

The Spectrum

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY | FOR THE LAND AND ITS PEOPLE

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Honoring those who serve

North Dakota State University celebrated an early Veterans day



JOHN SWANSON | THE SPECTRUM

Flags were raised to celebrate Veterans Day.

Meghan Arbegast
Head News Editor

On Nov. 8, NDSU's Veteran Alliance Organization (VALOR) held a brief ceremony recognizing veterans and their families.

At 8:30 a.m., students, faculty and staff gathered in the Memorial Union to listen to Dr. Carol Cwiak, VALOR's faculty representative, give the opening remarks.

"I want to really thank all of you for coming today to help us honor veteran service," Cwiak started out.

After Cwiak thanked those who made the event possible, Vice-Provost, Laura Oster-Aaland, spoke to the crowd on the behalf of the administration.

"We especially, today, remember those veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice, giving their lives for our country," Oster-Aaland said.

Oster-Aaland went on to explain how grateful NDSU is to have VALOR, which is a group made up of staff, faculty and students.

The main purpose of VALOR is to advocate for all veterans on campus by enhancing the climate on campus to help veterans succeed.

Oster-Aaland also mentioned the Bison Veteran Student Organization that has been at NDSU for two years.

She explained that members within the organization are members of all military branches, including National Guardsmen, who are currently serving, retired and active-duty military members along with dependent family members.

"Family members are also to be remembered as

they serve as well."

Koster-Aaland went on to discuss a survey she found which explained that veterans compared to civilians are more likely to volunteer, vote in local elections, work with neighbors to solve issues throughout their community, contact public officials and give to charity.

"I know we all recognize the contributions that veterans and military personal make to our country in terms of the

Woolsey, who served 20 years in the Marine Corps, is now the Director of Human Resources at NDSU and is a member on VALOR's Advisory Board, a position he's been in for two months.

After thanking all veterans, students and families, Woolsey asked that everyone join him for a moment of silence remembering those who gave their lives protecting our country.

To get to know the

serve for a greater cause."

"We as veterans represent the very best of America. We bravely answered the call to serve in the finest military forces in the world and we've earned a dignity that comes with wearing a uniform and defending our great flag."

He exclaimed that no matter what war someone served in and no matter how long they served, they left safety behind to protect our country.

Near the end of his

the former United States Secretary of Defense under President Trump's Administration from January 2017 to December 2018.

"I knew at that time that he was an inspirational leader and I would follow him anywhere. I had many other opportunities to serve with General Mattis during the time."

To end his speech, Woolsey quoted General William Sherman on his farewell remarks to his army in 1865.

"As in war you've been good soldiers, so in peace as veterans, you will make good citizens."

After his speech, there was a bagpipe presentation of "When the Battle is O'er," which was performed by Jim Stoddard, Carol Haukebo and Meri Quanbeck.

Proceeding the bagpipe presentation, everyone gathered outside at the flag pole to listen to Taps and watch as the ROTC raised the flag.

During his speech, Woolsey described how Taps for veterans signals the end of the day.

"Maybe you can see why it's been so appropriately adapted to play at military members funerals as it represents the conclusion of their service to our country and their entry to rest."

Issac Hicks, a music major, played Taps while NDSU Army and Air Force cadets stood in formation as the flag was raised.

The event was made possible by Vice-Provost, Laura Oster-Aaland, the musician's, the Army and Air Force ROTC cadets, facilities management, the Memorial Union staff and the University Relations staff.

arms forces, but what we sometimes overlook is their active contributions to our communities."

"Clearly this level of community engagement is of value to NDSU as well and it aligns with our land-grant mission to serve the citizens of North Dakota."

After Oster-Aaland spoke, retired Marine Master Sergeant John Woolsey gave his commemorative speech.

audience, Woolsey then asked every veteran and family member to yell out when he called their branch of service.

"Even though as veterans I really don't personally know you, I may not know your name, I feel that we have common values together," Woolsey said.

"We all wore the cloth of a nation in the time of need. We are patriots willing to

speech, Woolsey mentioned that the Marine Corp's birthday was Nov. 10 and that the Marines started in Tun Tavern, Pennsylvania 244 years ago.

He detailed how he joined the Marines in order to leave his hometown in Connecticut to travel.

Woolsey's First Company Commander was four-star General James Mattis, also known as Mad Dog, who was also

"We bravely answered the call to serve in the finest military forces in the world and we've earned a dignity that comes with wearing a uniform and defending our great flag."

- John Woolsey, retired
Marine Master Sergeant and
Director of Human Resources

Volunteering opportunities

Ways to give back to the community



MEGHAN ARBEGAST | THE SPECTRUM

One of the many donation locations is in the Student Activities office.

Meghan Arbegast
Head News Editor

As the holiday season approaches, students can find many volunteer opportunities that will benefit the community.

The Giving Tree

The Volunteer Network at North Dakota State University along with Student Activities are sponsoring the annual Giving Tree program. Everyone is

encouraged to participate if they know a student, faculty or staff member who needs assistance providing gifts for their child/children. The deadline to register is Nov. 25. Anyone can learn more about the Giving Tree program through NDSU's Volunteer Network.

Fill the Dome

Fill the Dome is a food drive run by the Volunteering Network allowing everyone to donate nonperishable food items such as cereal, pancake

mix, pasta and other canned goods. Drop off locations include the Herd Shop, the Volunteer Network located in the Memorial Union, Minard Hall, NDSU Library, West and Residence Dining Halls and the Prairie Roots Food Co-Op. Donations will be accepted until Nov. 21 and with every food item donated (excluding ramen), anyone can enter a drawing for a chance to win Jimmy Johns and Caribou coupons. Every five items

donated leads to a chance of winning a \$20 Herd and Horns gift card or a \$10 Coffee and Waffle Bar gift card. Once the food drive is over, volunteers will fill the Fargodome with the donated items to see how full it is. Last year, 2526.03 ounces (\$339.12) were donated.

Coat Drive

Students can donate their new to slightly used coats during a coat drive held by the LEAD program through Residence Life.

The coats donated will go to the Gladys Ray Shelter and Veterans Drop-in Center which are both local community organizations. Individuals in need will be provided the proper gear for winter. Donations can be dropped off at the boxes located in each residence hall and in the Residence Life Office located in West Bison Court. The coat drive will end on Dec. 1.

Sock Drive

Operation: Defeat Cold

Feet is a sock drive which will provide homeless shelters throughout the Fargo-Moorhead area with socks. The sock drive will last until the week before Thanksgiving break. Donations can be dropped off outside of the Herd Shop, Family HealthCare, Moorhead American Legion, West Acres Bowl, Ignite Chiropractor and NAU County Insurance.

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Words Up?



Medical Examiner's Office. As a result, President Adele de la Torre of SDSU suspended 14 fraternities on suspicion of possible involvement. As of right now, authorities do not know what happened at the event that injured Hernandez. An extensive investigation is underway. Some of the fraternities were already suspended and under investigation prior to Hernandez's death.

Just Another Midwest Winter

An Arctic blast has made its way between the Rocky Mountains and New England this week, once again bringing its record-breaking temperatures and snowfall. According to the New York Times, it has caused school closings and the cancellation of 150 flights due to air mass. The National Weather Service and Prediction Center say the snow will begin to taper off Tuesday morning. Some states will reach negative temperatures. Even Fargo has been kissed by the winter weather, with snow covering the ground. Stay warm, it's getting cold out there.

Whatever they decide when the election of 2020 comes around, it will decide the fate of some 660,000 immigrants living in the U.S.

14 San Diego State Fraternities Suspended

Recently, a student at San Diego State University was killed after attending a fraternity event. According to CNN 19-year-old, Dylan Hernandez, was hospitalized the morning after, his roommate finding him "pulseless and apneic" said the San Diego County

estimated the pipeline leaked 383,000 gallons of oil in North Dakota. TC Energy, owner of the Keystone Pipeline, had employees working around the clock to clean up the spill. They recovered approximately 286,600 gallons of the oil that spilled. The affected portion was dug up and replaced over the weekend. The pipeline was approved to restart following repairs by the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration. The pipeline has always been a source of controversy, receiving a

variety of protests and opposition even before its completion.

American Dreaming

President Donald Trump's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, also known as DACA, reaches the U.S. Supreme Court. According to U.S. News, the court will decide the legality of ending the program which was

established by the Obama administration to protect against deportation for illegal immigrants brought here as children. Ending the program has been a longing desire for the Trump administration who, along with critics of the program, see it as a detriment to legal American Citizens. The contentiousness of this issue is so grand there is debate as to whether the Supreme Court even has a say in the

Nicholas Magnuson
Co-News Editor

Of Mice and McDonalds

On Thursday, Nov. 7 Landen Brocato, a freshman marketing major, ordered a caramel frappe from a local McDonald's. After sipping some of it and leaving it for a while, Brocato came back to find a dead mouse in his drink. Brocato told The Inforum he returned to McDonald's, got a refund from the manager and was asked to make a statement on the issue. He posted photos of his drink to Facebook and even got in contact with McDonald's corporate office and Fargo Cass Public Health office. McDonald's released a statement saying they are taking it seriously and are working with local health offices to figure out how it happened.

Leak Baby Leak

Keystone Pipeline, a pipeline that runs Canadian crude oil through North Dakota is set to restart just two weeks after a major leak. According to MPR, it's

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THE HIDDEN COSTS OF BEING AN ART STUDENT

Lessons learned from a second-year art student

Cassandra Tweed

Spectrum Staff

Working toward an art degree at North Dakota State is incredible. Renaissance Hall (where art and architecture students take classes) is gorgeous, the professors are helpful and you'll never forget the people you meet in Renaissance Hall. The only thing is, it's really expensive to take some required courses, leading an art student to realize there are a lot of hidden costs in being an art student that were not initially apparent.

Extra Cost of Art Supplies

No one necessarily tells an art student this, but a lot of money is put toward buying supplies. For example, an art student taking a drawing class at NDSU will have to spend roughly \$150.00 on all supplies needed for that one class. Though all the supplies can be bought in an all-encompassing kit (which is generally cheaper than buying all of the supplies individually), most of the supplies an art student ends up buying aren't even put to use the entire duration of the semester.

Group Projects

Within the department, group projects are often required. These projects help demonstrate that people can work well in a group together. The art department stresses that students may find themselves working with people in the future, so it's better they get the experience now.

What professors don't tell art students is that even though you're in college and everyone else you're working with is in college working toward a degree, some people choose not to do their part in the project. One person ends up picking up the slack since they don't want the whole group to fail or to receive a lower grade because of someone simply not doing the work that's required.

One other thing with group projects is that, sometimes, a group has to buy additional materials. Sometimes one person will purchase the materials because they're dedicated to doing well on the project. However, when that one person buys those materials and tells the other people how much it costs (hoping they will pay to split the cost) those other partners sometimes choose not to pay them back and the person who purchased all the supplies end up footing the bill for the whole project.

Time, Time, Time

On top of all the other homework for generals and other art projects a student has, they have to make sure their projects are completed on time. It can get hectic and it's sometimes hard to keep everything straight. A lot of art students I know, have mentioned that most of their free time is spent working on projects or homework for other classes. If we don't keep a strict calendar, some projects and other important assignments will sneak up on you.

With frustrations aside, I truly love working toward an art degree at NDSU. There are so many opportunities within this department. It's a wonderful community and I wouldn't want to be anywhere else. I am in no way trying to bash the art department. There are just some things that were never mentioned to me that I want to bring to light for others thinking about pursuing an art degree. The issues listed above are in no means unique to NDSU. Art students across the country buy their own art supplies and grapple with an individual's equal load for group projects. If passionate about what they're doing, art students take it in stride. A future of doing what they love and have set out to do after they graduate is in front of them.



The outside of Renaissance Hall located in downtown Fargo.

CASSANDRA TWEED | THE SPECTRUM

Spreading Kindness

It's free and always appreciated

Tabbitha Erceg

Staff Writer

These days, kindness seems to be hard to come across. The news is filled with stories of tragedy and destruction and only small bits of good news. Despite all this, it is important to remind ourselves that although there is bad in the world, there is also good, and sometimes it's where you least expect it.

Kindness for a cause

DECA is a club that exists in many high schools that focuses on future careers. The students involved in this club at West Fargo High School have been paired up with Grateful Cratefulls for a sales project. The sales project is to create West Fargo "KiND" apparel. West Fargo High Schools DECA and Grateful Cratefulls' goal through this project is to show and recognize the kindness

in the West Fargo area. T-shirts and sweatshirts can be bought online through the Grateful Cratefulls' website till November 15 or checks can be mailed to the high school. Paper orders will be accepted through February 24 and part of the profits will go to the high school. Continue to spread the kindness through West Fargo by purchasing a shirt or sweatshirt. Not only will you be supporting one of your local high schools, but also your own community.

An act of kindness

A woman and her husband who live in Moorhead were visiting the cemetery this past week to put flowers on the graves of her husband's parents and grandma. As they were visiting the graves, a woman stopped them and began a conversation.

She said she was visiting the cemetery a few days ago, putting flowers on some of the children's graves when she noticed there were some old fading flowers on some of the other graves. She explained that in seeing this she drove into the Fargo-Moorhead area and bought all new flowers for all of the graves. The couple who spoke with her said, "We were amazed and touched at her positive, kind and caring actions." The women most likely did not know most of the people buried there, but out of the kindness of her heart she chose to do something nice for them. Kindness is contagious, and you can help to spread it too. Do something nice for someone you care about, or even a stranger. Help to create good in the world, show people it's still there.

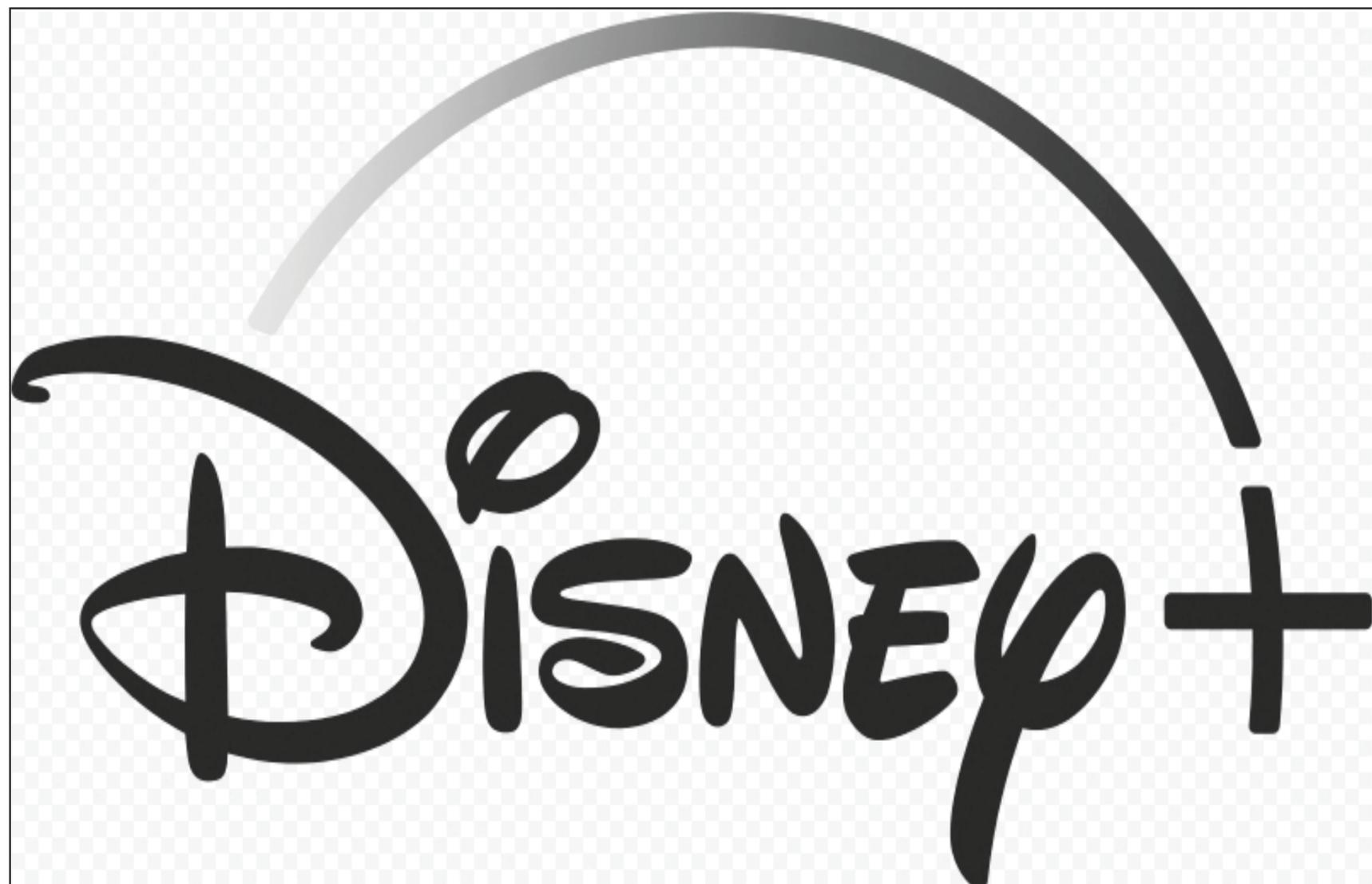


Spread kindness this holiday season.

FlickR | PHOTO COURTESY

Netflix and Hulu, make some room for this media titan

Disney+: A new streaming service rolls out November 12



Disney+ is the newest streaming service adding to the upward trend of on-demand entertainment.

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS | PHOTO COURTESY

Kalley Miller
Features Editor

Calling all ages, Disney+ a new streaming service created by The Walt Disney Company rolls out on November 12. Disney Fanatics and National Geographic fans alike can rejoice at the news of the media giants on-demand streaming service.

Wait, National Geographic fans as well?

Yes, you read that right. At first glance, the common person would assume that Disney is owned by The Walt Disney Company and that's it. Only after searching what the company owns will a person start to figure out a well-hidden secret that's in plain sight, the

existence of media conglomerates.

A media conglomerate defined by Wikipedia is a "company that owns numerous companies involved in mass media enterprises, such as television, radio, publishing and motion pictures." In fact, The Walt Disney company is one of the largest media conglomerates. A recent merger was with 21st Century Fox (The Walt Disney Company bought 21st-Century Fox for \$71.3 billion dollars). The deal was sealed in March of 2019, paving the way for The Walt Disney Company to take over rights and control of even more tv shows, movies, networks and even the streaming service Hulu.

According to Vox News, "Disney now owns Fox's 30 percent stake in Hulu. Since it

already owned 30 percent of Hulu prior to the Fox deal, its ownership stake in the streaming service is now 60 percent, making it the majority owner."

If you think of one company owning 21st Century Fox isn't a big deal let's take a quick look at what 21st Century Fox (a once independent media conglomerate before Disney purchased it) actually owns. Besides all the movies clearly owned and produced by 21st Century Fox other things controlled by the company are; 20th Century Fox, Blue Sky Studio, National Geographic, FX Network and Productions, FoxNext and more.

So, The Walt Disney company owns 21st Century Fox; What else? Other networks Disney has a

share in are ESPN Incorporated with a 80 percent share, ABC News and Freeform (both under Walt Disney Television), a 50 percent share in the A&E network (think A&E, The History Channel and Lifetime), a 50 percent share in Endemol Shine Group, and complete control of LucasFilm Ltd (think Star Wars), Pixar and Marvel Entertainment which was purchased, according to Investopedia.com, in August 2009 for \$4 billion.

In short, Disney owns everything from the corny Lifetime movies your mom tries to make you watch with her around the holidays to the entire Marvel and Star Wars franchise.

The days of The Walt Disney Company solely producing cute

cartoons of Mickey Mouse are over. This company owns a lot more than what meets the eye. This is how Disney+ (the new streaming service) can market entire Marvel, Pixar, Star Wars, Disney and National Geographic franchises to the consumer for a monthly price of just \$6.99.

Although, all of us can jump with joy with more entertainment being offered on-demand (goodbye commercials), one has to ask; How much control of the media market should be allowed before it's considered a monopoly? After all, with the proliferation of media conglomerates comes the power of only a select number of people in control of what hundreds of millions of people watch and lend their ear to.

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REVIEW: 'HARRIET'

Film shines when sticks to facts, falls short when adding embellishments

David Hoffman
Contributing Writer

"Harriet" is a movie following the story of the historical figure and American hero, Harriet Tubman (Cynthia Erivo). While this movie has a lot of strong and inspirational moments, this historical fiction movie is brought down by its fiction.

The review

When this movie stays historically accurate, it is gold. Harriet Tubman is such a strong and inspirational figure in American history, that it is surprising it took so long for her to get her own movie. However, maybe it should have stayed that way.

As I said, when this movie is sticking to Tubman's true story and not adding any Hollywood fluff, it is an absolutely amazing watch. To be able to get a better look at the struggles and challenges she endured,

as well as the amazing complexity and bravery of the underground railroad is baffling. The movie really puts into perspective what she did for this nation.

However, whenever this movie strayed from its source material, it was easy to tell. I understand it is a movie and all, and almost every real-life figure gets some "movie magic" touch-ups. I just think her true story is so good on its own that it doesn't need anything added to it.

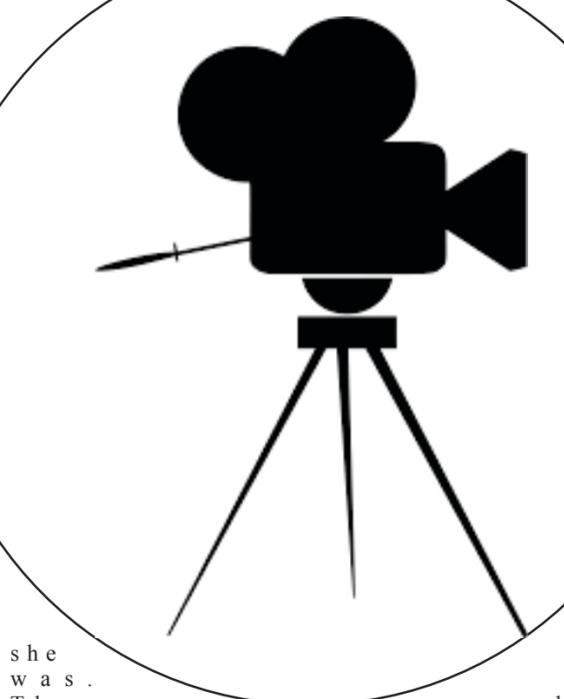
This movie is at its best when it tells the real-life story of Harriet Tubman, and there's not much more to say than that.

Overall, I give this movie a 6/10.

The plot summary (NO spoilers)

For those who do not

know the story of Harriet Tubman, here is a brief overview of who



she was Tubman was escaped

a slave in Maryland before she to Pennsylvania and became a free woman. From there she decided to risk everything to go back and save more people from slavery.

Over the course of several challenging years, she saved 70 people in this way and became an important figure in the movement to end slavery in America. She eventually went on to lead an all-black group of soldiers in the Civil War, as well as help freed slaves to adjust to life post-freedom until the end of her life in 1913.

The movie primarily focuses on her time escaping herself, as well as the 70 people she helped afterward. It goes into exploring how she

herself learned about and became an integral part of the underground railroad.

"Minty," as she is referred to before she becomes free, is determined to escape her master, Gideon Brodess (Joe Alwyn). One night she takes off alone at which point she is caught on a bridge between her pursuers. She jumps off to luckily survive and make it up to Philadelphia.

In Philadelphia, she meets William Still (Leslie Odom Jr.), a leader of an anti-slavery group and the underground railroad and Marie Buchanon (Janelle Monae), a lodging house owner. With their help she begins her task of going back for her husband.

After finding he has taken on another wife (because he thought Harriet was dead), she brings back much of her family instead. Gideon is furious at this point and devotes himself to hunting Harriet down.

'Dracula' sucks more than blood

Davies High School bit off more than they could chew

Heather Gades
Contributing Writer

My choral director in high school taught me one of the most important phrases for singing that my theatre director also cherished: "Diction is done with the tip of the teeth and the tongue."

Enunciate every consonant of that loud and proud and you've done exactly what it asks you to. Apparently, at Davies High School, they need a refresher course.

At Friday night's performance of "Dracula", hardly a word could be understood when a cast member would raise their voice even slightly. It didn't help that the microphones seemed to be incapable of registering and producing a clear, clean sound.

One thing I wish the microphones would have missed would have to be that God-awful screaming. Too frequent and far too loud when produced through the sound system.

It felt as though my breathing rate was slowed by a cloud of incredibly thick smoke that filled the theatre from floor to ceiling. At times I felt I needed a knife to cut through it and see the stage from my seat in the fifth row.

With a burning throat and my eyes watering (though maybe not just from the smoke) I struggled to make it to intermission and breathe clean air.

When you have to mop up sticky puddles at intermission, you should stop adding fake blood to the scenes. Some of it made sense. It's "Dracula" and he's a vampire, but miming beating a wooden stake through a person's heart with a hammer in hand is a bit much for a high school, if you ask me.

Lights pulsing and drum beating with the motion of the hammer were an added horror that pushed things too far.

Sadly, the hammer and stake weren't the only things that went too far. Having a literal Satanic representation of Dracula grace the stage was enough to make me whisper a prayer. The deep

voice that was layered within those scenes put me on edge.

Also, a fake severed leg and severed head made their own appearances which were shocking and over the top. It felt like the director, in an effort to push the edginess of Dracula, just mashed together as many scary things as they could think of. I have no idea how any of this was approved by the school board.

For the technical aspects, the set was bland and plain with a few memorable pieces. This would make for simple and easy scene transitions one would think.

Unfortunately, the transitions seemed to drag on and were too complicated for such a simple set. I understand the goal was to be able to use minimalism to create all kinds of different locations, but it felt sloppy and lazy.

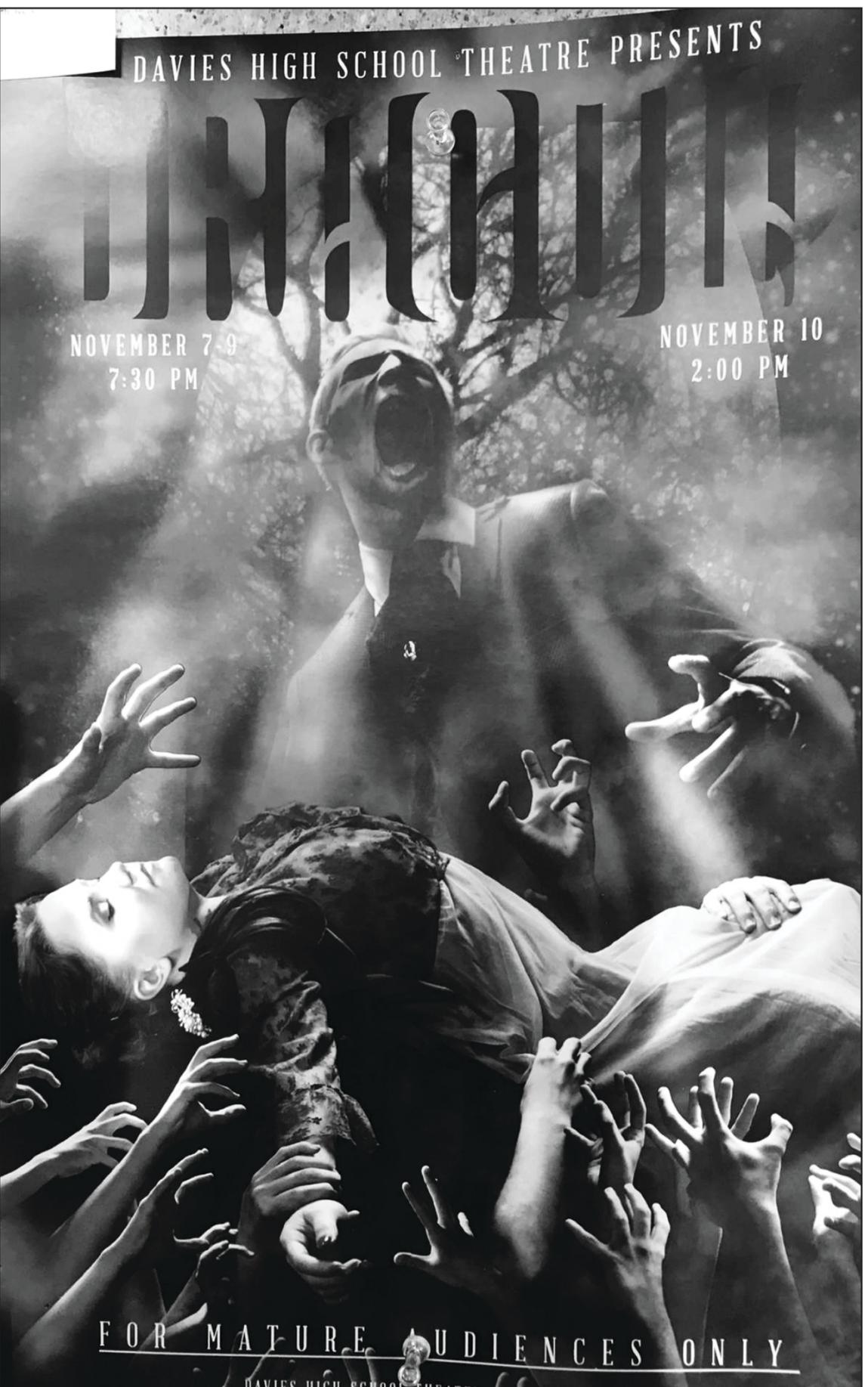
The makeup and costume department did very well with traditional outfits, neat wigs and hairstyles and unique face blemishes for each of Dracula's many shadow people. However, the shadows didn't wear socks or shoes which was disgusting and must have felt uncomfortable stepping in fake blood a lot.

Instead, their feet had veins drawn on the tops. A cool idea to show how being a vampire takes over your body but poorly executed. The 'veins' looked like the three-lined birds' feet many of us drew as children.

In all, "Dracula" was one of the most uncomfortable and horrifying shows that I have seen in a long time. I would not at all be willing to see this production again and feel bad for having suggested to my friend that she come along to see it.

Good luck with future shows Davies, please tone it down and remember: diction is done with the tip of the teeth and the tongue.

Up Next:
West Fargo High School's "Damn Yankees"
Friday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday at 2 p.m.



Too much smoke, too much blood and deafening screams are just a few of the downfalls of 'Dracula'.

SHELBY FEICKERT | PHOTO COURTESY

The Stack Up: 'Jurassic Park: Lost World'

How does the film stack up to the novel?



'The Lost World' came from pleas from fans.

PATRICK ULLMER | THE SPECTRUM

Patrick Ullmer
Contributing Writer

The book

The only returning characters from the predecessor were Dr. Ian Malcolm who had been implied to have been killed and Dodgson, an agent for a rival company intent on salvaging dinosaur eggs.

Crichton borrowed the title for this sequel from an older story of the same title by Sherlock Holmes' creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, which is credited as the first science-fiction story to feature humans interacting with dinosaurs.

The novel begins with Dr. Ian Malcolm revealed to have survived his apparent death in the first novel. There is a throw-away explanation, but it does not make sense.

If he had survived being

left behind on the island while everyone escaped, how did he escape?

And if so, how is he not under arrest by the Costa Rican Government along with all the others?

Malcolm is commissioned by a scientist, Robert Levine to seek a new "lost world" off the coast of Costa Rica, Jurassic Park's testing island. While Malcolm is eager to study dinosaurs with Levine, Dodgson is out to fill his pockets by stealing eggs from the island.

What happens throughout the book is a frightening, violent thrill ride. The book is full of dark humor, including one scene involving a raptor eating a man and enjoying the candy bar in the man's pocket as

well.

In the end, Dodgson and his team meet their just desserts (by becoming desserts quite literally) and Ian's team escapes once more to safety.

However, there is a catch to this. All the work Malcolm and his team have done are reduced to nothing, as the dinosaurs go extinct via a degenerative condition transmitted from sheep they had eaten.

The film

The film is very different from the book. Instead of taking place entirely on the island with two tiny teams working to take what they can from the dinosaurs, it features Malcolm leading a group to protect the dinosaurs from a corrupt

business corporation bent on exploiting the dinosaurs and bringing them to a zoo on the mainland.

The film also has a King Kong-esque conclusion with a bull Rex breaking out of transportation and wreaking havoc in San Diego.

Perhaps the biggest difference from the book, at least for me, is that the characters we are supposed to be rooting for I find to be complete idiots, who see extinct creatures as far more precious than presently living human beings. And these are the "good guys."

Instead of being a slow-burn which culminates in terror due to good intentions gone awry, this film is a relentless bloodbath which carries on for far too long due to the "heroes" and

their careless acts of self-righteousness in trying to spare one T-rex.

This was not at all how Crichton would have had this handled in terms of story-telling, in fact, it is the complete opposite.

In his vision, dinosaurs are treated merely as dumb animals who deserve little pity since they would never show any towards you. I must say I agree with Crichton in his views of such monsters.

The victor

I prefer the book over the film. The book feels more substantial in its story of nature clearing up man's tampering through natural and unprecedented means.

Review: 'Last Christmas'

Big on heart despite its formulaic pitfalls

Laura Ellen Brandjord
A&E Editor

The holiday rom-com based on the George Michael song of the same name, "Last Christmas", is causing a divide between movie critics and the public. Moviegoers seem to enjoy the movie, while movie critics for Rolling Stone and New York Post are less than impressed.

Review

They do have some points.

Are some of the George Michael references less than subtle?

Do they make a point

of touching on excessive cell phone use, Brexit, immigration, homelessness and same-sex marriage all in a mere hour 43 minutes?

Is it a little predictable?

You can answer all of these questions with yes, but despite these pitfalls I stand with the general public in enjoying this movie.

All rom-coms are formulaic; it's in their nature to be sappy, cheesy and predictable. It is one of the infuriating and enjoyable parts of the genre. It quite literally is a "tale as old as time," yet we still watch.

Emilia Clarke trades in her confident, fierce persona as Daenerys in Game of Thrones, for struggling

singer Kate who works at a year-round Christmas shop and avoids her overbearing mother. Clarke captures Kate's self-centered, aimless attitude with ease.

Henry Golding charms in his role as the mysterious optimist Tom Webster. Golding's cheerful, breezy portrayal of Webster is essential for the twist ending to land.

Spoiler free plot

The film opens in a church in Yugoslavia with a young Katarina/Kate singing the solo in their rendition of George Michael's "Heal the Pain" to a joyfully tearful mother and an unimpressed sister.

The Katarina (who now goes as Kate) we meet next is less than impressive, now living in London after her family had to flee the Yugoslav war. She seems lost and disinterested in her well-being after recovering from a mysterious illness not yet revealed.

After using a man she met at a London bar for lodgings, she is unceremoniously kicked out mid-shower by the untimely return of the man's girlfriend.

With nowhere else to go Kate heads to Yuletide, the year-round Christmas store where she works as an elf. She spends much of her working hours avoiding her mother's phone calls and

begging a friend for a place to stay for a few nights.

As if Kate wasn't distracted enough, a man (Henry Golding) smiling while staring skyward outside the shop intrigues her enough to see what he seemed so pleased about. Unfortunately, it is a bird, which relieves itself in her eye.

Needless to say, Kate wasn't eager to see the man or the bird again anytime soon. The man returns later to make sure she was alright and tries to convince her that it is actually good luck to be pooped on by a bird.

She turns down his invitation for a walk together, but keeps running

into him and reluctantly agrees. This is a rom-com after all.

The man, named Tom Webster, and Kate become quite infatuated, but Kate becomes increasingly frustrated by his tendencies to disappear for days at a time. The fact that he also doesn't carry a phone with him, makes him difficult to track down.

Tom helps her become a more giving person again and she admits to him that he is the only person that makes her feel whole, but there is an obstacle keeping them apart.

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A & E

Why you should write for the Spectrum

A job for any interest

Delaney Halloran
Opinion Editor

Now, before we begin, I think it's important to address the meaning behind this article. It could be confused that I am writing this article because I am desperate for new writers (which I am) or that I'm biased my job here and believe it to be a positive experience (which I am).

However, my true purpose here is to highlight an open job listing which I don't think NDSU students either fully understand or are taking advantage of.

Last year when I began writing for the Spectrum, I had no clue that they paid their writers. I could get money to write down the opinions I would have happily discussed for free? It was the perfect job for me.

Yet, as my time has progressed at the paper, I've seen how there really is a position and a section available for the life of any student here.

I began my time as a Contributing Writer, providing pieces once or twice a month as my schedule allowed. Then, I moved to Staff Writer, where I hit every deadline the paper required. Finally, this year, I took a position as editor.

Throughout my experience here, with the different time commitments, different amounts of money being raked in and different skills being gained, I always wondered why more people have not taken advantage of this easy opportunity.

Few jobs allow people to work from the comfort of their bed, on their own schedule and concerning only the topics that each individual cares about.

I think there are a few reasons people are wary to join the paper and I'll try to address each and say why they should be disregarded.

"I don't feel qualified to write for the newspaper"

This one I address because it explains my initial reaction to writing for the paper. I was intimidated by my own inexperience and felt like I couldn't go into the Spectrum office and act like

I knew what I was doing.

However, as anyone who has been into the Spectrum office can say and anyone who is an editor can assure, the Spectrum environment is one of the least intimidating you will find on campus.

Everyone starts off not really knowing what they're doing. It's not as if our own Editor in Chief was a highly experienced professional before the start of this year. He was just as clueless as the rest of us, but you learn through trial and error.

For those who have been keeping tabs on this year, there's often a lot of error. This is a student newspaper, it's okay to be unqualified. That's where we all started.

"I don't have anything to say worth writing about"

Unless you've spent the last nineteen or so years in a padded room with nothing to look at but a white ceiling, I have a hard time buying that this is true.

No doubt it's hard to come up with things to talk about. Hell, I'm writing about the newspaper in the newspaper, but everyone has something unique to say or a unique perspective to provide.

If nothing else, the News section allows the writer to focus on the story. If you don't feel like you have anything worth talking about, we can help you find a story with merit.

"I wouldn't know which section to write for"

This one is always funny to me. Kind of like a terrible high school movie, most students can pretty easily fit into a section of the newspaper.

There's the studious and organized News writers, the spirit-filled and optimistic Features writers, the worldly and cultured Arts and Entertainment writers, the enthusiastic and dedicated Sports writers, and as soon as I figure out what kind of people Opinion writers are, I'll let you know.

The point is that anyone can find themselves at home in a certain section.



GRAPHIC BY CASSANDRA TWEED | THE SPECTRUM

Few jobs allow people to work from the comfort of their bed, on their own schedule and concerning only the topics that each individual cares about.

However, if you're still confused, you can always come into the office to talk with the various section editors.

"My schedule is really busy this semester"

Listen, if you can't find an hour in your week to crank out an article, I really feel for you, but for most students that time is there.

When you're passionate about a topic, which

writers usually are when they choose what to write about, the words often come much more naturally than expected. Writing in the past might have meant hours of painstaking school essays, but here it means reflecting on things in a way that feels natural to you.

If you spend six hours a night watching TV, try instead to spend five and use that extra hour to write an article about that show you're bingeing. Really, it's that easy.

"I'm a bad writer"

Okay yeah, so is everyone until they give it some time to go ahead and write.

Personally, I know I have and will continue to work with people whose writing can often be a little messy or unorganized. I don't really think of this as bad writing because each week I see it getting better.

Certainly, writing poorly for a while but improving is better than accepting that

you will be a terrible writer for the rest of your life. So why not come write poorly for the Spectrum for a little while?

"My major has nothing to do with journalism"

I'm a Sociology major. I have absolutely no intention of going into journalism in the future, nor does the art education major, the psychology major, or the communications major who write for me, to name a few.

Wanting to make easy money is not major-specific. In fact, I would say most NDSU students regardless of major are not opposed to making money. The Spectrum is a job that allows an individual to make as much money as they want regardless of the major a writer is in.

Plus, it doesn't look bad to differentiate your resume from other candidates by getting experience outside of the usual and expected jobs.

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SOCIAL SECURITY IS A PONZI SCHEME

The inevitable collapse of America's greatest scam

Ezra Gray

Contributing Writer

One of the most under-addressed and ignored topics in America's political psyche is that of Social Security and the just how disastrous it can truly be.

Social Security, for those that don't know, is a government-run support system that's been in place in the United States since 1935. The purpose of the program is to give the retired and disabled the ability to keep themselves out of poverty with money taken from payroll taxes.

In theory, American workers who pay into Social Security via their taxes will eventually receive financial benefits from the pot of accumulated Social Security payments when they're eligible after retirement.

In practice, however, Social Security has revealed itself in recent years to not only be a financial failure, but also a massive Ponzi scheme directly harming the youth of America. The young people of America, ourselves included, should take note of Social Security and the effect it has on us, given that we currently pay into it with our tax dollars.

Ponzi schemes are a form of investment fraud made popular by its namesake Charles Ponzi in the 1920s. They work by promising high reward with low risk in order to lure in investors. Once enough people invest, the schemer pays back the promised investment with new income from other investors drawn into the scam.

For example, a Ponzi scheme might promise investors that if they invest 100 dollars into some new and low-risk venture, they'll triple their money in a year. Once a handful of first investors are suckered in, the schemer skims some of the investment money for him or herself and then attempts to trick new investors to put their money into the scheme in order to pay back the promised 300 dollar sums to the original investors.

Inevitably, Ponzi schemes always collapse because they require a constantly growing number of investment dollars. The second the investment numbers dip, the schemer is unable to pay back all the earlier investors and the scheme ends up collapsing.

If this sounds eerily similar to Social Security, it should. Social Security operates on the same investment model. Young Americans are forced by the government to invest a certain

amount of their money into Social Security with the promise that they'll be paid back upon their retirement.

These younger "investors", in this case, Gen-Zers, Millennials and

Gen-Xers in the workforce pay for the benefits of retiring baby boomers.

Unfortunately, just like with any other Ponzi scheme, the whole thing is eventually going to fall apart. The difference this time

is that the government doesn't actually have to "invest" or keep the money in some sort of vault or lockbox.

I know this all sounds like I'm babbling about boring economic

social Security is "entirely self-financing" (which is a blatant lie).

That means that for the last nine years more Social Security money has been spent than what's been taken in. According to the

and bankrupt program exist? Simple: the U.S. government has the financial prowess of a toddler. The national debt is currently 23 trillion dollars, the highest it's ever been in our country's history, and it's showing no signs of slowing down.

The last time the U.S. had no federal debt was in 1836, more than 150 years ago. Our government hasn't run a budget surplus since the Clinton Administration.

Obviously, Washington doesn't know how to actually handle the budget efficiently. If he did, we wouldn't be in mountains of debt and the budget would be spent efficiently.

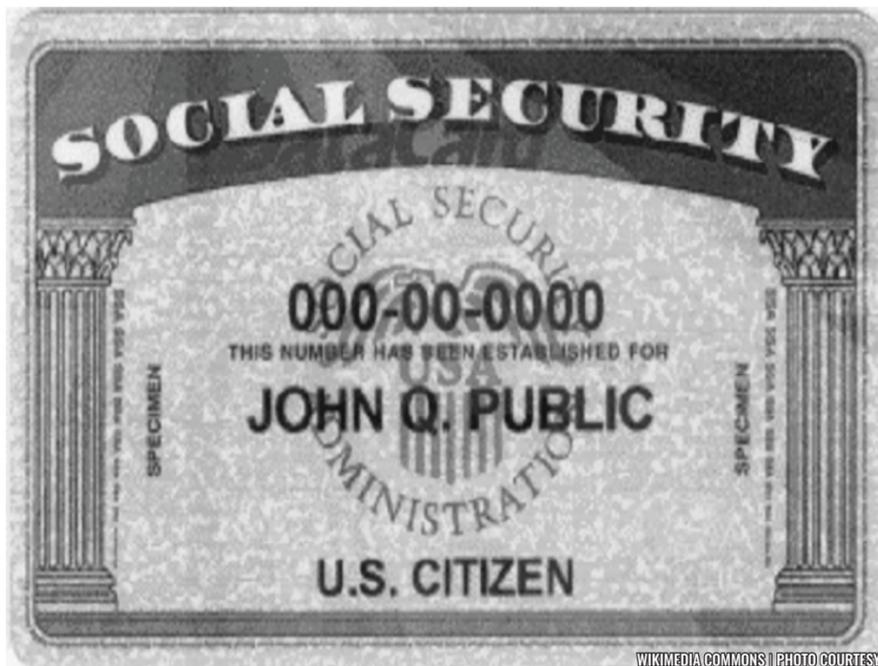
Despite all this, the government still insists on running a giant, idiotic Ponzi scheme that they constantly defend and explain away while all our hard-earned tax dollars are being sunk into a bloated military budget, ineffective social programs and the payrolls of overfunded bureaucrats.

I know I've been sounding long-winded and boring in this article, so I'll cut to the chase and summarize the point I'm getting at: the young people of America are being schemed forcefully by their own government into a program that's not only incredibly costly, immoral and indebted but on the brink of collapse.

Politicians in Washington refuse to address the problem because doing so would be political suicide. The media ignore it because it's far easier and profitable to devote hours of their air time to covering President Trump's newest scandal than to address the massive, catastrophic tax-funded elephant in the room.

Those who should be worried about this the most, however, are us, the younger generation. Our money is being forcibly taken by the government to be funneled into this broken and bankrupt system. Younger people are having fewer and fewer kids, while Baby Boomers are retiring at a record pace.

In other words, the number of newer investors is shrinking while the older investors are reaching the point when they need to be paid back on their promised investment. Hopefully, Washington and the American public can wake up to this lie we've been fed and solve the crisis before it's too late.



These cards which provide security for baby boomers mean destruction for younger generations.

portion of their money into Social Security with the promise that they'll be paid back upon their retirement.

These younger "investors", in this case, Gen-Zers, Millennials and

jargon, but bear with me because the way the government handles this money could have a massive impact upon your life.

Ignoring all the other overfunded programs being run by

Congressional Budget Office, in 2010, Social Security ran a deficit of 37 billion dollars.

In 2011, that deficit grew to 45 billion dollars. The most recent full year of spending, 2018, showed

The young people of America are being schemed forcefully by their own government into a program that's not only incredibly costly, immoral and indebted but on the brink of collapse.

Gen-Xers in the workforce pay for the benefits of retiring baby boomers.

Unfortunately, just like with any other Ponzi scheme, the whole thing is eventually going to fall apart. The difference this time

our government, Social Security itself has been in the red since 2010. This is despite the constant denial of its problems by several politicians, such as the Obama administration's Budget Director, Jacob Lew, who said in 2011 that

that Social Security ran a deficit of 79 billion dollars. According to CBO projections, this astronomical deficit will swell to 118 billion dollars by 2021 before becoming insolvent by 2035.

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Bison on the edge of history

The herd is two wins away from breaking their own record



The Bison are close to breaking their own win streak.

JOHN SWANSON | THE SPECTRUM

David Hoffman

Staff Writer

This Saturday, November 16th, the NDSU Bison football team will be playing their last home game of the regular season. They'll be taking on the University of South Dakota Coyotes to see if they can keep their undefeated season alive.

NDSU is coming off of a home, Harvest Bowl victory over Western Illinois. They blew them out 57-21 and

reached their 31st straight win with the last loss coming two seasons ago.

Even with the backups and even 3rd strong players on the field for most of the game, NDSU came away with 690 total yards. This included two 40 plus yard touchdown runs for Jalen Busy who was playing his first game for NDSU.

After their loss, Western Illinois is sitting at an 1-9 record on the season. There single victory... is against NDSU's next competitor,

USD.

The Coyotes are 4-6 overall this season and 3-3 in the Missouri Conference. They are coming fresh off of a 56-21s win against Youngstown State.

The game ended their 3-game losing streak and has given them some motivation heading into this Saturday's game. Their win came thanks largely in part to a dual threat running game.

Running backs, Kai Henry and Canaan Brooks both ran the ball over 100

yards with 3 touchdowns between the two of them. Their QB is also a dual threat moving the ball on the ground and in the air.

Austin Simmons passed for 180 yards and four touchdowns. Plus, he ran another 72 yards and for one touchdown.

However, in USD's defense their passing in this game was well below their season average of 266 passing yards.

The USD defense also did some good work as

well. While they struggled stopping the Youngstown's pass game, they managed to hold the Penguins total rushing yards to under 70.

NDSU will have to focus on stopping USD strong run game for sure, but Trey Lance should have no problem chipping away at USD weak pass defense.

Stopping the run was a bit of a struggle for NDSU this past weekend when they allowed 9 rushing first downs and 169 rushing yards. There season average

has been 115 yards allowed.

They also struggled heavily with penalties this past game giving Western Illinois three first downs and 125 total yards over 12 penalties alone.

With a win this weekend, NDSU you will only be one win away from tying the all-time Missouri Valley Conference win-streak record held by a former NDSU team.

Terrible Fantasy Advice | Week 11

Need a subhed

Philip Atneosen

Staff Writer

Hey there, champ. It's me again. Keep your head up, your crown is falling off. Fantasy football isn't about the draft. It's not about knowledge or wit. It's about the will to win. Are you going to let your opponents want it more than you? There's plenty of football left to play, so you better keep your eyes on the road. We're ten weeks into the season, where players get banged up more easily. Stash high-quality backups such as Alexander Mattison, Tony Pollard and Wayne Gallman. You're one injury away from busting the playoffs wide open. Forget about your record right now, think about your record over the next few weeks. Plan ahead and add defenses with plus matchups in the playoffs. The Eagles and the Chiefs are two examples. You're not down and out, and as Johnny Castle once said, nobody puts Baby in the corner.

QB – Kyle Allen

Cam Newton is likely shut down for the regular season, but the Panthers' season is far from over. Thanks to their defense and the play of backup Kyle Allen, they're in the wildcard hunt. On the season, Allen has ten touchdowns and five interceptions. His production has slowed since his monster performance in Week three. If you look closer, you'll realize that his performances aren't all that unpredictable. His best weeks are against Arizona and Tampa Bay, two of the worst defenses in the NFL. This week, he faces the Falcons at home. Atlanta caught New Orleans off guard



Kyle Allen has been steady for the Panthers since Cam went out.

NFLHQ | PHOTO COURTESY

last week, but I'm considering that an outlier performance. I'm not afraid of starting Kyle Allen against Atlanta, and you shouldn't be either.

RB – Brian Hill

Some might consider this low-hanging fruit, but I'm going to disagree on the assumption that most casual fantasy players don't know what team Hill plays for. I'll give you a few hints if you're in that boat. He is normally the third-string back for his team. Their backfield has been among the least effective in the league, which is reflected by their 2-7 record. If you guessed the Falcons,

you're correct. With both Devonta Freeman and Ito Smith inactive, the Falcons gave Hill the ball 21 times on Sunday. That only resulted in 71 total yards against New Orleans, but that's not what's important. He's likely the starter again in Week 11 versus the Panthers. Carolina has a solid defense, but Hill has the upside as the only guy in town. He's unowned in your league, and you can get him and start him this week.

WR – Demaryius Thomas

The Jets offense hasn't exactly been firing on all cylinders this season. They flipped the script last week, scoring 34 against an

unsuspecting Giants defense. Robbie Anderson was practically silent throughout the game. He received three targets, while Crowder got six and Demaryius Thomas had nine. I'm expecting a similar situation in Week 11 against the Redskins. Teams have been bullying CB Josh Norman all year. It's possible Norman lines up against Anderson or Thomas. Regardless, I expect HC Adam Gase to exploit that. Thomas is my pick to lead the team in targets again this week.

TE – Vance McDonald

Owners of Old McDonald haven't had a great harvest this

year. He's averaging a pitiful 7.5 yards per reception this year on 35 targets. The good news is that he's received seven targets in each of his last two games. Starting QB Mason Rudolph hasn't been able to push the ball downfield effectively this season. As a result, McDonald regularly receives targets five yards from the line of scrimmage. Targets are targets, no matter how small they are. Pittsburgh travels to Cleveland for Thursday Night Football this week. If the Browns sell out to stop James Conner and the run game, Vance could have a monster week.

BISON GET BACK ON TRACK

Herd wins tight one against the mustangs



Bison get the win at home.

JOHN SWANSON | THE SPECTRUM

Mason Urban
Staff Writer

The NDSU men's basketball team defeated Cal Poly 74-67 on Monday. The Bison's record improved to 2-1 with the win and they have won their last two games after dropping the season opener to Kansas State.

Vinnie Shahid led the way for the Herd with 21 points, raising his points per game average to 11.7

on the season. Cameron Hunter added a big boost in the second half scoring 13 points. Tyson Ward played an excellent all-around game as he put up 14 points, seven rebounds and three assists.

Free throws were a huge story in the game as NDSU hit 25 of a whopping 31 free throw attempts, putting their free throw percentage at 80.6 percent for the game. Meanwhile Cal Poly only went 6-11 at the line, putting their free throw percentage at 54.5

percent. The Bison also won the rebounding battle, outrebounding the Mustangs 32-26.

The Mustangs were scorching the nets from three as they hit 50 percent of their three point attempts while the Bison struggled from deep, only hitting 25 percent of their three point attempts.

The Bison defense struggled as they allowed the Mustangs to shoot 52 percent from the field for the game. Cal Poly ended the first half on a 12-0 run and took the lead

into halftime at 33-30.

The Herd took their first lead of the second half on a pair of free throws by Ward to make it 47-46 with 11 minutes remaining. The game was tied at 51 when the Bison scored seven straight points on a jumper by Tyree Eady, a free throw by Ward, a layup by Shahid and a bucket by Ward. This pushed the Bison lead to 58-51 with six minutes left to play and the Bison held on the rest of the way.

Up next for the Bison, they

will travel to Corpus Christi this weekend for the Islander invitational. NDSU will take on UT Rio Grande Valley, Texas A&M Corpus Christi and Stony Brook. This will be a good early season test for the Bison as both Texas A&M Corpus Christi and Stony Brook have challenged some good basketball teams early on despite coming away with a loss.

Bison beat the Hawks at Benson Bunker

The herd got a key win against their biggest rival

Andrew Haugland
Contributing Writer

The Fighting Hawks of North Dakota came into the Fieldhouse but were defeated by the Herd 3-1 on Tuesday.

The NDSU Volleyball team manhandled the Fighting Hawk in a relatively quick and painless match. NDSU would win the match 3-1 in a decisive manner. Syra Tanchin led the herd with a total of 17 kills. 17 kills matched Tanchin's career high. Abbi Klos recorded a milestone as she has recorded her 1,000th career dig as aison.

Emily Halverson hit .464 on the night. The win the Herd clinched the season series against North Dakota, as well as clinch a spot in next week's Summit League tournament. The

Bison sit at (12-15) and face Oral Roberts (3-11) at one p.m. Sunday at the Benson Bunker Fieldhouse. The Herd will look to collect a win to rally moral as the Bison go into league playoffs.

The Fighting Hawks secured the lead early, but had the Herd rallied behind Emily Halverson and Syra Tanchin. Those two played well throughout the match. Syra Tanchin lead the Bison with 17 kills with Emily Halverson right behind her with 13 kills.

Bellien had a career best three service aces as well as seven kills. Bellien also notched seven digs. on the night, Alexis Bachmeier also had a night for herself as she notched eleven kills and eleven digs.

In the third set Abbi Klos became just 25th player in

Bison history to achieve 1,000 career digs. She will have 1,003 digs coming into Sunday's match. Kalli Hegerle also made a night for herself as she had 29 assists and a career best five blocks.

Leading for the Fighting Hawks were Lexi Ahrens, Ashley Brueggeman and Lydia Rutten. As a team North Dakota hit .303, and was able to take the third set from the Bison.

Ashley Brueggeman had a floor high 18 kills for the Hawks. Lexi Ahrens had 12 kills in the match and hit a solid .409 on the night. Lydia Rutten accumulated 11 kills in the match and hit a respectable .474. Peyton Sewell also helped the Hawks by assisting the team with 41 assists and 14 digs. Darian Chwialkowski had a floor high 16 digs.



The herd didn't let their fans down.

JOHN SWANSON | THE SPECTRUM

.3 Lexi Ahrens had 12 kills in the match and hit .409. Lydia Rutten accumulated 11 kills in the

match and hit a good .474. Peyton Sewell also helped the Hawks by assisting the team with 41 assists and 14

digs, Darian Chwialkowski set a floor high with sixteen digs.

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