

Public radio variety show coming to N.D.

*Garrison Keillor
bringing his radio
variety show to UND*

GRAND FORKS (AP) — Garrison Keillor is bringing his radio variety show, "A Prairie Home Companion," to North Dakota.

The Dec. 8 broadcast will originate from the University of North Dakota's Chester Fritz Auditorium.

North Dakota Public Radio officials said Keillor went looking for a broadcast site

close to his Minnesota home after recent heart surgery.

"We were pleased as punch to hear from them," said Marie Lucero, a North Dakota Public Radio spokeswoman.

Lucero said it usually takes a year of planning and red tape to get the St. Paul, Minn.-based radio show away from its home base. She said NDPR has been working on the Chester Fritz site for about six weeks.

North Dakota Public Radio and UND are sponsoring the performance.

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Prairie Home Companion' has been done on North Dakota soil," said Bill Thomas, the NDPR radio director.

"It's great to have them come. We've been trying to get

them here for a while," he said.

Thomas said about 40 cast and crew members will arrive a couple of days in advance of the broadcast.

Tickets ranging from \$20 to \$40 for the Chester Fritz performance will go on sale to members of National Public Radio on Oct. 22, and will be available to the general public Nov. 1.

(On the Net: A Prairie Home Companion: www.prairiehome.org.; North Dakota Public Radio: www.ndpr.org.)