SGA asks Board to discuss suite-style housing  
BY EMILY BREWER  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Student Government Association passed a motion at its Nov. 2 meeting to invite all local Board members, President Christy Christy included, to its next meeting to discuss the Heemstra housing situation. This came about after the SGA took on the role of liaison between the Board and student body.

On Oct. 12, SGA invited Christy to attend its meeting and speak about the Board’s decision to build suite-style housing instead of a new residence hall. After Christy’s presentation, SGA members decided that the information Christy provided them was not information that was being passed around campus, and that a forum or meeting of some form was in order. They tabled the discussion until their next meeting on Oct. 22.

Heemstra representatives attended the Oct. 22 meeting. They approached SGA and requested it act as a liaison. After an hour and a half, the discussion was tabled until the Nov. 2 meeting.

Heemstra representatives were also present at the Nov. 2 meeting. They brought a petition with them, which as of Nov. 2 had 602 signatures. The signatures are from current students, a few professors, and a couple of prospective students who felt strongly enough about the issue to sign.

Widespread campus concern, along with Heemstra’s request, prompted SGA to take a more direct role.

“The in same way that SGA constitution calls us to relay information from the administration to the students, we are also called to represent student concerns to the administration,” said Wes Garcia, president of SGA. “Our decision to act as liaison stems from this understanding.”

Heemstra plans on presenting Christy with its petition. The Heemstra representatives acknowledged that while Heemstra residents love their building, it is not the building they are fighting for. They are fighting for their community.

The SGA meeting ended with a passed motion to invite the 13 area Board of Trustees members to its meeting on Nov. 9.

NW team places first in local Battle of the Brains  
BY SARA JANZEN  
STAFF WRITER

Seniors John Calsebeek and Curt Van Wyk and junior Mark Haselhoff placed third in the North Central region of the Association for Computing Machinery International Collegiate Programming Contest on Saturday Oct. 31. This came after winning a local competition hosted by Northwestern.

This regional contest was part of a worldwide competition also referred to as Battle of the Brains. NW hosted one of 16 sites in the North Central region made up of Iowa, Kansas, Manitoba, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, western Ontario and Wisconsin. A total of 203 three-person teams competed throughout the region.

NW was represented at the competition by seven teams. “Participation is through the roof,” said Mike Wallinga, instructor in computer science. “Our success last year definitely played a role in that.”

Last year, three NW students, Calsebeek, Van Wyk and ‘09 graduate Ben Kester, competed in the world finals in Stockholm, Sweden, as wild card selection. NW was the smallest U.S. school to receive an invitation to the 100-team final last April.

Wallinga thinks NW has a fair chance of sending another team to the world finals this year since NW placed fourth in its region last year. “Placing third regionally, we’d like to think we have a decent chance at getting selected again,” Wallinga said. For now, all they can do is wait.

Calsebeek, Van Wyk and Haselhoff correctly answered seven of the 10 problems given to participants. Among NW’s seven teams, one team successfully answered two questions and two teams answered one question each.

“To have 21 students from a computer science department of our size wanting to participate, and to have over half of our teams answering a question correctly speaks well of our students and their abilities,” Wallinga said.

The competition tests participants’ ability in a different way than classes. “It’s different than the programming you do in class,” said two-time participant junior Evan Lundell. “In class, it’s more about the concepts. In the competition, they’re real life situations. You have to bring in knowledge from other areas.”

The Battle of the Brains is the largest and most prestigious computing competition in the world, with participants from 90 different countries around the globe. Teams are given one computer and five hours to solve real-world problems using open technology and advanced computing methods. The winning team is the one that solves the most problems in the fewest attempts within the least amount of time.

Actors connect with “Ballad Hunter’s” relationship theme  
BY MEAGAN MCDougALL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Next week the theatre department will present “Ballad Hunter,” a play by Jenny Laird about three generations of Appalachian women, which as of Nov. 2 had 602 signatures. The signatures are from current students, a few professors, and a couple of prospective students who felt strongly enough about the issue to sign.

In this play, and I think that’s true in everyone’s life.”

Schoenrock plays the role of Gussie, whose daughter, Lotta, is played by junior Greta Floding and whose mother, Hetty, is played by sophomore Kylie Steinbach. The story begins one day when Gussie enacts a stranger on the mountain with her beautiful voice, and he, a recorder of local music who is known as the ballad hunter, in turn enchants her. The story then skips to when Lotta is nearly a grown woman, and her curiosity has grown about who her father was. As the three women discuss this and share wisdom between the generations, they work to find food for each day and think about ways they can help their junk-dealer neighbor, Buzzy, played by senior Brady Huffman. They also are concerned about Cecil, played by junior Dan Laird, because he is trying to push them to allow electricity to be brought to the mountain.

Barker said that she enjoys actors and characters who share certain personality traits.

“Three people all have personalities that are very connected to Gussie,” Schoenrock said. “She is compassionate and loves her family. She’s a feeling character, and I’m a feeling person, so I think that’s how we relate.”

Laird agreed that he and his character share personality traits.

“My character is a very social person,” Laird said. Cecil works for the Rural Electrification Association, and he is working to get all of the people in the area to sign onto a cooperative so they can put up power lines. “He basically goes out and meets new people every day, I can see that being like me,” Laird said. “We don’t get into awkward situations very often.”

Both Laird and Schoenrock think that students will relate well to the story.

“When I first read it, I understood it right away,” Laird said. “The message from it and what happens is very powerful on its own.”
I’ve recently decided to revisit J.R.R. Tolkien’s “The Hobbit.” I read it almost eight years ago when I was a seventh-grader. I couldn’t remember many details. But I remember enjoying the battles like most pre-teen boys. I remember skipping the brilliant and rhythmic poems and songs. I remember thinking of Bilbo as a small, prickly creature who lived in a dirt tunnel. I remember imagining each of the dwarves and their strangely colored beards tucked into their belts and their hunger for adventure and wealth. That was before Hollywood corrected me.

I’ve taken a journey of sorts in the eight or so years since I last read this lauded classic. I was probably a foot shorter in those days, with no hope of ever getting a girlfriend...

Bilbo, our burglar and protagonist, is satisfied with a quiet, boring life and a vast inheritance in a comfortable home. He meets a mysterious wizard one morning, who graciously proposes an adventure. Bilbo rudely declines for the sake of his after-second-breakfast-smoke.

Half an hour later, thirteen dwarves knock on his door and barge in without invitation. They propose the adventure. Bilbo leaves behind his lifestyle of five meals a day and they all set out to get their treasure from the evil dragon Smaug. As soon as they leave the placid Shire and venture into the outside world, madness ensues: they meet trolls, goblins, evil wolves; they fly on eagles, get kidnapped by elves and fight a colossal battle. I’ve taken a journey of sorts in the eight or so years since I last read this lauded classic. I was probably a foot shorter in those days, with no hope of ever getting a girlfriend or being good at anything but digging those big boogers out of my nose. Well...I still pick my nose, but I do have a fiancé now, so there is hope after all.

At the end of high school, the adventure known as ‘college’ was knocking on my door, but four years seemed like an inconvenience, like too long of a break between first and second breakfast. I didn’t want to go on that adventure with strangers. I didn’t want to leave the comfort and solace of everything and anyone I had ever known.

But I did. And like Bilbo, I’ve looked back fondly on the simpler times. But in my adventures at Northwestern I have mooned people from the windows of the children’s library, totaled my roommate’s cat, dropped my classes just to hear those professors, and it’s been a pretty good time. I’ve travelled to the beach, the desert, the mountains and to lakes. I’ve ministered, learned, written, cried, pulsed, laughed and slept my way through college. I’m no Bilbo, but adventures are fun every once in a while.

Is popularity what’s best?
BY MATTHEW LEITHER

In his press release to Northwestern College regarding the Board’s decision to build suites on campus, President Christy said that suite-style housing is “becoming very popular, so we’re excited to be able to provide this new option for our students.”

Christy is correct—suites are often popular to other students. Our generation has had much more privacy than previous generations, and has been more able to pursue our own endeavors without interruptions from siblings. Because home-dwelling high school students have had more luxuries, they often hesitate to live in traditional dormitories. A newspaper article from Aurora, Colorado explained: “Sharing bedrooms? Primitive. Community-styled showers? Barbaric.”

One of the great things (and curses) about dormitory living is that we are forced to share space. Not just with people we enjoy being around, but with everyone. There are people who irritate us by leaving hair on the shower door, forgetting to flush and even sleeping in our beds. These students distract us from our homework, interrupt at the climax of movies and blare awful music. At times, they make us wish we could shut the door and block everything out.

The wild thing within
BY ANNE BACKSTROM & BREANN ROZEBOOM

Inside all of us is a wild thing. Legendary Pictures and Village Roadshow’s latest film brings crowds to the theater for their adaptation of Maurice Sendak’s 1963 children’s book, Where the Wild Things Are. Contrary to what we are taught to assume, Where the Wild Things Are is not so much a film for children as it is a film about them. Consequently, the motion picture is meant to be viewed through the eyes of an adult. As we all once lived as a child, the character of Max symbolizes how we understood life. The film does not portray the glamorized Hollywood version of childhood, but rather, the reality of growing up in a complex and confusing world.

Max (Max Records) is the loneliest, saddest, biggest child in a single parent home. The confusions and uncertainties of growing up are held under a magnifying glass as Max struggles to deal with his emotions. The changes in family relationships tangle the order that he had once relied on. As Max wrestles with the forces of this cacophony, he retreats to a place he knows well: his imagination.

Records is well-cast for the role of Max. In his quiet and contemplative stances, irresolute tantrums and inability to deal with conflict, he portrays the realistic behavior of a child his age. A scene toward the beginning of the film shows Max acting up and embarrassing his mother. As we can imagine his mother’s horror and sympathize with Max’s anger, we see that the characters in the film were created to depict characters that all of us can understand. From here we are introduced to the world of the Wild Things.

The wild things are beautiful illustrations of how Max understands reality. They were not created to teach moral lessons. Through these beasts, emotions and relational ties are personified. For example, Max understands what it feels like to be unwanted. He meets Alex, the smallest wild thing who is considered the “baby” and ignored within the group. Also, Max, within his family, does not understand why people hurt each other by not staying together. Max wants to get rid of the sadness and see his family unified. With these illustrations in mind, we see the intention this film has to embody the mind of a real child.

Director Spike Jonze offers a breath of fresh air in the construction of the wild things. Though CG was used to refine the facial features, actors gave life to the beasts through nine-foot suits built by the Jim Henson workshop. The tangibility of the wild things brings a sense of rawness that CG would never be able to duplicate. Where the Wild Things Are is a picture of our youth: not only the joy of carefree adventure, but also the confusion of growing up in a complicated world. The film, whether by wild rumpus or dirt-clod war, projects reality on the side of childhood that is often ignored.
The Poor Will Be Glad: a microfinance manifesto

BY KEVIN “FREEBIRD” WALLACE

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Micro-economics: don’t let this word turn you off from one of the most interesting and important books of the year. Written by Peter Greer, president of HOPE International, and Phil Smith, a philanthropist and private investor, “The Poor Will Be Glad” is a book that is one to get excited about. Trust me; you want to read this. The book shows how micro-economics is alleviating poverty in developing countries around the world and what Christians can do to encourage and support the efforts of micro-economics.

“As of July 2007, there were approximately 6.6 billion people living on earth. Approximately four billion live on less than four dollars per day” (Greer, et al, 27).

No matter how many times that statistic is listed, when you think about it in terms of people, it is always a staggering number. And the Bible says we’re supposed to take care of all these people? How? Greer and Smith would suggest micro-economics.

Micro-economics focuses on giving “a hand up, not a handout” (Greer, et al, 61). In a developing nation, there are no “Help Wanted” signs; you have to start your own business. What micro-financing attempts to do (condensing what Greer and Smith take 260 pages to explain) is create small loans (smaller than a college student’s paycheck) and allow the person to repay the loan firm in a short period of time with a low interest rate. And they do. Greer and Smith have found that almost 98 percent of loanees pay back their loan on time after having benefited; compare that to the 90 percent of Americans who pay off their credit card bills.

The authors are completely willing to share the realities of micro-economics with their readers. Micro-economics isn’t perfect; a small number who take out loans either end in the same poverty they were in or sometimes in a worse place. Greer and Smith caution against believing that micro-economics is going to solve poverty world-wide. They agree that to believe so would probably be naive and foolish, but micro-economics is a step in the right direction to begin to solve the issue of extreme impoverishment.

Greer and Smith have a lot to say about how poverty should be handled. They make a very compelling argument showing how simply throwing money at a situation does nothing to alleviate the pressures that poverty puts on people. The authors use anecdotes from churches and relevant information about poverty to show the reader how sometimes money doesn’t have the right effect.

Greer and Smith try to show what American churches can do to help. A lot of what they suggest is echoing Mother Theresa’s saying when people asked what they could do to help: “Come and see.” The authors also advise that once people retire they then focus more on directly helping the kingdom (you would have time then—why not?) and getting plugged into a community that could benefit from having strong Christians live in their communities.

THE POOR WILL BE GLAD

“IT LOOKS LIKE THERE’S A BAG OF Yard WORK IN your Noodles.”

— Freshman Tyler Zeutenhorst referring to freshman Josh Vander Plaits’ show meh ramen

“Yeah, it sounds like that HIV stuff that has been going around.”

— Professor of History Doug Anderson, in reference to a student being ill with the flu over the weekend.

“You sound like a clarinet with a watermelon in its mouth.”

— Professor of Music Thomas Holm making fun of the A Capella choir’s attempt at singing.

“I don’t want to see my sauce.”

— Junior Greg White talking about the small quantity of cheese on his pizza.

If you want your questions answered, just email them to Greg White (gwhite@nwciowa.edu).

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

The Poor Will Be Glad is available this month from Zondervan for $19.99.
FEATURES

November 6, 2009

Cell phone use: do you talk ear-to-ear or thumb-to-thumb?

BY JORDAN VERMEER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“i’m just trying to make it as man-friendly as possible,” said Michael Julius, the owner of the new men’s formalwear store in town: Tip Top Tux, located right next to the bakery in Orange City.

Tip Top Tux has been up and running since October 15, fighting the uphill battle of publishing its name.

“It’s all phonecall business so far,” says Michael. “It’s like planting a seed in the spring and waiting till fall to harvest. I just hope I’m not annoying people.”

Michael and his partner and mom, Connie Julius, are both local entrepreneurs. Michael started and managed the Worthington Pizza Ranch while his mother owns the local Curves establishment. Together they hope to offer Orange City and the surrounding areas a meager slice of what L&K had been providing for years: “The loss of L&K was devastating to Orange City,” Michael recounts. “If you thought you thought L&K.” One of Michael’s goals is to strive for the perfection of L&K.

Another goal is to someday not only have men’s formalwear, but men’s clothing in general. Mainly, though, Julius is just trying to fill a hole that has been in Orange City since September.

Even though Connie and Michael were unsure at first about the solidity of their business, “People were saying they were so happy they got a tuxedo store back, that sealed the deal,” said Michael. With those compliments, the Julis’ are sticking with it and hoping their investment pays off.

But Tip Top Tux does not only rent and sell formalwear; it is a DJ business too. Tip Top Tux originated from the DJ business that Michael was running. He thought, “We’re usually always a part of the day of, might as well help with the planning of.”

Alongside the DJ and formalwear, they offer tailoring, men’s gifts, party favors, and slideshow video. Their only female piece of clothing offered is their wide selection of garters.

“We’ll have a big ‘ol bash this November,” said Connie. “All the tuxes will be on display to touch and see.”

Currently, the store is in the midst of a month-long quiet opening to work out the kinks. And, while they may be small, that is also their strength: appreciating every customer walking through the door, striving for perfection of measurement because, as Michael said, “We want to give people the comfort of wearing a tux, as well as looking good in it.”

Tip Top Tux: new Orange City store meets formalwear needs

By Jordan Vermeer

NEWS EDITOR

To text or not to text — that is the question.

Over the past five years, the number of people with text messaging plans has increased dramatically. More than 12.5 million text messages were sent in June 2006, which was a 70 percent increase from June of the previous year, according to the International Association for the Wireless Telecommunications Industry.

More recently, the TV show American Idol reported that for the 2009 American Idol finale, voters sent in almost 100 million texts — that’s approximately eight times the amount of texts sent during the entire month of June three years ago.

Although these numbers show that texting is becoming the new norm, what do the few people on campus who do not have texting think of this increasingly popular form of communication?

Sophomore Jill Bird is one of the few non-texters left at Northwestern College. Bird’s mom and dad blocked texting on her phone so she cannot send or receive texts. Her main reason for not buying her own texting plan is because she does not want to waste her money.

“Ten dollars a month, that’s $120 a year, so I don’t think I’m going to get it,” Bird said.

Besides her financial reasons for disliking texting, Bird believes that texting takes away from personal interactions. She gets annoyed when she is talking to someone face-to-face and they start texting someone else.

“I feel like they’re choosing between me and whoever they’re texting,” Bird said. “It makes me feel like I’m not that important.”

Since texters can send multiple messages to more than one friend every minute, Bird appreciates it when her friends take time specifically to call her. She believes that even though she does not have texting, that does not mean she is impossible to contact.

“If someone really needs to talk to me, then it forces them to call me,” Bird said.

Despite her misgivings toward texting, Bird is not completely against it. “It’s so common that I can’t really be too much against it,” Bird said. She recognizes that texting does have some benefits, including making it easier to give directions and cutting down on awkward conversations.

On the opposite end of the spectrum is freshman Sarah Adams. For Adams, texting is an hourly activity. She has an unlimited texting plan and sends about 100 texts each day.

Adams believes texting is a good thing and is “a way to communicate without interrupting everything that’s going on.” However, even this avid texter realizes that texting has some drawbacks.

“A lot of communication is tone of voice, and that’s taken out, along with body language,” Adams said. Through her experiences, Adams has realized that the chance of miscommunication increases when other modes of communication are eliminated.

“Sarcasm isn’t always seen as sarcasm,” Adams warned.

Freshman Emily Stanislav used to be like Adams and would send copious text messages each day. However, she is currently a non-texter.

“I got a new phone and saw that it had texting on it,” Stanislav said. Unfortunately, the phone did not come with a texting plan. “I racked up a $180 bill,” Stanislav said. This caused her parents to block incoming and outgoing texts on her phone. Currently, however, Stanislav does not want a texting plan. Her texting experience agrees with Adams’. “Texting can lead to a lot of miscommunication,” Stanislav said.

So although NW’s non-texters might feel a little out of the loop, most believe that they are not missing out on quality conversations. As Stanislav put it, texting is good for simple chats but not for having long conversations with her close friends and family. “I’d rather talk to them ear-to-ear than thumb-to-thumb.”

Cell phone use: do you talk ear-to-ear or thumb-to-thumb?
Dorm Beat:
Fern takes on another “hair-raising” adventure

BY SARA CURRY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Although Fern Smith Hall doesn’t have its own version of Harvest Bash, Steggy Keggy or Coly Christmas, you can bank on the fact that Fern always has something going on behind its doors.

Each week a group of students called the Community Life Committee get-together to discuss dorm happenings and come up with new ideas for events. Known for their catchy event titles like, “Bringing Brooches Back,” this committee keeps Fern residents on their toes with clever ideas for fun around every corner.

One event coming up is “Let’s Talk About Wax, Baby,” which celebrates the conclusion of Fern’s twist of “Beard Month” known as “No Shave Noctober.” After showing off their hairy legs, Fern residents will enjoy a bittersweet night taking turns between stuffing their faces with fondue snacks and forcibly ripping out every long, stubborn leg hair with their waxing kits.

According to Fern RD Lisa Barber, splitting leg hair growth time between October and November has practical purposes for the ladies.

“We go from the Wednesday after midterm break to the Monday before Thanksgiving break so that if people dress up for anything, their leg hair does not hinder their fashion,” Barber said.

Leg hair isn’t the only thing Fern residents are accumulating; they’re also collecting toys and gifts for Operation Christmas Child. Fern will host a wrapping party to put the boxes together before transporting them to the collection site in Sioux Center where they will be distributed to kids all around the world.

Fern also has an intellectual side to its festivities. Every month the dorm gets together for a night of discussion called “Mug ’n Muffin.” In these discussions the ladies are encouraged to talk about anything that’s on their minds.

“We talk about a whole range of things,” Barber said, “from crushes to lessons learned to what God is doing in their lives.”

Whether engaging in a mindless, intellectual, entertaining or philanthropic activity, Fern is all about branching out and growing together as a dorm.

The biggest difference is that at NC/DC, a live vote determines the winner of $500.

And, over the years, a few changes of occurred such as expanding from having individual performers to allowing groups or individuals. Also, the participants are now allowed to have live bands and/or background singers perform along with them.

This version of “American Idol” has continuous popularity in both campuses no matter to which school the winner belongs.

And, even though Dordt took the winning title the first four years of the competition, two years ago, NW took them by surprise. A favorite memory of Lori Couch and her involvement in NC/DC was NW’s first victory.

“lt was amazing to see Crystal De Waard, Kayla (Hall) Kaufman and Sophie (Eicher) Ulibarri blow the competition away in 2007 for our first win. They were so good and took over three fourths of the votes.”

Last year’s winner, Morgan De Jong is competing again this year and has fond memories of her involvement.

“I do not like to do things half-heartedly, so when I’m involved, I am determined to do my best,” said De Jong. “It’s fun but stressful. Through this epic battle we call NC/DC, I have been given some opportunities to sing for churches and with praise teams. Yet, stresses aside, I’d say NC/DC is a great way to meet new people and use the gifts I’ve been given to give back to my Savior.”

Seven years running, it is said that the talent is deeper than ever before.

“This year I think some very good singers will not even make the top five because of the great amount of talent,” said Couch.

Each year, Student Activities Council has considered taking a different route than the traditional idol competition, but every year, students express their continued interest in the event.

“The competition has developed into what it is today. We have a very talented group this year, and we love to hear positive feedback from the campus.”

Cooking up some new competition

BY ANNE EBEBERN
FEATURES EDITOR

After NC/DC, Northwestern students, faculty and alumni may continue the rousing rivalry with our Dutch neighbors to the north by joining in the second annual Iron Chef Challenge on Nov. 21.

The opportunity allows both colleges to make a positive impact, all while continuing the great tradition of competition.

Last year, Dordt College held its first annual Iron Chef Challenge, the college version of the Food Network show Iron Chef America. Teams will compete for a panel of 10 judges in making three dishes. Each dish must contain a secret ingredient that will not be announced until a half an hour before the challenge begins.

According to Justin Carruthers, a Dordt student involved with the planning, time will be the biggest opponent facing the teams. “With only one hour to make three dishes for ten judges—that’s thirty plates—all teams will feel the time crunch.”

With a shortage of time and perhaps a lack of cooking expertise, one may wonder if students are up for the task. The past, however, seems to be pointing in favor of the participants. “According to our judges last year, the food by far surpassed their expectations. Most teams last year cooked high quality meals,” said Carruthers. “This year, who knows?”

This event has much more to offer if sweating in the kitchen isn’t your cup of tea. There will be mini-games set up for spectators, and every attendee has the opportunity for a door prize as long as you bring a canned good as an entry fee. “For every canned good donated they will receive one stub to put into the drawing for thousands of dollars in door prizes,” said Carruthers.

Many businesses in Sioux County donated goods and services as door prizes which include hotel stays at Holiday Inn Express, flowers, t-shirts, coupons, and a $1000 necklace and earing set. The event planners are hoping that the students will be just as excited and generous as the Sioux County businesses.

All of the collected canned goods will be donated to the Family Crisis Center in Sioux Center. “The new Sioux Center FCC will be opening shortly after the Iron Chef event so all the canned goods can be put right into the new building,” said Carruthers. “Last year we collected over 1000 canned goods, but are hoping to exceed those numbers this year.”

With the promise of good competition, a good cause, and hopefully good food, it’s time to get excited for Iron Chef Challenge 2009. “It’s a really great fundraiser for a worthy place, and it sounds like a really fun event to participate or watch,” said NW senior Brianna Gmeinder. “It’s the best of both worlds.”
Women’s basketball tips off with a win

BY SARA ADAMS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The women’s basketball team has begun a brand new season this week and they are starting it off right. The first game resulted in a 77-49 win against Waldorf College.

The Raiders started the game off with a 10-0 lead and continued playing hard, ending the first half 43-20. The team continued stong play through the second half and acquired 34 additional points.

Junior Becca Hurley led the team in points with 22, followed by freshman Kendra De Jong with 16. Sophomore Jessica Wedel added in her three-point shooting.

As a team, Northwestern had 64 rebounds, outnumbering Waldorf’s forty. Although it is only the first game of the season, Head Coach Earl Woudstra has already begun pushing the team to their potential while making sure to “honor God throughout the season.”

NW’s main concerns are defense and rebounding, which consume most of their practice time. Woudstra believes that by making these two things a priority throughout the season, the team will have a chance to compete for a conference championship and possibly return to the national tournament.

The women have been working together off the court as well, and not only in the weight room. In addition to a retreat, the team has invested in a service project.

The Raiders will hope to continue on their success on Friday, Nov. 6, at Jamestown. The game begins at 5:30 p.m. and will be followed by a game Saturday, Nov. 7, 2 p.m., at Valley City.

Soccer teams finish season

BY SARA ADAMS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The men’s and women’s soccer teams said goodbye to the field this week in their final game against Doane in Crete, Neb. The men’s team suffered a loss 1-2, putting their record at 5-12-1.

Freshman Adam Potter scored the single goal for Northwestern with an assist by freshman Jonathon Taves. Junior goalie Jeff Lanser made eight saves for the team.

Senior Aaron O’Brien found it unique that the team bonded so well despite a lower average than they had expected. He says this because “the men’s soccer team has always been a great group of guys and this year was no exception.”

The women’s team also experienced a loss to Doane 0-1 with two shots taken by senior Becca Bruns and one by junior Taylor Malm. Freshman Jennifer Cantwell put forth a tremendous effort in the final game, making 23 saves.

Freshman forward Theo Engan blocks the shot from the Waldorf player in last week’s 77-49 victory.

Football loses to Sioux Falls

BY ANDREW LOVGREN
STAFF WRITER

In their toughest matchup of the season, the 12th-ranked Northwestern Red Raiders fought hard, but could not defeat the number one team in the nation, falling to the University of Sioux Falls Cougars 14-49.

“We need to get back to playing hard nose physical defense,” said Head Coach Kyle Achterhoff. “We let them take it to us Saturday, but we need to be the aggressors and create big plays.”

NW was able to get on the scoreboard early in the second quarter on a 3-yard scamper by junior Taylor Malm.

The Cougars put 35 unanswered points on the board, including a 69-yard pass and a kick-off returned for a touchdown.

“We did some good things in the first half, but we needed to relax and just play hard in the second half,” Achterhoff said.

The Raiders scored their second touchdown with 6:19 to play on 1-yard burst by freshman Brandon Smith to make the final score 14-49.

The Raiders allowed 462 total yards while totaling 226 yards of their own, including 191 yards on the ground.

“Defensively, we played really well,” Achterhoff said. “We ran the ball against the best defense in the nation, and, if we wouldn’t have made a couple of small mistakes, we could have scored 28 points.”

After this loss, NW will travel to Mitchell, SD, to finish out the season against Dakota Wesleyan on Saturday, Nov. 7.

“Dakota Wesleyan is a team that has struggled, but they knocked us out of the playoffs last year, so we will be ready to play Saturday,” Achterhoff said. “They throw the ball really well, so we’ll have to be ready to defend the pass.”

This GPAC game is the finale to the regular season and could decide if the Raiders continue their season into the playoffs.

“We are not ready to be done playing, so we will play hard on Saturday against Dakota Wesleyan,” Achterhoff said. “Hopefully we will get a win and then we will have to wait to see what will happen with rankings to see if we make the playoffs.”
SPORTS

Volleyball heads into GPAC Tournament

BY CAMERON CARLOW
SPORTS EDITOR

The Red Raider volleyball team completed the regular season with last Saturday’s match-up at Dordt. Northwestern won the match 3-0, finishing with a 30-2 record and a perfect 16-0 record in the GPAC.

NW opened game one against the Defenders by earning a 25-18 win. With the score tied at 11, NW scored four straight points to go up 15-11 where they continued to roll to the win.

Game two was led by the Raiders the entire time. Dordt trailed by five before going on a 4-0 run and pulling within one, 16-15. Northwestern then went on a 6-1 run to put away game two 25-20.

The Raiders finished off Dordt in game three with a 25-20 win. The Defenders took the lead early but a few runs pulled NW to the victory in the three-game match.

Three different Raiders had double figures in kills in the match. Junior Hillary Hanno threw down 13, hitting .343 on the day. Senior Randa Hulstein also had 13 kills, hitting .259 alongside her younger sister Rylee Hulstein, who had 12 kills and hit .552 in the three-game match.

NW had four players in double digits in digs on the night. Senior Janna Bloemendaal had 13, which was the most on the team and moved her up to first in career digs for NW. Senior Delainye Woudstra finished the day with 11, alongside the 12 that both junior Kaitlin Beaver and Randa Hulstein produced.

Beaver also led the Raiders with 39 assists. Woudstra was 15-15 in serving.

After the win against Dordt, NW will compete as the No. 1 seed in the GPAC tournament. The Raiders will host the eighth seed Sioux Falls on Saturday, Nov. 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Sioux Falls defeated the ninth seed Midland Lutheran in the first round of the tournament and is 19-18 on the year. NW defeated Sioux Falls 3-0 in both of their regular season match-ups.

After the GPAC tournament the Raiders hope to make a splash in the National Tournament. NW is ranked No. 3 nationally in the latest NAIA poll and will hope to receive a strong bid by doing well in the GPAC tournament.

Men’s basketball falls in season opener

BY ANDREW LOVGREN
STAFF WRITER

It wasn’t the storybook start to a season as the Northwestern men’s basketball team fell to Benedictine 78-91 in their season opener on Saturday.

“The guys played hard and the guys played unselfishly,” said Head Coach Kris Korver. “We had moments where we played some good basketball.”

NW kept the score close at the end of the first half 37-42.

“The difference in the contest was about a three- to four-minute spurt where Benedictine went on a 9-0 run to create an eight-point cushion,” Korver said. “Basketball is a game of spurts and runs. We need to understand that in the game of basketball there will be momentum changes. We just need to work on extending our spurts and limiting our opponent’s spurts.”

Twelve different Raiders saw action Saturday, led by sophomore Walker Seim who went 6-10 for 17 points, eight rebounds and a block. Freshman Ben Miller scored 18 points and freshman Daniel Van Kalsbeek scored 14, while both had seven rebounds.

“We committed 21 turnovers in the game and with experience we will improve in this area,” Korver said. NW was able to out-rebound the Ravens 47-41. The Raiders sunk 44 percent of their shots in the first period, but only 35 percent in the second.

“We have a hard-working group of guys who love the game of basketball and are coming together as a team,” Korver said. “It was a lot of fun watching them experience their first road trip together, their first game together and battling out on the floor together.”

The Raiders play Friday, Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m., at Jamestown and then Saturday, Nov. 7, 4 p.m., at Valley City.

“Our goal is to come together as a team and become the best team we can. The future is bright for Raider Basketball,” Korver said. “We have a talented group, an unselfish group, and a hard working group.”

PHOTO COURTEY OF TIMESONLINE

BACK ON TOP: The New York Yankees defeated the defending champion Philadelphia Phillies to take home the 2009 World Series trophy. The Yankees won the final game Wednesday night 7-3 to finish off the series 4-2. Jorge Posada, Derek Jeter and Mariana Rivera admire the trophy above.

PHOTO BY EMILY GOWING

Junior Bobbie Jean Rich and freshman Heather Goehring go up for the block in last Saturday’s 3-0 victory against Dordt. The Raiders will now host Sioux Falls in the first round of the GPAC Tournament.

PHOTO BY EMILY GOWING

Freshman Jaci Moret spikes the ball against Dordt in last Saturday’s junior varsity game.

PHOTO COURTEY OF TIMESONLINE

PHOTO BY EMILY GOWING

Junior Bobbie Jean Rich and freshman Heather Goehring go up for the block in last Saturday’s 3-0 victory against Dordt. The Raiders will now host Sioux Falls in the first round of the GPAC Tournament.
Research shows diet soda damages kidneys

BY SARAH LUPKES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

We hear time and again that diet soda is better than regular soda. “Same great taste without the calories!” is the promise we hear from the speakers of our TVs and radios.

While diet soda does not contain the sugar or calories of regular soda, it is full of other health-draining chemicals like caffeine, artificial sweeteners, sodium and phosphoric acid.

Although products sweetened with artificial sweeteners are marketed as healthier than their sugar-laden versions, recent research shows that they can be potentially hazardous to women’s health.

Research shows a correlation between diet soda consumption and kidney damage. A major U.S. lifestyle and health study, aimed specifically toward women, revealed that regular consumption of artificially sweetened drinks can lead to a gradual decline in the kidney function, according to www.themedguru.com.

After an examination of more than 3,000 women over a period of 11 years, researchers Dr. Julie Lin and Dr. Gary Curhan reported that those who drank two or more servings of artificially sweetened soda, or diet soda, per day had a two-fold increase in the rate of kidney function decline.

The researchers said that the link between artificial sweeteners and kidney damage was ambiguous, but on a large-scale study, this is valuable information. They cautioned about the hazards of artificially sweetened soda, providing women with a vital reason to limit high intake of diet drinks.

No relation between sugar-sweetened beverages and kidney function decline was noted in their research.

The bond regarding the Phoenix Project discussed in last week’s Beacon passed this week by two votes.

Northwestern’s top 5 NC/DC performers:

• Rachel Bolda
• Simon Campbell and Morgan De Jong
• Kristen Menchaca
• Anna Pitney and Andrew Stam
• Lisa Walters

The next round of NC/DC will be with Dordt tonight at 10 p.m. in the Bultman Center.

Sheppard’s vocal recital hit a broad spectrum of emotions

BY LIZ LAWRENSEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Abby Leusink Sheppard will perform a senior vocal recital this Sunday, Nov. 8, at 3 p.m. in Christ Chapel. Sheppard studies voice with Emily Lodine, lecturer in music, and has prepared a diverse repertoire.

Sheppard said her songs hit a broad spectrum of emotions. She explained that the audience’s emotional reactions caused by the recital’s pieces range from, “Oh, I’m sad!” to ‘I’m happy’ to ‘Rejoice!’ to ‘I’m going to kill myself’ to ‘Love is cute and beautiful!’

Some of Sheppard’s vocal selections include “O Mio Babbino Caro” by Gicomo Puccini, “Flower Duet” from the opera “Lakme” by Leo Delibes, “Dido’s Lament/When I Am Laid” by Henry Purcell, “Take Care of This House” from “1600 Pennsylvania Avenue” by Lerner & Bernstein, three Schumann pieces and a piece by Argento. Her program will finish with a very humorous piece entitled “Vocal Modesty,” which is very sarcastic and dramatic.

Her favorite piece from the recital is “O Mio Babbino Caro.” Although the piece is quite popular, Sheppard has fallen in love with it in a unique way. She said, “I love the way the melody lines match the pleading of the daughters so perfectly.”

After graduating from Northwestern, Sheppard plans to be either a vocal music teacher or an elementary music teacher. Although she is unsure of which school she will be teaching at, she feels quite sure she and her family will remain in the state of Iowa.

Abby said that she and her husband, Clint, plan to “buy a house and have babies and get on with our lives.”

A bby has a great love for music, which has inspired her to pursue music in a profession and to do such rigorous vocal study. She explained her love of music: “Music can reach parts of your soul that nothing else can reach.”

Sheppard believes music is such a powerful art that she cannot ignore it or allow her gift to go to waste. Her favorite quote about music comes from Victor Hugo: “Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent.”

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