48th annual Writers Conference begins

Matt Edison
The Dakota Student

The 48th annual Writers Conference kicked off at the University of North Dakota Wednesday, March 22. The three-day event will bring students, staff, faculty and Grand Forks community members face-to-face with noteworthy authors and artists.

This year, the theme for the Writers Conference is “Citizen.” The conference is directed by Associate Professor of English Crystal Alberts.

Authors and artists who are attending the conference this year include: Viet Thanh Nguyen (The Sympathizer, The Refugees), Jennine Capo Crucet (Make Your Home Among Strangers, How To Leave Hialeah), Mai Der Vang (poet with work featured in American Poets and The Cincinnati Review), Mario Ybarra, Jr. (Nuyoel Bulawan: We Need New Names), Jeff Shotts (Executive Editor at Greywolf Press), Layli Long Soldier (Whereas).

When spring break is mentioned, travelling to tropical getaways often comes to mind. Students that can afford to, often fly there.

In Grand Forks, University of North Dakota students considering a voyage have two options at the nearby Grand Forks International Airport: they can take a Delta connection flight to Minneapolis Saint Paul International Airport, or drive to the larger airport. They also have the option of flying Allegiant Air, a low-cost carrier based in Las Vegas, which operates flights out of GFK to Las Vegas, Phoenix-Mesa and Orlando (flights to Orlando will end April).

“It’s cheap,” Sam Landau, a Fish and Wildlife Biology major and Washington state resident who has flown the airline at least six times. “A lot cheaper than Delta.”

What many at UND may not know is that Allegiant has come under scrutiny the past few years in regards to the safety of their fleet: a mixture of planes from the Airbus A320 family, Boeing 757s and aging McDonnell-Douglas MD-80s.

Last November, the Tampa Bay Times published their results of an investigation into the airline’s string of mechanical issues. Out of the airline’s 86 aircraft, 42 of them — almost half the fleet — were forced to land in 2015 due to various mechanical issues, a majority of them related to the engines. That year, there were 77 serious issues alone, according to the report.

Maintenance wasn’t the only issue. In July 2015, an Allegiant flight into Fargo had to declare an emergency because they didn’t have enough fuel to divert to Grand Forks (the Fargo airport was closed for an air show), an incident that caused the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to send a warning to the airline in regards to their operations.

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In another case, a pilot the FAA had also launched an investigation of the airline, but did not find any outstanding issues. The FAA itself, however, has been criticized for failing to crack down on the airline.

Connor Johnson
The Dakota Student

Books written by authors featured at the 48th annual Writers Conference sit for sale outside the Memorial Union Ballroom.

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Allegiant Airlines’ safety record a cause for concern

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The Dakota Student

Continues on page 2

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In the mid-90s, after the dissolution of their band, Stinson created a band that never existed called "Shadow Palace" and the band imploded before their first show. Now in 2017, Tommy Stinson went back and brought the band to life with their debut studio album "Anything Could Happen." The album shows the rock and blues side of Stinson that hasn’t been seen since he was in The Replacements. It was also good to hear his voice. Rather than him just stay- ing away from the mic.

The entire album is fantastic from start to finish. It starts off with the song "Not This Time." The song is catchy and immediately sets the tone of the album. The songs to listen for in this album are "On the Rocks," "Anything Could Happen," "Un*** You" and "Jesus Loves You." Starting with "On the Rocks," this was the first song I heard off this album and I immediately fell in love it. The bounc- ing rock sound drives the song. It calls back to the sounds of End of The Re- placements. "Anything Could Happen" is the title track for a reason, and it’s not just because of the name. The song catches your ear right from the get go. You can hear the horns you might hear during a wedding. About midway through the album, the tone starts to gear to- wards a softer side with slower more acoustic like songs which is never a bad thing. It just makes it better when they hit back with a rocking song. That song is "Un*** You." It is just what you need near the end of an album. It shows off the "I don’t care" attitude that you can feel when lis- tening to "The Replace- ments". The second to last song "Jesus Loves You" is a great uplifting song, It is not religious at all. It is highly recommended you listen to the phrase. "Anything Could Happen" is an album that I would highly rec- ommend no matter what music genre you may be into. I am very confident that this album will be on my top three favors of 2017.
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Liz Kacher

President Trump’s speech allowed the American the chance to celebrate those who have died for a cause that has largely unspoken of to the public—the war on terror.

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Dool West is the program director for diners. She said the structure of the show is different from the past year in that the major focus is to be on diners rather than waiters. “So we get people who think they are interested in cooking and being in the kitchen,” she said. “They have been used to food in the past, but now we get new people to relate and have different personality as well,” she said. The program has been a hit with many diners, and several have said they are interested in becoming more involved with cooking and the food business.

Emily Bitter
UND Student

Wang said, “People have a right to believe whatever they want, but we try to make it right. We try to make it right with what we teach here and move on.”

Working at the dining center was a way to experience and learn about the daily lives of people. The entire program is very similar to the Diane Jacobs study, with the same goals and focus on learning about people and their experiences. Over time, the program has grown and continues to grow.

As you probably know, the original Beauty and the Beast has household items as characters, a large amount of money, and a clock, candlestick, coat rack, etc. When Disney announced they would be remaking this specific princess story, fans were extremely anxious to see how they would portray these unique characters. I was impressed.

This movie also allowed one to see the household characters in their human form, which I absolutely loved. The look and feel of the characters were very different, still retaining their characteristics, but with a more modern-day feel. The characters were very well done, and I enjoyed watching them evolve and change throughout the story.

The story line was extremely similar to the animated version, but the new film added some scenes that were more focused on the characters and less focused on the plot. Even though the movie was shorter in length, it still managed to keep the audience interested and engaged. The animation was amazing, and I enjoyed seeing the characters come to life and interact with each other.

Overall, this was a fantastic remake of a traditional Disney fairytale. The details of the scenes were astounding, the characters were well-known, and the music was specifically written for the movie. I would recommend this movie to anyone, and I am confident that it will be a success at the box office.
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Fifteen years in the making

By Jake Andersen

In a season awash with ups and downs, the Fighting Hawks have found themselves in the NCAA tournament for the 15th straight year, matching Minnesota-Duluth for the second-longest streak in NCAA Division I Men’s Hockey History, only trailing Michigan, which has done it for 22 straight appearances from 1991-2012. Currently, the next closest team is Minnesota, who have continued to win with all but one NCAA championship semi-final not to 1-0, Denver, they played in their first.

More impressively, however, is that UND’s streak is the second-longest in straight NCAA tournament appearances, behind only Michigan’s 32nd NCAA tournament appearances. One of the reasons for this is that UND has not mastered the recipe. Still, they have continued to win with year-to-year. With the trend account how teams change success is unique not only in this weekend, but they also have had three head coach, but UND had not had the stability at the head coach position in their run of 15-straight NCAA tournament appearances, as they have had three head coaches throughout that time in Dean Blais, Dave Hakstol and currently, Brad Berry.

For many, success runs under multiple coaches are unheard of, especially since coaching transitions tend to take at least a season. For example, highly successful head coaches within had Dean Lewis lead Minnesota to a 2014-15 in his first season as coach before reaching the NCAA tournament in season two. To a larger extent, Michigan’s Beason led his team to losing seasons to start his tenures and did not make an NCAA tournament until his ninth season.

Yet, in the case of UND, Blais and Hakstol each spent nine seasons under Blais and Hakstol left the team for the NCHC under good circumstances. However, stepping in as head coach that Blais and Hakstol left the team for the NCHC under good circumstances. However, stepping in as head coach was highly successful. Despite this, coaching transitions tend to take at least a season. For example, highly successful head coaches had a similar result. However, Blais and Hakstol each spent nine seasons under Blais and Hakstol left the team for the NCHC under good circumstances. However, stepping in as head coach was highly successful.

Coaching Stability

While ending on a losing streak, coaching stability has been a key to maintaining long-term winning success. This year, UND has had 17 players drafted into the NHL, including 50 on this season’s roster. UND has had one player elected into the NHL. Full of games in goal Ed Berenson, who has had an even number, resulting in 35 wins, six All-Star Games, two Veilleux trophies and one Stanley cup. Additionally, coach Dane Blais and Jake Butcher left the team for the NCHC under good circumstances.

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When there is a championship on the line, it's safe to say emotions run high and the physicality increases with it.

The NCHC championship game against the University of Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs was a prime example of this. The Fighting Hawks visited the penalty box a total of 12 times, while the Bulldogs took 15 trips, including a five-minute major to sophomore defenseman, Neal Pionk.

The officials served Pionk the five-minute major for charging UND's starting goaltender, Cam Johnson, while in the goalkeeper's privileged area shortly after UND jumped on the board 1-0 early in the first period. Johnson, who was in a vulnerable butterfly stance during the hit, still managed to stop the shot. Even though he was knocked over and disoriented momentarily, he played for the remainder of the game. The hit was deemed dirty by the television broadcast crew almost immediately and the recent lack of attention to player safety was brought into play.

“It was a heated battle out there with two rivals going at it.” Head coach Brad Berry of the penalty-filled game said. “You control what you can control and that’s the way you play on the ice. I feel very strongly that our team plays the right way.”

The 2016-2017 NCAA Ice Hockey Rules and Interpretations, Rule 43 (Physical Contact-Charging) states:

“A player shall not charge or otherwise foul a goalkeeper while the goalkeeper is within the crease or privileged area.”

The penalty is served as a minor or major at the discretion of the referees and a game misconduct or a disqualification can also be served at the discretion of the referees.

Pionk served his five-minute major and UMD killed off the penalty unscathed, but not without a loud eruption from the crowd of UND fans who thought five-minutes just wasn’t enough.

“I thought that Pionk knew what he was doing,” avid UND hockey fan Blake Woolery said. “He deserved more.”

While many Hawks fans may have disagreed with the official to decide against the extra step of misconduct and disqualification, it’s important to look at the play with blank jerseys and understand why the call was made.

The major was Pionk’s first of the season and he has not been notoriously known for taking residence in the penalty box. However, three of his 10 penalties this season have come from games against UND.

Johnson proceeded to play the rest of the game seemingly in good health, even after the aggressive play found him at the bottom of multiple tussles in front of the net.

Even though there is a championship on the line and each team was looking for their first NCHC title, the total of 57 minutes spent in the sin bin between the two teams was unacceptable. Pionk went on to assist on two of the four goals scored by the Bulldogs and help them take their NCHC title.

If anything, the lack of greater punishment against Pionk sent the message that allowed both teams to open the floodgates to bring out their most aggressive hits and blows to win a title. Fortunately for UND, the injuries sustained in the NCHC championship game has not affected their roster heading into the West Regional tournament in Fargo this weekend.