



Dakota Student

Inside this issue

Urban Meyer

3

Power of One

5

Football

8

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PARKING PANDEMONIUM

Parking pass prices increase while availability to students decreases



Missy Iio / Dakota Student

UND parking leaves students with less time in the classroom and more time looking for a place to park.

Madison Feltman
Dakota Student

The beginning of the 2018-2019 academic year also marks the sale of parking permits for the impending semesters. Parking has always been considered a hot topic here at UND. In past years, space was always considered limited

for students who live both on and off campus. Over the summer, drastic changes were made to the parking here at UND both positive and negative. On the lighter side of things, new lots were constructed and existing lots were stripped and repaved such as the lot south of Columbia Hall. On one hand, UND parking services started

"There's too little parking for the volume of students either living on campus or commuting to campus"

Amber Rene, UND Student

out on a bad foot with students this academic year when they increased their prices from \$155 to \$190 for an off-campus student permit. Other changes that were made include the major change in the parking ramp, as levels four and five were changed from student parking to 'pay as you go' parking which has been considered a huge loss for students.

"The changes in the ramp to remove all S Permit parking and changing it to pay-as-you-go parking shows how the university is focused on mak-

ing more money versus making life easier for the students paying tuition" senior Amber Rene said.

"There's too little parking for the volume of students either living on campus or commuting to campus," Rene said. Parking space on campus has always been considered limited especially by students. With the new changes space continues to dwindle for both off-campus commuters as well as students who live on-campus in residence halls. With parking being limited near the residence halls many

students are forced into parking in an overflow lot. This lot is farther away and can cause a potential danger to students as they walk at night as well as in the below freezing temperatures that are right around the corner. A vast majority of UND students have been affected by these parking changes and are requesting that action be taken in changing the system to bring more benefits to the student population.

Madison Feltman is the News Editor for Dakota Student. She can be reached at madison.feltman@und.edu



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Many students off campus are discovering a shortage of S permit parking areas

Kennedy angers key donor

Madison Feltman
Dakota Student

As temperatures heated up over the summer months, so did things here at UND. In early May, Kris Engelstad McGarry, daughter of Ralph Engelstad and trustee of the Engelstad Family Foundation requested an interview with the Grand Forks Herald in which she explained her faltering relationship with the University, specifically her relationship with President Mark Kennedy.

Kris went on to explain that her relationship with the university has been declining as a result of how her family has been treated by past and current administrations. McGarry noted specifically that her relationship with current UND President Mark Kennedy has been “quite hostile at times.”

She explained further that Kennedy had been unaccommodating and that he only seemed interested in different investment opportunities in their most recent conversations. McGarry also commented that her relationship with Kennedy was further damaged as a result of him releasing the news that he was interviewing for a different job in Florida. Kennedy countered McGarry’s words by saying that he had always been accommodating and cordial.

Multiple topics were discussed during the in-



Trevor Alveshere/ Dakota Student

The Engelstad family foundation donated one of Grand Forks greatest landmarks to the Univeristy of North Dakota, the Ralph Engelstad Arena.

interview with the highlight being one of UND’s greatest landmarks, the Ralph Engelstad Arena, which was gifted to the University by the Engelstad family and opened in 2001. McGarry pointed out that the arena had been in use by many different administrations in the last 15 years and that the issues involving the Ralph had only recently become a bigger problem. Kris mentioned that Kennedy had accused the family of ‘creating brand confusion’ as the Sioux logo still remains in the arena, she went on to explain in a later interview that her relations with University are not affected by the ‘nickname.’ The stem of the issue with the

Kennedy countered McGarry's words by saying that he has always been accommodating and cordial.

Madison Feltman, News Editor

arena comes from a disagreement between the two parties as to how the foundational agreements are worked out. Later in May the two parties met in what was a “successful” meeting in discussing new plans for the Ralph Engelstad Arena agreement.

The Engelstad Family Foundation has continued their generous support to the University throughout the year despite controversy. Records show that since

2011 the foundation has donated more than \$12 million to UND. McGarry commented that her relationship with the Alumni Association itself remains in good standing, yet Kris also commented that the funding to the University may in fact be in jeopardy.

Since the initial interview, the two parties met to discuss the multiuse agreement of the Ralph Engelstad Arena which was noted to be

a “successful” meeting. The two parties agreed upon a new agreement that will be turned over in 2020. All parties involved were happy with the way things ended up. The Engelstad Family Foundation also recently disbursed \$1 million as a part of its annual distribution that is a part of their agreement.

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The United States of Football

Ohio State University coach, Urban Meyer suspended for three games for mishandling abuse allegations against former assistant coach, Zack Smith

Bobby Feaster
Dakota Student

Welcome to the United States of Football! The land where winning football games matters more than domestic violence abusers. The latest domestic violence incident in sports happened in Columbus at the Ohio State University, and with this incident came the exposing of Urban Meyer. As many sports fans know, Meyer has been a highly successful college football coach, but now people know exactly what he is about and that is strictly winning football games.

Meyer is a fraud and he has continued to show that time and time again. It only takes a quick google search of Meyer's history to see that he does not care what kind of man you are, despite the fact that he preaches being good men above all else. During his tenure at the University of Florida, he had upwards of 20 players get arrested for crimes and I'm not even counting the players who were arrested for underage drinking or possession. Ohio State University has clearly shown where their loyalties lie.

It's embarrassing that an institute of higher education, promoting equality for all, conducted an investigation of a coach who lied about retaining a known domestic violence abuser, and their final decision was a three game suspension. Not to mention the fact that two of the first three games are essentially warm up games for the great Ohio State football machine. This is the same institution that fired their previous legendary coach, Jim Tressel, for the infamous tattoo for team apparel scandal. For Ohio State back then, that



Photo courtesy of Creative Commons

Urban Meyers has been suspended for three games for neglecting to handle domestic abuse claims of his staff.

Sadly, the world of sports is riddled with domestic violence scandals and the punishment is never enough.

Bobby Feaster, Columnist

was crossing the line and they could not stand for that type of behavior. But fast forward to today and the issue of keeping a known domestic violence abuser and lying about it only equals a three game suspension. The

actions of Meyer and the university are despicable. Worst of all, the Buckeye faithful immediately came to Meyer's defense and now they will do their best to bury this scandal as long as Meyer keeps winning games.

Remember that a man on Meyer's staff, Greg Schiano, was kept out of a head coaching job by the University of Tennessee fans because of Schiano's knowledge of the Sandusky scandal at Penn State. While that action by University

of Tennessee fans was admirable, it is largely accepted that the fans of Tennessee were expecting Jon Gruden as their coach and Schiano was a letdown.

I am willing to go out on a limb and say that this event will not

prevent Meyer from getting another job in the future, and I'm sure he'll be more than willing to bring back the domestic violence abusing coach because Meyer wins football games. I believe that everyone deserves a second chance, but knowing about the crime and blatantly lying about it makes you a scumbag human.

Interestingly enough, everyone's favorite organization, the NCAA, has remained oddly silent during this Ohio State incident. The NCAA has no problem sticking their nose in everyone's business no matter what the case, but in this instance I haven't seen them do or say a single thing regarding Meyer and Ohio State's handling of this situation. And in all honesty, the NCAA should keep their nose out of this situation because it is arguably an Ohio State issue. But that same argument could be made for many other scandals in the past where the NCAA was more than happy to involve themselves and hand out sanctions.

Sadly, the world of sports is riddled with domestic violence scandals and the punishment is never enough. What's even worse is that usually if the player or coach or staff member is a valuable member that person serves their short suspension, the news cycle changes over and that individual gets to move on with little to no pushback from their alleged or proven crimes. I hope that we as young people will be able to stop these terrible domestic violence incidents and also hold the people responsible who commit these heinous acts.

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Students look forward to Spring...Fest



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

JUUL vapor alternatives (pictured here) allow an alternative for nicotine users on the go.

Quinn Robinson-Duff
Dakota Student

There used to be a time where the diligent students of the University of North Dakota could come together for a joyous occasion and celebrate the finale of the long and grueling winters of the north. Where a once vibrant, bright and lustful environment was witnessed in the opening months of a hopeful school year will soon dramatically turn to a dark scene of despair caused by the relentless

has been dismantled and the sun itself has hibernated not to show its true form for months. A look outside shows snow drifts piling and the sound of a thousand terrifying screeching hyenas cry out as the tremendous speed of the winds howl against your window frozen with frost. It does not appear to end. As March approaches, it would seem that the worst is over. After all, it is spring. But this false sense of reality must have been formulated by the countless

sense of summer. It's April, school is almost done and snow covers the ground once more. All hope is abandoned. Then a blast of what seems to be an unforeseen miracle occurs. The sun rises and the birds chirp with great excitement. Spring comes and at last a week, filled with hyper extended growth of trees and flowers as warmth comes out of nowhere. Thoughts of happiness begin to storm through the minds of the students as an overwhelming feeling of ecstasy

time to celebrate their first winter. Springfest was our last hope. It was something to look forward to. Where friends and families could come together in loving harmony to sing songs and be free of the shackles of winter. It was nirvana. Springfest was the Alamo, the last stand before finals where students can forget about their stress

and power through triumphant victory to bring back those grades that some need to get desperately up. Springfest allowed for bonds to be formed with shared long lasting friendships. Springfest created memories, memories that would last an eternity. Springfest created something so much more for the students. It created

an idea of hope to be looked at during the darkest hours of the winter. Hope that allowed prosperity for the youth in Grand Forks and the future of Grand Forks and the University of North Dakota.

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Springfest was our last hope. It was something to look forward to. Where friends and families could come together in loving harmony to sing songs and be free of the shackles of winter. It was nirvana.

Quinn Robinson-Duff, Columnist

frigid temperatures called winter. It's November, students must begin to adapt like a bear in the wilderness they must gather supplies needed for survival in the harsh bitterness of the darkness. The wildlife slowly diminishes, leaves fall to their certain death and temperatures drop past the point of absolute discomfort, but the worst is yet to come. December, finals are here and students are stressed, the only hope nestled in their minds is the fleeting four week break to help nourish a false hope of sanity into their life. Once returned, the reality sets in. It appears that light

hours spent inside studying and binge watching every show on Netflix. Winter does not end. Spring break just ended and the snow is still there. After spending a week in a tropical paradise the human body is not ready to return to the bitterness. Weeks go by, false hopes are everywhere. The temperatures seem to have risen and the snow begins to melt while a sense of euphoria sets in. The thought of dusting off your summer clothes comes to mind but wait, a look at the forecast and the temperatures drop, you see this upcoming weekend that a snowstorm is coming to delude your false

races through their veins. But only with a few weeks left of school, there is no time to spend with friends outside, no time to cherish the good times, no more free time as finals approach. Advantage must be taken of this joyous occasion before students part ways. It is at this time where the students, like the bear after an extended winter, must rise up out of the darkness in search for what has been missing through all of those lonely months. For seniors, this is the last time many of them will be able to see each other again before going off to the real world. For freshman, this was a

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Maddie Ardelean
Dakota Student

Grand Forks, North Dakota is the last place one might expect a thriving, multi day LGBT+ Pride event, but they would be underestimating the LGBT+ and ally community here. Grand Forks Pride has socials, movie screenings, a vendor park, a drag show, spoken word poetry and informative panels. This is the fourth year pride has been in the Grand Forks community and it has grown every year.

Frank Galbraith, an assistant organizer of Pride, believes it is an important event for this community.

“This town needs more exposure and it opens people’s eyes,” Frank Galbraith said. “It opens the eyes of the smaller towns to the idea that love has no gender.”

Sarah Galbraith, also known as B. J. Armani, has been hosting drag shows in the Grand Forks/East Grand Forks community for 6 years. She is also the organizer of the Pride drag show.

“Visibility is increasing every year,” Sarah Galbraith said. “More and more businesses have reached out to us about being involved.”

Every monthly drag show she hosts gives all of its profits to various community charities.

“We’ve sponsored sports equipment for over 100 kids and done shows to benefit

the humane society,” Sarah Galbraith said. “This one is going to support the Pride organization.”

Sarah Galbraith has been working on increasing the number of inclusive events in the town. This year she is organizing a New Year’s Eve party, a drag show and dance, that is completely LGBTQIA+ inclusive. She also sees the change having a few inclusive events has made in the town.

“The Ramada is donating 80 percent of the cost of the New Year’s Party so we can give more to charity,” Sarah Galbraith said. “Five years ago, they turned us away. They wouldn’t have anything that said LGBT in their space, but they got a new manager and she reached out to us asking what she could do to help.”

Kyle Thorson, another driving force behind the event and the owner of Archives, believes it’s essential to have spaces in Grand Forks for LGBT people. To Thorson, the most important thing about having Pride in Grand Forks is that it creates a safe space for LGBT people to celebrate.

“One man who came to the vendor park today said he hasn’t been out of his apartment after work in three months until he came here,” Thorson said.



A pride flag blowing in the wind.

Photo courtesy of istockphoto.com

Thorson’s favorite part of Pride?

“Katie Wirsing, the spoken word artist,” Thorson said. “There’s such a sense of community at her event. We can’t have a parade here because 10 people would show up and it would be lame. But this is the same sense of community.”

“All the community needs is one voice and everyone is ready to help,”

Sarah Galbraith said.

That’s the story of Pride in Grand Forks. One person spoke up to another, saying what if we did this, and it grew from there.

“As soon as we mentioned the idea to businesses, they were asking what they could do to help, Sarah Galbraith said. “All it takes is one voice.”

The one voice of Pride has had an impact on the community far beyond a

one weekend event. For the first time, the Grand Forks Target had a section of Pride items during June (which is Pride month). Archives Coffee House has started putting out rainbow umbrellas and other pride symbols to let the community know it’s a safe space. Romantix will soon begin carrying items to help transgender people begin their transition safely.

The impact of a few dedicated people on the Grand Forks community has been far more than just Pride. Their work has made the Grand Forks community a safer and more welcoming place for all.

Maddie Ardelean is an A&C writer for Dakota Student. She can be reached at maddie.ardelean@und.edu

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Kings and Queens of Grand Forks

Devon Abler
Dakota Student

Hair was high, personalities were loud and love filled the American Legion Saturday night. The venue was filled to capacity as the community came together for B. J. Armani's Cabaret. Performers from the Grand Forks area and the Minneapolis/Saint Paul area came together to put on a show highlighting the different talents the performers possess.

B. J. Armani is a UND alumni who began to get involved in drag 15 years ago.

"I am a straight drag king," Armani said. "I came up to UND and went to my first drag show and went 'Wow, this is amazing.'"

The Cabaret was nothing but amazing. Each performer showcased their individuality with each performance. Many performers had started as volunteers, then discovered the king or queen inside of them as time passed.

"We are family here, volunteers and performers together," Armani said. "Most of our performers start as volunteers then slowly transition into a performing role."

Drag has been a part of Grand Forks history for many years. The first shows were started by former UND educator Chris Stoner, also known by stage name JanessaJay Champagne. The Ten Percent Society is a group that strives to be a safe place for all sexualities and genders, educate the community and promote advocacy within the

region. Shows began to decline and transitioned into the Cabaret that we know today.

Five years ago, Armani started B. J. Armani's Cabaret with the goal of giving back to the community. The proceeds made from the shows go to a different organization each month. Organizations that have been impacted by the Cabaret have been Toys for Tots, Circle of Friends Humane Society and different shelters.

The shows are also a place where everyone can be who they are. Acceptance and love are key components to the shows. Drag itself is one of the most unique forms of entertainment.

"Drag is the most fluid genre of anything," Armani said. "You take a song, you put a costume, you put on makeup and it's yours. Drag is the most fluid way you can express yourself on stage."

Professional performers are not the only types of performers found in the Cabaret. Two



Miss Bad Karma performing a number during the B. J. Armani Cabaret Pride Drag Show

Devon Abler/ Dakota Student

"Drag is the most fluid genre of anything, you take a song, you put a costume, you put on makeup and it's yours."

B.J. Armani, Drag King

friends, Jessica Porter and Charles Vondel, were born and raised in North Dakota and have been key advocates and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Performing a duet together to open the show, they both became involved in the show in different ways.

"This is a community

that I believe in," Porter said. "I became involved because of Charles."

"I started helping with B. J. Armani through the Ten Percent Society," Vondel said. "I'm an officer in the organization and we had shows once a month, but when they started to decline, I began to look for different shows

here in Grand Forks and found the Cabaret."

The two began to volunteer for Armani and became a part of the family. Armani describes the show as a family.

"When you volunteer with us, you are a part of the family," Armani said. "We are here to support one another, to love one another. If you need

something, someone has your back."

A family indeed. From volunteers taking care of the performers during the show, to hugs being given to one another, there was no doubt that this community has tight bonds. Having a strong community does come with difficulties.

"These shows are

impossible without our volunteers," Armani said. "Without our volunteers helping by the door, helping with set up and take down, we would not have a show. If you want to support this community, come volunteer."

For those interested in the Cabaret, the next show will be on Sept. 15th at the American Legion in East Grand Forks. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show begins at 9 p.m.

Devon Abler is the A&C Editor for Dakota Student. She can be reached at devon.abler@und.edu

Queen of Soul Gets Her Wings

Aretha Franklin dies at age 76; remembered for more than her awards

Maddie Ardelean
Dakota Student

We lost a legend the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin. She was born March 25, 1945 in Memphis, Tennessee. Franklin began her career singing gospel in her church in Detroit, Michigan. At 18, she began a secular career recording for Columbia Records. She achieved commercial fame on Atlantic Records starting in 1966, with hits like Respect, Chain of Fools and Think. By the end of the 1960's, Franklin had been crowned the Queen of Soul, a title she would prove she earned for the rest of her career. Franklin went on to have 112 Billboard charted singles, including 20 number

one R&B singles. She won 18 Grammy Awards over her career and is still one of the best selling artists in history. She is a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, a National Medal of the Arts, Presidential Medal of Freedom awardee and was ranked by Rolling Stone as the number one musical artist of all time.

Franklin was also known as a great lover of opera and once famously stepped in for Luciano Pavarotti to sing the opera aria "Nessun dorma".

Franklin was a lifelong civil rights and women's rights activist. She frequently covered the groups' payroll and performed at benefits for them. She was also a strong

supporter of Native American rights and frequently would quietly support their activist groups.

Franklin had struggled with her health throughout her life, dealing with weight issues and smoking problems. She became very ill, entering hospice care on August 13, 2018. She died on August 16, 2018 at age 76 in Detroit, Michigan, her near-lifelong home. The world lost a true queen and a role model of strength and kindness, but her legacy lives on in her music, which will continue to inspire future generations.

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UND Men’s Hockey welcomes fresh faces



Christian Wolanin (pictured left) shoots puck on the net during a game at the Ralph Engelstad Arena last season.

Nick Nelson/ Dakota Student File Photo

Freshman class stacks up to big UND talent

Kyle Kinnamon
Dakota Student

It is almost that time of year again here in Grand Forks. The University of North Dakota Men’s Hockey team takes the ice for their 72nd season. North Dakota looks to hang their ninth NCAA Championship banner at the Ralph Engelstad Arena. North Dakota is a hungry team with loads of young talent waiting to show off what they can do. The 2018-2019 North Dakota team resembles the championship roster of the 2015-2016 team.

While North Dakota lost many good players to graduation and the National Hockey League after the 2017-2018 season, North Dakota is confident in their ability to fill those holes in the lineup with the addition of the incoming freshmen class.

North Dakota has seven incoming freshmen looking to crack the lineup and make their mark. North Dakota has brought in four forwards, one goalie and two high profile defensemen. Both of whom were drafted by the Ottawa Senators in the first and second rounds of the 2018 NHL Entry Draft. The class as a whole has four players drafted by a NHL team. These young men have proven themselves on their former teams, but now they are ready to prove themselves to the proud fans and members of the UND Men’s Hockey Team.

The freshman forward group has four incredibly talented players that

could make an immediate impact for North Dakota;

Gavin Hain: The 18-year-old, 5’11” 197-pound forward out of Grand Rapids, Minnesota played for the U18 U.S. National Development Team this past season. Hain showcased his ability playing for the U.S. team. Hain had 15 goals and 20 assists in 61 games for the U.S. team. He notably added a goal in the 2018 World Junior Championship. Hain was also drafted by former North Dakota head coach Dave Hakstol and the Philadelphia Flyers in the sixth round of the 2018 NHL Entry Draft.

North Dakota player comparison: Ludvig Hoff

Jasper Weatherby: The 20-year-old, 6’3” 206-pound forward from Ashland, Oregon does not just use his size and frame on the ice. Weatherby produces points to go with an intimidating size. Weatherby scored 37 goals with 37 assists in just 58 games for the Wenatchee Wild of the British Columbia Hockey League. Weatherby was drafted by the San Jose Sharks in the fourth round of the 2018 NHL Entry Draft. If Weatherby can produce just a fraction of what he did last season, North Dakota is in luck.

North Dakota player comparison: Rhett Gardner

Mark Senden: The 20-year-old, 5’9”, 190-pound forward from Wayzata, Minnesota just wins. Senden captained two teams to championships, the first

being for Wayzata High School when Wayzata won the 2015-2016 Minnesota State Hockey Tournament. The second being last season, when he lead the Fargo Force to the United States Hockey League Championship. Senden put up 15 goals and nine assists in 60 games for the Fargo Force. Senden is a complete team player who does whatever is necessary for the betterment of the team.

North Dakota player comparison: Nick Jones

Jackson Keane: The 21-year-old, 5’9”, 165-pound forward from Denver, Colorado plays the game how it should be played. Keane put up 8 goals and 16 assists in 49 games for the Penticton Vees last season. Keane is one of three North Dakota freshmen played for the Penticton Vees.

North Dakota player comparison: Johnny Simonson

The freshman defensemen may be a small class, but they do not lack in talent or ability.

Jacob Bernard-Docker: The 18-year-old, 6’0”, 185-pound offensive defenseman from Canmore, Alberta does it all. Bernard-Docker put up 20 goals and 21 assists in 49 games for the Okotoks Oilers last season, en route to being drafted 26th overall in the first round of the NHL Entry Draft by the Ottawa Senators. Bernard-Docker is the only right-handed shot in the entire North Dakota freshmen class. Look for Bernard-Docker to be a key player on the

left circle on the power-play this upcoming season.

North Dakota player comparison: Christian Wolanin

Jonny Tychonick: The 18-year-old, 5’10”, 177-pound defensemen from Calgary, Alberta may be undersized, but can still produce on the ice. Tychonick scored nine goals and had 38 assists in 48 games last season for the Penticton Vees, putting up nearly a point per game that season. Tychonick was drafted in the second round by the Ottawa Senators in the NHL Entry Draft. Ottawa hopes their future defensive pair can build chemistry at North

Dakota first. Tychonick hopes to showcase his ability in a deep defensive group at North Dakota this season.

North Dakota player comparison: Troy Stecher

The lone goalie looks to compete for the starting job with sophomore Peter Thome and senior Ryan Anderson.


Adam Scheel: The 19-year-old, 6’3”, 197-pound goalie from Lakewood, Ohio plays consistent in net. Scheel boasted a .927 save percentage and a 2.08 goals against average last season in 45 games for the Penticton Vees. He was the backbone of the Vees roster. Scheel can compete

for the starting job and should see some ice time this season.


North Dakota player comparison: Cam Johnson

The North Dakota freshmen class have proven themselves on their former teams. Now it is time for them to step up and play for the University of North Dakota and the greatest fans in college hockey.

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Cross Country Steps into the Spotlight

Madison Overby
Dakota Student

The University of North Dakota Cross Country team kicks off their season this Friday, Aug. 31 in Fargo, North Dakota at the 2018 Bison XC Open.

It will be a good opportunity to start off strong in the Summit League, running against two of the top three teams in preseason rankings, South Dakota State (SDSU) and North Dakota State (NDSU).

Preseason rankings were announced last week, and both the men and women are coming in ranked fourth.

This is much different from the recent years in the Big Sky conference. Last year, both the men and women’s cross country teams were ranked towards the bottom of the conference.

Junior captain, Hannah Oscarson, was happy but not satisfied with the preseason rankings.

“(Fourth) is a good starting point,” Oscarson said. “But a starting point is what it is. We are looking to build on that throughout the season and hopefully finish higher than that at the conference meet.”

Erica Eades, also a junior, agreed with that idea.

“We’re in a good spot,” Eades said. “It would be nice to beat some of our biggest rivals, NDSU and SDSU.”

The team carries with it the confidence of a good summer of training and mileage. A lot of people on the team were able to run more miles than they had in the past and lay a foundation for a successful season.

“The most important thing you can do as a cross country runner is use the summer to build a base for your season,” Oscarson said. “A lot of the team has been putting in miles and working really

hard. I’m excited to see what we can do.”

Another thing that will be different about the Summit League compared to the meets that UND ran in the Big Sky conference is the distance of the races.

Every race that UND ran last year besides the first meet and the NCAA regional meet, were five kilometers for the women and eight kilometers for the men.

This year, the men will continue to run eight kilometer

races throughout the season, but the women will bump up to six kilometers at all of their meets other than the Bison XC Open on Friday.

With the increasing distance, endurance throughout the team will continue to grow in importance.

One thing that is different about the cross country team compared to other sports at UND is that everything in the summer is essentially on your own. There is no team camp or captains’ practices, besides a couple days before the season starts.

“In the future, one thing that would really help us grow as a team would be a team training camp, which is very common for cross country teams across the nation,” Eades said. “It would help us strengthen our bond as a team as well as add a little bit of a check-in point mid-summer to make sure everyone’s feeling good and

getting their training done.”

Both Eades and Oscarson said a team camp has been an idea that they had thrown around in the past but want to look into it more seriously in the next couple years.

The season to come will be one where both the men and women reach new heights, and with plans in place to build the team even more, there’s no telling how far up these teams can reach.

“We’re ready,” Oscarson said. “We’ve got solid groups of men and women that have more talent and drive than this program has seen in a while. We can’t wait to get out there and show the Summit League what we’re bringing to the table.”

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It’s comeback season

A promising recruitment year brings hope for a successful season

Alex Kelly
Dakota Student

The Fighting Hawks Football team held their annual Fan Fest Thursday night at Memorial Stadium. Hundreds of fans of all ages came by for player autographs and free pizza as excitement builds for the upcoming season.

The Fighting Hawks will kick off the year this Thursday in Grand Forks against Mississippi Valley State.

Redshirt junior defensive end Mason Bennett expressed his confidence in the team going into the season and expects to win week one. However, he did acknowledge the challenge week two will present as they travel to Seattle to take on a Washington Huskies team that is ranked sixth in the preseason Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) Associated Press poll.

As for the remainder of the schedule, UND will continue to play mostly Big Sky conference teams but is technically competing as an independent team within the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) as they begin their transition into the Missouri Valley Conference in 2020.

2017 was a

Cole Reyes celebrates with teammates after a touchdown at the Alerus Center during last season

disappointing year for the Fighting Hawks coming off of a conference championship in the previous year. Much of their misfortune can be attributed to a plethora of key injuries including star defensive back and NFL draft hopeful Deion Harris who missed the entire 2017 season with a torn achilles.

The team expects Harris to be back and 100 percent along with the rest of the rejuvenated roster.

The offense will have a new face under center as the program announced that the junior transfer from Keaton Studsrud was a staple in the Fighting Hawks program for years but it seems they will

still be in good hands with Ketteringham. Ketteringham is said to be a cerebral player that is always

a threat to run and has a strong arm.

Even if you decide, for whatever reason, that you’re skeptical of the passing game, rest assured knowing the best backfield duo in the FCS will be back and better than ever. Running backs John Santiago and Brady Oliveira both return for their final year in kelly green and white. The thunder and lightning combo has combined for at least 1,000 yards rushing in each of the last three seasons and have their sights set on the stars.

Barring any injuries similar to last year, the Fighting Hawks are shaping up to be a force to be reckoned with, and if they can string together some wins they could find themselves with an at-large bid to the playoffs.

Unfortunately, because UND will be independent this season they will not be able to win a conference title. Nevertheless, it should be a fun year and a comeback season like you’ve never seen before.

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Nick Nelson/ Dakota Student File Photo

The team expects Harris to be back and 100 percent along with the rest of the rejuvenated roster.

Alex Kelly, Web Editor