



# Homecoming hits: Remembering yesterday, enjoying today

BY LEANN JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

"All Country Roads Lead Home" to this year's Northwestern Homecoming. Students are invited to participate in various activities on Friday night and all day Saturday.

The weekend kicks off with the traditional Air Band/Lip Sync competition on Friday at 9 p.m. in Christ Chapel. Admission is one dollar, payable at the door.

Saturday's festivities start at 8:30 a.m. with the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Raider 5K Run/Walk. The runners begin near Christ Chapel, and registrants will receive a free T-shirt, door prizes and refreshments. The cost is \$10 prepaid and \$15 on the day of the race.

Also going on from 9:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday is the Morning on the Green carnival, hosted by numerous NW student organizations. Some of this year's entertainment at the Morning on the Green includes carnival games, a petting zoo and an antique tractor show.

Students are also invited to watch several alumni games Saturday morning, including tennis, baseball, softball and wrestling. In addition, a cappella choir alumni will be singing the national anthem before the football game.

Students can then head over to the alumni and current students' Homecoming picnic at Jaycee Park

where food will be served from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. This will give fans time to eat before the kick-off of the Red Raider football game against Dana College at 1:30 p.m.

After the game, a country

hoedown will be held on the campus green from 5 until 9 p.m. While there, students can enjoy a Texas-style barbeque meal, mechanical bull riding, lawn mower races, country-style photo ops and hayrides. The

event is hosted by NW's Student Activities Council. In keeping with the theme, there will also be country line and square dancing during the annual Homecoming dance to finish off the weekend.



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

Northwestern's 2008 homecoming court

## A ticket to Orange City fun: New chamber cards are here

BY RACHEL RIETSEMA  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Chamber of Commerce has assembled a new spread of offers for savings around town. This particular service available to all students is provided in the form of a free chamber card.

This card is only a few steps away from campus. Students can walk into the front door of the Chamber windmill office across from Fareway. Once at their office, one must present their student ID to receive this exclusive offer for students.

Benefits from this card do not expire until Sept. 30, 2009. One will find a myriad of businesses featured on the card, which usually wouldn't have been otherwise tried.

One of the top values on the card this year is at the de Koffie Boon. If one brings in a new student and buys one drink, you'll receive one drink free of equal or lesser value.

Another business with big savings is at Subway. Upon purchasing one 6" sandwich and a 22 oz. drink, a second 6" sandwich of equal or lesser value for 99 cents will be awarded. A8 Chinese is offering 10 percent off an evening dinner from Mon-Thurs.

At Blue Mountain, students can join the passport club and receive a free day membership. Customers will pay to be served on second floor with a special menu that day. If in need of a haircut, come to Headquarters for Hair for \$1 off regular priced haircuts.

## Turnitin subject of debate among faculty

BY JENNA BOOTE  
NEWS EDITOR

During the 2007-2008 school year, Northwestern students rolled their cursor over the unassuming gray "Continue" button more than 13,000 times, sending their papers on quest for legitimacy through the annals of the Internet. That button, connected to Turnitin.com, has revolutionized the way plagiarism is addressed.

In its fifth year of use on NW's campus, Turnitin provides faculty with an objective way to check for improper citations and plagiarism. Submissions are checked against

Turnitin's extensive database, which includes 12 billion web pages, 40 million student papers and thousands of books, magazines and scholarly journals.

Last year, at least 45 instructors skimmed through Turnitin's "Originality Reports" to be sure students properly cited their work. The service grades papers using an "Overall Similarity Index," assigning each submission a percentage of total matching content, with 0 percent being original and 100 percent being plagiarized. The outside sources that Turnitin identifies as matches can be easily viewed, allowing faculty to make objective judgment calls regarding the authenticity of a work.

During the past two semesters, over 300 NW papers received above a 50 percent match rate, indicating a high probability of plagiarism, and over 1200 fell between 25 percent to 50 percent.

These numbers have caused some faculty to call into question the effectiveness of Turnitin. Others, however, proffer explanations for the elevated statistics. Some faculty members require that papers be submitted more than once, causing both papers to register as completely plagiarized. Professors are also given the option to exclude quoted material in the report,

and this feature is not taken into consideration in the basic figures.

Ethical issues have also been a topic of concern. Professor of English and communications Carl Vandermeulen finds the system intrusive. "I don't like the idea of requiring students to prove their innocence. There are better ways to discourage plagiarism."

Many faculty, however, support the use of Turnitin for its accuracy and objectivity. Few faculty relished the idea of confronting students with accusations of academic dishonesty, and before Turnitin, charges could rarely be proven unless faculty expend time and effort to hunt down the plagiarized source. With Turnitin, professors can simply inform students that their paper has been tagged as plagiarized, and the source of the plagiarism can be easily identified.

Deb Menning, instructor in English, explains that before Turnitin was implemented, she had at least one problem with plagiarism each semester. Today, she rarely deals with academic dishonesty. "Turnitin is an invaluable service for our college. Aside from making professors' jobs much less stressful, the tool helps to maintain good relationships between faculty and students."



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

One women's team exhibits intensity in the final rounds of Northwestern's annual dodgeball tournament.



## front desk

WITH JENNA BOOTE

### Change we need

I can't remember where I was going when I saw it. Maybe the library to study? I'd like to think so.

In any case, it was October and I was wearing flip-flips. I was also feeling spunky. So spunky, in fact, that I almost bounded past it—but its unusually lackluster design caught my eye.

Join Facebook!

"What's a facebook?" I remember thinking.

Beneath the heading was a pixelated graphic and short explanation of how to create your own "profile" (yet another unfamiliar word).

Scroll forward three years. I'm wearing black fuzzy slippers and spending a sizable portion of my Saturday afternoon rejecting requests to join groups entitled, "1,000,000 Against the New Facebook," "Petition Against the New Facebook" and "People Against the New Facebook System."

History proves that the older we get, the less we like change. But it seems to me that rigidity is creeping in far too fast. What we need is flexibility.

Why? Well, first off, it's clear that this character trait is lacking.

Now don't get me wrong—the plank is in my own eye, too. I still squelch feelings of frustration each day I'm forced to obtain my own napkins in the caf. And the fact that I've spent 4 years collecting ID cards only to have my campus accessibility restricted to the current one still irritates me. But I'm wasting less and living safer.

Getting better means leaving behind those things that are only good.

Secondly, we just happen to be charting our way through the most transitional period of our already change-prone age. From Cisco updates to genetically-engineered food, we'll need to adapt a fair amount in the next few years.

But is change always beneficial?

No.

Change is only great if improvement accompanies, and, as Christians, we should strive to maintain a balance between flexibility and discernment.

Now, the new Facebook certainly isn't making the world a better place. But chances are we'll all survive, and our generation could take advantage of these incessant updates to practice our newly cultivated character trait.

So lest our generation wind up as obstinate 80-year-olds with false teeth mumbling, "Dag-nabit, they changed my profile again," don't you suppose it's time we welcomed change?

# Don't be a whiner

BY HEATHER TALBOT

Sometimes I stop talking long enough to listen.

This is what I hear:

Why is it that Kugler thinks that my life revolves around his class? Doesn't he know that his class is not the only one I am taking?

Speaking of worthless classes, whose idea was it to make everyone take a philosophy course?

I'm at a Christian college, so why do the religion professors insist on ripping my faith apart?

Shouldn't I at least get to choose whether or not I want to go to chapel?

Who makes up the caf menu anyway? Does this person actually think that I like cream of hot dog soup?

And why did they take the napkins off the tables?

Why is it that unless I fall below the poverty line I have to pay upwards of thirty thousand dollars...

...to sit in an exceedingly uncomfortable chair in hopes of memorizing enough useless information...

...to obtain an equally useless piece of paper that may or may not help me to score a decent job...

...so that I can start paying back all the money that I owe for the education I never wanted?

Sometimes I wonder if *anyone* at Northwestern is satisfied with their college choice. Regardless if NW was our first, second or last choice of colleges to attend, we have a responsibility to "give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

Being the superb Beacon-reading students of NW that you are, I am certain that none of you has ever uttered any of the aforementioned complaints.

However, on the off-chance that you or someone you know has done their fair share of whining, I encourage you to keep reading.

We are called to love God and love people, so why are we wasting so much energy bashing the very institution that wants to further our ability to live out this calling?

Oftentimes, I'm a whiner too. I have my fair share of "issues" with NW as an institution.

However, I understand that constructive criticism leads to progress while hateful words and incessant complaining get in the way of improvement.

There is a hand-painted sign hanging in my mother's kitchen that reads "No Whining."

If you knew my mother, you would understand that this rule applies not only to the kitchen, but to the rest of the house as well.

I'm pretty sure Jesus had it a lot rougher than most of us and he found better things to do with his time than whine.

I think my mom and Jesus are onto something here.



## Opinion peace: Taking action where action is needed.

BY COURTNEY HOLM

I am currently taking a history class called "The Sixties."

This class focuses on the civil rights, women's liberation, and anti-war movements.

Recently, we have been discussing activism—about college students taking a stand on the issues that they feel should be changed. These students would have protests, shut-ins, and demonstrations to promote peace and change.

Someone in the class asked why today's students aren't protesting?

Why aren't they standing against the issues that they see are not right? What has changed from the 1960s to today in 2008?

Why aren't we standing up for what we believe? What has kept us silent?

You are probably asking, "What does this girl want from me? She doesn't even know me."

Well, I do.

You attend Northwestern College. Just by walking out of the caf, you have been bombarded with all sorts of issues from modern day slavery to child soldiers to lack of sanitary water.

I know.

I am the one of the people trying to make you aware of these issues.

If you believe there is a need for a change in how the government acts, about a rule that the school enforces, about human rights, about animal rights, about land rights—do something.

Whatever makes your blood boil, whatever makes you upset, whatever makes you want to stand up and shout "That's not fair!"—say it!

Why don't you do something about it?

I am not saying that you should organize a group and

get hundreds of members and start a huge movement, although if you can do it, that is great.

But at least learn about the issue and do something, even as simple as talking with your friends, about it.

If you want to get involved in an organization that is already on campus, there are many opportunities available.

International Justice Mission deals with social justice issues around the world (contact Courtney or Heidi at [ijm@nwciowa.edu](mailto:ijm@nwciowa.edu)).

Invisible Children deals with child soldiers in Uganda (contact Eunice at [epaik@nwciowa.edu](mailto:epaik@nwciowa.edu)).

Called2Go deals with hunger and homeless issues in the area (contact Andrea at [adavis@nwciowa.edu](mailto:adavis@nwciowa.edu)).

These are just a few examples of what our college offers. If you would like to learn about more organizations you can check them out on the NW home page under Student Life (Clubs and Organizations to Ministry/Service).

There are many clubs that you can join that deal with issues in which you may be interested.

If nothing else, get out there and strike up a conversation.



Northwestern College

## BEACON

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, please send \$10 to address below.

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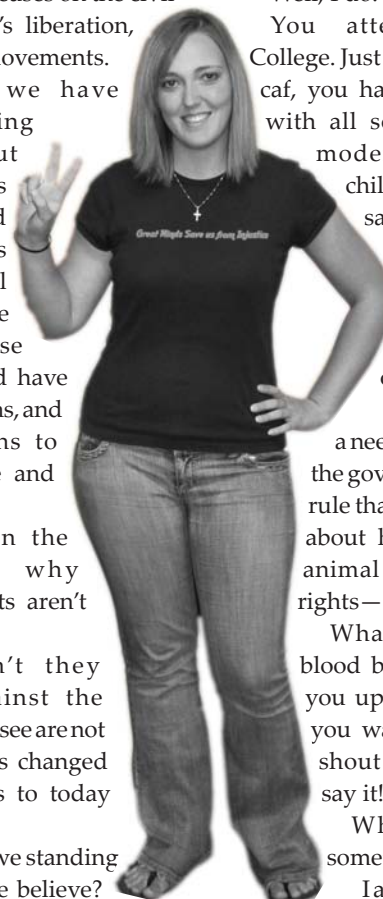
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# Puddle Jumper: oasis for discovery

BY RACHEL REITSMA  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

For those who desire a mini-vacation from the distractions of college life, a small oasis awaits on the outskirts of Orange City. Two miles of discoveries within the Puddle Jumper trail are just a quarter-mile south of the stoplight corner.

The trail, originally a railroad track, now gives pleasure to people of all ages. Runners, walkers and bikers tread the path on a daily basis. While walking along the path, gravel crunches beneath your feet. You also hear cricket's chirping and birds singing or calling.

One individual who visits frequently is senior Hannah Sauerwein. As a native of Oregon, Sauerwein needed a place to find wilderness. Sometimes, even at 3 a.m. she comes back from the trail "chilled, exhausted and supremely happy."

Sauerwein has encountered creatures of all kinds. Quite often she sees the striped faces of the

squirrels amidst the tall grass. Occasionally, she has bumped into a few snakes. Near the hospital pond are frogs hopping to and fro. Even geese have made a home there.

"I guess I consider myself an invader in their world," she said. "I like to slip around without causing too much trouble, but I do try to make enough noise to give the animals advance warning."

Just past the pavilion, Sauerwein recommends that you approach a pen filled with llamas and goats. The owner, Wilbur Wiersma, may share some stories about them or present a rare performance by a fainting goat.

On the way here, you'll find many things to keep you occupied. Corn and bean fields are on one side, while trees line the other. The more adventurous visitor can find a grassy path closer to the fields that winds among wild plum trees and wild flowers of all kinds. Everything about this place captivates Sauerwein.

"To me there's something safe about being surrounded by trees or the land rising above me, sheltering me," she said. "I don't get that feeling from walls."

Lately, she has let her feet dangle from the wooden bridge as she makes sketches or writes. The rocks beneath the bridge have a certain steadiness about them. She knows them by heart.

"I'll take off my shoes and wander over the half-submerged rocks in the stream," she said. "The patterns of light on the water are captivating, evershifting."

With each visit, she has learned to appreciate the openness of this land. Instead of the hills back home, the sky holds her in. This place doesn't require her to be a serious adult.

"I can frolic," Sauerwein said. "Everyone should frolic now and then to retain a sense of how ridiculous we are."

Before winter takes hold, bask in the warmth and the nature that is yet to be discovered. Whether



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

Juniors Jesse Moret and Emily De Weerd enjoy a romantic stroll on the Puddle Jumper

you come to burn calories or spend time with God, the Puddle Jumper is always ready for another visitor.

It may start out as a fling, but who knows, it might turn into an oasis you can't stay away from.

## The interwoven story of Indian twins A book review on "The God of Small Things"

BY KADY BRAM  
STAFF WRITER

"The God of Small Things", by Arundhati Roy, is striking in both style and strategy. The fantastic imagery and fresh metaphors by this first-time novelist saturate the story. Throughout, it maintains an intricacy and pattern that attest to the effort and structuring of plot that went into the five years it took Roy to write it. Told mostly from the perspective of a seven-year-old-girl, the narrative voice demonstrates both the melodramatic and traumatic sides of a child's most vivid memories and the inevitable loss of

innocence. The main characters of the story are Esthappen and Rahel, fraternal, two-egg twins that share one identity.

*"Estappen and Rachel thought of themselves together as Me. And separately, individually, as We or Us. As though they were a rare breed of Siamese twins. Physically separate, but with joint identities... years later, Rachel has a memory of waking up one night giggling at Estha's funny dream."*

Set in Southern India, the story centers around the death of the twins' cousin, Sophie Mol, who visits them while on vacation. I don't pretend to know a lot about common plot lines in Indian literature, but from a general standpoint, they are universal. A broken family, social and political unrest, abuse, untimely death and a theme of forbidden love create the tension necessary to carry a reader to the end. The struggles between castes and the crossing of invisible, yet obviously present, social laws

introduce a dimension of plot new to American readers. Ammu, the twins' mother, is a thirty-one year old divorcee forced to return home to her disapproving family, children and bad reputation in tow. Her affections later in life match those of her rebellious childhood and lead her to "love by night the man her children loved by day."

In evaluating the book, much depends on your opinion of Roy's prose. Like it or intensely dislike it—the story is in the style. What at first might seem cluttered and chronologically confusing in the flashbacks and forwards of Rahel's mind, in the end fits wonderfully together and makes the reader's efforts worth the wait. The author's use of motif and the rhythm in her words are impossible to miss and add unique flavor to a tale we might otherwise feel has already been told.

The ending scene between the twins—now grown and facing the reality of their story—contributes little, but fits strangely with the plot and may instead be one part of several autobiographical reflections in the novel. However, for an internationally best-selling first book, this author deserves a first read and for me, a demanded second.

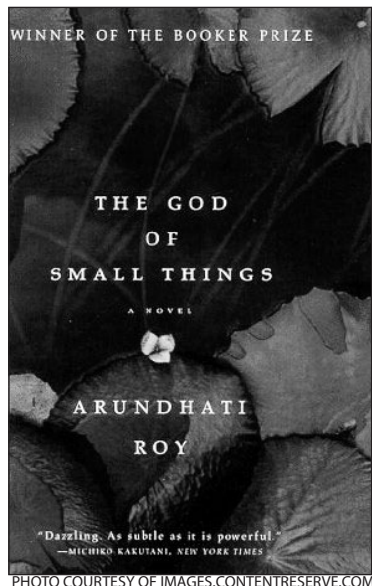


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### campus QUOTES

- "I haven't always been a coffee drinker. Then I was born."  
- Professor Rod Spidahl explaining his relationship with coffee.
- "Sam, your phone keeps going off. Its time to take the pill."  
"Stop the babies!"  
- Seniors Becky Swart and Samantha Olson as she runs out of the room to take her birth control pill on time.
- "You're just lucky I wear clothes."  
- Junior Tim DeHaan while playing Nerts.
- "How was I supposed to know there were little cowboys in your hood?"  
- Junior Dani Breen to senior Jordan Plummer regarding the small papers with cowboys on them that fell out of his hood.
- "Have you seen ape cages?"  
- Professor Laura Heitritter giving an analogy on using time fillers in the classroom.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to [beacon@nwciova.edu](mailto:beacon@nwciova.edu).

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PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

## Tyler Ludwig Tigges

BY KILEY SELIGMAN  
FEATURES EDITOR

Enthusiasm, spontaneity and randomness are just a few things that encapsulate Tyler Tigges.

He is also a procrastinator—"I'm really good at that."

He enjoys long naps, sometimes more than one a day.

Tigges claims to be "a morning and a night person, but nowhere in between, because sometimes they're the same."

He loves the Chicago Cubs and "basketball, I like basketball." This showed as he dribbled a ball under his legs and tossed it in the air.

Corn dogs and Pop Ice also top the charts for him, as they make up about a quarter of his diet.

Tigges struggled summing up his life in just one story. "My

life is not defined by a single, all-encompassing event, but a series of wonderful memories," he said.

Those memories include: spending a night atop an abandoned Wal-Mart, scalping Cubs tickets at Wrigley Field, road trips, mud sliding, long walks at night, climbing down 94 flights of stairs at Hancock Tower in Chicago, Dutch Bakery donuts at 4 a.m. and playing hide and seek or sardines in campus buildings at night.

One other memory needed a little explanation—butt sliding in Colenbrander. Coly wings place towels under doors, flood the hallway, add soap and create a giant slip-and-slide. Tigges added, "Oh, yeah—and there are no clothes allowed."

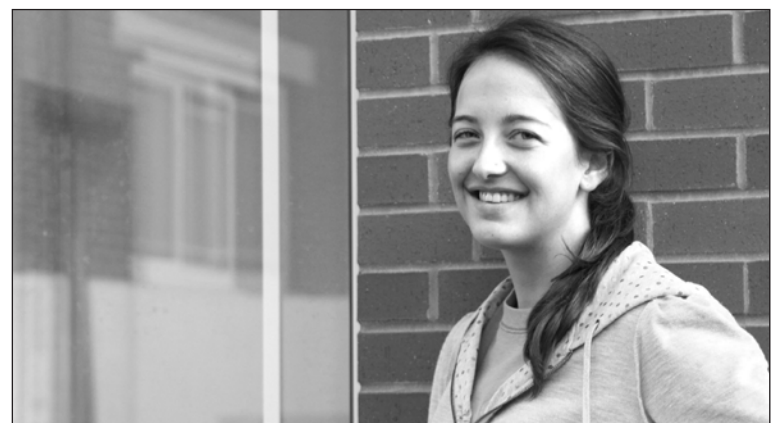


PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

## Queen Rachel Ann Kleinsasser

BY KRYSTAL VAN WYK  
STAFF WRITER

Rachel Kleinsasser likes being around people and showing them her light-hearted personality. "A lot get to see that side of me but not many get to see the deeper side—the side of me that loves deep, intense conversations."

In contrast, she thinks people would describe her as "essentially weird and crazy."

Her recognized sharp wit and keen sense of smell can be shown in the story from her S.O.S. trip to Thailand this past summer, when the group went to a cook-your-own-meat grill.

"We had about three or four different grills to cook our meat on, and we noticed that our meat was sticking to the grill pretty badly. We wondered what was wrong as we looked at the grill next to us and noticed a big white chunk on top of it," Kleinsasser said.

When they inquired of the white chunk, they discovered that it was lard that should have come with their meals. "Much to my dismay, I remembered that I had eaten that lard thinking it was squid. I wondered why it was so chewy! I just thought it was a Thai thing."

## Deo Abhishek Dutt

BY LEANN JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

Abhi Dutt's desire is to be real by being his laid-back, spontaneous and willing-to-try-new-things self.

Dutt described himself as a people-person who loves "getting to know people through community, fellowship and worshiping."

He sees himself as both introverted and extroverted, but explained that most people do not know his reflective side.

Dutt also said that people "might not know my brokenness," which he explained by sharing an experience he had this past summer.

Dutt spent three months interning at a church on a Mescalero Apache Native American reservation in New Mexico.



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

## Heather Christine Nold

BY ANNE EBERLINE  
STAFF WRITER

Heather Nold became visibly uncomfortable while trying to describe herself before saying, "I try not to as much as possible."

After pondering for a moment longer, she said, "I'm the type of person who likes to get to know

people and have others get to know me."

Nold said that others on campus would most likely view her as easygoing and spontaneous, a person who values relationships and laughter. "I'm willing to do anything—just about anything," Nold quickly added.

## Carson James Norine

BY KRYSTAL VAN WYK  
STAFF WRITER

"Eccentric and a good mix of magical and fancy" is how Carson Norine described himself. "I don't really care what other people think of me," he explained.

To clarify Norine's demeanor a bit more, he has bought all his clothes from Goodwill since he was in high school. "This shirt I got from Goodwill. Oh, and these shorts. I guess these shoes my mom bought for me a while back," he said with a wide grin.

One story Norine shared shows he is "up for anything." He and two fellow Hidden Acres summer camp counselors went back to the camp to go on a toboggan run during their Christmas break.



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

The natives' addictions, pains and injustices really struck Dutt, especially "to see the things their people went through centuries ago still impacting their lives." Although this was a learning experience for Dutt, it also brought him a lot of questions.

Dutt said this story shows where he is in life right now and that he still questions what God wants him to do with the burden he has for people.

Although the answer remains uncertain, he returned to Northwestern this fall with a desire to try something new—to be real with others. He wants students on campus to realize that everyone, even this Homecoming Royal, suffers from some sort of brokenness. They should not be afraid to be real about those struggles.

For instance, one day after waking from a four-hour nap, Nold discovered a hairpiece she described as "a Little Richard wig," and decided to get creative. She spent several hours that evening posing for pictures while dressed in the wig, a full spandex suit and mismatching high heels. She traveled throughout Stegenga Hall to include many other residents in the photo fun. Two years later, reviewing the pictures from that night still evoked a smile and laughter from Nold.

Her impromptu photo shoot symbolizes many characteristics of Nold. "I love taking naps, taking pictures and making people laugh."

She enjoys the experiences in life that aren't planned. "Life's about the journey and the memories you make along the way."

"I had the brilliant idea that I wanted to go down backwards, but I had to be the one that rode in the front," said Norine.

"We started curving right towards the canoe rack. I yelled 'Abort! Abort! Abort!' Then we ran right into the canoe rack and had to

be dragged back up the hill because none of us could move. I had a bruise the size of a dinner plate on my back for a week."

Other than people thinking he is likely to do the unlikely, he shared, "People think I'm Shaggy from 'Scooby-Doo.'"



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

## Sarah Anne Kreger

BY KRISTI KORVER  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

With some prompting from her friends, Sarah Kreger finally described herself as “energetic, joyful, loving, somewhat introverted and indecisive.”

Kreger has had many peers wonder at the authenticity of her happiness, but she said, “It is far more than happiness; it is pure joy. I think that in all situations of life you can find joy, but it is just not always expressed in the same way.”

Kreger finds joy in the most unlikely adventures.

Senior Julia Glendenning and Kreger were engaged in a deep conversation about love while driving one night, when Kreger saw flashing lights in the mirror.

After pulling to the side of the road, an officer walked up and

peered in their window. “Good evening, ma’am. Do you know how fast you were going?”

Kreger shook her head.

“You were going ten over.”

“I am so sorry.

I have never done this before,” Kreger apologized.

The officer explained further, “The problem is that we have been following you for the last two miles so we had to call in backup. There are now four cop cars chasing you.”

The girls were appalled. “I didn’t know,” Kreger told the officer. “We were just in a really deep conversation.”



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

Their innocence must have touched the officer, because he chuckled and then pulled out his radio to say, “Don’t worry guys; they were just in really deep conversation. All is clear.”

While the cop was writing her ticket they talked and laughed together.

Even when getting pulled over, Kreger found joy and stayed true to her mantra, “Live it. Love it.”

As they pulled themselves out of the pond, a deep manly voice called, “Hey ladies.”

According to Korver, this voice “invoked incredible panic.” All she could think of was that this was a cop, and they were going to jail. Her aunt and uncle, who live in Orange City, would need to come bail her out and “everyone would know that Kristi Korver was in jail.”

The girls sprinted back to their waiting vehicle.

After they piled in, they realized the pond must have had some sewage run-off.

The stench was so overpowering that the driver pulled off the road and threw up out of the driver’s side door.

Korver admits this adventure probably wasn’t the best idea. However, there were friendships made, and she said that those are the best memories.



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

## Kristi Erin Korver

BY KILEY SELIGMAN  
FEATURES EDITOR

“I’m not that cool, really” is the first thing Kristi Korver said to describe herself.

She might be too humble to call herself cool, but she is spirited. Korver is energetic, playful and filled with the Holy Spirit. “It’s really important, my walk with the Lord.”

Korver is also spontaneous and likes adventure.

One boring night, Korver decided to persuade her friends to go swimming in the pond at Landsmeer Golf Course.

After parking nearby, the girls went down to the pond and swam around for a little while before deciding the water was too frigid.

## Christopher John Wurpts

BY ANNE EBERLINE  
STAFF WRITER

CJ Wurpts sees himself as “incredibly unself-aware.” He went on to describe how he sometimes doesn’t realize when he says things that shouldn’t be said. “I’m not aware of awkward situations, and I’m not very self-conscious.”

To the outside observer, Wurpts said he would appear loud and unafraid to say things. He does not think others view him as intelligent. However, “There are times of lucid clarity where I say something profound,” he said.

Others may also note his tendency to help people. For example, he enjoys taking homeless people out to eat. “I imagine this moment when their eyes open to your world and your eyes open to theirs,” he said.

One such instance of helping a stranger occurred last summer while Wurpts was in Minneapolis, Minn. He picked up a homeless man named Little John who Wurpts described as “a scraggily-looking, sixty-year-old Indian man.”

During their meal at McDonald’s, Little John went through many cycles of informing Wurpts about his life as a homeless man, telling “crazy” stories about hidden wealth and finally threatening physical harm.

Wurpts said this learning

experience helped him focus on being with others as people instead of focusing on the action of loving others. Wurpts’ meal with Little John represents how he is “well-intentioned, but a little reckless and bizarre.”



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

## King Tucker John Schneider



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

BY KRISTI KORVER  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Tucker Schneider described himself with a host of fun-loving words. “I am outgoing, hyperactive, quirky, zany, rambunctious and loving.”

The people around Schneider probably see all of these things, but getting to know Schneider deeper will show that he is a deep thinker as well.

Schneider admitted that his schedule is full. Though he wouldn’t change any of it, he has become more laid back in his senior year. “I really want to enjoy my time here,” he said.

This summer Tucker learned to live in the moment from his six-year-old cousin Maegen. He babysat her and her eight-year-old brother, Michael, all summer.

Every day Maegen got up around 7:30 and watched Hannah Montana or High School Musical with Schneider. Then they would do art while Michael was at golf lessons or playing at the pool.

It was an eye opening experience for Schneider, “I saw how simple everything is.”

Schneider called this summer, “soul cleansing time.” Though he has grown greatly during his college years, little Maegen taught him to enjoy each day with the fullest of his hyperactive, quirky, zany, rambunctious, loving self.



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

## Danielle Mae Landaal

BY LEANN JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

Danielle Landaal describes herself as a people-person who gets energy from interacting with others.

However, Landaal notes that people often see her as more of an extrovert than she really is due to the fact that she was an R.A. last year. Landaal explains that she enjoys alone time because she can read books and “plunk out chords” on her guitar.

A story that describes Landaal took place last winter after she had finished a workout. She put on her sweatpants and coat and headed back to campus. Then she went to her room, shed her coat and headed to the cafeteria for supper with the girls from her wing.

After sitting down to eat, Landaal recalls that she went back into

the cafeteria for some ice cream. Upon arriving back at her wing’s table, she noticed one of the girls smirking and giving her a head-to-toe glance. Landaal looked down and realized her shirt was tucked in and her sweatpants were hiked up

high. Landaal was mortified, as “65 percent of campus had to be in the cafeteria” and Landaal’s entire wing was laughing at her “new style.”

This became the “joke of the wing” for the rest of the year. It shows that Landaal loves having a good time and can laugh off her mistakes.

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## Men's soccer is defeated by Hastings; claims 3-1 victory over Briar Cliff

BY CAMERON CARLOW  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Northwestern men's soccer team continued in the GPAC play this week with a 0-1 loss to Hastings and a 3-1 victory over Briar Cliff.

Hastings came into the rivalry game ranked number one in the GPAC and had a run for its money. They had 11 shots on goal, as opposed to NW's eight.

"I thought it was the best we have ever played against Hastings," said head coach Dan Swier. "There were times when we were in control of the game. It was unfortunate that we did not get the result we wanted on the scoreboard."

The Raiders' all-time record is 2-11-1 against Hastings but NW did not let that affect them.

"We kept our composure and possessed the ball," said Swier. "When we possessed the ball we were able to find openings in their defense, which led to most of our scoring opportunities."

The loss dropped NW to 1-1 in the GPAC but that did not last long. They came out on Tuesday with a victory over Briar Cliff. Junior Aaron O'Brien, senior Andy Janssen and sophomore Mike Cookson all had goals for the Raiders. Going into halftime tied 1-1, the Raiders were behind 15-7 in shots on goal. However, the Raiders came out in the second half scoring two more goals and out-shooting the Charges' 13-6.

"I am happy that we won the game, but not satisfied with the way we played," said Swier.

The Raiders now sit with a

4-4 record heading to Lincoln on Saturday to take on Nebraska Wesleyan.

"Nebraska Wesleyan is a very physical team who always plays well against us," said Swier. "We need to be mentally prepared when we step onto the field and play with discipline."

After Nebraska Wesleyan the Raiders return home on Wednesday to play Dordt College at 7:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY RENEE NYHOF

Aaron O'Brien is joined by his teammates Tommy Tucker (#3) and Kyle Heynen (#16) as he takes the ball downfield.

## Women's soccer ties Hastings, falls to Briar Cliff

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern women's soccer team played two games this week, recording their first tie of the season against Hastings, 0-0, in their home opener, and then falling to Briar Cliff on Tuesday 0-3. The Red Raiders fall to a 3-4-1 record, 1-1-1 in the GPAC conference.

On Tuesday, NW took on the Briar Cliff Chargers in Sioux City. Briar Cliff scored in the 10th minute

of the game and never looked back, scoring two more goals before the half was over. They outshot the Raiders 12-4 in the first half and 12-5 in the second half. Sophomore Wendy Hofmeyer made 16 saves as goalkeeper. Senior Serah Bugler had three shots with two on goal. Junior Becca Bruns and senior Tara Blutt each added two shots on goal.

The Raiders will travel to Lincoln, Neb. on Saturday to play Nebraska Wesleyan at 6 p.m.

BY CAMERON CARLOW  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Northwestern men's golf team spent last Monday and Tuesday battling it out at the Briar Cliff Invite. The 15-team tournament did not finish exactly as the Raiders were hoping for, and they finished in 10th.

"I would say that we were somewhat disappointed in our play," said head coach Mark Bloemendaal. "Dakota Dunes is a

very difficult course, and most of our players were playing it for the first time in very difficult weather conditions, but we know we could have played better."

Dordt College finished in first with a team score of 624, while NW carded a 661. Junior Luke Vermeer finished in fifth place overall. Vermeer shot an 80 on day one and rebounded on day two by shooting one under par with a 71.

"Luke Vermeer has been our most consistent player and is a great team leader," said Bloemendaal. "He loves to compete and reduces the pressure on the rest of the guys knowing that he will likely shoot a low score each meet."

The team also competed in the second round of the GPAC Championship last Thursday. They headed into the event in fourth place and found themselves in sixth when it was over.

"Unfortunately, we got off to a rough start and just could not recover," said Bloemendaal. "It is a difficult course to make a lot of birdies, so we were not able to gain anything back even though we played better later in the round."

There are still two more rounds of the tournament in the spring and the Raiders hope to rebound and improve. There is only one more tournament this fall, which is on Saturday, Oct. 11 at Dordt.



PHOTO BY RENEE NYHOF

Freshman Leah Aragon and junior Becca Bruns look for an open shot in the Hastings game. The Red Raiders tied the Broncos 0-0 on Saturday.

## Red Raiders face tough weather at Briar Cliff

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## Coach Otten earns 100th win as Red Raiders outlast the Prairie Wolves



A Nebraska Wesleyan player is overwhelmed by Northwestern defenders Caleb Blauwet, Grant Mosier, Jon Gerber and Grant Hegstad in Saturday's game.

PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Red Raider football team held on for a 17-15 victory last Saturday over Nebraska Wesleyan in Lincoln, giving head coach Orv Otten the 100th victory of his 14-year coaching career at Northwestern. The Raiders improve to 2-1 as the Prairie Wolves drop to 0-3.

Nebraska Wesleyan's kicker made a 37-yard field goal to put the Prairie Wolves on the scoreboard in the first quarter, but they were stunned by the Raiders on the next play. Excellent blocking by NW and some impressive maneuvering by sophomore Taylor Malm gave Malm and the Raiders a 97-yard, school record-breaking kick-return touchdown.

"On that play, 10 guys got their blocks executed perfectly and Taylor Malm was not touched," commented Coach Otten. "That was an impressive team effort."

Freshman Mike O'Brien made the extra point to put the Raiders ahead 7-3.

Nebraska Wesleyan battled back however, and traveled down

the field to score again. Their quarterback fumbled the ball on the 11-yard-line, but it was recovered by the Wolves' Jordan Stutzman, who ran the ball to the end zone. The extra point was blocked by the Raiders.

Early in the second quarter, NW took the lead as O'Brien kicked a 37-yard field goal, putting the score at 10-9.

The Raiders again scored on their first possession in the second half.

"What we are doing very well is making big plays when we need them," Coach Otten said. "The offense has made huge drives to begin the second half in each of the last two games."

Junior Cary Overholt finished off a 70-yard drive by NW with a one-yard run for a touchdown and O'Brien made the point-after to give the Raiders a 17-9 lead.

Both teams remained scoreless after that until Nebraska Wesleyan made one last attempt at the win. The Wolves scored with 44 seconds left in the game, but the Raider defense shut down the attempted two-point conversion. NW also recovered an on-side kick attempt to hold on for the victory.

The teams remained close in offensive yardage, as the Raiders had 170 and the Wolves gained 168. NW had 96 yards passing and 74 rushing. Overholt completed 10 of 25 passes for 96 yards and allowed one interception. Senior Seth Moen was the top receiver for the Raiders with six catches for 75 yards. Sophomore Kevin Vander Schaaf had only seven carries but led the ground game with 43 yards. Overholt gained 12 rushing yards and one touchdown. Senior Kyle Oschsner also had 12 yards rushing and Malm added 10.

*"What we are doing very well is making big plays when we need them."*  
- Orv Otten

Junior T.J. Lensch led the defensive effort with 9.5 tackles and sophomore Austin Rozeboom added nine. Junior Grant Hegstad added five tackles, freshman Steven Van Wyhe had 4.5 and senior Nate Jansen and sophomore Caleb Van Otterloo each had four tackles.

The Raiders are set to play Dana College in the homecoming game on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Dana comes into the game with a 1-2 record.

## Volleyball competes with Division I USD

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Red Raider women's volleyball team took on NCAA Division I University of South Dakota in Vermillion, S.D. on Tuesday night and lost in a very exciting 3-2 match. NW falls to a 10-4 record this season, 2-0 in the conference.

Scores for the individual games were 25-23, 19-25, 25-20, 21-25, and 15-13. NW topped the Coyotes in kills (63-57) and in hitting percentage (.228-.213), but couldn't quite pull off the victory.

Sophomore Hillary Hanno recorded 16 kills and hit .204 to lead the Raiders. Freshman Kate Buyert had 13 kills and four blocks, along with hitting an excellent .385. Sophomore Kaitlin Beaver added 12 kills, while sisters Randa and Rylee Hulstein each had nine. Junior Rachel Gosselink lofted 53 assists and junior Janna Bloemendaal had 23 digs to lead NW.

The Raiders are set to compete in the Bellevue Tournament today and tomorrow in Bellevue, Neb.

## Sports Shorts

**Football Coach Orv Otten wins 100th game**

The Northwestern football team defeated Nebraska Wesleyan on Saturday, and with it, Head Coach Orv Otten earned his 100th career victory. Otten has been coaching at NW for 14 years.

"There are many things I have learned during my coaching career and will continue to learn more every day," Coach Otten reflected. "I have been blessed for my many years in coaching by being surrounded by outstanding players, coaches, managers, and fans. The support of a loving family has provided the strength to get through all of the downs, and the love to enjoy the high times."

**Taylor Malm earns GPAC Special Teams Player-of-the-Week; breaks NW record**

Taylor Malm, a sophomore running back from Thousand Oaks, CA, ran 97 yards into the record book for a kick-return touchdown on Saturday when the Red Raiders took on Nebraska Wesleyan.

The run broke the previous record of 75 yards, set in 1999 by Koury Kramer against South Dakota Tech. Malm's first quarter touchdown helped lift NW to a 17-15 victory over the Prairie Wolves.

**Wendy Hofmeyer named GPAC Defender-of-the-Week**

Sophomore goalkeeper Wendy Hofmeyer from Sioux City, Iowa, earned the honor of GPAC Defender-of-the-Week last week. Hofmeyer led the Red Raiders to a win over Morningside and a tie against Hastings. She has a record of 3-1-1 this season as a goalkeeper. Hofmeyer has allowed five goals made 44 saves, and has two shut-outs this year.

**Rankings**

The NW Volleyball team improved to an eighth-place ranking in the most recent NAIA polls this week. The Red Raiders, who were ranked ninth last week, lead three other GPAC schools in national rankings. Morningside holds the 14th spot in the rankings, with Dordt right behind at 15th and Hastings at 18th.



Sophomore Taylor Malm had the whole field ahead of him and ran for a 97-yard kick-return touchdown, breaking the old record of 75 yards set in 1999.

PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

The Raider football team also moved up to tie Bethel College in Kansas for the 13th spot in the NAIA rankings this week. Last week the Raiders held 14th. NW joins three other GPAC schools

in the rankings. The University of Sioux Falls is ranked second, Morningside is ranked fifth and Midland Lutheran is ranked 22nd.

## Intepreting the Midwestern landscape

BY TEDI SWANSON  
STAFF WRITER

From October 2 to October 30, the Northwestern community will have the privilege of experiencing artwork from Orange City's own Elinor Noteboom in Northwestern College's Te Paske Gallery.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC RELATIONS  
This piece will be one of the featured Midwestern landscapes crafted by Elinor Noteboom.

In 1984 Noteboom had the privilege of visiting the city of Kofu, Japan, where she was able to experience the artistry behind the creation of Zen gardens. She was taken by the careful arrangement of the elements of the Zen gardens and was surprised to find these same elements present in the Iowa landscape. These similarities have

inspired her exhibition entitled "Prolonged Tranquility," which contains artwork that compares the Midwest landscape with that of the Japanese Zen gardens.

"[Students] might get a new perspective on the land they think they know all about and don't find interesting anymore," said Rein Vanderhill, professor of art,

concerning the reasons why NW students and the community may find this exhibition to be interesting.

The Te Paske Gallery is open from 8

a.m. to midnight from Monday to Saturday and is open from 1 p.m. to midnight on Sunday. Beginning October 2, the artwork from one of Orange City's own will be on display for the entire NW community and might give those who decide to stop by a new impression of the common Midwestern landscape.



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

The second place team, composed of West Hall residents, display the dodgeball spirit.

## NW Dodgeball



PHOTO BY JENNI SYBESMA

Members of the men's winning team prepare themselves for the whistle.

## A different national health concern: Candidate well-being

BY RACHEL RIETSEMA  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Both presidential candidates John McCain and Barack Obama are cleared for serving two full terms in good health.

Although McCain is 72 years old with a history of skin cancer, an analysis showed that the odds are in his favor for the duration. Obama, on the other hand, is 47 with a history of smoking, but also passed the test.

The number of healthy years ahead were concluded using an analysis that insurance companies typically use to determine the health of their clients. Another study with positive news for McCain was conducted by John M. Bragg and Associates Inc., it determined that he will eligible for 8.4 more healthy years. The data from this same study suggests that Obama has 21.9 years of good health ahead.

What this study suggests is that both candidates have ample time left without having to deal with assisted living or a life altering disease.

Bragg & Associates have been conducting these studies for over 20 years.

"Health expectancy is one of our specialties," owner John Bragg told FOXNews.com. "We had access through their Web sites to review their health situations. So we took a look."

## "Tell Me!"

Wartburg's Video Festival, January 30, 2009

### Call for Short "You Tube" Videos by College Students

College students should submit their videos of two minutes or less on energy conservation, alternative energy sources, or carbon footprinting. Students are encouraged to explore old ideas, unveil new ones, and tell about the human experience, theories, and concepts. Content, videography, editing and impact will be determining factors in the top three cash awards.

Cash prizes of \$1,000, \$750, and \$500 will be awarded to the top three winners and \$250 to up to three honorable mention videos.

To read more about the Wartburg "Tell Me!" Video Festival and the contest rules and guidelines go to [www.wartburg.edu/vidfest/](http://www.wartburg.edu/vidfest/)

Submissions are being accepted through December 19.

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