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**April 4, 2017**

The Dakota Student

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# Dakota Student

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## Inside This Issue

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## The Arctic Circle and America's relationship with Russia

Jacob Notermann  
The Dakota Student

Relations between Russia and the United States may become even more confrontational in the next decade due to climate change in the Arctic, and UND

could play a role in how they play out.

At the Kennan Conversation on Friday at UND, panelists spoke of the changing geopolitics between the two countries in regard to the Arctic Circle as well as the relationship as a whole.

U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp

said it is difficult to compartmentalize the countries' relationship, because there are innumerable factors that go into a single issue. She also defined how North Dakota is experiencing the confrontations firsthand.

"Russia is an existential threat to this country," Heitkamp said.

"We know that here because we're on the front lines of protecting against that threat. We have to continue our dialogue and have to understand that if we push here, we may have a result that doesn't achieve our purpose."

The common theme amongst all four of the panelists was the  
*continues on page 2*

## Renovation plans for the Memorial Union

Diane Newberry  
The Dakota Student

From March 28 to 30, representatives from WTW Architects in Pittsburg visited campus for the fourth time as part of the planning process for renovations to the Memorial Union. Senior Principal on the project Paul Knell and Director of Planning Derek Eversmann spent much of their time on campus conducting open forums and giving presentations on the current plan. Though the vision for the new Union is much more fleshed out than it was at this time last spring, Knell and Eversmann stress that "no one's ready to put a shovel in the ground (yet)" and student and faculty input could still have a tremendous amount of influence.

So far, it would seem that WTW has taken their pledge to include the community seriously. A large part of their presentation was dedicated to explaining how they had made their decisions to suit the student body so far. According to Knell, 1,334 students responded to a survey conducted last year about what they would like to see included in a newly imagined Union, and WTW "ha(s) met with Greek councils, student ambassadors, (had) multiple open forums" and met with Student Government in order to discuss options. "We tried to engage a lot of students," Knell said, who himself has worked on 110 student life centers on campuses across the country.

The presentation conducted by Knell and Eversmann during this visit included several new pieces of concept art, as well as an animation meant to give viewers the best impression of what these renovations might look like. The most dramatic change for students is one of the project's main goals: "to connect McCannel and the Union in a much more significant way," as Knell puts it.

The new union would not only entail extensive renovations to the interior and exterior of the current union, but would also add a new pedestrian promenade built over what is currently the section of 2nd Avenue between McCannel and the union. This promenade would resemble a shopping mall, comprised of open space surrounded by office and study space.

"Not only is it unsightly, but it is also very unsafe," Knell says about the current truck loading set-up behind the Union. Truck loading docks would be moved to the side of the building, away from pedestrian traffic.

The renovation plans also focus on "not just increasing the space but improving the flexibility of the space." The ballroom would be expanded and made more multi-purpose, the meal plan centered dining hall would

*continues on page 2*



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

North Dakota Senator Heidi Heitkamp speaks during Friday's 'Kennan Conversation' at Clifford Hall.



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Matthew Rojansky, director of the Kennan Institute in Washington, D.C., speaks during the 'A Kennan Conversation: U.S.-Russia Relations and the Geopolitics of a Changing Arctic' event Friday morning at Clifford Hall.

# Weather Report April 4 to April 8

**Tuesday**

**50 / 31**  
Mostly Cloudy



**Wednesday**

**48 / 28**  
Shower



**Thursday**

**52 / 32**  
Mostly Sunny



**Friday**

**52 / 32**  
Mostly Sunny



**Saturday**

**68 / 47**  
Partly Cloudy



## 1 | Union

be replaced with a variety of food retail stands and more space and resources would be included that could be utilized by all student groups on campus, not just the ones represented in the current union. Lounge and study space would also be increased and scattered throughout instead of being concentrated in large chunks. Eversmann stressed that they were focused on providing “as much daylight as possible” and opening up the space in both the vertical and horizontal directions so that “you’re going to be aware of all of the floors (in the building).”

Those in the audience at the 4:30 p.m. forum on Wednesday, March 29 gave generally positive feedback with a few critiques. There was some concern about the abundance of glass-walled study spaces because students seem reluctant to use similar spaces around campus. Frosted glass or retractable shades were brought up as possible

solutions. Single-stalled, genderless bathrooms were also asked about to accommodate students with alternative gender identities. Knell and Eversmann replied that spaces in the plans currently reserved for restrooms are flexible and could easily include this feature.

Though the process of union renovation planning started under President Kelly, Knell says the plans would support President Kennedy’s “From Coulee to Columbia” initiative that aims to give a unifying identity to those buildings that face out onto University Avenue, what Knell calls the “front door of campus.” Though the renovations focus on many aesthetic problems of the school, Eversmann says they would also address “significant needs for both (the Union) and McCannel,” which he says has been estimated to be 25 million dollars’ worth of deferred maintenance on structural aspects of the buildings. There is no cost estimate on what this current plan, and it has yet to be approved.

Knell estimates that one more year of planning would have to occur if the basic idea were to be approved by the school, followed by two to three years of construction. Though he thinks the entire project could be accomplished in eighteen months, ideally, Knell says the construction would be done in sections, allowing different parts of the Union to remain open at all times for students’ use.

**Diane Newberry** is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at [diane.newberry@und.edu](mailto:diane.newberry@und.edu)

## 1 | Russia

necessity to maintain an open dialogue with Russia.

“The challenge is very clear, which is that the Russians have shifted from a posture of abandoning competition with the United States at the end of the Cold War to saying ‘we’re no longer going to tolerate the enlargement of an American sphere of influence near us,’” Kennan Institute Director Matthew Rojansky said. “Whether it’s in the Arctic or in Eurasia, they’re pushing back and they’re pushing back hard.”

He recommends that Americans understand who Russia is and where they’re coming from, engage them from a position of strength and live our values.

All of the panelists agreed that America should use sanctions against Russia when necessary, but that America should be careful with how they implement them. All sanctions have consequences on both ends of giving and receiving them. These sanctions impact the strength



Mark Trahant, associate communications professor and Charles R. Johnson Endowed Professor of Journalism

**Nick Nelson / Dakota Student**

of the private sector, where Rojansky said American business with Russia has never been this low in 20 years.

“We need to figure out how to re-engage in smart ways that are compliant with sanctions that gives us leverage,” Rojansky said. “If we don’t have a place to stand, then we don’t have leverage.”

Much of the conversation focused on the changing landscape of the Arctic Circle and how that is and will impact foreign relations in the next 10 years.

The Arctic has been experiencing warmer temperatures leading to much of the Arctic ice melting away. This melting of ice has altered to the borders of northern countries and has

opened new trade routes, which the panelists say will lead to further complications with the Russian government.

In relation to an overarching topic of inaccurate information, panelist Kenneth Yalowitz cleared the air over the current handling of land-claims by Arctic countries. Yalowitz, a former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Belarus and Georgia, said there have been no unlawful land-grabs by any country nor has there been any violations of treaties over this issue.

“All member countries of the Arctic Council are all committed to continued cooperation, but they all assert that they’re going to defend their national interests,” Yalowitz said. “This is something we absolutely have to do in the Arctic.”

In order to do this, Yalowitz said he would like to see UND’s UAS capabili-

ties and the local Air Force base pair with the University of the Arctic to assist in mapping the Arctic as it continues to change. Yalowitz said under five percent of the Arctic Ocean is mapped, and North Dakota’s resources could offer mapping technology and offer real-time weather conditions to assist shipping routes.

“You’ve got experience from this state that is applicable to the Arctic,” Yalowitz said.

The conversation continued to overlap the lives of students through understanding of current issues and the implications they have. Yalowitz said that young Americans must know how to read something and know whether it’s fact or fiction.

“This is a time of testing,” Yalowitz said. “The whole post-Cold War era now is owed to the ideas, and the assumptions are

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**Nick Nelson / Dakota Student**

Matthew Rojansky, director of the Kennan Institute, responds to questions as part of the ‘A Kennan Conversation: U.S.-Russia Relations and the Geopolitics of a Changing Arctic’ event Friday morning held at Clifford Hall.

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# Good news for ND finances

**Dave Owen**  
The Dakota Student

As many of you might have heard, we have appeared to finally have some good news in regards to the budget crisis that has been facing North Dakota. Oil commodity prices have finally stabilized above \$50 per barrel for a period of at least one quarter. Furthermore, with President Trump's approval of the Dakota Access Pipeline, and the protests finally abating, market trust appears to have returned to our state, with an influx of wells returning to operation.

According to Reuters, on March 30, the number of operation drilling rigs in the state has risen by 40 percent since February, and is expected to continue a growth rate of 10 percent over the rest of the year. This would mean by year's end, if we assume a linear relationship between the

number of rigs, and the total oil production, our output would increase by roughly 400,000 barrels per day.

Assuming this to be true, oil rigs will be bringing in an additional \$20 million per day in income, which could

the deficit, depending on the performance of our state's other commodities like agriculture.

For the average farmer, there is mixed news depending on what their focus is. Corn appears to once again be underperforming expectations in

are all performing better than they were last year, which means depending on the particular farm, we could either see a net positive year or a net negative year for the farmers. This is important, not just for the farmer, but for the rest of

is the potential trickle down effects of faltering commodities. When the farmer takes in less income, he has less money to spend on retail goods. This means fewer items are sold, decreasing the sales tax on the goods sold, subsequently decreasing the income tax the store itself pays. In years of weak harvests or poor commodity prices, the state runs deficits, but it also means in years of production surpluses or increased crop value that the reverse becomes true.

I am cautiously optimistic that we will end up seeing a better year than anticipated, and the \$1 billion shortfall will likely by summer become a \$700 million shortfall, which is good for everyone in the state.

If we can in fact operate on \$1 billion less, perhaps we will have learned our lesson from this round of budget cuts and learn to live beneath our means, not at or

above them. It's my hope that if this \$300 million returns to the economy, that we perhaps consider living with \$900 million of budget cuts, versus the \$1 billion projected, so that we may save for the future.

If we were to invest the \$200 million per year for the next five years, which would be possible under such a plan, we would have \$1.7 billion stowed away after adjusting for inflation. This would receive roughly \$150 million per year in interest alone. Such a system would allow us to have the resources to survive deficits without having to worry about draconian budget cuts when commodity prices invariably fail again, whether they be oil or agricultural.

*"If we can in fact operate on \$1 billion less, perhaps we will have learned our lesson from this round of budget cuts and learn to live beneath our means, not at or above them."*

**Dave Owen**

translate to upwards of \$294 million in revenue for the state, assuming stable commodity prices assuming less than 25 percent of all oil produced is tax exempt. Seeing as North Dakota is currently set with a budget shortfall of \$1 billion, this would mitigate the damage done substantially, and would likely compensate for

terms of price per bushel, and this could lead to a slightly disappointing price in the following months. At current projections, corn is worth 5 percent less than what it was at this time in 2016, and it's likely that we will see a third consecutive year of decreasing corn prices. On the other hand, soybeans, cattle and sugar beets

the economy as a whole. The price of commodities drives the North Dakotan economy, and thus when commodities underperform, this of course means two things. First, the state receives less income, as if the farmer makes less money, he intuitively pays less taxes. Second, and perhaps more importantly, however,

# Building success with grit

**Elizabeth Fequiere**  
The Dakota Student

For the majority of people, success may seem elusive and difficult to understand exactly how to achieve. There are celebrities, politicians and CEOs who have talked about their journey to success in their chosen career path, but no two stories seem to be exactly the same. It may be because people react to things differently and it's their individual experiences that turn them into the person they are today, but one might surmise they must have something in common; some special, unique quality that drives their success.

Angela Duckworth is a psychologist who has done extensive research on the concept of "grit." She presented a TED Talk in which she spoke on grit being the

common denominator between all successful persons. "It's self-control and stick-to-it-iveness." Grit is perseverance and vision for a long-term goal. It's finding your passion and pursuing it wholeheartedly letting very little stand in your way.

As college students who plan to take the world by storm and use our degrees for the betterment of society to build careers and succeed in areas we've only dreamed of, grit is an important characteristic to learn to further utilize. Building it can be a difficult and unique task. A combination of increased work ethic, long-term ambition and perseverance can go a long way in achieving and even surpassing professional goals.

There has always been interest in what it takes to be successful, but there has never been one

clear, hard-lined answer until now. Even with all of the research Dr. Duckworth has conducted, she still doesn't know exactly what causes grit. The good news is that "anyone, man or woman, adult or child, can learn to be gritty." It's just a matter of figuring out what your passion is and pursuing it.

Dr. Duckworth has written multiple books on grit and ways it can be improved. Although she doesn't claim to know what causes grit, there is a way to test for it that can even increase your propensity for it. "Duckworth offers what amounts to a four-step program, the last step of which is to overcome pessimism by cultivating what her fellow psychologist Carol Dweck calls a 'growth mindset.'" Each step is purposed to further personal growth and translating that into professional achieve-

ment. The first step is to identify a burning interest. There may be pressure to put time and effort into something other than your passion in order to ensure future financial security but that may also be all that is achieved this way. Having passion for your career is what drives you to want to work harder and spend all of your free time improving your skills.

Secondly, practice makes perfect. As with almost everything in life, continued and consistent practice is necessary improve upon your natural skills. The importance here is to spend as much time as possible trying to become an expert in your field. Completely immersing yourself in a subject, researching what others have done and perfecting the formula is what leads to more open doors and

more opportunities to do higher level work in that field. Practice while always keeping in mind, "How can I do it better?"

The third step is to "develop a sense of higher purpose, by which Duckworth means I must believe that my passion will improve the world." This step is both important and surprising because of its unique purpose. A selfless desire to change the world. It can't just be about your success, your climb to glory and self-fulfillment. It has to be about something a lot more substantial than that. Self aggrandizement only does so much in the way of personal gratification. "Duckworth offers evidence that people who think their pursuits contribute to the well-being of others are more likely to meet their 'top-level goals.'" Whether this is true for all success stories, is debatable but a

higher purpose, at the very least, adds a greater motivation for driven ambition.

The ultimate goal is to be able to take your passion and turn it into a career full of limitless opportunities. Grit is the key to building a successful career while breaking down barriers and paving the way to greatness, while changing lives in the process. Instilling grit is about more than just success, it's about having the capacity to find your inner strength and desire and turning into a way of life.

Elizabeth Fequiere is an opinion writer at the Dakota Student. She can be reached at [elizabeth.fequiere@und.edu](mailto:elizabeth.fequiere@und.edu)

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# Opinion | Great night at Green Day

**Cameron Campbell**  
The Dakota Student

On April 1, the legendary rock band Green Day rolled into St. Paul, Minn. to their sold out show at the Excel Energy Center. The band was touring their new album "Revolution Radio," which since its release has been a commercial success.

Over the course of the tour, Green Day has had many bands open up for them, but for this show they had Against Me! open up for them. Against Me! is known for their punk sound and political message after the lead singer came out with gender dysphoria.

The band delivered an incredible 30 minute set with all of their hits.

Before their last song, lead singer, Laura Jane Grace, said that her first concert was a Green Day concert and from that day forward all she wanted to do is start a punk band. I would say it paid off.

Then, the background music got concert level loud. Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" started playing. The lights stayed on but the whole crowd started singing to it and the lights started going on the stage.

After it was over, The Ramones' "Blitzkrieg Bop" came on and the Green Day Rabbit came out and started to get the crowd pumped. Suddenly, the Rabbit fell down and the lights went out. Green Day took the stage.

Once the band was out there and the drums

started, front man, Billy Joe Armstrong, ran onto the stage, the crowd erupted. They then went straight into their opener "Know Your Enemy."

Needless to say it was a strong opener with a lot of energy and explo-

"Revolution Radio" and that's when they dropped the black curtain to reveal a huge banner of their latest album "Revolution Radio." The crowd went nuts.

They went even more insane after that song

The entire show was incredible with high energy all the way through. The softest song in the set was "Boulevard of Broken Dreams." The band also played songs such as "Basket Case" "St. Jimmy," "Burnout"

band made sure people were into it.

For the encore the band came out of the dark and started playing "American Idiot." The moshing down below went ballistic. After that they "closed" the encore with "Jesus of Suburbia." The amount of people who knew the words to the nine minute songs was intense and incredible to hear.

When everyone started leaving Armstrong came back out onto the stage with a guitar and sang "Ordinary World" and "Good Riddance." The solo acoustic act was a perfect way to end a fantastic night of high-energy rock.

**Cameron Campbell** is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at [cameron.campbell@und.edu](mailto:cameron.campbell@und.edu)

*"Before their last song, lead singer, Laura Jane Grace, said that her first concert was a Green Day concert and from that day forward all she wanted to do is start a punk band. I would say it paid off."*

**Cameron Campbell**

sions.

After that, they went into their new single "Bang Bang" that had way more energy than "Know Your Enemy." It probably would have been a way better opener.

The third song was

and Green Day started playing "Holiday." The first actual classic of the night. Armstrong changed the lyrics to get the crowd into by saying "The Representative from Minnesota has the floor."

and "Still Breathing."

They closed with the album closer of "Revolution Radio," "Forever Now." It was my favorite song of the night. The fireworks were going off throughout the seven minute song and the

# Ivanka Trump's role in D.C.

**Liz Kacher**  
The Dakota Student

Last Wednesday, President Trump's daughter Ivanka Trump said that she will be taking a formal position in the White House without pay, but will be subjected to federal ethics rules. Her official title is going to be assistant to the president. But of course, mainstream media feels the need to lay on the heat for the classiest Trump in the family.

"I have heard the concerns some have with my advising the president in my personal capacity while voluntarily complying with all ethics rules and I will instead serve as an unpaid employee in the White House Office, subject to all of the same rules as other federal employees," Ivanka Trump said in a statement issued by the White House.

It's a shame the media doesn't support Ivanka's formal position within the White House. She's an accomplished businesswoman who is a role model for all millennials. She's someone who's closer to our age who we can truly admire because of how successful she is.

If you've read my articles, you probably know

how I feel about President Trump. I've ignored the fake news, and I support my president. He just so happens to have raised a smart, successful daughter who has positively influenced his campaign for a while now.

In her statement, Ivanka Trump said that "throughout this process I have been working closely and in good faith with the White House Counsel and my personal counsel to address the unprecedented nature of my role."

What makes the critics of Ivanka's new position hypocrites, is that she isn't the first child of a president to work for their father. The only thing that separates her is that she is a woman with high-level influence.

John Quincy Adams served President John Adams, and Anna Roosevelt served as an unpaid personal assistant to her presidential father, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. John Eisenhower worked as an assistant to President Dwight Eisenhower.

She's qualified to have her position in the White House, and any woman should support her influence. After all, she's the epitome of the feminist movement: a hard-working,

successful, intelligent businesswoman who's a mother of three and a wife to her husband.

For those Hillary supporters who are still "with her," why don't you trust the word of her daughter when it comes to Ivanka? If you support Hillary, it would be rather strange for you to distrust the opinion of Chelsea.

In Feb. 2015, Chelsea spoke with Vogue and praised Ivanka, since they have been friends for a number of years.

"There's nothing skin-deep about Ivanka," Chelsea said. "And I think that's a real tribute to her because certainly anyone as gorgeous as she is could have probably gone quite far being skin-deep."

Chelsea is definitely right about Ivanka. Ivanka is a class-act role model for millennials for a number of reasons, most obviously her success as a businesswoman.

She graduated cum laude from the Wharton Business School at the University of Pennsylvania with a bachelor's degree in economics.

USA Today reports Ivanka created the brand Trump Fine Jewelry in 2007



Photo courtesy of the official Facebook page of Ivanka Trump.

Ivanka Trump was recently given an official title within the White House.

which sells throughout the U.S., Canada and the Middle East.

Ivanka, until recently, held the position of Executive Vice President of Development and Acquisitions at the Trump Organization, and also served on the board of 100 Women in Hedge Funds, an industry organization that provides support to women professionals in finance.

Rather than criticize Ivanka Trump's presence in the White House, take into consideration the fact she will be subject to the ethics

rules that all other employees are.

The White House issued a statement saying: "Ivanka's service as an unpaid employee furthers our commitment to ethics, transparency, and compliance and affords her increased opportunities to lead initiatives driving real policy benefits for the American public that would not have been available to her previously."

After all, Ivanka is working for no money. She's required to comply with all federal ethics standards, and she's been a presence in her

father's campaign unofficially for a while now. Why bring the attention to Ivanka's presence now? Why treat her like she isn't qualified to advise her father?

Ivanka is a classy, successful businesswoman that all millennials should look up to. Her influence in the White House helps see that women's interests are important to President Trump and the future actions he takes for the country.

**Liz Kacher** is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at [mary.kacher@und.edu](mailto:mary.kacher@und.edu)

## Editorial Policy

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# Features | A night in Africa

Jordan Hermes  
The Dakota Student

The University of North Dakota has been trying to make many changes in the hopes of becoming a more culturally diverse institution. One of the university's ideas was to have cultural nights at the Union for students to come and experience people, food and music from around the world.

African night became its own annual event at our campus in 2012. It is a free event, open to anyone. There are a pretty good number of UND students that are from Africa, and they were very passionate about this event. Everyone was more than excited to show off their amazing culture and talents.

This last Saturday, April 1, I attended my first ever cultural event at the UND, African night. It started at 5 p.m., opening up with a talent show. The fliers said that African night would be going on until 1 a.m. but it wrapped up around 9 p.m.

People were dancing, signing, reciting poetry, and some even brought authentic instruments and

were making their own music. While being at African night, I realized that the African culture is very musically talented. Everything was smooth and vibing together.

Some of the acts were very traditional including authentic African music and dances. These were my favorite performances because it helped me learn and experience this culture more.

After the show was over people were still playing their drums, singing and dancing around. It seemed like everyone there had rhythm, and it was really cool to see people putting their talents together. Even when they hadn't practiced anything specific together and were just making things up for fun, everything flowed together.

My favorite part of this event was the clothing. Many individuals chose to wear traditional African outfits and I loved to see that. Depending on where the person was from in Africa differentiated the type of clothing worn.

In some countries the men wear dresses, similar

to a woman's dress. A men's dress is called a kanzu, and the woman's dress is called the kanga or the gomesi. In other parts of Africa they wear more of a shirt and pants set rather than a dress. For example in Ethiopia men wear an Ethiopian suit.

A lot of men were wearing dashikis. A dashiki is a longer shirt with an ornate V shaped collar. Even though each country in Africa has their own different styles of clothing, they did all have something in common. All of the clothing was very colorful and had many different patterns and embroidery.

There were a lot of bright yellows, reds and blues making up the patterns of the traditional clothing. I loved all of the bright colors in their traditional outfits because most cultures do not dress in those dramatic colors traditionally.

At African night, they also had a buffet of authentic African dishes for anyone to try. The University allows them to use one of the kitchens in the union for them to make authentic food for this event, so it is not just UND's staff making African



Nick Nelson / The Dakota Student

African cuisine was one of the experiences attendees could partake in at Saturday's Africa Night held at the Memorial Union Ballroom.

foods for the event, which I thought was awesome.

I wasn't sure what most of the foods were called, but they smelt and tasted amazing. All of the foods I tried were very flavorful, and kind of spicy. I wanted to mix everything with the rice.

There were a lot of meats prepared in ways I am not familiar with so the actual appearance of the food was interesting too. Most of it

was natural or brown in color and looked bland or mushy, but the taste of the food was so different than what you would expect compared to the actual appearance.

I would definitely recommend attending African night at the University of North Dakota. It was so interesting, entertaining and fun. All of the people I met were super friendly and were extremely excited to

be having this event and sharing their culture with others.

Dancing, eating, and hanging out with friends in a different cultural environment was more fun than I had expected. African night was an unforgettable and educational experience that I would totally do again.

Jordan Hermes is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at [jordan.hermes@ndus.edu](mailto:jordan.hermes@ndus.edu)

## NPL and Memes

Stephanie Hollman  
The Dakota Student

Tucked away on the fourth floor of the Chester Fritz Library, an exhibit of old magazine covers and political cartoons sits in a glass display in Special Collections, which resembles a museum that preserves history through its artifacts and aged documents.

The collection, which according to the library website, works to "collect, preserve, and make accessible records of enduring historical value to the University community, other scholars and interested persons."

*"Memes and cartoons are one person's interpretation of what is going on around them."*

Nichole Kenney

While this part of the library lacks the crowds of the first and second study floors, it houses Nichole Kenney's exhibit on the Nonpartisan League, the North Dakota-born political organization comprised of farmers and small merchants. The exhibit captures the fighting spirit of the short-lived, but impactful political party at a time when big corporations threatened their livelihood. The exhibit highlights NPL's legacy through its published political cartoons and Kenney's commentary of their influence is relevant even in today's society.

Michael Swanson, Assistant Archivist at the Special Collections Exhibit, was one of the faculty members who initially met with graduate student Kenney to discuss what her exhibit would be about.

"Nichole, early on in the semester, knew she would be doing an exhibit for us," Swanson said, "We sat down in the department, discussed it, and decided to have her do an exhibit on the Nonpartisan League, because of interest and because she's taking a related class."

The information is organized in a roughly chronological order with Kenney's commentaries providing context and explanations of the subliminal messages.

"The NPL and its opposition excelled at using pictures and drawings to describe the nature of people," Kenney explains in a note.

When NPL was founded by Arthur C. Townley in 1915, English was not spoken widely and illiteracy was common. Therefore, the Midwestern farmers needed a way to convey the message that they did not want to be exploited by the big corporations in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Enter: political cartoons. At least three cartoons were featured in every issue of the The Nonpartisan Leader, the NPL's first official newspaper. Cartoonists John M. Baer and W.C. Morris used their highly detailed illustrations to ensure their message reached the entire public, regardless of ethnicity and language.

On the Jan 4, 1917 cover, a weathered and bearded grandfather figure, an obvious symbol of the NPL due to a label on his overalls, sits on a rocking chair while figuratively sewing together some states, including North and South Dakota, and Minnesota. Cooperation and the People's Vote are the stitches that the farmer uses, indicating that the small farmers make up these states and that their livelihoods depend on their work.

At a time when the

internet permeates into everyone's everyday life, Kenney warns of the dangers that come with political messages conveyed through the internet's virally-transmitted captioned photos — memes.

Memes, like political cartoons, can be used to push an agenda. Unlike political cartoons, however, memes can be created by anybody within seconds and instantly shared with the entire world.

"You have to watch out for that because memes and cartoons are one person's interpretation of what is going on around them," Kenney writes in the commentary.

A photo of 2016 Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is captioned "Silly Americans/ laws are for poor people." With just a few short words, Kenney comments, Clinton is depicted as a candidate with a disdain for the majority of Americans and whose political agenda will not benefit anyone other than the wealthy.

"Most people believe that political cartoons and memes are what everyone believes form that particular party," Kenney said, "Memes and cartoons are one person's interpretation of what is going on around them."

"I think she did a great job," Swanson said, "She really broke it down into different parts of the league, starting from its beginnings, continuing onto the 1930s, and then tying it into today with its memes." Nichole Kenney's exhibit will be up until later on in the year as part of the library's Special Collections.

Stephanie Hollman is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at [stephshollman@gmail.com](mailto:stephshollman@gmail.com)

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# The rebel sound of Revelsound

Emily Gibbens  
The Dakota Student

What better way to have fun and share your passion than to start a band with your best friends? Back in high school, that's exactly what these guys did, and their love of music and their name has only gotten bigger as the years have gone by.

Hunter and Dylan Meyer are brothers from Underwood, Minn who, years ago, looked outside the box for ways to spend their free time. Hunter had always enjoyed playing the drums, while Dylan was learning how to master the bass.

One of their best friends, Cody Montgomery loved to play electric guitar. They would get together often to hang out and play around with their instruments together. This eventually turned into what is known today as Revelsound.

Through a few different band members and many name changes, those three have stuck together throughout the years and are all currently attending the University of North Dakota. Their fourth member who is their most recent addition, Nick Thompson, is their guitarist, and lead singer.

While searching for a lead singer, Dylan's coworker mentioned Thompson to him.

"He never gave me a last name or anything, so I literally crept through my co-workers Facebook friends to find Nick, and messaged him out of the blue," Dylan said. "We met him a couple days later,

and we've been best friends and a band ever since."

Thompson attends NDSU and even though he didn't grow up with the other three, the way they all click together makes him the perfect finishing touch to the band.

Although it can be a lot of fun, the rock band life isn't always everything it is made out to be. From finding time to practice, traveling to shows, being full-time college students and having jobs and activities, their lives can get a little hectic. Although the time can be a struggle, the guys agree, it is completely worth it.

"The time commitment is serious and it's tough to find or make time," Thompson said. "The creative differences can be a struggle too. I know I have trouble accepting the fact that I'm not always right and that my opinion is not the only one that matters. That's something that I'm always working on though."

Trying to get four different guys to agree upon a song has been difficult for them. To try and incorporate all of their ideas equally, the members of Revelsound don't just rely on one person to come up with the songs, but all four of them write the songs they perform.

"We all do the writing and bring the ideas to each other to work on it," Montgomery said. "It's really a team effort to make a song go from good to great. Our genre is alt rock. We sort of have our own sound that I have a hard time describing."

Recently, the band ran into a speed bump that greatly affected them. Revelsound is a



Photo courtesy of Revelsound Facebook page

Cody Montgomery, guitarist, and Nick Thompson, lead singer, at a Revelsound performance.

very new name for the band. They were previously called Thin Ice, but they found out there was another band by that name. As a group, they decided it would be best to change their name to something completely original.

"We wanted something all our own," Hunter said. "When brainstorming names I put forth the name 'Revellion' because I liked the idea of the word 'revel' incorporated into our name and image. It means 'to enjoy oneself in a lively way, especially with drinking and dancing.' Perfect for us.

We came up with a few other names with revel in them and landed on Revelsound."

Between balancing homework, jobs, travel and even cheer practice, these four guys are brave enough to work hard and share what they are passionate about with anyone who is willing to listen.

"Music, to me, is one of the purest forms of expression, and the one I'm best at," Hunter said. "Playing drums is an absolute blast and writing songs that people end up enjoying is just extremely gratifying."

All four of them are passionate about music and find time to incorporate music into their lives beyond the band. Thompson is a member of the Statesmen Choir at NDSU. Montgomery is looking forward to working with music for the rest of his life, as he is a music education major.

"A band is a team effort," Thompson said. "Especially when the members are as close as we are. The four of us are a family; we're seriously brothers."

The band is currently working on many new projects

including booking more live performances and recording more of their songs that they will be releasing digitally for listeners to enjoy. If you would like to hear Revelsound, you could catch them performing live in Grand Forks on April 11<sup>th</sup> at Ojata Records, or check them out on Soundcloud or Bandcamp. Like or follow them on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for more updates.

Emily Gibbens is the opinion editor for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at emily.r.gibbens@und.edu

# Tunnel of Oppression

Ben Godfrey  
The Dakota Student

Last week, from March 28 through 30, the UND Women's Center invited students to "step out of your comfort zone and into the tunnel." The "Tunnel of Oppression" is a tour that engages students and community members in a firsthand look at what oppression feels like. The tour puts you in the shoes of a collection of different groups that experience unjust treatment, distress and trauma every single day.

According to staff, "The Tunnel of Oppres-

sion serves to educate and inspire participants in the hopes of building a more inclusive, knowledgeable and caring environment."

During the tour, groups go down a dimly lit hallway, making stops in several different rooms. Each room features a different aspect of oppressive treatment and the effects felt by the people involved. The topics are illustrated through methods like visual displays, acting, activities and multimedia.

Nine topics were displayed in the tunnel: mental health, dementia, racism and police brutality,

the Dakota Access Pipeline, unhealthy relationships, LGBTQ+ and Ally awareness, cyber-bullying, domestic violence and sexual assault and the "Power of One."

The content in the rooms helps to make clear the idea that oppression doesn't come in one form. Sometimes it's easy to see and sometimes it's hidden beneath the surface. Our society tends to normalize these issues and sweep them under the rug. We tell an anxious, depressed person to stop faking and just get it together. We condition women to watch what

they wear and do, instead of teaching young adults not to treat women as sexual objects. We see acts of violence and hate happening all the time, but do we step in or step to the side?

The tunnel is designed to get you out of your comfort zone and open your mind to subjects aren't easy to talk about. While these topics may be uncomfortable, acknowledging and learning about oppression is necessary in making a positive change.

Bell Hooks, an American author and social activist, said, "Being oppressed means the absence of choice."

People don't get to choose their race, to choose their orientation or their mental health. However, they are marginalized for differences out of their control. People experiencing oppression are trapped in a system that is stacked against them.

The last room in the

tour is entitled "Power of One." This room raises the idea that change starts with one person, and encourages us to "be the change you want to see." It's not easy to change the world, but we all change our own worlds. While we can't decide how we're treated, we can decide how to treat others. We have the power to choose to be respectful and kind, to be an ally, to pick people up instead of putting them down. If everyone made that choice, who knows what the world would be like?

An array of organizations were involved in the event as sponsors and advocates, including the UND Women's Center, the Ten Percent Society, the UND Pride Center, the International Center, Multicultural Programs and Services and many others. It's refreshing to see so many people and groups making an effort to raise awareness of the cruel things that go

on around us.

If you or someone you know have experienced any form of oppression or trauma and want to talk about it, there are services on campus that are here to help. The University Counseling Center, as well as Student Health Services and the Women's Center all exist for the well-being of the students and are there to listen.

The UND Women's Center works to foster an environment which supports diversity and social equality. It's a safe space for all students to seek information regarding mental and physical health and personal growth. The center offers a variety of educational programs promoting empowerment and diversity. It is located in room 262 of the Memorial Union.

Ben Godfrey is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at benjamin.godfrey@und.edu



Nick Nelson/ Dakota Student

Students walk through the Tunnel of Oppression Thursday morning at Johnston-Fulton Hall.

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# Sports

## Schedule

**W Softball**  
vs. South Dakota State  
4/5 @ 2:00 p.m.

**W Softball**  
vs. South Dakota State  
4/5 @ 4:30 p.m.

**W Tennis**  
vs. Montana State  
4/7 @ 11:30 a.m.

**W Tennis**  
vs. MSU Moorhead  
4/7 @ 5:00 p.m.

**W Softball**  
@ Idaho State  
4/7 @ 1:00 p.m.

**W Softball**  
@ Idaho State  
4/7 @ 3:30 p.m.

# Athletes break volunteering record

Adam Demoulas

Dakota Student

UND takes pride in the service its student athletes put into the community. UND has recorded community service hours every year since the 2008-2009 seasons across all of the sport teams.

In the past few seasons, the athletics community has steadily increased the amount of community service hours.

In the 2013-2014 season, UND athletics community recorded 7,401 service hours. The 2014-2015 season climbed to an all-time high with just over 8,000 community service hours.

There are many opportunities to get involved around the community as well as on campus events.

This past season, student athletes recorded a record high of community service hours. There were 9,525 hours recorded across all the UND sport teams.

Student athletes averaged 21.5 hours while being able to choose from several hundred volunteering events.

The top teams included track (1,759), women's hockey (1,428.5) and football (1,121.75).

Many of these community service opportunities include the Special Olympics State Tournament,



Volunteering helps promote a sense of community and support for everyone involved.

Stock image

volunteered coaching and the Big Event.

One of the popular activities is The Big Event. The Big Event gives everyone a chance to help the community of Grand Forks by cleaning the city.

"Through service-oriented activities, The Big Event promotes campus and community unity as students come together for one day to express their gratitude for the support from the surrounding community," from the The Big Event website.

People in the

community look up to the athletes in every sport for their athletic achievements.

"I think it is important to give back to the community," Dylan Baptist said on the swimming and diving team. "It makes sense to pull our resources together to help people out and support those that support us."

Like many of professional athletes, their popularity can be used to set a good example for those who look up to them.

"The community

looks up to us and our work ethic," Jenna Meader, a UND soccer player said. "We always have to set a good example to the people that look up to us and it helps keep us humble."

Many student athletes also get the chance to make special appearances at unique events. Athletes are able to give out their autographs during fan fests and meet and greets.

Although it's encouraged to give out autographs and other merchandise, there are

many strict regulations from the NCAA. No one can exchange an autograph for monetary gain.

UND student athletes have consistently found time out of their busy schedules to give back to the community and encourage other students to give back.

"Helping the community helps promote UND and the city of Grand Forks," Katy Johnson a track athlete, said. "It feels good to give back especially to those that come out and support

student athletes."

"Community service is a vital component of our total-person philosophy as an athletics department," UND Director of Athletics Brian Faison said. "We are extremely grateful for the generous support we receive from the community and the ability to give back is just a small measure of gratitude."

Adam Demoulas is the staff writer for Dakota Student. He can be reached at adam.demoulas@ndus.edu

# USA women's hockey gets a raise

Jack Harvey

Dakota Student

After long negotiations and a protest of the upcoming world championship, the USA women's hockey team is getting a raise.

For those who don't know what has been going on for USA hockey, nothing is an understatement. While the NHL is highly considering not letting NHL players support their country on the greatest of international stages that is the Olympics, the U.S. women's hockey team boycotted playing until contract negotiations were settled.

The players were planning to protest the upcoming World Championships this week due to not only the unfair pay, but the poor accommodations compared to the men's international team.

"So many people around the country, not just in sports, responded to us," forward Meghan

Duggan said, "and I think it was because we were showing what women who stand up and fight for what they believe in can achieve. Especially when we stick together."

The pay of the women's wasn't the only thing being protested by the team. There were several other factors that needed to be addressed.

Before the deal was made, players were only paid \$6,000 for training leading up to the Olympics. That was it. No pay for playing in the Olympics, and no compensation for winning a medal. Just \$6,000 for training six months before the Olympics.

Now the women will receive possibly six figures, if they bring home the gold. By the fourth year of this current four-year deal, they will have \$950,000 in a compensation pool for the players.

On top of getting paid, the women will now travel with the mens team equally. Before, the men's team would fly business class while the



The 2010 U.S. Women's hockey team celebrating a win.

Stock image

women would be stuck in coach. Now the travel arrangements are equal to the men, including an increased pay for non travel days at events from \$15 to \$50. Also included is an escalator clause, which means if the men's perks increase, the women's will as well.

Also added was a Women's High Performance Advisory Group, which will give the women more of a

voice within USA Hockey. Personally, it's about time this happened. It's no surprise this issue took so long to be corrected. Equality in pay is still an issue in this country. The U.S. women's soccer team is still trying to improve their pay/benefits.

Before this deal was made, the women were paid \$6,000 for six months which averages out to \$1,000 a month. What's sad is that's how much

I made in one month working at a retail store this summer. Olympic athletes were getting the same monthly rate of pay as a college student working retail.

On top of the pay issue was the travel compensation as well as day off pay. \$15 on a day off? Unacceptable. But to fly the team representing your country to events in the living hell known as coach?

It's no mystery this new deal was long overdue, but hopefully this is the stepping stone to increasing the pay for women international teams of different sports and maybe women in the workplace. Only time will tell.

Jack Harvey is a staff writer for Dakota Student. He can be reached at jack.harvey@und.edu