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The Dakota Student

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President Donald Trump has signed a flurry of executive orders since taking office, and repealing the Johnson Amendment, which prohibits non-profits including religious organizations from endorsing or supporting political candidates, is one of his next proposed targets.

President Trump vows to “completely destroy” the Johnson Amendment

Diane Newberry
The Dakota Student

President Trump announced at the annual National Prayer Meeting Feb. 2 that he aims to “totally destroy” the Johnson Amendment, which had been a target for political candidates in previous years.

“It’s not limited in their ability to campaign as a single citizen, only from endorsing specific candidates from the pulpit. Even that restriction can be flexible. According to Robert Wood, Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of North Dakota, “in practice, enforcement has been very low.”

“Of course, I have a personal opinion about how the government should be involved in our lives, but my call to be a pastor is to serve the gospel.”

Rev. Dr. Mark Buchhop, Pastor of Wittenberg Lutheran Church

Wood goes on to say that while he can recall select times in high-profile cases when churches were threatened with the loss of their tax-exempt status, he “can’t think of a single example” of when a non-profit actually has faced legal consequences for political speech.

Rev. Dr. Mark Buchhop, pastor of the on-campus Witt- enberg Lutheran Chapel, holds strong opposition to the politicization of religious services. Buchhop said, “but my call to be a pastor is to serve the gospel.”

Though he is personally involved in political activity within the church, enforcement has faced legal consequences for political speech, Bucchop said, “but my call to be a pastor is to serve the gospel.”

The Dakota Student
Connor Johnson
The Dakota Student

Several days ago, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released the determined cause of the collision and derailment of two BNSF trains in 2013, near the town of Casselton, N.D.

A car in the middle of a westbound grain freight train derailed into the path of an eastbound crude oil train. The subsequent collision caused the locomotives and 20 oil cars to derail. 18 of the tanker cars ruptured and spilled 400,000 gallons of crude oil, which caught fire, prompting an evacuation of 1,400 residents of nearby Fargo.

For more than six months, no one of the train crews was injured in the accident, nor were any injuries reported in Casselton.

According to the NTSB, the probable cause of the collision was a faulty axle on the 45th car of the 112-car long oil train, which failed and caused the car to derail in the path of the 106-car long oil oil train. The wheels of the grain train, which failed and caused the car to derail in the path of the 112-car oil train, were in- volved in the collision.

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The Dakota Student
Christopher A. Hart

NTSB releases findings of investigation into train accident

Connor Johnson
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In this issue’s Features section

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Despite this deadline, BNSF has made steps in improving safety of their rolling stock.

"Since 2011, BNSF advocated for a new, stronger tank car standard and has worked with our customers to get safer tank cars into service sooner," BNSF spokeswoman Amy McBeth said through BNSF's statement on the accident.

"There are no legacy DOT-111 tank cars moving in crude oil unit trains on our network," McBeth said.

According to the Grand Forks Free Department, no tanker cars filled with crude oil use the rail yard in the center of the city, however, DOT-111 cars can be seen in the yard, and may be filled with other hazardous materials.

BNSF trackage in eastern North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Manitoba are operated by the Twin Cities Division, head-quartered in Minneapolis. When last inventoried in 2007, BNSF had over 40,000 employees, 6,400 locomotives and over 85,000 rail cars.

Connor Johnson is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at cljohnson317@gmail.com

Diane Newberry, The Dakota Student

"If a non-profit like a church were to be able to directly campaign for and support political candidates, that entity would also be able to freely donate money to candidates without disclosing their individual donors."

Robert Wood is an associate professor of political science and public administration at UND.

If a non-profit like a church were to be able to freely donate money to candidates without disclosing their individual donors.

Effectively, abolishing the Johnson Amendment could turn churches into PACs and create a “whole new avenue for dark money,” a phenomenon that Wood says is one of the “biggest concerns in our modern political system.”

In order for President Trump to fulfill his promise, a Republican-controlled Congress will have to approve a bill to abolish the Amendment. However, this is an issue that Democrats, particularly those in the Senate, are predicted to fight hard on.

Diane Newberry is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at dnewberry41@gmail.com

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Ian Collins
Contributing Writer

Throughout the creation or evolution of cannabis, many things have occurred. Grass, flowers, fungi, and cannabis are just a few. Yes, cannabis. Mariguana is a slang term politicians slapped onto cannabis to make it sound scary and steer people away from it, thinking it is the devil's plant. Before 1910, marihuana was not a word American culture even used. Cannabis was used for medicines and remedies in the West. It was a plant that was over the counter ‘drug.’

So, that brings me back around to the topic of making cannabis great again. After all the executive orders that have been pushed through by President Trump, this law is one order that should be pushed. After all, most everyone wants to see things that we as students are familiar with like scholarships or federal loan-based financial aid. Let me just list off a few: it treats glaucoma, helps control epileptic seizures, stops cancer from spreading, decreases anxiety, THC decreases anxiety, THC slows the progression of Alzheimer’s, eases MS, it relieves arthritis, boosts metabolism, spats out creativity, soothes tremors from Parkinson’s, protects the brain from concussions and helps veterans suffering from PTSD. If that lengthy list does not open eyes to the bureaucrats in DC, I don’t know what it will take.

Medical it makes much too sense to not have cannabis legalized, it is moral and righteous thing to do. However, even though, I am personally against state regulation of the use of certain drugs, the state retains the right to mandate what those receiving the aid can or cannot do to remain eligible. Remember, the law does not represent what is moral or righteous, rather it represents the limits on permissible behaviors for both the state and the individual. Much like federal aid for schools, welfare is not a right, but a society decides to help those it feels sympathy towards, and therefore society is not permitted to set any standards they so desire on the receipt of such funds.

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Making cannabis great again

ready to fight to get Gorsuch excited, Democrat legislators.

Don't get excited, I've been met with simultaneous.  Don't get

Gorsuch has been met with Senate confirmation, the date to SCOTUS, and with

dent to nominate a candidate to the Supreme Court. I value

land was delayed for over nine months. The appointment of Judge Gar-
denced by how Obama's knowledge that filling the

are bound by law. Their rulings have, at one point during the Trump administra-
tion. I consider it a big mistake to support Trump supporters to support

picture of the official Facebook page of Neil Gorsuch.

Liz Kacher

They're ready to fight to get Gorsuch appointed.

The process to appoint Trump's nominee is going to happen, in my opinion.

He should get the support of Gorsuch, especially when he's being considered for Gorsuch's appointment.

I've been studying the record of Gorsuch, especially when he was President Barack Obama's Supreme Court Justice. I believe that he's more conservative than

Gorsuch, which is why I'm worried about him filling the seat.

I support President Trump's nominal appointment of Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court, as I believe such's appointment to the US Supreme Court is crucial to our nation's future.

I beg those against Gorsuch to support Trump as well. Trump supporters to support Gorsuch's appointment to the Supreme Court, as I believe he will make decisions that are best for our people.

I'm excited to see Neil Gorsuch filling the seat of Justice Scalia. He is a fitting successor to Justice Scalia—a man of great intellect and brilliance who

has left a lasting legacy on the Supreme Court. I support President Trump's decision to fill the seat, and I believe that Gorsuch will make excellent decisions in the future.

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“When I was alone, I cried and contemplated whether I should stay at UND. It was, after all, my first official day here on campus and I felt so disrespected. I decided to stay because I knew there were other Indigenous students in the same situation.”

Hannah Balderas - student at the University of North Dakota
Stephanie Hollman
The Dakota Student

In Grand Forks and the rest of the country, BOP is synonymous with American breakfast dining. The IHOP on 32nd Ave. is no exception, and on Saturday and Sunday morning, it is packed with families of all kinds, students and honestly, people who chose to go there because the wait time is shorter than that of Denny’s across the street.

For every person who has a quick route to late-night eating, there’s another who hikes to Terrace Commons dining center offers many options to the UND community.

“T"hese days it is easier to avoid the hench North Dakota winery.

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As for the actual food, it has been disappointing.

Brandt said Wilkerson is closer to her Fulton dorm, making it easier to avoid the hench North Dakota winery.

None of those debates are the most contentious on campus.

It’s a regular topic for on-campus discussions, a conversation that can make or mar friend-ships.

Which of the three main dining centers is the best?

For some, there are no winners. A change in location can ruin an entire day. Kallia Rinkel is a sophomore at UND. She lives in the Fulton dorms and prefers Squires over Wilkerson Commons.

“Squires is so closed off and intimate where [Wilkerson] you can just see everyone and ev-erybody can see you and they can judge you when you laugh too loud,” Rinkel said.

Rinkel has a laugh that echoes across Grand Forks, meaning the judgment of her laugh is something serious to consider.

It was also mentioned that Squires is closer to her Fulton dorm, making it easier to avoid the hench North Dakota winery.

For students like UND freshman Maggie Powell, convenience to the classroom is more important than proxim-it-y. Powell also lives in the Fulton dorms, but the majority of her classes are closer to Terrace.

Powell eats breakfast and lunch every day at Terrace. She said one of her favorite aspects of Terrace is the “homey” atmosphere it has. Not to mention the ladies behind the counter.

“They’re all so friendly,” Powell said.

“‘They’re always saying ‘eat more’ and ‘have some casserole’ and it’s just really cute. They re-ally care.”

For Rinkel, having the tray in Squires is nice, but they aren’t a “selling point.”

To even out the playing field, Wilkerson is the only dining center with take-out boxes for late-night snackers.

Despite this being a point for Brandt’s fa-vorite dining center, she brought the conversation back to the overall theme of IHOP.

“I liked it better when it was at Squires, because then I didn’t need to carry a giant tray of food,” Brandt said.

As for the actual food, it has been disappointing.

Brandt felt that Squires is because the food tastes "bland." Although Powell voted for Terrace, she looked at the plethora of food options Wilkerson offers.

“Think it’s cool, because (at Wilkerson) you’re always going to get pasta and always be able to get a burger,” Powell said. “At Terrace, you never know what you’re getting. You show it up and it’s whatever the ladies decided to cook that day.”

Whether it’s because your classes are close, or your dorm has a turned-on or one because the ladies at Terrace know your name, everybody has a preferable place to eat. For every person who has a quick route to late-night, there’s another who hikes to Terrace twice a day.

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Senior send off against Ohio State

Lady Hawks look to sweep in last home series of the season

Jake Andersen
Dakota Student

The UND Fighting Hawks women’s hockey team is back home to take on the Ohio State University Buckeyes for one final weekend series of games before the WCHA playoff next weekend.

“The Hawks (13-13-4, 10-11-3-5 WCHA) come off a stretch of disappointing road losses to the No. 2 University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs and No. 4 University of Minnesota Golden Gophers,” head coach Brian Idalski said.

The four losses to their WCHA foes ended the Hawks’ hopes of gaining ground in the WCHA standings heading into the final games of the season and the WCHA playoff.

Instead, they will be looking to get into fourth place in the standings at season’s end, regardless of what happens against Ohio State this weekend, which is a tough way to end the season.

“Last night there were a lot of depth. We were executing that and feeling good about what is at stake and getting ready for that weekend,” head coach Nadine Muzerall said. "We all are working really well, we had 44-45 shots in each came and we only came out with a couple goals.

That being said, the Hawks want to finish out the regular season against Ohio State on a positive note. They head into a WCHA playoff that will likely have to result in them winning the playoff in order to advance to the NCAA national tournament.

UND will look to ride senior goalie Lexie Shaw’s wild play, as she has been one of the only bright spots during the Hawks’ four game skid. During the losing streak, Shaw has allowed only two goals per game, along with a .921 save percentage, to teams that score an average of at least three goals per game.

Shaw has been consistent all season long for UND, as she places in the top ten in goals against average (1.58), save percentage (.932), minutes played (1707:32) and shutouts (six).

Shaw will need help on the offensive end, as the Hawks have been in a slump as of late. Against the Bulldogs and Gophers, the Hawks totaled just five goals in four games.

Forwards Rylyn Huffman (10-6-22) and Amy Miske (8-12-22) will be counted on to break the Hawks out of the slump against Ohio State, as they lead the team in points, respectively.

While the Hawks look to take steps forward at home this weekend, the 12-15-5 Buckeyes (6-15-2 WCHA) seek to spell the hometown, as they look to climb to fifth place in the WCHA standings from their current sixth place position.

Lastly, top scorer Maddie Field (9-15-24), the Buckeyes are coming off three straight games that saw them gain points in the standings, including a shootout win against St. Cloud State and a shootout loss and win in regulation against last place Minnesota State. The latest 4-2 win against Minnesota State gives them momentum heading into their final series versus UND.

“I think everybody played well,” Ohio State head coach Nadine Muzerall said of her team’s victory. “It wasn’t just one guy, there was a lot more depth. We were executing our breakouts better and moving the puck north. Last night there were a lot of times we were trying to over-handle it and composing the middle of the ice in the neutral zone. Today we were moving the puck more around the perimeter.”

While they won’t be able to gain home ice advantage in the first round of the WCHA playoff by winning a series against the Hawks, they could jump to fifth, which would set them up for another matchup with the Fighting Hawks in the first round of the WCHA playoff rather than Minnesota-Duluth or Minnesota.

"They know the importance of these next few weekends and the points because of the playoffs and the rankings," Muzerall said. "We all are fighting for that fifth. They are becoming mature players, they are very, very excited about next weekend (versus UND)."

Earlier in the season, the Buckeyes took four of six points at home against the Hawks. “All of those points came in a 2-1 victory in which Ohio State goalie Kassidy Savio stopped 43 of 44 shots,” Idalski said.

That said, the Hawks look to use home ice to their advantage to finish the season out on a high note.

This weekend’s games will recognize the seniors, as they take the ice for their last regular season home games of their collegiate careers.

Seniors include: Monke, Shaw, Ginni Hirschey, Jordan Hampton, Martisa Salo, Kayla Gardner, Halid Kryzanik, Anna Chipman and Lisa Marvin.

The fans at the Ralph will be vital to send the seniors off to the next stage of their hockey careers.

The Fighting Hawks and Buckeyes will take place on Feb. 17 at 7:07 p.m., while game two will be on Feb. 18 at 10:07 p.m. Both games will be played at Ralph Engelstad Arena.

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Nick Nelson / Dakota Student
Taking Wildcats territory

UND hopes to jump to first place in Big Sky with a win against Weber State

Adam Demoulas  
Dakota Student

The UND men’s basketball team head into travel mode after coming off of a victorious three game homestand.

After Thursday’s matchup in Pocatello, Idaho the squad will head to Ogden, Utah Saturday to take on Weber State. UND hopes to roll with the momentum from the entire Hawks team worked in their five-game winning streak over the Idaho Vandals with a .88-65. Contributions from the entire Hawks team worked in their five-game winning streak.

The Hawks have put themselves in the first place of the Big Sky with a win against Weber State. The Hawks need to gain their top spot in the match against the Wildcats.

The Hawks will head to Ogden, Utah Saturday. UND hopes of taking over the top spot in the match against the Wildcats. UND is the only other team in Big Sky to defeat Sacramento State.

Weber State head coach Randy Rahe said, “We didn’t defend and rebound the way we needed to on the road and we let our guard down a bit in the second half.” Weber State head coach Randy Rahe said, “We didn’t defend and rebound the way we needed to on the road and we let our guard down a bit in the second half.”

UND hopes to jump to first place in Big Sky with a win against Weber State.

Sophomore Gino Cran dall earned his sixth start in game in only the last nine played. Junior Carson Shanks handled 10 rebounds in the game against the Vandals breaking ground for new personnel records such as a career high of five blocks.

“Carson allowed the game to come to him,” head coach Brian Jones said. “To his credit, he wasn’t totally focused on the game before he had a lot of size to play against the past few weeks. Sometimes, when you’re 7-feet and playing against 6’5 guys, it’s not easy to get into a rhythm because the minutes aren’t there for you due to matchup problems.”

Starting the Wildcats is always a special foot, as they held the spot in the Big Sky Conference. The last time these two teams met earlier this season the Fighting Hawks were able to slide by with an 83-77 win. “This team (UND) has put themselves in this position controlling their own destiny,” Jones said.

The team knew what they needed to accomplish this past week and with the help of the past three straight wins their position becomes a little clearer for what will be needed to finish the remainder of the season.

The Wildcats have been in the slumps as of recently, barely walking away with a win against Portland State in an OT final 70-66 and falling to Sacramento state 77-74. Sacramento State joins UND as the only other team in Big Sky to defeat Weber State.

“Sacramento State played terrific with the way and we didn’t match their edge and toughness in the second half,” Weber State head coach Randy Rahe said.

“We didn’t defend and rebound the way we needed to on the road and we let our guard down a bit in the second half,” Weber State head coach Randy Rahe said.

UND junior center Carson Shanks spoke with Weber State’s Jeremy Sengh (left) and Jordan Dallas (right) during a game in only the last six 20-plus scoring games.

Nadler has been the most in the lineup thus far already going yard twice to start the season. She was recently named Madness Softball pitcher of the week Big Sky pitcher of the week.

In the circle, redshirt junior pitcher Kaylin VanDomen also pitched 294 with five hits and one walk. Nadler has been the most in the lineup thus far already going yard twice to start the season. She was recently named Madness Softball pitcher of the week Big Sky pitcher of the week.

Carson Shanks handled 10 rebounds in the game against the Vandals breaking ground for new personnel records such as a career high of five blocks.

He also scored two runs and also earned the first career save. VanDomen also batted .294 with five hits and also scored two runs and also earned the first career save.

The Hawks have put themselves in the first place of the Big Sky with a win against Weber State.

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