Students take a stand in their local caucuses

BY SARA JANZEN AND KIM EASON
STAFF WRITER AND NEWS EDITOR

If you were to name one topic that has permeated the news, talk shows, radio, TV and internet advertisements in the past six months, your first response would probably be politics. Almost since the election of Bush in 2004 politicians have been anticipating the election in 2008 by making predictions on who would run for the presidency. Four years later, the time has arrived for another election, and the predictions haven’t stopped in one of the largest candidate pools in years. The names are all familiar: for Republicans the front-runners are Rudy Giuliani, Mike Huckabee, John McCain, Mitt Romney and Fred Thompson; for Democrats they are Hillary Clinton, John Edwards and Barack Obama.

The process has now begun; state by state,wordpress to narrow the candidates to one person per party for the general election in November. Iowa was the first state to make their decisions by holding the caucuses on Jan. 3. Citizens broke up into one of the 1,784 precincts in the state, ready to support and cast their ballot for their chosen candidate.

Various Northwestern students participated in the caucuses as well. Junior Eli VanOort went to the Democratic caucus in Orange City.

Upon arriving, she had to sign in and mark who she planned to caucus for. The group then split up into various corners of the room, according to the candidate they supported.

“You basically make a bold statement about who you support,” said VanOort.

After the groups were in their respective corners, they were given the opportunity to debate and recruit others to support their candidate. VanOort’s precinct was solidly Obama, so there wasn’t much debate. However, some people would switch camps to help out another candidate, and others actually switched and supported another candidate.

VanOort felt it was important to know where you stood. “You have to know what you’re talking about,” she said. “People will come up to you and ask ‘why?’ and expect you to know.”

Senior Jen Shafer also attended the caucuses in Orange City. She is originally from Nebraska, but as a college student living in Iowa, she is eligible to register to vote in Iowa and participate in the caucuses.

“I was surprised at how low-key it was,” said Watters.

Both Watters and Shiflett were also surprised by the numbers that showed up. Watters said it was so packed that they ran into where the Democrats were meeting.

Shiflett said there were usually around 40 people that showed up, but this year it was closer to 400.

After the night was over, Obama took first on the Democratic side and Huckabee took first for the Republicans.

Since that night, New Hampshire and Michigan have also held their primaries. Clinton and McCain both won in New Hampshire and Romney won in Michigan. Because the primaries were moved up in Michigan, Democrats are refusing to accept any of the delegates from that state.

When asked why they participated, students’ answers were similar. “This was the first year I could vote for a president,” said Shiflett, “so I though I should be involved with the whole process, not just going and picking a person on Nov. 2.”

“It’s a great way to get involved with politics in your community,” said junior Tyler Granger, who attended the Democratic caucus in Woden.

“It’s hard to ignore the caucuses happening,” said VanOort. “As Iowaans, it’s something we take pride in. We don’t have sports teams, we have the caucuses.”

Sing and shout, let’s have some fun with headphone karaoke

BY CHANTEILLE STEGGERDA
STAFF WRITER

Making its debut as an all-campus event tonight at 9 p.m. in The Hub is Northwestern’s first official night of headphone karaoke, and you can be involved!

Headphone karaoke consists of someone singing to a song that they alone are hearing through headphones, while the audience hears only the performer. Many are familiar with the concept after seeing it on YouTube as “Lisa headphone karaoke.”

Those wishing to participate in tonight’s activities should arrive 10 to 15 minutes beforehand so they can have some time to look at the songs when they sign up. Singing can be done solo or in a group as big as four. There will be a wide range of songs from which to pick, but participants may bring their own songs if they wish.

Special appearances will be made by various faculty and staff members, including Alumni Director Rachel Van Den Broek, various RDs, Intercultural Affairs Coordinator Anila Karunakar and President Greg Christy.

“My headphones are sort of a bad version of karaoke,” said Barber. “It’s just something kind of goofy to do,” said Barber. “It should be a hilarious event. It’s like watching a really bad version of karaoke.”
front desk

Blessed are the busy

“*My little Dutch girl, it’s not only important, it’s mandatory. Rest.*”

That was my mom’s response to me on Sunday, December 23. What provoked it? Only the usual. I was frustrated with myself for sleeping, eating, and having fun over break.

Honestly, who has the time for that? Christmas break should be spent working, filling out scholarships, grading essays, and writing editorials. Blessed are the meek, the pure, and the busy.

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because of your youth.” I’ve heard more than a few sermons on that one. What if one-quarter of one’s 70 years of life—works, work, work—miraculously makes it to 70? What a difference a couple thousand years makes. Today, the youth are supposed to do the big things, and it seems to me that I’m not nearly as productive as my age should allow for. Calvin wrote the first of his Institutes when he was 27. It’s safe to say this piece won’t be included in my Summa Theologica.

Even at 20 years of age, time and opportunities already seem to race by while I stand aside. Shouldn’t I take advantage of the study abroad opportunity? I should probably be doing Research 101. And, most important of all, shouldn’t I be fully appreciating the “best years of my life?”

Well, the best years of my life are stressed, and it’s obviously not supposed to be this way. We were meant to rest.

But if I don’t do it, who will? The arrogance of that statement isn’t lost on me, yet I’m ashamed to admit I’ve used that excuse before. I don’t have all the skills or the answers. But I take joy in knowing someone who does. During his time on Earth, Jesus certainly knew how important he was. Yet he, too, chose to step away from the crowds and rest. And it’s by his recommendation that we do so today.

Now, lest resting becomes yet another “to-do,” let me first say I’m not advocating the unwritten law that keeps lawnmowers in their sheds on the Sabbath. Legalism doesn’t ever offer rest. Legalism is the most tiring of them all. And as with all arguments, the opposing view is certainly viable. I’m not sure if God plays Monopoly, but I do know he doesn’t equate resting with a “Get out of work free” card.

Just like God created us to work, he also created us to rest. We humans, myself included, have a bent for overemphasizing one or the other, and the simplest answer for sapping us from unhealthy obsession is also the most difficult.

Living a full and godly life is not measured by the number of activities you’re involved in, the grades you get, or even the number of friends you have. It’s the quality of your interactions and the conscious choice we make to join God in what he’s already doing.

So if you’re finding the experience exhilarating, it may require you to deal with the frustration of prolonged stillness or the discomfort of challenging work, balance between work and rest is only gained by falling in love with the one who already knows what an un-wasted life will be for you. So you’re busy? Don’t worry. No time spent with him is ever wasted.

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 in to the Beacon office located in the basement of Granberg Hall by Wednesday at 6 p.m. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters. To obtain a subscription, send $10 to address below.

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It’s a good movie, Juno?

BY STAFF WRITER

"Juno," although overall an excellent film, gets off to a rocky start, with a jaunting scene apparently calculated to destroy any suspension of disbelief from the get-go. The lead character, named Juno (Ellen Page), makes her way to a convenience store to use a pregnancy test, only to be greeted by Dwight from "The Office," playing himself, apparently, and overacting as if his life depended upon it. The exchange between the two epitomizes the style of dialogue that will dominate the film: a bizarre mix between the dialects of Napoleon Dynamite and Buffy the Vampire Slayer ramped up to the tenth power and lacking genuine originality or wit. No one in this film seems to ever call a noun by its proper name, or even a commonly recognized slang term, but speak instead using a language unique to the film which is filled with cheesy euphemisms and phrases meant to be catchier than they actually are.

However, once you penetrate beyond the clunky dialogue and learn to either tolerate it or enjoy it for what it is, you’ll find that it is concealing a cast of lovable human characters who actually do have a good story to tell. Juno is a young, nerdy girl who has been impregnated by her affable best friend Bleeker (Michael Cera). At first she plans to have an abortion, but a classmate protesting outside the abortion clinic causes her to have second thoughts. She decides to have the baby and give it to a couple that wants to adopt.

This scene highlights one of the strengths of "Juno." Apart from the annoying pseudo-slang, and the aforementioned dreadful opening scene, nothing in this film is too overstated. There is no voice from heaven or dramatic revelation. Instead there is a somewhat pathetic-looking high school student standing alone and reciting the mantra "all babies want to be born." The town undergoes a quiet change of seasons, with plenty of shots of sleepy fall days, and no major storms or dramatically appropriate moments. Juno’s parents are subtle characters who at times are hurtful and insensitive but still love and support Juno to the best of their abilities.

Kids at school harass Juno, but there is nothing that strikes the viewer as exaggerated beyond what normal teen behavior is. It’s his grasp for subtlety and complexity that helps "Juno" suck you in and make you believe in the world that is being portrayed. This isn’t the world of screaming, crying confrontations, dramatic breakup action packed finales that we have come to expect from Hollywood. It’s much more believable.

When Juno meets the couple who will be adopting her child, the film really takes off. Jennifer Garner and Jason Bateman turn in spectacular performances, bringing to life the internal turmoil of a relationship in self-betrayal. Bateman is fatherly, pathetic and downright creepy as a troubled married man who clings to his fleeting youth. His wife, played by Garner, is a gentle and loving woman who is too grown-up for her own good. Into this environment walks Juno, bearing their future child. The ending to the film is understated and sweet. It is reasserted that despite the traumatic experience of teen pregnancy, Juno is still basically the same person and little has changed. A catchy anti-folk soundtrack is prominently featured in the film’s transitions. The music fits Juno’s personality perfectly and gives the film a tone that is both nostalgic and contemporary at the same time. This feeling is the strongest point of the film. Although "Juno" tries hard to be trendy and inject a pile of new slang into the pop culture vocabulary, it is the picture of a character who both comes of age and never grows up. A film that makes us fall in love with Juno.

Rating: Three of five stars

Coming to a resolution

BY STAFF WRITER

The ending to the film is understated and sweet. It is reasserted that despite the traumatic experience of teen pregnancy, Juno is still basically the same person and little has changed. A catchy anti-folk soundtrack is prominently featured in the film’s transitions. The music fits Juno’s personality perfectly and gives the film a tone that is both nostalgic and contemporary at the same time. This feeling is the strongest point of the film. Although "Juno" tries hard to be trendy and inject a pile of new slang into the pop culture vocabulary, it is the picture of a character who both comes of age and never grows up. A film that makes us fall in love with Juno.

Rating: Three of five stars

"According to experts, new things on the to-do list become habits after about three weeks of faithfulness.”

you are passionate about, such as swimming. Find whatever makes you happy and do it.

Making a resolution to start an exercise regimen is a common goal, but many people fail as they make some blunders. First of all, remember that you are not in fact a superhero. Human beings need to set goals that are attainable. Never eating Reese’s peanut butter cups again is not very rational, but allowing it once in awhile is much more sensible.

Another mistake that people make is not planning ahead. Instead of coming up with one during a party on New Year’s Eve, think about the goal well in advance. Along with this, you must find a way to make certain that this new habit is adhered to. Whether it is being a friend to venture with or sticking to a note on the mirror as a reminder, find something that you know will give you persistence.

If you happen to slip up once in awhile or for a week, remind yourself why you made this resolution and that should be reason enough to pick up where you left off. When you find yourself in this situation, it’s a very good idea to think of ways to be rewarded. For example, set aside a Friday night to go see a concert or spend a night in with your friends. However, if the occasional mistake turns into a permanent one, it’s not the end of the world. Who says that New Year’s is the only time to start commitments? Any time of the year has possibilities available.

Those possibilities don’t have to be limited to eating healthier and exercising more. If you long to take time out from life’s stresses to think, find a place to unwind and possibly even talk to God. Whatever you want to do, whether it be learning how to play an instrument or spending more time in prayer, now is the time to start. According to experts, new things on the to-do list become habits after about three weeks of faithfulness. Six months of success means that this activity will become a part of who you are. Your personality, body and soul are waiting for positive change any time of the year. 2008 lies before you; act upon your desires, and they just might morph into a healthy obsession.

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

ODDS AND ENDS
BY AMANDA KUHEN
FEATURES EDITOR

Greetings Beacon readers. After a semester abroad, I have returned to the role of features editor of this your favorite college newspaper. In the past I’ve tried to maintain a running column that would provide some (even the most remote) form of entertainment, amusement or assistance to the student population.

Former attempts have included the Word of the Week, Fun Facts, Fact or Crap and a Got Questions? column. This semester I’d like to share with you interesting things that I learned or observations I made while in England, specifically the odd or unexpected differences that you might encounter were you to visit yourself.

If I follow through with the best of intentions I will also be providing you with stories from other students who have returned from semesters spent in various other foreign cultures. For the time being I will give you a short lesson in British word choice.

What’s it called?

In England the term pants is used only when referring to one’s underpants. Trousers is used to refer to jeans, khakis and even pajama bottoms.

If you were to attend teatime sporting your ruffly new vest you ought to refer to it as a waistcoat. A vest is worn under clothing, like an undershirt.

Though a jumper is a term that usually refers to a sort of dress in the States, when used in the UK it is as a substitute for sweater.

Suspenders, the things that hold up trousers, are referred to as braces. If you were to use the word suspenders one would think you were referring to garter belts, which hold up stockings, not trousers.

Call it what it is, tube tops are more appropriately referred to as boob tubes and can be found in a number of local clubs, along with other strategically placed ruffles.

You’d save yourself a good deal of awkward glances by calling a funny pack a bum bag.

If your young child is a bit stinky you may need to change his nappy.

Rainy day in London town? Never fear, just slip on your wellies, short for Wellingtons, which Americans call galoshes.

Forget formal clothing, use the phrase black tie for classy dress.

Impact: Gulf Coast 2007

BY KRISTI KORVER
STAFF WRITER

On Dec. 15 Northwestern sent two teams to the Gulf Coast for weekend service projects. The teams consisted of faculty, students and even some alumni.

During long van rides through terrible weather the teams were forced to bond quickly. This camaraderie proved invaluable when the teams were met with challenging situations and provoking thoughts.

One team went to Jackson, Miss., to work with the John Perkins Foundation in cooperation with Justice For All. The second team served in New Orleans, La., with Trinity Christian Community.

The idea for a trip to the Gulf Coast started in 2005 in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As the NW community prayed and mourned for the people impacted by the hurricanes, a common question kept surfacing, “Why don’t we go down there?” They did.

As Dave Nonnemacher, director of service learning, tells it, one student took the initiative and planned a hurricane relief trip that involved 35 NW faculty and students. Relationships were formed, and God’s work was done.

In the subsequent years NW has continued to organize Gulf Coast trips during Christmas break. The communities affected by Katrina and Rita are recovering, but it is a long process. NW is committed to being a part of that process.

Sophomore Emily Mortenson went to New Orleans. She and her team repainted a fence, put in floors and gutted a house. In light of all the volunteer work that has been done in New Orleans, Mortenson said that what they did felt small, but she learned that “people appreciate the little things.” She will never forget the warm embrace of a dear elderly woman after the team finished repainting her ragged fence.

The Jackson team primarily worked on a house. A few of the females on the team had the opportunity to visit Genesis One, a Christian school. They read and played with children, giving the underpaid servant teachers a break. Freshman Bobbie Jean Rich realized that, while resources were limited, “the school is only a fraction of the problem—the entire town is still so separated and torn and poverty is common, making gang violence and teen pregnancy an unfortunate fact of life.”

During their trip the whole team was forced to wrestle with issues like poverty and racism. Sophomore Halee Wilken was filled with a sense of guilt as she traveled back home to her Christmas presents. She learned to turn her guilt into gratitude and made a commitment to “use the blessings that the Lord has given me to do his work.”

While in Jackson working with the John Perkins Foundation the team had the incredible opportunity to interact with John Perkins for devotions each morning. At 77 years old, he was an inspiration. Carly Miller, admissions counselor, described him as truly being “the hands and feet of Christ.”

All of these challenges, thoughts and lessons are of invaluable worth. Nonnemacher believes that it is “important for students to understand and partner in ministries, not just paint walls.”

Through these service projects students were able to both serve with their hands and engage their minds while considering and discussing provoking thoughts and issues. Three years after the first student-initiated venture, the Gulf Coast trips are still making an impact.

PHOTO BY EMILY MORTENSON

Students in Jackson, Miss., shared devotions with John Perkins during their time in the Gulf Coast.
Doing your part to “play fair” just got easier

BY KILEY SELIGMAN  
STAFF WRITER

According to the Fair Trade Federation, 2.7 billion people in the world survive on less than $2 a day. Yet, hope has emerged for the five million who have found help in fair trade. According to the Fair Trade Federation, “Fair trade is a system of exchange that seeks to create greater equity and partnership in the international trading system.”

The fair trade system goes back to 1946, but has recently gained popularity with people who strive to attend to serious world issues. Through fair trade, people in impoverished countries can export their crops and crafts to earn a livelihood. Different retailers work with people in these countries to help them sell their goods in other places.

Fair trade reaches places all across the world, even Orange City. Hands Around the World is a local shop that sells fair trade products exclusively. According to Margo Vanderhill, manager of the shop, there are multiple reasons for supporting fair trade.

“As an artist myself, I identify with people who make things. It’s important that people are paid fairly for what they do,” she said.

Fair trade organizations care about the environment and make sure that all crops sold through fair trade are grown in a way that causes no environmental damage.

Fair trade also helps impoverished and disrespected women around the world live better lives. Women who can earn an income for their families gain respect, do not have to marry as young, are not beaten and are generally treated better.

As governments see their citizens getting out of poverty, they are stepping up to help fair trade producers further their work. With their help, producers have set up area dental clinics and trash pick-up. Some are even promoting religious reconciliation by using trade to cross religious borders.

“Fair trade is not a rope, but a net that reaches out in all directions and does many things at the same time,” said Vanderhill.

Fair trade products range from coffee, tea and cocoa to lace nativity scenes and are usually no more expensive than regular products. The difference is that retailers work more directly with the craftsmen, eliminating the middleman and allowing more of the money to go to the craftsmen.

Fair trade retailers and companies are everywhere and can be identified by the Fair Trade logo. Lists of members can also be found on fair trade websites. The Hub uses fair trade coffee, and even Starbucks buys from some fair trade retailers.

Though it is more difficult for retailers to get things fair trade, due to bad roads, poor communication and civil unrest in impoverished countries, it is worth it. The good that comes from fair trade is making the world a better place for millions of people.

As students at Northwestern, we strive to follow biblical mandates. By supporting fair trade companies and buying fair trade products, we can live out the command to help the poor and live justly. Fair trade helps make it possible for families to feed children and send them to school. It helps women earn respect and raises millions out of poverty.

Even though we might refer to ourselves as “poor” college students, in reality we have a great deal of wealth, especially in comparison to the rest of the world. We can use our abundant resources wisely, buying fair trade products and helping the truly impoverished of the world to live better lives. Your effort to procure fair trade counts.

Worlds collide: Romania’s impact

BY LINDSAY SQUIRES  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Perhaps you have distractedly turned to this article while eating lunch or are glancing over these pages before class. You have probably heard of the Romania Semester, but if you are not one of the students who went or who are thinking of going this fall, how could Romania possibly matter to your world?

Why should you care to learn about the Jiu Valley, its people or the work of the New Horizons Foundation? The Romania Semester was one of the most significant experiences of my life, but how does that touch your world?

Fortunately, this is not about your world or my world. It’s about God’s world. It’s about doing here every day what God has called us to do around the world: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”; and ‘Love your neighbor as yourself’ (Luke 10:27).

Maybe you have listened to these words so many times that it requires conscious effort to actually hear them. “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

The seven of us who ventured to Romania through Northwestern’s first study abroad program had the opportunity to see what this command means in a different part of the world. As we joined the work of New Horizons among the high school students of the Jiu Valley, we saw love—not the comfortable love of charity, but an enduring, persistent love—a love that will eventually change Romania.

Part of this love involves taking seriously what Dana Bates, founder and executive director of New Horizons and Romania program director, describes as the spiritual duty to mend a broken world. For the Bates, sustainable development has been part of their obedience both to this responsibility and to God’s commandment to love our neighbor. The Bates, their staff and volunteers would call themselves ordinary, but the depth of their love for a very difficult region of the world is extraordinary.

As Christians, all of us have the opportunity to be agents of restoration in our world. In Romania, I saw a country broken on nearly every level. When I was discouraged, I would look into the faces of the IMPACT kids. What I saw in them was hope—throbbing, overpowering and growing hope. I could spend hours telling you about these special high school students and how indelibly they touched my heart, but again, how does that relate to your world?

If these high school students can take the little they have and make it into something that will change their country, surely we can take the much we have been given and turn it into something that might impact our world.

As a college student, you have a privilege that only a small fraction of the world knows. While some students in the Jiu Valley dream of the mere possibility of college, we have to remind ourselves to be grateful for the opportunity. Here it is easy to become caught up in the things that don’t matter, in the busywork and in the constant pressure to do. We must lift our heads from the details of our world and remember that there is so much more in God’s world.

Eighthours ahead of us, a city and its people are waiting. Lupen, Romania is waiting for the next group of students to come, to experience its story, to stand amid its mountains, to see its strength, to feel its brokenness and to join in its restoration. To six other students and me, Romania gave something different but something precious, and several of us already pray that we might return one day to the place where so much of our hearts remain.

Maybe God will take you to another country, or perhaps he will keep you where you are. Regardless of your location, the spread of God’s shalom begins here and today with love—for him and for your neighbor. If the first Romania Semester could breathe renewed meaning into this command, deeply affect the lives of seven NW students, shape the way they understand the world and allow them to invest themselves in Romania’s future, this program has been a profound success indeed.

During their time in Romania Northwestern students were able to interact with local high school students.
Raider women top Chargers, Remmerde breaks scoring record

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Northwestern women’s basketball team improved to 17-1 on Wednesday night with an 80-70 win over Briar Cliff. The Raiders, ranked second in the nation, remained undefeated in the GPAC conference (7-0).

NW 80, Briar Cliff 70

Northwestern jumped to an early lead against the Chargers, scoring the first six points of the game. Their lead extended to 11-2 before Briar Cliff went on a 5-0 run. After a solid rest of the first half, the Raiders went into the break with a 39-27 lead.

The Raiders came out of the locker room strong and outscored Briar Cliff 12-3, giving them their biggest lead of the game, 51-30. Although the Chargers rallied back to within five points with four minutes left of play, the Raiders were able to net five free throws to raise their lead to ten, sealing the deal at 80-70.

The undisputed highlight of the game was with 8:29 left in the first half, when senior Deb Remmerde drilled a fade-away jumper to set the new all-time NAIA Division-II women’s basketball scoring record. She also became the new all-time Iowa collegiate leading scorer by sinking a free throw with 2:55 remaining in the game.

Remmerde led the Raiders with 23 points and seven rebounds. Senior Amy Larson added 18 points, while sophomore Randa Hulstein scored 10 and added 8 rebounds. Senior Miranda Boekhout contributed 7 rebounds and 10 assists to the win.

NW 73, Doane 59

Last Saturday, the Red Raiders defeated Doane College 73-59. The 24th-ranked Tigers started with an early 18-16 lead, but Larson set off a 13-2 run for the Raiders by scoring 7 points. The Raiders ended the half up 31-24.

Early in the second half, an 8-1 run brought Doane within two points before the Raiders rallied for a 13-4 run that extended their lead to 47-36. NW controlled the rest of the game for the win.

Remmerde led the Raiders in scoring with 29 points and Larson added 19. Crystal Algood had nine points, six rebounds and four blocks.

The Raider women will host Midland Lutheran in a GPAC conference game on Monday, Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. The Warriors are 7-11, 2-5 in the conference.

Honors
Amy Larson was honored last week with the KDLF TV Taco John’s Athlete of the Week. Larson averages 18 points per game, making her the fourth leading scorer in the GPAC. She also tied for second for three-pointers behind teammate Remmerde.

Remmerde shot her way into the record books Wednesday night, becoming the all-time leading scorer in NAIA Division-II women’s basketball with 3,237 points. She also surpassed Cheryl Dreckman’s all-time Iowa Collegiate scoring mark, set in 1990. Remmerde finished the game with a total of 3,252 points in her NW career.

Player Profile
Crystal Algood

BY BETH MOUW
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite her 6’4” frame and mad shot-blocking skills, senior Crystal Algood, a business and actuarial science major from Brookings, SD, discusses her athletic talent with humility.

“I’m very composed on the court,” she confesses. “My teammates always want me to say ‘In your face’ or ‘Not in my house’, but I’ve never done that and I can’t see myself doing that ever.”

Whatever her method, no one can deny her gift in the area of scoring prevention. Algood holds both the single season and the career record for blocked shots at Northwestern. But don’t let her poise and innocence fool you. She enjoys what she does.

“I just shut someone down.”

Algood began playing basketball while growing up in the South Dakota countryside. Although neither of her parents were athletes in school, they didn’t wish the same for their tall, talented daughter.

“They encouraged me in sports and really wanted me to play basketball in college. And here I am.”

Algood learned about NW from her older sister, being a part of something else at NW is the best fit for both her education and athleticism.

Her favorite thing about being a college athlete is, hands down, the team.

“A team creates a kind of relationship that you don’t find anywhere else. Just being a part of something else at NW is a good feeling.”

Besides basketball, Algood enjoys math and numbers, even admitting, “I’m also looking into accounting. I don’t really have time to do it as a minor, so I’m just doing it for fun. It could be useful later in life.”

She also realizes that “later in life” is sooner than she thinks. Although she already has a job waiting for her, life outside of college still seems intimidating.

“It’s scary knowing you’re not going to be back at NW in the fall,” she admits. “On the basketball team we talk about it as becoming ‘real people’. Like, how are we going to pay for everything to get started, where are we going to live, and what if we don’t have any friends? We realize how much we’re going to miss the closeness of the basketball team. We usually try to avoid the subject.”

She figures the combined skills she’s learned on the court and in the classroom will help her to stay organized and prioritize her future life after NW.

But as for right now, basketball is what’s on her mind. She asks the community of NW and Orange City to “come out and support us. That means a lot. We notice, and it’s great when people come to cheer us on. We play for the school, not ourselves.”

My teammates always want me to say ‘In your face’ or ‘Not in my house’, but I’ve never done that.”
Raider Wrestling Eighth in Conference

BY BETH MOUW
SPORTS EDITOR

Within the last week, the Northwestern Raiders wrestling team traveled to both Cedar Falls and Sioux Falls, facing a total of five different schools. They’ve come home with two wins and three losses, putting them at 2-4-1 in the GPAC.

Despite the losing record, the team earned a number eight ranking in the latest NAIA poll and has a positive outlook on the rest of the season.

“The team’s doing a great job and working hard, despite the final outcomes of the score,” said Head Coach John Petty. “The lack of depth in the program makes it hard to win, but that’s not their fault. They still win more matches than they lose. I’m excited about what they’re doing.”

Junior Enock Francois (174), ranked number one in the same poll, agrees with his coach that “As long as we’re wrestling hard and doing everything we can to win, our record doesn’t bother us so much. We know we’re working hard for God and for our team, and that’s all we can do.”

Three other Raiders made top ten rankings. Senior Andrew Lundgren (197) and junior Jordan Keckler (141) are both ranked number three in their respective weight class, while junior Tom Eaton (174) holds the number seven spot.

Coach Petty admitted he was extremely happy with Eaton’s performance this week.

“Eaton has been very impressive lately. He’s worked hard and it’s paying off.”

At the Jan. 12 meet in Cedar Falls, Eaton, along with junior Levi Price, was undefeated on the day, leading the team with two pins and beating his other opponent 19-7.

NW shot above 50 percent in both halves and took the lead for good with more than 12 minutes to go in the first half. Defensively, the Raiders also played well, forcing 25 turnovers and allowing only two Doane players to score in double figures.

Five Raiders scored more than ten points. Schilling led all scorers with 17 and also had 5 assists. Schuiteman was strong all around with 16 points, 8 rebounds and 8 assists. Junior Kale Wiertzema scored 14, while Stimson and senior Mark DeYounge scored 12 and 11, respectively.

NW 65, Briar Cliff 70

Despite having nearly a two-to-one advantage in rebounds and out-shooting the host Chargers, the Raiders could not pull off the victory on the road.

Briar Cliff led by eight midway through the first half, but a 16-6 run allowed the Raiders to lead 30-28 at the break. The Chargers came out strong in the second half, scoring the first six points. Despite several rallies by the Raiders, the Chargers sealed the deal with an impressive 19-of-21 shooting performance from the charity stripe down the stretch.

Senior Chad Schuiteman turned in a stellar performance, netting 16 points and grabbing 18 rebounds. Sophomore Ryan Hoogeveen added 12 points, while junior Andrew Stimson and senior Curt Schilling both chipped in 11.

NW 92, Doane 64

The host Raiders cruised to a 28-point victory over the Doane Tigers on Jan. 12 at the Bultman Center.

Both Enock Francois and Jordan Keckler made it to the victory.

The world of Raider sports continued its flurry of activity over the much-needed Christmas vacation. Here’s the recap:

Men’s Basketball

The Raider men enjoyed a very successful December, boasting a perfect 6-0 on the month.

At the Holy Names Classic held on Dec. 29 and 31, NW bested Holy Names University 99-95, bringing the Hawks’ five-game winning streak to a halt. They moved on to defeat Dominican 85-74, closing the month with zero losses.

On Jan. 5 they defeated GPAC rival Hastings, outscoring the eighth-ranked team 87-84.

Women’s Basketball

On Dec. 28 the Raiders women suffered their first loss off the season to Augustana, falling 64-80. They rallied back to beat Dakota State 90-83 the day after.

On Jan. 5 they defeated seventeenth-ranked Hastings 67-65.

Wrestling

On Jan. 5, seven members of the Red Raiders wrestling team participated in the Dana College Open. The tournament hosts over 200 wrestlers from 17 schools, including a few D-I.

Both Enock Francois and Jordan Keckler made it to the championship in their respective weight class. Both took second to D-I wrestlers.

Junior Levi Price and sophomore Lamar Reed each took sixth.

Junior Tom Eaton (174) holds the number seven ranking in the latest NAIA poll.

SPORTS

Raider men’s winning streak ends

BY JONATHAN MEERDINK
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday night, the Red Raiders’ nine game winning streak came to an end against Briar Cliff, falling 65-70 to the Chargers.

With a 6-2 record in the GPAC and a 15-3 overall record, the Raiders have moved up to the number seven ranking in the latest NAIA poll.

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SPORTS RECAP

By Beth Mouw
Sports Editor

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Collaboration underway in Te Paske Gallery

BY TEDI SWANSON
STAFF WRITER

“This square is done. It avoids art,” reads one of the brightly colored tiles currently covering one section of wall in Northwestern’s Te Paske Gallery, located in the Korver Visual Arts Center.

These tiles, which contain old photographs, paintings, drawings, witty statements and even stamps, are just one of the attractions displaying the creative and collaborative artwork of John Bowitz and Shannon Sargent.

Bowitz has won 24 awards in juried shows and was presented with the Outstanding Teacher Distinguished Service Award by the Art Educators of Iowa in 1988.

Sargent is a registrar/preparatory to the Sioux City Art Center and works as an adjunct art professor at Morningside and NW. The two have provided NW and the surrounding community members with provocative artwork.

“I liked looking at the pieces and trying to make sense of the choices that these two artists made,” said Lisa Barber, Resident Director of Fern Smith Hall. “The pieces seemed chaotic, but it was good to look for the deeper meaning.”

When examining such visually interesting works as those of Bowitz and Sargent, an individual may begin to wonder about the source of their inspiration.

Thanks to the exhibit opening on Jan. 10, those attending were able to converse with the artists directly and clear up some of the mystery behind the pieces.

“It was most helpful in trying to understand the process the artists used making the art,” said Rein Vanderhill, art professor. “We asked them direct questions, and they pointed to specific examples.”

Residing in the Te Paske Gallery until Jan. 25, the art display brings bright colors and different textures to the arts center.

“People should go and see these pieces because it’s a unique art show with a different kind of style than is normally seen in our art gallery,” said Barber.

The tales of two city volunteers

BY RENEE NYHOF
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Once upon a time, the ears of children would perk up and wait intently for their story time to continue because who knows what could come next. As students get older, story time becomes more and more limited or possibly non-existent.

Yet, if there are still ears on campus in want (or in need) of story time, chapel on Wednesday, Jan. 23 will present “Stories from the City.” This will be an opportunity for adults to awaken once again to hear stories from two 2006-2007 Mission Year participants.

Brittany Caffey, now Northwestern’s AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer coordinator, and junior Mike Noble left NW to experience God in a different place. Each spent a year with other students from various locations volunteering in a city, Noble in Philadelphia and Caffey in Chicago.

“Mike and I will each be telling a story (or two) about an encounter we had in the city,” said Caffey, “one that stretched and challenged us or perhaps changed the way we view the world.”

By listening to the stories, Caffey and Noble hope to stir up the minds of their audience.

“We don’t expect every person to deal with the issues we had in the same way we did,” said Noble. “We hope some questions will come up in their minds for them to engage in and keep thinking about.”

Both will also incorporate how their Mission Year participation shaped their sense of identity and calling.

“I still have no idea what I’ll do after I leave NW,” said Noble, “but Mission Year really put a fire under me to focus.”

Student recital to come

BY KIM EASON
NEWS EDITOR

On Sunday, Jan. 20, senior Aubrey Weger will be giving a violin recital in Christ Chapel at 3 p.m.

She will perform four pieces, accompanied by staff accompanist Lori Vande Brake. She will start with Mozart’s “Adagio in E Minor, K. 261.” Following this she will play Eugene Ysaye's “Sonata No. 4, Op. 27;” Niccolo Paganini’s “24 Caprices for Solo Violin, Op. 1, No. 9 and 11;” and Tchaikovsky’s “Concerto in D Major, Op. 35, mvt. 1.”

Weger is a music education and violin performance major and is student teaching in Le Mars this semester. She is planning to pursue graduate studies for violin performance next year.