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**SPECIAL EDITION  
HOMECOMING 2017**

# TURNING A CORNER

Photos by Kyle Zimmerman / Dakota Student

UND football had been struggling through the first half of their season, and we all hate to see it. We want to watch UND succeed in all of their respective sports. The team has been plagued with injuries this year, which makes it even more frustrating to see as a fan. However, looking back at the historic season from last year could possibly give us fans some hope for the second half of the season this year, as well as give

"The team has been plagued with injuries this year, which makes it even more frustrating to see as a fan. However, looking back at the historic season from last year could possibly give us fans some hope for the second half of the season this year, as well as give us explanations as to why the team is seeming to struggle."

us explanations as to why the team is seeming to struggle. The first six games this season had not gone according to plan. It was rather unexpected considering last year's success at the end of the year had raised all of our expectations for this season. However, this year is still rather similar to last year in a way. The offense is similar to how effective it was at the beginning of last year, but the teams we've been playing so far in 2017 are a lot more offensively potent than

In UND's first five games last year, all of the outcomes were within a one possession margin. Last year's first five could have gone completely differently, and UND's football team could have been 0-5 instead of

the 3-2 that they pulled out. Having those close games eventually going in UND's favor could be what gave a lot of confidence to the entire team, which eventually led to such a historic successful season.

Continuing the comparisons between the two seasons, UND had played only one similar foe between last year's season, and the first five games of 2017. Montana State rolled up 48 points against UND this year compared to their abysmal 15 last season.

UND is hoping to spike their offensive attack in a similar fashion compared to last year's trend in order to compensate for the defenses lack of effectiveness this season due to injuries. UND has three of its six concluding games against familiar teams from last year. UND will play Sacramento State and Southern Utah in the upcoming weeks with potential to regain some confidence, and get back on track. UND defeated both of these teams, Southern Utah was a 22 point deficit and Sacramento state had a difference of 33. With

UND just took on Northern Colorado this weekend, another team that they had taken on and defeated last season, and won again by a 10 point deficit of 48-38. (2016 was 23-13) The offense is beginning to step up in the second half of the year again in almost a characteristically expected way. It can be anticipat-

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# Reclassification of bump stocks

**Brendan McCabe**  
Dakota Student

On Oct. 1 at 10:05 p.m., a deranged gunman began firing on a large group of concertgoers at the Route 91 Harvest Festival. In the span of 10 minutes, he killed 58 people and injured over 500 more before taking his own life. After horrifying events like these, people always begin to ask themselves what could have been done to prevent such an atrocity from happening. Though this usually leads to a call to ban high capacity magazines or semi-automatic rifles, the point of contention after the Mandalay Bay shooting is the legality of bump stocks, also known as bump fire stocks. The idea behind bump firing is that you keep a finger stationary in the trigger guard of a rifle, then pull the entire gun forward with your opposite hand. This forward motion causes the stationary finger to trip the trigger, firing the gun. Recoil then “bumps” the gun backwards and resets the trigger, allowing the entire process to repeat over and over at a very rapid pace. Though this process seems complicated, it is fairly simple in practice. Commonly, firearm enthusiasts put their thumbs through the trigger guard, hook said thumb through

a belt loop, and then bump fire from the hip. All of this can be done without a bump stock, but it is wildly inaccurate and generally only done for fun at the range and to waste ammunition. The difference between regular bump firing and firing with the specialized stock is the latter allows one to shoot from the shoulder, which is much more accurate than from the hip. The Mandalay Bay gunman had 12 rifles equipped with these stocks, and he fired at the crowd from over 350 yards away. Accurate fire at these ranges would not have been possible firing from the hip. Many argue that the gunman would have been just as lethal without the bump fire stocks, but this is not the case. While a semi automatic rifle can be fired rapidly with a quick trigger finger, it simply cannot compete with the sustained fire of a bump stock. However, this does not mean they are foolproof. I’ve gotten the chance to use one in the past, and they have a much sharper learning curve than one would think. Having your timing off can result in jamming the rifle, and I personally think the stocks have very little real world application besides being a “range toy,” and many of my friends who are also firearms enthu-

siasts feel the same way. We live in a time of divisive opinions on gun control, with both sides not wanting to give an inch. In particular, the National Rifle Association (NRA) is seen as an unmoving giant that opposes any and all forms of firearm regulation. However, even the NRA is open to bump fire stocks being reclassified by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to a more restricted status. This reclassification would most likely lead to bump fire stocks still technically being legal, only being sold after a \$200 tax stamp and stringent and lengthy background check, similar to how machine guns were regulated in the 1934 National Firearms Act. Currently owned bump stocks would probably be grandfathered in without their owners having to pay the tax. I own several firearms and I am a member of the NRA. I have no issue with citizens owning semi automatic rifles or high capacity magazines, as long as they are legally allowed to do so. But many of my fellow firearms enthusiasts are infuriated a niche product that has little to no practical use may become more heavily regulated. As I mentioned earlier, the public opinion of the NRA is not always positive as it typically condemns all forms of firearm regulation. By extension, many people outside of the firearm-owning community view us in that light as well. Allowing the ATF to reclassify bump fire stocks would be a step forward towards unity on both sides of the gun control debate.

# Second languages should be mandatory



Lucelia Ribeiro / Flickr  
Early immersion-based learning of a second language is key for lifelong fluency and language comprehension.

**Jill Morton**  
Dakota Student

Bonjour! Hola! Kon'nichiwa! Ciao! Do you ever wish you knew another language? And I mean more than just how to say hello in that language or count to ten. Being able to actually fluently speak in a foreign language can be very helpful in a lot of ways. First off, it looks really good on your resume. This will allow you to have more opportunities in the future simply by having the ability to hold a conversation in Chinese. Also, there are a lot of skills associated with knowing a second language. According to the Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition, students learn other skills such as divergent thinking, pattern recognition and problem solving. This is especially prominent when learning a language from a young age. Only 26 percent of Americans can hold a conversation in a language other than English, according to Gallup News. Spanish is the most common with nearly 50 percent, followed by French with 17 percent and German with only ten percent. I’ve talked to a lot of people who wish more than anything that they knew a second language as well or at least almost as well as their first. No one complains about not knowing math and English well enough because those classes are already ingrained into the education system. You have to learn those skills whether you like it or not. Language is usually an elective you have to choose

to keep taking. Or sometimes the problem is there can be lower quality teaching of the language or maybe if you’re from a small school, there’s not very many options for language learning. I think our education system needs to rethink how they teach languages. Though I will say we are getting better because according to Gallup News, 43 percent of Americans ages 18 to 29 can speak in a second language while only 15 percent of Americans ages 65 and older can. Also, the older you get, the more difficult it is to learn a whole new language. Your brain is most ready to learn language when you’re young because you’re still learning your first language. This is why I think that language immersion elementary schools should be more common. It doesn’t even matter all that much what language because the simple idea of learning a second language is so valuable in itself because of the cognitive skills that go with it. I was lucky enough to have gone to a French immersion school from kindergarten to fifth grade. I learned everything in French for six years. I could speak fluent French. And besides learning the language, we learned better how to problem solve. We would have to figure stuff out on our own a lot simply because we couldn’t fully understand the teacher yet because she was speaking in French. I think immersion is the best way to learn a language. Anyone will tell you that the best way to fully know a language fluently is to immerse yourself in the culture so that you have to learn the language to survive there.

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Photos courtesy of www.wasr10.com  
An AK-47 is equipped with a bump stock produced by Slide Fire Solutions.

## Classifieds

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# New Homecoming court reigns over the weekend festivities



Photos by Kyle Zimmerman / Dakota Student

The UND community celebrated Homecoming weekend with a parade on Saturday morning down University Ave.

**Diane Newberry**  
Dakota Student

This year, the University of North Dakota decided to stray away from the well-worn tradition of crowning a Homecoming King and Queen. It was a more inclusive process as organizations nominated their members for a position on the homecoming court, resulting in a court of five school representatives to promote school spirit and encourage campus engagement. The five elected members of the court were Faith Maendel, Rachael Fix, Abigail Wright, Shawn McHale and Alyssa Dahle-Koch. Best friends Rachael Fix and Faith Maendel, both members of the Pi Beta Phi sorority, joined the homecoming election together. “My best friend Rachael and I nominated each other without really knowing that it was happening and it kind of escalated from there,” Maendel said. “It was a fun process. A lot of my friends got involved by making a Facebook page for me.” Fix, an alto saxophone

player in the Pride of the North Marching Band, has always been involved in homecoming festivities, but as a member of the homecoming court, she was able to experience the weekend in a whole new way. “All the other nominees I’ve met somewhere along the lines of my UND life and I’m really good friends with them so it was kind of nice just to get to share that moment with them,” Fix said. Traditionally, the Homecoming King and Queen have used their position as a way to raise awareness for their chosen charitable causes. This year, “the homecoming court as a whole will be picking an organization, which is super exciting,” Maendel said. “We haven’t picked one out quite yet, but I’m excited to hear everyone’s ideas.” Besides philanthropy, a driving force for members of the homecoming court is a love of UND. Fix, who is pursuing degrees in both music marketing and athletic training, appreciates that the school allows her to be an individual. “I just came here be-

cause I have a lot of hopes, dreams, wishes,” Fix said. “(...) When I told all the other advisors I wanted to do all of these things - be involved in all these different organizations - they kind of laughed at me, and when I got here they said, ‘Wow, that’s a lot. We’re going to be honest, we don’t know if you can do it, but if it’s something you want to pursue, there’s resources here and everyone will be more than happy to work with you.’” Fix also added that she wants to give so much back to the campus community because it has given her such a sense of belonging. “My favorite thing is just walking around campus and seeing so many people that I know,” Fix said. “I come from a small town. Everybody knows everybody and I didn’t expect to find something like that at a university that has 15,000 people. (...) It really makes UND a home away from home.”

Diane Newberry is the news editor for Dakota Student. She can be reached at [diane.newberry@und.edu](mailto:diane.newberry@und.edu)

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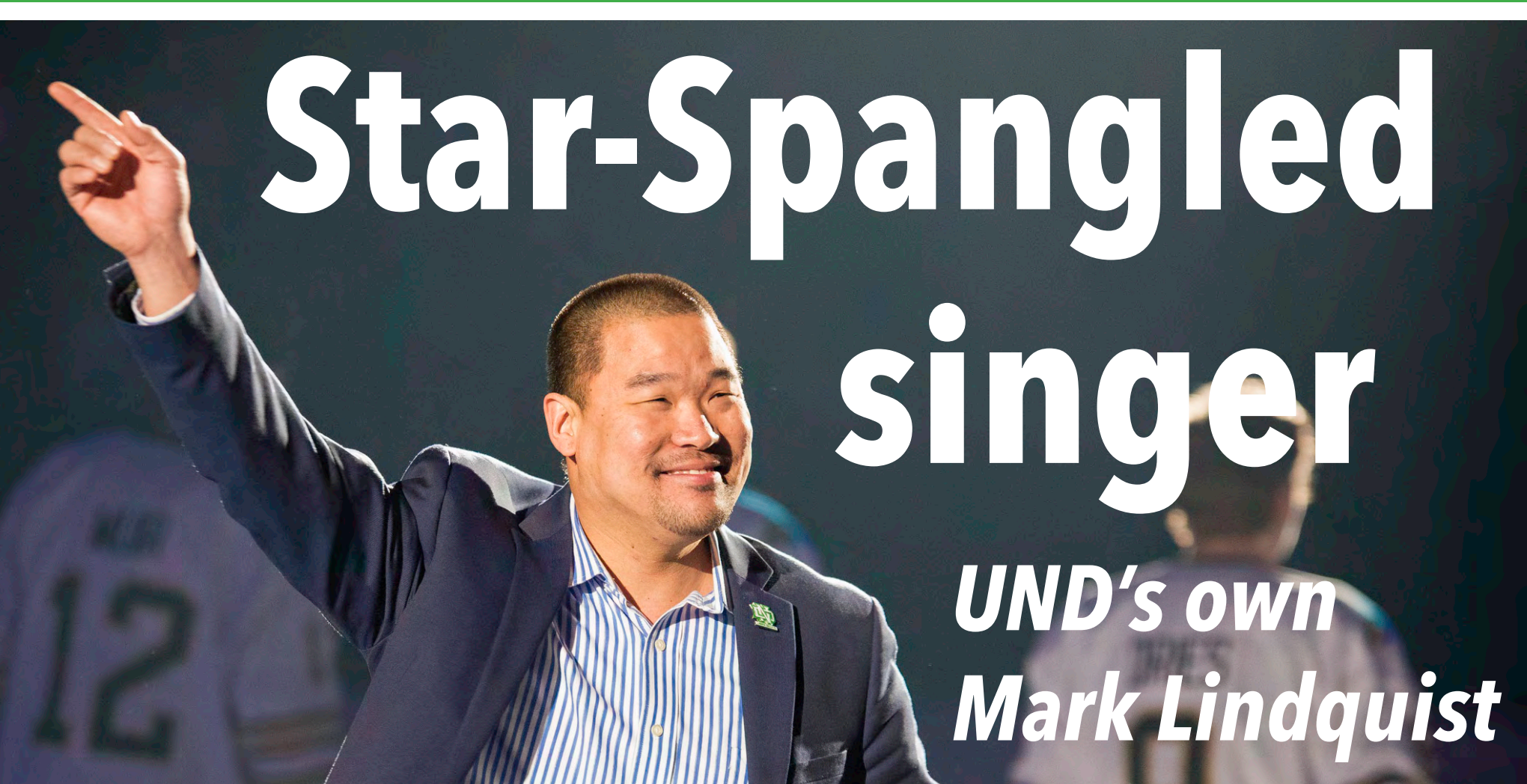
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Mark Lindquist, motivational speaker and singer, waves to fans after singing the national anthem at the Ralph Engelstad Arena prior to a UND men’s hockey game against Western Michigan in 2016.

**Nick Erickson**  
Dakota Student

Walking out onto the carpet laid on the ice as the last two players are introduced, Mark J. Lindquist looks around attentively. He looks at every fan in the building that is, more times than not, sold out. He takes a deep breath, and says “man, this is awesome” every time before he sings the national anthem at the UND Men’s hockey games. The Ortonville, Minnesota native and Air Force Veteran began his hobby of singing the national anthem at Ortonville High School while he was a student and has progressed to much larger stages since. Lindquist was recently announced as the Cleveland Indians number one choice to sing the anthem if they were to make it to the World Series. UND students have appreciated having Lindquist as the full-time singer for the last four years. However, not many people actually know the story of how he became such a pivotal piece to the overall ex-

perience that makes the UND hockey Friday and Saturday games at the Ralph Engelstad Arena one of the nation’s top displays of entertainment. Singing the national anthem is something Lindquist has always truly enjoyed doing. It’s his favorite hobby. His career is being a motivational speaker where the main points of his keynote are about passion in a person’s life and doing what you love to do. Lindquist leads his message by example. He had been singing at the Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks games before he had auditioned

sung at a half-dozen hockey games during the 2013 season, before he had been approached by the Ralph Engelstad staff to become the full-time singer, similar to how most NHL teams have a national anthem singer on their staff. Lindquist gladly accepted, and the journey began. “That first game at the Ralph, I was thinking, oh my goodness sakes, there is 12,000 people, this is incredible!” Lindquist said. “That was probably the biggest crowd I had sung in front of solo was the first game at the Ralph in the fall of 2013.” Lindquist has always

for military ceremonies, with like 25 people in the audience.” Lindquist said. From his start at the Ralph, Lindquist gained the confidence to launch his hobby into orbit and began singing at a multitude of different venues. He then sang at the College World Series, which led him to the Minnesota twins, which then led to the Minnesota Vikings, and to the LA Dodgers after that. He is now singing the anthem all over the country. Ever since Lindquist started doing more of the major teams in the sports world, his office every

what sparked the relationship between Linquist and the Cleveland Indians to allow him to potentially sing at the World Series. Even though he has been singing all over the country at some of the biggest venues in all of sports, his favorite moment was singing for the UND hockey game last year at Madison Square Garden. “I’ll never forget it. It was not only like a home game I think only 50 percent of the people knew I was going to be there, and when the 13,000 strong UND hockey fans, cheering and being excited about the experience of being there, it was like we had brought the experience at the Ralph to Madison Square Garden,” Lindquist said. “The anthem is not about me that’s why I don’t try to sing every note on the piano like some of these other singers, but I’m honored that the UND fans are supportive of me singing it. It’s about the song.” Lindquist’s experience at the Ralph couldn’t be nearly as memorable if it weren’t for the fans and their passion. Their passion reaches beyond the game to the new tradition of seeing Lindquist in the spotlight standing on the ice ready to fill the arena with patriotism. “It’s about remembering why you’re proud to be an American. I enjoyed the experience of the people expressing their thanks, of a job well done,” Lindquist said. “The students are my favorite, the support that you give and the cheers. You all make me feel welcome.” Fans will be able to see Lindquist quite a bit on the national stage this year even if the Indians don’t make the World Series. He will be sing-

ing the anthem for sure Nov. 12 at Soldier Field for the Green Bay Packers and Chicago Bears game. He will also be singing the following week for the Cleveland Browns and Jacksonville Jaguars matchup. Both will be their salute to service games. He will also be singing for his first NHL game for the Las Vegas Golden Knights this year. We could also potentially see him singing for the Monday night football game for the Miami Dolphins and the New England Patriots coming Dec. 11. If not, he will be in Miami for the Bills and Dolphins game on New Year’s Eve. He hopes to be able to sing the national anthem at the Super Bowl to cap off his bucket list. Most times, the NFL decides to go with a big name singer like Luke Bryan who sang the anthem in last season’s Super Bowl. “I’ve got a lot of Super Bowls to come before I kick the bucket, but that’s the ultimate goal. The fact that I’m only one step away with being picked to do the World Series, it makes that dream seem reachable,” Lindquist said. When asking him to reflect on his time spent with the UND hockey production at the Ralph, Lindquist only wanted one thing to be focused on. “The person, whoever does this gig, whether it be me or Lacey, or whoever comes in, I hope that we all have created a standard of excellence, with that part of the pro-


**"I can say with absolute confidence and authority, the gig at the Ralph, for UND hockey it's the best gig in America, and I've been saying that for years."**

Mark Lindquist, Singer and motivational speaker

and booked a performance at the Alerus Center to sing at a UND football game. Lindquist was then approached after that performance to sing for the men’s hockey games. Lindquist came onto the scene as the full-time singer during the 2014-2015 season. He had originally

been extremely grateful for his opportunity to sing for the hockey fans at the Ralph here at UND. “I can say with absolute confidence and authority, the gig at the Ralph, for UND hockey it’s the best gig in America, and I’ve been saying that for years. Before this, I was singing

year has been reaching out to professional teams. Cleveland called back. The Indians were doing a military appreciation for 9/11 and invited Lindquist out to Cleveland. He sang for game 19 of their second best ever MLB win streak of 22 games. That event was



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