Contraceptives not covered under UND employee insurance

Diane Newberry
Dakota Student

Passed in 2010, the Affordable Care Act caused controversy by requiring health insurance plans that covered co-pays on prescription medicine to also cover contraceptives. This provision of the act was narrowed by President Trump in October 2017, but there were already numerous exemptions to the rule.

One group of people who have never had contraceptive coverage is in the last eight years: North Dakota public university employees. The new hire information kit given to University of North Dakota employees states, boldly and explicitly: “This benefit plan does not cover any contraceptive medications, devices, appliances, supplies or related services.”

“I was shocked when I was hired that we had generally good health insurance but that it did not cover birth control pills.”

Cynthia Prescott, UND Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies in History

Competition for a health insurance company to be more willing to cover costs in terms of inequalities and an inconsistency in the decisions that the insurance company’s making that seem to be shaped around what they think a woman should and should not be doing with her body and with her life,” Prescott said.

Prescott said that paying for contraceptives out of pocket was “annoying,” it “wasn’t a huge financial burden” for a person of her position and salary. However, this might not be the case for lower level university employees.

“When there is a cost involved that obviously creates a barrier to the lower social economic population,” Kristie Wolff, Executives Director of the North Dakota Women’s Network, said.

“Contraceptives can be costly. 26 states in the US currently require that insurers cover contraceptives, but North Dakota is not one of them. Wolff, who has worked in various political activism roles, said that in her experience, birth control can be a controversial topic in North Dakota and “a very hard subject” to have a conversation about. One reason it continues to be unaddressed may be the fact that women only make up 19 percent of the state’s legislature.

“Right now North Dakota ranks 41st in the nation for female state politics. But what happens when that number starts increasing to the female representation that we see in our federal and state legislative bodies and we don’t have a lot of women serving to bring that voice forward and to have those discussions as much,” Wolff said.

According to Wolff, who was working closely with the legislature during last session in her previous position with the American Lung Association, there have been no recent movements to have birth control covered for all state employees.

“One last session was – it was crazy. Wolff said. “Everybody was just trying to keep what they had this last session, or not get cut as deeply that they couldn’t exist. So there wasn’t so much as adding new provisions to things because it was really kind of a fight to stay alive.”

At UND, a similar silence persists. Although Prescott says there is certainly widespread frustration among female university employees, there have not been very many willing to be outspoken about their objections to their current health care coverage.

“What I’ve been hearing basically is, ‘Well, we chose to move to a conservative state and this is what you get,’” Prescott said. “I haven’t heard anyone who was really standing up and arguing about it.”

André Marquis Washington
Dakota Student

The city of Grand Forks has become a paradigm for the UAS industry. Grand Forks is home of the United States first commercial UAS business and aviation park, and will host the 2019 annual UAS Summit and Expos, an event that attracts UAS experts from across the world. But as with any oilfield of para-professionals, crowds come and seed themselves and eventually blossom into a bids of competition. Is it UND collaboration or is it UND competition? The University of North Dakota has been one of the country’s leading providers of UAS education. Now welcome to the UAS industry, SkySkopes, a professional UAS flight operations company located out of Grand Forks.

SkySkopes is relatively new to the UAS some but has set the tone for professional UAS flight operations throughout the Northern Plains. SkySkopes is the brainchild of UND graduate Matt Dunlevy who currently serves as SkySkopes’ CEO and president.

“SkySkopes is a complement to UND and UND UAS departments,” Dunlevy said.

So much of a complement that SkySkopes launched in 2017 its own SkySkopes Academy. With the intention to deliver private UAS education in a more effective and engaging manner. “SkySkopes Academy is a spin-off of UND’s four year UAS program, and offers four industry specific, tailored UAS training. SkySkopes Academy is not at all in competition with UND,” Dunlevy said. “It’s competition until it is competition.” With declining enrollment numbers for traditional four-year public universities all over the United States and the rapidly increasing number of students seeking more industry-specific vocational private programs, SkySkopes Academy could blossom into something much more than just a complementary program to UND.

“We try to funnel undergraduates and graduates to UND through our online high school level courses and in-person certificate training programs,” Dunlevy said.

But what happens when that funnel bottleneck? What happens when UAS students eventually figure out that in-person training is more effective? Continued on pg 2

Diane Newberry
The boss editor
Dakota Student

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Heitkamp tries to resurrect net neutrality

The FCC ended the Obama-era net neutrality regulations, but new legislation hopes to reverse that

Jacob Noterman
Dakota Student

While internet outages and connection problems are regular complaints amongst UND students, there is an even greater internet battle being fought in our nation’s capital. Net neutrality has become a hot-button issue for many Americans, especially after the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to roll back Obama-era regulations back in December.

Briefly, net neutrality is the idea that internet access should be regarded as similarly as access to water and electricity, where every person pays for equal access. These regulations keep internet providers from either speeding up or slowing down certain websites that consumers want to access. Senator Heidi Heitkamp (ND) is one of 50 senators supporting the restoration of net neutrality policies. The legislation, specifically, is a Senate resolution to reverse the FCC’s rollback of net neutrality. This resolution, if passed, wouldn’t be able to be rolled back again by another FCC vote. According to Sen. Heitkamp, her office is legislation supported with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) funds to roll back. UND student Shawn McHale said, “Before 2015, the internet was equal and freely accessible to everyone. The internet grew exponentially without net neutrality. Today, the internet is a monopoly for big businesses and the rich.”

Heitkamp tries to resurrect net neutrality

USD student Shawn McHale said, “Verizon in particular was trying to see what they could get away with and get rolled back from the FCC made price. This shows precedent that large broadband providers were trying to get away with more and push their boundaries.” Meanwhile, Dylan Moser, another student, argued that the lack of net neutrality is what led to the internetboom.

“I think net neutrality is something we need to get back to,” said Heitkamp. “We need to be able to access the internet equally.”

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“Before 2015, the internet grew and made a lot of progress, but there were issues of companies trying to take ad-vantage of things back then,” said Heitkamp. "Now, the internet is a monopoly for big businesses and the rich."
OPINION

Dakota Student

I don’t know much about makeup. I’ve never bought any, nor have I ever used any. Everything I know about makeup comes from what girls have told me and from my own experience watching girls put on makeup.

The feminine ritual of spending tens and even hundreds of dollars on cosmetics that they painstakingly apply each morning seems to be universal among women.

There is nothing inherently wrong with wanting to look better. Why else would we go to the gym? But with makeup, it seems to point to a place where the biological constraints of men and women are in fact contributing to it. Young girls tuning in to these shows begin to absorb the idea that their value lies in their physical appearance. It is unhealthy.

Instead, we should reinforce the idea that internal beauty is more important than physical looks. Makeup reinforces traditional gender roles. The patriarchal culture in America is indisputably in the favor of males. The use of makeup promotes the idea that women must always look perfect when in the public’s eye. It has gotten to the point where some women won’t leave the house without having put on makeup. The banning of makeup would shift the culture in the favor of women, who would be freed from the pressure of hav- ing to look perfect all the time. It would ul- timately help close the so- cial disparity between men and women.

Makeup is bad for animals. New beauty products still in the de- velopmental stages of production get tested on animals to see if they are safe for human use. Ac- cording to the Humane Society, one of the tests it uses in companies in- volves applying chemicals to a rabbit’s eye to observe its effects, which can in- clude redness, bleeding, ulcers, and cracking.

The European Union, Is- rael and India have banned the sale of any cosmetics or cosmetic ingredients that have been tested on ani- mals, according to PETA. No such laws exist in the US, however, so compa- nies are free to test their products as they see fit. I have been told by girls that vegan options are available in the Unit- ed States, but they are much more expensive than most makeup is. I doubt that many girls are interested in purchasing these products because they are out of their reach.

Ultimately, it would be healthier for everyone if makeup was made illegal. I rest my case.

Bilal Suleiman

Dakota Student

When it comes to sustainable, UND needs to understand that making an impact doesn’t necessarily result from just im- plementing programs and ordering fancy trash cans. Students, faculty and oth- er employees need to be educated on why green decisions matter so that they voluntarily choose to recycle and make greener choices, which would be coming to a more environ- mentally friendly campus.

Stephanie Hollman

Dakota Student

In the opinion of Miss America, the Miss Universe and the Miss USA pageants, makeup is a lot of things: their champion, a beauty pageant that does nothing but force the idea that internal beauty is more important than physical looks. Makeup reinforces traditional gender roles. The patriarchal culture in America is indisputably in the favor of males. The use of makeup promotes the idea that women must always look perfect when in the public’s eye. It has gotten to the point where some women won’t leave the house without having put on makeup.

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Lilac United Methodist Church at 1896-1250

Zion United Methodist Church

Churches

Dakota Student

The opportunities for recycling at UND are there but aren’t utilized. According to a graph posted on Facility Man- agement’s “UND Recycling” page, only about 20% of waste at UND is re- cycleable. When asked to approximate the amount of trash in the entire parking lot, do- ing more harm than good. According to a report published by a group called Animal Welfare, 90% of all beauty products cause animal-tested products.

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A UND student holds a placard after completing the LGBTQ+ Ally Training Program at the Memorial Union on Friday, January 26, 2018.

**Maddie Ardelean**
Dakota Student

This past Friday, seven members of the UND community gathered in a quiet conference room. Seated around a conference table, facing a powerpoint, everyone chats quietly, waiting for Jeff Gibson, the Senior Program Manager for LGBTQ+ and Cross Cultural Programming, to begin Ally Training. 

Ally Training is a program started by UND to inform non-LGBTQ+ students, staff and faculty about the challenges that come with being LGBTQ+, and how they can help. The program is designed to educate and empower the UND community to become part of the solution to intolerance. 

What is Ally Training like? Ally Training is a relaxed, small group, participation-based experience. There’s no judgment, no pressure and any level of knowledge is welcome. Participants aren’t required to agree with anything presented, but are just asked to keep an open mind and challenge their current perspectives. According to Jeff Gibson, it’s a program “that can benefit anyone.”

Why would one participate in Ally Training? According to Gibson, Ally Training helps the UND community become more aware of LGBTQ+ issues and makes people more aware of the diversity of our campus. It also gives participants the opportunity to make a greater difference in the lives of LGBTQ+ students. 

LGBTQ+ people have a far higher rate of mental illness and suicide attempts than non-LGBTQ+ people, so being equipped and informed to better support them as a friend can make a huge difference. Ally Training also makes non-LGBTQ+ students more informed and therefore more comfortable with their colleagues who are. 

One participant wanted to become “more accessible to other students,” a goal that is certainly achieved through this training. Through Ally Training, you become equipped to be a visible ally, one who doesn’t need to stand up for the rights of others.

What do you learn in Ally Training? First, participants get a basic background in the history and development of LGBTQ+ issues and rights. After that, the seminar moves on to terminology, what terms mean and which ones are respectful to use. 

The training also explores gendered language: what it is, how it hurts others, and non-gendered, inclusive replacements for commonly used words, including pronouns. It teaches gender neutral pronouns someone may use, how to pronounce them, how to ask someone’s pronouns and what to do if you don’t know someone’s pronouns. 

The seminar also helps increase awareness of the privilege non-LGBTQ+ people have. At one point, the trainees did an exercise to help them see what it’s like to be someone’s family member, a close friend, a co-worker or their dream job. As all the trainees saw explicitly, being a good ally is so important and could literally save a life.

**Dakota Student**

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You could see the hurt and pain on the faces of the participants. As the trainees realized that some people actually lived this experience that they could barely stand the thought of. As all the trainees saw explicitly, being a good ally is so important and could literally save a life.

What are some steps you can take to be a better ally? The most important thing one can do, according to Gibson, is simply be there to listen. Be kind, supportive, and just be there for those who need it. If you’re unsure of how to help, simply ask, “How can I help you?” Use inclusive language. For example, instead of “Do you have a boyfriend/girlfriend,” say “Are you seeing anyone?”

It’s a little things like that, things that non-LGBTQ+ people might not even think of, that make a huge difference to members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Being an ally in a choice and it is proved through action. Attend- ing UND’s Ally Training (the next one is offered Feb. 12) is an action to take in empowering oneself to fight hatred and intolerance in the UND and larger Grand Forks community.

**Maddie Ardelean**

*You could see the hurt and pain on the faces of the participants. As all the trainees saw explicitly, being a good ally is so important and could literally save a life.***

**Jeff Gibson,** the Senior Program Manager for LGBTQ+ and Cross Cultural Programming.
The North Dakota Museum of Art was filled with laughter from the families attending this month’s family day event. The event promotes art for our diverse community and is free to the public. Since the event is not only the promotion of art but the promotion of community and family, I brought my son Liam with me. He was very excited to try everything and was thrilled to see one of his friends from preschool Aimee Coons at the event as well.

The two friends quickly decided to color on two giant foam boards covered in paper for coloring. There were at least ten children with their families crawling all over the board and mural of a variety of crayon pictures and random squiggles covered the paper. The paper covered boards were large enough for multiple families to sit comfortably around them. It was the perfect low key activity for parents to interact with their children.

While Liam was coloring, he caught sight of some children who had made a jellyfish craft and decided that was what he wanted to do first. The table for the craft was crammed with children and their families. A kind volunteer helped us get some supplies and we took them to some clear floor space nearby. Liam chose to keep things simple. Overjoyed with his creation, he flew his jellyfish around, watching the tentacles flutter in the air.

Next Liam decided to make his very own puzzle. We found a seat among the other children at the table. The puzzles were made from children’s drawings on paper cover stock. Liam drew an elaborate picture of a penguin house with a race track from the movie Cars on it. After deeming his picture ready, he gave it to the volunteer manning the puzzle press. The volunteer put the puzzle cutter onto the cover stock and slipped it into the press. With the press right there on the table, children were able to see the mechanics of how their puzzles were made. When the puzzle was ready, the volunteer took it out of the press, made sure all the pieces had been properly cut and then slipped everything into an envelope.

Towards the end of the event, I spoke with Matt Anderson, Director of Education at North Dakota Museum of Art. Anderson told me that the museum’s Family Day event originally started as paid workshops for families. But, because of the high demand from the community the museum decided to make the event open and free. With the event free, the museum relies on volunteers to help manage the events, which boasts 250 attendees on average. Anderson said there are about 15-20 volunteers per event. This event had volunteers from the community, students from UND and Phi Beta Phi Sorority. Anderson explained that the events normally feature a local artist who decides the themes and continues on pg 6...
Saturday’s event featured a local art nonprofit organization ArtWise, which supports art in the Grand Forks area elementary schools. ArtWise celebrated its 25th anniversary at the Family Day event.

Family Day at the North Dakota Museum of Art is a treasured event for the Grand Forks community. It celebrates diversity, art and community. The crafts at the event are not only fun for children, but allow parents to interact with their child in a low cost craft that they can easily do again and again at home.

Family Day shows that art does not have to be expensive or elaborate. It is the simple act of creating art with someone you care about, either in the community or in your own family, that makes art and Family Day so special.

Aimee Coons is an A&C writer for Dakota Student. She can be reached at aimee.coons@und.edu
He's Hoff to the Olympics

UND's Ludvig Hoff named to 2018 Norwegian Olympic roster

Nick Erickson  
Dakota Student

UND forward Ludvig Hoff (#27) watches goalie Cam Johnson make a save against the Minnesota Gophers earlier this season. Hoff was named to the Norwegian men's Olympic ice hockey team on Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

UND's Ludvig Hoff (#27) watches goalie Cam Johnson makes a save against the Minnesota Gophers earlier this season. Hoff was named to the Norwegian men's Olympic ice hockey team on Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

“IT’S ALWAYS BEEN A GOAL MY WHOLE LIFE. BUT I MEAN I HAVEN’T REALLY HAD THAT IN MY MIND THIS SEASON. THIS SEASON I’VE BEEN TRYING TO FOCUS ON HOCKEY HERE.”

Ludvig Hoff, UND forward

The sophomore center will be missing two series including a home series with Colorado College in February. Hoff, who has played on national teams starting at the age of 16, is now going to be following in his father's footsteps by playing in the 2018 Olympics. UND’s first Norwegian born player to make the Olympic team, Hoff went to the trial camps over Christmas break when he returned home to Norway. “I was a little surprised. Obviously very honored. It’s a childhood dream come true,” Hoff said.

Hoff’s road to the Olympics

Hoff played in three Olympic games: 1988 in Calgary, Alberta, 1992 in Albertville, France and 1994 in Lillehammer, Norway. “I was a little surprised. Obviously very honored. It’s a childhood dream come true,” Hoff said. Brad Berry got the call from Hoff immediately after his conversation with his mother. “It was a goal my whole life. But I mean I haven’t really had that in my mind this season. This season I’ve been trying to focus on hockey here,” Hoff said.

UND forward Ludvig Hoff (#27) watches goalie Cam Johnson makes a save against the Minnesota Gophers earlier this season. Hoff was named to the Norwegian men's Olympic ice hockey team on Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

“IT’S ALWAYS BEEN A GOAL MY WHOLE LIFE. BUT I MEAN I HAVEN’T REALLY HAD THAT IN MY MIND THIS SEASON. THIS SEASON I’VE BEEN TRYING TO FOCUS ON HOCKEY HERE.”

Ludvig Hoff, UND forward

Hoff went to the trial camps over Christmas break when he returned home to Norway. “I was very nervous but the guys there made it very comfortable for new guys joining the team,” Hoff said. Brad Berry got the call from Hoff immediately after his conversation with his mother. “We’ve always seen in the past with players going to the World Juniors that you always get a better player back. Hopefully, he’s going to get experience and confidence and we’ll see a better player when he gets back,” 2018 will be the first year since 1988 that NHL players will not be playing in the Olympic games. The IOC first allowed professional athletes to participate in the 1988 winter games. 10 years later the NHL allowed their players to play in the Olympics. 20 years after that, they’re ceasing to allow players due to the timing of the season for the NHL. The lack of NHL players on Olympic rosters will allow other UND alumni to show their talent on arguably the greatest stage. Earlier this month it was announced former UND All-American Chay Genoway would represent Canada. More so, UND’s former women’s hockey program has six alumni making their names known including Jo-hanna Fällman (Sweden), Jocelyne Lamoureux-Davidson and Monique Lamoureux-Morando (USA), Michelle Karvinen, Emma Nuutinen and Susanna Tapani (Finland).

Ludvig Hoff named to 2018 Norwegian Olympic roster

UND’s Ludvig Hoff was named to the Norwegian men’s Olympic ice hockey team on Wednesday, January 24, 2018.
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA
2018 SPRING
CAREER FAIR

ALL TIED UP
UND winless after tied series against Denver

John Gregg
Dakota Student

This past weekend, the No. 4 ranked Den- ver Pioneers traveled to the Ralph to battle the Fighting Hawks Men’s Hockey team. It was a much-an- ticipated matchup between the 2016 National Champions in UND and the 2017 Champions in Denver. Playing to a sell-out crowd Friday night, UND came out to a strong start though the game ended in a 3-3 tie after overtime. UND goals were scored by Cole Smith, Shane Gersich and Hayden Shaw and Cam Johnson faced 21 shots.

“They had that attack mentality the first peri- od. In the second, after they scored that goal, we kind of backed off a little bit,” Head Coach Brad Berry said. “We didn’t skate as much and gave room for them to create a little bit more. Overall, having a two-goal lead, you want to win that game.”

Going into Saturday night’s game, fans had much to look forward to. Though the game was back and forth throughout, the Hawks and Pioneers settled with another tie. A win would help the Hawks improve in the rankings, who now placed at 11, but a tie to a tough competi- tor in Denver will help, though Denver will receive two points each night compared to UND’s single point.

“There’s not a lot of time and space. It was a grind. I’m proud of the way our guys persevered and played re- siliant hockey all week end here,” Berry said.

The series tie left UND and Denver at par with a 1-1-2 record this season, with Den- ver getting the extra point in overtime wins for NCHC purposes.

Fans can be pleased that the Hawks are contending with Den- ver who is sitting atop the standings in conference play. This week end, UND will host another conference foe, Colorado College. As the season comes near closing, every game will continue to grow in importance for UND as they sit in the middle of the pack for NCHC standings.

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Brad Berry, UND Hockey Head Coach

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UND faced the Denver Pioneers this past weekend in a home series that resulted in two overtime ties.

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