Come home and ‘Spread Red’

BY KATE WALLIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the temperatures drop and the trees litter the Green with their leaves, most campuses around the country begin the hibernation process. But ask any current student or alumnus and they’ll tell you, as the days get cooler, Northwestern heats up!

This Monday marks the start of NW’s annual Homecoming festivities. The celebration—beginning with the eagerly anticipated dodgeball tournament and concluding Saturday night with the homecoming dance—is designed to further connect current students while bringing together the NW alumni community.

The week is packed with unique NW traditions that give students opportunities to celebrate our community—past and present. With events such as the homecoming football game, Spread Red Shoot Out, Medallion Hunt, Red Raider Road Race, Morning on the Green and Northwestern’s Best Dance Crew, there’s bound to be something of interest for everyone.

The week will kick off Monday night at 6 p.m. in the RSC with the annual dodgeball tournament. The tournament, divided into male and female brackets, takes place Monday and Tuesday, ending Wednesday night with a final championship at 10 p.m.

As Krystal Van Wyk, former Homecoming royalty and recent graduate, said, “If you’re looking for a study hot spot during the week, go to the RSC gym for dodgeball! Everyone’s there!”

While it’s true that the tournament gives students a chance to compete, it’s also a chance to have some serious fun. It provides an opportunity to commune with other students and even to prove the proverb, “If you can dodge traffic, you can dodge a ball,” made popular by a certain 2004 movie.

New this year to the lineup of Homecoming events is the Spread Red Shoot Out. The Shoot Out is sure to keep students on their toes as they compete in the “craziest squirt gun game ever.” The event, beginning Monday, pits student against student as they attempt to outwit and outplay all others in hopes of remaining dry.

Saturday hosts many of the more established traditions, including Morning on the Green, the Red Raider Road Race and the Homecoming football game. On Saturday night the homecoming dance will start at 9 p.m. in the RSC gym. Its music, ranging from classic 90s pop to current tunes, is sure to get your heart pumping as you celebrate with friends, old and new.

Theatre perfects ‘Asian Folk Tales’

BY JULIA LANTZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Senior theatre majors, Yuika Ida and Huiyu Lin, will be featured in the NW theatre production of “Asian Folk Tales.”

Ida is from Tottori-ken, Japan, and Lin is from Yilan City, Taiwan. Theatre professor, Karen Bohm Barker, wanted both girls to be highlighted. Subsequently, a collection of folk tales from their homelands were selected. Folktales from Korea were also chosen.

“It seemed to me it would be a waste of their resources, with their cultural backgrounds and their abilities,” said Barker. Ida is acting in the production, and Lin is designing costumes with both traditional Asian and anime style for the cast.

A total of six stories will be presented. The themes of the stories presented are similar to folk tales from Western culture.

“What parents are trying to tell their children about morals is the same,” said Barker. “We value the same things; hopefully that will be loud and clear.”

The show begins with a Taiwanese folk tale called “The Frog in the Well.” “It’s about seeing how large the world is,” Barker said. “It is our hope that when all the elementary students come to see the play, they will see the world is bigger than Northwest Iowa.”

The lobby is going to have a display that will hopefully emphasize how immense and diverse the world is, with displays of Asian-cultured decorations and music.

“We would love to see elementary schools become inspired by the performance and start a Haiku unit in their school,” Barker said. The performance will end with “Story Spirits,” a folk tale from Korea. This tale is about a man who is haunted by spirits because he never shared the stories he heard as a child. “Story Spirits’ will hopefully encourage students to tell their stories,” Barker said.

“Most of the visuals will come from the costumes and the staging itself,” said Barker. “Also the lights will be pretty magical.” Sophomore Andrew Stam has painted a map of the three Asian countries on the floor of the performing center.

“We are hoping the lack of scenery works to our advantage,” Barker said. “It helps the children see that it doesn’t take fancy stuff to tell a good story.”

The cast will be performing Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. and Oct. 2 at 4 p.m. in the Allen Theatre’s Black Box. The production is also being shown to schoolchildren every Tuesday and Thursday from Sept. 30 to Nov. 11.

Many alumni will strive to make it back to NW for Homecoming next week.
Breaking the Bubble: Stories across the nation and around the world

**Record numbers spark NW prestige**

**BY TYLER LEHMANN**

With record-breaking numbers surrounding student enrollment, it is no wonder that Northwestern is topping the charts.

This year’s retention rate of returning freshmen was second to highest in school history at 80 percent, along with the largest entering freshmen class since 2006.

“That shows we are providing the kind of experience students anticipated they would receive,” Ron De Jong, Dean of Enrollment Services, said.

Apart from class standings, NW has intentionally sought cultural diversity with this year resulting in the college’s highest percentage of American ethnic minorities.

“Our staff has worked hard to recruit a more diverse student body,” De Jong said, “because we want all of our students to be prepared to be global citizens in this multicultural world.”

With 4,352 higher education institutions in the U.S., students are fortunate to be attending NW. Freshmen may not yet be familiar with everything that makes NW special, but returning students have plenty to say about why they like “spread red.” NW has garnered a reputation for excellence. “U.S. News & World Report” has ranked NW in the top ten Midwestern colleges for four consecutive years. “Washington Monthly” named NW the second-best baccalaureate college in the nation in 2010. While these accolades are greatly appreciated, they are not what matters most to returning students.

Integrating faith and learning is fundamental at NW, and returning students value this commitment.

“Professors open classes with devotions...and I can talk about my faith,” sophomore David Bruxvoort said.

Community also plays a role in returning students’ decision to attend NW. From meeting one-on-one with professors to holding wing devotions, the opportunities to become a part of the NW community are endless.

“Community is why I keep coming here. That’s what I look for,” senior Jacob Gaster said.

Many returning students also appreciate the advantages of NW’s small size with 71 percent of classes having fewer than 20 students.

“Small class size is definitely a plus,” Bruxvoort said, “and it’s a liberal arts college, so it gives me the opportunity to take classes in my diverse interests.”

**Facts & numbers**

| Student enrollment: 1,243 Freshmen enrollment: 351 Student-faculty ratio: 14:1 Out of state: 44.9% Am. ethnic minorities: 6.8% International students: 1.7% |

The “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” rule oil companies such as Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Exxon and Royal Dutch Shell to make the best rapid-response oil containment system to prevent another disaster.

Although the well has now been officially pronounced dead, cleaning up work is not finished.

“It’s going to go on as long as it takes to get the marshes and the beaches clean,” said retired BP Adm. Thad Allen. “We’re going to stay with this for quite awhile.”

Although water testing no longer shows high levels of oil in the area, experts fear oil could be settling to the ocean bottom, where it may be damaging to the ecosystem.

**Frankenfish**

Meanwhile, the United States Food and Drug Administration is in debate over a request to market genetically modified salmon. If approved, the fish could be in stores and on your plate in as little as two years.

“The salmon, spawned from genetically engineered salmon eggs, grow to full-size in half the time it takes a normal salmon. These salmon would be the first transgenic animal allowed for human consumption and may lead to the approval of other modified animals, such as an environmentally friendly pig currently being developed in Canada.”

RonStotish, CEO of AquaBounty, the company marketing the fish, says the salmon are safe and environmentally sustainable. The FDA has already said that this salmon is as safe to eat as the natural kind.

However, critics are calling the modified salmon a “frankenfish” and claim it may cause allergies in humans.

Also, it is still unclear if the American public wants to eat the modified salmon. A cnn.com poll showed that about 17 percent of voters said they would eat the salmon “in a heartbeat,” while 45 percent would absolutely not eat it.

Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell

“We still have a fighting chance to repeal DADT through congressional action, but in the meantime, the best interests of our men and women in uniform are served by doing everything we can to get rid of this discriminatory law,” said Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign.
Musings from Marit Langley

Disappointment that “Up” in 3-D. Expecting the same traditional version.

I am comfortable sacrificing the few trying to save money where possible, was not happy I had to pay four a regular movie.

The waterfall in “Up” is the only part of the film that I can remember not impressed by the “3-Dness.” Perhaps because I expected a million balloons to float inches from my face like animation at that; however, the effect oftentimes loses the visual effects.

Although its story was not up to par with its predecessors, I could not imagine a greater end to the legacy of “Toy Story” than the beautiful images created in the third installment; the scene at the landfill was utterly breathtaking because of the 3-D effect. Similarly, a few scenes from “Despicable Me” were fascinating in 3-D.

I would never say 3-D improves a plot or the acting in any film (sorry, “The Last Airbender,” you lose out on these as well), but it does enhance movies to the degree in which it is intended—pure spectacle. The film is not going to jump out of the screen at you like the advertisements make you think, but there will be a richness and depth to the images that is simply incredible.

With seven 30 titles expected to be released in 3-D (natural, conversion, or animated) in 2011, there is a lot of movie theater eye candy in our future. The technology will only improve, and we will be finding ourselves seeing painstaking detail put forth into perfecting the depth of 3-D, thereby enhancing the beauty of our movie-going experience even further. 

The Retezat Mountains.

WidescreenMovies.org, the office was “Alice” (let’s installments; the scene at the landfill is a different story. It consists of using computers to mimic the original film image and layering them to create two identical offset images. When it comes to films that have utilized the easy, cost-saving method of converting from 2-D, the effect oftentimes loses its strength.

The newest blockbuster, but do not visually wonderful ways to watch television watching is a casual event.

3-D TV, on the other hand, is geared toward an intentional viewing experience requiring special glasses, screens and DVDs. At least for now, most people are not in a situation where the switch to 3-D TV fits economic or even personal television watching practices.

The latest filmmaking technology does not solely make a film a box office hit, but it does help. Audiences want to watch movies about people and events they can relate to and feel emotionally attached to. Beautiful visual effects like 3-D or the computer graphics in “Avatar” should support a quality story, not be the story. In the end, movies are made great by the story, not by the visual effects.

In some respects, 3-D movies are visually wonderful ways to watch television. As I sit in my host family’s living room at 11:49 on a Sunday morning, typing, reading assignments for tomorrow’s classes and drinking a mug of steaming coffee, I can’t help but smile over the differences I have found between this place and good old Orange City, where the clocks read 3:49 AM and you should all be sleeping.

I live just minutes down the mountain from Kelly’s host family, and from our new homes we have a lovely little jaunt—45 minutes by foot—to and from the Impact building in Lupeni where most of our classes are held. I must admit that I find it somewhat more lovely on the “to” end, when the road leads downhill, but the view, the company and the moments of silent contemplation I have been afforded while tromping in either direction have been beautiful. From my first month here, I have drawn out these gems of wisdom:

1. “No, thank you” is not often accepted as an actual refusal in Romania, and several more offers will inevitably ensue. Be prepared to stand firm in your refusal, or simply to accept.

2. Romania must be home to three-fourths of the world’s canine population; there are dogs everywhere! Feed them and they will follow you indefinitely, gazing up longingly with big, irresistible puppy eyes.

3. Ciorba (Romanian soup) is fantastic! Never miss a chance to eat homemade ciorba.

4. Microwaves are highly superfluous.

5. Gathering plums and apples from the orchard surrounding my host home is the perfect way to spend a sunny fall day.

6. The little orange café by the Lupeni post office serves incredible pastries and espresso… and if I edit my standard route subtly enough, I can’t help but smile over the differences I have found between this place and good old Orange City, where the clocks read 3:49 AM and you should all be sleeping.

7. There is nothing quite as satisfying as falling asleep in six layers of clothing, warming with aching muscles in a chilly tent on the rocky ground of the Retezat Mountains.

8. A simple grin, if used often, can create friendships through language barriers.

9. Verb conjugation can kick my butt in Romanian just as easily as it did in Spanish.

10. Washing the dishes can mean “I love you!” in any language.

KAMERON TOEWS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I was seven years old when I saw my first 3-D movie, “Honey I Shrunk the Kids.” I remember water droplets and creatures coming off the screen close enough for me to touch. A kid’s paradise.

I hadn’t been to a 3-D movie since then until I saw “Up” last year. “Up” is a beautifully well-made film and easily one of my favorite Disney/Pixar creations. Yet I was disappointed in the 3-D version. Perhaps because I expected a million balloons to float inches from my face like animation. I do not foresee that 3-D movies will continue to be such a big hit in the theaters past the next few years. 3-D has been around for a long time. According to WidescreenMovieLiving, the first 3-D feature film opened in 1922 and was followed by ups and downs in 3-D popularity and interest throughout the years. 3-D was again popular in the 40s and 50s. 3-D feature films seem to be a tactic used by film corporations to attract an increasing number of viewers when theater attendance drops.

Television sets are even taking to the 3-D craze. It blows my mind how this is possible; but again, I think 3-D TVs will simply ride the profit wave until the excitement wears off. For most people, television watching is a casual event. TV is often background noise for conversation or while working or eating. 3-D movies were one of my saving graces of sanity this summer. Although its story was not up to par with its predecessors, I could not imagine a greater end to the legacy of “Toy Story” than the beautiful images created in the third installment; the scene at the landfill was utterly breathtaking because of the 3-D effect. Similarly, a few scenes from “Despicable Me” were fascinating in 3-D.

I would never say 3-D improves a plot or the acting in any film (sorry, “The Last Airbender,” you lose out on these as well), but it does enhance movies to the degree in which it is intended—pure spectacle. The film is not going to jump out of the screen at you like the advertisements make you think, but there will be a richness and depth to the images that is simply incredible.

With seven 30 titles expected to be released in 3-D (natural, conversion, or animated) in 2011, there is a lot of movie theater eye candy in our future. The technology will only improve, and we will be finding ourselves seeing painstaking detail put forth into perfecting the depth of 3-D, thereby enhancing the beauty of our movie-going experience even further.

3-D mania: This, too, shall pass

BY AARON BAUER
STAFF WRITER

3-D films have been the thing to see over the past year. People continue to go back and forth between whether or not they enjoy films in 3-D. The facts, when done correctly, three dimensions can greatly enhance a film viewing.

The biggest recent 3-D hit was “Avatar”—in 2009. Because of its huge success in 3-D, director James Cameron is the go-to man when seeking advice on how to make a solid three-dimensional movie. There was plenty of computer-generated imagery designed to enhance the breathtaking views created by Cameron, but the stunning multi-dimensional effects were thanks to proper 3-D cameras employed during shooting.

Typically, two cameras shoot from slightly offset angles, and the two films are overlaid together, creating the dual images your eyes see when watching a 3-D film without glasses. Done this way, a film is sure to have taken much more time to produce, but the overall effect is strikingly beautiful in comparison to that of a 2-D film.

Convection of 2-D into 3-D is a different story. It consists of using computers to mimic the original film image and layering them to create two identical offset images. When it comes to films that have utilized the easy, cost-saving method of converting from 2-D, the effect oftentimes loses its strength.

The waterfall in “Up” is the only part of the film that I can remember not impressed by the “3-Dness.” Perhaps because I expected a million balloons to float inches from my face like animation at that; however, the effect oftentimes loses its strength.

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Colenbrander and Heemstra find unity under one roof

BY HOLLY STEWART
STAFF WRITER

Besides the integration of West men into Stegenga Hall, one of the biggest changes for Northwestern's community has been the assimilation of Heemstra into Colenbrader Hall. Ever since the news became official last fall that Heemstra Hall would have to be demolished, the atmosphere of NW has slowly begun to change. Without a doubt, there are still those mourning the destruction of Heemstra (the building), but most are coming to terms with the change and are realizing that Heemstra, along with all of the other dorms, is not made up of a building, but of the students that resided in it.

Heemstra, also known as h*, has been relocated to Coly 3rd North and 3rd West. That is not to say that the only students there are former Heemstra residents. New freshmen and Coly upperclassmen have been added to the mix and feel the bond of community just the same.

Junior Kameron “Drifter” Toews acknowledged how hard it is to go from the smaller to bigger dorm size, yet he thinks the move allows for Heemstra to bond together more closely.

Junior Bob “Rajah” Latchaw, R.A. of Coly 3W, echoed Drifter’s thoughts. “Instead of being spread out in four floors of Heemstra, we now enjoy the closeness of living on two wings of the same floor.”

Living together is not the only ingredient for good community. It takes work to keep the individual community of h* alive. “Anew home does not keep us from expressing ourselves differently,” said Toews. “We came up with new h* names for the freshmen,” added Sophomore Brandon “Headlock” Hammack. “It still feels like the old h* where everyone says hi every time you pass by.”

Colenbrander and Heemstra find unity under one roof

PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

The Heemstra brotherhood may still be thriving, but the residents can’t forget that they are now part of a different dorm – one with its own persona and version of community. “Coly residents have welcomed Heemstr alike with open hearts. [RD] Ryan Anderson has done a phenomenal job melding the dorm into a united Colenbrander Hall,” expressed Toews.

Unaware of anything “out of the ordinary,” junior transfer student Andrew Schneider is helping to bridge the gap between Coly and h*. “I love diversity, so I love having Heemstra in Coly. As a new student, I don’t necessarily know what Heemstra culture exactly is or how it works, but it’s going to be helpful for Coly as a dorm because if Heemstra and Coly are able to come together they will be able to learn from each other and have a broader view of life and a stronger, more diverse community,” stated Schneider. Latchaw captured the essence of the situation when he said, “The transition is, and will be, a process. Heemstra and Coly are simply two different communities. Creating unity between the two is naturally going to take some effort, but I’m excited to see what the future holds.”

What’s behind the Gen Eds? A look into NW’s Religion Department

BY SHELBY VANDER MOLEN
STAFF WRITER

“You can’t go wrong learning about God,” joked Steven De Vries, a senior here at NWC. But as he continued, his offhanded statement seemed to echo a good deal of truth. “On a campus like this, we all have our own refined theologies, and we operate under them whether we’re aware of it or not,” De Vries said. “So why not take a closer look?”

De Vries, an enthusiastic NWC religion major, is preparing for seminary and eventually a career as a chaplain or pastor. As he says “wherever God is going to use me most effectively.”

Religion majors have a wide variety of options come graduation, he notes. Hospital, military, or prison chaplaincy, as well as hospice work, pastoral roles, or mission work are just a few options. Classmate Felipe Silva exemplifies this as he plans to apply his degree to enter “full time ministry after seminary, being involved with church planting and community development.”

Silva said, “If you are interested in learning more about the word of God, how to use it properly and manage it well, or have a passion to be involved in the ministry one day, understand things we usually don’t or maybe have not thought of.”

Even if you’re not a religion major, consider taking a class or two in this area to deepen your understanding of God and Scripture. Dr. James Mead, a professor in the religion department, pointed out that regardless of your major, the kinds of things you’ll encounter in religion classes are “valuable for any Christian who takes faith and learning seriously.”

Mead also said that “collegiality among the department members” is another perk for the religion department at NW. Dr. Jackie Smallbones agrees. Her extensive international experience, like many other religion professors, also contributes to the department’s unique flavor. She said all of the religion faculty have been “actively involved in church ministry for many years” and represent a variety of specializations in their research and teaching.

As a student, De Vries has experienced and appreciates this. He says that by only taking the gen. ed. courses, you miss out on the variety of knowledge and perspectives throughout the department. De Vries says he enjoys this range and finds it none short of delightful to learn from various professors about the topics that “make them light up.”

Not to mention, as a religion major, you might just find yourself “reading through Reformation era theologians, memorizing declensions and conjugating 30-lb. lexicons, being able to distinguish between ‘Baptists’ and ‘Anabaptists’ or ‘infralapsarians’ and ‘supralapsarians,’” said Dr. John Vander Brugge. After all, “What’s not to like?”

PHOTO COURTESY OF YWAMRTO.ORG

COURTESY OF YWAMRTO.ORG

A religion student digs into the Psalms to study the plight of King David.

A n d e r s o n h e a r t s .

September 24, 2010

FEATURES

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**What does your Facebook profile picture say about you?**

**BY KARLA ARNDT**

Contributing Writer

Are you one of the millions of people that changed their profile picture on Facebook today? Of the 400 million Facebook users, profile pictures range from style to fashion, from intriguing to confusing – and the picture is often quite as interesting as user’s motives.

Unless you’ve specifically set your privacy settings, the hundreds of pictures of you that are tagged on your Facebook are available for the entire world of Facebook users to see. What sort of impression of ourselves are we giving off by our profile picture?

Students around campus are known to display pictures that capture them having a good time with friends, supporting their favorite “sport-ball” team, or experiencing a moment that has become memorable to them. Some people want their picture to have a unique edge that sticks out and becomes noticed by Facebook users. Others think profile pictures are simply irrelevant.

Why did you choose the picture you have? What’s the thought process behind the change when you make one? Maybe it’s as simple as taking a new picture because you’re tired of your old one. When it gets down to it, however, choosing a Facebook profile picture may be more of an art than we would assume.

Currently displaying himself and two friends at a baseball game, sophomore Steve Ehlers said of his picture, “I picked mine because I think it’s funny and I wanted something different.” Young adults are more apt to find pictures that create a funny or cool vibe for them.

“It portrays my passion - and Kai Hao Chen took it. What’s not to love?” said senior Matthew Skelton whose picture shows him playing the guitar.

As seen by freshman Miranda Fischer’s simple picture of her with two friends, profile pictures can be used as a way of connecting with loved ones. She said, “I chose my picture because it reminds me of my friends back home that I miss so dearly.”

According to a recent study done by 17-year-old Nina Jones in collaboration with the BBC, “men are 50% more likely to have retouched their photo than women and 20% less likely to be smiling in it. Being in a relationship raised men’s chances of a smiling photo by some 35%.”

For working adults on Facebook, their profile pictures are often seen to display a professional headshot or no picture at all so their name and face are not associated together. Many times, “the older generation” likes to show pictures of their families or just of their children. Whether missing your friends, expressing your interests, or hoping for a laugh inspired your current choice, we all know Facebook can be a world of its own. Does your picture represent the real you?

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**Pax Christi: a discussion of sects, denominations and religions**

**BY TINA MCGHERN**

Contributing Writer

Northwestern is a religious school, that’s for sure. However, not all religions are equally discussed and brought to the surface here. Pax Christi (which is Latin for the peace of Christ) is a group that was founded on those premises – a group for Catholics to understand and talk about their faith. Shauna Ell, a graduate of Pax Christi, explained her gratitude for Pax Christi because sometimes being one of the minority religions on campus is “frustrating and lonely.”

Students who don’t practice Catholicism are invited to participate in discussions as well. The group members believe that “having a number of different religious beliefs represented enriches the experience considerably. Members are not afraid to discuss their faith and they are certainly not afraid to learn. Students take part in Pax Christi to continue to learn about their faith even while being in the minority.

Member Chelsea Stanton described the basics of her student-led group: “It is a place for Catholics and non-Catholics to meet for informal, ecumenical conversation and to ponder other questions about theology – God and life. She went on to say that the mission of Pax Christi is to provide an informal atmosphere to discuss faith and life across Catholic and Protestant divisions. However, the group doesn’t just stick to those denominations.

Recently, the book of Mormon was brought into discussion and the group is currently pondering the faith of the Church of Latter Day Saints (LDS). Jebediah Rach, freshman and new member of the group, shared input as well. “There’s discussion about a lot of items related to religion. Despite the fact that [Pax Christi] is sometimes advertised as a Catholic discussion group, really, it turns out to be about Christianity as a whole. Plus, there’s free food!”

The roots of Pax Christi come from a basic, almost biological need to be understood as well as to understand others. Justinn Derry, graduate of NW, is one of the key people involved in starting Pax Christi. Regardless of the community in Heemstra, he still felt isolated and lonely in his faith. “My friends in the dorm were supportive but there were still the differences in our belief structure that never seemed to go away. It was like the elephant in the room. I did not have anyone to talk seriously with about doctrines of my faith.”

Many other students at NW felt the same was Derry did, including Ell. She said, “I sat through some chapels with speakers who had anti-Catholic views. I also heard negative things about the Catholic Church and Catholicism in some of my classes.” Being a part of Pax Christi helped people like Derry and Ell gain a better hold on their faith and the ability to challenge themselves in their beliefs. Also, being a part of Pax Christi is important but also can be daunting when facing a majority of non-Catholics.

Pax Christi is open to everyone and they are looking for more people to join. They meet in the South Conference room in the Franken Center from 7-9 p.m. on Mondays.

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**A mission about baby clothes and Bibles**

**BY ALYSSA CURRIER**

Contributing Writer

Anyone who has ever called themselves a “poor college student” is probably familiar with the concept of “thrifting.” Finding good deals on clothes, furniture and other odds and ends can be the difference between Pizza Ranch and a granola bar; a load of laundry or the alternative.

Like many other thrift stores, Bibles for Missions offers quality, used merchandise at exceptionally low prices to assist those looking for a good deal or facing financial hardship – hence, college students.

While offering incredible steals on quality clothes, books and home décor, this thrift center supports an international organization called the Bible League.

Since 1936, the Bible League has distributed over 700 million copies of Scripture and discipled individuals and communities in more than 60 countries around the world.

Presently, there are 13 Bibles for Missions Thrift Centers in operation. Over the years, these centers have enabled more than $13 million worth of Scriptures to be shared around the globe. It is this ministry’s hope that individuals touched by their outreach will feel compelled to start new centers in their own communities.

Orange City’s center was opened three years ago by Bibles for Missions Regional Coordinator, Jessica Bruinsma. Bruinsma explained that each center chooses a country they wish to support. All of Orange City’s funds go toward placing Scripture in Haiti.

“What is so neat about the Bible League is that it’s not just a Bible distribution. It’s an evangelism tool,” Bruinsma said.
Check Out

Time killers and space fillers

Website: “Etsy”

Whether it’s clothing, jewelry, art, or toys that you’re looking for, this online marketplace offers homemade and vintage alternatives.

Food: Sioux City’s Vietnamese Restaurant “De Kao”

If you’re looking for a different kind of Asian food and are in the neighborhood, this place offers excellent soups and rice platters.

YouTube Search: “Watermelon + Catapult”

See a painfully hilarious clip from the reality gameshow, “The Amazing”

By Alena Schuessler

Gary Shteyngart’s new novel, “Super Sad True Love Story,” presents an intriguing world, a world where iPhones are a thing of the past, “verballing” is how people communicate and everyone’s credit scores and cholesterol levels are posted on the Internet for all the world to see. In this world, no one cares to know the words to “The Star Spangled Banner” and all of this takes place in America’s much-too-near future.

In this brilliantly crafted satire, Shteyngart presents an all-digital, fast-paced world in which everyone is concerned with staying alive as long as possible. The novel centers on Levy Abramov, born of Russian-Jewish immigrants, and his relationship with a much younger Eunice Park, the daughter of Korean immigrants.

Abramov works for Staattling-Wapachung, a company that tries to sell vitamins, supplements, teas, and juices that are supposed to increase one’s lifespan. The company boasts promises of youth and immortality, two buzzwords in the American culture.

The Walkmen redefine sound with upbeat, guitar-driven anthems

BY GREG WHITE

The Walkmen have been angrily rocking since 2000. But on “Lisbon,” their latest studio album, they’re starting to change.

This may have to do with the idea that everything around them inevitably changes, as the lyric from “Juveniles” suggests (“You’re someone else / tomorrow night / doesn’t matter to me”).

The Walkmen still care. But as they are growing up, the thrill of defending a rigid, idealistic view of the world has lost its edge. They follow by saying, “Cause there’s a sun dying / into the hill / you got all I need.” Their settling says instead that human beings can all that they need despite the changes that take them away from what they think they want.

Fans of Ezra Koenig (Vampire Weekend) may be interested to know that he interned under The Walkmen at Columbia University. Under their tutelage, Vampire Weekend developed an offshoot that were full of barrios, ships and bridges and barrios, ships and seagulls.

“Lisbon” is a departure from their early albums that were full of shorter songs and angrier lyrics. It is a move toward some happiness. Does the power of rock music lie in its ability to mature? That’s up for questioning.

The Walkmen are carrying their mixed feelings toward the world and settling into a villa of acceptance. “Lisbon,” the last song of the record, sounds like a taxi ride through the melancholic city of white walls and red roofs, castles and cathedrals, of describing a world that seems like a strange reference point at any point.

By New York Times Book Review.

In “Super Sad True Love Story,” Shteyngart speculates on a future United States and commentates on the downfall of American culture. The novel is wittily satirical and poignantly true. He does a spectacular job of describing a world that ultimately, and intentionally, disgusts the reader. Families are broken because members are so egotistical, putting no effort into family life. In fact, morality is near extinction in Shteyngart’s future, but nearly present, world.

Although heartbreaking and at other times disgusting, the novel is also touching at points. Abramov’s romance with Park is one meaningful relationship among many meaningless ones. Shteyngart also shows the power of healing families, as broken as they may be.

In a unique blend of humor and pathos, Shteyngart packs a punch in this novel.

Novel spins American culture with satire, heartbreak

The capital of Portugal may be an “äppärät” which can give scores and cholesterol levels are accessible, including weight and family background—privacy is a thing of the past. “verballing” is how people communicate and everyone’s credit scores and cholesterol levels are posted on the Internet for all the world to see. In this world, no one cares to know the words to “The Star Spangled Banner” and all of this takes place in America’s much-too-near future.
Halo finale solid through series' tradition

BY MICHAEL GUTSCHE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When Bungie announced that “Halo: Reach” would be their final game with the franchise, expectations immediately rose. “The final Halo game? It better be top-notch.” Well, it is. Mostly.

So here’s an incomplete rundown of the Halo story. It’s the 26th century. Humankind has settled down on various other planets. Suddenly, aliens! These extra-terrestrial are on a religious crusade to kill everything. They’re calling themselves the Covenant, and they’re a big angry melting pot of alien races that have been converted — peacefully or otherwise — to the crusade.

Fortunately, humanity has one key advantage: SPARTANS, a group of futuristic super-soldiers who are genetically enhanced and trained from childhood for battle. You play the game from the perspective of one of these characters, whose appearance (color, gender, equipment) can be fully customized.

Mechanically, the game beyond shines. The gameplay is intuitive. The controls are responsive. It has the galactic sheen of time, care and money. “Reach” runs on an oily smooth engine that lends itself gloriously to large, intricate set-pieces within the beautiful terrain. The landscapes, stretching far beyond the vast cliffs and sheer drops, blend so well with the interactive parts of the level that they seem just as important.

The single-player campaign is good. Not “final Halo” super grand. Just plain good. I will say, though, that as an extension of the Halo drama, it works well. Especially the smaller moments that demonstrate that, yes, you are fighting a losing battle. You overhear an air support dispatcher declining a desperate request for aid. You watch as civilian transports are shot out of the sky as they flee burning cities. No, there’s nothing you can do about it — a special, devastating feeling that video games don’t often give.

The multiplayer is still fantastic. The standard Halo formula is broken up by the addition of new mechanics, such as “Armor Abilities,” allowing the players to use jetpacks, holograms, cloaking fields and various other special abilities that change how the game flows nicely. Players can do just about anything to control their game experience. The level editor (“Forge”) returns with its many options. The wave survival mode (“Firefight”) from “Halo 3: ODST” also returns, now with its own customizability as well. This combines with the already-expansive list of game modes to ensure one of the most exhaustive, well-executed multiplayer experiences available.

Altogether, the game’s pretty fantastic. The single-player is solid, and the multiplayer is one of the most distilled, fun things to come out in recent memory.

The game’s glaring flaw is that all of its merits are exactly what make it stand out as so very rooted in the traditional concept of a video game. Yes, it does every trick in the book, and it does most of them really well. However, the demand for this kind of game encourages formula rather than innovation for future releases. It is not a step forwards or backwards, just a determination to stand still.

But in the end, I say “hooray” for “Reach.” It’s a grand time to play with a few dorm-mates. Even if you’re not familiar with Halo, it’s fairly easy to get into. Get it, or find someone who owns it, and give it a shot. Fly around with a jetpack. “Halo: Reach” is a colorful breath of fresh air with acceptable storytelling and fantastic multiplayer. Go play it.

Affleck directs, takes lead in hit heist film

BY JORDAN BORN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“The Town” may be the first in this fall’s respective lineup, but it shouldn’t be forgotten when it comes time for Oscar nominations. “The Town” offers a compelling character drama that continues Affleck’s successful directorial streak.

From inside-out, “The Town” is a well-acted piece. Affleck gives a familiar performance of wit and charm masked behind big muscles and a flavorful ego. Renner, who won an Oscar for Best Performance on the “Hurt Locker,” plays the “hot-head” friend with precision, even if it is a supporting role. And alongside Hall and Hamm’s dependable and otherwise compelling companions, other smaller roles were handled well by Blake Lively, Chris Cooper and Pete Postlethwaite.

If you haven’t seen it already, “The Town” offers a compelling character drama that continues Affleck’s successful directorial streak.
**Red Raider Sports Shorts: by Heidi Hildebrandt**

**Two road wins for women’s soccer**

The Northwestern women’s soccer team won their first GPAC game over Concordia University, 1-0, last Saturday, Sept. 18.

Freshman Alyssa Duren connected with senior Stephanie Wilcox in the 22nd minute and Wilcox put the ball in the net for the only goal of the day.

Freshman Ariel Watts made seven saves and had her first shut-out as goalkeeper. Senior Annaliese Forgety and freshman Alli Dunkelberger each had three shots against them. Duren, Forgety and Dunkelberger each had two shots on goal.

Both teams had 14 shots in the game, but NW had a 2-1 advantage on corner kicks.

NW improved to a 2-1 record in the GPAC on Tuesday night, beating Morningside 2-0. The Raiders’ overall record is 4-5.

Dunkelberger scored the first goal of the game in the 11th minute on a pass from senior Katy Phillips. In the 58th minute, freshman Hannah Jensen found the back of the net with an assist by freshman Kate Fonte.

The Raiders out-shot Morningside 14-9. Watts had four saves and recorded a second straight shut-out. Dunkelberger led the team with seven shots, four on goal.

NW is on a hot streak, winning four of their last six games. The Raiders will host Mount Marty in their next contest on Wednesday, Sept. 29, at 7:30 p.m.

**Malm leads football to victory**

The Red Raiders captured a 30-14 win over Nebraska Wesleyan last Saturday, Sept. 18, to improve their record to 2-1. After the game, Northwestern moved up from 21st to 18th in the NCAA national rankings.

Sophomore Brandon Smith scored the first touchdown of the game on a three-yard run to end a 67-yard, ten-play Raider drive at the beginning of the first quarter.

In the second quarter, the Prairie Wolves returned an interception to the endzone to tie the game, but the Raiders answered with a 22-yard touchdown run by senior Taylor Malm on their next possession. Malm again found the endzone after a nine-play, 74-yard drive. Malm’s touchdown was a one-yard run on fourth-and-goal. NWU snuck in another score to end the half with NW leading 21-14.

The Prairie Wolves came out of the locker room with a vengeance and pushed ahead to NWU’s two-yard line on the opening drive of the second half. The Raider defense came up big as senior T.J. Lensch forced a fumble that was recovered by sophomore Stanley Fleming. In the fourth quarter, Malm scored his third touchdown on an 80-yard run. After a punt by freshman Davis Bloemendaal placed NWU on their own four-yard line, the Raider defense forced a three-and-out. Freshman Theo Bartman then blocked the Prairie Wolves’ punt out of the end zone to earn a safety and close out the scoring at 30-14. The Raiders gained 415 total yards while holding the Prairie Wolves to 211. Malm led the offense with 274 total yards, including 200 rushing yards on 24 carries with three touchdowns. Smith added 38 yards on 13 carries with one touchdown and senior Kevin Vander Schaaf gained 40 yards on six carries.

Junior Jayme Rozeboom completed 12 of 18 passes for 126 yards. His top targets were Malm, who had four catches for 35 yards, and sophomore Tyler Walker, who had three catches for 53 yards.

Lensch had seven solo tackles, forced a fumble and broke up a pass to lead the defense. Senior Austin Rozeboom had a total of 8.5 tackles, while sophomore Aaron Jansen totaled 4.5.

Next up, the Raiders will take on Briar Cliff in Sioux City on Saturday, Sept. 25, at 1 p.m.

**More domination by volleyball team**

The fifth-ranked Red Raider volleyball team remains undefeated as they improved their record to 16-0 this week with wins over Concordia and Dordt.

Last Saturday, Sept. 18, Northwestern claimed a 3-0 win over 17th-ranked Doane College. Game scores were 25-19, 25-21 and 25-20. The offense hit .295 in the match compared to the Tigers’ .227.

Senior Bobbie Jean Rich led the attack, hitting .356 and getting 12 kills and five blocks. Senior Hillary Hanno hit .400 and totaled 11 kills and 14 digs, while sophomore Jennie Jansen added nine kills. Senior Kaatin Beaver contributed six kills and assists, along with 12 digs and five ace serves. Junior Kylee Wilcox added 15 digs.

On Wednesday night, Sept. 22, NW snapped Dordt’s 14-match winning streak by claiming a 3-1 victory. Dordt claimed the first set, 25-20, before the Raiders took the next three, 25-21, 25-20 and 25-18.

Hanno led the team with 12 kills and six ace serves, while Hulstein had ten kills. Jansen added nine kills and hit .474 on the outside. Beaver lofted up four assists and had nine kills.

Sophomore Heather Goehring went 13-13 from the service line and had two ace serves. Hulstein added 21 digs on defense, and Hanno and Rich had 13 and 10, respectively.

The Raiders head to Bellevue, Neb., this Friday and Saturday to play in the Bruin’s Premier Classic.

**Men’s soccer on the wrong side of close games**

Northwestern out-shot Concordia 16-12 and had a 5-3 corner kick advantage last Saturday, Sept. 18, but ended up losing 2-1 in overtime.

The Bulldogs scored first in the 27th minute. The Red Raiders got a break in the 55th minute when a header by a Concordia player bounced into their own goal. Sophomore Jonathan Taves got credit for the goal.

Neither team was able to score in regulation, but Concordia found the back of the net in the 103rd minute to claim the win. Taves had six shots, four on goal and one goal to lead the Raiders. Sophomore Mario Garcia added three shots, all on goal. Senior Jeff Lanser made four saves in the goal.

NW lost its third one-goal game in a row on Tuesday, Sept. 21, to Morningside, 3-2. The Mustangs scored the first three goals of the game, but the Raiders didn’t go down without a fight, scoring two goals in the last eight minutes of play. Senior Derrick Ball scored the first goal unassisted and senior Aron Pall scored the next on an assist from freshman Justin Lehman. The Raiders were out-shot 10-6 but had a 2-0 corner kick advantage. Pall had three shots-on-goal to lead the team. Ball added two shots-on-goal and freshman Jeriah Dunk had one. Lanser allowed three goals and made three saves in the game.

NW hosts Mount Marty at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 29.

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**PLAYER PROFILE**

**Ben Karnish**

**BY ANDREA OCHSNER**

Ben Karnish has been running up and down the soccer field ever since he was four years old. He has been playing the game for so long that it will be a big adjustment to not play soccer once he finishes out his last year at Northwestern.

Playing soccer has helped shape Karnish’s life in many ways. His faith has had an impact on his sportsmanship, just as soccer has affected his faith. “Faith has taught me the bittersweet ending of his soccer career. He said he will constantly have to be thinking on your toes,” Karnish said.

Regarding soccer, Karnish stated, “I love that it is truly a team game. You have to play with 11 men at all times for 90 minutes; there are no real breaks and you constantly have to be thinking on your toes.”

Karnish recalled making it to Nationals his freshman year as a favorite memory. A recent favorite memory was scoring his first collegiate goal against Sioux Falls just this year.

Because he is this last year, Karnish faces the adjustment to not play soccer once he finishes out his last year at Northwestern.

By Andrea Ochsner