What’s that smell?

BY JULIA LANTZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Opening a window is not always the best solution to get fresh air circulating through one’s dorm room at Northwestern. It is no challenge recognizing the various smells wafting through campus, but where they come from is a puzzling mystery for some.

According to senior Marij Mulder, there are a collection of smells from different industries that create the unique aroma. Mulder has lived in Orange City her whole life and is no stranger to nose cringes. “It depends on the wind direction. It smells like paint if the wind is coming from the south.”

The headquarters for Diamond Vogel Paints is located just south of campus. “This is the most dominant factor contributing to the smell,” Mulder said.

Also in this direction of town is the Orange City industry, Advance Brands. Advance Brands is a meat-processing plant that produces primarily microwaveable meats. NWC student Aaron Hoekstra worked at the plant for the previous two summers. “When I left work I would reek of the processed meat,” Hoekstra said. “The smell of the meat also circulates in the air and travels through town.”

During fall, the smell of harvest is added to Orange City’s aroma. According to Chad S. Miller, a biology professor at NWC, “A lot of dust, plant debris and diesel motor exhaust are released into the air during harvest.”

For some, this smell is quite familiar and is a reminder of the busy and often stressful season at present. Sophomore Kendra De Jong helps out with her family’s farm in nearby Hogers. “My siblings and I started helping and tagging along with my dad pretty much as soon as we could walk,” said De Jong. “Besides taking care of the cattle, my family and I have to get all the See “Smell” on pg. 2

Athletics, admissions aim to diversify

BY KATI HENG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Six years ago, Northwestern’s football team started only one player of color. Presently, one in every five players represents a minority background.

Defense Coordinator, Matthew McCarty, is thrilled to see the increase of diversity on the team. Although most NW students would agree, they may be beginning to question where affirmative action comes into play.

Affirmative action, considered by some to be “reverse racism”, can be defined as policies or programs designed to counter discrimination against minority groups in areas such as employment or education, according to dictionary.com. Affirmative action is an extremely controversial issue – some praise it for speeding the efforts of integration, while others renounce it for being unfair, outdated or unnecessary.

In any case, many question NW’s recruitment efforts on the matter. Coach McCarty, who is also NW’s Director of Athletic Recruitment, says that although the increase of diversity on the football team has been a great thing, it didn’t happen intentionally.

Kyle Achterhoff, head football coach listed the three things he looks at when recruiting players for his team: athletic ability, academic achievement, and whether or not the student will be a good fit for NW. Often, Achterhoff’s decision comes down to that final factor.

Achterhoff has spent many Friday nights watching area high school football games and afterwards talking to the coaches about prospective recruits. Many times he sees a great athlete, but immediately drops his interest after talking to their coach and learning that great player has a poor work ethic or negative attitude.

When asked if his decision in targeting recruits was ever motivated by ethnicity, Achterhoff said “No, color doesn’t matter.” His recruitment standards remain proudly unbiased in any direction.

While the football coaches claim to not target minorities, admissions says otherwise.

“Of course we’re trying to recruit minorities!” said Ron De Jong, who is the VP of External Relations and temporarily serving as the Dean of Enrollment. “We’re interested in having as diverse of a student body as we can.”

However, these recruitment efforts can hardly fall into affirmative action’s “unfair” stereotype.

NW has lately been increasing its efforts to get its name out in states with greater minority populations, such as southwestern states, including Texas and Florida. Getting more information out about NW, its mission and its message, is the best way to draw in a larger variation of students.

It is a common misconception that students with a minority background receive special financial incentives to attend NW. Eric Anderson, the Director of Financial Aid, clearly outlined NW’s policy to provide aid to students who need it most, or deserve it for their academic or extra-curricular achievements.

Although there are some scholarships specifically set aside for minorities, school awards, such as the Peale scholarships, are given with an unbiased and indiscriminate eye.

NW to compost in caf: The dirty details

BY KATE WULLIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Northwestern continues to excel in athletics, rankings and academic programs. It should be no surprise that on-campus activities and individual students are responding with their own credentials. With the conversation on the general subject of waste continuing to circulate around campus, a growing majority of NW students pose questions regarding consumption and composting.

For instance, you may have noticed the gray compost bin stationed by the dish line in the Caf two weeks ago, a test trial of the feasibility of composting efforts here at NW. Currently, the student-initiated “Compost Proposal, organized by senior Matt Vander Molen, aims at establishing a permanent, student-maintained compost bin.

“There is a really good recycling program on campus; we can recycle just about everything except glass and plastic bags. Making composting an option on campus is a path to better use all of our resources,” Vander Molen said.

Functionally, student volunteers would be responsible for taking the kitchen and student food scraps, collected in smaller buckets by the dish lines, outside to the permanent bins. The pile would be mixed thoroughly to ensure proper decomposition, resulting in rich, dark material available for use in a campus garden or for sale to the community. The effort to establish a permanent compost bin comes in response to a desire to make good use of the large quantity of food waste generated at NW, a need to supplement the overused community bin at American Reformed Church and a hope to connect more closely with creation care issues at NW.

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PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

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Military recruiters accept openly gay recruits; France buried in protests over pension

BY ANDREW LOVGREN AND LEANN JOHNSON

EDITORS

“Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” ruled unconstitutional

Early Friday morning, the Pentagon instructed recruiters to accept openly gay individuals into the armed services. The announcement comes after months of discussion on the controversial “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy, culminating in a ruling by a federal court that rejection based on sexual orientation is unconstitutional.

The recruiters are not allowed to ask individuals, but if all other requirements are met and candidates openly declare themselves gay, they must be accepted into service. However, according to spokesperson Cynthia Smith, applicants must be reminded that the ruling may be overturned in the coming months.

In response, the Service members Legal Defense Network submitted a statement. “During this interim period of uncertainty, service members must not come out and recruits should use caution if choosing to sign up,” said SLDN Executive Director Aubrey Sarvis in the statement. “The bottom line: if you come out now, it can be used against you in the future by the Pentagon.”

Several former servicemen and women who were discharged under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” are taking the opportunity to join. “Once a Marine, always a Marine,” said Will Rodriguez-Kennedy, a corporal who was honorably discharged in February 2008. The government is expected to go to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on the issue.

French protests over pension plans to raise the retirement age from 60 to 62 and full pension payments from 65 to 67.

The French Senate adopted new rules Thursday to speed up voting on the controversial pension reform bill that would bring about these changes. Their version could pass as soon as Friday, meaning a final version could be sent to the president as soon as next week.

The French government says the changes are necessary to save money, but many of France’s young citizens are concerned. They worry about their ability to get jobs if the older generation holds onto jobs for two more years.

The ongoing strike, which followed a series of one-day strikes this month and last month, has crippled transportation and affected schools and fuel supplies. So far, 428 people have been arrested in connection to the protests.

Cont. from pg. 1 corn and beans out, bale all the cornstalk bales and try to work all the ground before it freezes and starts to snow.”

Some are more immune to the odor of Orange City. “I am used to the smell after living here my whole life,” Mulder said. “The only time I notice it is when the trucks hauling pigs pass through the highway on the middle of campus.”

Lisa Barber, the residential director of Fern Smith Hall, feels the same way. “The smells of Orange City aren’t that noticeable to me except for the livestock.” Autumn brings with it the onset of harvest, unpredictable weather and a number of overwhelming surprises. Soon enough though, winter will set in, and we will be more worried about what tickles our fingers and toes than our noses.

Pick up your FREE Chamber Value Card today!

Stop by the Chamber Office with your student ID and receive a chamber value card—normally sold for $20—for free. Office hours are from 9-noon and 1-4 p.m.
Students take issue

Alcohol diminishes control over brain

BY ANNA BARTLETT

A few days ago, my sister told me I am only half-feminine. Part of the reason this might seem true is because I’ve never put much stock in my emotions. Therefore I was surprised how my view of alcohol came about. Once I came to college, I realized people actually expected me to have a reason why I didn’t like the idea of drinking alcohol. Last year, one of my friends asked me about my aversion to alcohol and, realizing I had nothing but aversion, I began to spout out weak arguments on the spot. I realized how empty those words sounded. Something didn’t seem right.

I, a supposed rational person, had never bothered to sit down and hash out an argument. My high school friends and I were much too easily entertained to be bothered by notions of drinking. We were too busy discussing books, creating crazy croquet courses and playing Nerds at the lunch table.

Drink up, but model responsibility

BY CURTIS VER MULM

Here at Northwestern, there are quite a few people who consider the consumption of alcohol to be taboo. For those of us who have reached, or are about to reach, the age of 21, the question of whether or not it is okay to drink may be on our minds. While I do not in any way condone underage drinking, I do believe that the consumption of alcohol by Christians who are of age, if done with the right attitude, is permissible and should not be looked down upon.

Let’s start where many Christians get insight into a topic like this, the Bible. While the Bible absolutely is against drinking to excess and drunkenness, there is no indication that drinking wine or any other form of alcohol is a sin unto itself. In fact, the Bible encourages drinking in some places. “Go, eat your food with gladness, and drink your wine with a joyful heart, for this is God’s favor what you do.” Ecclesiastes 9:7. This passage, and the verses after it, encourages us to enjoy the simple pleasures in life God has given us.

Alcohol can also be good for you. In 1 Timothy, Paul advises Timothy to “Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for your stomach’s sake and your frequent infirmities.” 1 Tim. 5:23. Apparently, Timothy had been suffering from stomach ailments on his missionary journey that could be cleared up by drinking a little wine. Wine has been known to settle an upset stomach for thousands of years, but alcohol has other health benefits. For example, one New England Journal of Medicine study found that men who consumed alcohol three to seven days a week had fewer heart attacks than men who drank once a week. Moderate drinking may also help reduce risk of diabetes and dementia.

The effects of heavy drinking, however, far outweigh the benefits. Too much alcohol can negate the positive effects of moderate drinking and actually increase risk of heart disease. It can also cause cirrhosis of the liver, interfere with sleep and have negative effects when combined with other drugs among other things. Obviously, drinking in excess is not a good thing to do. It is extremely important to keep your alcohol consumption at a moderate level.

Drinking in excess and drunkenness is explicitly condemned in numerous places in the Bible. Therefore, Christians, even if they do drink, should take great care to keep their consumption level in check. However, I don’t think that this means Christians should give up drinking entirely; instead, we should see our freedom to drink as one of the many opportunities for us to minister to the people around us, especially to the younger generations. In today’s culture, we are constantly bombarded with beer advertisements, depictions of excess drinking in the media and the glorifying of alcohol consumption in general. I think that we as Christians who do drink need to stand out as the positive example of responsible alcohol consumption. Just as education can teach children the dangers of firearms and how to use them safely, alcohol education can teach people to respect the dangers of alcohol consumption, and to encourage positive and responsible use.

Should of-age Christians drink?

You have ‘em...

WE WANT ‘EM

No Homecoming court
Required chapel
Legalizing medical marijuana
In Vitro Fertilization

If you have opinions on these upcoming topics and are willing to write about them, or if you have other ideas for this page, please contact us at beacon@nwciowa.edu.

Dear Reader... From the Editors

Northwestern has a very defined sense of how community functions. To partake in it, one must share the history, stories and ideas unique to him or her. When one communicates these things, others learn to value differences. In other words, there is a healthy level of vulnerability expected for students to interact in a holistically educational way.

Vulnerability seems to be a big word around other campuses this month as well, following the suicides of four gay boys who were all victims of homophobic bullying. All of them were 15 or younger with the exception of Tyler Clementi, an 18-year-old freshman at Rutgers. Tyler threw himself from a New York bridge after his roommate had secretly recorded him kissing another guy—a video that was later uploaded to YouTube. While there may have been other variables affecting Clementi’s decision, it nevertheless seems clear that this indirect form of harassment was a climactic moment.

Research done by Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network suggests that these are not isolated incidents of bullying on the grounds of sexual choices. In fact, 85 percent of LGBT students have reported verbal harassment and 40 percent were victims to some form of physical harassment. When surveyed, 30 percent claimed to have stayed home from school one day out of the previous month for fear of abuse. So the trend is that though it might be relieving for a homosexual student to be open about his or her sexuality, there are unfortunate repercussions in communal relationships and, ultimately, in their personal well-being.

Form any of these statistics may seem to have little substantial translation into the experience of the NW community, which traditionally has had a low number of openly gay students.

In response, consider the testimony of 2009 graduate Tucker Schneider. Tucker, who came out in January of his sophomore year, was an especially active part of the NW community. He was involved in SGA. He made numerous contributions to our theater productions in his time here. And many students will remember his controversial senior art exhibit, which featured painted nudes to demonstrate themes of censorship and withholding the truth.

Two months after coming out, Tucker began receiving hateful, demeaning letters from members of this community. In an interview, he said that these continued to come on an almost weekly basis for the next two and a half years, increasingly more aggressive. Indirect, defenseless and accumulating attacks like these could have had much more disastrous psychological results had he not had other pockets of social support.

Of course, the same treatment does not befall other on-campus gays who have kept closeted or at least relatively quiet about their sexuality. Whether or not this is a viable option for them, this approach seems somewhat disconnected to otherwise clear community values: sharing what we deem the important parts of ourselves in an environment where we can be ourselves and be respected.

Certainly this disconnect can be attributed to touchy, longstanding moral concerns about homosexuality that exist among many NW students and faculty. Moreover, the official position of the college (as stated by the student handbook) counts on-campus homosexual behavior of any kind as a violation of policy.

Even so, between these recent instances of harassment and our presumable emphasis on community, there may be room to re- assess the handling of homosexuals on this campus. Can gays be honest about themselves together with the rest of the campus? More importantly, will they be treated humanely after coming out? After a notable trend of self-destructive responses, one would only hope that there this a collective commitment to protect the vulnerable.
The ultimate battle: Facebook vs. Twitter
BY SHELBY VANDER MOLLEN
STAFF WRITER

Facebook vs. Twitter: For some it is a cats vs. dogs kind of debate. Others say Facebook and Twitter have different functions and are best utilized in tandem. According to the statistics, Facebook.com cites over 500 million active users worldwide, while according to Computerworld.com, Twitter has just 75 million users. Beyond user rates, frequency of usage likewise boasts Facebook with a 50% usage on any given day while Twitter, though quickly growing, shows that only 17% of users tweeted during last month.

Despite Facebook’s dominant numbers, these sites remain the top two social networking sites and thus rivals to some degree. In fact, many users who have chosen one or the other agree vehemently that their site is indeed best. NWC Junior and Facebook user Heather Craven agrees, saying she feels Twitter is “basically a giant con.” She says, “From the general impression I get of Twitter, I think it’s a silly way to tell people the random crap you’re doing (or not doing) more times than they care to know.”

Others like Junior Andrew Stam have both and say that they offer very different services. Where Facebook has a more traditional profile and inbox based layout, Twitter operates more like a texting service. While Facebook has a live chat option, the main communication is in a post and wait-for-a-response fashion. Twitter still provides a static profile page but focuses primarily on a conversation and constant flow of updates.

Though Stam says he gets Twitter initially for the same reason many join Facebook, “to keep tabs on far-away friends,” Stam says he also enjoys using it to follow his favorite celebrities and tap into their daily lives. When it comes to content he says, “Things I post on Facebook are things I don’t care who reads. Things I post to Twitter, I only want my select friends and followers to read.” Though he uses both equally and simultaneously on his computer, he receives closest friend’s tweets on his phone.

Twitter may seem friendlier to mobile users, but sophomore Jeremy Bork, a Facebook user, says he accesses Facebook on computer and via Facebook mobile on his phone equally. Because of the ease of access, Bork says he typically checks his profile 3-5 times a day. For Bork, Facebook is a nice study break because it “keeps my attention,” and it is nice to keep in touch with friends.

Fellow sophomore Eli Groenendyk agrees. “Facebook is a handy tool to contact all my friends for organizing a praise team, setting up a fantasy football league and other things.” For him it is “enjoyable and convenient,” but he also fears it has been overused and abused.

While there are many positive factors to any social network whether Facebook, Twitter, or others, an accompanying negative is one that Groenendyk states clearly, “Actual face-to-face time may be suffering because of face-to-Facebook time.”

There once was a man named Stingy Jack. Stingy Jack was an ornery old man who liked to play tricks on everybody. He even liked to play tricks with the Devil. One day, Stingy Jack tricked the Devil into climbing up a tall tree, and then we wouldn’t let him come down. He made the Devil agree that if he let him down, the Devil would never let Jack into hell. So the Devil agreed.

“Many years later, Jack died. When he got up to the pearly gates of heaven, Saint Peter decided that Jack wasn’t going to be allowed in because he had been too grumpy and mean in his life on Earth. So Jack decided to go ask the Devil to let him into hell. Surprisingly enough, the Devil refused, keeping his heaven and hell, and it was dark. The Devil gave him a piece of glowing ember from the fire to light his way. Jack put his ember in a carved out turnip, his favorite food to steal in life. It is said that even now, Stingy Jack still wanders between heaven and hell in the dark with his glowing turnip.”

The Irish were afraid of Stingy Jack, so they decided to carve out turnips and put candles in them to scare him away at night. If a house had a turnip with a light in it, it was thought that the spirit of Stingy Jack couldn’t get into the house, and the people inside were safe. In the 1800s Irish immigrants to America found pumpkins and decided they were much easier to carve, so that’s where the jack-o-lantern happened.

The tradition of carving pumpkins has been passed down for centuries and it’s amazing that we still practice this tradition. “Every Halloween my family gets together and carves pumpkins and we put them out on our front step for the trick-or-treaters. It’s one of my favorite traditions,” freshman Alyssa Duren said. “I wish we could do it more than once a year!”

Although celebrating Halloween with Jack O’ Lanterns is a fun tradition that many students have grown up with, living in a college dorm can make carving pumpkins a little more difficult. “Maintenance hates it,” Fern RD Lisa Barber said. “Pumpkins get mushy and soft and start to stain the carpet.”

If Halloween just wouldn’t be the same without that scary-faced Jack O’ Lantern, be sure to put a paper plate or towel underneath your pumpkin to prevent it from staining the carpet – and be sure to throw it out if it starts to get soft.

Feel free to carve away at the orange flesh of your Pumpkintland purchase and come Halloween night, be sure to remember the story of Stingy Jack.

Quiz in the Corner
Go to the Beacon online to find out the answer!

What is the origin of the colors black and orange in association with Halloween?
A. Black for night and orange for the moon
B. Black cats and orange pumpkins
C. Black for death and orange for harvest
D. Black spiders and orange candy corn

The healthier choice for Halloween
BY EMILY GOWING
FEATURES EDITOR

Mmmm – chocolate. Times are few and far between when you meet someone who doesn’t like it. And what better time of year to give in to your cravings than the holiday that leads Americans to spend $3.9 billion on candy? According to Nielsen Research (en-us.nielsen.com), of all the candy sold annually in the United States, one-fourth of it is sold in the month of October. Nearly two billion dollars worth of candy for one night’s use? Wow, we do love chocolate.

Halloween doesn’t need to be a night that kills our diets, however. Of the numerous options of candy bars and sweets that can be thrown your way on the night of October 31, it might come in handy to know which fun-sized bite will bite you back and which one won’t.

When given a choice between M&Ms or Skittles, Tootsie Pops or Bubble Yum, and several other comparable candies, students were quick to know what they’d like – regardless of knowing the nutritional value of either option. The Twix candy bar won students’ favor over the Kit Kat two to one. Unfortunately, “reaching for a Kit Kat will save you 20 calories and rack up less saturated fat and sodium,” said Cynthia Sass, author of The Ultimate Diet Log.

According to Jeanne Benedict at celebrations.com, Snickers bars have topped the charts for years as the #1 Halloween candy bar. When compared to Reese’s, Northwestern students don’t quite agree. Reese’s won out six to four. Sass reports that Reeses have more protein than Snickers thanks to all of that peanut butter, but Snickers contain less fat, less saturated fat and 10 fewer calories in a fun-size to fun-size match up.

What about the sugar high you can get from SweeTarts and Smarties? Is one better than the other? Students prefer Smarties to four – and it’s a good thing because Smarties have half the calories and grams of sugar than SweeTarts.

A fun tradition with a creepy past
BY TINA MCGIVERN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Many of us have been carving pumpkins as a Halloween tradition for as long as we can remember. But why do we do it? “I have absolutely no idea,” freshman Brian Thomas said. “I couldn’t even begin to tell you why... that’s pathetic!” As told by the History Channel, the Pumpkin Nook and several other Halloween-type portals of information, the story behind carving pumpkins is a little more elaborate and spooky than expected.

The tradition of carving pumpkins has been passed down for centuries and it’s amazing that we still practice this tradition. “Every Halloween my family gets together and carves pumpkins and we put them out on our front step for the trick-or-treaters. It’s one of my favorite traditions,” freshman Alyssa Duren said. “I wish we could do it more than once a year!”

Although celebrating Halloween with Jack O’ Lanterns is a fun tradition that many students have grown up with, living in a college dorm can make carving pumpkins a little more difficult. “Maintenance hates it,” Fern RD Lisa Barber said. “Pumpkins get mushy and soft and start to stain the carpet.” If Halloween just wouldn’t be the same without that scary-faced Jack O’ Lantern, be sure to put a paper plate or towel underneath your pumpkin to prevent it from staining the carpet – and be sure to throw it out if it starts to get soft.

Feel free to carve away at the orange flesh of your Pumpkintland purchase and come Halloween night, be sure to remember the story of Stingy Jack.

How about the candy of autumn – candy corn? Sass held it in comparison with Tootsie Rolls. On a national level, candy corn wins the taste test hands down with 20 million pounds consumed annually. Students on our campus, however, prefer Tootsie Rolls by a landslide of votes. The toss-up here is perfectly fine because the

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FEATURES

How To: Halloween costumes on a college budget

BY HOLLY STEWART
STAFF WRITER

When asked about their Halloween costumes from last year, students across campus found inexpensive and easy ways to dress up as some of their favorite characters and people. Sophomore Skyler Tiahrt, who dressed up as Beast Boy from Teen Titans, bought his whole costume and it only cost him about fifteen dollars. Sophomore Sarah Kugler dressed up as Poison Ivy, one of the villains from Batman. “My costume was an amalgamation of items I already had and things I bought at Goodwill,” Kugler said. “Overall, probably 10 dollars max!”

But what if spending money just isn’t an option? Halloween costumes on a college budget are easy – as long as you’re creative. Junior Holly Lawrence got her costume for free by compiling some of her own items and some of her friends’ to dress up as “Where’s Waldo?” complete with a red and white striped dress and big glasses.

Sophomore Amber Amundson praises the idea of coming up with your own costumes. “Honestly, I think store-bought costumes look really cheap anyway. There is always that fear that someone will have bought the same thing, and they are 20 to 40 bucks. Coming up with your own costume and assembling it out of far less pricey pieces is a lot more fun.”

Look around the media today; there are plenty of celebrities and TV characters that would be a blast to match – the possibilities are nearly endless.

The inside scoop about students losing sleep

BY ALYSSA CURRIER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It’s a common problem on college campuses across the nation. Desk lamps are on until five o’clock in the morning and students drag themselves to their early morning classes just three hours later. It’s a lack of sleep. From athletics to theatre productions to hitting the books in the hard sciences, how much do curricular, and extracurricular activities cut into a college student’s most precious free-time activity of all? Is it a time-management problem? Or do athletes and science majors really have less free time?

To answer these questions, a survey was taken across campus in which students of all grades were asked how much sleep they get per night on average. It turns out that athletes may have a reason to whine.

On average, those participating in a sport get one hour and nine minutes less sleep than non-athletes. “Practice takes up a lot of time, but

The survey results, Heemstra boys get an average of six hours of sleep per night – a whole hour less than the rest of Coly. Steggy girls get even less, averaging only five hours and 15 minutes. Out of the women’s dorms, it seems that Hospers girls most value their beauty sleep, averaging six hours and 15 minutes of sleep per night.

This survey also shows upperclassmen as getting approximately an hour more sleep per night than freshmen or sophomores. “Personally, when I was a freshman, I liked the fact that I didn’t have to go to bed even when I had class at 7:45 in the morning,” said junior Nathan Lafleur. It may take a couple of years of too many late nights to realize, but as Lafleur continues, “I think upperclassmen learn when to go to bed in order to get enough sleep.”

In the end, beauty sleep just isn’t what it used to be. Women on our campus get roughly 45 minutes less sleep than men. Is it the time spent in front of the mirror applying make-up or straightening your hair that makes the difference? If so, sleep a little more and wake up looking refreshed. Applause is in order for the men across campus who know when it’s time to turn off fantasy football and crawl into bed. Because after all, sleep isn’t overrated.
Simple, ridiculous games offer short-lived entertainment

BY MICHAEL GUTSCHIE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

At this point, anyone who has spent any amount of time toiling about on the Internet has probably been distracted by flash games at one point or another. These simple and addictive games often utilize a short-lived but creative game mechanic. For the most part, flash games began as throwbacks to easily-programmed retro games. 2D platformers, scrolling shooters and simple adventure games can be found in plentitude. One of the finest examples of creative genre-reinterpretations is the aptly-named “Robot Dinosaurs That Shoot Beams When They Roar.” As you’d expect, the game is hilarious and full of colorful personality besides being a great side-scrolling shooter. Another standout, “Sonny,” is an old-school, turn-based RPG which puts you in the role of a zombie for a long, plot-heavy and surprisingly complex experience.

While the demand for classic game styles is as strong as ever, newer game tastes have crept on in newer ideas. “Dinosaurs That Shoot Beams When They Roar” is one of many flash games that offer a ridiculous twist to old genres. What follows instead is a glitchy, one-point or another. These require solving a poetic riddle by rearranging on-screen objects. These require some creative, out-of-the-box thinking on the part of the player. "VVVVVV" also makes use of a physics-heavy mechanic. It is one of several games that involves shifting the environment so that it is entirely too productive, hit them up and lose 20 minutes shooting aliens or propelling yourself through the air by your own violent projectile. There are also many other flash games that can and must be purchased and upgraded in order to complete the game.

There is also an offering for those seeking more professional and polished innovative titles. “Spewer” is an exceptionally cute and polished innovative title. The folk-revivalist in him may be gone in favor of other frantic projects. The oddly-named “VVVVVV” also uses the physics-heavy mechanic. It is one of several games that involves shifting the environment so that it is of gravity dimensionality enables the character to move through the puzzle. Therefore, there are also art games like “Today I Die,” which require to solve a poetic riddle by rearranging on-screen objects. These require some creative, out-of-the-box thinking on the part of the player. "VVVVVV" also makes use of a physics-heavy mechanic. It is one of several games that involves shifting the environment so that it is entirely too productive, hit them up and lose 20 minutes shooting aliens or propelling yourself through the air by your own violent projectile.
Mitchell’s historical novel considers worth of life’s intangibles

**JOSH DOORENBOS**

**STAFF WRITER**

“The Thousand Autumnns of Jacob de Zoet,” set in turn-of-the-19th-century Japan, is a romantic, intelligently historical novel that gets at the question of what gives things worth or value.

David Mitchell’s novel takes the reader to the Dutch East Indies port in Dejima, Japan. In a time when Japan’s international relations were closed, the Dutch occupy a special trade relationship, the only outsiders let into the county. Ship after ship arrives from the Europe nation, and the essential question early in the book is: What is copper worth?

Of course, we soon learn that the company has not been doing as well as it should, much of which is due to the mismanagement of materials by the Chief Daniel Snitker. These bad business methods are what bring the mismanagement of materials by the Chief Daniel Snitker. These bad business methods are what bring...

Senior Hillary Hanno dominated the contest with 20 kills and 13 digs to earn a double-double. Sophomore Kate Buyert registered 11 kills and led Northwestern with five blocks. Junior Kyle Hulstein added two shots and senior Kaitlin Beaver set up 44 assists.

Freshman Ben Bosch ran 28:34 to place 86th, while sophomore Tyler Drenkow took 600 total yards. The rushing attack off the offense, as NW racked up almost 600 total yards. The rushing attack tallied 363 yards, led by sophomore Brandon Smith and senior Taylor Malm, who both gained more than 100 yards in the same game for the second time this season. Smith scored two touchdowns and had 20 carries for 170 yards. Malm carried the ball 15 times for 123 yards and a touchdown.

Junior Jayme Rozeboom completed 16 of 24 passes for 177 yards and two touchdowns. Freshman Davis Bloemendaal got a chance at quarterback in the fourth quarter, completing four of six passes for 38 yards. He also threw the first touchdown pass of his college career.

Malm and sophomore Tyler Walker were the top targets, as Malm had six catches for 42 yards and Walker had five catches for 71 yards. Walker, senior Caleb Van Otterloo and junior Tim Vermeer each caught a touchdown pass.

Sophomore James Rodriguez made two field goals for the Raiders, one from 29 yards and one from 38 yards.

The defense held Dordt to 157 yards and only nine first downs. Senior Caleb Blauwet had five tackles and one sack, while Van Otterloo added four tackles. As a team, the Raiders had a season-high six sacks, including two by sophomore Stanley Fleming. Freshman Theo Bartman led the special teams with 4.5 tackles and two kickoff returns for 78 yards.

The Raiders will travel to Crete, Neb., on Saturday to take on the Doane Tigers at 1 p.m.