Students take China by computer

BY LEANNE JOHNSON  
NEWS EDITOR

For the second year in a row, a team of three Northwestern students has been chosen as one of 100 teams from six continents to compete in the Association for Computing Machinery International Collegiate Programming Contest’s world finals. This year, the event will take place Feb. 1 to 6 in Harbin, China. 

NW, the only Iowa school to be selected, received an at-large bid after its team finished in third place in the North Central regional competition on Oct. 31. Members of the NW team are seniors John Calsbeek and Curt Van Wyk and junior Mark Haselhoff. Calsbeek and Van Wyk were on the team that competed in the 2009 world finals in Stockholm, Sweden.

As a member of the 2009 team that went to Sweden, what was your experience like?

Calsbeek: It was relatively tame first-time-out-of-the-U.S. experience for me. Stockholm itself is a gorgeous city. The contest was a hit of fun — there was a fair bit of adrenaline pumping — and it was a treat to be in the same room as 99 other teams working on the same stuff.

Van Wyk: I was impressed by Sweden’s rich history. We went to an old fortress island and participated in a set of challenges throughout the island. Our opening ceremony and closing ceremony took place in the same buildings where the Nobel Peace Prize ceremonies are.

Do you have any memorable stories from the Sweden trip?

Calsbeek: We sat almost directly across from the team that placed first in the entire contest. In the world finals, every team gets a balloon tied to their workstation every time they solve a problem. So our entertainment during the contest was watching the cloud of balloons near our station grow larger and larger.

What is it like being in a room with so many smart students from all over the world?

Van Wyk: It is humbling to be in the presence of so many brilliant students. It is also very encouraging to know that there are so many bright people that can do a lot to improve the world. With such people, smarter solutions to new world problems are attainable.

What part of the China trip are you most looking forward to experiencing?

Haselhoff: This will be my first time overseas, so I’m really looking forward to experiencing a different culture. This year the contest is taking place during the Harbin International Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival, so seeing all of the sculptures will be exciting too.

Does your team have a new strategy for this year’s world finals?

Calsbeek: Probably. Last year we used pretty much the same strategy as we use at regionals — divide and conquer. We split up all the problems, try to find the easiest and have one person work on that while the other two work on a problem by themselves. Turns out, the problems at the finals are harder...

See “China” on page 2
Students to act out final exams

BY SARAH LUPKES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 6 p.m., Northwestern students in Jeff Barker’s directing class will present six short plays in the Black Box Theatre. These plays are produced as the student-director’s final exam for the course.

“The goal of the course is for each student to experience the directing process from script search to strike,” Barker said.

Students participating in this final project include seniors Brandon Assmann and Molly Te Slaa, juniors Sarah Fisher, Rebecca Dix and Renee Ausborn and sophomore Andrew Stam.

“Each student puts a great amount of heart into their work,” Barker said. “It is one of my favorite nights of theatre for the year.”

Fisher is directing the one-act play “Airmail to the Moon” by Tom Birdseye. “It was a challenge to find a good script that I loved and that worked best for this project,” Fisher said. “It has been rewarding working with the actors and seeing the growing progress of the play. It is so fun to see your ideas come to life and actually work.”

The one-act play “Tower of Babel” is the final directing project for Dix. The script is verbatim from Genesis 11:1-9 in the King James Version.

“This story is straight from scripture, but it is definitely my own style,” Dix said. She also said that she hopes the audience will see something beautiful in her play.

“This story is commonly overlooked,” Dix said, “so I hope the audience sees a part of the story they have never realized or thought of before.”

Not only do the directors contribute their skills to the final project, but the actors help the directors make the plans of the directors.

“Each actor brings a fantastic attitude and amount of energy to this production,” Fisher said.

More than 100 pieces of many different varieties are submitted, and only about 15 from each school are chosen to be shown.

At the opening on Dec. 4, at 7 p.m., students will critique each submission, all three judges will deliberate and choose their favorites of all NW’s submissions.

“It’s very selective,” art professor Rein Vanderhalm said. “Students get to see what it’s like to try to get something chosen to be in a show. It’s very competitive.”

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NW and Dordt find a bond through art

BY MEAGAN McDOUGALL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Northwestern and Dordt College are almost always rivals, whether competing in NC/DC or on the basketball court. However, the art department has designed an event that will bridge the gap between the rival schools. Art students from both schools will be putting on a joint art exhibition starting Friday, Dec. 4, in the Te Paske Gallery in the Korver Visual Arts Center.

This event, which has taken place annually for more than ten years, is student-run and student-dictated. Three art majors are chosen as judges for both Dordt and NW. The NW students will choose their favorite of all of Dordt’s submissions, and the Dordt students will in turn choose their favorites of all of NW’s submissions.

“It’s very selective,” art professor Rein Vanderhalm said. “Students get to see what it’s like to try to get something chosen to be in a show. It’s very competitive.”

The exhibition will run through the end of the semester. Students are welcome to attend the opening or visit the exhibit through the end of the semester.
**Plate spinning solution**

BY GONZA GONZALEZ

GOOSE EXPERT

In the face of student dissection over the decision earlier this year to go trayless, President Craig Misty has invited world-famous clown Arnaud D’Aubigné-Chinet to hold plate spinning classes. The classes will teach students how to carry multiple plates in the cafeteria without spilling any food. Classes will be held this afternoon in the RSC mini-gym.

“We realized students were unhappy, and we needed to explore alternatives,” Misty said on Monday. “In a fit of candor, he continued, “Honestly, we were just tired of students whining about having to save money and food instead of using trays. It’s a move of self-preservation.”

D’Aubigné-Chinet, a world-famous plate spinner from France, D’Aubigné-Chinet along with his mime assistant Mel Amine, broke David Spathaky’s decades-long record of 108 simultaneously spinning plates in 2008. Making the feat even more impressive was that D’Aubigné-Chinet was wearing size 20 clown shoes.

“Je suis un artiste avec des plats et un grand nez rouge,” the French D’Aubigné-Chinet told the Beacon. “J’espère enseigner à Northwestern bien comment tourner les plats.”

Amine, who was asked if he thought other campuses would abandon trays for plate spinning, gave the typical mime response, “ ” and pretended to climb up a ladder.

The student body is overall excited. This excludes the members of the juggling club, who have described themselves as “put out” and plan to present President Misty with a “Ban Monsieur D’Aubigné-Chinet and his creepy mime” petition early this afternoon.

Misty mentioned that a few changes would have to be made to the cafeteria to make it more conducive to mass plate spinning. Among them include new plates in festive colors to make lunchtime more aesthetically pleasing and plates made from environmentally friendly materials for each student.

Ron Teeth, cafeteria manager, has agreed to pipe “The Sabre Dance,” the so-called national anthem of plate spinning, during meals. D’Aubigné-Chinet insists plate spinning is “impossible” without the irritating little ditty.

**Red Tray Socialism**

BY R.L. STINE & BEST BUTTER

IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO, BABY

After the decision was made last year to cease using trays in the cafeteria, Northwestern College was left with 1203 platters, mostly blank, boringly-colored trays and not enough projects to find suitable uses for all of them. An unnamed source from Maintenance has, on the condition of anonymity, provided the Beacon with detailed descriptions of what’s happened with each of those trays. Maintenance has gone socialist by redistributing the trays.

— 536 of the trays have been slated for use as new roofing tiles for Heemstra. "We’re still working out the kinks, whether we’ll have to cut off the rounded edges or cut them in half or what, but we’ll get there,” said our source in Maintenance.

— After the campus uproar about the impending closure of Heemstra, the administration appears to be hoping that this last-ditch effort will keep Heemstra open for a few more years. "If the tiles don’t work as a roof, maybe we can give them to the fire marshal as a bribe to keep the kinks, whether we’ll have to cut off the rounded edges or cut them in half or what, but we’ll get there,” said our source in Maintenance.

— 100 trays were given to Slug Bunderson for a use at Ramaker Library, which he would not disclose. However there is speculation that they will be used to build a small Northwestern-College-Board-approved “band-aid” library, which will serve campus until the Board decides to spend money on a real library.

— The Wellness Center requested 119 trays. Smelly Fredman said that the trays would be used to offer anger management sessions. When students are frustrated with a class, with something that’s happening in their life or with overly loud neighbors, students can find some relief through these sessions.

Students will be able to choose from two types of sessions: Knight jousting or Scottish hammer throw. Edman foresees that the sessions will fill up fast. “It’s a first-come, first-serve situation; instead of serving food with the trays, we’ll be serving needed anger management techniques to the students.”

— 4 will be used as bathroom stall doors on Second East Fern, who recently had their stall doors stolen.

— 3 will go to the Bridge as sleds for kids who live there. “Our kids just really love sleds, especially used ones!” exclaimed an impoverished widow who lives at the Bridge.

Luckily, the trays were in demand when the SGA decided against the student body’s better judgment, to remove them from the caf.

**The bare reason for getting naked**

DA REEFER

JAMAICAN MAN

We all know that certain juices give students certain flows. But there is nothing quite like a tropical explosion of exotic flavors that provides an edge of irresistibleness. No matter how much students thirst for something, there’s nothing else that makes students feel bare than getting Naked. Getting Naked, whether it’s in public or private setting like the Hub or the library, or whether it’s in the confines of one’s private dwelling— an apartment, or in a dorm room— it will quench the thirst for fruit exploration. It’s pinned to the grapevine that Naked is quite the climactic experience, so much so that it is heralded as being more filling than “better-than-sex-cake.” It has been reported to this newspaper that Naked has been a huge hit with NW students; more and more students can’t resist the urge to try it. The nutritious value of Naked is nothing to scoff at; actually there are health benefits that one is sure to receive. While I can speak to the bodily carnal innovation, this article will argue that Naked liberates both body and soul. Students perhaps wouldn’t make the same barefaced concession, but they are quick to add that there is a feeling of thrill and relaxation that seems to soothe the mind. It’s indeed refreshing to know that some students have the insatiable desire to get naked.

We need more of this stuff on campus, whatever it is, because too often we are inundated with other non-nutritious quencher that simply don’t make students feel as wholesome as they should. After all, it’s around that time when final week (or hell week) packs quite the blow which provides the perfect opportunity to get naked because it will help remove emotional rags, let loose the buckles that keep students strapped in and get fully exposed to the fruits of getting Naked—one that re-energizes students to help them tackle head-on the copious notes of their multi-layered exams.

Not long after coming off the heels of Thanksgiving and looking forward to the merry spirit of Christmas, it would be fitting not to go cold turkey by not having a daily share of Naked.

Now, I’m not going to decide for students which is the better choice, but let’s strip ourselves of inhibitions and get Naked! All in all, I believe it’s time for those who are still a virgin to this sensational phenomenon, go try it and uncover what students have been missing.
CHRISTMAS HAM

Dutch donors get their blooming wish

BY BEST BUTTER
HAM CONNENBURG

A recent gift from the estate of Mr. and Mrs. Haarlen Maars Haarlaersen will help Northwestern College as it attempts its greatest transformation yet. “What we feel, really, is that Northwestern College is a uniquely transformative place,” Van Maars Haarlaersen said “and we felt that, with a few physical changes, the school’s actual, physical design and layout might be able to reflect that transformative sense.”

“The transformation of Northwestern College into Tulip University—which we’re figuring’ll get threatened to ‘Too You’ once people acclimate—will happen in four stages,” said Janer Lorage, Provost. “The first stage will be that, this spring, instead of the tulip festival only lasting one weekend, we’re gonna stretch it out for, well, forever.” Lorage explained that recent developments in biotechnological engineering have resulted in tulips which bloom weekly (though never on Sunday), and that these tulips will be one of the key features on the new Tulip University campus.

“The tulips themselves are only just the beginning—step two is where it gets interesting,” Lorage continued. According to stipulations in the Van Maars Haarlaersen’s bequestment, the school will also change not only the name of each building on campus, but the structures themselves will eventually be changed as well. As of September, 2010, each residential building on campus will be renamed for a type of tulip, from the horned tulip to the waterlily tulip to the lady tulip to the Rembrandt tulip. “We’re still working out the details of which building gets which name, but it’s probably safe to say the lady tulip won’t be the name of one of the male dorms,” said Lorage. Nonresidential buildings—the RSC, VPH, Zwemer—will be named after the various parts of a tulip—the pistil, the stamen and so on. The third and fourth steps, as outlined by Lorage, will be the steps which make Tulip University a fundamentally different institution of higher education—steps, Lorage believes, which will make Too You a “school of tomorrow for the students of tomorrow.”

The change will begin in June with the construction of a series of large, inward-curving walls surrounding each building on campus. The walls will have a range of motion of 14 degrees and, shaped like the petals of a tulip, they will be able to mimic ‘opening’ and ‘closing’. ‘Of course, the petals will be painted to resemble the name of the building,’ Lorage said. “By building new suite-style housing, we saved enough to ‘tulip-ize’ 80 percent of the buildings, and we’ll have the remaining 20 percent of the buildings taken care of at the end of this capital campaign, 2012.”

The first three steps will make Too You a thoroughly tulip-like place, from the building names to the buildings themselves to the flowers grown on campus. The fourth and final step, to be implemented in the fall of 2010, will be for a narrowing of academic focus across disciplines.

Until now, the phrase ‘integrative learning’ has meant an integration of faith and learning, but next fall integration will connect three fields: faith, learning and Dutchness. Everything from Bible Studies to freshman English to choir will integrate and emphasize faith, learning, and Dutchness.

“Like all colleges, we’ve had to take some close and hard looks at what makes us unique,” Lorage said, “and for North—1 mean, for Too You, what makes us unique is our Dutch heritage. What better way to proclaim than through tulips? Students may wonder if these changes aren’t pretty drastic, I’d say they’re—sure, they’re drastic. But you know what? They’re part of a process that’ll bring out all the best elements of our school, who we are, our culture.”

CMT engages ailing students at Double D’s

BY DR. DJ SPANK
PHD IN EVERYTHING

Rhubarbara Dewalters, Campus Ministries Coordinator, affirmed Wednesday that Northwestern College Campus Ministries will be sponsoring and hosting a bible study Friday nights at Double D’s in Alton.

Dewalters commented, “We all know that it’s a common weekend hang out spot for Northwestern students, so we wanted to engage that culture and create movement toward those students by bringing the bible to them.”

Dances commonly occur at Double D’s, and statistics show that one-third of the student body attend these dances, while the other two-thirds judge them. A recent survey revealed that three-quarters of those attendees are freshman. Another recent survey noted that Residence Life tends to “turn a blind eye” toward the matter. And, yet another recent survey noted that it’s hard for blind people to do anything but make funky 80’s worship music about strange internet relationships.

Freshman Almuerzo Desayuno Cena’s III spoke to us in an interview about his experiences at the dances. “I love going out to Double D’s on Friday nights, all my friends are there, and there’s nothing else to do in Sioux County.” Statistics show that there is nothing else to do in Sioux County. Doc’s in Sioux Center seems to be the only other option.

“Doc’s is our next target,” said Dewalters. A special campus ministries task force called the Bar Bible Bunch is taking on the responsibility of leading the bible studies. Leader Hwan Van der DeOosterkampjoehoeftstrakim told us, “We will begin our bible study in John with the story of Jesus changing water into wine.” The story holds great significance for all Christians: it’s ok to get loose every once in a while.

“We want to meet people where they’re at,” said Van der DeOosterkampjoehoeftstrakim. And, statistics show that people are at Doc’s and Double D’s. There has even been talk of a partnership with the management at Double D’s to have Steven Curtis Chapman albums be the main music for future dances. SAC has even talked about moving Winter Formal to Double D’s. SAC president Nor Gonzalez said, “Since numbers have been low at our nominal events this year, we decided to get out of the box and think about some new ideas, like moving Winter Formal to Double D’s.”

Back to the bible study, Vander DeOosterkampjoehoeftstrakim will lead the study on Fridays at 11:17 p.m. “Bring your bibles, your dance shoes and yourself, and we will encounter God in fellowship with each other in community. We will address the best ways to objectify women, justify sin and take care of the alien, the orphan and the widow. We’re hoping to move into the book of II Hesitations after we’re done with John.”

The Bar Bible Bunch has plenty of places to do their ministry: Bob’s Bar in Martinsvilleburg, NE, The Hideout in Germantown and Doc’s and Double D’s. And they are planning on having a conversation and informational meeting about how to “minister to the Northwest Iowa culture” this coming Wednesday in the Theatre Lobby at 7 p.m. All are encouraged to attend, especially NW freshmen who haven’t yet had the chance to dance at Double D’s.

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Oh so bloody vain

By Dosh Doorbell

This year’s sparkle competition, set to take place early next week in San Diego, California, may be postponed for the first time since its inception in 1994. Every year Neo-Vampirics from around the world gather to stand together in the sun and show their sparkly selves. The competitors are judged on luminosity, style and flare. A new category in which the vampire is judged on the speed of their flesh-to-sparkle transition.

The judging council in charge of running, organizing, publicizing and policing the event claims that this postponement has nothing to do with the threat of protest hanging over the event, but is directly related to the expected rain of the evening. In a very biting report they wrote, “We have had protesters in the past and it has never stopped us. If the event is cancelled or postponed the protesters should not be given the satisfaction of credit.”

In the past, protesters have been sparse, but this year, due to an incredible amount of media attention surrounding the recent movies about Neo-Vampirics —seen, by some, as a “coming out” —protesters promise to “fill every possible shaded area, from the forest to the hot dog tent.”

Neo-Vampiricism first came about when a vampire named Clarimonde was experimented upon by a team of vampire scientists. They attempted to isolate the gene that causes Vampires to burn in the sunlight. They endeavored to cure Clarimonde, but instead mutated the gene. In controlled sun-exposure experiments, they discovered that Clarimonde actually sparkled.

The Vampire community was divided over the result. Some called it an “abomination” and “completely contrary to the will of our Founding Sires.” The Neo-Vampirics, as they came to be known, embraced this new lifestyle. Sometimes called Progressive Vampirics, they came in droves to become sparklers.

As the Neo-Vampirics felt persecuted early in their existence, they formed what is now called “covens.” They claim that the protection and community of their covens help them to live a life of freedom from the violence that came with pre-coven Vampiricism. Those espousing Classical Vampiricism, however, have always subscribed to a glorification of the individual feeders. They tend to take offense at the whole idea of vegetarian vampires.

As one prominent Classical Vampiricist and talk radio phenomenon Alacard Armaud says “Why would God create humans if they weren’t meant to be eaten?”

This year’s event, if postponed, may not happen until late in May.

Pink slipping Christmas: economy cuts 12 days down to 9

By El Captaino

Due to the starving economy, Congress has decided to restructure the twelve days of Christmas to help save on money and expenses. Some politician said, “It’s ridiculous to have to buy more than 10 gifts for one person. Congress could use that money for more paper so that we can continue debating the health-care reform. As a result of this legislation, we have compiled different ways to think about the days of Christmas students have left.

On the ninth day of Christmas: Nine lives. Find a stray cat wondering around some farm and give it to your loved one claiming that you saved it from certain death and that it’s nine lives represent the ninth day of Christmas.

On the eighth day of Christmas: Eight hotdogs. Buy a pack of cheap hot dogs and put them in the freezer, maybe next year you’ll have saved up enough to buy the buns too.

On the seventh day of Christmas: Day of rest. Tell your loved one that God rested on the seventh day and you also need to. This should work especially well in Northwest Iowa.

On the sixth day of Christmas: Six-pack of eggs. This just seems like a cheaper option than six geese a-laying. Buy her the eggs and then have her make you breakfast.

On the fifth day of Christmas: Five Golden rings. It is out of the question to buy actual rings, so get ringtones instead. Download them off the Internet for free and save some money.

On the fourth day of Christmas: Fantastic Four. Find a friend and borrow the movie Fantastic Four. Spend a night with your loved one cuddled up on the couch watching the movie, but don’t forget to prop the door open.

On the third day of Christmas: French Fries. It’s too expensive to import three French hens, so just take your love to the Hub and use your meal plan to buy some French fries.

On the second day of Christmas: Two candy bars. Don’t buy two candy bars; instead, stick to the Twix or Peanut Butter Cups. This way you get two candy bars for the price of one.

On the first day of Christmas: One homemade card. After this sad attempt at the twelve days of Christmas, your loved one will be very upset. Make a card explaining that your love is more than just material things and beg for forgiveness. It is foolproof.
Chronic illness causes chaos

The outbreak of MRS-7 is highly prevalent in the human species, yet it has also permeated the germ world. After a highly publicized, chronic illness causes chaos

BY LEFHANN HEAVY

The tight-knit community of Northwestern is in the midst of crisis. MRS-7 has struck campus in epidemic proportions. Popularly called Solovirus, until the name was changed due to outrage from the single population, this infection has devastated the romantically unattached causing many to find a person of the opposite gender to whom to pledge their undying love.

While the entire campus population is at risk, the senior class is the most susceptible to the effects of MRS-7. This is an especially concerning disease due to its tendency to break out in two people simultaneously.

According to reports from the NW Wellness Center, typical symptoms of MRS-7 include perpetual smiling, compulsive hand-holding, and fatigue due to a disruption of normal sleep patterns. Loss of focus in some individuals has led to a decrease in GPA, and some victims of MRS-7 have reported leg cramps on account of their high frequency and length of nocturnal walks. Men, in particular, may experience a drop in bank account balances.

“I’ve never had a dream come true till the day that I found you,” said Ty Theknot to his new fiancée Rin Y. Spring, thus exemplifying an additional symptom: inability to curb gushy, love speech.

NW’s upcoming Winter Formal is only perpetuating the condition. Men and women are spending an increased amount of time with each other in order to procure dates to the dance. This increased exposure results in higher chance of contracting MRS-7.

According to the CDC, once infected, the only treatment options include undergoing a marriage ceremony or surgery to remove one’s significant other from the hip.

Due to the serious nature of this disease, NW administration is committed to precaution. Under the direction of NW’s head physician Dr. Mc Dreamy, NW has implemented an evacuation plan.

“This plan will only be used if the infected population reaches 5-percent of the student population,” said Mc Dreamy. “But since there are approximately 64 reported cases, which roughly equates to 3-percent, with several more anticipated outbreaks, this is much closer to reality than to a precautionary measure.”

While this outbreak has caused alarm on campus, some singles are not worried. “I’m pretty sure I’m immune,” said junior I. Jess Fine. Contact the NW Wellness Center for more information on prevention and a break-through vaccine.

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While the entire campus population is at risk, the senior class is the most susceptible to the effects of MRS-7. This is an especially concerning disease due to its tendency to break out in two people simultaneously.

According to reports from the NW Wellness Center, typical symptoms of MRS-7 include perpetual smiling, compulsive hand-holding, and fatigue due to a disruption of normal sleep patterns. Loss of focus in some individuals has led to a decrease in GPA, and some victims of MRS-7 have reported leg cramps on account of their high frequency and length of nocturnal walks. Men, in particular, may experience a drop in bank account balances.

“I’ve never had a dream come true till the day that I found you,” said Ty Theknot to his new fiancée Rin Y. Spring, thus exemplifying an additional symptom: inability to curb gushy, love speech.

NW’s upcoming Winter Formal is only perpetuating the condition. Men and women are spending an increased amount of time with each other in order to procure dates to the dance. This increased exposure results in higher chance of contracting MRS-7.

According to the CDC, once infected, the only treatment options include undergoing a marriage ceremony or surgery to remove one’s significant other from the hip.

Due to the serious nature of this disease, NW administration is committed to precaution. Under the direction of NW’s head physician Dr. Mc Dreamy, NW has implemented an evacuation plan.

“This plan will only be used if the infected population reaches 5-percent of the student population,” said Mc Dreamy. “But since there are approximately 64 reported cases, which roughly equates to 3-percent, with several more anticipated outbreaks, this is much closer to reality than to a precautionary measure.”

While this outbreak has caused alarm on campus, some singles are not worried. “I’m pretty sure I’m immune,” said junior I. Jess Fine. Contact the NW Wellness Center for more information on prevention and a break-through vaccine.

Top 8 things SGA can and will approve no matter what just because they can

BY R. L. STINE

Feeling dateless?

Contact the Writing Center! You can get a date and the school will pay them. It’s the best of everything. Remember, while adding commas, you may be adding love!
Dorm Beat: Wings set to clash in Christmas Bash

BY SARA CURRY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For 24 hours, each of Coly's eight wings will receive total makeovers representing unique themes to usher in the 2009 Coly Christmas Bash on Dec. 7, from 9-11 p.m. "Each wing will unite to try to make their theme a reality," Coly RD Ryan Anderson said. "I'm excited to see this process." 

Although this year's theming continues until the unveiling of the event, some of Coly's past themes have included tropical, western, ghetto, Heemstra, Dordt and a tribute to Bob Barker.

As the 12th annual Coly Christmas Bash, this event marks an enduring tradition and legacy for Coly residents.

"The Bash is a chance for the men of Coly to welcome the community into their living space," Anderson said. "It's a significant tradition that connects the guys to something bigger."

Not only can students experience the Coly community up-close and personal, but they can also be enlightened by the creativity of Coly guys that often goes unnoticed.

"It is nice to see how creative a boy's dorm like Coly can be," junior RA Kory Jensen said. "You will be surprised about the creative, fun things that we come up with."

However, don’t let this disclosure of Coly's creative, artsy side fool you into thinking Coly guys have gotten soft. With around 180 guys crammed into one place, the prevalence of testosterone is bound to instigate some hardcore man-on-man competition.

The Christmas Bash entails much more than just an opportunity to be creative and tap into hidden artistic talent; it also serves as the battleground for an eight-way rivalry between the wings.

"There is a competitive drive in Coly that gets guys really involved in the Bash," Anderson said. "The hall is divided. Floors are divided. The only allegiance that matters is to your wing."

Though the Christmas Bash calls for an "every wing for itself" philosophy, the dorm as a whole has a common objective for this event that extends far beyond simple friendly competition and entertainment. With an entry fee of $1, all proceeds will be used to purchase donkeys, chickens, goats and other animals for impoverished countries from the World Vision Gift Program.

As an opportunity to take a break from stressful studies, have fun with friends, learn about the Coly community, laugh out loud and make a difference by serving others in need, this event has the potential to have an impact on both the campus as well as across oceans. Since Coly is known as "The Big House," it seems logical to say that the impact of this event will be nothing less than big.
Volleyball starts strong in National Tournament

BY CAMERON CARLOW
SPORTS EDITOR

It’s that time of year: the weather is getting cold, snow is starting to fall and the Northwestern volleyball team is in the National Tournament.

The Raiders won their first three games of pool play, putting up a 3-0 win against Shawnee State, a 3-2 win against Indiana Tech and a 3-0 win against Biola.

Shawnee State came into the game with a 26-game win streak and a 31-3 record. That didn’t last long as NW handled the Bears and won the first game, 25-12. The Raiders didn’t let up in games two or three, winning 25-14 and 25-15.

Junior Hillary Hanno led the team with 14 kills followed by senior Randa Hulstein with ten.

Hulstein also added seven digs and nine serves received. Junior Kaillt Beaver tossed up 42 assists for the Raiders as well. No. 3 NW moved into the second game of pool play against No. 17 Indiana Tech.

Indiana Tech jumped out to an early lead, winning the first two games 25-15 and 25-19.

The Raiders rallied and won the last three games 25-23, 25-19 and 15-12 to win the match and move to 2-0 in pool play. Indiana Tech moved to 1-1 in pool play on the Tournament.

Hanno had 25 kills, six digs and two blocks in match. Hulstein also put up big numbers, finishing the day with 14 kills, 10 diggs and 19 serves received. Sophomore Ryan Hoogeveen dominated the match with 54 assists, moving her total to 96 in the National Tournament.

NW finished out pool play against Biola on Thursday, Dec. 3. The Raiders won the match, 3-0, moving the record to 3-0 in pool play of the National Tournament.

Biola entered the game with a 22-9 record and ranked No. 17 nationally.

The Raiders held on to win a close first game, 26-24. They then followed it up with a big win, 25-20. In the third game, NW put away Biola with a 25-16 victory.

They will now move into the elimination portion of the tournament. The Raiders average 55. NW won 22 straight games against Dordt since losing to them in the 1997-98 season.

The Raiders average 77 points per game and junior Becca Hurley, sophomore Kami Kuhlman and freshman Kendra De Jong all average double figures in scoring. The team also celebrates earning the top spot in the NAIA division II women’s basketball poll.

NW’s record currently sits at 7-1 as they will host Dana at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5.

Men defeat Dordt Defenders

BY ANDREW LOVGREN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Northwestern men’s basketball team continued their seven-game win streak with a decisive 97-77 victory over rival Dordt College Wednesday night.

“The NW-Dordt games are always filled with emotion, drama and adventure,” said Head Coach Kris Korver.

After finishing the first period tied, the Raiders scored 63 second-half points to put the game away.

“Our guys played well to start the game and played incredibly well in the second half,” Korver said. “Basketball is a game of momentum swings. We had some runs and we extended those runs at different points in the game and fortunately when Dordt went on a run we were able to limit their runs.”

Sophomore Walker Seim led the team with 28 points and four rebounds. Junior Ryan Hoogeveen had 17 points and 11 rebounds and freshman Ben Miller had 17 points and nine rebounds.

“Ball movement and unselfishness are keys to Raider success. Always has been and always will be,” Korver said. “It was great to see our guys share the ball and not care who gets the shot; just keep moving the ball and sharing it and help each find an easier shot in rhythm.”

The weekend before, the Raiders brought back-to-back home victories at the Dordt classic against Bellevue, 81-73, and Central Baptist, 107-96.

“We had a much better focus on the defensive end to start the game, and the guys did a nice job of playing hard and made things difficult for Bellevue all game,” Korver said.

NW was ahead 40-35 after the first period and scored 41 points to Bellevue’s 38 in the second to get the win.

Seim led the team with 29 points and 10 rebounds, followed closely by freshman Daniel Van Kalsbeek with 28 points and 14 rebounds.

After a dominant first half, the Raiders survived a close 62-67 second half to top Central Baptist.

“When we play unselfishly, good things happen,” Korver said. “It is always exciting to see guys sharing the ball and making the extra pass to help a teammate find some success.”

Seim again led in scoring with 29 points and nine rebounds, while Van Kalsbeek had 16 points and eight rebounds.

NW continues play this weekend with a Saturday home game against Dana at 4 p.m.

Raider women named No. 1

BY SARA ADAMS
STAFF WRITER

The Northwestern women’s basketball team brought in wins five, six and seven of the season this week.

The first game was played against Doane with an overwhelming score of 85-45. During the first half, NW held a commanding lead of 45-14. This was held throughout the second half with the Raiders putting up 40 points compared to Doane’s 31.

This game was the opening of the GPAC play for both teams, with NW ranked second.

Sophomore Kami Kuhlman was the leading scorer of the game, achieving 15 points.

The following game was played at Mount Marty, who came into the match-up undefeated. This did not faze the Raiders.

In the first half the two teams were neck-and-neck, leading the Raiders by six at the end of the half 40-46. They didn’t stay behind for long, however. In the second half NW scored an additional 41 points while Mount Marty only managed to attain 22, bringing yet another victory to the Raiders.

The winning streak continued in a rivalry game against Dordt with a final score of 66-55. NW won 22 straight games against Dordt since losing to them in the 1997-98 season.

The Raiders average 77 points per game and junior Becca Hurley, sophomore Kami Kuhlman and freshman Kendra De Jong all average double figures in scoring. The team also celebrates earning the top spot in the NAIA division II women’s basketball poll.

NW’s record currently sits at 7-1 as they will host Dana at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5.