Music department showcases talents of many students

Heritage Singers perform at B.J. Haan auditorium

BY EMILY BREWER

The Northwestern College Heritage Singers will join the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus and chamber orchestra to perform Handel’s “Messiah” in the B.J. Haan Auditorium at Dordt College on Sat., May 2, at 7:30 p.m.

The choir will be conducted by Thomas Holm, associate professor of music at NW.

“People need to hear Messiah in their lifetime,” said Holm. “Handel was a dramatist. He knew how to write for an audience. It’s like telling a story – it never lets you go.”

Students can look forward to hearing “glorious music, virtuosic singing and various musical moods,” according to Holm, as the chorus moves them through the story of the Messiah from birth to resurrection.

Featured soloists include Tricia Van Ee, soprano; Emily Lodine, alto; Jeffrey Brich, tenor; and Bryan Van Gelder, bass.

“I really look forward to just being a part of this great work,” said Van Gelder. “Everyone should hear this work at least once, and even if you already have, it will be worth hearing again.”

Admission for the concert is $7 for adults and $3 for students with advance purchase, or $9/$5 at the door. Advance tickets are available in Orange City at NW’s music department and Dove Christian Bookstore; in Sioux Center, tickets are available at True Vine and the Dordt College music department.

Symphonic band joins forces with Le Mars High School band

The Northwestern College Symphonic Band will present a concert with the Le Mars Community High School Band tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel.

This is the first time the NW Symphonic Band has had an area high school band share the stage with them in Christ Chapel.

“This idea came about as a way to reach out to area schools,” said Timothy McGarvey, professor of music. “It is something that I would like to continue doing.”

The Le Mars band directed by Curt Ohrlund will perform in the first half of the concert. They will perform “Blessed Are They” by Johannes Brahms, “A Jubilant Overture” by Alfred Reed and “The Croseley March” by Henry Fillmore.

The Symphonic Band, directed by McGarvey, will present the second half of the concert and will open with “Outdoor Overture” by Aaron Copland.

The band will also present the world premiere of “After Darkness, Light” by Luke Dahn, assistant professor of music. Dahn was commissioned by NW to write the piece with funds from a gift to the music department by alumni Josiah and Kristin Dunlap.

Dahn composed the piece over a period of two months after receiving the commission at the end of last year.

“The piece is based on the tune of our alma mater, which is also the tune of the Dutch national anthem,” said Dahn. “The work’s title, ‘After Darkness, Light,’ is a literal translation of the Latin phrase ‘Post tenebras lux,’ which became a kind of motto for the Protestant reformers.”

The Symphonic Band will finish with “Blue Shades” by Frank Ticheli. This piece will feature an extended clarinet solo by junior Sarah Shively, the 2009 recipient of the Herman and Elizabeth Ritsema Family Music Scholarship.

Computer programming team advance to world finals in Sweden

BY KRISTIN KODIMA

April 18 to 22, Northwestern seniors Ben Kester, John Calsbeek and Curt Van Wyk participated in the Association for Computing Machinery/International Collegiate Programming Contest’s World Finals in Stockholm, Sweden at the Royal Institute of Technology.

The team did not know what to expect for the World Finals having never reached this level.

NW and Iowa State University were the Iowa teams present at the competition. NW was among some of the most prestigious schools in the world, including Oxford, MIT and Stanford.

Kester said that it was “next to be in a completely different setting after doing so well in the local competitions.” The library at the Royal Institute of Technology was completely cleared out and was filled with rows of desks and computers. Teams that spoke different languages were placed next to each other so that cheating was not an issue.

While one person manned the computer, the remaining team members would assist in figuring out the problem. Although NW did not complete any of the eleven problems, neither did many other schools.

As many prestigious universities were present, the atmosphere was intimidating. But according to Calsbeek, “there is so much adrenaline in the room, you can’t be intimidated.”

Michael Wallinga, instructor of computer science, enjoyed the other team’s cordialness. During the competition, Wallinga and the other coaches watched the competition on a live feed elsewhere.

“No matter what team somebody was there for, if a team answered a problem correctly, everybody cheered,” Wallinga said.

“There was a spirit of challenge and not of being cut-throat.”

Working on problems didn’t take up all the time spent in Sweden. The few free days the programming team had were spent touring Stockholm.

“Seeing how the Royal Institute of Technology was able to make the competition work with all the different languages and cultures was incredible,” Calsbeek said.

Three ensembles present concert

BY SARA CURRY

On May 8 at 7:30 p.m., the brass quintet, chamber strings and percussion ensemble will perform a concert in Christ Chapel.

The diverse spectrum of music provided by these three groups, including featured-soloists, distinguishes this concert from other musical performances.

“There is so much variety,” said professor of music Timothy McGarvey; “from Baroque to jazz, combined with string quartet pieces from classical to folk, to percussion pieces.”

Due to this variety, McGarvey has high expectations for the concert’s potential to capture a wide range of students’ interests.

“The students have been challenged with a difficult variety of pieces that will be very engaging for the audience,” he said. “I’m excited to see their reaction.”

McGarvey hopes students gain an appreciation for the variety of music they hear and the challenges faced by their peers.

“Chamber playing is very difficult because there is nowhere to hide,” McGarvey said. “I hope students will come and see their peers perform a job well-done because they have no idea what they really do until they see it.”

McGarvey will be leading the brass quintet portion of the performance. Kimberly Svanc, associate professor of music will direct the chamber strings and Dan Duffield, percussion instructor, will head up the percussion ensemble.
SGA announces possible trayless dining next fall

By Leann Johnson
Contributing Writer

As students return to Northwestern’s campus next fall, it is possible that the cafeteria trays will not be joining them; the SGA unanimously approved a motion to begin trayless dining in the cafeteria at the start of the next school year. Their proposal to eliminate trays gained the support of Sodexo and is currently waiting approval from the administrative council.

The council’s approval is the last step in a process that has been in the works for two years. It originally began after fifteen students approached the SGA about eliminating trays. As a result, the SGA implemented “Trayless Tuesday” last year. Last fall, the SGA hosted a trayless week and this spring students went trayless for three weeks for a Day of Learning in Community contest.

Senior Carson Norine, president of SGA, said that although some members of the SGA originally disagreed with the proposal, after examining the results of first semester’s trayless week, they, “saw what it specifically did for NW, and that really opened some eyes.”

Before and during the trayless week, Todd Tracy, professor of biology, conducted research with his Environmental Science class and the SGA about the amount of food wasted in the cafeteria. The data collected showed that trayless dining reduced 19 percent of the food and 42 percent of the beverages students throw away. This translates into NW saving nearly five tons of food and 2,000 gallons of beverage annually.

During the trayless week, the SGA also conducted a survey to find out what the students thought about it. They asked students, “Would you be willing to give up your tray to help NW cut back on food and water waste?” Of the 438 students (42 percent of students on a meal plan) that responded, 57.1 percent responded “yes,” 21.7 percent responded “don’t care” and 21.2 percent responded “no.”

After gaining proof of the large impact that going trayless had for NW and finding that almost 80 percent of students have a “why not?” attitude toward going trayless, the SGA approved a motion for NW to begin trayless dining next fall.

The motion includes several provisions, including having the Sodexo checker provide trays for people who have special/medical needs and having the SGA annually evaluate the continuation of trayless dining.

Overall, Norine believes that this is a huge step for NW, with results that will add up quickly, including a decrease in student food waste and Sodexo production costs.

Budget cuts propel yearbook into digital era for 2009-10 school year

By Leann Johnson
Contributing Writer

Northwestern will not produce a printed yearbook for the 2009-10 school year due to cuts to the financial budget.

“Yearbooks have been discontinued at many other colleges and universities,” NW president Greg Christy said. “Many schools have moved to digital, which he hopes NW can do, too.

Although the digital yearbook would still cost the college money, the expense would not equal the $30,000 currently spent on the printed version. Christy realizes that cutting the printed yearbook may not be ideal for some, but he is happy that this is the only cut for the ‘09-’10 school year that will directly impact the students.

“Number one thing is not hindering the quality of a complete educational experience here at NW,” Christy said.

Kim Case, dean of student programs and yearbook advisor, said, “students do appreciate having a book that commemorates the year. It’s a loss to not have a printed yearbook.” However, she also realizes that a digital version “holds some opportunities beyond what the old format held.”

Options for going digital include placing the yearbook on a CD, a DVD or an online website. Case thinks a digital version could be more collaborative than a printed yearbook, and that students from various majors could get involved in the production process through photography, video and music projects.

Case is also hoping that students will bring to the digital format “a lot of creative ideas that could give it new life.” She said they are currently researching the different options for next year and are “looking for wisdom to do it well and to capture the spirit of the yearbook.”

Freshman Heather Pagelkopf, special events editor of the yearbook, is optimistic about going digital.

“Going digital may seem like a setback, but it could actually be a good thing,” Pagelkopf said.
Warning: This paper is a joke. The Beacon staff does not condone the behaviors discussed in this issue.

May 1, 2009

Heemstra and West scheme against Obama

BY B. MINE’ER ERS

Lately, rumors have been spreading around campus regarding two of the male dorms. Apparently, West and Heemstra Halls are working together to sabotage the United States’ economy. According to most sources, the purpose for this is so that Northwestern will not have sufficient funds to build the new dorm that has been planned to replace them.

Most of the men who were approached about the matter simply denied the existence of such a plot. However, there are some who were more open to discussing it. When asked whether or not the rumors were true, Heemstra resident J. Whostheboss responded with a simple and clear “Yes.” Whostheboss was also questioned as to how exactly the two dorms have been going about their schemes. His answer was “Dynamics. Lots of it. Also some napalm. Yeah...” Whostheboss denied all accusations of terrorism.

BY CHARLES THE SIMPLE

A group of students calling themselves Keep Iowa Regular and Straight (KIRS) are rallying to support an amendment to the Iowa Constitution that would define marriage exclusively as being between “one man and one woman.”

While they’re at it, they’re also considering defining a family as “A heterosexual couple with maybe two or three kids, a dog, an SUV, a house in a nice neighborhood, with a weed-free lawn, shade trees, some tulips, a swing set, a barbecue and a few bikes and mopeds, with a summer vacation to Yellowstone or Disneyland.”

KIRS is reacting to a recent decision by the Iowa Supreme Court, declaring that there is no constitutional basis for discriminating against gays and lesbians when it comes to civil marriage.

Because the decision cites the Iowa motto, “Our Liberties We Prize and Our Rights We Will Maintain,” KIRS is also planning to propose a change in the motto to “something less liberal-sounding,” according to their leader, sophomore Rush Dimbo.

Inspired by Iowa Fifth District Congressman Steve King’s declaration (quoted in the SC Journal) that this unanimous decision of the court means that, “our worst fears have been realized,” group leaders have announced that it’s time to quit worrying about such lesser fears as two wars, global climate change, crime, terrorism, declining energy supplies, environmental degradation, loss of jobs, lack of affordable health care, poverty, famine, a possible flu pandemic and the worldwide economic collapse.

Instead, they will focus their efforts on preventing gays and lesbians from gaining equal access to the tax, social security and insurance benefits enjoyed by heterosexual couples and from having the right to visit a loved one in the hospital, make emergency and end-of-life decisions for them, declare a lifetime commitment to another person, raise children in a legally sanctioned family and become contributing members of a community.

“Christians must rally to fight this menace,” said a KIRS member.

Dimbo added, “If we let people like that have all this normal stuff, they might start seeming kinda like the rest of us, and then where would we be?”

Graduation: An Integration of Culture and Learning

BY PEACHY KEEN

Each May, the Orange City community experiences two short- and fast periods of economic and social influx, two weekends of scurrying visitors eager to explore Northwestern and discover the Dutch. This year, the city will dare to see what happens when they combine the two events that put Orange City on the map.

Saturday, May 16 not only marks the culmination of 285 graduating seniors’ NW experiences, but the final full day of Orange City’s much-acclaimed annual Tulip Festival. Much debate has surrounded the issue, with City Council members threatening to vandalize the college. Due to the neat and tidy nature of the Dutch, however, threats were never carried through.

In an effort to soothe tension, make peace and keep from further division within the Reformed tradition, the academic and Dutch world will unite, sharing in a number of integrated events. “We thought it would be best to make the most of the scheduling fiasco,” said council member Von Klauussen. “By combining college and city events, we make it possible for visitors to see as much as possible.”

Friday night is traditionally when NW holds its baccalaureate service. But, this year, the service will join forces with the Tulip Festival’s Night Show performance of Brigadoon. Seniors will dress in pastoral clothing and recount their time at NW in dream-like fashion. Celtic music will be played during the cutting of the cord at the end of the service. Attendees are encouraged to process to the Remedy Drive Concert directly afterward.

Saturday morning’s Road Race will end at the Bulman Center just as the graduation ceremony begins. Led by the Tulip Queen herself, graduates will begin processing on 1st and Central, where they will join in sweeping the streets and Dutch dancing prior to commencement exercises. A horse-drawn trolley car will be used to transport distinguished faculty and commencement speakers. Following graduation, poffertjes will be served at a small reception in the RSC.

“I think this will be a wonderful way for the city and the college to unite,” said president Kraig Misty. “I’m looking forward to finding my inner Dutch, and am especially anticipating a petty cab ride around Zwemer.”

The weekend will be a learning experience, furthering the education of graduates and the community alike.
2032: The mini-gym equipment is new!

BY ALWAYS SMILEY

TIME TRAVELLER

Giant golden scissors snapped as the red ribbon was cut to the entrance of the long-awaited, updated RSC mini-gym.

After the Vanderschammen Learning Commons, Den Scholtzenburg men's dorm and Murphy Library were built, the SGA finally found the money to get new exercise equipment.

Thursday April 22, 2032 saw the opening of the new mini-gym.

"We're so glad to see the new equipment we have asked for for so long," SGA president Xena De Vander Schaaf said.

The first inquiry for new exercise equipment was introduced by the SGA about the turn of the millennium. One treadmill was added in 2010, however, economic problems and other priorities prevented NW from updating any more.

"We've had a lot of updates to make," president Lance Den Grootenhuisenburg said. "Now, it's time we make students' dreams a reality."

Maintenance staff used their

new hoverscapes to bring in the new equipment.

Twelve electric exercise bikes, five elliptical machines with attached radios and fans, three treadmills and two stairstepper machines with television screens have been added to the mini-gym.

The old wind bikes have been donated to The Center for Veteran Rehabilitation in Bogota, Colombia.

Students felt happy when they heard about the updates, but are not sure these machines are up-to-date.

"When I'm at home, we have machines that send electrical impulses through you to burn calories and tone muscles," sophomore Sara TenDenSchuul said. "I'm not sure I want to spend hours on those older machines to burn calories when I can do it without trying on another machine."

Alumni director, Bet C. Poppyseed, said that she remembers pining after new equipment when she attended Northwestern 2005-2009.

"We all dreamed of having updated equipment," Poppyseed said. "I would have killed to have this stuff."

She's not convinced that the equipment is what is needed today though.

"It's nice stuff, but I still don't know how much the students will use it now," she said. "What do you say, 'Go grab your jetpack and ride over to the RSC to spend an hour working out on elliptical? But remember to bring your headphones, you can listen to the radio.' I'm not sure students even have headphones anymore, most already have the stick-on chip where they can get XM radio anywhere."

No matter how much the equipment will be used, the SGA is still appreciative to NW for finally recognizing their request.

De Vander Schaaf said. "Thank you NW for listening to the students and fulfilling their dreams."

Frost your own. Fry your own: Taking cafeteria favorites a step further

BY PEACHY KEEN

FRESH FARMER

You cross the street, follow the sidewalk under the canopy, go by the fountain, pass through the doors and join the herd of hungry students waiting to see what culinary wonders are in store for dinner.

You swipe your card, pick up a tray—or

wonders are in store for dinner. You waiting to see what culinary

joining the herd of hungry students

you enter the caf, but over the

course of the past year or so, remarkable changes have been made in Northwestern's cafeteria.

"I think the caf has really brought their 'A' game this year," senior Sara Smiles said. "I especially appreciate the middle line. I can hardly wait to see what new and exciting sandwich options they'll offer."

Freshman Steve De Something agreed.

"I can hardly believe all of my options," De Something said. "At home we had frozen pizza for dinner every night. Don't get me wrong, I like my Tombstone, but here in the caf I can try something different each time I come. I can even have pasta and waffle sticks in the same meal."

In light of such positive feedback (and perhaps in order to keep their contract) Sodexo is kicking it up a notch. A committee of very creative people was organized to brainstorm ways that the caf could keep up the good work and increase the satisfaction of its eaters. Here are just a few:

Due to the popularity of “frost your own cupcake,” “frost your cookie” and even “frost your own Obama-man,” the caf is looking to expand its frosting options.

They are currently considering offering strawberry icing, and even investing in some pastry bags, fake flowers and decorating tips.

"We think it would be a great way for students to let their creative juices flow," one committee member said.

The option of icing your own miniature wedding cake was also suggested.

Adding to the “make your own” theme comes the “fry your own whatnot” bar. The bar would allow students to deep-fat fry potatoes, sandwiches, cheese balls, pickles or any other caf item that they can throw in the vat.

"We usually spend a lot of time frying an overabundance of potatoes, but we have already decided to extend the options. We thought broccoli would be a good choice, and maybe mushroom as well," a committee member said.

Using frozen vegetables was suggested as a way to keep the water cold, save money and serve students at the same time.

As an extension of NW's desire to create a more global mindset and offer more diverse food options, one line in the caf will begin offering "convenience meals," composed of items you can find at your local Casey's. Twinkies, polishes dogs, mustard-flavored pretzels and Red Bull are a few of the items that might make an appearance.

"A number of people live off of gas station food," a committee member said. "We think it would open students' eyes to a new type of cuisine."

PHOTO BY E.M. GOWN

Who thought the RSC would never get more equipment? In the year 2032 it will line the walls!

PHOTO BY KAN I. BORROW

Adding to the "make your own"

Here comes the...

Bridezilla!

Does your bride-book sleep under your pillow at night?
Have you cried about tuleps or roses recently?
Did you scream in a dress shop last week?
Do you ask Jesus not to return until after your big fall extravaganant wedding?
Does your fiancé and family pay he vif?

PHOTO BY JENNIFER WIGHT

Junior Farrah Yolk Yumma samples a test of the new vegetable water, eggplant flavor.

If you answered YES to any of these questions then consider joining Northwestern's

Bridezilla Support Group
Perfectly inexpensive wedding venues

BY A MAN IS WRONG

The Terabytes wreak havoc through “Terms and Conditions”

The group of IT technicians, who refer to themselves as The Terabytes, inconspicuously maneuver the unwanted agreements into the “Terms and Conditions” by surrounding them with technical jargon. By doing this, they managed to keep these agreements unknown to users until they come to collect what was promised to them.

The Terabytes have already hit many students on NW’s campus.

“I promised to make them pasta every Sunday for a year,” senior Jane Student admitted. “Apparently they really enjoy pasta but don’t know how to cook. I really don’t know what I’m going to do.”

Other individuals have promised batches of cookies, free cleaning services and in one case, a beloved pet goldfish.

“Jaws was my best friend and

BACON

BY GREG THE BUNNY

Alternate uses for your TV

BY CUDDLY SWAN

Spring is in the air and so are the delighted squeals of seniors getting engaged all over campus.

Looking for a nice scenic venue for the ceremony? Ask around for locations of roadside parks; many of them already have benches and tables for public use. Some even have a grill ready to be fired up.

Another great option would be your parent’s backyard. If dad is up for it, have him ordained so you don’t even have to hire a minister. There would be no rental fee. Mom would help decorate, dad would take care of the mowing and trimming. If the house needs a little fixing up it would be a great excuse to finally get that done.

Summertime is great for backyard barbecues. There’s nothing like the smell of a good ol’ hog roast to compliment all the love in the air. In Northwest Iowa we have a bounty of hog confinements, those with occasional hogs that don’t quite make it to the slaughter house. These can be found many times right on the driveway of the property. Hop in your pick-up and pick one up for free. The meat should be enough to feed all your guests and you’ll save a ton of money on the post-wedding feast.

The way to cut the most costs possible on your wedding day is to plan your wedding on a Sunday morning. The church will already be full with friends, family and a few people you’ve never met so you’ll save money by not sending out invitations. To plan in a very short amount of time, look on the church calendar for a Sunday with a pot luck dinner to follow the service. This way you don’t have to rent tables and chairs and everyone gets fed: all it cost you was a hot dish.

If you’d like the church to be nicely decorated but don’t have the cash to spring for flowers try to plan the wedding around a holiday like Thanksgiving or Easter. The faux fall leaves will be in every windowsill for the Thanksgiving season, and the ladies of the church will have new fresh flower set around for springtime.

Another benefit of having the ceremony during a church service is that the music will already be planned for you. A moving piano piece, the glorious voices of the church choir and maybe even some special music will be lovely and save you from hiring musicians and picking out songs. Sounds like the perfect wedding day.

Whether you have the ceremony and reception in a backyard or in a church, remember there are always ways to have the wedding of your dreams for little money; just be creative and use the resources around you.

Northwestern offers NEW Online Courses

Vogue Analysis
History of Disc Golf
Facebook and Rhetoric
Intro to Napping

The Terabytes just took him from me,” freshman Liz Feers said. “I can’t believe I agreed to give him up.”

The true identity of the members of The Terabytes has yet to be discovered. The FBI is working around the clock to find the source and return best friends and freedom to all of the victims of The Terabytes’ antics. Until the mystery has been solved, students are advised to pay close attention to the “Terms and Conditions” of the updates on their computers.

Girdlemale said, “We have no way of knowing which computers or students will be targeted. It is better that students take extra precaution until the situation is taken care of.”
Swimming with the Profs

BY ROACH REESES AND REIGNY KNIGHT
FUR-LOVING ROOMMATES

Synchronized Swimming with the Profs will debut this Sat. May 2 at the Sioux Center All Seasons Center. Eight student-professor pairs will take turns making their splash in the 4-foot section of the pool.

Unlike Dancing with the Profs, this competition requires participating professors to develop the choreography. All of the pairs have reserved different blocks of time at the pool so their competitors don’t steal their moves or costumes.

One guideline for the competition includes wearing matching wet suits that embodies their song. Contestants are not allowed to use flippers or flotation devices. Moggles must be clear, so that the audience and judges can view the swimmer’s emotions.

Professor of vampire history, Minnie Track, has been preparing her routine with senior Toby Forester for five straight days. The song they will be swirling to is “Gettin’ Jiggy Wit It” by Will Smith.

“When Toby told me which song we were using, I freaked out,” Track said. “I love swimming and I love Will Smith. I was thrilled to put the two together.”

Even after obtaining a rash from Sioux Center chlorine, she performed her routine flawlessly during rehearsal.

“I have never gotten a rash like that,” Track said. “It will be a night where students find out what the faculty does for fun and now students can enjoy it too,” Track said.

Another pair, junior Betty Kluster and professor of ancient knowledge Marty Kung, will keep the Lord of the Rings alive through their rendition of “May It Be” by Enya.

As this is Kung’s first synchronized swimming experience, he has been a little leery of joining the competition. This team has been preparing for two weeks and their journey hasn’t been the smoothest.

Their first day of practice proved difficult, as Kung couldn’t stop creating monstrous bubbles after eating a Chile cheese dog and “downing three cans of Dr. Pepper.” However, before the next day’s practice, he opted for the fruit salad instead.

After overcoming that setback, they dove right into their routine. Creating top-notch choreography was challenging for Kluster and Kung.

After much contemplation while sitting on the pool steps, Kung believes he has developed a six-minute presentation that will include “many chilling sections that will capture your heart and soul.”

There have been many moments of laughter between this pair. According to Kluster, watching Kung practice the Rocket Split was “a priceless moment” and she ended up losing her left eye contact.

“Even though we had to call it quits that day, I had a blast,” Kluster said. “One time I even got a cramp from watching Marty swallow too much water after tapering over.”

The remaining six couples are also looking forward to this event and know that all of their hard work will pay off.

“It will be a night where students find out what the faculty does for fun and now students can enjoy it too,” Track said.

Job testing: finding your place

BY KATYDIO GRAHAM
SUPPORTIVE

With the current economic crisis, graduating students are looking at their soon-to-be-completed degrees as something that is in no way going to help them receive the job they’ve dreamed of all their lives.

According to a recent and very reliable poll, 100 percent of May 2009 graduates not only get to keep their cap and gown as a souvenir, but also receive the added bonus of a staggering amount of debt. Nevertheless, many of the students remain optimistic about their future.

“I know starting off with a whole bunch of debt is not the most ideal way to start life on my own,” senior Iva Richdad said, “but I know everything will work out, it always does.”

However, members of Northwestern’s Student Academic Development (SAD) board have decided to approach the problem a bit more proactively.

“We always talk about vocare on this campus as a way to inspire students to discover,” commented committee chair Claire Asmudd. “Well, we’re not really sure what vocare is either, but we think the program we are instituting this year will help eliminate all the work and confusion involved in that pursuit.”

There is an experimental program being instituted at NW this year. As a drastic attempt to combat the problems students areencountering on the job search, a new form of job qualification testing is now available and mandatory to all graduating students, regardless of major.

As of this year, not only will seniors have the opportunity to take the standard Myers-Briggs, Stafford loan exit counseling, Northwest Iowa trivia and GRE tests, but they will also take the Job Isolation and Placement (JIP) test.

The JIP test is comprised of 300 multiple choice, 30 matching, 15 short answer and three essay questions to determine personality, intelligence and seasonal allergy levels. There will also be one current-events extra-credit question.

Students will take the test one month before graduation and will later receive the results, along with their recommended occupation and the name and location of the employer that has hired them.

Rather than mailing the results to students along with their diplomas following graduation, school officials will have each student’s individual results emailed to their NW account as a way to make the process more convenient.

Students are required to work at least two years at the job and location to which they are assigned. Following the obligatory two-year term, students that wish to change occupations will be allowed to retake the exam and be reassigned.

Although news of this extreme shift in policy has a few students upset, others are excited about the benefits of the JIP test.

“Now I don’t have to worry about finding time to go to the Career Development Center to make resumes and cover letters,” senior Tom Orowsbeter said. “Nobody really uses those things anymore anyway.”

Decorations year-round? NW takes themed housing a step further

BY WILLTALK STEGOSAURUS
NOT-TOPHNOMENATED

Due to the clear interest in the allotted campus married housing, Northwestern will reserve additional campus residencies for themed housing in the 2010-2011 school year.

Although specific themes have not been officially announced, a planning committee is working with several ideas for the project.

To correspond with married housing, several apartments in the Plexes will be set aside for engaged couples, separated by gender. This way, brides-to-be can confine their stressed planning to a limited area, and grooms-to-be can live together as a mutual support group. In the 2011-2012 school year, additional housing may be made available for recovering bridesmaids.

Other apartments will be set aside for year-round decorative housing, similar to Steggy Keggy, Coly Christmas or Heemstra Harvest.

Potential themes include Disney, the Wild West, Popular Musicals, Kenya, Under the Sea and the 1970s.

In addition to the hallways, apartment living areas will also be transformed, although residents may choose whether or not their bedrooms will be decorated. Residents may be required to dress in related costumes, but this has not been officially decided.

The new themed housing will likely occupy an additional Plex, a majority of Bomks A and C, as well as the first floor of Coly.

The planning committee thinks that students will respond positively to the increased amount of themed housing.

“We think students will see the new themed housing as a worthy community-building cause,” said committee member Yunita Cashews, “so they won’t mind that only a handful of them will get into the apartments their senior year.”

Student reactions so far have been mixed.

“I’m actually pretty excited about it,” admitted Anna Vandenoose. “I’m always a little depressed when we have to tear down Steggy Keggy. I think it’d be so cool to live like that all year.”

Others are less enthusiastic.

“I think we should at least be able to vote on themes,” added Ann Otherstudent. “I don’t want to go ‘Under the Sea’ to visit my friends. It sounds scary to me.”

Anyone with a flair for the exciting is eligible for application. Applicants may list their top two preferred themes, but are not guaranteed to be placed in their theme of choice.

Continuation of themed housing depends on its success in 2010-2011.
First tennis season ends with a 5-4 win over Buena Vista University

BY RENEE NYHOF

The Red Raider tennis team closed their season last night with a 5-4 win over Buena Vista in a non-conference tennis match last Monday. Northwestern finished 4-9 overall and seventh in the GPAC at 3.6.

To start against BVU, freshmen Julie Mineart and sophomore Laura Emmert won the no. 1 and no. 2 doubles to win the match, 9-7, and secure a Raider victory.

Other results on the day include three losses in the no. 2, no. 3, no. 5 singles matches respectively: sophomore Lisa Wilgert lost, 5-7, 6-4 and 4-10, Pomerene lost, 0-6 and 6-1, and freshman Jennifer Gieselman lost, 2-6 and 4-6. Wilgert and sophomore Laura Starr also lost in the no. 6 double with a score of 7-5.

NW’s win turned around the team’s spirits after losing to Concordia, 9-0, in a GPAC women’s tennis match last Saturday. Herrmann and Summers played the closest singles’ matches of the day, both falling 10-3 to their opponents in no. 4 and no. 6 singles matches, respectively. Summers had her five-match winning streak broken in the process.

Although this was NW’s first tennis team since 2001 and the team had more losses than wins, they still enjoyed re-starting the program.

Most of the team members hadn’t played for a few years so they enjoyed getting out on the court to play again. Mineart and Pomerene agreed that the team enjoyed getting to know each other.

“Since it was the first year for our program, we had a rough start,” said Mineart. “However, where we ended up at the end of the season was even better that any of us expected. I’m really excited for next season. We’re going to do nothing but get better.”

Five champions, two national qualifiers for the track teams at USF Invite

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT

SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern track and field teams faced cold temperatures and high winds at the USF Invitational last Friday, but brought home 21 top-five performances.

Two national qualifying performances came from junior Kyle Sauter and sophomore Logan Ogden. Sauter ran the 110-meter hurdles in 15 seconds to win the event, while Ogden threw 50 feet, 1.25 inches to win the shot put. Sauter also added a second place in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 56.49.

Other Raider champions were junior Emily De Weerd, who won the 100-meter hurdles with 15.4 and senior Ben Brown, who ran 2:03.43 in the 800-meter run. Sophomore Stephanie Powell had an impressive 3000-meter steeplechase debut, winning the event in a time of 12:44.07. Sophomore teammate Akacia Wentworth placed fourth in the event with 13:34.3.

NW well-represented in the women’s 400-meter hurdles, as sophomores Corrie Fauth took second place with 1:08.8 and sophomore Stacey Dietrich took fourth with 1:11.8. Freshman Allison Weidler finished second in the 5000-meter run with a time of 19:56 and was closely followed by sophomore Sara Hess, who ran a 20:30 to finish third. Freshman Elizabeth Stevens threw a school record-breaking 10.11 in the javelin to place second, while freshman teammate Bridgett Hasche finished right behind in third (10.40).

Freshman Andrew Johnson finished second in the men’s 3000-meter steeplechase with 11:35.75. Sophomore Kristen Neher ran a 2:27 in the 800-meter run to take third, and junior Luke Hofmeyer added two fourth place finishes, running 11:29 in the 100-meter dash and 23.06 in the 200-meter dash.

Senior Derrick Rensink ran a 16:42 in the 110-meter hurdles to finish in fourth place. Sophomore Paul Lundgren placed fourth in the 5000-meter run.

Softball finishes home season with two wins over Mount Marty

BY RENEE NYHOF

EDITOR

The Northwestern College softball team finished the home portion of their scheduled games with a pair of conference wins over Mount Marty Friday night. Game one ended with a 6-3 victory and game two ended after five innings with a 16-6 victory.

The Raiders improved to 10-14 in the GPAC, 13-24 overall. The Raiders have just two games left in the regular season.

“During that game we had no weaknesses,” said Dave Hulsart, head coach. “I believe the game raised our spirits and it was a good day to end the home season.”

Senior Gavi Burrola only gave up six hits and three runs in seven innings pitched. Burrola also struck out seven.

In game one, the Raiders were led by sophomore Stephanie Van Duyn, who went 3-for-4 with a run and an RBI. Freshmen Shelby Johnson and Ashley Evans added two hits each. Johnson also added two RBIs. NW grabbed a 1-0 lead in the second inning and gained five more runs in the fifth.

NW scored seven runs in the first inning of the second game and never trailed in its 16-6, five-inning win. The Raiders sent 11 batters to the plate in the first inning and grabbed six hits off two Lancers pitchers. Evans nabbed a two-run home run and sophomore Rachel Harris powered a two-run triple to highlight the inning.

The second inning brought all six runs for the Raiders; and three were earned off Raider pitcher and freshman Kawi Kuhlmann. NW went on to score four more runs in the second half of that inning. They scored four more in the third inning and scored their final run in the fourth inning to earn the win.

The Raiders totaled 16 hits, led by Johnson and Harris who each went 3-for-4 with a perfect 4-for-4. Johnson scored two runs and had one RBI while Harris drove in three runs. Evans went 3-for-4 for four RBIs and two runs scored, and junior Sara Curry added two hits and three runs.

Even with a losing season, Hulsart said the team remained positive, which made the season fun. He hopes the team will hang on to their positivity for their last game and for next season.

For the Raider’s season finale, they will travel to Bellevue, Neb. to take on the Bruins this Saturday.

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Spotlight on Senior Athletes

BY CAMERON CARLOW
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The seniors of the Northwestern baseball team played their final stretch of games this past week. The Raiders competed in two double headers, the first against Briar Cliff and the second against Dordt, going 1-1 in each.

Against the Chargers of Briar Cliff on Friday, April 24, the Raiders lost the first game, 3-4, but bounced back in the second game, posting a 4-3 victory.

“I think we played well as a team,” junior shortstop Brad Payne said. “It was nice to see the team battle throughout both games although it has been a frustrating year for us as a whole.”

In the first game, NW got a strong pitching performance from sophomore Drew Nonnemacher, who threw six and a third innings, giving up only two earned runs off six hits. The Raiders took a 3-2 lead in the sixth, but the Crusaders managed to put up two runs in the final inning to pull out the 4-3 victory.

In game two against Briar Cliff, the Raiders battled closely before Payne scored the game-winning run in the seventh off a throwing error. Payne pitched six innings for the Raiders, giving up three runs and five hits in the first game for NW and scoring one run, then followed it up in game two going 2-0-1 and picking up another run.

“He was hitting the ball well and it is nice to see him cover so much ground out in center field,” Payne said. “Some of the balls that are hit to him will come out of nowhere and make a catch. It is nice to have a guy that can patrol the outfield like that.”

Along with Gray, sophomore catcher Clint Gingerich performed well, going 1-4-1 and being walked twice in game one, and then scoring a run in the second game.

“Clint is a guy that coaches love to have because he will give it his all no matter what position he’s playing in the field or in the batting line-up,” Payne said.

In the two games combined Payne went 4-for-6 with an RBI and scored two runs himself. The Raiders took momentum from the victory against Briar Cliff into the game against Dordt. The Raiders put up a 6-2 win in game one but fell short in the second game, 8-9.

“Overall we played extremely well for knowing these were the last games of the season,” Payne said. “Everyone was in the games. Although, we didn’t win both, the seniors really turned out two good games. It was great to see some of them hit the way they did at the plate to end their careers.”

Senior second baseman Austin Malone went 1-0-1 in game one and dominated game two, going 2-0-4, driving in six runs, and scoring twice himself. He hit a grand slam in the third inning to take the lead for Raiders in his last game at NW.

“He couldn’t have asked for a better way to end a career,” Payne said. “He was willing to help everyone get better. There are not many guys that play the game like he does. It has been an honor and a pleasure playing behind him for the last three years.”

Also hitting a home run in game two for the Raiders was senior third baseman Justin Lane who went 2-4-0.

“It was great to see him play this well over the whole season and help our team in the batting line-up like he did,” Payne said.

BY BRITTANY MOORE
STAFF WRITER

Last week, the Northwestern women’s golf team finished its season third in the GPAC conference at Landsmeer, where they competed in the fourth and final GPAC Qualifier.

After four grueling rounds of play, the women finished behind runner-up University of Sioux Falls, and champion Dakota Wesleyan.

Northwestern missed out on qualifying for the NAIA Championship by 20 shots. Some individual standout performances included those by senior Carrie Spree and junior Rachelle Pedersen, both tied for second on the day at 85.

Freshman Andina Hinz and senior Kelsey Shiflett also did well, tying for 16th, and sophomore Maggie Achterhof tied for 24th with a 94.

Senior Captain Carrie Spree ended up 11th overall in the conference, missing out on the top ten by only two strokes.

I’m going to Friday, I was feeling confident because I knew it was my last match,” Spree said.

To get ready for the match, the women’s golf team prepared mostly mentally, as schoolwork kept them from getting much time on the course.

“It goes for every team, so we didn’t feel too unprepared going into the meet,” Spree said.

Senior Kelsey Shiflett said, “We prepared both mentally and physically all winter, and we played three meets the week before the qualifier to prepare.”

Although the Raider’s placed third overall in the GPAC conference, they placed second for the day, with a score of 352 behind Dakota Wesleyan at 341.

Going into the meet, Shiflett, “was excited to see what we could do.”

In the final round, Northwestern shot a 352, but that wasn’t enough to take second place overall from USF.

The Raiders are done for the season, but they will soon be back in action next fall.

Women’s golf finishes strong