Bush continues to threaten Senate bill which will remove troops from Iraq

BY BETHANY KROEZE

Yesterday, the Senate voted 51-47 to pass the Iraq war spending bill, despite promises from President Bush that he will veto the bill because of the inclusion of a timetable for withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq.

The proposed bill will designate $122 billion in emergency supplemental funds for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as requiring Bush to begin bringing troops home within four months of the bill’s signing with the entirety of U.S. forces removed by March 31, 2008.

“The American people have lost faith in the president’s conduct of this war,” said Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

During a speech to the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association on Wednesday, Bush said, “Here’s the bottom line: the House and Senate bills have too much pork, too many conditions on our commanders and an artificial timetable for withdrawal. And I have made it clear for weeks, if either version comes to my desk, I’m going to veto it.”

“Funding for our forces in Iraq will begin to run out in mid-April,” Bush continued. “Members of Congress need to stop making political statements and start providing vital funds for our troops.”

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Ne.) said, “We’ve spoken the words the American people wanted us to speak. There must be a change in direction in the war in Iraq, the civil war in Iraq.”

Over the past week, Bush has been urging Congress to pass the bill without the timeline included.

“I want a deadline not only for commencing the withdrawal of our forces but also completing it rather than a target date,” said Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.)

Last weekend, Vice President Dick Cheney accused the House of not supporting the troops in Iraq and said this bill would send a message to terrorists that America will retreat in the face of danger.

“They’re not supporting the troops. They’re undermining them,” Cheney said while speaking to a gathering of the Republican Jewish Coalition in Manalapan, Fl., last weekend.

Iraqi Vice President Tariq al-Hashimi expressed his support of American troops operating in Iraq. He said that the U.S. troops should not be withdrawn before Iraq’s own armed forces are functioning autonomously and professionally.

“Many of the Democrats are now pushing the White House for a quick withdrawal of troops from Iraq,” al-Hashimi said last weekend. “This is not going to benefit either Iraq or Western interests.”

“If troops are pulled out on short notice, it will create a security vacuum in Iraq that cannot be filled by troops that have not been trained well enough and are not available in sufficient numbers,” he continued.

This legislation is the Senate’s first bold challenge of Bush’s war policies since the Democrats took control of Congress in January. Democrats only narrowly hold the majority, but Republicans allowed this proposal to pass because they were confident that Bush would veto the bill.

“I think the sooner we can get this bill…down to the president for veto, we can get serious about passing a bill that will get money to the troops,” said Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky).

SIFE initiates micro-financing program in Nicaragua

BY RENEE NYHOF

This project stemmed from the program and Teach a Man to Fish. Avery saw a high unemployment rate and a low standard of living a world communities,” said Miroshnychenko. “It’s amazing the things you can do and the people you can reach.”

As a nonprofit free market leadership opportunity for students, Avery saw SIFE as a great tool for students and introduced the program to Northwestern in 2001 because many people have ideas to solve problems.

“SIFE is not just a business thing, every person can participate,” said Miroshnychenko. “They can bring new ideas or improve old projects.”

One former student, Collin Doughan, saw a need to have a coffee shop on campus. SIFE helped with marketing and, though the location is different today, his idea still lives through Butler’s Café in Sioux Center.

SIFE members also worked on the Teach a Man to Fish project for thirty years. Their goal was to feed the hungry, and this project consisted of self-sustaining aquaculture kits that requiring only sunlight and water, operating on a 12-volt solar system for low-income families to raise fish and vegetables to sell.

The 12 active members of SIFE usually meet every two weeks. According to Avery, the members have approximately 1200 combined hours placed into researching, planning and implementing ongoing and new project ideas for this year.

Funding for SIFE comes from regional competitions only according to Avery.

“We’ve been blessed to have won money at competitions to keep going,” said Avery. “And even though we have a low budget operation, we’ve learned we can do a lot with a little.”
People that we disagree with aren’t evil, just different.

An angry student recently decided to send me an e-mail informing me that he was “sick of my opinions being on this campus, that had “gone too far,” politely asking me to “stop welping your far left propaganda into the school paper.”

This is a symptom of a much greater problem in America today. There is a tendency of many people to paint anyone who disagrees with them as some kind of dangerous extremist who is an enemy. On the other hand, pundits like Bill O’Reily and Anne Coulter attempt to paint those who differ from them on even the most minute issues as “far left, godless secularists” who are trying to destroy America. To those who subscribe to this worldview, like the gentlemen who wrote me that e-mail, suggesting alternative ways of viewing the world is tantamount to treason. On the left, oversimplifications of world issues lead to ideas that those on the right are “imperialists,” “fascists” or “oil mongers.” Is it productive to always enter every discussion with the idea of it being a “culture war,” a clash between good and evil? Is it a sign that our culture lacks the ability to talk about our differences? Is it healthy for society to assume that there are only two main sides to a story?

Is it possible that people who claim to believe wholeheartedly in a God of love, that people whose entire belief structure, in fact, rests upon the claim that love is the be-all and end-all of the universe, how is it possible that people who claim to believe things like this will deny civil rights to another person? Christ’s greatest commands to us were first to love God with all that is in us and secondly to love our neighbor as ourselves. This command is, in fact, wherever all of the controversy on campus this semester has stemmed. Dr. Monsma asked us to consider “who is my neighbor,” and how can I love them?” This question is posed for all students—Christian who wishes to be the Good News in the world as Christ was. How can we as Christians—those who are called above all else to love other people and to care for them as we would ourselves—how can we continue to love God and to have a relationship with God when we refuse a relationship with those who are our neighbors?

Is there tension between civil rights and? AARYN ECKERT

During the forum on same-sex relationships, the question was asked, “Is it denial of civil rights vs. denial of the Word? Has it become anyone else’s responsibility? Is it possible that people who claim to believe wholeheartedly in a God of love, that people whose entire belief structure, in fact, rests upon the claim that love is the be-all and end-all of the universe, how is it possible that people who claim to believe things like this will deny civil rights to another person? Christ’s greatest commands to us were first to love God with all that is in us and secondly to love our neighbor as ourselves. This command is, in fact, wherever all of the controversy on campus this semester has stemmed. Dr. Monsma asked us to consider “who is my neighbor,” and how can I love them?” This question is posed for all students—Christian who wishes to be the Good News in the world as Christ was. How can we as Christians—those who are called above all else to love other people and to care for them as we would ourselves—how can we continue to love God and to have a relationship with God when we refuse a relationship with those who are our neighbors?

How can we deny civil rights to those who are marginalized in society and point to a book of love in order to justify such a belief? I find it highly disturbing that anyone would think it acceptable to put Scripture against civil rights in the first place. As James Birely wrote in his column last week, the idea that Christ was a historical figure, that he was in fact God’s son, that he died and rose from the dead and that his death has somehow given it using objective reasoning is next to impossible. But one doesn’t need to try very hard to prove without a shadow of a doubt that there are people in the world who live without the basic rights of liberty and equality. Is it surprising at all that non-Christians would look at people like this and give them labels such as “naive,” “illogical” and “bigots”? How can we live in a country like the United States, which offers liberty and justice TO ALL and still deny such rights to someone?

To live in America, and to enjoy and utilize our own freedoms all over campus to be used during the winter months. The hard, cold fact is unless this grocery store could become a reality, you’re wasting time reading this. What’s holding us back?

It’s not Sodexo. In fact, Sodexo stocks grocery stores all across the United States and close to home—schools as small as Drake and as big as St. Ambrose. Adding NW’s to the list wouldn’t be a hassle. It’s not a lack of space. On our website, students find the description of our RSC tobe “visible and student-friendly” space that provides “easy access” to a variety of “student services.” This would be the ideal location for a campus grocery store.

This could be our legacy—an investment, no, a gift—that we can leave for future generations. Someday soon, after a delicious meal, purchased economically and conveniently, we’ll sigh, smile and congratulate ourselves on a job well done. Then we’ll sneak out to race the shopping carts.

FROM THE EDITOR:

Here’s your chance to let your voice be heard! Jenna will be in the caf lobby next week Tuesday and Wednesday during lunch to hear what you have to say about a campus grocery store in the new RSC. Jenna will be collecting your feedback—positive or negative—and taking it to the administration. Be sure to stop by the caf and talk to Jenna!

Northwestern College
BEACON
March 30, 2007

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Northwestern College
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“Grey’s Anatomy” obsession

BY RACHEL RIETSEMA
STAFF WRITER

As the tension rises, each individual gathered in Steggy room 146 have their eyes glued to the TV screen. This anxiety occurs often on Thursday nights at 8 p.m. among six women who watch “Grey’s Anatomy.”

Sophomore Katie Terveen is one of the dedicated viewers who owns two seasons on DVD. When the series first aired, she didn’t take an immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurs out comments directed towards the characters and also discusses their situations with her friends.

“I bounce ideas off each other, but when the show is on, no one talks unless it’s a gasp or short comment,” Terveen said.

Another member of this group, Sophomore Mallory Carmean, enjoys being able to watch the show with people who get as excited as she does. Throughout the week, she dwells quite a bit on what’s going to happen next. “Grey’s Anatomy” has become part of her weekly routine.

“‘Grey’s Anatomy’ hour, that’s the special hour; I plan my schedule around ‘Grey’s Anatomy,’” Carmean said. “If something is going on it has to be planned around (‘Grey’s’).”

Terveen admits the show doesn’t reflect her morals; she watches it mainly for entertainment value, and it keeps her guessing. Since the show ranks as second in the nation, she said incorporating religion in the script would allow for Christian values to be influenced significantly.

“It would be great if they took out the excess sex, but I’m also aware that it would completely change the dynamic of the show. They would have to bring in something else to compensate for the loss.”

Across campus in Hospers Hall, a larger group of girls meet in Resident Director Ann DuMez’s Hall, a larger group of girls meet in Resident Director Ann DuMez’s apartment. Freshman Catie Sabata, a devoted fan who meets with this group, has been watching since the pilot episode.

Despite watching episodes repeatedly, each time a random phrase is integrated into a serious scene, she always laughs. She said she would be very distraught if she left the show.

“If the show got cancelled, what would I do on Thursday nights? Let’s be honest,” Sabata said. “I would cry, not physically, but on the inside, I would cry.”

Terveen would be upset for awhile if that were the case but said owning the seasons would allow her to get over it. When asked if soap operas and “Grey’s Anatomy” shared similar characteristics, she admitted it to be true. However, she tries to ignore the resemblance between the two because people don’t think highly of soap operas. She doesn’t have a concrete reason for watching it but says that it allows her to be worry-free for an hour.

“As far as life problems, I wouldn’t say that it would be an escape,” Terveen said. “It’s an escape from daily stress.”

Escaping from the problems in everyday life is also why Sabata watches it every week. Her obsession with the show rates at a nine on a scale ranging from one to ten because it has become a big necessity in her life. It brightens her week and recommends everyone to become a part of the McDreamy craze.

“It’s exciting. Even though it’s immoral, it’s also funny and thrilling,” Sabata said. “It draws you in.”

By Mo: “Bling for You and Me”

BY KILEY SELIGMAN
STAFF WRITER

Junior Molly Keese began her new earring business, By Mo, only a little over a month ago to raise money for her Spring Service Project to Trinidad. With friends, family and Northwestern students as her customers, business is looking up for this hopeful entrepreneur.

Keese started making earrings about four years ago as a hobby and as a way to give fun, unique gifts to people. To help support her SSP to Trinidad, she decided to turn her hobby into a business and give the profits to that mission. She makes all the earrings herself, sometimes in the company of friends, such as Fern Resident Director Lisa Barber.

By getting her style from current trends or from her own imagination, her goal is to create earrings that are unique and can’t be found anywhere else. “I try not to ever make too much of the same; I try to design them all different,” said Keese.

The earrings are made from different styles and colors. Earrings range from $5 to $15, depending on the time spent and the type of beads used. Most earrings are pre-made, but Keese does take specialty orders for those who want something specific.

As an elementary education major, Keese’s dream is to teach while still running her business on the side in order to “bling up the teachers of tomorrow” with her unique jewelry. If the opportunity arose, she would love to expand the business to stores and would even be open to hiring others to create her ideas.

Keese doesn’t do it for the money, though. “I like to make them [earrings], and if people like what I have, they can come check them out.” Interested in checking out some of Keese’s creative and affordable earrings? You can contact her at mkeese@nwciowa.edu or check out her pictures on Facebook, but if you want a more hands-on experience, stop by room 348 in Fern Smith Hall to take a look.

Photo courtesy of Google.com

“Grey’s Anatomy” are Thursday nights at 8 p.m. on ABC.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to beacon@nwciowa.edu.

“I had three goals to achieve before I graduate. First, I was going to be homecoming queen. Then I was going to be Northwestern. Now I just want to make campus quotes. David Bray is achieving all of my goals.”

- Senior Cindy Sphesnas, voicing her frustrating with life

“All great artists die in plane crashes. If you ever become great, and you’re an artist, stay on the ground.”

- Professor Thomas Helm, commenting on the many musicians who have died in plane crashes

“Yes, it’s true. The Holy Foreskin of Jesus.”

- Professor Bob Wiin, lecturing on religious relics used in the early church

Counter-Strike: a new way to do community

BY BETSY HEBERGER
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

On Thursday night in VPH 302, a different kind of community takes place. The gaming community.

From 9 p.m. to 12 a.m., men and women alike head to VPH to take part in Counter-Strike, a first-person shooter computer game.

Now some of you may wonder, “What is Counter-Strike?” Thanks to junior Tom Dose, I am now able to enlighten you as to what exactly it is.

Basically, the team of “terrorists” and the team of “counter-terrorists” run around and shoot each other. Pretty simple strategy.

However, killing your opponent isn’t the only strategy of the game. Sometimes the counter-terrorists have to play the hero and, in addition to killing the terrorists, must rescue the hostage. The terrorists, of course, have to protect the hostage. The other times the terrorists are commissioned to create more mayhem and must plant a bomb, demolish something and attempt to defeat the counter-terrorists.

At the very beginning of the game (before the killing starts), you are allowed to purchase either weapons (guns or grenades) or items such as a kevlar (bulletproof) vest and/or helmet.

As the game goes on, you can earn more money to buy things, depending on whether your team is winning or completing the tasks given them.

The Counter-Strike gaming night was actually started by Dose’s older brother, Sam, who graduated three years ago. The elder Dose and his friends realized that it was more fun to play with more people, so they installed the game in one whole lab in Heemstra. Last semester, the younger Dose resurrected the tradition and obtained permission to hold Counter-Strike in VPH. There is no sign-up, and all you need is a pair of headphones. As Dose said, “It’s come and go, and new people are always welcome.”

So next Thursday night, grab a few friends and head over to VPH 302, newbies and novices welcome.

Meet the Robinsons
Fri & Mon-Thu 7:05, 9:25
Sat & Sun 7:45, 11:00, 1:15
Blades of Glory
Fri & Mon-Thu 7:00, 9:40
Sat & Sun 11:30, 2:00, 7:00, 9:40
Wild Hogs
Fri & Mon-Thu 7:15, 9:30
Sat & Sun 11:00, 2:15, 9:30
300
Fri & Mon-Thu 7:10, 9:30
Sat & Sun 11:40, 2:10, 7:10
The Hills Have Eyes II
Fri & Mon-Thu 9:25, Sat & Sun 4:20, 9:25
Shooter
Fri & Mon-Thu 6:05, 9:45
Sat & Sun 1:15, 4:25, 9:45
Last Mimzy
Fri & Mon-Thu 7:10
TMNT
Fri & Mon-Thu 7:15, 9:35
Sat & Sun 1:15, 4:20, 9:15, 9:35
Starting Wednesday April 4th
Are We Done Yet?
West Thu 7:10, 9:30
Firehouse Dog
NP
West Thu 7:10, 9:30
Eating disorders in America: Warped perception of beauty and need for control are leading contributors in the cause of serious eating disorders

BY CLARE WINTER

People want to be beautiful. People want to be attractive. People want to fit the into culture's warped perception that thinness equals beauty.

In “Little Miss Sunshine,” Frank explains the principle of weight gaining to his seven-year-old daughter Olive, “So, if you eat a lot of ice cream, you might become fat. And if you don’t, you’re going to stay nice and skinny.” This pressure to “stay nice and skinny” can result in serious problems.

Eating disorders are defined in the dictionary as “psychological disorders characterized by serious disturbances of eating behavior.” Anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge-eating are the most common eating disorders.

The seriousness of eating disorders like anorexia, which has the highest premature mortality rate of all psychological disorders, cannot be ignored. It is estimated that approximately one percent of Americans are anorexic, and an estimated five to ten million Americans struggle with eating disorders, including up to 40 percent of college age females. A study done in 2004 helps explain these sky-high estimates. The study found that 42 percent of first- to third-grade girls want to be thinner, while 81 percent of 10 year olds feared getting fat.

Both genetic and environmental factors can trigger the onset of the devastating illnesses referred to as eating disorders. Sally Oakes Edman, director of Northwestern’s counseling services, explains that those who have been physically or sexually abused, have low self-esteem, come from dysfunctional families and have grown up in households where appearance and thinness were highly valued are the most susceptible to eating disorders.

Stegenga Hall Resident Director Sara James, who has helped students with anorexia and bulimia in the past, says that eating disorders frequently start when a person experiences “a chaotic situation that leaves them feeling helpless and in need of control.” Often the disease begins with a slow progression from regular eating habits towards disordered eating.

Edman relates that the individual then becomes “more and more careful about counting calories and their appearance until they actually have a disorder.”

People struggling with eating disorders need to hear concerns voiced from their friends and family in order to recognize that a problem exists. One individual who struggled with anorexia relates, “I wish my friends would have said something like, ‘You are way too small.’ By hearing others say it, I would have known something was wrong. It just kept getting worse, so by the time I got in front of the mirror … it was horrible to see myself look like someone who was from a Nazi camp.”

James suggests that when confronting someone with an eating disorder, it is crucial to first confirm your love and care for them. Before suggesting they have an eating disorder, it is important to provide concrete examples of patterns in their life that have changed (e.g. dramatic changes in eating habits, weight loss, excessive exercise or preoccupation with weight). Edman says it is also important to avoid simplifying the problem and to avoid increasing shame and guilt.

While a friend or group of friends could help someone with a mild eating disorder, someone who has a serious eating disorder will require professional treatment. According to Edman, three sources should be consulted in these cases: a therapist, a medical doctor and a dietician.

If you or someone in your life is struggling with an eating disorder, seek help through an RA, RD or the free and confidential counseling services available on campus. According to a student who suffered from an eating disorder, “It’s going to be hard to go in for help but it’s only for the best.” Counseling services can provide objective advice to a struggling individual or prepare someone to discuss their concerns with a friend.

When helping someone with an eating disorder, the most important thing is to continue to love and support the struggling individual and to remind them that you desire them to be healthy and happy. Although it will be difficult and you will be unable to understand everything they are going through, helping a friend with an eating disorder will make a difference in their life.
What does Lilly do for you?

BY LINDSAY SQUIRES

As I sought to answer this question, I discovered that the Lilly Grant does more for Northwestern College than most people would even begin to realize. Since receiving the $2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment in 2003, NW students and faculty alike have had numerous opportunities to explore God’s calling in their lives and to discern their place in his world. But when it comes down to it, what does Lilly do for you?

Interim Director of Spiritual Formation and Vocation Susan Reese explained that the Lilly-funded Vocare Program has five overarching purposes: worship and the arts, multi-cultural education and awareness, practice of spiritual disciplines, vocational formation of faculty and staff and finally, leadership and ordained ministry.

While each of these five concentrations are pursued in various ways, the practical outworking of these purposes include: visiting artists, the Deep Song reading series, multi-cultural internships, spiritual development retreats, vocation-infused courses, faculty research initiatives, chapel visits and conferences attended by faculty, staff and students also enjoy Lilly funding.

Professor of Theater and Speech Jeff Barker’s “And God Said” project received Lilly funding. This weekend, a travel group will be going to New York to create a demo-recording of some of the music from Barker’s production with “the hope that theatres, schools and churches throughout the world will be drawn to join us in performing the Old Testament,” Barker said.

In the communications department, Assistant Professor of Communications Jamey Durham received Lilly funding to assist in the production of “The Prairie Pirates” film. Associate Professor of Biology Ralph Davis has also benefited from Lilly in the Neuroscience and Persons program.

Over spring break, five NW students embarked on a journey of over 4,000 miles in order to work with four different ministries in cities around the United States. Supported by Lilly funding, Jason Blaha, Sam Galloway, Jonathan Kuik, Caleb White and Josh Kuipers traveled to St. Louis, Mo., Memphis, Tenn., the New York/New Jersey area and Chicago, Ill. While these young men were traveling to learn, serve and discern God’s calling in their lives, they were careful to distinguish their journey from a typical mission trip in their original Lilly Grant proposal.

“We are not merely preparing for this trip, figure out what we learned and come up with conclusions based on these things. This is by far the hardest part and is something we would not be doing if it were not for the Lilly funding,” Reese said.

According to Reese and Spiritual Formation and Vocation Executive Assistant Rachel Te Grootenhuis, a vital emphasis of the Vocare project is assessment.

Endeavoring to do just that, Kuik reflected on his spring break trip: “We must try to process our trip, figure out what we learned and come up with conclusions based on these things. This is by far the hardest part and is something we would not be doing if it were not for the Lilly funding,” Reese said.

While the extension of the original Lilly Grant will last through May 2008, which totals eight and one half years of Lilly funding, the Lilly Grant is meant to leave a legacy beyond the funding.

“We hope people come to understand that this is a life-long process and that day-to-day decisions have a large impact,” Reese said.

According to Reese and Spiritual Formation and Vocation Executive Assistant Rachel Te Grootenhuis, a vital emphasis of the Vocare project is assessment.

The Black Hills Retreat, which over 100 students attended last semester, was also subsidized by the grant. Moreover, Lilly funds will be used to purchase a portable prayer labyrinth. New study abroad exploratory trips, graduate school visits and conferences attended by faculty, staff and students also enjoy Lilly funding.

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“We are not merely preparing to go on this trip and have it be the climax of our story. We have made a decision to use this trip as a stepping stone on the way to a new attitude and new way of life,” they said.

As students wrestle with life and career decisions, Reese said that many are asking what to do with their lives.

“You’re called by God. We are all called by God, so what are we going to do about it?” Reese said. “It’s not all about us. We have a calling for a purpose greater than ourselves.”

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While the Lilly Grant has allowed NW to explore questions of calling by creating many new opportunities for students and faculty, Reese said, “NW has remained committed to the mission of the school, and that has been complemented by Lilly funding.”

Even when the grant has expired, however, Reese maintained the importance of owning the ideas and concepts of Lilly.

So what does Lilly do for you? The list extends off this page. What can Lilly do for you? The possibilities are as large as your vision. For more information, check out www.lilly.nwciowa.edu.
PERSISTENCE AT THE PLATE PAYS OFF FOR NW SOFTBALL

BY LAURA JACOBSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Strong hitting and nearly error-free defense earned the Red Raider softball team a pair of wins Tuesday night against Mount Marty College. The Raiders defeated the conference competitor 11-0 and 8-1.

“The biggest thing was our hitting as a team,” said Head Coach Melanie Mason, citing the team’s .482 average Tuesday afternoon. “That’s a pretty incredible batting average for a doubleheader.”

Senior pitcher Megan McHugh, who threw a no-hitter in the first game, agreed. “Everyone was able to step up to the plate and do damage,” she said, adding that the women played Tuesday’s game with confidence and consistency. “We were able to play hard and well through two games,” she said.

The Raiders got the bats going right at the start, when junior Liz Swanson, batting lead-off, tripled in the first inning. Senior Brandi Koerselman went four and had a hand in the run scored, tripled in the first inning. But the run would prove to be the Lancers’ only as well, and NW tied it up in the same inning on an unearned run by Swanson.

The third inning was the charm again as the Raiders tallied four runs on four hits, then added one each in the subsequent three innings. Jacobsma and sophomore Michelle Van Duyn were each a hit away from a perfect 3-3 at the plate, and the Raider defense was flawless.

Sophomore pitcher Laura Calvert allowed only one earned run and recorded eight strikeouts.

Mason is pleased with the Raiders’ current level of competition, but noted aspects of their game needing improvement. “Offense has been a strength of ours,” she said. “I think we’re hitting really well right now, but our short game has struggled.” McHugh pointed to the Raiders’ need to stay consistent. “We play really well some games and others aren’t up to our potential,” she said.

However, McHugh said the Raiders’ determined attitude as a driving force behind their recent success. “We never give up,” she said. “We know that at any time things could turn around, so we always have to play to the best of our ability.”

According to Mason, the women share the end goal of making the national tournament. “We view each step as one step closer to our final goal,” she said.

In order to achieve this, McHugh said the women approach each game with confidence. “We carry the mentality that if we play our type of ball, we can’t be beat,” she said.

NW is now 12-11 on the season and 4-3 in the GPAC. Today and tomorrow they compete in the Morningside Tournament in Sioux City. NW faces Saint Mary of Kansas at noon today.

NW wins a couple wet ones against Waldorf, splits with Doane

BY MIKE VAN ENGEN
STAFF WRITER

The Raiders recorded another couple of wins here on Tuesday as they took on Waldorf. The Raiders won the first game, 13-3 and the second game 4-5. The games were non-conference play.

Northwestern scored five runs in the bottom of the first inning to take a 5-1 lead. They scored five more runs in the fourth inning and three more in the sixth to win 15-3.

Junior Codie Zeutenhorst hit his ninth home run of the season, scored three runs and had three RBIs to lead the offense. Sophomore Jake Jansen, freshman Curt Bogaars, senior Michael Janssen, junior Joe Heitritter and freshman Matt Gray added two hits each.

Sophomore Trevor Kuiper improved to 2-0 this season from the mound as he allowed six hits and two runs and five innings. He struck out four.

The Raiders started the second game off quickly, jumping out to a 10-run lead in the first four innings. The Warriors scored five runs in the top of the fifth to prevent a short game, but NW went on to score one more run in their half of the fifth to make the score 11-5. Waldorf failed to score again in the sixth inning, and the game was called due to the rain.

Offensively, sophomore Austin Malone went 4-4 with a double, two runs scored and an RBI. Michael Janssen and junior Justin Lane added two hits apiece for the Raiders.

Brad Payne picked up his second win of the season (2-0) as the freshman gave up three hits and five runs. Sophomore Andrew Brower pitched the final inning as a reliever for Payne.

NW traveled to Doane to put a first game walkoff, and a second game close loss in the record books. NW won the first game 19-3 and lost the second game 4-5. The Raiders improved to 14-5. The games were originally scheduled for March 23, but got rained out and moved to March 26.

The Raiders sealed the deal with 19 runs in the first four innings leading them to a 19-3 win over Doane. Sophomore Grant Wall went a perfect 4-4 with four runs scored and three RBIs to lead the offense.

Junior Amy Larson—the first of her career. But the Raiders really let loose in the third, totaling eight runs on nine hits. At the end of the beating, Fisher and Jacobsma had each gone 3-3 at the plate to lead the Raider offense. Redel and Swanson each recorded two hits.

McHugh tallied eight strikeouts and three walks, and the women marked only one error.

“Everyone was able to step up to the plate and do damage. We were able to play hard and well through two games.”
- Megan McHugh

The Raiders’ were busy at bat again in the second contest, defeating the Lancers 8-1. Mount Marty scored first, getting on the board in the first inning. But the run would prove to be the Lancers’ only as well, and NW tied it up in the same inning on an unearned run by Swanson.

The third inning was the charm again as the Raiders tallied four runs on four hits, then added one each in the subsequent three innings. Jacobsma and sophomore Michelle Van Duyn were each a hit away from a perfect 3-3 at the plate, and the Raider defense was flawless.

Sophomore Jake Jansen singled to drive in both Gray and Malone to tie the game at three. The Raiders took the lead in the fourth inning when Heitritter scored on a sacrifice fly by Gray.

Doane would not give up, as they took the lead for good in the bottom of the inning when they scored two runs on three hits. The Tigers reliever pitched a three-inning shut-out to close off any offensive attack the Raiders could have had.

Offensively, Jansen led the attack with two hits and three RBIs. Wall, Heitritter, Lane and Gray all had one hit for NW.

Meyn suffered his second loss of the season to drop to 2-2 overall. The senior went four innings, giving up seven hits, three earned runs and striking out one.
Women’s golf set to tee off

BY BETHANY KROEZE

The women’s golf team played a full schedule last fall, finishing with the conference meet in Blair, Neb., on Oct. 12 and 13. Earning a fifth place finish with a team score of 740 allows the women to compete in the regional competition in Fargo, N.D., on April 30 and May 1.

Freshman Kelsey Shiflett said, “The spring season is short, so the main goal — both for me personally and as a team — is to improve on our scores from the fall.”

In her first collegiate meet last fall, at the Dakota Wesleyan Invite, Shiflett became the third Red Raider to record a hole-in-one in school history.

Junior Melissa Hisel and senior Alison Stutzman earned all-league honors at the conference meet last fall. They tied for 10th with a 178; this is the third consecutive year Hisel has earned this honor.

Hisel said, “We have been working hard all winter and we are ready to go out and play hard this spring.”

“We have great potential to place well [at regionals] and upset some teams that are expecting to win.”

Head Coach Harold Hoftyzer said that Dakota Wesleyan is the region’s favored team to beat this spring, and the women are working hard to improve their scores and beat out DWU.

“Heaven-bound is the final stroke or putt. The race, or golf meet, has been set and started for us.” - Coach Hoftyzer

“God has blessed this team with gifts and potential — now our gift back to Him is what we do with it and bring glory to Him,” said Hoftyzer.

“Northwestern has impacted me more than I will probably ever know.”

BY KAYLA MAXEDON

From little leaguer to high school all-star to conference starter, senior pitcher Jake Koerselman has had quite an impressive career. According to Head Coach Brian Wede, “He is one of our top pitchers and has played very well for us up to this point. He brings a very consistent approach to the baseball diamond. We know what we will get from Jake nearly every time he pitches.”

Wede credits Koerselman’s leadership as a driving force behind the team’s success. He said, “Jake has been a very big part of the resurgence of the Raider baseball team with the leadership and talent he possesses.”

As one pitcher in a rotation of several, Koerselman says it is sometimes difficult to keep his focus. “My most challenging part of being on the team is trying to stay focused on off days,” he said. But his success largely comes from taking one day at a time. He doesn’t focus on his past accomplishments, but only looks towards the opportunities of the future. “I hope the biggest accomplishments are still to come,” he said.

Koerselman feels his team has made a huge impression on his life and points to the influence of both current and past teammates. When speaking of the athlete, Wede believes the impact is mutual. “He is someone the guys trust,” said Wede.

Koerselman will graduate with a degree in business finance, which he plans to use to pursue a career in banking and investments. Koerselman’s last semester is quickly coming to an end, and he feels he has had a great experience.

“Northwestern has impacted me more than I will probably ever know,” he said.

If you haven’t had an opportunity to meet Koerselman, you only have a few weeks left to do so. You can catch him in NW’s doubleheader this afternoon vs. Concordia at 4:30 p.m.

Men’s golf looks for a successful spring season

BY BETHANY KROEZE

The men’s golf team will kick off their spring season on Monday at the Midland Lutheran Invite in Fremont, Neb.

Last fall, the Raiders enjoyed a successful season with a first place finish at Wayne State as well as a few top five finishes.

According to Head Coach Mark Bloemendaal, “Our primary goal is to qualify to move on to the national meet the preceding week,” said Bloemendaal.

“To do so, we will need to finish in the top five in the conference meet the preceding week,” said Bloemendaal.

The team will be counting on senior Dan Laaveg, the returning GPAC individual champion, as their leader this spring.

Laaveg said, “My personal goal is to find a consistent swing that I can trust. I must commit to every shot and take nothing for granted on the greens.”

Freshman Luke Vermeer, who enjoyed an excellent collegiate start this fall, with a third place finish at the Iowa Lakes Community College Invite, said, “I think we have a legitimate chance at nationals this year if we come out and play to the best of our abilities.”

The team will golf in four tournaments to prepare for the conference and regional meets. The Raiders will host the NW Invitational on April 18. “It would be great to see a few fans out at our home meet,” said senior David Klyn.

Junior Nate Summers said, “A personal goal of mine in my last two years here is to see the golf program at NW gain some prestige in the area and in the NAIA.”

“I think our program can use last year’s successes to build on and produce a successful spring season this year,” Summers said.
Interest in studying off-campus continues to rise; some students crushed by rejection

BY KIM EASON
NEWS EDITOR

When several students checked their e-mail last week in anticipation of being accepted to the semester study abroad program, they were sadly disappointed.

There were 75 applicants to study abroad next year; 56 were approved.

The interest of studying abroad has risen drastically in the past few years. Five years ago, only 35 students were approved.

The budget was increased to $600,000 to accommodate the increase, “but we can’t keep up with the interest,” said Program Director Nancy Landhuis.

Since Romania is Northwestern’s own study abroad program, those applicants were accepted. There are other majors where students are required to study abroad, so those were also accepted.

The remaining 20 students were put on a waiting list in case of attrition. There have been smaller waiting lists the past two years, and everyone who applied has been able to go because some have changed their mind. This year, the list is much larger.

“President Murphy has made it a priority,” said Carlson. “We hope that the institution will continue to raise the budget for the study abroad programs.”

Students apply to study abroad in a variety of places, including Romania, Chicago, Los Angeles, Uganda, Washington D.C., China, Russia, Australia and the United Kingdom.

The I-Club is made up of 180 students representing over 180 countries. There will also be acts of music from various countries. There will also be door prizes for the attendees and a Chopstick Challenge open to the audience.

Besides the opportunities to view culturally diverse performances, the audience will also be able to partake of different ethnic foods.

“The food features Cameron, Taiwan, Chinese, Indian, Korean, Japanese and Mediterranean,” said junior Georgeena Williams.

Some dishes featured are a Taiwanese pork dish in soy sauce, mousakka, Thai chicken curry and Tandoori chicken. Also available will be several desserts, including Ilan and Canadian beaver’s tail, donuts in the shape of a beaver’s tail.

Admission for the Ethnic Fair is $1. Food costs $6 per adult and $3 for children for one trip through the line. An all-you-can-eat buffet will cost $10.

“There will be lots of variety and lots of costumes,” said Babu. “It’ll just be a lot of fun.”