is the impossible. So it is for these people and in the spirit of resilience I am honored and excited to tell the story of how Meredith goes on in the face of what feels like the impossible. I hope you will all join me on her journey.”

People need to realize this is a TV show. Dempsey isn’t really a doctor, and he isn’t really dead.

Yes, his death was sad and I admit I even was mad at screenwriter Shonda Rhimes for killing him off, but I turned off the TV, went to bed and returned to reality knowing I would return to my couch the following Thursday to continue watching my favorite show.

Many beloved characters have died on the show, it’s been 10 years, and many characters will die in the future. Fans need to realize this and not throw their lives away for a fictional character.

Misty Meads is the features editor for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at misty.meads@my.und.edu

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

Photo courtesy of imarcade.com

Patrick Dempsey. Photo courtesy of pinterest.com

Have anything interesting to say? Want to make your voice heard? 

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To apply, visit www.dakotastudent.com/employment

Kjerstine Trooien is the editor-in-chief for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at kjerstinetrooien@my.und.edu

Patrick Dempsey. Photo courtesy of pinterest.com
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Www.dakotastudent.com

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When we need an extra person or two on a job site a text is sent out explaining the job—natural location, times, and hourly wage.
If you would like to make some extra cash just reply back saying you’ll take that particular job.
It’s that easy!
Japan night gives students taste of culture

Serianna Henkel
The Dakota Student

Students filled the Memorial Union Loading Dock Thursday evening as the UND International Center presented Japan Culture Night. The two-hour event included presentations on Japanese life and culture, traditional Japanese food and karaoke. Each presentation was given by several Japanese students wearing traditional clothing.

Beginning with a presentation about Japanese school, there are very clear differences between their schools and typical American schools. Most young students wear the exact same backpack, called a ransose-ru, which are traditionally given out on the first day of school.

Another significant difference is the lack of janitors in Japanese schools, which makes it the duty of the students to clean up after themselves each day. A YouTube clip showed several elementary students pushing cleaning rags across a gymnasium floor in a competitive manner, and the presenter noted it’s common to make a fun game out of the cleaning process.

A series of humorous video clips were put together by the presenters to educate the audience on Japanese customs and social norms that are different from what is practiced in the U.S.

In Japan it’s considered very rude to be talking on a cellphone while riding public transportation. Another disrespectful gesture is looking someone directly in the eye when speaking with them. According to the presenters, this is very "creepy and weird" and can be grounds for calling the police.

A few myths about Japanese culture were busted by presenter Saki ("no, not like the drink"). Kawaguchi. She cleared up that no, Japanese people don’t eat sushi every day and, “If you are expecting to see a ninja or samurai, you will be very disappointed.”

Kawaguchi continued with a short slideshow of different places to visit and sights to see across Japan. Just before food was served, four students presented a traditional fishing dance, which is taught as part of the curriculum in many schools across Japan. The dance moves represent ocean waves, pulling ropes, dragging fishing nets and lifting items over the shoulder.

The evening’s meal consisted of a rice ball filled with tuna (according to Kawaguchi, this is a typical breakfast food), deep fried pieces of chicken and miso soup. Around 250 people went through the line to get a taste of Japanese cuisine.

While attendees enjoyed the food, the event wrapped up with karaoke. Audience members were invited to join, however the presenters did most of the singing. Song choices were from Japanese anime programs such as Dragon Ball Z, One Piece and Fullmetal Alchemist.

Japan Culture Night was the final Culture Night of the semester hosted by the Office of International Programs.

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

Deek’s: Good pizza, great price

Brendan McCabe
The Dakota Student

Deek’s with Canadian bacon, pepperoni and sausage. Photo courtesy of Deek’s Pizza.

Deek’s: Good pizza, great price

Food Review

“Deek’s Pizza”

Seeing as my wallet was recently drained by a trip to Rhombus Guy’s this weekend, I opted for something a tad more affordable: Deek’s Pizza. With a slogan like “Great pizza that won’t empty your pockets,” I figured it was a safe bet.

After browsing their site online, I easily found a page of all the deals Deek’s was offering for the day. This was a tidbit that was mysteriously lacking from Rhombus Guy’s site, so it was quite refreshing to see. After sifting through a few bargains, I opted to buy the three topping XX large pizza with 10 chicken wings and a two-liter bottle of soda for $22.

Because it was storming and I was almost completely out of cares to give for the day, I decided to have the pizza delivered to my residence. After calling the restaurant, I was quickly put on hold and subjected to music that can only be described as a ’70s fever dream. Get with the times, Deek’s. I only accept hold music that sounds like a ’90s fever dream at the very latest.

Once the acid flashback to the disco era was over, I placed my order. My request for Dr. Pepper was politely shot down, and I was told that Deek’s Pizza only served Pepsi products. Instead of instantly hanging up to this news, I settled for a bottle of Pepsi. It was a bit like going to a Lamborghini dealership and leaving with a bike that has two deflated tires, but I was already halfway through the order so I rolled with it.

After what seemed like a very short half hour, the food was satirizing. The movie I’m talking about, of course, is “Birdman or the Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance.” Recently, I have seen or heard a lot of people refer to this movie as “pretentious” in a way that puzzled me.

“‘Birdman’ is near perfect”

Alex Bertsch
The Dakota Student

It’s a beautiful thing to see when a piece of satire proves true. It’s amazing to see people that seem unable to read between the lines of a film and in their criticisms of it, play right into what the film was satirizing. The movie I’m talking about, of course, is “Birdman or the Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance.”

Recently, I have seen or heard a lot of people refer to this movie as “pretentious” in a way that puzzled me.

MOVIE REVIEW

“Birdman”

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Michael Keaton as Birdman. Photo courtesy of cultnoise.com.

MOVIE

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Serianna Henkel
The Dakota Student

Tuesday May 5, 2015

DS FEATURES

Traditional rice ball with tuna, typically served for breakfast. Photo courtesy of superhealthykids.com.

Fishing dance, performed by fishermen and their wives. Photo courtesy of ob.org.
Aelx Bertsch is the opinion editor for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at alexander.j.bertsch@my.und.edu.

Deek's Pizza chicken wings. Photo courtesy of Deek's Pizza.

Brendan McCabe is the features editor for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at brendan.mccabe@my.und.edu.

Deek's deliveryman was a stronger man than I, and I also learned it’s probably for the better that I don’t work in the food service industry.

The film puts Riggan in a space that is hard to occupy. On one side, he wants to impress the artistic community, and on the other side he is only recognizable as Birdman, a superhero he played 20 years ago. Norton’s performance is riveting, and he has great chemistry with Keaton and Emma Stone, who plays Riggan Thompson’s addict daughter. Stone’s character is a dangerous one; she could, with her lack of empathy, appear lazy.

Edward Norton makes an appearance as an accomplished Broadway actor who sees himself as the true artist. Norton’s performance is riveting, and he has great chemistry with both Keaton and Emma Stone, who plays Riggan Thompson’s addict daughter. Stone’s character is a dangerous one; she could, with her lack of empathy, appear lazy.

The film fits perfectly with the idea of liking both high art and low art and how both sides will demonize you for your devotion to the other. And that is why it’s so amusing to hear people call “Birdman” pretentious, because it plays right into the dichotomy that the movie is satirizing.

I give “Birdman” 5 out of 5 stars. Because tells an interesting story that has something to say. It’s one of my favorite movies, and if you haven’t seen it yet, go rent it on Amazon. It’s worth the money.

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Junior Jacob Dehne shot the best score for UND with a 74 in the final round while senior Collin Lervick concluded his collegiate career with his best round of the tournament, finishing with a 78.

Pulanco birdied his final hole of the day to end his round with a score of 82.

“For the team’s experience, this tournament is the biggest of the year,” Pulanco said. “So it definitely helps and makes other tournaments less stressful moving forward.”

North Dakota moved into the Big Sky conference this season after spending six seasons in the American Sky Conference. Idaho sophomore Jared du Toit was the star of the tournament, leading the Vandals to a 21-stroke victory and a conference title after tying the course record, shooting 66.

“It was good,” Pulanco said. “The biggest difference between this year and last year was the conference tournament. Even though the tournament was at the same course as last year, the condition of the course, the lodging, and meals, for example, seemed more coordinated. Also, the ceremony at the end for tournament awards was really nice.”

With Collin Lervick being the lone senior on the North Dakota roster, the team will go into its offseason and come back next year with a team mostly built on upperclassmen. Pulanco, Brady Ohman, Jacob Dehne and Andrew Strand will all be back next year for their senior seasons.

“I want to try and get as many lessons as I can with my coach over the summer,” Pulanco said on his offseason plans. “And to just practice as much as I can with putting, chipping, driving and everything in between.”

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A final farewell to The Dakota Student

Elizabeth Erickson
The Dakota Student

There are plenty more stories I wish I would have made the time to tell, yet wish only one left after three and a half years of working for The Dakota Student, I still don’t quite know how to end it.

I’ve met incredible people who have told me about their lives — some saying things you could predict before they even said it, and some who made you tilt your head and wonder how they’d have the guts to tell a complete stranger something so personal about themselves.

I think that’s my favorite part about this job.

There were times I found myself caring more than I should have about interviewing someone who taught me more about campus ATMs than I would find useful. I can tell you about that statue I wish I would have about interview-ing someone who taught me more about campus ATMs than I would find useful. I can tell you about that statue I wish I would have about interview-ing someone who taught me more about campus ATMs than I would find useful. I can tell you about that statue I wish I would have about interview-ing someone who taught me more about campus ATMs than I would find useful.

There were plenty more.

I imagine, while serving as the men’s hockey beat writer for the past three seasons has allowed me to collect experiences beyond what I ever expected.

My first assignment was to accompany a fellow journalist to an event and get a quote from a student standing in front of me. He looked just about as horrri-fied as I was.

It got easier, though there was seldom a time during three seasons as the men’s hockey beat writer that I managed to avoid the intimidation before I prepared to ask Dave Hakstol a question and face his constant eye contact.

My younger brothers and I were the kids who used to wait outside the tunnel in the stands after the games as we were growing up, hoping for a handful of autographs from players like Zach Parise or Brandon Bochen-ski. The time Mike Prpich handed my brother a broken hockey stick made me jealous for longer than I’d like to admit.

I was working alongside everyone has the time, but they also have their priorities.

The people I’ve learned from — in the office, at the rink, during interviews — they’ve taught me that people should be a priority.

Those people have stories we can tell in The Dakota Student, yet doing them justice sometimes seems a daunting task.

I won’t forget the time I saw the very first athlete I interviewed break down in a post game interview after his last game because he cared that much about this school, his team and the community.

I’ll miss meeting people and hearing about the things they care about, who suddenly sparked my interest in things I never guessed I would care about, too.

You’ve inspired me; yet I should have told you then instead of now. Maybe you won’t even see this.

If you do — thank you all for allowing me to tell your stories.

Elizabeth Erickson is the sports editor of The Dakota Student. She can be reached at elizabeth.e.erickson@my.und.edu.
UND swings trip to WAC tourney

— Baseball team clinches spot in conference tournament after successful weekend at home

Jack Harvey
The Dakota Student

After not being able to make it in its first year, the UND baseball team has clinched a spot in the WAC tournament later this month. UND was able to punch its first ticket to the tournament since switching over to the conference last season.

North Dakota has overcome huge obstacles from early in the season, with pitching and timely hitting. The team started out the season dismally in the conference at 3-6, and was outscored by its opponents by a score of 74-39 in those first nine games. However, UND coach Jeff Dodson has righted the ship, and he and his crew have been able to turn the season around by winning every series since.

“IT’s been really good,” Dodson said after Saturday’s game against Texas Pan American. “We had to battle through some things early on in the season. Our guys have really settled in. We spent a lot of time with them talking more about mentality.”

Tyler Follis was able to put his name atop the long list of all-time hits leaders for UND. Despite the achievement, Follis had more of a team mentality after the game.

“Feels good to have,” Follis said. “But we’ve got a big chance to secure a bye so that’s the top priority right now. Records are cool, but winning a WAC championship is the big goal.”

The team only has a few games left to climb the standings. North Dakota will close out the season at home against Utah Valley and then travel out to New Mexico State to take on the Aggies. Both Utah Valley and New Mexico State rank below UND in the standings. But that doesn’t exactly mean it will be a cake-walk for the Green and White.

Men’s golf team completes first year in Big Sky

— UND finishes season in Big Sky Championship at Greenhorn Creek Golf Course, looks ahead to next season

Ben Novak
The Dakota Student

The UND men’s golf team finished up its final tournament of the year last Wednesday after competing in the Big Sky Championship at Greenhorn Creek Golf Course in Angels Camp, California.

“I think compared to last year, we did a lot better,” junior captain Aaron Pulanco said on playing in Big Sky tournament for the first time. “However, I know that everyone is capable of doing a lot better than we did this past weekend.”

Though the team didn’t have the finish it wanted, it still closed out the season with its best round at the tournament, carding a score of 310 after shooting 324 and 318 in the two previous rounds.

North Dakota was familiar with the Greenhorn Creek Golf Course as it finished up its last year in the American Sky Championship.

Pulanco and sophomore Daniel Sayler both carded a 79 (+7) in their opening rounds of the tournament and had North Dakota in 7th place in the standings with a (242) after the first day. Sayler continued to play good golf into day two of the tournament, hitting 15 of 18 greens, and shooting a team best 77. Sayler was one stroke better in each of his rounds as he went on to shoot a 77 in the final round and he finished 29th overall.