Chapel: Mandatory attendance reaches necessary patrol

BY KATI HENG

Think some chapel services have been especially noisy lately? You’re not the only one.

“The morning that Marit spoke in chapel was the loudest I have ever heard students being,” said freshman Mackenzie Larin. “It was rude and obnoxious.”

Patrick Hummel, the Director of Residence Life agreed. “I had never heard noise like that in chapel before. It sounded like people yelling and talking in a coffeehouse.”

Depending on where they sat, many students were upset after senior Marit Langley’s “I Have a Dream” speech in chapel, but not because of anything in Langley’s speech. Noise from the balcony spread down to the main level, and was so loud that even people in the first few rows had a hard time hearing what Langley was saying.

Langley heard the noise for herself as she was speaking, but did not know if the level was out of the ordinary.

“I honestly didn’t realize the noise was that unusual,” said Langley. However, after she saw people turning around and President Greg Christy looking “like he was going to explode,” Langley wondered what was going on and if she should continue to speak.

“I didn’t know if I should have stopped. I mean, what if there was a fire in the balcony?” said Langley. “It made me a bit nervous. Was it a reaction to me personally?”

The noise was very doubtfully a personal reaction to Langley or her speech. Students first reported noticing too much chatter as senior and SGA member Wes Garcia took the microphone to promote the ConServe energy reduction challenge before Langley ever appeared on stage.

“I thought Marit’s speech was really good,” said sophomore Samantha Benner. “Well, the parts I could hear were, at least. They missed out on some really good things she was saying.”

Langley was disappointed after chapel when several students and professors congratulated her, then asked to read a copy of her speech since they had missed parts of it.

“I put time into writing that speech,” said Langley. She also faced nerves speaking in front of such a large crowd and wondered why she had to go through that if many could not hear her anyway.

“Marit’s speech was definitely worth it,” said Hummel. “She did a great job.” In order to prevent the same type of disturbances the following week, a more obvious “chapel patrol” was present in the balcony. Hummel, along with John Brogan, Dean of Students, sat up top to keep an eye on things.

Hummel, who generally patrols the balcony every once in awhile, thought it felt very “middle-school” to sit up there every day last week.

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When Hummel has sat in the balcony, he said he can “get a good view of the students,” thanks to the design and angle of the seating. He notices more studying and more chatter up there than in other areas of the chapel.

“I refuse to sit up there,” said sophomore Logan Smith. “A lot of the students up there are disrespectful.”

Staff and students still believe that those who choose to sit up there should be able to do so quietly.

“If you disagree with the speaker, you can show some respect and show you value each other,” Monsma said. “You can sit quietly for 25 minutes.”

Most would agree that even having the need for any type of “chapel patrol” is somewhat sad.

“I would hate for Patrick and Brogan to have to be there,” Monsma said. “They’re great people and shouldn’t have to have that job.”

“I don’t think a chapel patrol should be necessary,” said Langley. “It’s half-an-hour. Even I can sit still for that long.”

Hummel does not want his role to become a permanent thing. He hopes more students will stay up top, talk to and call each other up to a higher level of respect for one another.

Chapel: There’s no stopping this brain

BY ANNA HENKE

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Indian cooking

Pinching the mustard seeds from its bag,
The oil.
She throws them into the pan with hot oil...
Sii...zz...zz...ll...e... the seeds jumped with joy,
As they break and fill the kitchen with their aroma.

Opening the cabinet marked with spices,
She reached in and took out the motherboard.
Gently placing it in the pan, it started to fry,
creating an electric sensation around the room.

The electricity slowly moved up
The spatula she held in her hand
Causing her to jump like the groundhog,
Will change, And capture the Biggest range.
Of beings who
Will love and cuddle, This big fluffy bubble.

There he sits, longing,
Those big brown eyes
But, wait! —There she comes.

*BY CHRISTINE ROY*

Springtime comes to the Orange City (finally)

Last week, I felt my toes for the first time in four months. It was a wonderful. Most of us are now waiting in eager expectation for the arrival of spring. Only at Northwestern does Hell, in fact, freeze over. As if that wasn’t bad enough.

In fairness, we should be thankful that we live in northwest Iowa and not somewhere even colder, say the vacuum of space or North Dakota. Plus, huddling together for warmth builds community.

Even so, I’m still anxious for the weather to reach more livable conditions.

Officially, the spring season doesn’t begin until the vernal equinox on March 20 when the Earth’s celestial equator is lined up perfectly with the solar ecliptic. More practically, it starts the moment I can wear shorts without icicles forming on my leg hairs.

Fortunately, spring is just around the corner, for Punxsutawney Phil said so.

Now, forthose of you unfamiliar with Punxsutawney Phil and the Groundhog Day lore surrounding him, allow me to explain. It is a day in which Americans proudly abdicate our meteorological destinies to the prognostications of a large rodent from Pennsylvania. This may not make much sense at first blush, but then again neither pre cognitionally-challenged human things he must tolerate and then gazes at his shadow—if there is one.

That’s the catch: if Phil sees his shadow, he scurries back into his hole, and we’re all doomed to six more weeks of wishing we lived in Fern every time a meal rolls around. If, however, he does not see his shadow, then spring has begun and we can all go back to thanking God that we do not live in Fern.

Fortunately, not only did we escape the infinite time loop of Groundhog Day (if you don’t understand that reference, your movie history is deeply impoverished), but Phil also did not see his shadow, which means an early spring. Break out the T-shirts and discs!

So take heart, Northwestern. Punxsutawney Phil has only been wrong 61 percent of the time, which makes him three times as accurate as the average weather man. We’re almost there!

*BY BRIAN BRANDAU*
A fair warning to caffeine consumers

BY RACHEL PLOCKMEYER

It was not until my sophomore year of college that I experienced the rush of the all-night study session fueled by caffeine. Started studying late the night before a test that was worth 25 percent of my grade. I was petrified.

It seemed only natural to hop myself up with caffeine. Of course, I took my caffeine in its most natural form: coffee. Tea just wasn’t cutting it, and I refused to drink those nasty energy drinks.

What I didn’t realize then was the form of caffeine matters very little to your body. In fact, eight ounces of Red Bull contains nearly the same amount of caffeine as eight ounces of coffee (and that’s just the generic stuff).

The real issue is not necessarily from where the caffeine is coming, but how much we college students are consuming on a daily basis. Even if it is only a one-time thing— for example: consuming lots of coffee for 3-4 days during finals week— drinking this much could cause withdrawal symptoms. That’s right, withdrawal. It’s addictive. One study showed these symptoms occurring only after three days of “abuse.”

What exactly is “abuse”?

According to Mayo Clinic, an “overdose” of caffeine is 500-600 milligram a day, or 4-7 cups of coffee (depending on the brew). Symptoms of withdrawal could include: headaches, irritability, jitters, slowed reflexes, feelings of depression, anxiety, nausea, general malaise, and sleep disturbances.

Harvard School of Public Health also suggests that for some people, suddenly breaking from caffeine can lead to symptoms that could resemble a “stress” or “busyness” response. Most of these could be avoided if we just eat right and got enough sleep instead of trying to compensate with stimulants.

No, I’m not a “stress” junkie, although I was working a construction job that week, which was when that energy drink was having an effect.

So am I a hater of energy drinks? Probably. They taste disgusting and are filled full of lots of things that are, in general, really not that good for you. Coffee and tea are natural and yummy, and yet I have to judge coffee with the same perspective that I would a Rock Star, since both contain that addictive dose of caffeine.

Is coffee “safer” than an energy drink? Probably. They taste disgusting and are filled full of lots of things that are, in general, really not that good for you. Coffee and tea are natural and yummy, and yet I have to judge coffee with the same perspective that I would a Rock Star, since both contain that addictive dose of caffeine.

I never thought I would be excited to see a barren expanse of sandy desert. However, as we approached Oman’s Wahiba Sands, I became giddy when the mountains that characterize the region we live in suddenly broke, and we hit the desert.

Finally, after being in a desert climate for an entire month, I saw my first sand dune.

Our weekend trip was terrifying, yet relaxing. We started out with some good, clean dune bashing. Up and down the dunes, our drivers took us on a roller coaster through the sand.

The drive was not especially long, but it sure was memorable. Our driver climbed out of his seat and used his foot to steer us to the bottom where we could finally take a breath. I imagine it must be fun for a driver to make the tourists scream their throats sore.

Omani Ovations

Of course, we didn’t leave before doing a little sand boarding. The boards were all the way down at the foot of a giant dune. Rascal, Meerkat, and I decided to make a run down the dune for them.

We discussed strategies to keep from falling before beginning this endeavor. I have seen this done in the movies a thousand times. One foot in front of the other, kick the knees to keep from tripping in the loose sand— no big deal.

Well, halfway down, my feet began to slow, and my head began to hurt. I felt the face plant quickly approaching. My glasses were exchanged for the fine, dusty sand.

I pulled myself together and finished the descent, only to start the killer hike back up with my board. Nevertheless, a face full of sand and burning thighs were only small prices to pay for a chance to move our moves.

I felt a special connection with where I was that night. Things seemed to be right. Enjoying the company of friends, sitting under the Omani desert’s peaceful full moon with Arabian music in the background made for a settling experience. It felt right to be in Oman.

When you don’t wake up in the morning feeling like P. Diddy

BY GARY MASON

Before I get started, let me give a little disclaimer. Yes, I understand that there are sometimes mysterious ingredients in energy drinks. Yes, I understand that you should use them with caution. Yes, I understand that the majority of their statements are not approved by the Food and Drug Administration. I’m not blindly advocating for something radical.

But let’s be honest, there are times when we do not wake up in the morning feeling like P. Diddy. Even the most chipper of us have felt groggy due to a poor night of sleep, whether that was our own fault or someone else’s because they accidentally set off the fire alarm. Unless you’re the shameless type that couldn’t care less about falling asleep during class, you’re bound to try to find a quick fix for your predicament.

The most common caffeine fix comes from coffee. If that works for you, I’m proud of you for stepping up and out into the adult world. As for me, coffee only tastes good when added to creamer.

How do you wake yourself up? Without aiming to turn this into an advertisement, let me suggest an energy drink. Energy drinks have a distinct taste, but I actually like the flavor, so it beats coffee in this first test. Secondly, if you think about it, just one can help eliminate drowsiness as well as boost your liveliness.

I was working a construction job and putting in approximately 10-hour days. We were to meet at the shop at 5:30 a.m. each day. Does this not make you tired just thinking about being conscious at that unholy hour? It seriously hampered my ability to think of each summer night as a party. I wasn’t the only one looking forward to the energy I could hold in my hand: almost every one of my co-workers arrived each morning with a can or two of energy drinks.

Another argument in favor of energy drinks is the positive use of these drinks to replace consuming alcohol. Picture this: it’s a Friday night and you’re jacked about getting a tough week out of the way. Instead of hiding in your room watching Jersey Shore, you and your friends want to do something crazy, like go party in Granville. Except you’d like to avoid the alcohol and/or being in Granville. Can I suggest that you and your friends grab some energy drinks and strut your stuff down the aisles of Wal-Mart? It’s unbelievable how fun the clearance aisle will seem when you’re on a caffeine high.

I will admit that I’m not an energy drink junkie. I don’t have my mini-fridge stocked with one for every morning or weekend night, nor would I recommend that you use your own fringe this way. Read all the labels, be smart and make good decisions with the brain God gave you.

Have fun and drink responsibly.
From farming to frosting, Loren Mulder is here to serve you.

BY HOLLY STEWART

The Dutch Bakery in downtown Orange City serves as a social hub for students at all hours of the night. Open at midnight, late-night students grab their homework and head to the Dutch bakery for their free Wi-Fi and daily specials. Owner Loren Mulder enjoys the visits from the college kids. "It's really my only social life," he said.

Mulder has owned and operated the Dutch Bakery since he purchased it in September 2009. He had no prior commercial baking experience when he bought it, but was ready and willing to learn. "I worked with the owner for a few weeks at night to see if I liked it," Mulder stated. Mulder enjoyed his work and decided to buy the bakery and make it a family business. Part of this decision was fueled by a farm accident he had that broke his neck and rendered him unable to do some of the work demanded of dairy farmers.

Although the farm is still up and running, Mulder spends his time running the bakery. Mulder’s wife, Kathy, who has multiple degrees in areas dealing with finance, runs the books and all of the financial parts of the bakery. Loren does the cooking along with a long-time employee, Andy, who, Mulder joked, has the "three 'F jobs:' frying, frosting and filling." A few other employees work during the day, selling the baked goods to both college students and Orange City regulars.

Ownership and operating the Dutch Bakery has not been an easy task. As soon as the building was bought it had to be remodeled. "The previous owner was under the grandfather clause, but as soon as we bought it we had to make major changes, such as putting in a bathroom, a new stainless steel sink and recovering the hardwood floors." Mulder said.

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Cont'd on pg.5

How to: be a successful people-watcher

1. Decide the parameters of your people-watching. It doesn’t have to be creeper-ish. People-watching can help pass the time when you’re alone or with a group of people that don’t interest you as much. It can be informative, restore a sense of wonder or inspire you.

2. Practice naturalistic observation - not intrusive nosiness. To be a successful people-watcher, you can’t be noticed. Allow the person or people you are watching to go about their activities without feeling watched. The moment you become noticed, you’ve become a creeper.

3. Remain unobtrusive. In order to do this, you need to appear occupied. Have a book or laptop propped open or sip slowly on a cappuccino or other socially-approved caffeinated drink. If you are people-watching outside, means for planning conversation or as its own source of entertainment. People in the caf do strange and entertaining things.

4. Watch with good intent. People-watching is an art that can be used to better yourself. Don’t watch to judge your subject; instead, take note of what you can learn from them.

5. Know how to react if the observed observes back. The last thing you want to do is reveal yourself if you’ve been caught. If this does happen, however, it may be best to own up to your stares. Smile, shrug and look away.

With tips from Nathan Mastbergen

PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

After stopping by the soft-serve ice cream machine, sophomore Nathan Mastbergen took a walk around the cafeteria, pausing only briefly to have a short chat with sophomore Lindsey Geels.

Buy a large or medium pizza
Add a 2 liter and a family order of breadsticks for only
$5

Order on the web! www.pizzahat.com

Orange City, IA 712-737-3630
Features

I never was a coffee snob, but now I’m really spoiled.

By Emily Gowing
Features Editor

Community. Conversation. Inspiration.

The vision behind the Old Factory Coffee Shop was to provide students with a place to relax and study, to develop relationships and to enjoy good coffee. In the nine months that it's been open, owner Richard Sowienski sees how that vision has changed – but changed for the better.

Richard and his wife, Rola, moved to Orange City in the summer of 2009. Like so many other lovers of coffee, they'd always thought it would be fun to own a coffee shop, but the thought never progressed further than that.

As they began looking for housing, they noticed the Old Factory was up for sale. "It was a really cool building," Richard said. "We thought about converting the upstairs for our living space and using the downstairs for a coffee shop." He soon came to find out that keeping it simple was beyond the realm of possibility. "There is no simple. If you try to run a simple business, you're not going to have a business."

So, when the Sowienskis made the decision to purchase the Old Factory, they knew they were taking on a massive project. Just how massive it was, however, was something they'd learn in the process. "I love what we have," Richard said, "but it's been a bigger strain and bigger drain of resources than we expected."

"Every day when I make myself a cup of coffee, I take a sip and say, 'Oh, that's so good.'"

When and if he slept, he did it next day," Mulder admitted. Last year during the Tulip Festival, Mulder did not go home once. The Dutch Bakery produces on average 400-550 doughnuts on a regular weekday and 850-950 doughnuts on a Saturday. This does not include cookies and other treats that the bakery has to offer. Doughnuts are by far the most popular item that the bakery serves, with cream-filled, chocolate-covered long johns ranking as most popular. They also offer turnovers, cookies and a plethora of other goodies. It is open every day of the week except Sunday and welcomes college students to come in and grab a bite to eat and get some homework done in a relaxing environment.

Pastries have become his passion

It was during that time, however, that community members began frequenting the coffee shop each morning for conversation or evening for group Bible studies. "People come in who don't know each other and they get to talking; you see things happening and people clicking and connections being made." To Richard, connections like that capture what he envisioned from the start – even if it is with a different generation than he'd expected.

Because the Old Factory's pour-over option (the way the coffee is brewed) takes longer than most other coffee shops, Richard has enjoyed using that extra time to get to know his customers on a more personal level. "I start asking questions and get to meet people I never would have met. It's a wonderful experience to develop these relationships with people and share in their personal story."

Though he was initially afraid that no one else in Orange City would like coffee the way he likes it – strong and full-bodied – it's through his love and passion for quality coffee that Richard has found his place in the community. "I overheard three different people last week say, 'This is the best coffee I've ever had.' I just love that people appreciate the quality of drink we offer. It's gratifying to have a quality product and have people recognize it."

Cont'd from pg.4

all the walls," explained Mulder. Remodeling the storefront was one of the biggest and most noticeable changes. "We wanted to make it more welcoming," Mulder said. Many students and local residents who remember the bakery before the Mulders owned it would agree with the fact that the bakery is now a lot more welcoming and visually pleasing.

Starting the business was not the only hard part of running the bakery. Mulder has to put in ridiculous hours in order to meet the demand of the bakery. "The other day I came in at 9 p.m. and did not go home until 5 p.m. the next day," Mulder admitted. Last year during the Tulip Festival, Mulder did not go home once. When and if he slept, he did it right there in the bakery, and then got up and kept baking.

"It's whatever the job takes," he said.

Loren and Kathy Mulder's daughter, Marji, is a senior at Northwestern.

"He just doesn't need the sleep, I guess," she said of her dad's few hours of rest. Loren and his family understand how hard it is to make a goal and a dream come true, but it is something that they seek to attain anyway, despite all of the hardships.

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What’s the deal with that extra day?

BY ALYSSA CURRIER CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Orange City youth pastor Rob Vande Lune was hired at Trinity Reformed Church when he was just six years old.

Sort of.

Born on Feb. 29, Vande Lune is one in a million – or more like one in four million. Four million global citizens can celebrate their actual birthdays only once every four years. So what’s the deal with the leap year?

What is known as a “common year” has 365 days – a leap year has 366 days with the extra, or intercalary, day designated as Feb. 29. A leap year occurs every four years to help synchronize the calendar year with the solar year, or the length of time it takes the earth to complete its orbit about the sun, which is about 365 ¼ days.

The length of the solar year, however, is slightly less than 365 ¼ days – by about 11 minutes. To compensate for this discrepancy, the leap year is omitted three times every four hundred years.

Instead of observing an extremely short Dec. 32 every four years, an extra day is added to the calendar every four years. Without this practice, we’d be about 11 minutes. To compensate for the difference between the solar year, which is about 365 ¼ days, and the calendar year, or the length of time it takes the earth to complete its orbit about the sun, which is about 365 ¼ days.

The length of the solar year, however, is slightly less than 365 ¼ days – by about 11 minutes. To compensate for this discrepancy, the leap year is omitted three times every four hundred years.

For people like Vande Lune who are born on Feb. 29, there are a few birthday issues to work out. “When my wife and I had just started dating, she waited until March first to tell me happy birthday and I told her she’d missed it,” Vande Lune joked.

He described his experience growing up with this unique birthday as “always kind of fun,” and recalled sharing the date with his kindergarten teacher. “It’s always interesting to meet other people with leapyearbirthdays.”

Vande Lune’s favorite birthday was when he turned 16. “It was actually a leap year that year so that was a big deal. Some of my friends teased me that I shouldn’t be allowed to get my driver’s license until I’m 16 in leap years, which would make me 64.”

Driver’s license and other legal documents can cause problems for those born on Feb. 29. According to Time and Date.com, people have to wait months to receive their licenses due to computer glitches caused by the unrecognized date.

In other cases, leap year drivers have their perks because extended licenses don’t expire in non-leap years. Most states have legal guidelines for dealing with the driving age, drinking age, and marriage eligibility of those born on Feb. 29.

Most years that can be divided evenly by four are leap years but century years are not leap years unless they can be evenly divided by 400. Thus 1700, 1800, and 1900 were not leap years, but 1600, 2000, and 2400 are leap years.

Next week we’ll jump directly from Feb. 28 to March 1 but Vande Lune and the four million other leap day babies will get to celebrate their birthdays in a short 365 days from now.

‘By the grace of God...’

Cont’d from pg.1 memory. By choosing to damage Devon’s short-term memory, Dr. Asforia was able to preserve Devon’s long-term memory and save the artistic programming of his brain. This operation was more difficult and certainly more dangerous, but it enabled Devon to retain his childhood memories and his knowledge of music and poetry.

“By the grace of God, Dr. Asforia was a classical guitarist so he operated in a way that would not damage my ability to play guitar,” Devon said.

Devon’s memory is hazy when it comes to his time in the hospital, but his recovery is remarkable. His doctors predicted that he would be hospitalized until March after such a surgery. After intensive rehab, however, he has learned to cope with his memory loss and has managed to return to college in a matter of months.

Devon described his regained memories as being “triggered.” For example, he knew that he played the guitar, but had no memories of doing so. The memories did not come back to him until he was holding a guitar again.

One day he was watching the rain and it triggered memories of the floor, where he read the post-it note he had placed there to remind him that they were at a basketball game. “You have to create a system for yourself. Leave notes in the first place you’ll see.”

The thing that is problematic with short-term memory loss is that you can’t retain new things you’ve learned. Devon has to take extra measures to document his life now. He described it as strange “because it became a game of keeping good notes.” He keeps a detailed account of those to whom he talks and what he does so that he can look back at it later.

One of the most interesting parts of hearing Devon talk about his experience is what he does remember. At the hospital, he started associating people’s names with their favorite foods and, because of that, he remembers the names of the people who helped him and even how many children they had.

Devon believes that working in hospice care this past summer really helped prepare him for this experience. Watching people “actively dying” gave him courage and strength when he faced the prospect himself. “I thought I was going to die. I even wanted to, the
There's something about that kid

BY LISA WALTERS

It was almost three years ago. I made a trip to Stratford, Canada for a Shakespeare festival, like any other normal high school senior would do. I was just about to enter the theater to see a showing of “The Taming of The Shrew” when I heard a voice for which I had to stop.

There, right in front of me, was a boy playing his guitar for a small crowd of about 15 people. It was a good thing I made it to the theater early, because I found myself listening for a good amount of time. After about five minutes, a lady behind me whispered, “You should ask him to play ‘I’ll Be.’” So what did I do? Of course I asked him to play it. He smiled, and obediently played the song, wonderfully I might add. After finishing he added, “By the way, that is my mom behind you.”

I turned around to her and immediately complimented her on her son’s musical ability. She humbly thanked me, smiled and casually added, “Yeah, he just signed with Usher. We are moving down to Atlanta next week.”

I recorded a few videos, made some small talk and asked if I could take a picture with him, then made my way into the theater.

Three years later, Justin Bieber no longer finds himself playing in front of theaters but rather inside them. Of course, this could be seen as a plus, design-wise it’s a bit of a turn-off for some customers. Habitue primarily sells coffee drinks and varieties of crepes (hence the label), but they also sell soups, salads, sandwiches, desserts and pastries. I ordered the Raspberry Jalapeno Turkey Crepe with a side of kettle chips and a medium blend coffee. I wasn’t sure what to expect, but what I experienced in that meal was magnificent.

The crepe was filled with turkey, colby jack cheese, raspberry cream cheese, red onions; it was topped with green onions, shredded colby jack and a raspberry jalapeno jelly. The seemingly opposing senses of spicy jalapeno and sweet raspberry were actually quite complementary.

Each successive bite was a surprise, and the kettle chips went nicely with the entire thing. I didn’t try any of their specialty coffees; their medium roast was on par with that served at other high-quality coffee shops nearby.

The shop is open on Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. These hours aren’t ideal, especially when one of its competitors, the Fruited Plain in Sioux Center, boasts 11 p.m. and midnight closings.

Overall, I’d give Habitue a B for atmosphere and A for quality of food. The ingredients used are fresh, the dishes are cooked well and the menu is inventive.

Habitue is a place that could easily be found in Sioux City or Omaha, but all it takes to get there is a short drive on Highway 60. It’s a treat in our own backyard.
Beauty has never sounded so angry, so wonderful

BY ANDREW LOVGREN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Acknowledging my own brokenness has never been so encouraging and melodic.

With their third album, "Until We Have Faces," "Red" has added to the success of their previous albums with an even strong journey into the mixture of ballads and hard rock.

For those of you who have never heard of "Red," you are missing out on one of the best modern bands Christian rock has to offer. Their 2006 debut album "The End of Silence" came out of nowhere to become one of the best albums that the Christian music scene had to offer that year. "Already Over" and "Break Me Down" used powerful chords and even more powerful lyrics to capture and inspire a generation.

This connection is what makes the new album even a step above their successful debut five years ago. Even as someone who shies away from the harder music scene, I'd rather have someone singing understandably than screaming what I assume to be English, the beauty and power intertwined within the album's tracks are tearful and inspiring.

The best ballad on the track, "Let It Burn," says "I watch the city burn / These dreams like ashes float away / Your voice I never heard/Only silence." The haunting vocals match poignantly with the despondency of the lyrics, questioning just how long the pain can last before it all "burns down." The inspiration beyond this comes through as the title is repeated to the ended, reminding listeners to let go of those things that perhaps have been causing pain before.

Later in the album, "Not Alone" tells everyone just that. The beautiful vocals cry out time and time again that "I am with you / I will carry you through it all / I won't leave you/I will catch you."

Meanwhile, the strongest rock song on the album, "Faceless," makes me stare into myself, view my own inadequacies in ways that tear down and build up at the same instance. The lyrics, "I'm not myself/Feel like I'm someone else / Fallen and faceless/So hollow, hollow inside," call for an infusion of Christ into an otherwise bleak existence, the to the point where the song can at times create a more sobering attitude.

Yet, the band offers hope from track to track, inspiring the integration of Christ to add life to all facets of daily living.

The ability "Red" has to meld such seemingly depressing lyrics into an album of encouraging, challenging and quality music makes them one of the top Christian rock bands out there. As much as I enjoyed the music of "Audio Adrenaline" and "DC Talk" in my younger days, my tastes have ventured elsewhere in search of better pastures since realizing my music palate was lacking.

"Until We Have Faces" has added a bit of faith for the ability for bands to meld the Christian ethics with strong music. Last year, a glorious new CD for an infusion of Christ into an otherwise bleak existence, the to the point that this third album is better than their debut effort. It may perhaps not even be as good as their sophomore attempt, "Innocence & Instinct."

Yet, "Until We Have Faces" gives at least one reason for listeners to stick with Christian music and is a must own for those of us who don’t listen to 96.5.

Piercings transcend social stereotypes and expectations

BY GRETA FLOODING
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I would say that part of this trend started with the punk scene. Image was everything and all you needed to start a band was the knowledge of three or four chords. (I'm not knocking it, it's just true. I took a class.) Safety pin sales at the time probably went through the roof. Piercings were a shock factor. It was the new way to publicly announce that one didn’t care.

This and other influences have been picked up and then trickled through a filter of social media and fashion magazines resulting in a cultural phenomenon that has touched even the population of Northwestern College.

We have all seen piercings done terrible and thought things like, “Mother of all that is holy—what terrible things were you thinking?” So how does one go about it in the right way? Getting expert advice on this subject was a bit difficult since Internet research only revealed opinions such as, “They’re hot,” or “That’s the nastiest idea ever.” To try to make sense of it, I’m going with an analogy.

Decorating your face is an art form, so the question you have to ask yourself is: Do you want to resemble a Rembrandt or the works of Thomas Kinkade?"

"The jewelry you get will help with this. There are many different colors/shapes/whatever that you can choose. Figure out your skin tone and go with something that contrasts nicely. For instance, if you have "cooler" tones in your skin and hair, gold probably wouldn’t be the best. Your face is a palet of colors, so choose a color that is within the palette or one that will complement. Celebrating the symmetry of your face is a bit more difficult but can be done beautifully. Example: Audi (Sarah) Kuiken. Audi previously worked in the costume shop and was known for her freakishly awesome outfits. I’m talking capes and metallics and high-top and self-tailored dresses.

The first time I saw Sarah, I noticed that she had a line drawn down the middle of her chin. (I don’t know if it was a tattoo or just eyeliner). Regardless, she had purposefully played with the symmetry of her face and the added balance was lovely. Keep that in mind if you decide to do a symmetrical piercing.

What are you trying to say with your accessory? Is it a rebellious statement? Are you reaching out to your punk predecessors? What image are you going for? Do you still want respect? Then maybe don’t get that large, pink blinging stud or something that looks like you got it from the clearance section of Walmart. Although, if your point is to shock and freak people out, then do whatever you want, and more power to you.

Campus Quotes

"Why are you not turned on?"
- Senior Brian Brandau, after speaking sentences in German.

"I have a huge crush on the news. If the news was a woman, I’d make a pass."
- Professor of English Weston Cutter in News Editing class.

"I feel like parading around in my underwear and singing, ‘I have issues.’"
- Hollyann Elton, on being a senior this year.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to beacon@nwciowa.edu.
Tunic wearing hero is still adventure king 25 years later

BY ANDREW LOVGREN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Back before the days of in-car DVD players and MP3 players, my state-of-the-art Game Boy Color and Sony CD player were my best two companions on long car trips.

My love of reading did not carry over well into a vehicle moving through the winding hills of Missouri. What I did have, until that blasted red eye next to the screen lit up, was the company of Link. While earlier my obsession with Pokémon had taken over on any given road trip, the bulk of my memories, both joys and frustrations, come from “Zelda: Oracle of Seasons.”

The hours I spent in the Kingdom of Hyrule were absolutely not limited to that one game, as my school work and chores fell in priority to a new adventure time and time again. For 25 years, this past Monday, Link has been a part of the fabric of every game I have played, adding flair through Rewardless conversations that other games find unneeded.

It’s a fortunate event that I loved the characters because otherwise every aching headache brought on by the endless number of rooms (i.e. Water Temple). Each area in each game takes thought and planning that modern games lay at your feet with a ribbon on top. Without the aid of any number of online walkthroughs, such a game is far more substantive and fulfilling, not to mention fun, when compared to a game where you run down a straight line.

This challenging, fun-loving style of play is what has allowed the franchise to interest each new age of gamers. Even some that are called “failures” (“Zelda II: The Adventure of Link” for one) are loved by young and old as a unique installations. The style of play and intricacy of subject matter transcends trends while implementing modern gaming where possible. Think “Call of Duty” will be played in 20 years?

Unlike most of the mass market games, none of the Zelda games have a complex leveling system or quests with remarkable rewards. In fact, you may open a treasure chest and find 20 rupees that you can’t even hold. As any Zelda fan will know, that level 30 sword with super advanced lightning power isn’t nearly as important when compared to the priceless find of an empty bottle.

With such a strong focus on intuition and thumb-dexterity, Zelda games have added stress to my life that has been unquantified by any other video game. Each and every time, I have still found the desire to complete each task set before me, amid the near controller-throwing levels of confusion.

Despite the frustrating aspects, Zelda is the third largest game seller with 59 million total copies sold, behind only Mario himself and Pokémon. That’s twice what the “Halo” franchise has sold in an era where gaming has grown significantly. Even as Nintendo’s Wii begins to show slower sales next to the graphic kings of Microsoft and Sony, Zelda shows no signs of slowing down.

With the new release of the Nintendo 3DS, a glasses-free 3D version of their handheld system, the gaming giant announced the coming release of “Ocarina of Time 3D.” Also, a much anticipated chapter for the Wii, “Skypard Sword,” is set to be released sometime in 2011 and will use the WiiMotionPlus system to create a new, yet hopefully familiar, Zelda experience.

If you don’t own a Nintendo, my condolences for your loss. No, I’m not one of those Wii-loving, strong graphics haters, in fact, there are many modern games that I wish my visually wimpy system could handle. Exclusive titles are what have made Nintendo the king of gaming and the reason old systems are sought after constantly by gamers and why I still own an N64.

I’m not saying my childhood was better than yours, but, at the least, my long family car trips were probably more fun.

New film offers little when compared to actor’s past sucess

BY ANDREW LOVGREN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When a freak accident in Berlin puts a man in a come for four days, he remembers only who he is and why he’s there. No one else does. Not even the audience. And maybe why he’s there. No one else does.

As an ill man who watches you break jars, who manages to get off the road, if it were the twist of the plot, more than several odd personality shifts that contributed nothing to the rest of the film is mind-boggling.

Despite the brilliant intimidation of Liam Neeson, “Unknown” becomes more of a “Star Wars Episode 1” than a “Taken.”

His carried over confidence and depth from Taken adds a spark of life and intrigue that lacked in the confusing premise of the film.

Supporting actress Diane Kruger (Inglorious Bitchards, National Treasure) shows the diversity of her voice palate with a Russian accent in her connecting role as the leading lady. Bruno Ganz, who starred as Hitler in 2004’s Downfall, plays a minor, but convincing role as an investigative reporter.

One entertaining trick that can turn an non-sensical plot into a hollywood great is an attention to detail. This can be done with subtle camera angle changes, bits of dialogue that gain meaning later or through any number of minute aspects to the film’s environment.

Check Out

Book: Alison Pearson’s “I Think I Love You”

What big name do you see yourself with? Jude Law? Natalie Portman? Here’s a Hornby-esque novel about our romantic draw to celebs.

TV: The Oscars

Hosted by should be a good pair in James Franco and Anne Hathaway, the 83rd version of The Oscars airs this Sunday on ABC, 7 PM.

Blog: “The Sartorialist”

This fashion blog might be a far cry from Orange county style. But this street photographer has a good eye for color, textures, and his subjects.
Hurley, Raiders explode in top-ranked match-up

MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

The No. 2 Northwestern Lady Raiders (27-1, 18-0) provided perhaps their most impressive blowout of the year after overpowering No. 4 Sioux Falls (24-4, 14-4) 109-64 Saturday night. After NW scored 67 points in the first half, it was all smooth sailing for the win and a fitting result for three seniors on the squad: Becca Hurley, Allison Hulst and Kristen Neth.

The first eight minutes of the contest seemed to suggest a grudge match would ensue between the two nationally respected programs. Up only 17-15, the Raiders put on a run to increase their lead to 28-15, and from that point on, NW put on a clinic for the home court fans. Hurley put in 27 of her 32 points in the first half. NW played incredibly unselfish basketball and ran the fast-break very effectively, which lead to easy lay-ups all around. Excellent ball movement opened up the three-point line for the Raider shooters. They shot 67 percent from the field and a gaudy 79 percent from behind the arc. The score going into the half was more of the same, even though the Raiders took off their press and slowed down their offensive tempo. Every one of the Lady Raiders got at least six minutes of playing time, and the final buzzer ran to a large ovation for the 109-64 win.

The statistics on the game were staggering. NW shot 57 percent on the game, 68 from downtown. The team dished out 27 assists, ripped down 43 rebounds, and totaled 13 steals. On the other hand, USF shot 34 and 26 percent, respectively. They were also forced into 26 turnovers and could only mustered 32 rebounds.

Hurley had a game to remember, collecting 32 points, eight boards, six assists and three assists in only 18 minutes of play. Sophomore Kendra De Jong dropped 17 points of her own and also collected eight boards. Junior Kami Kuhlmann scored 12 points in 13 minutes of action. Sophomore Mel Babcock blocked two shots and Hulst handed out four key assists.

Raiders deliver at Conference Championships

NATALIA FERNANDO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Senior Charity Miles and freshman Dawn Gildersleeve led the Raider track and field teams with individual championships and records at the GPAC Indoor Championships held last Saturday in Lincoln, Neb. Miles won two individual championships and set meet records in both her events, while Gildersleeve set a school record and won an individual championship. Out of 12 teams, the Lady Raiders finished in sixth place totaling 52 points. The men placed seventh of 12 teams with 37 points.

In the 3000-meter, Miles finished first and set the new meet and school record with a time of 10:23.42. Miles also later won the 5000-meter race, setting the school and meet record with a time of 17:23.02.

With less than a one second margin against Breanna Mathes of Morningside College, Gildersleeve captured the GPAC Championship in the 1000-meter, setting a school record of 2:57.87. In the 60-meter, freshman Aubrey Lindgren set the school record with a time 8.2 seconds and a 14th-place finish. Among the other women, the Raiders had 7 other top finishes.

For the men, sprinter sophomore Brandon Hammad and freshman Jeriah Dunk took the lead for the men’s team with a pair of all-conference performances. Hammad finished sixth in the 200-meter with a time of 22.32 seconds and also placed seventh in the 60-meter with a time of 7.03 seconds. Dunk set school records and placed in both events, finishing fourth in the 60-meter (6.93 seconds) and fifth in the 200-meter (22.29 seconds). Freshman Kyle Heidebrink also placed eighth, totaling 4,016 points. Other top men’s finishers who earned all-conference honors were freshman Austin King (600-meter) and junior Mark Mineart (high jump) and the 4x400 team (Hammack, King, Dunk and Heidebrink).

The NAIA Indoor National Championships are to be held Thursday, March 3 in Geneva, Ohio. Qualifying for this meet are Miles, Gildersleeve, Hess, Huseman and Murra, along with junior Dani Fry, senior Kara Den Herder and junior Stacey Dietrich.

Tennis women start play again

MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern women’s tennis team will get back into action as they travel to Minn. to face off against non-conference opponents. They will compete against Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato on Friday, and Northwestern in Minneapolis on Saturday.

The Lady Raiders last played in September, and these will be their only matches before the heart of their season starts in April.

The wide-age range roster consists of freshmen Rachel Nysetveld, Missy Yorchak, sophomore 2010 All-GPAC Honorable Mention kellie Korver, junior Julie Mineart, and seniors Laura Starr, Nessa Summers and Kate Mannenbach.

The ladies are coached by Jeff Guthmiller, who has been at the head coaching position since 2009, when NW restarted its program after not offering the sport following the 2002 season. Guthmiller coached the team from 2000-2002.

In 2001 and 2002, Guthmiller’s squads finished second in the GPAC and reached the regional qualifier both years.

The program received more good news throughout the month of February when Kisa Benzel (San Dimas, Calif.) and Hannah Stark (New Ulm, Minn.) signed letters of intent to compete for the Raiders next year, providing more depth to an already fast-improving roster.

Scoreboard

Baseball
Feb. 17 @ Doane - L 17-9
Coming Up
Feb. 27 & 28 @ Joplin, Mo.
March 7-12 @ Tuscon, Ariz.

Men’s Basketball
Feb. 19 vs. Sioux Falls - L 75-71
Feb. 24 vs. M. Marty - W 93-70

Coming Up
Feb. 26 vs. Briar Cliff at 2 p.m.
March 1 vs. TBD
March 7-12 NAIA Tourney

Women’s Basketball
Feb. 19 vs. Sioux Falls - W 109-64
Feb. 24 vs. Concordia - W 72-66

Coming Up
Feb. 26 vs. Dordt at 4 p.m.
March 1 vs. TBD
March 7-12 NAIA Tourney

Wrestling
Feb. 19 @ North Qualifier

Coming Up
March 3 @ NAIA Nationals

Track & Field
Feb. 18-19 GPAC Indoor

Coming Up
March 3 @ NAIA Nationals
Evjen, Flores battle to qualifier wins

NATASHA FERNANDO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Senior Luke Evjen and sophomore Jerod Flores both won their respective weight classes at the NAIA Northern Qualifier held in Orange City last Saturday. Flores was the No. 1 seed at 149 pounds, while Evjen was the No. 2 seed at 184 pounds. Both wrestlers also won the GPAC Championships earlier this month.

The host team fought hard enough to capture fifth place out of the 10 teams competing. They posted a score of 76 on the day, which was the third best showing by a GPAC school at the qualifier. Next up for Raider wrestling will be the NAIA Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on March 3.

Men drop regular season finale, but win first round

MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

No. 10 Northwestern couldn’t overcome poor shooting in the second half, and dropped their last regular season game to No. 20 Sioux Falls, 71-75 Saturday night. Though the Raiders had clinched the GPAC Championship after their win over Morningside on Feb. 9, the men were hoping to send seniors Ryan Hoogeveen, Brent Dunkelberger and manager Andrew Ulbarri out with a win on Senior Night.

This USF squad looked very different from the two teams’ first meeting, with their top two scorers suspended three weeks earlier. It looked as though the Cougars couldn’t find a way to replace them as the Raiders took control of the contest early and held a 12-point lead with seven minutes to go in the first half. The advantage was 38-28 in favor of NW at half.

“We did a very good job in that first half moving the basketball and being unselfish,” said Raiders head coach Kris Korver. “We moved the ball, made extra passes and got some easy baskets and rhythm shots.”

Coming out of the locker room, the Raiders could not match the Cougars shooting, managing only 29 percent from the floor, compared to 60 percent from USF. The Cougars shot 52 percent on the game and NW only put in 41 percent of their attempts. The Raiders had opportunities, but could not capitalize to regain the lead after USF took it 66-65 with 3:21 left in the game. A variety of players contributed to the USF scoreboard, with four starters putting up double figures.

“No Sioux Falls came out of the gate in that second half, made a couple of shots, gained some confidence and played with a really high level of energy,” Korver said. “We did not make them match our energy, and we became impatient and settled on the offensive end.”

Sophomores Daniel Van Kalsbeek and Ben Miller tied for the lead in Raider scoring, by dropping 15 points each. Junior Walker Seim added 13 points. The 37-33 advantage that NW held on the boards was largely thanks to the nine and seven rebounds that Van Kalsbeek and sophomore Stu Goslinga pulled down, respectively.

The Thursday night game between Mt. Marty and NW was a much more pleasing outcome as the Raiders ran away with their GPAC first round game with a score of 93-70.

The Raiders did not trail throughout the entire contest, and were started off by Seim hitting three of seven three pointers to take a 9-0 lead. The scoring then spread around as the Raiders went 46 percent from downtown to take a 38-29 lead into the half.

The second half saw the Lancers make a run at the NW lead, but the defense and rebounding in the paint by the Raider post players held the counter-attack off. The big lead provided by the starting lineup allowed every player in a Raider uniform to get at least four minutes of playing time.

Van Kalsbeek and Hoogeveen scored 15 points apiece, while Miller and Seim added 13 points each. Junior Ryan Stock came off the bench of playing time.

Throughout the first half, both teams did not do enough to secure momentum or control, and the contest was a NW 34-28 lead at half.

It was Concordia who came out of the locker room playing better, and slowly fought to dig into the Raider lead provided by the starting lineup and 18 turnovers when they take on Briar Cliff at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Lady Raiders win first tourney game

MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

Thursday night’s match-up against Concordia was not the offensive explosion that many were expecting, but the Lady Raiders still picked up a 72-66 victory to advance one win closer to the GPAC postseason crown. Northwestern relied heavily on their two leading scorers, senior Becca Hurley and sophomore Kendra De Jong.

The game was a constant battle as the Bulldogs tried to extend their post-season against the Raiders. Throughout the first half, both teams did not do enough to secure momentum or control, and the contest was a NW 34-28 lead at half.

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Baseball falls in first spring game

TOM WESTERHOLM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I recently witnessed Blake Griffin for the first time, and afterward I was feeling mildly heretical.

I watched the Clippers play the Timberwolves, and I went in expecting to witness inhuman acts. I had never seen before. Having watched the majority of his games on League Pass, I had heard all the comparisons, a combination of Malone, Kemp and Barkley.

I was sincerely let down afterward. Blake was clearly a young player. He seemed much too interested in dunks. On too many possessions, he pointed to the rim, asking for an alley oop. On offense, he seemed disinterested in running around setting screens, doing the things that post players do. His defense seemed suspect. He complained to the refs. A lot. When players do this, I get ulcers.

But the more I thought about the actual game, the more I was impressed. Griffin demanded the team’s best defender at all times while he was on the court. Not just any defender, but a post defender, usually 7’2” Darko Milicic, a big guy who is supposed to be tying up the lane from wing slashers. Griffin punished him by downsizing jumper after jumper, shooting a very solid 12-20 from the field. Admittedly: 4 of those shots were thunderous dunks, but he proved clearly that defenders should respect his jumps as much as his post game. Griffin also demonstrated excellent court awareness for a big man, consistently making the right pass. He wound up with five assists and eight rebounds to match his 29 points.

The Clippers are a good young team, whose record is not indicative of their talent level. They clearly enjoy playing together. They won the game and getting lots of national TV coverage next year, thanks almost entirely to the Blake Show.
Unattainable Beauty
Bieber’s haircut brings tabloid sparks, but a hot Newsweek article has been blowing up the web. According to roughly 1,000 adults surveyed by Newsweek Magazine, “Americans widely regard a person’s looks as playing an important role in their ability to get ahead in the workplace.” Now defined as “lookism” — discrimination towards someone based on their physical appearance — Newsweek cited that nearly 63 percent of adults believe that looking good positively affects your success in the workplace.

Nothing but Fear
Famed Canadian inventor Raymond Li has completed a 10-year project to make the world’s most extreme water recreation toy. A new water-powered jetpack. Using a backpack-like harness, the pack uses an engine to suck up water from the lake below, creating 500 pounds of thrust that propels the individual skyward. The jetpack — aptly named the “Jetlev” — is for anyone tired of the constraints of gravity.

Brain Takes Beating
This past week, National Institute of Health researchers have found that 50 minutes of cell phone usage produces enough radiation to change the brain activity in the cells nearest the phone. And while it’s still not clear whether cell phone radiation directly correlates to cases of increased risk for brain cancer, the researchers urged that the 7 percent increase in “brain metabolism” is the region closest to the cell phone antenna does pose a serious health concern.

Do You Game?
It’s official: computer games are good for you. The company that produces your favorite computer games “Bejeweled” and “Peggle” has the results of recently commissioned research on the benefits of computer games. The findings, casual gamers may notice, can reduce the symptoms of anxiety and depression.

Gobble Guru
BY KATE WALLIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

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