Vehicle ignites, melts in Hell

BY TYLER LEHMANN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Smoke billowed in the sky as a roaring blaze swallowed sophomore Jordan Vermeer’s car before his very eyes on Saturday, April 30, in the parking lot known to Northwestern College students as “Hell.”

“Huge flames and black smoke were coming out of Hell,” NW senior Blake Norris said, who witnessed the inferno with Vermeer. “There were spinning plumes.”

When smoke first rose from under Vermeer’s hood as he revved his engine to jumpstart Norris’s car, he was unalarmed, thinking the smoke was exhaust. “His car had something disconnected in the exhaust system, and sometimes exhaust came out the hood. So when he first saw smoke coming out the front of his car, it wasn’t a big deal,” Norris said.

When Vermeer opened his hood, the small fire in his engine took him by surprise. After making a joke, Vermeer realized he didn’t know how to extinguish the flame.

“There was this moment when we looked at each other and looked at the fire. We didn’t know what to do, but there was this sense of urgency,” he said.

Norris tried to smother the flames with a winter coat taken from his car, and Vermeer got a fire extinguisher at a nearby house. Neither attempt to stifle the fire succeeded.

“Af

Norris retrieved valuables inside his car and backed away with Norris, then called the police.

“First we stood about 20 feet away; then we backed up another 20 feet, and then another 20 feet,” Vermeer said. “The fire was getting bigger and bigger and bigger.”

Across Orange City, volunteer firefighters such as NW English professor Nancy Ann Lundberg received an alert on their pagers and rushed to the fire station. Aboard a fire engine, firefighters coordinated their plan of action and put on their full gear, procedures they usually wait to perform until their arrival so they can assess the situation. For vehicle fires, however, they complete all preparations en route because burning cars must be extinguished as quickly as possible.

“Cars burn really, really fast and really, really hot,” Lundberg said. “We needed to get water on it quickly.”

Police arrived within five minutes of Vermeer’s call, and firefighters arrived shortly after.

Students to bike ‘Siouxperman’ style

BY KATE WALLIN

As most Northwestern student-athletes are winding down for the season, others at NW are gearing up for their most daring feat of athletic prowess yet.

Seven NW students, including Janelle and Felipe Silva, are in the midst of training for this Saturday’s fifth annual Siouxperman Triathlon in Sioux Center. The idea, according to the online Siouxperman community, which began as a self-described “dream conceived at a lunch table in a local Mexican restaurant during the summer of 2006” has become a reality, boasting more than 300 participants annually.

Senior Janelle Silva got involved this year for the first time. “I wanted to do it because two other girls in the social work program are interning for The Bridge, and they asked me to be on their team. Sometimes the money goes to The Bridge, so I thought I’d give it a try. I thought it'd help me get into shape and maybe appreciate biking more.”

As an effort to raise funds for community organizations like The Bridge, the triathlon is a gathering of dedicated community members and passionate athletes. Their aim is simple: promote community, wellness and organization, and serve the community well.

Another aspect that appealed to Janelle was the team mentality of the race. “I have never done anything like this before, but it’s fun if you can do it as a team,” she said. “I’m doing the biking portion. The other girls are swimming and running. The team aspect is fun; we have a team name and T-shirts. It’s fun to do this with other people.”

Joining her on the course is her husband, NW junior Felip
e Silva. Both Silvas are international students, Felipe said, “Our host family is doing it and invited me. I’m excited to be doing it with them as a team. I love sports and competition; it’s an opportunity to be active but also to bless The Bridge.”

Felipe’s team, including his host dad Dr. Mark Turek and 10-year-old McKayla, has been active in the race since its beginning. “Our host mom, Nancy, has done it every year since it started,” he said. “I’ve never done [a triathlon] as a competition. But I’ve done a lot of biking before.”

Still, some nerves are setting in. “I was super nervous because I hadn’t practiced,” said Janelle. “But Felipe and I went out on Sunday to the course. The wind was terrible, but we went 11 miles. I thought if I could do 11 in this wind, I’m going to be able to do 16 on Saturday.”

The race—a combination of swimming, biking and running—boasts an incredible number of challenges and rewards. “Your team swims 300 yards, bikes 25 kilometers (about 16 miles), and then runs a 5k,” said Janelle. “Afterwards, there’s more fun: lunch and free swimming.”

Online, others have called it the “best post-party ever.”

The race begins at 9 a.m. in Sioux Center. Families and friends alike are invited to cheer on participants in what is sure to be a super event.

Weather

- Friday
  - Scattered T-Storms
  - 75/50

- Saturday
  - Partly Cloudy
  - 74/54

- Sunday
  - Partly Cloudy
  - 75/58

PHOTO COURTESY OF JANELLE SILVA

NW students Felipe and Janelle Silva are excited for the fitness, fun and community benefit of the Siouxperman triathlon.

PHOTO BY EMILY GOWING

See “Car” on pg. 12
Arts & Culture

What’s the world like after the war?

BY JORDAN LANGER
A&G EDITOR

It might seem a little late to talk about the Great War, especially among Americans (our WWI was scant when compared to overseas). But in a lot of ways, its turn-of-the-century trenches made for a grizzly intro into what has now been a hundred years of rash militarism and gritting aftermaths.

Upon return, the “lost generation” gave its due redress: a canon of wartime poets and post-war novelists. Other media like journalism, photojournalism and television have depicted more current wars in all of their hellishness. But for all of the public clamor of late—about wars we wish we weren’t in and their treads upon a world much too tread upon—music hasn’t reverbated the same thread, or even treated these subjects much.

PJ Harvey’s “Let England Shake,” then, is a seemly language to war. Its 12 songs, which all have a folksy sound that rickets and shambles in the most moving ways, also carry a graphic lyricism that entwines the loathes of infantry with bleak agrarian ones. For instance: “How is our glorious county ploughed? Not by iron ploughs: our land is ploughed by tanks and feet marching... And what is the glorious fruit of our land? Its fruit is deformed children...”

Throughout, the record details an unearthed, if earthy, landscape—specifically England (she’s British), though its images hold for other places.

Other times, her words just gush with war-torn horrors. “I’ve seen and done things I want to forget: soldiers fall like lumps of meat, blown and shot out beyond belief, arms and legs were in the trees.” Or: “Death was everywhere, in the air and in the sounds...When you rolled a smoke or told a joke, it was in the laughter and drinking water...Death hung in the smoke and clung to 400 acres of useless beachfront: a bank of red earth, dripping down death now, and now, and now...”

Even if she’s using history’s dressed wounds, she’s written as if there were still fresh blood between her fingers. And while they don’t all contain this level of gore, her verses are vividly plaintive, yore-like, and rousing without exception.

But unless you’re one to dig through the liner notes first, this probably won’t be the most immediate thing about “Let England Shake.” In this record, like many of hers others (she’s been making music since the late ‘80s, and I would recommend most of her back catalog), you might be jarrered a bit by her sound, which is dissonant, raw and creaking.

It’s an aesthetic that has always worked well for the kind of themes she chooses. For instance, this isn’t the first time scattered “limbs” appear: in previous work, she uses her shrieking guitar and voice to take on sexuality’s twisted complex. And even if her sound isn’t as venomous as it was earlier in her career, it’s still shrill and off-kilter to fit her subject matter. “England,” for instance, has a primal farrago of voices that mangles and teeters—whoever’s joined in on this track yowls like a band of mourners. And “The Glorious Land” samples a very familiar battle-time horn melody that, paired with dismal guitar chords in “clumsy” timing, sounds utterly malformed. Powerfully so.

Others—for instance, “On Battleship Hill” or “The Colour of the Earth”—have a yearning tone that’s almost Celtic or mythic or pub song. Even though I don’t know firsthand what time-worn emotion is behind these, I feel it pretty deeply.

And all of that is without mentioning some of the melodies on tracks like “The Words That Maketh Murder” or “Written On the Forehead” or “The Last Living Rose,” which all have an unlikely catchiness—they’ll soon be burnt into your memory, and you’ll willingly take on their heaviness.

So where do things end up for PJ Harvey? While this isn’t an upfront protest record, the polemic does get placed once or twice. One of the record’s standout lines comes from “Words That Maketh Murder;” in it, Harvey asks, “What if I take my problems to the United Nations?” It’s a boldly straightforward line that starts right into the diplomatic defects that have outlasted the Great War.

As I’ve been looking into the world I’ve come into, it’s looking more and more abysmal to me. PJ Harvey’s latest seems as dead-on as I can imagine, and for that I’d say it’s probably the most compelling record of the year thus far. For some, I’m sure it’ll be unpalatable. And, in a backhanded way, I agree with their take: like the world, “jutting out, cracked like teeth in a rotten mouth.”

Old guys still fighting for the right to party

BY AARON BAUER
STAFF WRITER

It’s been 25-five years since Def Jam produced “License to Ill,” the first full-length album from the rap trio Beastie Boys, but they are still fighting for their right to party. Coming from a background in hardcore punk (circa 1979), the trio still hold close to their New York roots with an intense east coast rap flavor that has developed great depth in the last 30 years.

All the members of the Beastie Boys are in their mid-40s now, but they have yet to give up on the reputation they have made for themselves as peculiar, original and slightly annoying rappers. So in early 2009, Adam “MCA” Yauch announced they would be releasing an album that would give the fans a taste of the group’s new direction, which would be made up of record sampling as they play and rap over the tracks. Like previous albums, the production of the new record, titled “Hot Sauce Committee” would span multiple years, and the release-date would be a giant question mark for fans.

Through a confusing series of moving tracks between the two parts, replacing, re-recording and flipping coins, sixteen tracks were confirmed for one of two parts of the record. In October 2010, it was confirmed that Part II of “Hot Sauce Committee” would be dropped in spring of this year as planned, but Part I was a mystery even to the band. They planned to continue recording, but no news has come of it yet. On the bright side, Part II dropped on Tuesday, and with it came a creative, angsty drum-loop-heavy frenzy for the ears.

Beastie Boys feature two great artists on “Hot Sauce Committee.” New York rapper Nas offers his skills on “Too Many Rappers” (one of my favorite tracks), and Santigold, who released her first record in 2008, is hear on “Don’t Play No Game That I Can’t Win.” As for the samples used on this album, I can’t pick out the specific songs that any of them are from; a lot of production work has been done over the last year and a half, and it definitely shows in tracks like “Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament” and another with a title that I can’t print in the Beacon.

Having never been a huge fan of the Beastie Boys, I can’t exactly compare “Hot Sauce Committee” to their previous work, with the exception of their first album and a few hit singles on others. In no way will the new release reach the acclaim of “License to Ill” or “Hello Nasty,” but the sampling sound works incredibly well. Throw in some cowbell (“Here’s A Little Something For Ya”), and it’s a nice little album to jam to. If nothing else, it’s nice to see a few 40-somethings still having a good time putting together music for fans who crave the nostalgic flavor of Beastie Boys. Who knows, this could be the last we hear from the trio. Be sure to go to the album’s website and ch-check it out.
Time for a new definition

**BY GRETAL FLODING**

**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

What is sexy? This philosophical debate has been going on for eons. Probably ever since Eve was unsure of how to arrange her fig leaves. The term is as elusive as trying to define what SPAM is. I think deep down we all want to be sexy—there is a certain power in it.

Unfortunately, sexy sometimes gets a bad rap. We can tend to think that being sexy means something dirty or promiscuous. I would disagree with this line of thought. Sexy is an attitude, an awareness of one’s self. To dress sexy doesn’t necessarily mean that we need to embrace corsets or badly-dyed animal prints. The new definition of sexy can be someone who is completely covered, or even (though I will always hate these) a shirt with a crew neck.

In middle school—that wonderful time when I realized that world revolved around me—I loved tight pants. I thought the tighter around your body can be 10 times sexier than one that is loose. I used to think that my curves, and I had not. My body had acquired a great set of pants. I thought the tighter my body well doesn’t mean being so ashamed that you cover it all up.

If you want to see an example of someone who feels redefines “sexy,” look up Janelle Monae. Amazing singer and fashion extraordinaire, Monae wears men’s tuxes and riding outfits; and she does it with flair. I don’t think I have ever even seen her legs, but her sexiness blows me away. It might also be the fact that I have an affinity for riding hats, but if you look it up you can judge for yourself.

I love the fact that being sexy can be manifested in how you dress, and the truest definition of sexy has nothing to do with being sex-full. We can all look in the mirror and redefine daily what being sexy means for us personally.

Until then, if you get tempted to buy something that looks like it belongs in a Siegfried and Roy act, just say “no.”

---

**Capsized: old genre, but boy is it pretty**

**BY MICHAEL GUTSCHE**

**STAFF WRITER**

Something’s gone terribly wrong on Whatever Spaceship You’re On. Heavens! Well, to the escape pods, then. No sense in staying aboard what amounts to a space skiing funeral.

Unfortunately, you end up crashing on the planet below. This planet is big and nasty and full of crazy, mostly hungry, sometimes angry, alien life. There is an inexplicably hostile species of aliens that keep trying to murder you, something they’ve been successful about in regards to most of the rest of your crew. You, as a tiny astronaut, are armed, ready to search for any survivors, and attempt an escape from this insane world.

The mechanics are simple enough—each level consists of a unique map, with caves, cliffs, and other probably pointless bits of terrain. There is one objective per map, explained briefly and clearly by the loading screen. As an aside, the loading screens themselves are lovely, and I spend far too much time sitting at each one, doing what most would describe as “basking.” They’re covered in a lovely plaster of art showing a brief progression of events that led to the tasks presented to you, and the thurns and swells of the music remain present. Awawwww yeah. The music is good.

You hop about on two-dimensional maps, with varying gravity, scenery, enemies and weapons. The standard fare is present: small, annoyingly quick enemies, big ones that are really difficult to beat, flying ones, ones with acid flamethrowers...the usual. The weapons and power-ups are also nothing to write home about—machine gun, paint, lasers, rockets, homing rockets, and one lovely gravity vortex cannon. There are some good times with physics puzzles and push-block-to-open-path stylings, and these serve nicely to break up the rather frantic pace of the fighting bits. Most of them are solved via use of the lovely grappling hook, which doubles as an object-moving device and a surprisingly effective method of traveling.

However, this is only from a mechanical perspective. What is so excellent about Capsized is that it takes all the relatively ho-hum platformer-shooter-shenanigans and makes them so worthwhile aesthetically. Sigh, as discussed earlier, is extensively engaged, as well as the sound.

Capsized is a well-realized game, mainly because it was made by two people, one programmer and one artist. The visuals and art style are charming and whimsical, presenting an alien world in bright and vivid colors, each befitting quite nicely the type of area you’re bounding around in, with bizarre creatures wandering around and generally paying you no heed. The exploration that the relative openness of the maps affords is only exclaimed further by the visual touches in little corners of the world.

Crashed bits of the starship you fled from, piles of debris, small alien villages and various other little tidbits that show you quite a bit about this strange place you’ve impacted upon. It is truly an alien place. However, this visual stylization does sometimes hamper the more physical parts of the experience. Often, where the ground technically is and where the ground seems to be is slightly discrepant, which can cause some trouble. One flaw that I could not escape from was the brightness of a certain couple levels involving a mountain range that is made of buoyant, naturally occurring gas plants. Hoood goodness that was shiny. There were a few points where I could not rightly tell what was going on, where I was, or what manner of voracious beastie was devouring me. That last bit happens a lot. But seriously, Video Games, tone down on the bloom effects, please.

Don’t get me wrong, the game is pretty and the visual style stands out among the often-crowded indie game marketplace. Too many games have fallen back on a standard of retro-styled visuals, mainly for good reasons: nostalgia is a powerful force, and low-tech visuals are far easier for a small team to work with. But it comes alive when you can hear it. The music. I must re-emphasize how excellent it is. I don’t know much technically about music, so I’ll just stick to describing it as such: “my WORD that’s good music.” The game’s just really well put together, with guns going “zap” and “plonk” just the way they should, aliens launching arrows and threats at you with alarming gusto, and the little astronaut is highly charming and touching it up enough with this pretentious talk of aesthetic experiences. It’s nothing that will change the face of video games as we know them, but by my word it is a good time.
Students unite love of unique sports with zeal to serve others

BY SHELBY VANDER MOLEN AND EMILY GOWING

Purity, promise and that dang ring by spring

BY EMILY GOWING

REGRETS

BY ALYSSA CURRIER

With graduation approaching, most seniors are able to reflect on their time at Northwestern and say, “I’d do it all over again.” That’s not to say there aren’t regrets.

Faculty and staff shared some of their biggest regrets from their college years and added with it their advice to graduating seniors.

Professor Mike Kugler’s example is pretty representative of typical college students from freshmen to seniors. Late-night procrastination and endless procrastination isn’t a good thing, let alone during finals week. Yet, we all do it.

“I had put off my biology homework until the very end of the course,” Kugler said, “It was a warm, sunny afternoon and my pals were about to start playing Frisbee on our green. The phone rang. It was my biology professor, the crazy Dr. Harris.” Dr. Harris asked Kugler where his biology homework was. “I stammered an excuse which she interrupted and then demanded that I immediately come over to the lab and finish the work.” Embarrassed and angry, he left his room, crossed the green through his friends playing and relaxing, then spent the next three hours completing his lab homework.

Professor Kugler’s story goes to show that, no matter how severe the senioritis, avoiding the inevitable homework always comes back to haunt the procrastinator.

Not all NW students procrastinate that badly, however, but a lack of social grace can be just as unforgettable as academic mistakes. Theatre professor Karen Barker has sound advice to NW students who may be under the ring-by-spring pressure.

“My most regretted college memory is that I went out with my roommate’s boyfriend behind her back.” Dating a friend’s ex is one thing; doing so deceitfully is reason for remorse. And this is one mistake that has caused Barker plenty of guilty feelings. “It’s awful, isn’t it?” she said. “Truly, what can I say? I was a jerk. I was a jerk and an idiot.” No matter how cutthroat the senior scramble, respect your friends. As the saying goes, “sisters before misters and bros before…” you know the rest of it.

With just one week left of NW life for graduating seniors, it may be too late to learn these collegiate lessons. The lessons don’t stop once the tassel is turned, though. Professor Ron Juffer gladly shared a more recent memory that still turns his stomach.

“I was teaching a section of Foundations of Education and I’d told the class that they should remember three primary points from the day’s presentation.” After proceeding to identify the first two points, Juffer drew a blank on the third. In an effort to stall, and hopefully remember this third item, he repeated the first two points. “Unfortunately I still wasn’t able to recall the third one, so I told them that this point was extremely important and that we would begin the next class….” you know the rest of it.

He was a jerk. I was a jerk and an idiot.”

Making mistakes is inevitable in college and in life. Learn from your mistakes, learn from others and own up to your faults; you’ll surely grow from them.

Sophomore Mallory Wileynek shows off her purity ring that references 1 Thessalonians 4:3.

PHOTO BY EMILY GOWING

PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW
Caf grows healthy

BY EMMA LUNDGREN
COPY EDITOR

Evidenced by the addition of the lunch salad toss option, Sodexo, Northwestern's food service provider, has pledged to improve the quality of the fruits and vegetables they offer, increasing their healthful options to a record high of 27 percent nutrition.

The cafe now features a double salad bar, fruit or vegetable water, and veggie burgers in the grill line on every other Wednesday. Under Sodexo's new plan, vegetables will be offered more often, with the butter content reduced by a whopping, 30 percent. Fruit options will also be more frequent, delicious, and continuous in addition to selection made from the fruits' own juices and a generous helping of fructose.

Sodexo spokesperson Lyle Larsen said of the changes, “The added fruits and vegetables are in response to suggestions made by several students who wanted more options for their vegetarian diets. We hope our customers will find the extra healthy choices appealing and fitting for their needs. We believe that students’ dining experiences should be fun. Adventurous. Delectable. But most of all, customized.”

Junior Ruth Fredrikssma, a vegetarian, is excited about the salad bars. “I love how many options we have now. Before, we only had one way to get a salad. But now I can quickly grab my favorite salad from Line 1 when I'm in a hurry, or I can feel self-sufficient and creative while carefully making my favorite salad on my own from the salad bar. It's fantastic.”

As always, the chefs in the kitchen will be enthusiastically experimenting with their new supply of ingredients. Featured on the finals week menu are creamed corn pie, cauliflower-flavored water, and berry soup, a concoction of strawberries in juice with splashes of cherry- and blueberry-based syrups.

“I only wish we had more than a week left in the school year,” said chef Kent Milikhan. “One week has hardly enough meals for everyone to try dozens of meals we can make just using various types of beans. But you can be sure we’ll be welcoming everyone back in the fall with some new, exciting dishes.”

Not everyone is thrilled with the different food. Senior Alfred Wheeler opined, “They keep changing everything in the caf. First they took away our trays. Then they restricted our access to sandwich ingredients. Now they’re trying to force me to eat ‘healthy’ food? I thought this was a private school. I feel like I’m in high school again.”

Having received overall positive feedback from area schools, Sodexo has some plans in the works for next year, including a tofu bar and drinkable spinach salads. For more information on the nutritional goals of Sodexo, visit www.nwcведining.com.nutrition.

Terrorist Support Group approved

BY ANDREW LOVGREN
EDITOR IN-CHIEF

In what many students view as a controversial decision, both SGA and the administration have approved the Terrorist Support Group (TSG) as a campus-endorsed organization.

The approval comes a week prior to a TSG-planned movie-viewing and discussion. Over the past few weeks leading up to the presentation of “Love the Person, Hate the Bomb,” the film has caused controversy for presenting a different opinion than that of most students.

“People may not agree with their lifestyle,” said SGA president Justin Jansen, “but there isn’t anything against terrorism in the student handbook. As long as they aren’t acting on their perverse extremist personal values, we have no reason not to welcome them on our campus.”

The founder of the group, enlightened sophomore Daniel Smithson, had been trying to get approval for the group for the past six months, but had run into issues when most of campus would rather ignore the terrorists’ very existence.

“Terrorists are people, too,” Smithson said, while handing out informative recycling in the cafeteria earlier this week. “It’s not about what they choose to do. It’s not even about who they are. It’s a chance for us to love everyone.”

This hippie lifestyle of treating everyone like human beings was supported in an e-mail by President Greg Christy announcing the official NW endorsement of the group.

“Consistent with the position of the Reformed Church in America, the college lifts up the Christian ideal of loving others and contends that terrorists deserve to be loved like everyone else.” Also, Christy stated that “the college

See “Love” on pg. 4

Student stumbles upon online news

BY EMILY GOWING
FEATURES EDITOR

What many students would see as an inconvenience, junior Heather Moore saw as an open door.

Northwestern’s unreliable Internet can be a real pain for students during the final weeks of school. The server is swamped with requests from all over campus as students are scrambling to finish their research papers, find statistics for a presentation or procrastinate even longer on Facebook.

While Facebook was experiencing technical difficulties last Tuesday afternoon, Moore took the opportunity to catch up on the latest news another way. “Usually when I’m stumped for words on a paper, I’ll just scroll through the News Feed on Facebook. Facebook was down, though, so I started stumbling, and ended up stumbling upon one of the greatest things I’ve ever seen.”

Before Tuesday afternoon, Moore knew of four useful sites on the Internet-Facebook, Stumble Upon, YouTube and her NW homepage.

“Here on campus, we don’t know a lot about what’s going on, since there are not a lot of opportunities to find out about news,” Moore said. “But then I was utterly shocked when I came across this online news thing. I mean seriously, did you know there are websites that offer the news online? That’s

See “Excuses” on pg. 3

ATTEND, NOT THAT WE'RE TRYING DESPERATELY TO GET YOUR ATTENTION OR ANYTHING.

Chapel
Monday
• Osama Bin Laden, CANCELED
Tuesday
• Charlie Sheen, Bi-winning
Wednesday
• Campus-wide nap
Friday
• Rebecca Black
Saturday
• Raiders vs Defenders

Across Campus
Super Fun Event!!!
Holy great-grandmother’s baking apron this event is going to be the best!!!! The only way this event could be more fun is if we added a few more exclamation points and maybe some super awesome smiley faces!!!

Come out this weekend for the best time you’ve had since you learned how to crawl!!! The only way this event could be the best!!!! The only way this event could be the best!!!! The only way this event could be the best!!!! The only way this event could be the best!!!!

Unique, Mysterious Play Coming Soon
The play is going to be the most unique, one-of-a-kind play you’ve ever seen. If you can’t tell by the font we used to promote it, something no other play, or campus ministry opportunity, has used to promote their event before.

Utmost Importance
THIS WEEKEND, PREPARE YOURSELF FOR SOMETHING THAT IS AS DARK AND AFFECTING AS THE FONT WE'RE PROMOTING IT WITH. IT'S SO IMPORTANT THAT THIS PARAGRAPH IS SCREAMING AT YOU TO ATTEND, NOT THAT WE'RE TRYING DESPERATELY TO GET YOUR ATTENTION OR ANYTHING.

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?

Did you know we have a website?
Bacon | 2

Unwed senior buys cats, knitting needles, and prepares for lifetime of loneliness

BY KATI HENG

As her peers who actually found love prepare to begin the next phase of their lives with guaranteed joy, senior Amanda Olson is preparing herself for life as a 20-something spinster.

Olson's tragic story began in August of 2008. As the other incoming freshmen paired off and bravely faced the repercussions of pre-October love, Olson focused on getting to know her roommate and the other girls on her floor.

"Sure, I enjoyed the time we spent together, but I also worried about her future," said Olson's roommate, Hannah Vander Veen. "Amanda was spending too much time just bopping along, acting like her years at Northwestern would last forever. I tried to convince her to hang out in Coly more, or make some conversation with a cute boy from West, but she was just insistent that she would wait until her teenage years were over before settling down."

Vander Veen and several of Olson's close friends attempted to convince the girl of the urgency of pairing off. Olson remained oblivious to her situation until she became aware of her situation mid-way through her senior year this past winter. Outrightly, not be concerned, she found out that the face of evil has been wiped from the world.

"I don't need to know when the killing of the terrorist. Olson did everything right this past year—she enrolled in classes she knew would be dominated by males, sat in chapel pews directly behind the cutest groups of men, attended sporting events she didn't know about and cheered louder than anyone's girlfriend, prayed to find her soul mate during before every meal, used closed dorm hours to Skype with potential lovers from her high school and even dropped her papers in the hallway between every class, hoping the one to stand help, then immediately fall in love with her."

Next year SAC will, blah, blah blah....

BY JORDAN LANGER

While the resignation of SAC coordinator Lori Couch was something of a loss, the group seems prepared to improve next year's slew of activities that students won't care about.

"We've been watching a lot of Glee and American Idol, and there's just a little in there that we haven't until last year," said SAC member David Modderman.

"So if you were bored this year, you have plenty of singing and dancing to look forward to next year."

Modderman also revealed that students that previous flops would not replace a small part of the love that single Senior Amanda Olson missed out on.

"It's my own fault, really," she said. "I didn't listen to my friends and all, but sometimes I don't need to know when they're going to take a nap. And that's what the news on Facebook told me. But there's like real news out there, just waiting for us to read it." Unbeknownst to them, students all over campus were very fortunate for Moore to have discovered the outlet to the outside world. The very next day, the leader of a terrorist group, which NW's very own TSG followed, was found and killed in his home.

"Apparently that was like a really big deal," Moore said. "Even President Obama was talking about it on this CNN page."

While Moore's wingmate, sophomore Natalie Mathis, was walking by Moore's room, she heard President Obama's voice coming from Moore's computer.

"I remember Natalie stopping by my room and asking me what was going on and how did I have Obama on my computer," Moore said. "From there, it all spread so quickly."

In just a matter of minutes, the news got out that there was news on campus. Students from every dorm were gathered around televisions and computers, watching the president address the nation about the killing of the terrorist.

"There've been so many times when I've walked by that TV and never knew what magic was inside of it," Mathis said of the TV in Fern's lounge.

Senior Devon Lawrence agreed. "There are so many incredible things going on right now," he said as he watched the television news in West's lobby. "First of all, we find out that there is a way for us to be informed; we don't have to be ignorant college students anymore. Then, almost simultaneously, we find out that the face of evil has been wiped from the planet. I almost don't know how to take it all in."

It was an ember that sparked a fire: within 24 hours of Moore's discovery of online news, students all over campus were informed about the world around them, had opinions about current issues and were raising their voices, proud to have seen the light.
Want turkey and lasagna? Rent a tux, buy a dress

BY LINDEN FIGGIE

Whether you’re eating brunch with your grandparents after church or making it just in time for lunch after a nap, Sunday best is now a mandatory requirement at the caf on Sunday mornings.

Taking the “no shirt, no shoes, no service” policy to the extreme, the caf stated it will strictly abide to the revised mandate. “It is our job to keep our students well dressed,” Cotta Meanderer said. “It is the students’ job to represent who they are in Christ both inwardly and outwardly, especially on Sundays.”

While the ruling was initiated by the Northwestern school administration, the caf was quick to instigate. Recently, a sign was posted outside of the caf entrance reminding attendees that service will only be allowed to those with shirts and shoes. This is a common requirement of many food establishments as the FDA works hard to eliminate the spread of various food-borne diseases. The terms of proper meal attire continue to build with the recent enforcement.

Chef Constance Paashen believes the new rule to be equally as beneficial. “I wear a uniform to work,” he said. “Why shouldn’t students have to look the part of a Christian when they are eating on the Sabbath? It just makes sense.”

Students had varied responses. “This is absurd.” said senior Bubba Tolson. “How I dress and present myself in my clothing does not dictate my faith.” Tolson, a Christian education major regularly attends First Reformed Church with his Colenbrander wingmates most Sunday mornings.

“Theres a group of us who carpool over there for breakfast.” Tolson said. “I like dressing up for Church, but to make it a requirement is to take away our freedom.”

On the opposite end, freshman Rita Knot recalls her visit to NW last year as a prospective student. “I remember looking around at everyone and seeing most people dressed up.” Knot said. “The girl I was staying with told me that she always dressed up on Sundays, even though she rarely went to church.”

Sophomore Kate Nyce feels the pressure of looking presentable on Sunday mornings.

“If there just happens to be a day that I miss church, I still dress up because I feel like everyone is judging me.” Nyce said. “I hate the feeling of everyone, even the cafeteria ladies, looking at me up and down and then turning their heads. It’s sickening, so I just suck it up and put on a skirt.”

While some students feel a loss of freedom, President Greg Christy believes that being required to dress up on Sunday mornings for brunch brings unity to the school.

“It’s like bringing back school uniforms. It unites the students and reminds them of the school’s religious affiliation.” Over said. “Perhaps the requirement to look polished and presentable will give students more incentive to attend church in the community, something the school would like to see increase in number.”

Many responded negatively to the institution, yet some remained indifferent, almost pleased. “It gives me a reason to pull my shirt and tie out of the closet at least once,” said sophomore Dillon Rye. “My mom would be proud.

As the administration and caf seek to ensure students portray the faith they claim as both Christians and members of NW, discussions and opinions continue to circulate. Whatever your opinion, remember your slacks and dresses this Sunday if you want to enjoy lasagna and roast turkey.

SSP holdout’s life remains unchanged

BY EMILY GOWING

Freshman Logan Herzberg recalls feeling bombarded with brightly colored signs shouting at him the benefits of participating in a Spring Service Project (SSP). “I didn’t really know what all the hype was about,” Herzberg said. “Everyone was telling me how great SSP’s are. But I’ve helped repair houses before, and it wasn’t that big of deal.”

Herzberg, who did not go on an SSP, spent his spring break at home working for his dad’s construction company. “My roommate and I basically did the same thing over break. He paid $600 to fly to New York to build houses, go to church and spend time with people he didn’t know. I drove 45 minutes home to do the same thing.”

However, after coming back to Northwestern and hearing his roommate, freshman Jordan Pederson, talk about his life-changing experiences in New York, Herzberg now sees what they carpool over there for breakfast.

After three years at NW, junior Lauren Collins knows of the dramatic life transformations that come hand-in-hand with a weeklong SSP. “For the past three years, my friends have all come back to school with their eyes open to the way God was working in other people’s lives and their hearts broken by the suffering they saw,” Collins said. “In all honesty, I chose not to go on an SSP. I like my life the way it is and didn’t want it changed.”

It wasn’t oblivion or stubbornness that kept sophomore Kate Middleton from going on an SSP, but rather her lack of financial surplus needed to pay for such a life-changing experience. “One of my friends went on her Utah SSP expecting to serve and love the people she met but ended up being the recipient of that love and blessing,” Middleton said. “The people she met had such strong faith and passion for God; my roommate sees way different after meeting those people. I wish I could’ve done that; I just couldn’t afford to have my life changed.”

Instead, Middleton spent her spring break in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, volunteering her time at the Union Gospel Mission. “It was good, it just wasn’t an SSP.” Middleton said. “I had a lot of good conversations, but I don’t think my life is changed the way the SSPers’ lives are changed.”

Herzberg, Collins and Middleton were just a small part of the 80 percent of NW students whose lives were not changed over spring break.

‘Love the Person. Hate the Bomb’

Cont. from pg. 1

welcomes dialogue about controversial social issues.

A majority of students have spoken out against the group, claiming that the approval will destroy the community that NW prides itself on.

“First they wanted to marry. Then they want to be treated as more than second-class citizens. These terrorists are destroying my family and my Christian ideals with their very existence,” said outraged junior Cindy Enderson in a Twitter post last night, as to avoid actually talking about the issue.

Other students felt left out and unsupported without a group focused on them.

“Where is the Middle-class Educated Straight White Christian Support Group? I wanna be loved too,” said junior John Doe.

Despite the explosive nature of the many students’ reactions, some have decided to embrace the group as a way to love those different from themselves.

“I don’t see how people can outright hate these people,” said proudly progressive junior Rachel Arbet. “What they choose to do in the privacy of their own homes is up to them. Who are we to tell them what they should or shouldn’t do?”

Now that the group is officially campus endorsed, the movie screening can take place in Christ Chapel, proving that it is indeed endorsed by NW and by God. Students are encouraged to attend to learn more about the film taking place for terrorist rights, even within the Sioux County Pleasantville, Orange City.

Just days before, terrorist rights activist Osama bin Laden unexpectedly canceled his chapel speaking engagement. The reason is yet unknown.
NW student admits ‘I’m never leaving’

BY ALENA SCHUESSLER

Northwestern philosophy student Anna De Vanderstra is a senior. Most seniors at this point are looking forward to graduation next Saturday, but not De Vanderstra. She openly admits: “I’m not planning to leave here any time. It’s awesome here and, to be honest, the real world is just too scary.”

De Vanderstra has lived in Fern Smith Hall for the four years she’s attended NW, living in the same room with the same roommate each year. According to De Vanderstra, once her life became comfy, she never wanted it to change. She later decided to “stay here forever” when spring semester of senior year rolled around.

“Our future within reach—right there, before my eyes—scared the heck out of me. I knew the grace period on my student loans would only last so long before I wished I were back in college. So I made the decision I would never leave.”

Since she made this realization, she has quickly begun adding majors. Along with her philosophy major, she’s added a neuroscience major and a computer science minor. She figures it’s really the only way she’ll get by with not graduating, since she’s already fulfilled her chapel credits for the semester.

De Vanderstra described the decision as empowering, and she has begun to encourage others to do the same thing. This week she put up a plethora of signs around campus, persuading students to stay in college longer than they need to.

“The title of her campaign is ‘Valor,’ referring to the courage it took her to make the decision. Unfortunately, her sign features a giant black V on a white sheet of paper, so most students just think it’s an ad for the improv group.

“We had a little trouble with promoting the campaign,” De Vanderstra said. “And by we, I mean me.”

Northwestern College raises the bar

BY KATI HENG

Students who can barely lift the bar, do girl push-ups or run slower than an average grandmother will no longer be allowed to attempt any form of exercise in the DeWitt Physical Fitness Center.

The new rule was created after several athletic individuals complained to Director of Athletics, Barry Brandt, that they were getting too distracted to work out by the unbelievable lack of physical fitness in some of their fellow students.

“It’s ridiculous,” said junior, super-ripped football jock Todd Benson. “I’ll be in the weight room, trying to work my quads, when I have to stop and mock some scrawny little twerp because his form is so awful. It totally ruins my workout when I have to stop and laugh at people.”

Brandt agreed with the complaints, saying, “It’s not fair to punish those who are doing well by keeping them in a room with students who are behind where they should be at their age.”

Just as many swimming pools require children to pass a test before being allowed to swim in deep water, the DeWitt Physical Center will now require students to pass “The Bar” before they are allowed to participate in exercise.

“The Bar” consists of 16 laps around the track, 2 miles on the elliptical machines at a level 14 incline, benching 10 reps of 65 pounds, beating head football coach Kyle Aherthoff in a round of wallyball, and not being able to touch your toes due to the extra muscle buildup. Students have 30 minutes to pass “The Bar” and move on to better weightlifting.

Students who fail to pass “The Bar” will be immediately removed from the DeWitt Physical Center. The test may be attempted only once per school year.

WWJD: The app

With bracelets gone, tech teaches new gen. how to live correctly

BY WESTON CUTTER

“Honestly, it started when Greg would e-mail, talking about how things were so different in Spain,” says Jordan Langer, senior and inventor of the WWJD App, available for both iPhones and smartphones running the Android operating system. “He told me one time he saw a priest out drinking at 2 in the morning, and he said that was the least strange thing he saw.”

Langer, a graduating senior, also mentioned that the app was developed with a moderately selfish motive.

“So many of us, when we come to Northwestern, we don’t really know what to expect, how Christian it is compared to where we’ve come from. There’s stuff that a good Christian might do in Lincoln that’d never happen in Orange City, and I thought there should be some easy way to let people know what to expect, how to adjust.”

The What Would Jesus Do? App tracks a user’s location and offers the user a sense of local manners and sensibilities. For instance, a user in Orange City would be advised against spitting, listening to rap music, or even thinking about having an alcoholic beverage, even if of age.

“I don’t even like computers or anything that much, but when that last Kanye record came out, I’d find myself singing some of the lines from ‘Runaway’ under my breath, and I thought, huh, I bet there’s a way to let people know when that’s not okay to do.”

Langer, with IT help from several NW alumni who’ve chosen to remain nameless, created a database which tracks the relative conservatism of a place based on zip code. Langer said he was surprised every step of the way, all through the development.

“Did you know that in Chicago you can be gay and a Christian? It’s totally okay. In Minneapolis, you’re actually supposed to be nice if you’re a Christian—it’s this Minnesota thing. It’s okay to drink as a Christian basically everywhere except certain really small places. Also, in some places it’s okay to listen to rap, in others it’s okay to listen to harder rock, but only in a few places is it okay to listen to both and still be a Christian.”

The app, which was approved by Apple on April 16 and which sells for 99 cents, has so far made Langer and his associates “good money,” in his words.

“And the best part of the app is that, now that I’ve got some money, I can just find out how much to tithe based on where I am. I’m sort of glad I’m moving to Omaha, actually: there’s a lower tithe rate there.”
Drawn by Christian atmosphere, Pauls joins Northwestern faculty

BY HOLLY STEWART
STAFF WRITER

Kenton Pauls, Dean of Enrollment Management, sees the value of diversity on college campuses and in life.

Growing up as a missionary kid in Papua New Guinea helped instill in Pauls a love for diversity and other cultures. “Being my ethnicity, but having grown up in a foreign country; you look at life differently while life looks at you the same."

Hoping he’d bring a new perspective on admissions and retention, Northwestern hired Pauls in March 2011.

In this position, Pauls oversees admissions, financial aid and public relations, and works with student recruitment. Pauls’ job description is to get and keep the right students here. “I need to advocate the things that matter as well as help students stay and be successful here,” he said.

Prior to coming to Northwestern, Pauls served as director of enrollment services at the University of North Dakota, and served as a senior admissions counselor at Trinity Western University in Langley, British Columbia, Canada. Pauls, a native of Canada, became an American citizen in July of 2009.

Making the move to Northwestern was a big one, but one that Pauls knew he was ready for. “I know that my life was positively impacted by a distinctly Christian undergrad education and that it prepared me well to go into the marketplace and not only be capable and competent but also make what I hope is a difference for Christ. So as opportunities came up for career advancement, this Christian atmosphere drew me” he said. Pauls has enjoyed working alongside the admissions counselors, financial aid and public relations staff, and has described his colleagues as “super” and “dedicated.”

“My entire professional life, I have been in admissions and recruitment. And this corner of the world is pretty fun. We laugh and work hard and connect with one another and the people that we serve. It’s a really great working environment,” Pauls said.

Pauls firmly believes that what really matters is that students find themselves in relationships that are authentic as soon as they get to campus. It is important for retention that those relationships are formed with their advisors and other faculty.

Pauls looks forward to establishing these authentic and professional relationships with students. “I really love that faculty talk about individual students, not just the idea of students. I think that is very special,” Pauls said.

The Perkins family stepped up to the challenge of living with 100 other people, with all its ups and downs, and came away closer to each other, rejoicing in the little rewards along the way.

Hospitality at its finest; Perkins grew up with 100 foster children

BY BRITTANY CORLEW
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Living with 100 other people your age is an exciting experience of college life. Freshman Johanna Perkins had experienced that long before coming to Northwestern.

As a family who cared for foster children, over 100 teenagers have passed through the Perkins’ home in the past 15 years.

“I don’t even remember what it’s like to just come home to a house where it’s just my family,” Johanna said. Her parents have been foster parents ever since she was in kindergarten. Johanna, along with her four older siblings have committed to share their house, parents, and essentially their lives with these new people.

The most significant quality Johanna has gained from growing up amongst strangers has been her accepting nature. “I don’t judge by first impression,” she says, “because people aren’t always what they seem.” She has come to understand how influential a person’s past is on their behavior and values. It has helped her to understand why people are the way they are and how to accept them rather than pass judgment.

In the same respect, Johanna recognizes the need to be cautious. She has experienced a lot of mistrust over the years as residents often took advantage of the Perkins’ hospitality, lashed out physically, or even intruded on the safety Johanna’s parents strives to protect their house with. Inevitably Johanna has been exposed to hardships, information and lifestyles that most teenagers don’t have to deal with on a daily basis. This has prepared her to be cautious when dealing with people. Johanna is very accepting of people but is aware of the possibilities and shows prudence before putting trust in someone new.

Johanna’s response to her family dynamics has fluctuated over the years as she has entered different stages of life. She saw her first years with foster siblings as an exciting game where she accumulated a different older sister or brother to play with every few months. On the verge of being a teenager, however, her perspective shifted; the strangers living in her house were no longer playmates but competitors in the game for her parents’ attention.

Johanna admitted, “The hardest part of it all was having to share my parents. I never had to wonder if our parents loved us, but we were responsible for accepting that we had to make sacrifices and that sometimes [the foster children’s] needs had to come before ours.”

Especially as a young child, Johanna found it difficult to understand how her parents responded differently to these strangers than their own children. She recalls how confused she was when her mother wouldn’t buy her a snack at the grocery store, but when a new girl came to their house to stay her mother went out and bought her a collection of new clothes.

While foster care is a challenging and often draining experience, the rewards can be significant. “Something my mom would always say is that if we can influence just one person, or change the life of just one person, then it was totally worth all the others that didn’t work out.”

She continued, “I can see now why my parents did what they did. The sacrifices they made, they were just trying to give these kids better lives.”

Looking back, Johanna now realizes what her parents were doing. “I think what they did was noble. They took on a lot of responsibility, and it wasn’t easy, but they were just trying to help these kids, to give them love and a new lifestyle.”
Should Christians celebrate because of bin Laden’s death?

BY ANDREW LOVGREN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Let us not mistake impulse for perspective. This past Sunday, students paraded around the dorm, draped in American flags and screaming expletives of joy, at the death of someone who has been active in al-Qaeda longer than they’ve been alive. Other people’s reactions to the news went all the way to the other end of the spectrum to utter judgment of those reveling in the victory, often misusing Scripture to condemn the actions of those next door. Neither reaction was correct, because neither group stopped to think before throwing up their gut reaction on Facebook and Twitter and running around screaming. Many of these were part of a chain reaction by friends and neighbors, sharing in the revelry or sadness, without reading so much as a headline, let alone watching Obama deliver his speech. Our generation has very little understanding of the situation surrounding Osama bin Laden. We were in roughly sixth grade on 9/11 and just learning the alphabet when he bombed the TradeCenters for the first time in ’93. A majority of students weren’t even born when bin Laden came into power. Such a gap in our understanding would still be bearable, if students actually read the news and were informed. The context makes this event so much bigger than the loss of one man. The events in the Middle East make bin Laden’s death more impacting than we, especially I, can know. Even if you are one of the atypical, globally aware students who reads the news every day, the perspective that we carry into the reading of news articles is skewed immensely by our lack of experiences and pre-conceived knowledge. For this reason, it is imperative that students take the time to not only become aware of what is going on in the world, but also to think about, discuss and research what that means. This is painfully evident in our generation’s rush to be the first to crack a joke or post a witty status update in response. What is perhaps even worse is the large portion that remain uninformed completely.

It’s not about having all the information or analyzing the surrounding context. It’s about having a desire to stop being ignorant and begin understanding the importance of events.

BY NATE JOHNSTON

I was quite surprised to find myself reading a New York Times online article describing the death of Osama bin Laden. I had fantasized about his death as a kid, but strangely enough, I didn’t feel anything as I read the article. Not joy, not sadness, not anger, not even relief.

Does that make me a bad Christian?

I don’t think that a Christian has any business rejoicing in the death of anyone. In Matthew 22:39, Jesus told us to “love your neighbor as yourself.” I never understood it fully until I read “Mere Christianity” by C.S. Lewis. Lewis argued that you don’t have to like someone to love them as yourself. At times, I have hated myself for the despicable things that I have done, but I always have hope that I can do better. I never give up on myself or wish that I would die.

This type of love is supposed to be applied to others—even Osama bin Laden. Honestly, I hate that man and what he has done, but I know that he deserves grace from God just as much as I do. I haven’t been called as a Christian to condemn, but rather to tell others about grace.

You might want to ask questions like “What about all of the terrible things that Osama did?” “Doesn’t he deserve to die because of all of the innocent people that he killed?” I think I’ll let Jesus answer those questions. “I tell you, my friends, I tell you, you will have to give an account of your life to God. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after your body has been killed, has authority to throw you into hell” (Luke 12:4-5 NIV).

I think that a lot of Christians are confused about who the enemy is. The enemy is not Osama bin Laden or any other human. The enemy is Satan. Sin has completely infected the world. People like Osama bin Laden and groups like al-Qaeda are evidence of the infectious spread of sinful ideas and concepts.

I cannot hate sinners without hating myself as well. When I try to hate myself to the extent that I hate other sinners, I realize that I can do better. I never give up on myself or wish that I would die. I hate that man and what he has done, but I also know that he deserves grace.

I hope that as the body of Christ, we can respond with a love that would be pleasing to God.
BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern men’s golf team finished up their season on Monday with the final round of the GPAC Qualifier. The team shot a 316, which was good enough for sixth place overall. Sophomore Michael Dykema finished in third place on the day after shooting a 75. Freshman Neil Malenke recovered on the back nine to tie for 13th with his 78. Freshman Ryan Kiewiet tied for 30th after he brought an 81 into the clubhouse. Junior Ross Zoellner went 84 to 216 in four RBI. Senior catcher Mike Zoellner picked up only one hit on Saturday in the final round of the GPAC Qualifier.

Overall, Northwestern finished in fifth place after the 72-hole GPAC Qualifier. This did not qualify them for the post season, but there is much to look forward to next fall. Malenke earned all-conference honors by finishing seventh overall, and Ryan Kiewiet just missed the honor by finishing 11th. Malenke also was honored as GPAC Player of the Week to end the season.

On the women’s side, senior Maggie Rozenboom earned a runner-up medalist honor and led the women’s golf team one last time on Saturday in the final round of the GPAC Qualifier.

The team finished third on the day, and led by Rozenboom and freshman Taylor Kline both placed 10th on the day after shooting a 95 each. Junior Andria Hinz carded a 97 (T17th). Senior Sara Horn also finished up her career as a Raider by tying for 29th after her 100. Sophomore Leigh Van Hove (T48th) brought in a 110.

Rozenboom earned all-conference honors for the third straight year while finishing in second place. The future looks bright as Kline also finished in the top 10, earning all-conference honors with a seventh place finish to end the year.

Postseason play begins for track, tennis

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern women’s tennis team and track and field squads will be in action this weekend as they try to extend their seasons.

The tennis team will start their run to the GPAC Women’s Tennis Championship day as they square off against Hastings on Friday morning. The competition is being held in Fremont, Neb., and the Raiders are fifth seeded out of six teams. NW is looking to get over the hump and improve on their 7-9 (4-4) record.

NW had a tough loss to Hastings in early April, falling 5-4 against their conference foe. Sophomore Kelkie Korver (8-7), senior Laura Starr (3-9) and senior Nessa Summers (10-4) all picked up wins in singles play last time. Junior Julie Mineart and Korver (8-7) kept the Raiders alive with a win in doubles, as did Summers and freshman Missy Yorchak (8-4). The rest of the Raider singles lineup include Mineart (5-10) in the No. 1 spot, senior Kate Mannenbach (2-13), and Yorchak (1-3). Starr and Mannenbach will also team up to be the other doubles spot.

The winner will go on to face Nebraska Wesleyan on Saturday. On the track, NW will have the opportunity to host the GPAC Outdoor Track and Field Championships Friday and Saturday. This will be the final meet for the athletes to compete and have a chance to qualify for the national meet, which will be held on May 26. Events will take place Friday at 1 p.m., and continue again on Saturday morning at 9 a.m.

The Raiders are coming off a good performance at the Sioux Falls Invite, where eligibility-freshman Matt Huseman and sophomore Mark Johnson won their field events. Huseman jumped 6-09 in the high jump, and Johnson leapt 24-07.25 in the long jump pit. The male sprinters also contributed, as freshmen Jesse Selegby and Jeriah Dunk and sophomore Brandon Hammock each blazed their way to top-five finishes in the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes.

On the women’s side, junior Stacey Dietrich won the 400-meter hurdles in 1:06.9, and freshman Dawn Gildersleeve took home the title in the 800-meter. Junior Liz Stevens brought home first place in the javelin with a toss of 127-08. The Raiders are both expecting to improve on last year’s performance in the conference meet, where the women finished in eighth place, and the men took 11th place out of the twelve teams competing. This certainly look doable, as there are 23 events where at least one athlete in a NW uniform is currently ranked in the top 20. All-conference honors will be awarded to the top eight finishers in each event.

High expectations have been placed on many track and field participants who have already qualified for the national meet. Automatic-qualifiers are Hammock, Huseman, junior Liz Stevens, seniors Charity Miles and Logan Ogden and the women’s 4x800 team are all heading to Indiana in late May. Gildersleeve and Dunk have both provisionally qualified in their respective events.

Baseball, softball drop both playoff games

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

The spring seasons came to a close for both the softball and baseball teams as each team dropped their playoff games.

On Thursday night, the baseball team couldn’t repeat their magic from last year as they fell to Sioux Falls 5-2, and lost the elimination game to Mount Marty 13-8. The Raiders gave away runs in both games, with 11 of the 18 total runs scored against them being unearned. The first game was a sloppy effort in the field as the Raiders committed four errors in the field. Junior Mike Zollner picked up only his second loss of the entire season after he walked four batters. The Cougars took advantage of the unearned baserunners. Zollner went the distance on the mound but took the loss.

The elimination game against Mount Marty didn’t see a much better result. Starter sophomore Taylor Morris only lasted two-thirds of an inning and walked four batters. Of the seven runs that were scored against him, only one was earned. Freshman Ryan Brassier also couldn’t buy an out as he gave up five runs in three innings of work. Four other pitchers came out of the bullpen to stop the bleeding. The Raiders were practically handed baserunners, as they drew 13 walks in the game, but couldn’t find a way to drive enough of them in. Junior Steve Englund did well at the dish, going 2-3 and knocking in four RBI. Senior catcher Clint Gingerich drove in three runs in his final collegiate game.

The NW softball team couldn’t come up with the necessary victories and were bounced from the post season Thursday night.

The first game saw NW fall to Concordia 7-1, and the elimination game saw Hastings make a late rally to win 8-4.

Stats were unavailable at the time of printing for the Concordia matchup.

In what turned out to be the final game of the season, freshman Keeley Bracelin took the loss inside the circle after giving up 14 hits and eight runs in a full seven innings of work. The Raiders pounded out 10 hits, but couldn’t capitalize enough of them. Freshman Alex Price went 2-3 to lead NW in the batter’s box and knocked in one run. Senior Rachel Harris went 1-4 in her final game.
Car sets fire in lot, firefighters step in

“When they got there, there were six-foot-high flames coming out the sides,” Vermeer said. “I recall them being pretty light-footed about it. They approached slowly,” Norris said.

“Huge flames and smoke were coming out of Hell.”

Firefighters extinguished the blaze according to plan, and Lundberg said the incident was a routine vehicle fire. No injuries were sustained. Flames blown by strong winds melted the rear fender of another student’s vehicle, but it did not catch fire.

Both Vermeer and Norris remain in good humor, amused by the experience. “At first, it was kind of nerve-wracking and stressful, but then it was kind of cool,” said Norris.

On average, the Orange City Fire Department puts out two or three vehicle fires annually, excluding car wrecks.

Lundberg said drivers can reduce the risk of vehicle fires by keeping their cars in good working order and getting regular tune-ups.

Vermeer does not plan on purchasing another car in the near future because he owns a motorcycle.

Jazz band concert features Grammy Award-winner

With a world-renowned jazz saxophonist, flutist and clarinetist to accompany them, the Northwestern Jazz Band plans to end the year with a bang.

A Grammy Award-winning musician, Justo Almario has much success of which to boast. Almario has performed with popular artists like Queen Latifah, Jennifer Lopez, Freddie Hubbard, Roy Ayers, Sergio Mendes, Billy Higgins, Tito Puente, Bebe Winans, Chaka Khan and Herb Alpert.

Almario has contributed to many prestigious Oscar and Grammy Award-winning works throughout his career. Such productions include “Frenesi” by Linda Ronstadt, “A Mi Alma Latina” by Placido Domingo and “Mercy” by Andrae Crouch. Many recognize the films “Happy Feet” and “Sideways,” of which Almario was an integral part.

Hailing from Colombia, Almario melds much of his cultural sounds with his Jazz emphasis.

The jazz band’s final production will solo feature Almario on a diverse repertoire of pieces including popular, jazz and Spanish works.

During a visit to NW in the fall of 2009, Almario performed with the Jazz group Open Hands in both a chapel and private concert. After making an appearance in Friday’s chapel, Almario will accompany the jazz band in their concert Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel. Admission is free and open to the public.