Dakota Student

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## A Celebration of Diversity

#### **Editorial Board**

**Dakota Student** 

In the past, the Dakota Student released special edition issues of our newspaper as a way to highlight athletic achievement or occurrence: a hockey championship, the Potato Bowl, etc. The issues served as reminder that despite our frigid surroundings, there exists at least one reason to persist.

This special edition is not an escape, and it does not center on athletic achievement. Instead, this issue seeks to examine a troubling trend slowly creeping across campus.

There are groups of marginalized students who are continually and systematically defunded, underserved and displaced because they have the misfortune of falling outside the perspective of the status quo.

students identify in many ways: immigrants, refugees, women and victims of sexual assault. They have different nationalities, religions and beliefs. They speak different languages, love regardless of gender or sexuality and vary in skin color.

Simply stated, these students are diverse. And rather than celebrate their diversity, some at the University of North Dakota have neglected these stucombining and consolidating them smaller and harder-to-find locations on campus.

Support groups for these students have been relegated to the farthest corners of the university, where the underfunded entities have lost directors, staff administrative and support.

This marginalization does unnoticed, especially to us at the Dakota Student.

This special edition will do what many UND administrators and others in power have failed to do: highlight the resilience of students who, for one reason or another, feel underappreciated, neglected or forgotten here in Grand Forks, North Dakota — an area President Mark Kennedy once ironically referred to as, "The Great White North."

## "We the People" of UND

André M. Washington

Dakota Student

On Tuesday, February 20, a campus-wide email invitation for the University of North Dakota's 2018 Experience Survey arrived in the inboxes of the UND community.

Delivered by Cara Halgren, Dean of Students and Vice President of Student Affairs and Diversity, the mass email reads, "I invite you to take a moment to complete this survey about your general perceptions of diversity and inclusion on campus."

Halgren leads Goal 5 of the ONE UND Strategic Plan. Goal 5's intention is to foster a welcoming, safe and inclusive campus climate. broader social patterns."

"In a general sense, diversity is everyone being invited and included in the conversation, and also having an equal voice in the conversation," Halgren said.

Typically, every year a campus-wide invitation for UND's Experience Survey is sent out. Following the survey, a UND committee assesses and sums up the results and UND's Diversity Factor is released.

In recent years, UND's Diversity Factor - the level of diversity awareness and acceptance on the UND campus - has described UND students' understanding of diversity as lacking both "substance" and "a sense of

Halgren is determined that UND's Experience Survey provides ter footing for UND to approach and deal with issues of diversity.

"As we better under-

stand UND's diversity factor, we can take the necessary steps. hopeful then that students, staff and faculty may see a difference here at UND," Halgren said. So far, here are the necessary areas that UND is addressing in dealing with issues of diversity.

UND has not filled the vacancy of the Associate Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion position which Sandra Mitchell resigned from due to incompatible visions for UND diversity.

Halgren said, "We're looking at filling that void from a different angle, possibly internally, possibly via a faculty fellowship. UND has a few people who would serve well as a diversity faculty fellowship." UND's Women Cen-

ter currently has no director, losing both Kay Mendick and Amber Flynn within the last year.

"Budget cuts and buyouts happened and there wasn't a succession plan for the Women's Center, but we're working on it," Halgren said.

The director of the UND's Pride Center, Chris Schlarb, who went by the pronoun "they" instead of (s)he, did not pass their probationary

period of employment. people

are not a fit here at UND," Halgren UND's budget for any aspect related to diversity seems to be decreasing. Halgren said,

wouldn't say that the budget for diversity is decreasing. But I will say that it isn't increasing." \$5000 in incentives are

being offered to encourage the UND community to participate in UND's 2018 Experience Survey.

"Whether UND is ready or not for diversity, it's already here," Halgren said.

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## Smaller departments struggle to attract students, face consolidation

Diane Newberry

Dakota Student

Ric Auman, an anthropology major in his junior year, still mourns the anthropology department's loss of former flagship Babcock Hall. "There's a lot of memories there for me," Auman said. "That's where I usually sleep." The department's move to its current position in O'Kelly Hall was a cost saving measure; it simply didn't make sense anymore to heat an entire building for such a small program. In a particularly chaotic time for the university, a lot is left up in the air for departments such as anthropology who have dwindling enrollment and resources.Last fall, in an attempt to combat low enrollment, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences Debbie Storrs proposed the creation of a new School of Global and Cultural Studies, which would absorb the anthropology department, philosophy department, American In-

dian studies, languages and

Aulveri

women and gender studies.

"The idea was to not eliminate any majors," Brad Rundquist, interim department chair of American Indian studies, said. For now, the controversial plan has been put on hold.

"While there has been positive response from many faculty, there is not sufficient interest across units for us to move forward at this time," Dean Storrs said in a January 28 email to faulty. "However, we remain challenged by low enrolled courses in many departments, the trend of declining demand for some majors, and administration needs across small academic units."

Interim chair of the anthropology department, Jeffrey Weatherly, says the department is "not going in a good direction." Currently, there are about 28 students registered as anthropology majors, down 10 from only two years ago, and about half the size of the department's peak.

Though the plans to combine with other departments

are stalled for now, Weatherly said changes are going to need to be made regardless. Currently, scheduling classes for the department is "chaotic," which makes it difficult for students to plan their own schedules. Though the department has been hit hard by budget cuts (leading to the loss of two faculty members), Weatherly said the main concern is still enrollment.

"Given the enrollment right now, if I had those two faculty back, I wouldn't be able to fill their

classes," Weatherly said. As a student, Auman can

see the department shifting. "You can feel it," Auman said. "You can feel it literally kind of decaying slowly. They try to hide it pretty well, but there's always that one professor

However, Auman still has faith and passion in chosen department. praises the faculty and thinks the main problem may be marketing.

who tells you all about it."

"I think the only difficulty in terms of the classes being offered is advertising because the classes are so awesome," Auman said. "We had a very good turnout (for upper-level classes about the Aztec, Maya and Inca) because we made fliers about it and those classes had more people than ever before."

Though visibility might be one of the main problems for smaller departments, Rundquist said this is a difficult problem to address for the American Indian studies department.

"We're really in a holding pattern currently," Rundquist said. "We haven't done a lot of promoting of the major. It's kind of hard to market something when you're not sure what it's going to look like."

Auman said he feels as though the University of North Dakota isn't valuing these departments as much as it should, privileging majors that are perceived as producing more lucrative careers. As an immigrant who came to America at the age of 15, Auman says he sees a stark difference between the goals of the education system of his native Philippines and the goals of American universities.

"Everyone there is seen as an equal," Auman said. "It's not because they are seen as moneymakers. It's because they are seen as individuals. It's not because, 'Oh, this department makes a ton more money. We should support this department.' No. They're seen as individuals and they look at them as they are, and I think that's what's missing here - an overlapping of disciplines."

Those in the humanities are starting to worry if they will slip through the cracks in a system that seems to value monetary results over disciplinary diversity and sharing of knowledge. Jeffrey Weatherly says he sees "a real push at the state level and maybe at the cultural level" toward purely vocational education.

In the coming years at UND, it appears that smaller departments, particularly in the humanities, are going to have to prove their worth to both administration and prospective students. For people like Auman, however, they already have.

"(Anthropology) me a different perspective on the world," Auman said. "It's not even about competing about who's the smartest. It's about learning. It's continual learning."

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



Diane Newberry / Dakota Student Ric Auman is an anthropology student at UND.

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## One year later

UND administration has yet to address racist social media posts

Jacob Notermann

Dakota Student

Are students to blame for misconduct, or is an institution to blame for refusing punishment? In fall 2016, social media was the focus of the University of North Dakota after two racist incidents

occurred on Snapchat. The first was when a group of white students took a black female student's phone and had, without her knowledge, posted a picture with the caption "locked the black bitch out." The picture had been posted using the black student's Snapchat account. According to the student, she was unaware of the picture until her friends had told her well after its posting. In the following days, various students of color and student organizations held a "Zero Tolerance Rally" outside Twamley Hall, with at-

dent Mark Kennedy. The second occurrence involved another Snapchat picture with a group of white students wearing black faces with the caption "Black Lives Matter." This time, it was with their own phones. None of the students

tendees including Presi-

involved in either of the posts were punished. Kennedy wrote in a university-wide email that he wanted to seek a proper response without infringing on the First Amendment rights of the students.

still felt that there was sity of Alabama student "The challenge we all

face is to find the balance between wanting to eliminate expressions of racism and bigotry and supporting the free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment," Kennedy wrote after the second occurrence.

According to the UND Code for Student Living, "A student is expected to show, both within and outside of the University, respect for law and order, personal honor, and the rights of others. To further strengthen the sense of community at the University of North Dakota, we affirm the following: (1) That everyone be allowed to work, learn, and live in a safe, caring environment; (2) That everyone learn about, understand, appreciate, and respect varied cultures; (3) That everyone matters; (4) That all individuals be respected and treated with dignity and civility; (5) That everyone continue to share in the responsibility of making UND a better place."

It goes on to say that students are "subject to civil law and civil authority."

Riley Hallaway, a UND communications student, produced a documentary, "The Atmosphere," on the original Snapchat picture and its effects on campus. In it, the student whose phone was taken said she stopped going to classes and her grades slipped after the incident.

There is no prong of the Code's test that passes. And yet, the university



In a September 2016 photo that circulated on social media platforms, UND students posed in black charcoal masks with the caption "Black lives matter."

nothing, under their own jurisdiction, they could do. In regards to these actions being unpunishable under the Constitution, it isn't uncommon for universities to punish and or expel students who post racist content on their own personal social media accounts.

According to the New York Post, a Univerwas expelled in January after posting a racist rant that frequently featured the N-word.

According to The Harvard Crimson, Harvard rescinded admissions to 10 incoming freshman after a private group chat featured students posting racist and vulgar memes. In March 2015, a video of a University of Oklahoma fraternity singing

a song that featured the N-word surfaced. The fraternity was kicked off campus and two students were expelled.

These stories, as well as the two from UND, were covered on local and national news platforms. According to students in "The Atmosphere," these are rarely one-time occurrences. Non-white students can be regularly subjected to racist conduct both online and on-campus.

Meaning, if the university wants a difference in racial conduct on-campus, the Code of Student Life will need to be legitimized.

Jacob Notermann is a staff writer for Dakota Student. He can be reached at jacob.notermann@und.edu

## Critics of the #MeToo ovement lack insight

Stephanie Hollman

Dakota Student

When the New York Times published an exposé revealing decades of sexual harassment accusations by media-mogul Harvey Weinstein, the floodgates were opened. The report detailed first-

hand accounts of varying degrees of harassment of all types of women in the industry: from high-power actresses to the assistants in the Weinstein Company, Weinstein's Oscar-winning production studio. Along with these allegations, the Times report also included eight previously undisclosed settlements with women who accused him of sexual harassment and unwanted sexual contact.

The phrase "Me Too" was initially coined by civil rights activist Tarana Burke in 2006 to raise awareness of sexual harassment prevalence. Following the Weinstein scandal in October of last year, the phrase morphed into a social media hashtag with a single tweet by actress Alyssa Milano that said: "If you've been sexually harassed or assaulted write 'me too' as a reply to this tweet." According to CBS, nearly a million stories within 48 hours emerged accompanying the hashtag,

igniting a movement.

emerged, victims viewed

Up until the stories

their experiences with sexual harassment and assault as something to be kept private and unspoken-something that they would be ashamed of acknowledging. The stories empower victims and lets them know that they are not alone by learning that the harassment that they go through is frighteningly common.

With the empowerment that came out of the movement, however, came the critics who denounce it, simply because they don't understand what the survivors want. Yes, it would give the survivors some satisfaction to publicly shame the perpetrators. More importantly though, is their hope to not let any inappropriate behavior become a societal norm. This is done by warning everyone, men and women alike, to respect the boundaries of relationships by watching what they say and do. Doing so prevents catastrophic reper-

cussions of their actions. On social media, there have been complaints by benighted critics who say that the hashtag has become excessive. As with issues of politics and other important world issues, critics are triggered when the famous and powerful, whom they choose to follow, share their own thoughts and opinions in favor of the movement

accounts. social media As Americans, they, like you and I, have the right to express their opinion on the matter, despite their place in society. Critics should not condone those who voice their opinions, especially if their issue with it can easily be solved with a click of the "unfollow" button. The conversation about sexual harassment and what is and is not appropriate needs to attract as much atten-

tion as possible so that it becomes the unusual, rather than the norm.

Of course, there are incidents that take place in which the accused genuinely does not know the line between what is and is not appropriate behavior. A manager at a Grand Forks hotel, who will remain unnamed, says that reports of harassment are not uncommon. However, when they do occur, the manager approaches the accused in a way that does not put any blame on them (as they are only allegations), but informs them that the behavior that they were accused of is considered inappropriate and would not be tolerated in the workplace. This approach, which defines strict lines for the uninformed minds of some without severely reprimanding the them, will not excuse the behavior of the others, but it does alleviate

some of the problems occurring across industries.

#MeToo This ment needed to happen because society needed to understand the magnitude of the problem. Uncovering this societal issue was a revolution in itself.

Stephanie Hollman is the opinion editor for Dakota Student. She can be reached at stephanie.hollman@und.edu



## Grand Forks isn't diverse, but it can be



Bilal Suleiman is a columnist for Dakota Student.

#### Bilal Suleiman Dakota Student

The term "diversity" lit-

erally means variety, or a range of different things. In this sense, the Grand Forks community is quite diverse. Our population includes everyone from Native Americans to those with descendants from Europe and Southeast Asia. The multitude of courses offered at the

University of North Dakota has always attracted students from all over the world. These days, we have seen an influx of people from Somalia, Nepal, Bhutan and various war-torn countries in the Middle East. That is quite the variety, especially in such a land-locked and geographically isolated part of the nation.

As you drive down University Avenue, you

can see that diversity on display. Small cliques of fraternity boys and sorority girls make the trek from Greek Row to Gamble Hall. A gang of Air China students huddle together near a garbage can, smoking cigarettes. A squad of Saudi Arabian students chatter animatedly while waiting

for the bus. A group of

school-spirit filled African

students can be seen at

Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Despite this outward expression of diversity, I don't feel like Grand Forks is diverse. I have a hunch that if you asked some of those groups of students whether they thought Grand Forks

nearly every UND event.

is diverse, they'd reply with a resounding "NO." It's not due to lack of variety. We've got plenty of variety. No, the problem comes from within. Diversity is an attitude. It's treating every person you meet equally, despite their

background. It's asking, not assuming. It's meeting someone different from you and thinking "I wonder what they can teach me." It's seeing the foreign student in your class and striking up a conversation and putting aside your preconceived notions of who they might be. It's being curious.

In that sense, Grand Forks isn't very diverse. Compared to the rest of North Dakota, it is certainly more so. Grand Forks natives who make it out to the Twin Cities for the first time are often astounded at the amount of different cultures coexisting in one city. Many people from Grand Forks know almost nothing about cultures other than their own, and this is not their fault. When you've never gone more than a few hundred miles from the place you were born, it's tough to imagine a world other than the one you've known. It's easy to assume that your way of life is the best way when you've never experienced another.

It's hard to fathom that the groups you see on the Discovery Channel are real, living people. From behind a screen in our living rooms, they just become another show: interesting and exotic but not real. It's hard to internalize that those are physical people with hopes, fears and dreams, just like you and me.

Despite how different these people may seem, I assure you that they are indeed real people with real emotions. The only difference between us is that we were born in North Dakota and they were born in places beyond Grand Forks. They didn't have any choice in where they were born. Nobody does. We could have just as likely been born to villagers in a third world country. We see the differences between us without noticing that we are vastly more alike than not. We scoff at strange practices, like eating live scorpions or drinking cow's urine. To the people who partake in those practices, however, getting drunk and watching people pass a piece of hard rubber to each other while skating on thin metal blades is equally as perplexing. It's all about your perspective.

I think North Dakotans have a tougher time than most with adapting this perspective. Few of us have had meaningful, candid conversations with people of other cultures. Even fewer of us have traveled overseas and experienced another way of living. To obtain actual diversity in Grand Forks, we need to actively break out of our shells. We need to stop fearing people and practices that are out of our comfort zone. We need to embrace the unfamiliar and make it familiar. It's not us-versus-them. It's us - humanity - versus bigotry and close-mindedness.

> Bilal Suleiman is a columnist for Dakota Student. He can be reached at bilal.n.suleiman@und.edu

## Female power in "Black Panther"

Jill Morton

Dakota Student

The film "Black Panther" premiered in theaters just a week ago and has since dominated the box office and the hearts of fans everywhere. In this Marvel superhero movie, a king moonlights as the Black Panther and fights crime primarily in his home country of Wakanda.

The movie broke tons of records, such as having the fifth highest opening for a film of all time

The shocking thing is that even though the main character of the story is a male, a lot of the action and fighting is actually done by the three secondary female characters.

In recent years, there have been tons of movies with female leads or at least powerful female roles. A few examples of films that include them are "Star Wars," the "Hunger Games" and "Wonder Woman." "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" is the third highest grossing movie of all time and it has a female lead.

A lot of people used to say that nobody would want to watch an action movie about a girl. Apparently that's not the case anymore. Women can be just as tough as men in these action blockbusters.

One great thing that the "Black Panther" and "Wonder Woman" do well is how they represent women. The women in these films are warriors, not like the sexual objects that they are reduced to in a lot of movies. according to Vanity Fair. When "Wonder Woman" first came out, I remember seeing an article that talked about how the costumes were based off traditional Roman armor as opposed to lingerie. In her film, "Wonder Woman" is wearing a suit of armor, not just fancy underwear, which is very different than what has seemed to become the norm.

Right at the beginning of "Black Panther," the Black Panther goes on a little rescue mission for his love interest. He's fighting all the bad guys with ease until he sees his girl and then freezes. As soon as this happens, his second in command, a woman, comes to the rescue and finishes fighting off the rest of the bad guys by herself while he's still standing there immobilized by his girl's captivating beauty.

This is a great scene because it sets the tone for the whole movie. In the two hour film, we see over and over again the women saving the men or, at the very least,

fighting alongside them. "Star Wars" is another great example of how a film can empower women. At the end of "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," we see a young woman, Rey, fighting a nemesis, Kylo Ren, all by herself. Decades ago, this would not have been written and featured in a movie.

As a female, it's pretty satisfying to see these tough women fight for what they believe in. When I was little, I saw a lot of movies about princesses always waiting for their prince to save them. That can be a bad idea to introduce to young girls.

If a little girl only ever sees ladies on TV as damsels in distresses who do nothing but wait for some handsome main character to come and save her, why would she think there are any other options for her when she grows up? I grew up watching Disney princesses like Sleeping

sang and snoozed around until a random guy they've never met sweeps them off their feet and whisks them away to a fictional happily-ever-after. Pretty weird if you think about it.

It is such a breath of fresh air to see strong women who are the new heroes that everyone looks up to.

Beauty and Snow White who After being awed by the moves and integrity of the women of Wakanda, I can't wait to watch even more female-led action movies in the coming years.

> Jill Morton is a columnist for Dakota Student. She can be reached at jill.morton@und.edu

### Letter to the editor

sive and most of the time, it's lonely and isolating work. But the ability to write - and write well - is one of the most fundamental skills for those entering the workforce. Alumni regularly identify the ability to write well as one of the most important and enduring skills from their education. Writing is a skill worth developing, and it is, therefore, a skill worth investing in.

I am appreciative that the Dakota Student recently explored how choices are made to invest student fees. As the article mentions, the Writing Center is an area that relies on student fees to support student writers, and I want to provide some perspective and clarity on what these fees mean for the services provided to student writers.

At the Writing Center, we believe that writing is a process. There really isn't such a thing as a "good writer." A good writer, rather, is a good reviser. Consultants in the center work with writers through this process of revision in free, one-on-one consultations on writing from any discipline. Students regularly comment on how helpful working with a consultant can be at every stage of writing.

In fact, 94 percent of students surveyed indicated that they felt more confident after working with a consultant. One student wrote, "The writing center IS the most helpful resource

I use. I walk in not under-

Writing is hard. It's time standing what to do and the world, there needs to consuming and labor inten- 15 minutes later I am con- be adequate support in

fident and ready to write!" Writing Center consultants work with students both on campus and from a distance. We use student fees to pay our undergraduate consultants, so we depend on the money to continue offering enough appointments to serve students' needs. Because we use student fees for this sole purpose, any reduction in our budget translates directly to how many appointments we can offer. A choice to reduce the budget, therefore, means students will face reduced access to an im-

portant academic resource. Unfortunately, the students most impacted are those who are historically underserved and underrepresented on campus: multilingual students, international students, first generation students, nontraditional students and online or distance students.

Due to budget cuts, UND's ESL Resource Center was forced to close last year. As a result, the Writing Center is currently the only academic resource center that supports multilingual students. The center plays an essential role in supporting their goals.

More than a third of our appointments serve multilingual speakers and international students, number that has steadily increased over the last few years. As we continue to grow our program offerings and recruit talented individuals from around

place when students arrive.

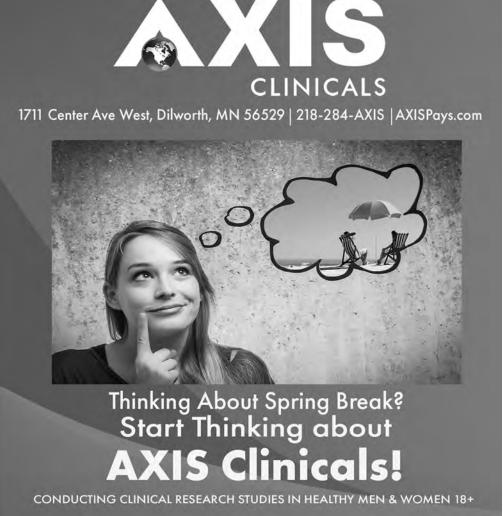
An international student writer recently provided the following feedback: "As international student the Writing Center means a lot to me. I've been to it many times and always found what I was looking for. I hope this program continues for as long as the university exists."

Student Government and SFAC have supported the Writing Center for many years and helped make it possible for us to provide an important service and adapt to better support students' needs on campus. I can't express how important that support has been for the Writing Center, and how necessary it is for the future. Students need to continue to communicate with leadership about the services and resources they value. I'm lucky - I hear about how important and impactful the Writing Center is every day from students and faculty.

One student comment sums it up: "the writing center consultants are so knowledgeable in the field of writing. In a very short time, I learned what will be part of me for life."

This is what we love to hear, but it's especially important for students to reach out and share those stories in insights with leaders, so spaces like the Writing Center can continue to offer impactful learning experiences.

Anna Kinney is the coordinator for the UND Writing Program





## B. J. Armani's drag

**Show** A night celebrating the spectrum of sexuality



#### **Aimee Coons**

Dakota Student

I had never been to a drag show before, but when a good friend invited me to come to B.J. Armani's Cabaret I couldn't pass up the opportunity. We arrived at the American Legion in East Grand Forks a little after the show started. I was totally surprised to find that all the seating was taken and there was standing room only. B.J. Armani's Cabaret Drag Show Burlesque Theater has been putting on monthly shows at the American Legion for the past several years. The show is extremely community oriented. All proceeds from the shows go to various local charities. The dancers, costumes, makeup and hair were all phenomenal. The energy in the room was on fire. Everyone there was excited to see the performances. The performances themselves were amazing. They ranged from fun, to sultry to statement making. I loved them all. My favorite performances were the ones that made the statement that it was ok to be who you are. It is ok to be gay, bisexual or transgender.B.J.

Armani is the Master of Ceremonies of the shows. She made everyone there feel welcome. Even though it was my first time being there, I felt at home. Armani spoke of acceptance and community. She let everyone know that if support was needed, they would be there to help in any way they could. The Cabaret Show has an event at Level 10, downtown in Grand Forks on March 14 at 9 p.m. Their regular show will be performed at the American Legion on March 24 at 9 p.m. Cover charge is ten dollars and I suggest going early if you want a seat! I highly encourage everyone to support the Cabaret Show, no matter what your orientation. It is important to support everyone in our community and B.J. Armani's Cabaret Show is a beacon for acceptance.

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

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# There's a North Dakota size gap in the WCHA

**Dakota Student File Photo** 

was ejected from the final

game in the third period

on a questionable call from

the referee with a 10-min-

ute game misconduct for

checking from behind.

not end how we wanted at

all, losing 6-1 in playoffs,

I am grateful for this op-

portunity," Flaherty said.

"All the new people I have

met along the way, and

the new memories. They

will never replace those

made at UND but they are

part of the next chapter."

UND didn't bring as

much excitement on the

ice that she would have

liked but it was all the

little pieces of North Da-

kota that made her chap-

ter here, exactly what she

anticipated and more.

UND and all of the life

long friends and lasting

memories I made there

so when news broke that

But then, an op-

arose.

"I loved my 2 years at

Flaherty's journey at

"Though the year did

UND's Rebekah Kolstad outpaces Ohio State's Lisa Bruno during the program's last home game before being suspended by the University.

## Former UND Women's hockey players looking back at their first season in their new homes

Allyson Bento

Dakota Student A year ago today, in the less than sparsely filled Ralph Engelstad arena, the Jumbotron game clock read 9:04 and counting. The Finnish standout freshman, Emma Nuutinen, opted not to pass to her teammate and took her shot on net, that shot would send her team into the seventh consecutive WCHA Final Face off appearance. Today the Ralph Engels-

tad Arena is much quieter. The off-white walls of the tunnels that lead athletes through the labyrinth underneath the concourse that were once filled with honors, photos, awards and memories now only

reflect the unfortunate pot lights. With close observation you can see the holes in the walls where the screws that held up the framed memorabilia from the storied program. A program that was dissipated in such a poor manner that stunned the program, the fans, the community and those who

Now, a program of women divided across the nation get ready for different ends to their season, some of which have already come to a close, with no comfort from the idea that they may never be in the place of success they once were.

dreamed of one day be-

ing on those very walls.

Mankato native Rebekah Kolstad finished her season this weekend with

falling in two games to Ohio State. Mankato finished their season at the bottom of the WCHA standings 5-28-1, far from the 16-16-6 record she left at North Dakota. To add bittersweet insult to injury, Kolstad played against former teammate Charly Dahlquist, who scored in game one when Ohio State shut out the Mavericks 6-0.

At UND, Kolstad developed into a powerhouse player who wasn't afraid to throw around her body to get the desired result. From the freshman struggle to her finally breaking into the player she is today, she credits much of this success to UND's program.

"Being at UND for two years was the greatest decision of my life," Kolstad said. "Freshmen year there was no doubt that I struggled with Hockey, the pace learning systems, and the expectations the coaches had of me. Sophomore year I finally felt confident in myself on the ice, I knew what I needed to do and I knew that I could do it. I was familiar with all my teammates and understood how they played which helped build chemistry between us. I knew how the coaches wanted me to play and what my role was and I was able to do it successfully."

Since moving, the struggle has returned.

"After I committed to MSU I was very excited to continue playing and to be able to play in my

Minnesota State Mankato hometown," Kolstad said. into her senior season. always been this way. ton College. In that best "I was excited because I knew that I was a power- ent may not be in green though that last year at this fensemen Taylor Flaherty ful collegiate player and I just finished an outbreak year for me personally, but when the season started it was very difficult to get in the swing of things. I felt like I was reliving my

North Dakota's taland white but they will be proudly representing UND in the WCHA Final Faceoff this year. North representation Dakota includes Patty Kazmaier award finalist, goaltender

"It is a little strange of three series, junior detime I was playing Ohio State to get into the Final Faceoff," Dahlquist said. "This coming weekend will be my third consecutive year heading to the Final Faceoff and not only

"The off-white walls of the tunnels that lead athletes through the labyrinth underneath the concourse that were once filled with honors, photos, awards and memories now only reflect the unfortunate pot lights."

Allyson Bento, Dakota Student sports editor

freshmen year, I was with all new teammates and coaches. I didn't know what everyone expected of me or how the coaches wanted me to play. This season was definitely a struggle for me, but towards the end of the season I was moved onto a line with a couple girls,

Tristen Truax and Hannah Davidson, and they made me feel like I was my sophomore self all over again." Having dealt with the struggle before, it is no surprise that she was able to adapt and become an

even better player to carry

Kristen Campbell (Wisconsin) and forward Charly Dahlquist (Ohio State).

"When I committed to Ohio State in the Spring of 2017 I was not aware of what I was walking into," Dahlquist said. "I was not aware that I was about to be a part of a team that has the potential to win a National Championship. The Ohio State University has not been to the Final Faceoff in a extremely long time and to be a part of a team that is continuing to break records is amazing."

mont Catamounts have ended their season after This high performing being swept in the Hockey Ohio State team hasn't East tournament by Bos-

that but I am the only one

among a variety of other conferences, UND women's hockey program orphans are either gearing up for playoffs or settling into their offseason.

take a chance on a kid that didn't have a huge role The University of Ver-

from my team that has ever our team was cut I felt gone to the Final Faceoff. completely lost," Flaherty said. "I was seri-Although I wish UND was ously considering hanging still alive and I sometimes wonder "What could have up the skates for good." been," I am now apart of a team that is so special." portunity Over on the east coast

> Allyson Bento is the sports editor for Dakota Student. She can be reached at allysonmarie.bento@und.edu

"I thought those chances were gone and that no coaches out there would **SPORTS** 

## #SetTheExpectation



Members of the UND soccer team recently signed certificates for the "Set The Expectation" pledge, which states that sexual assault and physical violence are never acceptable.

## Founder of "#SetTheExpectation" Brenda Tracy helps UND athletes take the pledge

#### Madison Overby

Dakota Student

On Tuesday, February 6, University of North Dakota student-athletes filed into the ballroom at the Memorial Union for the spring all studentathlete speaker. Groans and eye rolls were apparent throughout the room. The all-athlete speakers are normally not something that everyone looks forward to.

Brenda Tracy walked on stage and addressed the audience right away. "I know this isn't where everyone wants to be right now," Tracy said. "But listen up because I'll try to keep it as short as possible and what I have to say is important." As the group silenced,

Tracy was the victim of a horrific gang rape carried out by four men in June of 1998. Three of the men were collegiate football athletes, two of

she began to tell her story.

court, she was falsely told by her attorney that she had no case. The men were going to walk without charges and she was going to end up paying a lot of money for nothing. So she dropped the charges.

The men were allowed to go free, the two Oregon State football players were dealt a one game suspension from head coach Mike Riley. Riley was quoted saying that the two men were "good guys who made a bad choice."

However, when Tracy started talking publicly about the sexual assault she met up with Mike Riley again. He apologized to her personally and then asked her to speak to his current team at the University of Nebraska.

In an article written by John Canzano for The Oregonian, Mike

"I'm looking at the males in the room, not because you're the problem but because you're the solution."

Brenda Tracy, Founder of "#SetTheExpectation

scary what that means to a lady," Riley said. retribution "Maybe would have helped that. I don't know. I just reminded our team here recently about those

in The Oregonian about his process following alleged crimes from players on his teams and what he's learned over the years from both the game and Brenda Tracy. to say 'guilty' when

said. "There are deals, you have to look at it case by case, and gather information. I don't necessarily think you have to wait for the courts

whom played on the Oregon State football team. When Tracy attempted to bring the case to it still haunts her. It's so sad to me that in a blink of an eye."

What I hope I've you're talking about their life and others learned through the guns, when you're talking about their life and others learned through the guns, when you're talking about about their life and others ally doing here?" Riley en, when you're talking about about their life and others ally doing here?" Riley en, when you're talking about their life and others ally doing here?" Riley en, when you're talking about their life and others ally doing here?" Riley en, when you're talking about their life and others ally doing here?" ing about assault, DUI, drugs and you usually know enough to know that these guys have disrespected the program." UND, Tracy

turned to the male student-athletes.

"I'm looking at the males in the room," Tracy said. "Not because you're the problem but because you're the solution." Every one of the student-athletes in the room took a pledge, with Brenda Tracy's guidance, to be part of the solution. A pledge to not be a bystander in an issue as big as sexual assault. And finally, a pledge to stand up for anyone who may be in a compromising position and set the expectation.

Madison Overby is a sports writer for Dakota Student. She can be reached at madison.overby@und.edu

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Help Wanted:

Do you enjoy being with young children? Zion is looking for a nursery care provider on Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon to provide a safe, fun environment for children to play while parents are in Sunday School or church. Zion's nursery cares for children from birth up Apply by emailing Zion United Methodist Church at office@zion-umc.org or calling 701-772-1893.

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