One world, one dream?
One student’s thoughts on the Beijing Olympics protests

BY SI SI WANG
STAFF WRITER
The People’s Republic of China was established in 1949, and since then the Chinese have had a dream to host the Olympic Games. However, they weren’t ready. When the Tokyo Summer Olympics took place, their dreams became even bigger. The Chinese Olympic Committee had bid on multiple Olympic Games, but their dreams were never fulfilled. On the night of July 14, 2001, millions of Chinese all over the world sat at home watching TV and waiting for the announcement to find out which country would be the lucky one to host the 2008 Olympics. And the miracle happened; finally their one dream came true.

Since that moment, the Chinese government and citizens began preparations to welcome thousands of guests from all over the world. It is not only about the economic growth that will flow into Beijing, it is also a way to display Chinese culture and show the beauty of city. However, when I saw the Torch Run protests in France, San Francisco and Los Angeles, I was shocked and also crushed. There are two protesting parties: pro-Tibet and pro-China. Many of the signs from the protests said, “Save Tibet, Free Tibet,” and some even said “Stop Beijing Olympics.” Many readers may wonder at this point: Why is this happening?

On March 14, 2008 the capital of Tibet, Lhasa, was left in chaos after ethnic Tibetans erupted in violent protesting Chinese rule. This day was called “Tibet Independence Forces Day.” Twenty-six innocent people were killed during this incident.

The spiritual and governmental leader of Tibet—the Dalai Lama—expressed the need for peace talks to take place with the Chinese government. The protests were not by his will, as he is a strong supporter of the Beijing Olympics. But pro-Tibet protesters attempted to put out the torch several times to show that they wanted to halt the Beijing Olympics and gain independence from China.

On top of these pro-Tibet protests, many presidents and prime ministers decided not to attend the opening ceremonies of the Olympic Games to force Chinese leaders into having peace talks with the Dalai Lama.

The question is, “When did the Olympic Games become a part of a political conference?” Although several people are for protesting the Olympics, the Games will still happen, and they will be a great success for China. On August 8, 2008 at 8 p.m. when the torch finally reaches its destination point and lights up beneath the Beijing sky, thousands of athletes and spectators alike will join together to compete and fellowship in great sportsmanship as in centuries past.

After two World Wars, after the rebuilding of destroyed ties, and after the healing of families, China is finally ready. The one dream they have is to host one of the greatest Olympics, and now they have their chance.

Music ensembles perform during last couple weeks

BY CHANTELL STEGGERDA
STAFF WRITER
In the final weekends before classes are out for the summer, Northwestern students will have several opportunities to support and appreciate the work of their musical friends and fellows.

On Friday, April 25, the Symphonic Band and Symphonette will hold a joint concert. In addition to two other pieces, the Symphonic Band will play Ian Foister’s arrangement of “Four Dances” from Leonard Bernstein’s “West Side Story,” as well as David Gillingham’s “And Can It Be?” which he wrote within the year after the Columbine shootings.

“[Gillingham] uses the hymn as a way of wrestling with the question, ‘How can people die so young in such a violent way?’” explained Professor Tim McGarvey, Symphonic Band director. “He twists the hymn, turns it, and makes it violent in places, but it finally triumphs in its grandeur and beauty in the end.”

McGarvey feels that the piece is timely in light of the recent shootings at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois earlier this year. Symphonette will be playing to pieces from Bach’s “Orchestral Suite No. 3,” as well as a piece from Tchaikovsky’s “Serenade for Strings.” They will also play Bartók’s “Romanian Dances,” featuring a violin solo by senior music major Aubrey Weger.

All in all, McGarvey observed, “There’s an immense amount of variety. The audience is going to come away with very, very different things in interesting and exciting ways.”

April 26, the following Saturday, the A cappella Choir will join with the Sioux City Oratorio Chorus to perform Mozart’s “Requiem” and motet “Ave Verum Corpus.” The concert will feature four soloists from the Chorus.

“We chose the Mozart Requiem because it holds a special prominence among the great choral and orchestral works,” commented Professor Thomas Holm, who directs both the Choir and the Chorus. “Mozart had the unique ability to capture the drama in whatever text he was setting, whether opera or liturgical.”

Those wishing to attend can purchase tickets in advance at the Dove Bookstore and the NW and Dordt music departments. Student tickets cost $3 in advance and $5 at the door, while non-student tickets cost $5 in advance and $7 at the door.

“The oratorio singers provide experience and singing expertise,” explained Holm about the combined group, “while the A cappella Choir provides a certain youthful energy to the chemistry.”

On the last day of classes, May 2, the Chamber Ensembles will have a concert featuring the Brass Quintet, directed by McGarvey, and the String Quartet, directed by adjunct Professor Lee Thorson.

All concerts will be in Christ Chapel at 7:30 p.m. of their performance day. Symphonic Band, Symphonette, and Chamber performances are free and open to the public.
I never realized how hard it was going to be to be a senior. I expected to have the sentimental feelings for every "last": the last spring break, the last big paper, the last meal in the cafeteria, the last day of classes. I knew it would be difficult to leave the people I’ve been closest to for the last four years, my friends and teammates and the faculty and staff members who have so greatly influenced the way I think. And I don’t even need to mention the pressure I feel when I get that letter that tells me just how much money I owe now and it hits me: oh, I do have to pay all that back. These are all feelings I had prepared myself for. But what I hadn’t expected was that I’d have this sense of being torn between two places, struggling to feel really committed to one. As a senior, you want to savor all the "lasts," but you’re also anxious for what’s to come. As an underclassman, I could never understand what it was like to try to stay committed to everything at Northwestern when you’ve already got one foot out the door.

I wonder, how much have I missed in four years by thinking too far ahead, wishing I was somewhere else?

This isn’t a situation unique to seniors. No matter where you are or what you’re doing, it’s easy to wish you were somewhere else, doing something else, and the busyness of our culture only exacerbates this problem. I know I’m guilty of spending entire class periods planning out all the things I need to get done, or working out a paper for another class, instead of engaging myself in the discussion at hand. With the warm weather finally arriving, it’s hard not to wish I was basking in the outdoors, free from so many responsibilities, instead of cooped up in the library researching. But I wonder, how much have I missed in four years by thinking too far ahead, wishing I was somewhere else? How much richer would each of our lives be if we were committed to the time and the place we were in? As I struggled through this, someone passed on to me an encouragement from an old devotional to be “fully present, fully faithful.” He told me that when he finds himself drifting he likes to encourage from an old devotional to be “fully present, fully faithful.”

I’m generally not one for that we neglect the duties and the blessings God has given us in the exciting, more fun, or just more relaxing, but even when it seems faithful.” He told me that when he finds himself drifting he likes to encourage from an old devotional to be “fully present, fully faithful.”

The Bible is fairly clear in the position it takes on lukewarm religiosity: just read Revelation 3:14-22. In this passage, John is relaying the message he received from the Lord to the Church at Laodicea and he says, “I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. But because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. If you were either hot or cold, I would rather have you be one or the other. If you were among the poorest families in Moldova, a country just sixty miles from the Black Sea, you would have your connections to church and church community.

A few days ago I had the privilege of meeting with Dave Nonnemacher and Professor Abe Schaeffer, in company with a small group of students, to talk about a new, or rather expanded, vision for education at NW—but first a bit of background. Dave has strong connections to church families in Moldova, a post-Communist country that is among the poorest in Europe. Now it happens that, as a Christian, anyone who is providing an excellent source of protein, are among the most digestively efficient animals you will ever encounter, which makes them optimal as providing a needed source of protein, are among the most digestively efficient animals you will ever encounter, which makes them optimal as providing a needed source of protein, are among the most digestively efficient animals you will ever encounter, which makes them optimal as providing a needed source of protein, are among the most digestively efficient animals you will ever encounter, which makes them optimal as providing a needed source of protein, are among the most digestively efficient animals you will ever encounter, which makes them optimal as providing a needed source of protein, are among the most digestively efficient animals you will ever encounter, which makes them optimal as providing a needed source of protein, are among the most digestively efficient animals you will ever 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New ID card policy for your safety

BY AMAN DAHUGANKISS
THE RIGHT ONE

As the year comes to an end, the students of Northwestern College may be feeling a little too frisky for the quiet town of Orange City. Spring is in the air and the NW campus is simply getting out of control. People are running around shirtless, shoeless and senseless. The faculty and staff have deliberated in their usual conference room at the Sioux Center pool on their brightly colored fun-noodles and have come to the only logical conclusion.

Commencing Monday, April 28, 2008 it will be mandatory for all students, faculty and staff to carry their college issued identification cards everywhere on campus. Card scanners will be installed at the entrance of each campus building and will be referred to as the gateways of knowledge. Access will be denied without a valid ID card and an open mind. This measure is being taken in order to better secure and control the campus community.

ID cards will be required to enter all residence halls excluding Heemstra. Following their motto of “nudity builds community,” clothing will be offered as an acceptable substitute for a scanned ID card.

Even after these precautions have been taken it may still be possible for outsiders of the NW community to penetrate campus buildings. As an added precaution, ID cards will also be required to enter all classrooms, restrooms and offices in all buildings. The cafeteria’s frightful epidemic of intruders was successfully remedied by demanding ID cards upon entry. Because of this program’s success it was unanimously decided to hold the same requirements for the entire campus. These precautions will help to build a healthy sense of Christianity community as we do our best to keep out the tax collectors and prostitutes, just as Christ would do.

The campus was in great danger when the cafeteria was unprotected. Now that it is impossible to get your PB&J bagel without your ID card, it may as well be impossible to get your whole education for your whole life if you accidentally misplace it. The faculty and staff feel that this will give the students an added responsibility which will help contribute to their faith and learning adventure.

As for those hooligans who forget their ID cards or take the safety of their Dutch-protected campus for granted, consequences will ensue. If your ID card becomes misplaced, lost, stolen, destroyed, broken, put through the washing machine, eaten or mutilated in any way it will not be accepted by the scanners. If for any reason you do not immediately report a lost card you will be given a scarlet letter and a pamphlet on irresponsibility and disobedience.

To replace a lost card you will be charged $10 for a new card and an $8.25 irresponsibility fee. Failure to comply with the new ID card regulations will result not only in the applicable fines but also result in the loss of man-pri privileges, mini skirt and high heel combos for girls (and boys), all jeans will be required to be washed weekly, your Facebook will be deleted and your first born child will be conceived.

I sincerely hope the campus community will lean on each other for protection and encourage one another to submit to the new regulations just as the church has submitted to Christ. These rules have been carefully outlined for the expansion of the NW bubble. While being prepared for the world outside wooden shoes and windmills, remember that these rules are being implemented to help you bloom like tulips and flourish in your own festival we call life.
Day of Rest: Sleeping in community

BY STYLEY DRESSERMAN
LOTTERY WINNER

In response to the excellent turnout at Northwestern’s Day of Learning in Community, NW administration has decided to integrate another themed day without class in the 2008-2009 curriculum. In keeping with the 24-hour theme, the event will be called the Day of Rest.

The Day of Rest is a day free of classes, and it will be asked that students do nothing other than sleep. Community members are also encouraged to support the college by taking a day off from work to stay home and stay in bed.

“We heard that students were calling the Day of Learning a Day Off Learning anyway,” said Heath Fineheart, professor of literary nonsense and chair of the special days department. “All we ever hear are students whining about how they don’t get enough sleep and they are too tired to do anything, so we decided to listen for a change.”

There will be no homework or tests assigned during the entire week so students are not tempted to do other work. Professors’ salaries will be penalized if they try to disobey this rule.

In order to help the day progress with success, sleeping pills will be available in all lobbies. Blackout curtains will be installed in each residential room. Also, lullaby music will be available for download on the Day of Rest Web site and will be played from Zwemer Hall for the entire 24-hour period.

Students who struggle to fall asleep may want to attend a lecture session with Rundard VanStendal. His philosophy of the existential football workshop is sure to send you quickly into dreamland. VanStendal is known for his soothing voice and boresome topics, and is anxious to contribute.

“I don’t mind staying awake to lecture if it means students will find solace,” he remarked.

If lectures don’t do the trick students may choose to visit the library or bookstore and pick up recent faculty publications and recommendations for further learning. Choosing a book from another discipline is highly recommended.

In case of mid-day hunger, care packages will be set outside each room for easy access and less time taken away from sleeping. The care packages will include roasted turkey sandwiches, corn chips, graham crackers, a cooler with tofu frozen desert and a thermos of warm milk. Each item has been carefully researched and is intended assist in lulling the students back into dreamland.

There will also be a contest for a $200 bookstore gift certificate. To be eligible, students must submit a dream they had during this day to the Day of Rest website. A committee will then choose the best dream to win the gift certificate.

A dream interpreter will also be brought on campus and the winner of the dream contest will have the chance to have their dream explained to them free of charge. For any other person wishing to have their dreams interpreted, the cost will be $1 per dream.

NW administration is looking forward to this new experiment in the curriculum, especially President Wittenhaus. The idea was mainly his. In a sense it is his dream for improving campus life. “We are hoping that students will take part in this Day of Rest. This is a truly biblical concept.”

We wish for students to take the extra time off from homework to reflect on life and school prior to this day. Then we will take a day to rest.

“I’m hoping that a mandatory sleep period will put me in good favor with students and faculty alike” added Misty. “President Blue Smurfy never came up with an idea like this.”
**Fern Smith Hall initiates Woman Week**

**BY USHAWNICA LICKDEPU**
**ONE OF THE HOTTEST**

In honor of her 40th birthday, Fern Smith Hall and its residents decided they would no longer be outdone by the testosterone-driven festivities of West Hall’s celebrated Man Week. This year, the women decided to commemorate their femininity by hosting the first ever Woman Week.

“It’s been a long time coming,” said Fern Smith Hall Resident Director, Lucy Hairdresser. “I mean, honestly, we’ve had so much more to celebrate.”

Sophomore Rainy K. Softersen echoed the sentiments of Fern’s fearless leader: “Man Week seems to consist of nothing more than running around naked and slaughtering pigs. All that ‘Hear me roar!’ stuff is cute, but pointless. Woman Week is designed to equip the women of Fern with the tools they will need to be wives and mothers. In other words, we’re preparing for the real life after college, not chasing some ‘Lord of the Flies’ fantasy.”

The five-day extravaganza commenced Sunday evening at midnight with the official blacking out of the windows in the cafeteria. School officials were worried about closing the caf for an entire week, but luckily, negotiations with Sodexo allowed for a semi to deliver hot meals to each dorm.

“It’s actually kind of handy,” said an eager Fern resident. “This entire week is based off of events like toilet bowl cleans, potato-peeling, vacuuming, diaper-changing, window-washing and sandwich-making. The top ten women battled it out in the championship round designed to measure each woman’s ability to multi-task. The women were given an efficiency rating based on a twenty-minute time slot in which they had to iron five shirts, cook a three-course meal, mop the floor, warm up bottles and feed a pair of twins—all while having a phone conversation with a hypothetical mother-in-law reassuring her that everything was under control. "It was so intense," remarked sophomore Rachel McPhisterson. "I never realized how grossly unprepared I am for matrimony."

Tuesday night began with a group discussion about first crushes and how they affected our current ideals of men (retainers, glasses, excessive amounts of poorly applied make-up and outrageous fingernail polish were greatly encouraged). A few girls even ceremonially burned notes which they’d been holding onto for years containing messages such as, “I think your braces are cute” and “Do you like me? Check yes or no.”

Spontaneous games of MASH and Truth or Dare broke out, and the rest of the evening was spent singing Headphone Karaoke to Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, N'Sync and Backstreet Boys as well as teaching each other old homemade dances to “Hit Me Baby One More Time.”

Leaving their childhood behind once and for all, the ladies of Fern went into Wednesday evening (“Home-Ec.: Necessary tools to earn that MRS Degree”) completely revitalized and ready to be submissive. The evening began with a cornucopia of workshops designed to prepare the women for married life, among them being: “Knit him the perfect sweater,” “How to fix your faucet when he won’t,” “Turn that old recipe box into a bird-feeder,” “Corn-husk dolls and other cheap toys your kids will love” and “Achieving that Catalog House look with nothing but a hair dryer and some old eye shadow.”

The night eventually took a competitive turn as the Fern gals faced off in events like toilet bowl cleaning, potato-peeling, vacuuming, diaper-changing, window-washing and sandwich-making. The ten top women battled it out in the championship round designed to measure each woman’s ability to multi-task. The women were given an efficiency rating based on a twenty-minute time slot in which they had to iron five shirts, cook a three-course meal, mop the floor, warm up bottles and feed a pair of twins—all while having a phone conversation with a hypothetical mother-in-law reassuring her that everything was under control. “It was so intense,” remarked sophomore Rachel McPhisterson. “I never realized how grossly unprepared I am for matrimony.”

Thursday evening saw the women undergo more workshops under the general heading, “So I’ve got the ring. Now what?” Practical topics ranged from “Picking your flowers: silk vs. real” to “Traditional Dutch Weddings and the art of frugality.”

Other anticipated clinics were “The rhythm and rhyme of writing your own Vows” and “The great dress debate: white vs. ivory.”

After the workshops, the women again gathered in Vermeer and listened to an inspiring lecture from Lucy Hairdresser: “How to know he’s the one: Sticking to the 7 C’s.”

“The rules of compatibility are simple and finite,” Hairdresser said. “Once you know the 7 C’s, you’re set for life. Christlike, Consistent, Communication, Commitment, Caring, Kindness and Quality. It’s as easy as one, two, three…four, five, six, seven.”

Feather Mold, a junior elementary education major, shared her testimony with the younger women: “Lucy Hairdresser knows what she’s talking about. I have saved the 7 C’s and I have found the one for me. This plan really works.”

Sophomore Cali Basheroll said of the evening, “I’m so relieved to know that when I finally get my ring, I’ll have my colors, my flowers, my dress, my cake and my wedding party all decided. And I don’t even have a boyfriend!”

The closing ceremonies—a grand tea party on the Fern Green—will be held this evening. Sundaes, sunhats, white gloves and lacey handkerchiefs are required for admittance. Rumor has it, though, that the evening will end in a much less lady-like fashion.

“Yes, the rumors are true. If West can have an epic battle, then the women of Fern can certainly underdo an epic cat fight. I can’t go into specifics, but rest assured that it will be unlike anything you’ve ever seen,” reported Hairdresser.

Following the tea party/epic cat fight, the women will head out to Mrs. Loogeyhauker farm for a salad eat-out and coffee.

“This entire week is based off of the new acronym we’ve created to explain what Fern is all about: Females Equipped and Ready for Nuptials,” concluded Hairdresser. “I think it’ll be a big hit.”

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**PHOTO BY CLAREBEAR SUMMERS**

As a part of Woman Week, Lucy Hairdresser delivers a lecture on how to know “he’s the one.”

**PHOTO BY CLAREBEAR SUMMERS**

An eager Fern resident takes part in female festivities.

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**PHOTO BY CLAREBEAR SUMMERS**

Fern women unite in tears and stories, forming a sob circle.
No more “Red” Raiders; college goes green

BY GNARL VANDERSQUIRRELEN
BACON AD-VAYH-ZER

Last week, after typing “Go Raiders” at the end of his monthly letter to constituents, President Craig Misty sensed that something wasn’t quite right so he highlighted “Raider” and hit Shift-F7 to see if there were any favorable synonyms for naming his favorite teams. Instead he found only “thief,” “robber,” “burglar,” “attacker,” “invader” and “marauder.”

“Those won’t do,” declared Misty. “None of those words are all nice,” and at Northwestern, we try to be nice.”

Taking a cue from the recent Mindig Place symposium, Misty decided that the visual identity of the college and its teams should “spring from the place of the college and its teams” and “marauder.”

“burglar,” “attacker,” “invader” and “marauder.”

earning a hygienic than once.”

Showerless Saturdays.

Lately we’ve begun to think less about the hygiene aspect of showers, and more about the potential for a positive impact on spiritual growth.

Said one anonymous student, “Some days campus feels a bit like a bizarre version of Old McDonald’s. Here a Sara, there a Sarah, everywhere a Sara, Sarah.”

There has been some debate as to the location of the new dorm. The initial decision to place the dorm near the soccer fields was soon disbanded once the board realized where the soccer fields actually were. According to Don Buglemaan, planning committee president, alternative locations being considered are above the music department or in the green adjacent to the West Hall sinkhole.

Although the administration and planning committee seemed excited about this new dorm, many across campus remain unswayed.

The blonde Bethany Lowell added, “We’re only doing this for their own good.”

Lowell and Lowel have also organized a protest that will take place sometime next week outside of Christ Chapel.

Student housing to commence showerless sundays

BY GNARL VANDERSQUIRRELEN
BACON AD-VAYH-ZER

John Broken, student affairs dean, announced this week that the campus housing office is instituting what will become known as Showerless Sundays.

Studies conducted by one of those psychology classes that are always conducting studies concluded that Saturday showers less often serve a hygienic than a therapeutic function. “What happens is that most students sleep so late that they only way they can wake up is a long hot shower, and then some of them fall asleep in the stalls and have to be rescued by roommates hours later, all pink and wrinkled.”

Eric the Red, resident life associate dean, commented, “Of course, the water wasted, along with the expenditure of energy to heat the water, is inestimable.”

So starting at 1 a.m. Saturdays and continuing until 6 a.m. Sundays, water to all showers in campus residences will be shut off. Broken mentioned a fringe benefit. “That should also induce students to comport themselves on Friday night in a manner that does not involve working up a sweat or hanging out in places that reek of liquor or aromatic pipe tobacco,” he said. “Otherwise when they get back to campus, they can be sure their sins will find them out.”

Broken explained, “We’re helping people make sustainable choices here.”

Rumor has it that an ulterior motive for Showerless Saturdays is that students will get up early on Sundays so disgusted with themselves and each other that they will all quickly shower, and then stand around feeling so refreshed and renewed that they’d decide they might as well go to church. Chaplain Harlo VanOhb only commented vaguely that he expects Showerless Saturdays to have “an overall positive impact on spiritual health.”

He has noticed Orange City, Alton and Maurice churches that they will probably need extra orange drink, coffee and cookies on all remaining Sundays this semester.
**Softball wins six straight**

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT

Northwestern picked up six wins this week, sweeping doubleheaders against Nebraska Wesleyan, Dakota Wesleyan and Briar Cliff. The Red Raiders improve to 22-14, 12-6 in the GPAC conference.

**NW 2, Nebraska Wesleyan 0**

Freshman Lexy Determan pitched a shutout in game one, allowing just two singles, walking none and striking out 14. Determan hit an RBI double to score freshman Jenny Otto in the second and senior Amy Larson hit a solo home run in the fifth. Freshman Harris Harris had two doubles. Senior Lizz Swanson and freshmen Stacey Godfrey and Lara Vonnahmen each had one hit.

**NW 3, Dakota Wesleyan 2**

Determan pitched another shutout in game two of the contest. She threw 11 strikeouts, walked just four batters, and allowed three singles. Senior Michelle Van Duyn hit an RBI single in the third to score Otto, and Swanson belted her ninth home run of the season to lead off the fourth inning. Van Duyn, Swanson, Godfrey and Determan each had one hit.

**NW 9, Dakota Wesleyan 0**

Senior Gabrielle Burrola threw a shutout in game two as the Raiders won in five innings. She struck out two and did not give up any walks. NW scored three runs in the first, third in the third, two in the fourth and one in the fifth to record the win. The Raiders had nine hits, and one in the fifth to record the win. The Raiders had nine hits, and one in the fifth to record the win.

**In an exciting pickle scenario at the end of the game, catcher Stacey Godfrey helped run down the opposing base runner who was forced to dive into third. The runner was called out, securing the victory for the Raiders.**

**Three more runners qualify for nationals**

BY BETH MOUW

The Northwestern track team competed in the Doane Relays last weekend and turned out three first-place finishes and three nationally qualifying times. The two-day competition was held in Crete, Neb.

Eight women’s entries placed in the top five at the relays. Freshmen Charity Miles and Olivia Johnson and the 4x800 relay team, consisting of Johnson, freshman Steph Powell and seniors Laura Jacobson and Lori Wolf were the top performers over the two days. Miles won the 10,000-meter run and set a new meet record with a time of 36:27.9. She finished her national-qualifying time 27 seconds ahead of the second-place runner. Johnson took second in the 800-meter with a time of 2:14.55, which was good enough to nationally qualify her for her second event of the season. The 4x800 squad took first with a time of 9:27.7 and also qualified.

Jacobson also grabbed a first-place finish in the 400-meter dash with a time of 58.97, which fell just 1.5 seconds shy of the national qualifying mark. Powell took fourth in the 1500-meter run with a time of 5:04.41 while freshman teammate Breean Rozeboom finished third in the 5000-meter run, crossing the line in 19:42. Senior Jess Regan and sophomore Emily De Weerd represented the hurlers well, both grabbing fourth-place finishes in the 400-meter hurdles and 100-meter high hurdles, respectively. Regan boasted a time of 1:06.67 while De Weerd ran a 1:06.8.

Freshman Sara Hess said of the season, “We have been preparing for the GPAC meet all season, and no matter what the weather brings, we’ll be ready to compete.”

On the men’s side, seniors Jon Woedl and Anthony Ebert took third and fourth in the 10,000-meter run with times of 34:19.9 and 34:42.2, respectively. In the 1500-meter run, sophomore Jack Peterson and freshman Tyler Peekensdorfer grabbed third and fifth, running a 4:12:18 and 4:15:12. Sophomore Steve Westerkamp took fourth in the 400-meter dash, crossing the line in 50:03. Senior Kyle Blankers ran a 11:33 in the 100-meter dash, finishing in fifth. Also taking fifth was freshman Danny Owens, who ran a 16:33:77 in the 5000-meter run. Sophomore Kyle Sauter placed third in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15:15, and the 4x100 team took second with a time of 42:29.

The Raiders will next compete at the USF Invite and Drake Relays this weekend.

**Vermeers GPAC individual championship, team takes ninth**

BY JONATHAN MEERDINK

Sophomore Luke Vermeer took the individual title at the GPAC championship golf meet on Tuesday, April 22, played at Green Valley Golf Club in Sioux City, Iowa. Vermeer parlayed a two-stroke lead after the first day into the championship, holding off the field to win the title. Vermeer shot a two under 70 on the first day and followed that up with a 74 on the second to finish an even par for the tournament, good for a one-stroke victory.

“I just trusted my swing and relaxed and had fun. That’s the key to success in golf.”

- Luke Vermeer

“I just trusted my swing and relaxed and had fun” said Vermeer of his performance. “That’s the key to success in golf.”

As a team, Northwestern wasn’t quite as good, finishing a disappointing ninth out of 11 teams. The Raiders were in sixth place after day one, but dropped three strokes on the second day to finish in ninth place. The finish effectively ended the season for the Raiders, as only the top five finishers advance to the regional round.

“We can look back on this year and say that we remember the fun times we had together as a team, even when we weren’t playing the best,” said Vermeer about the team’s season.

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Women's golf are co-champs at USF, three golfers place in top ten

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The women's golf team tied with Hastings to be named co-champions at the USF Invite in Sioux Falls, S.D. on Tuesday. Northwestern and Hastings both shot 351. USF shot a 357 for third. Dakota Wesleyan was fourth with 360 and Nebraska Wesleyan took fifth with 404.

Three NW golfers placed in the top ten. Freshman Maggie Achterhof captured fifth place with an 85, senior Melissa Hisel shot an 86 for the Raiders. Rachel Koenigsberg shot 92 and 98 for eighth. Juniors Carrie Spree and Anne Eberline had 95 for the Raiders.

Freshman Clint Gingerich had three hits to lead the Raiders, while four other players each had an RBI.

NW 6, Mount Marty 1
The Raiders took the first game of the Mount Marty doubleheader much like they took the second game of the Wesleyan series. Senior Mihail Burlea went the distance for the Raiders, collecting his seventh win of the season. Five different Raiders had hits, and junior Jake Jansen led the way with two RBI.

NW 3, Mount Marty 6
Mount Marty took an early 3-0 lead in game two, but NW battled back to tie the game in the bottom of the fifth. The score held at three apiece until Mount Marty scored three in the top of the ninth. NW couldn't match and Mount Marty took the win. Gingerich and Payne had two hits each to lead the Raiders, who got hits from six men in the losing effort.

The NW men will face-off against rival Dordt tomorrow at home in the final game of their regular season. The game is set to start at 1 p.m.

BY JONATHAN MEERDINK
STAFF WRITER

After scoring 54 runs in two conference doubleheaders last week, the Raiders have cooled off considerably, splitting doubleheaders with Nebraska Wesleyan and Mount Marty and losing outright to South Dakota State.

NW 5, Nebraska Wesleyan 8
This contest was tied through six innings, but the Raiders gave up three runs in the top of the seventh to allow Nebraska Wesleyan to steal an 8-5 victory. Seniors Scott Mineart and Joe Heitritter had two hits apiece for Northwestern, and sophomore Brad Payne knocked in two RBIs. Senior Joe Grady pitched five and a third innings and took the loss for the Raiders.

NW 5, Nebraska Wesleyan 1
The Raiders came back strong in the second game of this GPAC doubleheader, holding Nebraska Wesleyan without a run until the sixth inning. Junior Trevor Kuiper scattered three hits through seven innings of work, striking out nine men and walking only one on his way to his fifth win of the season.

GRADUATION HOUSING AVAILABLE

For those attending commencement on Friday, May 9th, Fern Smith Hall will be open to family and friends of graduates for Friday, May 9th. Cost is $15/person. Bedding and linens are provided. Make reservations with Lisa Barber at 77213 or lbarber@nwciowa.edu.

“I guess you could say running is the way I pray. It’s when I feel closest to God.”

Laura Jacobson
BY BETH MOUW
SPORTS EDITOR

Laura Jacobson from Galva, Iowa, discovered her love for running at an age when most kids are just confused: middle school. “Our track team was pretty good in junior high, and that’s when I discovered that I was good at running,” she remembered. “It also didn’t hurt that I wasn’t all that great at the other sports—I’m not incredibly coordinated.”

She shared the progression and transformation of the role of running in her life. “At first it was just a challenge to take on, a goal to set and a way to feel that sense of accomplishment.” As she got more serious about her sport, she noticed that running became “a sort of release, a way to get away from all the stress and a quiet time to think.” Eventually, Jacobson came to realize the spiritual significance of running in her life. “I guess you could say running is the way I pray a lot of times,” she said. “It’s when I feel closest to God. I can forget about everything else and either talk to him about what’s bothering me or praise him for this gift.”

When it came time to choose a college, Jacobson recalled, “Northwestern was the only school I wanted to run for. I really liked the coaches when I first met them, and I knew I didn’t want to be a part of any other program.”

Despite her busy track schedule, Jacobson still manages a hefty English and writing & rhetoric double major and Spanish minor. Her reasoning? “I chose that combination because I’ve always been really interested in people’s stories, and I feel like literature has allowed me to learn a lot about different kinds of people while enjoying really great work.”

Coming into college, Jacobson knew what a true dedication to her sport would cost her. “Whenever you have to commit to something, you have to say ‘no’ to something else, but the track experience has definitely been worth it,” she said. “Most of the friends I am going to keep in touch with after graduation will be the ones I’ve met on the track team. When you’re suffering through workouts in the wind, rain and snow together, you build a really strong bond.”

When asked about her teammates, Jacobson can’t sing their praises enough. “I love it that my teammates are so encouraging. Our team is really good at staying interested in what everyone else is doing and putting the interests of the team ahead of the individual. Also,” she added, “I love how dedicated they are. It’s so much easier to attack a tough workout when you know your teammates are going to be working hard and you can pull each other through it.”

After graduating, Jacobson plans to further her education at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va. It seems obvious, then, why Jacobson says of her post-college life: “It’s going to be so hard to not be part of a group of girls like this anymore, to have the type of conversations that you can only have on long runs.”

In response to the question of what she’ll miss most about NW, Jacobson’s reply was something only an NW runner would admit. “I’m really going to miss eating in the caf,” she said. “Ever since I was a freshman, the caf has been a central part of my experience. Some of my favorite memories are from eating supper as a team after cross-country practice and staying there for over an hour just talking. I don’t think I’ll ever have anything like that again.”