# Dakota Student

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**Dakota Student File Photos** 

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Mark Trahant, a Charles R. Johnson endowed professor of journalism at UND, announced on social media he would leave his position at the end of the academic year.

### ournalist Mark Trahant to leave UND in May

**Diane Newberry** 

Dakota Student

On Thursday, Oct. 26 Mark Trahant of the Communications Department announced via Facebook that he would be leaving his position as endowed chair at the University of North Dakota. "I am disappointed and disgusted that the university is not an institutional leader in this state," Trahant said in his online post.

For more content

Trahant went on to say his main reason for leaving the university was that he had tried to organize university events that addressed the continuing issues between Native Americans, protesters and the police at the Standing Rock Reservation in western North Dakota, but had been denied. Though conferences and events

"senior administration were fears that the (North Dakota) legislature might retaliate."

In an email addressing Trahant's announcement, Interim Vice President of Public Affairs Peter Johnson denied that the administration had any fear of legislative retaliation and the President's office had no knowledge of Trahant's proposed events until his Facebook announcement.

"The Dean (Debbie Storrs, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences) basically said she was responsible," Trahant said. "But I'm not sure I believe that."

Timothy Pasch, Chair of the Department, Communications said that budget constraints factored into the decisions made regarding Trahant's proposed

In his online announce- have undergone enormous bud- ing the scope and range of this lic discourse and set an example tions in the past several years."

> Though Trahant still plans to leave his post at the university when his term is up in May, since his announcement, he has been tasked with organizing the spring Haggerty lecture, which will now focus on the events

> occurring in Standing Rock. "I am very excited by the initial conversations I have held with Professor Trahant regard-

said there getary restrictions and reduc- event that he is leading, and for campuses across the state, it is my hope that this event will be far-reaching with national coverage," Pasch said.

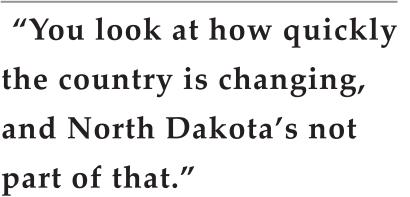
> The lecture will feature journalist Jenni Monet as a keynote speaker. Monet has been very active at Standing Rock and was famously arrested for criminal trespassing while covering the story.

> Trahant said he is hopeful that this conference will help UND become a stronger leader in pub

particularly on issues that affect the Native American community.

"You look at how quickly the country is changing," Trahant said. "And North Dakota's not part of that."

> Diane Newberry is the news editor for Dakota Student. She can be reached at diane.newberry@und.edu



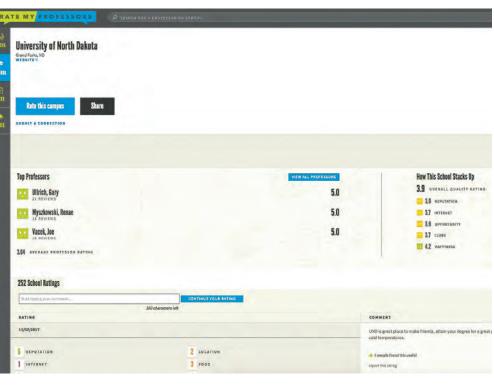
Mark Trahant, Endowed professor of journalism

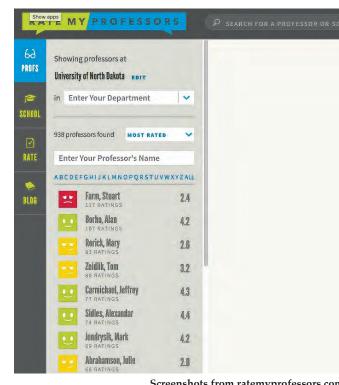
could be stalled and cancelled for a number of reasons, Trahant said he was told in the past that an event like the one he was proposing "wouldn't be in the university's interest" due to the "hotness of the topic."

events as much as anything else.

"My Dean is exceedingly supportive of Mark Trahant, and of the Department of Communication," Pasch said. "At the same time, it is a known issue that the College and the University







Screenshots from ratemyprofessors.com

## Rating your professors

### Which way is the right way?

Aimee Coons Dakota Student

The fall semester is coming quickly to a close and registration for spring semester is here. As students gear up to register for the next semester, discussion begins with opinions on professors. For many students the general consensus on professors will dictate whether or not they will be registering for a course. RateMyProfessors. com is a commonly used tool for many college students. The website is "built for college students, by college students," according to the website. It is easy to navigate with a simple

to use search bar and a 1-5 rating system. Students can rate their professors on overall quality, level of difficulty and leave comments. Additional information such as which course was taken, if a textbook was used, if attendance was mandatory, what grade the poster re-

ceived and if the poster

would take the course

Over the summer,

while registering for fall

classes I used RateMy-

Professors.com to cross

information I had heard about different professors. This information along with the websites ratings determined my registration for certain courses.

Being an English major, I am thankful that overall the English department has excellent However,

Feedback for Instructors) questionnaires at the end of each semester. Professors push students to fill out the SELFIs for feedback on their courses and ask for comments on any way to improve.

It would be beneficial for students to be privy to the overall results of

uation of Learning and 2016 summer semester, there was an average score 4.29 out of 5.

Although the 2016 summer SELFI evaluation provides overall positive feedback for the semester, it does little to provide students with viable information. The SELFI evaluations for a professor can give

"Students can rate their professors on overall quality, level of difficulty and leave comments. Additional information such as which course was taken, if a textbook was used, if attendance was mandatory, what grade the poster received and if the poster

Aimee Coons, Opinion writer

some students find that having access to excellent professors isn't always an option. Students find themselves in a position of picking the "lesser of two evils" when faced with poor and slightly less poor ratings for professors on RateMyProfessor.com.

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the professors SELFIs. UND publishes SELFI evaluations per semester. SELFI evaluations for the summer 2016 semester showed how many students participated in filling out the SELFI and their level of education. The evaluation looked at factors of the SELFI (Student Eval- and overall opinon. For lies outside of UND.

would take the course again is also available."

students a larger view of how previous students actually felt after completing a course.

Having the power to rate a professor not only allows students to provide critical feedback but can also potentially cause great damage through rating What kind of defense learning, engagement, sites like RateMyProfes again is also available. do professors have organization and clar- sor. Students must reagainst the all-powerful ity, classroom environ- member that professors and judgmental Rate- ment, individual rap- are people too. They MyProfessors? Ideally, port, graded materials have lives and fami-

professor, it should be given through the SELFI survey. However, one should think carefully before posting to Rate-MyProfessor, and not use the site as a place to bash on a professor. Comments and ratings on RateMyProfessor should be posted in taste and with fairness. Although RateMyPro-

opportunity to occur.

Aimee Coons is an opinion writer for Dakota Student. She can be reached at aimee.coons@und.edu

ndcpas.org/student

**MEETINGS** 

If Needed

Part time position for

If a student has constructive criticism for a

fessor is a great tool to help students decide whether to take a course by a certain professor, I encourage students not to let the ratings be the end all to their decision. One of my professors this semester was given a 2.2 out of 5 on RateMyProfessor. The comments on the professor were not favorable. I took a chance and took the class with the professor anyways. This professor is an excellent teacher and is dedicated to the success of students. Sometimes the best opinion or rating can come from yourself if you allow the

#### Classifieds

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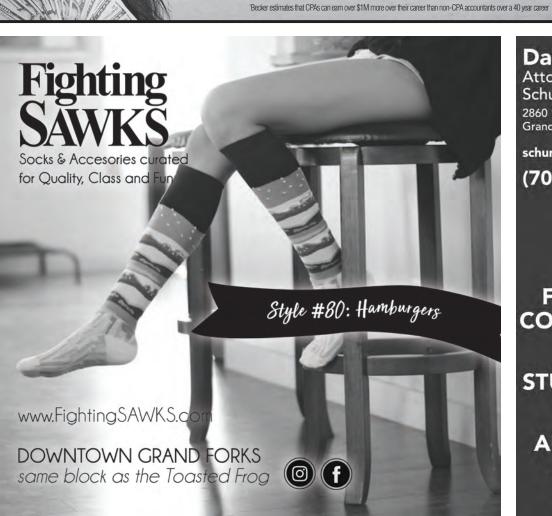
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CIVIL COMMITMENT





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**FEATURES** 







Photos by Devon Abler / Dakota Student

The Pride of North Dakota event showcased vendors offering products such as gourmet popcorn (left), artisan chocolates (center) and custom-made jewelry (right).

## The true Pride of Dakota

#### **Devon Abler**

Dakota Student

Vendors gathered over the weekend to kick off the holiday season with the Pride of Dakota Holiday Vendor show. From popcorn to mittens to wine, there were a variety of goods created by local businesses through-

Christmas music played in the ballroom as members of the community gathered together to shop the local goods. Walking through the vendors, there was something for everyone. Children could enjoy handmade wooden toys, adults could enjoy pottery and wine and everyone could enout North Dakota. joy the variety of baked

and universities

were designed for you.

goods and candy sold by many different vendors.

Cheryll Moen is the creator of Rendezvous Candy, a chocolate shop run out of her home in Mayville, North Dakota. Known for her flavorful combinations of fudges, caramel sauces and homemade truffles, her booth started from a one spot and has grown into a two spot vendor.

"In 1988 I started making candy," Moen said. "I've been participating in the Pride of Dakota shows for about 20 years now. I started with chocolate covered caramels and had some jars of caramel sauces."

While walking past Moen's vendor, there are more than ten different caramel sauces, over 20 different

flavors of fudge and

rows of truffles, toffees

and different candies.

Though many people

come for small gifts for people to give as

Christmas presents, the

vendors that receive

the most traffic are the

food and wine vendors.

Grubbersputz is a family owned and run business that has seven different flavors of popcorn.

"We are a family owned business," Chastity Everson said. "We have three people on the road. There are only two people who work in production who aren't family, but we still consider them to be family. My aunt oversees and runs

their home town, mitand decorative wine glasses. There is a reason this holiday show attracts so many people. The vendors that are on display truly

are the pride of Dakota. For out-of-state students who are looking for authentic North Dakota gifts, check out the Minot show that runs for Nov. 11-12. The Far-

go show that runs from

Nov. 17-19 and the Bis-

marck Holiday show

that runs from Dec. 1-3.

Devon Abler is a staff writer for

Dakota Student.

She can be reached at

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"I've been participating in the Pride of Dakota shows for about 20 years now. I started with chocolate covered caramels and had some jars of caramel sauces."

the production of the

popcorn and my father

is in charge of business."

dors that sold soaps

made from beeswax and

honey, vendors that al-

lowed customers to cre-

ate their own necklaces

made from a map with

There were also ven-

Cheryll Moen, creator of Rendezvous Candy

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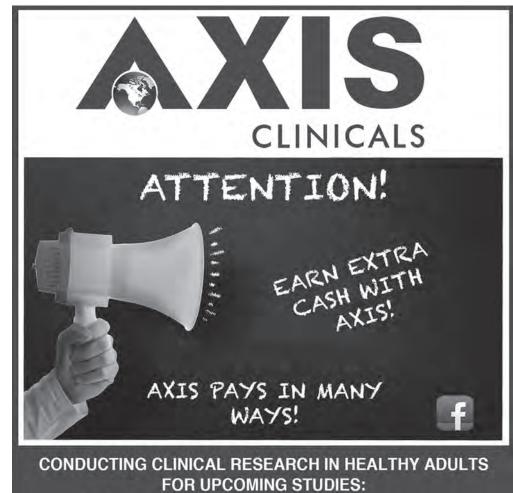
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**SPORTS** 



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Fans in the Ralph Engelstad Arena watch the UND Fighting Hawks take on the Minnesota Gophers on October 20, 2017 after waiting six seasons since the arch rivals last matchup.

## Saturdays are for the boys

#### ...or are Fridays?

Kyle Kinnamon Dakota Student

The University of North Dakota Men's Hockey team has been a top program in the nation for almost its entire existence. The commitment to consistency and excellence sets the program apart from the rest of the teams. While North Dakota has been consistent over the years, the team seems to have a stigma of being a Friday team more so than a Saturday team. Meaning, North Dakota has performed better on Fridays compared to Saturdays.

Many fans have thought that it has been an odd year this season, with North Dakota performing seemingly better on Saturdays compared to Fridays.

man, the 2014-2015 season, North Dakota has actually performed better on Saturdays than Fridays. Over the last four years, during the regular season, North Dakota is a combined 33-17-6 on Fridays and 44-11-5 on Saturdays.

In the 2014-2015 season, North Dakota performed significantly better on Sat-Looking back at the urdays than Fridays. seasons since this year's North Dakota went senior class were fresh- 10-6-1 during Friday

777-4845

games and 15-1-2 during the Saturday games.

In the 2015-2016 season, the National Championship season, North Dakota dominated both nights consistently, but still ended up perform-

being mediocre on both Dakota has been a Saturnights throughout the day team in the last four and 10-8-1 on Saturdays. So far this season opening NCHC series North Dakota has domi-

season. North Dakota seasons. The numbers went 8-6-2 on Fridays, are there to prove it. After splitting the

with Colorado Colnated on both days, but lege, Head Coach Brad

"It's not like we don't prepare for Friday nights. It's one of those things where teams come out very hard on Friday night. We've got to make sure we do all the different things that give us a chance for success."

Brad Berry, Head coach

ing better on Saturdays than Fridays. North Dakota ended up going 13-3-2 during Friday contests, and 15-2-1 during Saturday games.

During the last season, the National Championship hangover season, North Dakota ended up

can only find the back Berry had a say in the of the net more so on Friday's performance Saturdays. North Dakota is 2-2-1 on Fridays so far this season and the recent schedule they went 1-0-1 against the Wisconsin Badgers, winning on Friday this time and tying on Saturday.

The stigma of North Dakota being a Friday team more so than a Saturday team has been going on at least since I have personsity of North Dakota, find a way to win on

versus Saturday per-

formance argument. "It's driving us crazy," 4-0-1 on Saturdays. In Berry said. "It's not like we don't prepare for Friday nights. It's one of those things where teams come out very hard on Friday night. We've got to make sure we do all the different things that give us a chance for success."

North Dakota aims to be consistent on both ally been at the Univer- nights this season, and

"The domination North Dakota has shown on Saturdays this season has been shocking to some fans because of the myth of North Dakota being a Friday team."

> one or the other. North Dakota has played well both nights, but now has to find a way to bury the puck on Fridays instead of just Saturdays.

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Kyle Kinnamon, Staff writer the 2015-2016 season. both nights, not just on The domination North Dakota has shown on Saturdays this season has been shocking to some fans because of the myth of North Dakota being a Friday team. The sudden shift to winning on Saturdays has been different for the fans **Kyle Kinnamon** is a staff writer and team. But in actualfor Dakota Student. ity, nothing has changed He can be reached at for North Dakota. North kyle.kinnamon@und.edu