Granberg falls, legacy stands

BY BRIAN BRANDAU

English department professors gather around one of the three crab apple trees that used to stand in front of Granberg Hall. Many will remember it as home.

The final chapter is being written for the longtime home of Northwestern’s English department.

Granberg Hall, the earth tone house nestled between the Franken Center and the chapel, was built in 1964 to act as a home for the president of the college. After 50 years and nearly as many purposes, Granberg will be torn down at the conclusion of this semester to make room for the new Learning Commons.

As the building approaches its end, many of its tenants have been given cause to reflect on its history.

When it was first built, Granberg Hall was known as Prexy House and both Drs. Preston Stegenga and Lars Granberg took up residence there between 1964-75.

Dr. Granberg in particular, after whom the building was eventually rechristened, left his mark on the place.

“President Granberg, an avid horticulturist, raised begonias in the basement and planted many of the lovely trees on the property,” said English department faculty member Barbara Turnwall. “Throughout the years, the English department looks forward to the blooming red bud and three crab apple trees that bloom in May and exquisitely grace the entrance of our home.”

In 1976, Prexy House became themed for the round tables which characterize English department classes. Rather than the typical collection of desks, English department faculty find that the round tables foster discussion and promote engagement among students and professors.

“Kati Heng will be dividing up our coffee mugs into two boxes to be sent to the new cottages,” Kensak said. “Before the building is torn down, I’d like to take some of the railings and trim to reuse in my house.”

Granberg Hall served as a haven for family, community and education for nearly five decades at NW.

Granberg falls, legacy stands

hunt in which he would challenge students to find some of Granberg’s hidden secrets. Hidden elements of the house include two boarded up fireplaces, a laundry chute, a sink in the copier room and the building’s five—yes, five—bathrooms.

The building has been more than just a home for English department faculty. The Beacon staff has been telling the campus’ news from Granberg’s basement for many years.

“There was just something special, something homey about Granberg Hall that made Beacon production nights enjoyable,” said former editor-in-chief LeAnn (Johnson) Hjelmeland. “I’ve worked at two newspapers since graduating, both of which are in an office setting, and I sometimes just miss the feel of working in Granberg.”

Originally, Granberg Hall was scheduled to be demolished along with De Vries cottage as the Learning Commons begins construction. Because of their partiality to the house’s environment and difficulty of moving in the middle of December, the faculty was able to convince the NW administration to postpone demolition of the house until after the conclusion of the semester.

Plumbing will soon be cut off in Granberg Hall and so classes as well as the Beacon offices will be relocated to the basement of the North Suites for the remainder of the semester.

Meanwhile, English faculty prepare to move to their new homes in Mulinberg and Doorenbos Cottages.

“Kati Heng will be dividing up our coffee mugs into two boxes to be sent to the new cottages,” Kensak said. “Before the building is torn down, I’d like to take some of the railings and trim to reuse in my house.”

As the longest serving faculty member in the college’s history, Turnwall has a special affinity for the hall.

“Granberg has been a great home for us,” Turnwall said. “We’re all sad to see it go.”

PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW
**Arts & Culture**

**Tatum and Hill are still playing high-schoolders**

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**BY JEFF HUBERS**

Just when you thought all the dynamic duos had been used up, "21 Jump Street" presents Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum as the newest team in comedy.

Hill and Tatum portray the classic socially-awkward-but-smart partnering with the all-brawn-but-no-brains persona that gives audiences an overdose, yet humorous friendship. The guys are both police force rejects who aren’t quite up to the standards of actual police work, and so are thrust into the undercover world of high school criminal justice and placed in an undercover agency known as the "Jump Street division."

Roles are reversed for the heroes on their return trip to high school. Hill gets in with the "cool" crowd and Tatum lags behind with the "chemistry nerds." The rest of the film revolves around Hill and Tatum using their new identities and connections to navigate the criminal underworld of a senior high and track down a new illegal drug from the dealers to the supplier.

Nothing so far has presented "21 Jump Street" to be a moving, original film, but let’s face it: It’s not. The film is pure and cheap humor at its best—it pokes fun of itself in places where writers know that the jokes have been far overdone. Even the actors at times seem to joke around in their roles at the lack of original humor presented in the film, but that’s what keeps the laughs coming.

The film gives a fairly accurate view of today’s high school students, and it’s quite funny watching Hill’s and Tatum’s interactions with the hipster-based culture of high school.

“21 Jump Street” boasts quite the cast lineup, with a few surprising faces thrown in here and there. The family resemblance between Dave Franco and his brother James even gives the movie a satisfying "Pineapple Express" atmosphere at times.

Overall, "21 Jump Street" is an entertaining, slightly crass, but fun trip down memory lane through the wild ride of high school. It will almost make you wish there had been a criminal syndicate in your high school so the Hill/Tatum duo could’ve come and shaken things up.

Rating: ★★★★☆

**Plays premiere on campus**

**BY BRITTANY LEIKVOLL**

This year, theatre majors and theatre-loving students alike have had the opportunity to write, direct and perform in 16 original and unique plays, each written in Jeff Taylor’s play writing class during the past fall semester.

“It’s interesting that Northwestern’s campus is involved in this kind of production,” said junior Abigail Bierly, the writer of the play “Explosions of Beautiful Change.”

“It’s a new experience because once you write [the play], it’s no longer in your hands,” Bierly said. “I’m excited to see all of that work on stage and coming to life.”

Directors picked plays that had meaning to them and performance elements that they appreciated from the plays written by fellow students from their class.

“One acts are a great opportunity for all of campus to be involved in theater—it’s a low time commitment and helps to bridge gaps between different majors,” said junior Keely Wright, who is acting in the play “A Date to Keep” and is directing “Your Home Now.”

“My favorite part is that not all of the actors are consistently in productions, but they are still passionate about trying, and to see that growth and the production come to life in a way that is different than maybe expected,” Wright said.

Even within the plays, the audience can expect a certain level of unpredictability.

"Every performance is a little different and susceptible to change and brings its own unique feel,” Wright said.

Many of the writers, including senior Ericha Walden who wrote “Ajodha and Shanigans,” are looking forward to seeing their pieces getting acted out.

"To see it being performed is intimidating, but also very exciting,” Walden said. “What I’m most excited for is the conversation it will evoke.”

The 16th annual World Premiere Festival will be held at 6:30 pm on March 23 and 24 in the Allen Theatre of the DeWitt Theatre Arts Center.

Each performance is approximately 10 to 20 minutes.

Admission is free, and people are welcome to come and go as they please.

**Una pelicula muy divertida con Will Ferrell**

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**BY MICHAEL GUTSCH**

Will Ferrell is clearly an intelligent person behind the scenes.

Between his behavior off-screen and his often confusing repertoire of films ranging from comedies to existential dramas—he isn’t anyone’s dummy and not nearly as stupid or clueless as the roles he is often cast in.

Ferrell’s latest endeavor is “Casa De Mi Padre,” the part-satire, part-homage to what has suddenly become something of a staple in television—the telenovela.

The story is a standard tale of scandalous love and family conflict that escalates into legitimate and extremely armed conflict, and unfolds in a flittingly absurd and gun-filled way.

The film makes it a point to bring into play the extremely low budget and limited resources of the telenovelas that it bases itself on.

Most importantly, the movie is funny. It’s funnier than might be expected, considering the premise of the movie basically is the entire joke.

It helps that Will Ferrell is one of the least Mexican people imaginable. It’s the premise for a lot of the jokes that the movie makes, not overtly, but just by virtue of the juxtaposition of his character to the actor himself.

“Casa De Mi Padre” is not a terrible movie at all. It would certainly be no great crime to miss it in theatres, but it is certainly good for a few laughs, especially for Will Ferrell fans.

Rating: ★★★☆☆

Submit your own campus quotes, with context, to beacon@wmc.edu

**Campus Quotes**

“So, maybe the crusades weren’t such a bad thing.”  
- Prof. Hubers on the positive effects of the crusades.

“I know that Beethoven is not Bugs Bunny.”  
- Jessica Kleveland on the conducting styles of the two.

“I would rather be stripped naked and put on top of an ant hill covered in jelly, rather than see Oklahoma.”

- Dr. Bob on how he really feels about the play "Oklahoma."

“See? I’m like Jesus...”  
- Prof. Elder after fixing a PowerPoint slide.

“Dyslexia, terrible way to die.”  
- Dr. Bob after mixing up right stage with left.

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**Una pelicula muy divertida con Will Ferrell**

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Rating: ★★★☆☆

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**Five Star Guide**

**Classic:** ★★★★★  **Excellent:** ★★★★☆  **Good:** ★★★☆☆  **Fair:** ★★☆☆☆  **Poor:** ★☆☆☆☆
NW seniors present diverse art exhibit

BY KAMERON TOEWS

While spring is in the air, keep those creative juices budding by stopping in to see inspiring artwork made by Northwestern students.

“Crossing the Rubicon,” the senior art show of Brittany Leikvoll, Melissa Saint and Angelica Perez, features displays the women each created, showcasing their talents with mediums, themes and goals as unique as the creative journey each artist has traveled in the past four years of college.

Leikvoll described her development as an artist as a challenging process of losing control over her art. Beginning with pencils, she felt in control, but is now learning to give up the control of graphite after moving to watercolors and ink.

“Artistic control kept me in a box of what is familiar,” Leikvoll said. “I like to make something out of nothing. I want to make something on a wall that can spark a conversation.”

Across from Leikvoll’s water-colored roosters made with flowing strokes and bolder pigment are the clean lines and bold, solid colors of Saint’s linocut prints of animals and abstracts.

Saint admits that printmaking was at first intimidating, but she does enjoy that the medium allows her to make multiple prints of the same image. The traditional black ink would not suit Saint’s creative needs, so she bought her own colored inks.

Through her prints, Saint wants audiences to understand that art doesn’t have to be something that is well crafted.

“Art can be simple, minimalist and decorative,” Saint said.

Saint became attracted to art, in part because her small hometown had little in the way of anything artistic and inherited some of her artistic desire from her blacksmith father.

The elegant black and white photographic images of eyes, lips and makeup brushes done by Perez fill the gallery’s third wall.

“My pieces represent what women do to make themselves presentable to society,” Perez said. “Society makes us look a certain way, but God made everyone beautiful in their own way.”

Early on in college, Perez played with several mediums, but always returned to photography.

“I love photography because it’s so easy to take your work virtually anywhere,” Perez said.

After graduating from NW this May, Perez would take your work virtually anywhere, “Perez said. “If it becomes a career, the joy will be sucked out of it.”

Three women from three distinct backgrounds came together to fill a gallery with their different artistic styles and inspirations to create a meaningful experience for anyone who will be walking through the Te Paske Gallery.

Arts & Culture [3] The Magnetic Fields return to synth with their latest album

BY LYRIC MORRIS

Stephen Merritt would hate this article.

Merritt, the master songwriter and lyricist behind the group The Magnetic Fields shows no abashment in expressing his dislike for anything considered mainstream, typical or sappy.

“Out of these feelings comes the concept for the group’s latest release, “Love at the Bottom of the Sea.”

Merritt’s interests lead to most of the songs’ lyrics, alluding to important issues including religion, breakups, death and homosexuality, all while speaking towards these topics in a humorous, sarcastic and often cynical way, such as the album’s top single “Andrew in Drag” which tells of a man who falls in love with his friend after seeing him in a dress.

After their experiment into a “non-synth” acoustic style, many fans of the group were excited to hear The Magnetic Field’s typical synth style return.

The upbeat melodies of each track add to the fact that after one play of this album, listeners will be left with nearly every track permanently stuck in their head. The group layers catchy repetitive melodies over thick electric sounds to create an ambiance that is both ethereal and upbeat.

The ambiance these instruments create is best illustrated in the track “Horrible Party” in which listeners can vividly picture the murmur of a bustling crowd being covered by the tinkling of a somewhat sinister clown’s circus music.

Coupled with this instrumental style, Merritt’s deep baritone vocals create a style that can be compared to that of Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros.

Despite Merritt’s outspoken hatred towards big time recording labels, music festivals and fan attention, it seems that The Magnetic Fields are not stepping out of the spotlight anytime soon.

Though the album may not leave listeners feeling enlightened or hopeful, it is undoubtedly proof that after over 10 years of recording, The Magnetic Fields still have what it takes to create albums that are thought-provoking and fun.

Rating: ★★★

Key Tracks: “Andrew In Drag” “Horrible Party”
Skipping the shoes: Barefeet on campus

BY MATT LATCHAW

Spring has officially sprung. The snow has melted and the rain has washed away the last bits of salt and sand from the sidewalks.

Most students take this opportunity to stow away boots and break out the sandals, but some students trade out shoes altogether. The casual observer will notice bare feet not just outside, but also indoors in this newly warm weather.

“Why do you wear shoes?” said junior Seth Herning when asked why he chooses bare feet over shoes. “It’s more comfortable. After my feet are in shoes the whole winter, I like the feel of the ground under my feet.”

Others students agreed that comfort is the main reason for going without any shoes.

“I hate shoes. They don’t feel good,” said junior Zachary Hankel.

Some students have been going without shoes for a long time.

“I haven’t liked wearing shoes since I was little,” said freshman Emilee Berry.

“Working at camp, we had to wear shoes since I was little,” said freshman Emilee Berry. “I didn’t like wearing shoes for a long time.”

Other students agreed that comfort is the main reason for going without any shoes.

“I hate shoes. They don’t feel good,” said junior Rachel Lynn.

“I never wear shoes,” said senior Keagan Hicks.

“On a prison ministry trip freshman year, we were all in the van ready to leave but we ended up having to run back inside. I had already kicked off my shoes, so I just decided to go barefoot in the rain,” Lynn said. “As I ran inside, I slipped on the tile floor and completely biffed it.”

Besides embarrassments, bare feet can get hurt.

“Turf doesn’t make sense to me,” Hicks said.

“I’d like it explained how my foot is different from the bottom of a shoe. If someone steps in dog poop they can tramp that around the Cafe, but I can’t walk through barefoot,”

Others disagree, seeing things from the Cafe’s view.

“It makes sense. You want to be sanitary about it,” Hankel said.

Sometimes choosing to go without shoes can lead to minor embarrassments.

“The rules don’t make sense to me,” Herning said.

“I’d like it explained how my foot is different from the bottom of a shoe. If someone steps in dog poop they can tramp that around the Cafe, but I can’t walk through barefoot.”

Besides embarrassments, bare feet can get hurt.

“I’ve stepped on many things,” Hankel said.

Most barefoot students encourage others to try it out.

“Every spring, it takes a few days to get used to it again, but after that I hardly notice. I actually have a few blisters right now from this last week,” Lynn said.

But be warned—it may hurt to ditch shoes completely, at least at first.

“It takes time,” Hicks said. “You have to build up foot endurance, which sounds ridiculous, but the muscles in most people’s feet are quite weak from your shoes doing all the work for you, so there will be some soreness and some cuts and bruises before your skin and muscle adapts to the change in scenery.”

But for many students on campus, the excuse to kick off the shoes is completely worth it.

The Shins return with big sound on ‘Port Of Morrow’

BY KATI HENG

Despite the years since they’ve released a new song, despite the members that have been let go or replaced, despite the explosion of “indie” music that has taken over in those five years they’ve been away, The Shins are back and have fully reclaimed their cult-like following.

Ever since the scene in “Garden State,” an unorthodox film about love from 2004, in which Natalie Portman forces a giant pair of headphones on Zach Braff, telling him The Shins’ song “New Slang” changed her life, the band has enjoyed a prime position in listeners’ hearts. The Shins music embodies youth, rebellious spirits, quirkiness and laid back love.

And although they’ve appeared on TV, in the soundtracks of other movies and even received a Grammy nomination, The Shins have managed to escape the “sell-out” connotation that has compromised the fanbase of many other “indie” musicians from the early 2000s.

It’s that loyal group of listeners that’s made The Shins’ new release, “Port Of Morrow,” such a success.

Even though almost all the members have been replaced since their last release, founder, guitarist and lead singer James Mercer is the only real key to The Shins’ sound. It’s his ever-youthful voice and carefree lyrics that listeners love. It’s Mercer who’s the heart of the band.

Mercer has made the transition into 2012 flawlessly. Although The Shins have always produced albums that seem to be manipulated down to the last detail from the bass, “Port Of Morrow” goes further than previous albums in its careful controlled production.

The first single released from the album, “Simple Song,” is the perfect example of the new level of detail Mercer and the new members of the group have brought to the album. Setting the lyrics aside, “Simple Song” is really anything but. The guitar divas and rolls all over like a power-pop dance.

Strange guitars that give off the plugged-in sound take the place of the acoustic chugging of the guitars that used to drive The Shins’ songs. Instead of a few chords played again and again until they’re stuck permanently in the ears, “Port Of Morrow” lets the guitars steal the show with their intricate movements.

Vocally, Mercer has been ahead of his time in creating vocal distortions. Classics like “Sleeping Lessons” showed off his fantastic range, made even more impressive during production. “Port Of Morrow” continues to serve up samples of what he can do.

Unlike “Wincing the Night Away,” their last studio release, “Port Of Morrow” steers clear of singing about the dark or deeply personal. Songs tend to gravitate towards beach scenery and faint memories of a favorite girl. The lyrics are secondary really—it’s the tunes that are going to be whistling around in your head for hours.

It’s not a comeback album, not a journey into the mainstream big-money music scene. “Port Of Morrow” is simply Mercer returning to play again for those loyal fans.

James Mercer is The Shins’ lead singer and guitarist and the consistent member of the group.

Rating: ★★★★

Key Tracks: “Simple Song” “Pariah King”

“Bait and Switch”

PHOTO BY KATI HENG
Serving on spring break

Juniors Katie Raab and Darci Jansen give piggyback rides to students at City Youth Ministries in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Freshman Aly Austin, freshman Cristina Bovarev and admissions counselor Karla Arevalo work at the Voice of Calvary Ministries in Jackson, Mississippi.

Sophomore Ashlie Lobaugh and senior Kiersten McConnel eat with some residents at the shelter in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Sophomore Josh Horstman, freshman Logan Hovland and junior Ashley Van Wyhe sort clothes as part of a street ministry outreach affiliated with Calvary Commission in Lindale, Texas.

Senior Leah Mabee, senior Brian Brandau, Director of Missions Patrick Hummel, a guest of the hostel, junior Becca Lokker and senior Anna Yarrow play Jenga together in Amsterdam.

Sophomore Josh Horstman, freshman Logan Hovland and junior Ashley Van Wyhe sort clothes as part of a street ministry outreach affiliated with Calvary Commission in Lindale, Texas.

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PHOTOS SUBMITTED
Music professor continues to practice her talents

BY JOSH KLOPE

Music professor Juyeon Kang brings a variety of experiences to her teaching at Northwestern.

Kang was born and raised in Taejon, the sixth largest city in South Korea. As a child she went to a Catholic private school. The curriculum required every student to play an instrument, and before long her family discovered that she had a special talent for music.

“My brother’s cello teacher found that I had perfect pitch,” Kang recalled.

Kang began learning to play the piano for both school and church and her skills developed throughout her school career. After attending college in Korea and moving to America to pursue a college in Korea and moving to America, she planned to get a major in music and a career. After completing her studies in piano performance, she participated in a number of international competitions and presented solo recitals across the United States and a variety of countries.

She came to teach at Northwestern in 2003, but that has not stopped her from conducting master’s workshops on four different continents.

“I fell, got up, turned around, literally took one step and fell again,” Wohlers said.

Unaware she had injured herself, Wohlers continued walking to breakfast. Realizing her fall had ripped her tights, Wohlers turned around to go back to her apartment and change. That’s when she slipped again, this time landing on her wrist. “I got asked a lot if my sling was for real, or just a part of my costume,” she said. “A lot of people liked it, so that upset me the most, not that it was unaccustomed to snow.”

For Wohlers, a bigger challenge was a task she had previously taken for granted. “It was my stupid coat that upset me the most, not dancing in RUSH,” she said. “Putting on that coat was the worst.”

Students struggle getting around with broken bones

BY TYLER LEHMANN

Simple tasks suddenly become a lot less simple when you can’t use all your body parts. That’s what Northwestern students Emily Wohlers and Isaac Ruiz learned when they injured bones earlier this semester.

Wohlers, a sophomore, slipped on a patch of ice in January when she was walking to breakfast. Realigning her fall had ripped her tights, Wohlers turned around to go back to her apartment and change. That’s when she slipped again, this time landing on her wrist. “I fell, got up, turned around, literally took one step and fell again,” Wohlers said.

Unaware she had injured herself, Wohlers continued her day as usual. It wasn’t until that afternoon that she visited Orange City Hospital, where doctors discovered she had fractured her elbow.

Ruiz, a freshman, injured himself in February during wrestling practice when another NW wrestler pinned his leg. A few days after the accident, Ruiz received an X-ray and learned his leg had been fractured.

According to Ruiz, doctors believed his fracture was mild enough for him to continue normal activity. “They told me I could do whatever I wanted as long as I could handle the pain,” he said.

Soon after his hospital visit, though, Ruiz further injured the same leg at dance team practice. It was now broken.

Doctors gave Ruiz crutches, but snow and ice made them impractical. He eventually went without his crutches, opting to limp instead.

A California native, Ruiz was unaccustomed to snow and ice. His broken leg made adapting to the conditions especially challenging.

Wohlers experienced challenges at RUSH rehearsals because of her injury. With her arm in a sling, she initially struggled to keep her balance while dancing.

RUSH choreographers Andrew Stam and Amber Amundson decorated Wohlers’ sling to coordinate it with the steampunk style of their dance.

“I got asked a lot if my sling was for real, or just a part of my costume,” she said. “A lot of people liked it, so that was cool.”

For Wohlers, a bigger challenge was a task she had previously taken for granted. “It was my stupid coat that upset me the most, not dancing in RUSH,” she said. “Putting on that coat was the worst.”

Unable to zip up her coat by herself, Wohlers relied on the help of her friends. “It was so embarrassing. I felt like a child sometimes,” she said.

For both Wohlers and Ruiz, eating in the cafeteria presented challenges. With her dominant right arm injured, Wohlers had to eat left-handed. Because of his limp, Ruiz needed friends to carry his food for him.

Other daily activities that Wohlers and Ruiz found difficult included showering, brushing teeth, opening doors, climbing stairs and exercising.

However, their injuries came with a silver lining. Both Wohlers and Ruiz now feel more comfortable asking for help because of their dependence on others during their injuries.

“It makes you more humble,” Wohlers said. “I learned to give up control to other people.”

“I’m pretty independent, so I usually don’t like getting help,” Ruiz said. “After a while, I learned how to ask.”
Relationships built through hockey

BY KATE WALLIN

Despite a warm winter, some people at Northwestern found a way to keep their cool. Senior Felipe Silva and freshman Josiah Veurink were part of a group of NW students and staff that kept their hockey sticks dust-free. The Sioux Center hockey league took to the Vernon Rink located on Dordt’s campus on Thursday nights, with players of all ages and experience levels.

“The Sioux Center Hockey league is a good place for people who have a little bit of experience, but not much. There are good hockey players and others are there for first time,” Silva said. “It is a lot of fun, and mostly because there is a group from Orange City that got to bond quite a bit by playing together every week. The games can get pretty rough sometimes, but it is hockey, so you have to be prepared for that.”

Veurink sees the league as a place for anyone who loves the sport.

“The Sioux Center league is for people of all skill levels that just enjoy playing hockey,” he said. “Everyone has some sense as to how hockey is played but there is a lot of room for improvement. Trust me, I am Canadian, so I would know. This league is a great way to have fun playing hockey and meet a lot of cool people. I enjoy my trips out to my games, not only for the hockey, but also because of the group that I played with.”

Veurink has been playing ice hockey since he can remember. Hailing from Canada, he enjoyed the opportunity to get together with friends and partake in the favorite Canadian pastime.

“Hockey is by far the best sport in the world. It is great to talk about it, watch it, play it and, in some cases, dream about it. From playing at Sioux Center, to the pond in Alton, to playing floor hockey in the RSC, I could not think of a better way to spend my time.”

And while Silva never played ice hockey before this winter, he was first introduced to the game through pick-up games on the streets of his native Brazil.

“When I was younger, I used to play ball hockey with my friends in front of my house on the street, but never really had played ice hockey before, even though it was our dream to be like the Mighty Ducks,” Silva said. “Every other year our city would have an ice rink so we could skate a little bit. That’s where I learned how to skate.”

Years later, as a high school student, Silva was introduced to ice hockey.

“I was studying abroad in Ontario, Canada,” Silva said. “And for the first time I got to play ice hockey for the school team. I really loved it.”

And while the season has finished for the year, the group plans to keep in shape for next season with work-outs and continued team bonding.

In the end, it’s not all about the hockey.

“We just had a lot of fun playing together and forming some close friendships,” Silva said.

Nerf gun game gains popularity

BY PRIYANKA FERNANDO

Running through the dark halls of Van Pernsr Hall, weapons are readily drawn and deserted hallways are carefully searched. The occurrence? A little game called Nerf Zombies. First organized by West Hall residents, a small group of West and Heemstra residents now continue the game “Nerf Zombies.” An unofficial club at Northwestern, they play every Friday night at 10 in VPH.

Nerf Zombies is relatively simple. Apocalyptic rules are set, with humans vs. zombies at the helm.

“A third of the group are zombies. They scatter throughout VPH. The objective for each side is simple: the humans try and shoot down all zombies, and the zombies try and tag the humans. Any tagged human immediately becomes a zombie.”

If there are any humans left after a 30-minute period, they become the victors.

The competition isn’t a bad thing, but when it does get out of hand, changes are made.

“We try to keep it as much of a gentlemen’s game as we can,” Hackenmiller said, “but sometimes tempers fly.”

The competition isn’t a bad thing, but when it does get out of hand, changes are made.

“Sometimes we do have our disagreements,” Wilhelm said, “but if we see a flaw in the rules, we’ll change them to keep the game fair and balanced.”

What does Hackenmiller enjoy most about Nerf Zombies?

“The chance to hang out with people. The adrenaline, the competition I guess,” Hackenmiller said. “It’s a bunch of people hanging out, having fun.”

Just having fun with different people you wouldn’t normally hang out with on campus,” Wilhelm said.

As the semester runs its course, the club has no intentions of ending the game.

“I’ll be doing it as long as the school allows it,” Wilhelm said.

What does Hackenmiller enjoy most about Nerf Zombies?

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Just having fun with different people you wouldn’t normally hang out with on campus,” Wilhelm said.

As the semester runs its course, the club has no intentions of ending the game.

“I’ll be doing it as long as the school allows it,” Wilhelm said.

It would be nice to keep it going,” Herning said. “But last time, before spring break, we had 30 people show up.”

This isn’t only a men’s game. Girls are welcome to play. “Boys who are close to girls, who like this kind of thing, invite them,” Hackenmiller said.

The game sounds like fun, but that doesn’t mean it is always so. What happens when you put a group of college students in a competitive scenario?

“We try to keep it as much of a gentlemen’s game as we can,” Hackenmiller said, “but sometimes tempers fly.”

The competition isn’t a bad thing, but when it does get out of hand, changes are made.

“Sometimes we do have our disagreements,” Wilhelm said, “but if we see a flaw in the rules, we’ll change them to keep the game fair and balanced.”

What does Hackenmiller enjoy most about Nerf Zombies?

“The chance to hang out with people. The adrenaline, the competition I guess,” Hackenmiller said. “It’s a bunch of people hanging out, having fun.”

Just having fun with different people you wouldn’t normally hang out with on campus,” Wilhelm said.

As the semester runs its course, the club has no intentions of ending the game.

“I’ll be doing it as long as the school allows it,” Wilhelm said.

It would be nice to keep it going,” Herning said. “Even if it’s not zombies, doing something with nerf guns on a regular basis would be great.”

Nerf Zombies may be played only one night a week, but the enjoyment is evident.

Hackenmiller described the game as “adventurous.”

And when asked if he loved it, Wilhelm answered simply: “Yes.”
Red Raiders compete at nationals, Leither earns fifth place

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK

Senior Nic Leither took home fifth place from the NAIA National Wrestling Tournament over spring break, which was hosted in Des Moines. Nine other members of the squad competed against the best the country has to offer.

As a team, the Raiders finished tied with Concordia in 18th place out of 35 teams.

At 197 pounds, Leither went 4-2 at the championships. He lost his opening match, but rebounded with three straight pins. After losing to the second-seed, Leither moved into the fifth-place match. The three-time All-American ended his career with a 7-3 win.

Junior Angelo Quintana went 1-2 at 125-pounds, picking up a 14-8 win in his second match.

Junior Kendra De Jong shoots the ball in the GPAC playoffs hosted at the Bultman Center. De Jong posted a double-double (16-10) in points and rebounds in the championship game win against the College of the Ozarks, and earned first team All-American honors.

What just happened?"

For the second consecutive year, Northwestern will graduate a tournament MVP, as the Raiders lost Becca Kramer last season. Though the team will clearly miss the graduating seniors, Kleinsasser thinks that the program’s success has left them in a good position for the future.

“Our principles will still be there, we will still have talented girls,” she said. “It will be an adjustment just like this year, but this year we showed that if we keep persevering, things will work out.”

Red Raiders three-peat as national champs

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

Winning national championships isn’t normal, but if Northwestern’s women’s basketball team started to think otherwise, it would be understandable.

“It’s like winning the lottery,” said senior point guard Kami Kuhlmann. “You don’t think it’s going to happen to you. But it does sometimes.”

Apparently, winning the lottery can happen three consecutive times. The Raiders became the first team in NAIA Division II women’s basketball history to win three consecutive championships on Tuesday, March 13, defeating College of the Ozarks (Mo.) 75-62.

After a successful tournament in which she averaged 22 points per game, Kuhlmann shredded the defense in the final game for 27 points on 8-17 shooting.

She also pulled down eight rebounds and dished out six assists. She was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

Kuhlmann and junior forward Kendra De Jong were also named to the All-Tournament First Team.

Kuhlmann was very reluctant to talk about her MVP status, trying hard to deflect any questions into talking about her teammates. But she admitted that winning the MVP was a good way to end her career.

“What better way to go out?” Kuhlmann said. “I’m a senior, I’m never going to play again. If I’d had a bad tournament and we had still won, obviously I still would have been happy.”

Winning another championship capped off a season that didn’t start especially well for NW. The Raiders struggled to adjust to a new team initially, stumbling to a 4-4 start.

“We were a completely different team, and people expected us to be something we weren’t,” said sophomore post Sam Kleinsasser. “We struggled at first. But we gradually found our roles, and it all worked out.”

It worked out so well, in fact, that the Raiders won their next 11 games in a row. They would finish the regular season 23-7.

“I feel like deep down we always knew our potential,” Kleinsasser said. “We could see our talent in practice every day. It just took us a while to put it all together.”

When the tournament began, the Raiders were faced with a new problem: The expectations brought on by success in previous years.

“Coach warned us ahead of time that we were going to be introduced as defending national champions,” Kleinsasser said. “But this is a new year. We aren’t defending anything. This was a new journey.”

Fortunately for NW, it had been in the same situation, as defending champions last year. According to Kuhlmann, this year the Raiders were even hungrier for a title.

“In the past we have outplayed our opponents,” Kuhlmann said. “But this year I feel like we had a little bit more of a hunger. Sometimes we just willed ourselves to win.”

In the final game, the Raiders faced College of the Ozarks, a team that has made four national championship appearances, yet has never won a title.

Though the Raiders were hot out of the gate, running out to a 36-18 lead, the Bobcats quickly closed the gap, ending the half on a 13-1 run. Kuhlmann, however, never lost her confidence.

“I never felt like we were going to lose,” Kuhlmann said. “Even when they made their run and their crowd was going crazy, I was just like, ‘I don’t know why you are going crazy. We are going to win anyway.’”

Though College of the Ozarks would tie the game midway through the second half, the Raiders outscored the Bobcats 25-14 from the 12:36 mark on. Appropriately, Kuhlmann led the way. When the final buzzer sounded, NW was once again the team crowded around the banner.

“You are just beside yourself,” Kleinsasser said. “The biggest reward is thinking back on the season. I didn’t think about the historical context during the season. But after the season is over, you kind of think ‘Wow.’”

Senior Josiah Simburger also went 1-2. He started out with a 19-1 tech fall victory, but lost his second match. His third match pitted him against fellow teammate and senior Matt Dowell. Dowell, who ended up 2-2, won the practice room matchup in overtime 6-1.

At 149 pounds, freshman Brett Godden earned a pin in his second match. He finished 1-2. Freshman Zach Fishman opened up with a pin in 4:16, but dropped his next two matches.

Freshman Tyler Schafer and sophomore Ariel Bosque both qualified at 157-pounds, but they each dropped their two matches. Schafer had a close 5-3 loss in his second match.

Senior David Carter won his first match at 174-lbs. by a 13-3 major decision. He finished with a 1-2 record.

Off the mat, Leither and Dowell earned recognition as NAIA Scholar Athletes. It was the second time Dowell had received the honor.
Huseman wins indoor championship, four others All-Americans

BY DALTON KELLEY

The Northwestern track and field team started off the month of March with a bang while competing at the indoor nationals in Geneva, Ohio.

The Raiders left the meet with a national champion, three All-American events, three more advancing to the finals in their events and four new school records.

The top story from the meet was sophomore Matt Huseman leaping for a national title in the high jump and setting a new school record in the event. He jumped 6-11.75.

"Winning this event is credited to Huseman having more cleared attempts than the other finalist, Herb Gary, from Indiana Tech. This was a perfect ending to the great indoor season that’s included five first place finishes and a conference championship.

"It was awesome to win it," Huseman said. "It’s something I’ve been working toward for the past year. Especially after coming close in the outdoor last season. I trained a lot this summer to be able to put myself in a position where I could do well."

The close call Huseman referred to was placing second at the conference meet and fifth at outdoor nationals last spring.

"I’m thankful that God gave me the opportunity to use my talents for His glory. At the end of the day all you can really do is go out and compete, have fun with it, and let the chips fall where they may.

"The women’s side of the team is proud to have the 4x800 also winning All-American honors. They finished in seventh place and ran a time of 9:15 minutes. The team consisted of senior Teresa Kerkvliet, junior Brianna Hobbs, freshman Sara Kerkvliet, junior Brianna Hobbs, and sophomore Sara Kerkvliet.

"As a team I think we have the potential to send a lot more people to nationals," Huseman said. "We were very close with multiple people, and I look for that to push them in the outdoor season. None of us are content with what we have done or where we are at, so I think this outdoor season will be great."

The Raiders will begin their outdoor season on March 31st, when they travel to Pella for the Central Invite.

Gildersleeve made another appearance in the spotlight running the third fastest time in prelims for the 1000m (2:55). She set a new school record and advanced to the finals where she finished sixth.

"Dawn did very well again," Huseman said. "She ran a lot that week and her performance was very strong. I mean, she had to turn around and run more the next day. She has a huge potential, and it will be awesome to watch that unfold."

Senior Kristina Bouchard finished eighth in the 600m finishing in a time of 1:35 minutes.

Kristina showed a lot of perseverance and fought through an injury to place and be an All-American," Huseman said. "I really thought that she exemplified what our program preaches as far as pushing through and always finishing. She gave a phenomenal effort and we were very proud of her."

Hobbs also placed 11th in the 800m with a time of 2:19 which was just short of advancing to the finals. Kerkvliet finished the meet in the 15th place spot running for a time of 3:11 minutes.

Another mens athlete finished well at the meet. Freshman Logan Hovlan finished in the seventh spot overall in the 1000m with a time of 2:31 minutes.

"As a team I think we have the potential to send a lot more people to nationals," Huseman said. "We were very close with multiple people, and I look for that to push them in the outdoor season. None of us are content with what we have done or where we are at, so I think this outdoor season will be great."

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Another mens athlete opened up with 6.1 innings of no-hit work on the mound. He completed the game and earned a shut-out as Northwestern rolled over NCAA Division II Malone 9-0.

"Kirkeby] works really fast and has a lot of energy on the mound," said sophomore shortstop Cody Groskreutz. "He made a lot of good pitches for us."

After dropping four of their next five games, the Raiders found their groove against a familiar opponent in Malone. NW won the two high-scoring affairs 13-11 and 11-10.

Senior Steve Englund went 7-10 with three RBIs. Johnson also was selected to second team all-GPAC.

"As a team, we're looking to make it to the GPAC tournament, had the hottest bat in the lineup last spring, Her .381 average was best on the squad and helped her earn second team all-GPAC."

Johnson anchors not only the defense behind the plate, but also swings the biggest stick. She was tops on the team last season with six home runs and 23 RBIs. Johnson also was selected to second team all-GPAC.

Esdohr will handle the responsibilities of the hot corner for the second straight year. Last season, Esdohr showed prowess with the glove, committing only three errors for a .978 fielding percentage.

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"Round out the infield will be sophomores Alex Price at shortstop and Lindsay Remien at first base. Price was voted to the all-GPAC second team last season after posting a .320 batting average, which was second on the team.

Junior Patrice Peters and sophomore Lexy Maassen will give the Raiders utility options.

In the circle, sophomores Keely Bracelin and southpaw Katie Vander Voort will split time as starters, and junior right-hander Alex Brower will provide key relief.

"Both [Bracelin and Vander Voort] have experience," Esdohr said. "As freshman last season, they had a lot of weight on their shoulders, but now they have more confidence on the mound. It helps us that they are also very different pitchers, in terms of styles."

Bracelin went 10-6 with a 2.80 ERA as a freshman last season, which was good enough for second team all-GPAC. Vander Voort, who also contributed with outfield play last season, posted a 5-8 record with a 3.41 ERA.

The outfield will be filled with youth. Sophomore Jordan Biegel will be joined by freshmen Jill Kleinheesselink and Kara Nonemacher in the grass.

"We have very talented underclassmen," Esdohr said. "They know what it takes to work hard."

The Raiders will be in action on Saturday at Buena Vista.
Ethnic Fair!

When: March 31, 5-8pm
Where: RSC Mini Gym
What: Food, Entertainment, & Celebrating Diversity
Cost: Food & Show: adults $10, Kids $1, NWC student's $5 (with id)
Show only: $1

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Chapel: a campus community event

BY TYLER MCKEEN

Chapel is a time for the Northwestern campus community to come together and worship God; at least that’s what we’ve heard. However, in my four years here I have noticed that some people seem to be missing this time of campus community worship. We can all list a handful of faculty and who are regular chapel attendees, and we can probably list some faculty and staff whom we hardly, if ever, see at chapel. We as students know what will happen if we do not obtain the necessary 45 chapel credits in a semester, but do the same rules apply to faculty and staff? Should they?

According to the NW Faculty and Staff handbooks, the expectation is that all full-time employees of the school attend chapel. Under section 6.2.2 of the staff handbook it states as one of the criteria for hiring full-time faculty is, “…support the college’s chapel program, including regular chapel attendance.” Section 6.5.2. further explains saying, “Faculty shall attend the chapel services held daily.” The staff handbook also says, “…it is expected that all full-time employees will join the college community in worship on a semi-regular basis to underscore our common commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.” So the handbook says that faculty are required to attend chapel, but as we can and do see in chapel, this is not occurring.

We are missing the point of Lent

BY NATE JOHNSTON

BY NATE JOHNSTON

Lent began this year on February 22. Since then over 30 days have passed and many faithful observers find themselves roughly three-quarters of the way through this season of self-denial. Each of my three springs at Northwestern, I have watched as my friends have given up meat, sweets, soda, Facebook and other forms of technology. Each spring some fail to get through forty days, some cheat, some barely make it through and feel miserable the entire time and others have a positive growing experience.

Although I think the majority of people have good intentions starting Lent, I must admit that I am a bit skeptical of the way that we observe Lent. Seeing the way that Lent is observed at NW and in current Christian culture, I have decided that we need to take a look at the original intentions behind Lent.

According to an article about the history of Lent from thinkingfaith.org, the earliest mention of Lent in the history of the Church comes from the council of Nicea in 325 AD. The fifth canun used the word “tessarakonta”, meaning “forty,” to describe Lent. This was the first mention of a set number of days that Lent was supposed to last. The early church fathers adopted this length of time to imitate the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness before beginning his public ministry. Like Jesus’ forty day fast, Lent was intended to be a time of preparation.

The origins of the English word “Lent” also reveal a great deal about the original intentions behind the season. Unlike many other languages, English describes this church season using a word that does not refer to the length of Lent. According to catholiceducation.org, the word Lent is derived from the Anglo-Saxon words “lencen” meaning “spring,” the word “lencen” sounds quite a bit like the modern English word “lengthen.” This similarity is more than a simple coincidence. “Lencen” refers to the lengthening of the days which is characteristic of springtime. Early Anglo-Saxon church leaders used the word “Lent” as a spiritual analog. Just as Lent takes place during the beginning of a season characterized by the lengthening of the hours of daylight, Lent should also be a time of spiritual lengthening.

Lent was intended to be a time of preparation and spiritual lengthening. From what I have observed, many Christians focus far too much on a selfish form spiritual lengthening. I see many people give up something that they admit consumes a bit too much of their life. They decide to give up something for Lent that they should probably cut back on or give up for life. Lent becomes a time to see how strong you are. Some want to see if they are stronger than addiction, strong enough to be a better person, or strong enough to live a more simplistic lifestyle. These methods can bring someone closer to hitting the mark of spiritual lengthening. However, I struggle to see how proving one’s will power or self-control by giving up fattening foods for forty days is helping someone grow spiritually in a way that is related to the celebration of Christ’s death and resurrection.

Lent is the forty days preceding Easter. In the midst of fasting and self-denial it has become far too easy for us to forget that we should be preparing to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. I think that preparation should be the main focus of Lent. Lent should not be our excuse to become be/g308 er and grow spiritually in the way that we live out our faith. Lent was created to be a specific time to prepare to celebrate Easter and grow spiritually in the way we understand and appreciate the most important moment of our faith.

By giving up carbonated beverages for a few weeks I believe I will improve my relationship with God.

From http://iwastesomuchtime.com

It's okay for girls to be friends with boys

BY EMILY WOHLEN

The second week of my first semester at Northwestern, I was called over by a new acquaintance. “Are you dating that boy?” she innocently inquired. I laughed and responded with, “No way! Why do you ask?” “Because I’ve seen you talking to him,” was the flat response.

This is the most confusing phenomenon I have encountered at NW. In high school, I was friends primarily with boys because that’s how it ended up. I have always identified more with my male friends, so spending last year in a tight community with females was a huge culture shock.

All of my friends smiled nice and wanted to give hugs, things I was obviously not accustomed to. I enjoyed my new friends but, of course, found friends of the “other” kind as well. Suddenly I was apparently dating every boy I talked to or was condemned for abandoning my gender.

I was then shocked to find that I was not the only one with such problems. Why are the genders so separated? Sure, we have brother and sister wings but does that really help inter-gender friendships? Can guys and girls really be friends without it becoming something more? I fully believe they can. I believe there should be more friendships across genders without assumptions being made or expectations for something more. Assuming that someone should date because they are friends and are compatible gender-wise is an interesting concept to me.

But, on the flip side, the only way you will get that “ring by spring” is to make friends with the opposite gender. There are positives for both sides. Guyss Briggs bring humor and are way more chill. And girls can bring an energy and wit that might surprise you. Basically, expanding your group of friends gives everyone new opportunities to grow.

Being in a community doesn’t mean just getting to know your floor or dorm; it’s about making friends with everyone. Once we quit worrying about what other people are really like, we can make moves to actually know them. Without inter-gender friendships, there is only ignorance.

So, I challenge you to hang out with your brother or sister wing outside of set activities. Or get a group together to see “The Hunger Games” this weekend. Try sitting somewhere new in chapel. Get out of your comfort zone to make new friends. It never hurts to try!
Around Campus

World Premiere
One-act plays written and directed by NW students will be performed from 6:30 p.m. to 11:20 p.m., Friday, March 23 and Saturday, March 24 in the Allen Theatre of the De Witt Theatre Arts Centre. See the campus calendar for specific times.

Chamber Recital
The Chamber Collaborative Recital will be held at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 24 in Christ Chapel. The performance will feature pianist Dr. Juyeon Kang, associate professor of music, along with clarinet instructor Beverly Gibson and two guest cellists.

Art Exhibit
The senior art exhibit of Jordan Van Dyke will be Tuesday, March 27 – Tuesday, April 3. A public reception will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, March 30 at the Kover Visual Arts Centre’s TePaske Gallery.

Submit Events
Submit your campus happenings and events to the Beacon for inclusion in this column. Submissions should be roughly 50 words or less and be e-mailed to beacon@nwciowa.edu.

Chapel

Monday
• Mel Reeves, alumnus

Tuesday
• Mel Reeves, alumnus

Wednesday
• Chaplain Harlan VanOort

Friday
• Jacob VanderPloeg, I have a dream

Guest cellists to join faculty

BY GILLIAN ANDERSON

A variety of pieces will be played at the Chamber Collaborative Recital. Dr. Juyeon Kang will perform on piano, and instructor Beverly Gibson will perform on clarinet. There will also be two guest cellists from the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, Maxim Kozlov and Kathryn Hufnagel.

During the recital the ensemble will play two pieces by Johannes Brahms: “Sonata for Piano and Cello No. 2 in F major, Op. 99” and “Trio for Piano, Clarinet and Cello in A minor, Op. 114.”

Students who attend music events frequently look forward to certain aspects of the performances.

“I like applying different people’s techniques to enhance my musicality,” said sophomore Kayla Vetter. “I also like to see how different people express themselves through their instruments.”

Kang, associate professor of music at Northwestern, was on sabbatical this past year. She has performed in many solo recitals including one earlier in the year.

Gibson is an instructor at NW and Dordt, as well as the Dakota Academy of Performing Arts at the Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls. She began playing clarinet in sixth grade and since then has expanded her ability to other woodwind instruments.

“I am very excited about playing the Brahms with my colleagues. It is very gratifying to collaborate with others at this level and perform such a beautiful piece,” Gibson said.

Maxim Kozlov has been playing the cello since he was six years old, and he also plays piano. He is currently performing as the principal cellist in the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra. Kozlov has also performed with the internationally renowned Chamber Orchestra Kremlin, which is based in Moscow.

“I was invited by Dr. Kang last August when she attended a Dakota Sky Piano Festival recital,” Kozlov said. This will be his first time performing with Kang.

Kathryn Hufnagel is a cello instructor at Augustana College. She has participated in many orchestras including the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra.

Each of the performers has received several musical awards.

“It is important for students to go to Kang’s recital because she is a professor and we should celebrate her talents and gifts she has brought to Northwestern College,” Vetter said.

The recital will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 24 in Christ Chapel.

Construction made as ‘convenient as possible’

BY MEG WHITE

Construction for the new learning commons officially started approximately two weeks ago while Northwestern students were on spring break.

The project, scheduled for completion on July 15, 2013, has only just begun.

“A lot of the construction going on right now is merely preparation for the site,” said Dean of Students John Brogan.

Dale Buntrck of Gil Haugan Construction in Sioux Falls is the Superintendent for the project. Over the past couple of weeks, the crew has been working on clearing out trees, completing demolition and re-routing power lines.

“The goal is to keep Granberg Hall in use until the end of the semester,” Brogan said.

Some students, such as freshman North Suites resident Matt Harms, a resident of Steggy.

“Last week it was right over-hang of Granberg Hall in use until the end of the semester,” Brogan said.

According to Brogan, the parking lot that once sat in front of Heemstra used to be a functional street that ran through campus. Though it hasn’t been functional for years, the water, power and gas lines have yet to be re-routed.

“Thars why the construction is going towards Steggy,” Brogan said. “It’s a matter of relocating the lines.”

The learning commons will sit in line with the chapel, where the Heemstra lot used to be, parallel with the front of the chapel. The north wall of the commons will be located directly under the existing over-hang of Granberg Hall. The construction currently underway is simply preparation.

“Students who attend music events frequently look forward to certain aspects of the performances. I like applying different people’s techniques to enhance my musicality,” said sophomore Kayla Vetter. “I also like to see how different people express themselves through their instruments.”

PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

Dr. Kang will be performing at the Chamber Collaborative Recital with guest cellists from the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra.

PHOTO BY KATI HENG

Construction for the new learning commons has made certain parts of campus, including the area in front of Steggy and around Granberg Hall, almost unrecognizable.