News from Iraq: Islam, hangings and American reactions to the events

BY JULIE JOHNSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“Islam” is a word that conjures up many images in the minds of people all over, Northwestern students notwithstanding. When asked to relate words they associated with Islam, responses ranged from camels and sand; oppression and fear; to “turban things” and the 5 pillars.

What is Islam?
Amanda Allen, a junior who participated in the study abroad to Oman, said that Islam is as diverse as Christianity. With many different sects, not every Muslim is the extremist terrorist many characterize them to be. Instead, she said that they are gracious and hospitable people who opened their hearts to the American students.

Senior Zulfiya Akbarova, an international Muslim student from Uzbekistan, characterized the religion as a collective culture with a huge emphasis on family. “Family is everything,” she said. “As a Muslim, you don’t put your parents in a retirement home when they get older; you take care of them because they spent all their young years…caring for you.” In Muslim culture, shaming one’s family is considered one of the greatest sins and is avoided at all costs, even if it means sacrificing one’s own hopes and dreams. “It means to think far beyond yourself,” said Akbarova.

Akbarova also commented on the different types of Islam. “In the Middle East, it’s much more strict,” she said. “Uzbekistan is much more modern.” Stereotypical dress is also an option. She said that growing up, she was told that the heart is much more important than the outside.

Traditional Islamic practices include fasting during the month of Ramadan, praying five times daily and taking the pilgrimage to Medina or Mecca. However, the extent to which these are carried out varies in terms of devoutness. Akbarova compared it to different sects of Christianity—just as some Christians are more devout in church attendance and ritual, so are some Muslims.

Hangings a mistake?
Both Allen and Associate Professor of Sociology Scott Monsma view the date of Hussein’s hanging as a mistake. Hussein was hung on Friday, Dec. 30 at dawn, the first day of Eid al Adah, traditionally when a goat is sacrificed. Instead of leaving the image of Hussein as a mass-murderer, he could easily become a martyr. However, the Iraqi National Security adviser Mowaffak al-Rubaiea said in a statement that Iraqi officials intentionally decided to execute Hussein on a “special day.”

Monsma feels that would have been more beneficial to the cause of the Iraqi government to have left Hussein in prison until he died of natural causes, rather than risk him being viewed as a martyr. He questions U.S. knowledge of the culture, stating that officials here should have attempted to discourage Iraq’s executing Hussein on Eid.

Barzan Ibrahim, Saddam’s half-brother and former intelligence chief, and Awad Hamed al-Bandar, head of Iraq’s Revolutionary Court, were hung before dawn Iraqi time on Monday, Jan. 15. The men were tried and found guilty for the killing of 148 Shiite Muslims in 1982. Reactions to these hangings have been as varied as those of Hussein’s hanging, although reactions from insurgents have been less volatile than expected.

Boys die mimicking hangings
Across the world, boys ages 9 to 15 have died from attempting to mimic the hangings. Boys from Texas, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Turkey, Algeria and India have reportedly hanged themselves in an imitation of the Iraqi executions. One boy was found hanging from a backyard tree, wearing a turban. Hisham Ramy, an Egyptian University professor blames it partially on media coverage of Hussein’s death and partially on the glorification of him as a martyr and hero by some Muslims.

Child psychologist Jasem Hajia from Kuwait City cautions against blaming it strictly on the coverage, calling the cases “extreme” and stating that there were probably physiological problems involved as well.

Next week: Letter from War: what one soldier has to say about the American response to the troop surge. Plus, military students on campus and a former NW student-soldier’s perspective.

New nursing lab boasts a variety of resources

BY RENEE NYHOF
STAFF WRITER

Dedication of the new nursing lab was held Friday, Jan. 12. Supporters, students, faculty and the Orange City Ambassadors gathered within the 3,800-square-feet of the new nurses’ training facility, formerly the obstetrical (OB) unit of Orange City hospital’s downtown campus, to watch as this year’s nursing students cut the ribbon.

Professor of Nursing Ruth Daumer said it was a challenge to look at a vacant OB unit to figure out how the resources could be used to equip the new lab to be a state-of-the-art place for students. Despite this challenge, Daumer kept a positive outlook for the new lab.

“Previously the lab was a place for birthing babies,” Daumer said, “and now it is a place for birthing nurses.”

The components that make up the new nursing facility include four patient rooms and one conference room. There is also a trainer’s room, which contains items such as blood pressure and IV equipment for the students to utilize and gain experience with before using on an actual patient.

A mock clinic room with two exam tables is also available, as well as a small lounge area, which helps to mimic a home setting so the students can practice making home visits.

Two computer-augmented manikins, complete with heart sounds, a blood pressure and other human like characteristics are the patients for the nurses-in-training. In addition, these manikins come with interchangeable body parts such as amputated limbs to teach the students what to look for, how certain wounds look and how to treat them.

Because there is a limit to how many body parts the lab has, 12 to 15 audio-visual tapes are available to further explain wounds and their treatments along with other nursing skills.

Daumer said this new nursing lab brings great advantages to the nursing students. Not only does the new lab enhance practical skills, the lab doesn’t have to try to convey a hospital setting like many nursing labs do because it’s already located in an old hospital unit.

In addition, the previous hospital ICN room is still available below labs do because it’s already located in an old hospital unit.

PHOTO BY RENEE NYHOF

This year’s nursing students cut the ribbon at the dedication of the new nursing lab.
Stop whining to your “mommy”

Remember when you were a little kid and “Billy the Bully” took your snack pack at lunch? You didn’t want to be the “sissy” who whined to the teacher because you were tough and could handle Billy. But when you got home after school, you went straight to your mommy to cry about your lost snack pack.

But 15 years later, you’ve grown up and learned to settle your problems the “grown-up way,” right? Apparently not.

As a frequent Facebook checker, I have become aware that many of us have yet to learn how to appropriately deal with our problems. While crying to your mommy seemed like the best solution to your problems as a child, it’s not okay anymore. And even if it is Facebook, it’s not your mommy.

I have always believed that if I have a problem with a specific person/group/etc, I should address that issue personally. Creating a Facebook group to whine about getting your chapel card taken away or problems with the school’s internet is not an effective way to solve those problems. Just as whining to your mommy as a child didn’t bring back your stolen pudding, maybe it made you feel better, but did it do anything to solve your problem?

While crying to your mommy seemed like the best solution to your problems as a child, it’s not okay anymore.

I would like to suggest that NW students grow up and learn to deal with their problems like adults. Next time you have a problem with a person or issue on campus, don’t create a Facebook group to whine and make you feel better. Act like the adult you claim to be and discuss your problem with the individuals that can actually solve your problem. Use your God-given communication skills to effectively voice your problem.

None of you have any difficulty whining to your friends or writing lengthy rants on Facebook about your problems, so use those “skills” to actually solve your problems.

Stop whining and act like an adult. And remember, Facebook is not your mommy.

By Jan Kirchker

The Christmas season always brings with it an atmosphere of love and joy. It often makes mothers think about the births of their own children, and hearts are filled with thankfulness at the thought of their sons and daughters.

We visualize Mary holding her newborn son Jesus, rocking him gently back and forth. What was going through her mind? What were her thoughts? Was she dreaming about his future? Was she picturing the wonderful life that was ahead of him? Imagine that she was, as these are the thoughts that many new mothers have about their children. However, a thought that I am sure never occurs to new parents in daydreaming about the future of their child is that he or she be homosexual. I have yet to hear an expectant parent say, “Wow, I hope my son or daughter grows up to be gay. I can’t wait for my child to start living the homosexual lifestyle he or she was meant to live.”

And yet, for many parents, one of their children may be gay. That is often a huge disappointment and even an embarrassment for parents and families. Parents learn that who their child chooses to love takes precedent over everything else. However, as the mother of a gay son, I consider this to be a great blessing. My son and I are very close, and I love him for the person that Christ made him to be.

BY MATTHEW STANISLAV

Our chapel speaker on January 12, Professor Monsma, made a great suggestion when he encouraged us to ask ourselves who our neighbors are and to think about what it means to love our neighbors. This is a subject which I have been called to think about frequently over the last year. This question was one of the reasons I spent 15 days in Lupeni, Romania, this summer as part of the Traiesti si Invata program. After much thought and prayer, I have been able to come up with answers to the two questions Dr. Monsma encouraged us to think about.

The first question was, “Who are our neighbors?” I believe the best answer to this question is that all people are our neighbors. In Ephesians 2, Paul, in writing to the Gentiles of Ephesus, made it clear that Christ came to Earth to destroy the barriers between people and to bring all people together under Him. Verse 19 says, “Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household.”

Through this passage and other passages attributed to Paul, I stand firmly in my belief that everyone, all the people of this world, fall into the category of “neighbor.”

The second question was, “What does it mean to love your neighbors?” My belief is that if we truly love someone, we will want for them the thing which we ought to most desire: eternal life with Jesus. Eternal life can only be gained through a right relationship with Jesus, a relationship in which we take an active role through obeying the commands of Jesus as we love him with all our hearts, souls, and minds. What does it mean to love the Lord with all of one’s heart, soul and mind? I believe it means we are to pursue the things which God called us to pursue and to abhor those things which he instructs against in his word.

The logical question that stems from my answer is, “What does God call us to pursue and avoid?” As much as I would like to give answers to this question, I feel it is important for us all to find the answer to this on our own through our own reading of the Bible.

Sometimes I wish my God was a tolerant God; I wish that my living in obedience to him allowed me to ignore the sins of other believers, but it does not allow this. I am a Christian, a follower of Jesus the Christ, and as such, I am called to live a life that obeys the commands of Jesus and to lead others towards living lives of obedience. Yes, I am to love my neighbors, but out of love, I am also called to share in the charge that Paul gave to Timothy in 2 Timothy 4, 2, to “Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.”

Illustration by Peter Brot-Acquah

Loving your neighbor means teaching them to flee sin

The Beacon is the student newspaper serving the campus community of Northwestern College. Published weekly and distributed Friday noon. The Beacon encourages comments from readers. All letters must be 300 words or less, signed with a phone number, and turned into the Beacon office located in the basement of Granberg Hall by Wednesday afternoon. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters. To obtain a subscription, please send $10 to address below.
Boredom roaming the streets

BY JEAN PUNT
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Imagine walking out of a meeting or class in the evening and stepping outside into below freezing weather. You are walking down the sidewalk, taking notice of nothing but how quickly you lose feeling in your fingers. After only taking a few strides, your path is blocked by a group of oddly dressed people, pointing hair dryers and water guns at you. After taking in the appearance of this strange "alliance," you suddenly realize that you have encountered the Awkward Turtles.

The Tank (freshman Rachel Fisher), Ice (sophomore Bekah Achenbach), Goose (freshman Sarah Abbas) and Maverick (freshman Carrie Manifold) were the original members of this "gang," and it was named as such for two reasons:
1. They all come from 3rd East Fern, which is, according to them, one of the most awkward wings on campus, and
2. They all adorn themselves in awkward clothes and colors that do not match. When I use the word awkward to describe their clothes, I am referring to the ridiculousness and the variety of mismatched clothes. Hooded sweatshirts are worn under t-shirts, capes are encouraged, silly hats are worn in a variety of ways and snow boots help announce the presence of this group when they clomp up and down the sidewalk.

During their patrols across campus, they took time to stop by Heemstra, West, Hoppers and Colenbrander, which is where they acquired their fifth member. Lumberjack (freshman Ian Dudley), dressed like his name, casually strolled behind the gang on their outing, almost like a mascot.

Although presenting a slightly scary image, this group had a harmless evening of fun and entertainment. Before calling it a night, they made sure to escort a damsel in distress back to her dorm. However, only a few short seconds upon leaving the interview, a car alarm did go off behind me. The cause of the alarm is still unknown.

This gang was not formed after another woman behind your back or class in the evening and stepping outside into below freezing weather. You are walking down the sidewalk, taking notice of nothing but how quickly you lose feeling in your fingers.

Depressing stories with Dr. Bast

BY JAMES BIERLY
OPINION EDITOR

Dear Dr. Bast,

What did you think of the hanging of Saddam Hussein?

-Johnny (your most biggest fan ever!)

This will usher in a new era of peace and democracy. The lion will lay down with the lamb, Muslims and Jews will throw candy to Jewish children on Hannukah and the NW internet will start working properly. All from hanging one guy! Just think of all the good that could come from killing even more people! I’m glad our government is planning to do so as soon as possible.

Dear Dr. Bast,

How do I get as smart as you?

-Dumb in Iowa

The only way you could get smarter than me is if you became a zombie and literally ate brains. If you do so, please don’t eat too many brains at one time. A zombie that doesn’t look emaciated isn’t cool and will be ostracized by the other zombies. Have patience and target especially intelligent minds, such as… umm… wait. Scratch that. A smart zombie is a happy zombie, so you’ll need to feed on happy people like clowns. And Amish.

Dear Dr. Bast,

I dropped something outside while coming back from Centering Prayer. Can I borrow a flashlight to go find it?

-Scared of the dark

Well, I could give you a boring old electric flashlight or you could make your own flashlight out of peanuts and vinyl polish! I’d tell you how, but that would spoil the fun. See if you can figure it out all by yourself. If you succeed, you can brag to all your friends. If you fail, you’ll at least be busy until the sun comes up and you don’t need a flashlight.

Dear Dr. Bast,

My boyfriend just started snapping at me lately and has become sullen and withdrawn. He is always criticizing me in front of my friends. I wish he’d start treating me more respectfully. What should I do?

-Sad in Salzburg

Well, first of all, you need to realize that your boyfriend probably has a number of issues that is dealing with, and the anger is not necessarily directed at you. Perhaps he has firing issues, or he feels inadequate as a provider, or the stress of carrying on an affair with another woman behind your back is finally getting to him. Remember it’s not your fault your boyfriend is decency—impaired. It’s all those reruns of “The Smurfs” he watched as a kid.

After you have cleared your mind of any negative self-image, you are ready to follow Dr. Bast’s patented three-step program for conflict resolution. First of all, you should sit down with him at a time when tensions are low and respectfully explain that when he speaks to you in that manner, it hurts your feelings and damages the relationship. Secondly, you must listen patiently while he responds. Look him straight in the eye and nod affirmingly to keep him talking and expressing his feelings. Finally, you should pull out a pistol and shoot him in the head. If you follow these three simple steps, he’s guaranteed to never repeat the behavior again.

Campus Quotes

“Look, there goes the Trinity.”

- Junior Brett Vanger Berg on seeing Professor Vonder Bruegg, Professor Mead and Professor Andres walk by.

“My goal was to get through 12 years of school without doing any work.”

- Professor Smallbones, reflecting on her first view of school.

“He must have been really dumb or loaded with testosterone.”

- Professor Holm, in reference to Samson revealing the source of his strength.

“...and the moral of the story is: the professor should read the syllabus.”

- Professor Smallbones, in response to opening Tuesday’s class with Thursday’s assignment.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to beacom@nociau.edu.
Welcome to a new semester of The Beacon. Last semester’s Word of the Week has been replaced by this semester’s Fun Facts.

Similar to the game “Fact or Crap,” some of the statements below are true, others are not. See if you can guess which are which.

1. Men are six times more likely to be struck by lightning than women are.

2. On hot days, Babe Ruth wore a spinach leaf under his hat during games.

3. The moon’s irregular movement in December 1811 caused parts of the Mississippi River to flow backward.

4. The inventors of Corn Flakes, the Kellogg brothers, ran a school for delinquent youth.

5. In the US, 3% of the population produces enough food for the other 97%.

If you think you know the correct answers e-mail us at beacon@nwciowa.edu, or just hold on to your answers until the Fun Fact is published next week.

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BY RENEE NYHOF
STAFF WRITER

“Think about it.” We’ve all heard this statement from a close relative, parent, or friend. Take a closer look, and you’ll find information regarding this year’s Summer Study Abroad (SSA) programs:

China: May 22 through June 12 (tentative). Instructors in Spanish Rick Clark will introduce participants to the language, culture, and as well as engage in a service project.

Russia: May 14 through June 9 (tentative). A study of Russian culture, music and language will be studied as Director of Music Ministries Heather Josselynn-Cranson will accompany participants to Russian cities and life with host families.

In addition, each country offers its own unique aspects participants can experience. In China, Calsbeek states “that camping on the Great Wall might be a unique highlight. Also, seeing the Summer ‘08 Olympic venues and interacting with Olympic athletes will be pretty cool.”

Jeff hopes that the Story and Worship blog will eventually move beyond the scope of his book. As he described in a letter to friend Lin Sexton of “Worship Leader” magazine, these healings would include “the refreshment of the church’s musical artists” and “the empowerment of the visual, performance, and dramatic artists who have languished in the pews.” He also maintained that misunderstandings surrounding the meaning of worship would dissolve and that “the stories of God at work in the lives of His people” would be reclaimed as a result of understanding story and worship.

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BY LINDSAY SQUIRES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Scandal, coffee makers, Shakespeare and politics—what do the items on such an arbitrary list have in common? These are millions of other topics all find a place in online blogs. In the marketplace of ideas, blogging has become a popular and effective medium for continuous conversation. At the same time, blogs also invite input from blog readers: “Let me know what you find confusing or even flat-out wrong...and I’ll use it to adjust the book prior to publication.”

Jeff Barker uses blogs to help tell his story of the art and story of worship.

BY JEFF BARKER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The purpose of the blog is to focus conversation and to begin to test out my book.

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Jeff Barker

Jeff proposes that the Story and Worship blog will eventually move beyond the scope of his book. “The relationship of story and worship is a huge topic worthy of exploration in a variety of ways,” he said. Students may find Jeff’s blog at http://storyandworship.wordpress.com/.
One more mailroom change is made

BY ANDREA DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

While some students were lamenting a mild, not-so-white Christmas during winter break, others were experiencing what was likely their first strong taste of winter weather. During the fall semester, Northwestern saw little more than a slight dusting once or twice, but over break in places like Nebraska and Colorado, the ice and snow storms arrived just in time for a white Christmas (or New Year for others), knocking out power and stranding people in their homes or as they attempted to travel home.

The exact amount of snowfall differed in various parts of Colorado, but freshman Kryssy Van Etten guessed that about 2 to 3 feet of snow fell in the first round of storms in her hometown of Parker, Colo. This blizzard was perfectly timed to shut down Denver International Airport for a couple days, as travelers attempted to reach their destinations just before the Christmas weekend.

Annabel Du Mez, Resident Director of Hospers Hall, had a connecting flight through Denver to Sioux Falls which was cancelled, keeping her in Fresno, Calif., for 2 days. Du Mez said, “At one time, I had five different tickets in my hand,” including changed or cancelled flights and the one that finally brought her through Phoenix to Chicago on Christmas Eve. In addition to the Denver airport, many highways around the Denver area were closed. Kathleen Kropp, a sophomore (from Limon, Colo.), said that it was entertaining to “bust through snowdrifts” the plows had left behind on her way to work. Food and supplies also disappeared quickly; Van Etten’s family was able to snatch up the last gallon of skim milk, after searching more than one store for the treasure.

Were the blizzard-conditions a fun experience? That depends on who you ask. Kropp enjoyed the “beautiful, white Christmas,” complete with sledding and ice skating after the storms had passed. Sophomore Ashlea Combs said that because of the ice covering the roads in Kearney, Neb., people were ice skatering on the streets with little traffic to bother them. While the electricity was out (a total of nearly a week over the course of the entire winter break), Combs and her sister and brother also got creative: playing games and reading—“all those things people did before electricity.”

For those students who may have felt left out of the winter-y action, and even for those who had the pleasure of enjoying blizzard flights and conditions, there was substantial snowfall and cold temperatures in Northwest Iowa served as great reminders of true winter weather in the Midwest. “Welcome back to Iowa!”

Thinking theologically

BY AMANDA KUEHN
FEATURES EDITOR

Though the month of November is long gone, memories of Washington, D.C., still remain in the minds of Northwestern students Justin Pannkuk, Meggan De Jong, Jenna Boote, Tyler De Jong, Amanda Kuehn, Sarah Palsma and Ross Hunter. These seven students had the unique experience of leaving Orange City and spending some time in “the real world” November 16 through 19.

At the invitation and in the company of Associate Professor of Religion Michael Andres, the students attended two theology conferences. “Christians in the Public Square,” a conference that was associated with The Evangelical Theological Society and another put on by The American Academy of Religion. During these conferences students attended sessions in which papers were read regarding different views of a variety of aspects of Christianity and religion.

The group also took some time to tour the sites of D.C., including the Washington Monument, Arlington Cemetery, a walk to the National Cathedral, The Smithsonian, and a lengthy journey around the Lincoln Memorial. Over authentic Mexican, Italian and Chinese meals they discussed topics such as Consumerism, Nationalism, and what it means to be a Christian in secular society.

All members would describe their time in D.C. as a “good experience.” Students attending the conference this coming fall have a lot to look forward to.

One more mailroom change is made

BY RENEE NYHOF
STAFF WRITER

“Thank you for a job well done.” Those words were the first thing that appealed to Hoffman when she decided to apply for the job. Over the years, though, nothing has been more exciting than being around and getting to know students.

“It was so much fun to see the youth,” said Hoffman with a growing smile and brightened eyes. “I especially enjoyed Valentine’s Day and seeing all the pretty flowers that would arrive.” Hoffman added, “It was never boring here, which kept things quite interesting.”

Now that she has retired, you may ask, “What will occupy her time?” Hoffman has always loved crafts and attending craft shows with her daughter, something she hopes she’ll be able to spend more time doing. “I love to make dolls,” said Hoffman, “larger dolls are actually my favorite.”

Though Hoffman did not return to campus this January as so many of us did, she still lives in town with her husband Lee and has been seen walking through campus on pleasant days. If you have the opportunity, encourage you to say farewell to Hoffman and thank her for her many years of service in the mail room.
Women's basketball drops two straight at home versus conference foes

BY DAN CLIFF  
STAFF WRITER

The Northwestern women's basketball team finally played host on Jan. 13 against Hastings College after six straight road games but lost 64-78. The Broncos are currently ranked 11th in the latest NAIA poll released on Jan. 17. The poll has the Red Raiders ranked 13th. The poll has the Red Raiders ranked 13th. Hastings College, now ranked 6th, on Jan. 3, 14-4-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively," Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the second half, 44-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. "After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertive
Raider men win big in recent hoops action

BY MIKE VAN ENGEN
STAFF WRITER

On the heels of three GPAC victories, two over ranked opponents, the Red Raiders climbed ten spots to claim the number 15 spot in this week's NAIA poll. Most recently, the Raiders handled Mount Marty at home by a sizeable margin, 85-32. This came after a weekend win over 21st-ranked Hastings College, 89-74. The men also recorded a thrilling victory over 11th-ranked Dakota Wesleyan, 89-74, on the road on Jan. 10.

The next tip-off for the Raiders will be at home on Wednesday, Jan. 24, against the University of Sioux Falls in a match-up between the GPAC's two top-ranked teams. Versus Mount Marty

Mount Marty entered the Bultman Center on Tuesday night not knowing the night was going to be an offensive struggle. The Lancers, led by leading scorer Scott Anderson, came in the match with a 3-6 conference record. The Raiders held the Lancers to 19 in the first half and 13 in the second, leading the Lancers to their third straight conference loss.

With three players in double figures, Northwestern easily restrained the Lancer defense. Sophomore Kale Wiertzema led the team with 14 points and four assists, nine of the 14 points coming from behind the arc. Wiertzema led the Raiders in Tuesday's contest with fourteen points and four assists. Sophomore Kale Wiertzema searches for an open man. Wiertzema led the Raiders in Tuesday's contest with fourteen points and four assists.

Junior Chad Schuiteman, this week's GPAC player-of-the-week, dumped in twelve points, seven rebounds, five steals and four assists. Junior Wade Vander Maten chipped in with ten points and two assists. As a team, NW shot better than 52% from the floor and improved their overall record to 15-6, 8-3 in conference play.

The Raiders started strong and finished strong, getting off to a quick seven-point lead and never looking back. By the end of the first 10 minutes of play, NW found themselves up 26-6 and at the end of the first half, 47-19. The second half proved just as promising with the Raiders holding the Lancers scoreless for the first three minutes of play.

Versus Hastings

Coming off a big win against Dakota Wesleyan, the Raiders had much to look forward to on Saturday as they went up against the Hastings Broncos. The Broncos were on a four-game winning streak, prior to Saturday. The Raiders outscored Hastings by 17 in the first half of play and won by a margin of 89-74.

It was a team effort with four players pouring in double figures. Junior Mark DeYounge led the Raiders with 15 points and 7 rebounds. Junior Wade Vander Maten chipped in, scoring 10 points and dishing out 12 assists in the victory. The Raiders combined to shoot 59% from the floor and better than 46% from behind the arc.

At the 12:20 mark in the first half, the score was 21-12, and then the Raiders took off, outscoring their opponents 25-17 for the rest of the half. Although the Broncos put up 45 points to the Raiders’ 43 in the second half, the Raiders maintained their convincing lead to shut down their GPAC opponent.

Indoor track season heats up despite outdoor chill

BY KAYLA MAXEDON
STAFF WRITER

High jump.
Baton.
Shot-put.
Hurdles.
Finish line.

This track terminology seems out of place as four inches of snow lies on the ground. But with temperatures lowering outdoors, the temperature is rising inside the RSC, as the indoor track season has begun. With a squad of 71, there is a lot of talent to be seen and plenty to look forward to.

According to Head Coach Nate Wolf, “Both men’s and women’s squads return a core group of national qualifiers.” On the men’s side, seniors Nick Fynaardt, Andrew Ortmeier, and Robbie Cundy have previous experience at the national level.

On the women’s side, seniors Megan Harding and Kristen Becker, and juniors Jessica Regan, and Laura Jacobson have competed nationally as well. Coach Wolf also noted the potential of sophomore Amy Katsma, who qualified provisionally for indoor nationals as a freshman in the shot.

Also, juniors Anthony Ebert and Jon Woehl, sophomore Dan Walhof, and freshman Sarah Storm have all qualified for the outdoor national meet in the marathon, which is held in Fresno, Calif. in May.

In addition to individual events, each member of the team is putting in the effort to move Northwestern to high rankings. According to Wolf, the men’s team has the goal of finishing fourth in the conference, which would be the highest placing ever for NW. The women are striving for a ranking between fourth and sixth place in the GPAC.

Twenty-one Raiders will begin competition this weekend at the Iowa State University Open in Ames. The full team will compete next Saturday, Jan. 27, at the Buena Vista Invitational in Storm Lake.
Theatre students compete at Theater Fest

BY ALLISON ROORDA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Next week five faculty and 30 students will attend the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) at the University of Iowa in Ames, Iowa, from January 21 to 27.

ACTF is a week long event that includes expositions, competitions and performances, as well as shows and workshops that the students will be able to participate in.

Among the competitions is the Irene Ryan Acting Competition, in which students are invited to perform a scene of their choice with a scene partner. There are seven students from Northwestern performing in this competition: juniors Matthew Hulstein, and Lindsay Westercamp, and sophomores Brady Huffman, Tucker Schneider, Toney Wilder, Margareta DeBoer and Ben Bees.

There will also be students with design work involved in workshops and expositions. Seniors Marly Wooster and Mark Larson will each be presenting a lighting design at the David L. Thayer Lighting Workshop.

Wooster will be entering her lighting design from “Gone to Earth,” and Larson will enter his design from “James Joyce’s The Dead.” Wooster and Larson were selected among six other students from a group of 15 students to participate in this workshop.

Senior Micah Trapp is entered in the Honors Festival Stage Management Team, where she will manage a costume parade.

Students from NW were also invited to the Tech/Design Awards and Exposition. Senior Biz Grimm will participate in the exposition, presenting her set design from “James Joyce’s The Dead.”

The NW theatre department was also invited to bring along one scene from last semester’s play “Gone to Earth” to perform in a showcase of invited scenes.

Finally, the Drama Ministries Ensemble (DME) will join the theatre students at ACTF from January 21 to 22 before going to the Calvin College Worship Symposium in Grand Rapids, Mich.

The DME will participate in workshops and learning opportunities from Thursday to Saturday of that week before performing at the worship service at the end of the week. This is the first time the DME has been invited to perform in the worship service at Calvin.

Termspheres are on display in TePaske Gallery this month

BY JAIME EVENHUIS
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Northwestern College’s TePaske Gallery will be exhibiting the work of Dick Termes from Jan. 16 through Feb. 15. An opening reception with the artist was held on January 16 at 7 p.m.

Termes is internationally acclaimed for his spherical paintings, called Termespheres. His paintings present geometric designs and the interiors of famous buildings wrapped around a sphere.

Termes has painted landmarks that include the Pantheon in Rome, St. Mark’s square in Venice, Stonehenge, Wrigley Field and the Globe Theater in London.

His paintings give the viewer a unique three-dimensional look at the painting’s world. Termes uses a complex six-point perspective and imagines himself in the center of a transparent sphere when painting his spheres.

Termes began painting in 1959 and began painting on spheres in 1968. That same year he received his master’s degree in art from the University of Wyoming.

Termes received a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, where his termespheres were the subject of his thesis.

His termespheres are also highlighted in chapters of academic books such as “Stretchable Space,” and “The Visual Mind: Art and Mathematics.”

Originally from South Dakota, Termes travels throughout the U.S. and abroad giving lectures and workshops on his art.

Today Termes resides outside of Spearfish, S.D., where he lives with his wife in four geodesic domes.

While in Orange City, Termes will visit local high schools. He will show examples of his work and will show a video presenting the creative process.

In St. Louis, M.O., two missing boys were found alive. Ben Ournby was kidnapped on Jan. 8, and discovered on Jan. 12. Shawn Hornbeck, who has been missing since 2002, was also discovered at this time.

In Houston, Texas, truck driver Tyron Williams was sentenced to life in prison for the deaths of 19 illegal immigrants. He packed the back of his 18 wheeler with over 70 immigrants. They died of dehydration, overheating and suffocation as he was attempting to smuggle them into the country.

On Thursday, Jan. 11, China successfully tested an anti-satellite missile, which has raised some criticism from the U.S. China’s weather satellites would travel the same height as U.S. spy satellites, so the test represented an indirect threat to U.S. security.

In American Fork, Utah, three pregnant teenagers living in a group home assaulted the director with a frying pan, tied her up with power cords, and fled in a stolen minivan. The police believe they have left the state and are still searching for them.

On Thursday, Jan. 18, French president Jacques Chirac honored nearly 3,000 people for their efforts to rescue Jews during the Holocaust. This is the first time the group, known as the “Righteous of France,” have been recognized.