

Northwestern College Beacon



PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

Senior Isaac Hendricks wears justice clothing, clothes whose profits benefit charities.

Clothes that change lives

BY KAMERON TOEWS

Just a few years ago, justice clothing began to appear on Northwestern students' backs and feet.

TOMS, To Write Love On Her Arms, Clothe Your Neighbor as Yourself and Hope for Haiti clothing were spotted around campus. Even today, these same types of clothing are still a popular choice.

As the trend continues to grow, more students are questioning whether or not buying a justice organization's clothing is a healthy way of supporting that charity. Junior Jeremy Bork thinks purchasing justice clothing is a good way to help those in need.

"I have had numerous people ask me about the shirt, and it's a sweet way to spread the word of the ministry," Bork said.

Senior Isaac Hendricks feels like giving money directly to an organization would go further.

"I like the idea of 'free advertising' for the company," Hendricks said.

Take the perspective of the charity organization, and things might look different.

"Organizations probably make more money by using the trendy item to aesthetically spark interest in consumers," said sophomore Bradley Smith. "I feel it's a brilliant strategy on their part."

Smith compared charity organizations to other businesses.

See "TOMS" on Page 4

Stray feline adopts NW family

BY BRIAN BRANDAU

FEATURES EDITOR

A new tenant recently took up residence in the Courtyard Village for a few weeks.

An orange-white, stray cat first appeared around Northwestern's campus about three weeks ago. Senior Krystina Bouchard and her husband, Ty, were the first students to interact with the cat when it showed up at their apartment off campus.

"I had just come back from grocery shopping, and there was this poor little kitty," Bouchard said.

It didn't take long for Krystina Bouchard and her husband to let the cat into their apartment, but the arrangements were not ideal for a cat to live there. Ty has allergies, and the couple has a large dog named Dré. Although the Bouchards kept the animals separated for a while, tensions arose when they eventually did come together.

"Dré is just so much bigger than him," Bouchard said. "It wasn't working out."

After the cat attacked Dré and Ty, Krystina made the decision to evict it from their apartment. However, the cat's normally friendly demeanor quickly endeared it to another group of students living in the Courtyard Villages, also



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Senior Natalia Mueller holds an outdoor cat that has been cared for by residents of the Courtyard Villages before finding a new home with junior Tyler McKenney's family in Inwood.

known as the plexes.

"He just kind of trotted up one day, back when it was kind of cold out," said senior Kristen Menchaca, who lives in the north building of the plexes.

Fortunately for the cat, the plexes and apartments had just recently held a hog roast and much of the meat was left over from the event. Seniors Natalia Mueller and Brittany Leikvoll decided to feed it to the cat.

"Brittany loves cats,"

Mueller said. "That's why I started feeding him."

Although initially Mueller and Leikvoll were feeding the cat leftovers from the hog roast and dog food, it wasn't long before they started buying food from the grocery store specifically for the cat. According to Mueller, some of the foods they tried originally were unpopular.

"He's very picky," Mueller said.

Eventually, Mueller and Leikvoll had even put out a

bed for the cat, and Mueller bought a collar. But they are not the only plex which took a personal interest in the cat's welfare.

Senior Heather Pagelkopf also took her part in caring for the cat. When the cat first started appearing, she decided to put milk out in a saucer for him.

"I had an unfortunate incident with the little guy the first time he came around,"

See "Cat" on Page 5

Rick Perry visits Orange City



PHOTO BY ANDREW LOVGREN

Texas Gov. Rick Perry holds up a Sharpie that he would use to revoke Obamacare if he were elected president. Perry paid a visit to Orange City on Saturday, Oct. 8 as a part of his Iowa tour.



PHOTO BY ANDREW LOVGREN

Sophomores Jack Johnson and Josh Hollinger listen to Perry from the back of a filled room. Perry is currently ranked third in a NBC News/Wall Street Journal Republican presidential candidate poll.

Six friends command imaginary spaceship

BY MICHAEL GUTSCHE

"Artemis Bridge Simulator" is probably the nerdiest thing you could ever do. Or won't do.

At any rate, a few clarifications are in order. Despite how its name may make it sound, "Artemis Bridge Simulator" has nothing to do with architecture or those big connecting things that let people drive over rivers and chasms. "Artemis Bridge Simulator" has everything to do with Star Trek.

With each player on his or her own screen, a group of six controls every part of a starship. Here's a peek into the action.

"Okay, here's the plan," said the captain. "We drive right into them, and then we nuke them, and then we run away before we die."

It didn't work exactly like that. Our science officer couldn't get a proper reading on the enemy ships' shield frequencies, so our lasers were useless—not that we were even close enough to use them. Instead, the gunnery officer fired the nuclear missile as soon as we got in range.

A split-second after the nuke had been fired, our helmsman engaged the warp drives, trying to wheel us

around for another pass—without permission from the captain.

Captain screamed at him to stop, and he immediately dropped out of warp, which left us in front of the nuke we had just fired and parallel to the enemy ships.

"Never mind, don't stop warping, just keep firing," the captain said.

It was too late. The nuke hit the enemy ships, destroying them and almost tearing our ship in half. Engineering reported fires across the whole ship, mostly in the center. The main engine had taken the blow to the side at a time when our shields were focused to the front.

Then we flew into a singularity for fun and to see what it would do. It didn't do anything besides blow us up. No fancy space-teleporting or reality-bending good times—just explosive death.

It takes a group of six spaceship-loving friends to play the game. Each person gets a computer, which all connect to a server that hosts the main program.

Each person mans one of the positions on the ship, which include the captain, the helmsman, the weapons officer, the communications officer, the chief engineer or

the science officer.

The captain isn't actually in control of anything. He or she just yells at everyone to get things done.

The weapons officer controls the various weapon systems of the starship, which include mines, lasers of varying frequency and the aforementioned nuclear missiles, among other things.

Engineering is in charge of power monitoring for the weapons, engines, shields and various other parts of the ship, such as the cooling systems, and also directs the emergency team to fix any damaged areas of the ship.

The science crewman is in charge of providing directional headings to the helmsman, who controls the ship direction and drive speeds. The helmsman can also scan down other ships for the weapons crew to fight more effectively.

Communications is kind of an odd duck. They spend most of their time talking to various allied and enemy ships, giving orders from the captain or taunting them into surrendering, respectively. Also under the communications department lies the task of relaying messages and requests for resupplying to any space stations in the near area.

The crew works together to make this starship zoom about and blow up other starships and occasionally complete specific missions or take part in certain scenarios, like sieges on star systems or defense of multiple fronts in a nebula.

It's more fun than it sounds, and usually involves a good deal of screaming and hollering at one another to get each others' stations in order.

Some of the positions are somewhat lacking in interaction from time to time. For example, the science officer often finds himself simply waiting for new targets to arrive, which means that sometimes there are slightly-too-long pauses between one interesting thing and the next.

There also isn't much in the way of graphics—the visual representations of the ships are a bit underwhelming, and the players spend most of the game staring at charts and navigational maps. However, once the yelling starts, you're in for a time you'll not soon forget. The game is brilliant in its simplicity, and wonderful in cooperation and chaos.

Nerd it up, everyone. Nobody is too cool to pretend to run a spaceship.



Mannequins and People

BY BRITTANY LEIKVOLL

"People and Things" will definitely satisfy fans eager to hear more of the band Jack's Mannequin's signature sound.

The new album is polished, has a cohesive tone and is driven by upbeat, pop-rock tempos.

The band's lead singer, Andrew McMahon, who also serves as the group's songwriter, went through a battle with cancer in 2005. McMahon has said that the experience taught him to slow down and appreciate life—an inspiration for much of the album.

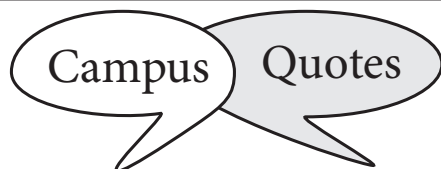
"People and Things" focuses on relationships, but not at all in the typical, cliché way. While in the midst of his battle with leukemia, McMahon let a lot of people slip out of his life, so this album served as a way to "make up for lost time." Instead of building around Andrew's piano and lyrics, as the band often relies on for their sound, Jack's Mannequin decided to get out of the city scene to escape all of their possible distractions. They believe it gives the album a freer tone and helped them connect deeper as a band.

In light of the title, McMahon says that throughout these songs, he describes every day, average and sometimes mundane details of life. McMahon liked the idea of framing a record on those two very simple but relevant topics.

The single "My Racing Thoughts," is about the waiting and timing involved in relationships and sets the tone for the entire album with the lyrics "I think I'm running low on inspiration." The downfall of this album, may be just what that song describes. It is filled with the same sounds—song after song.

The album otherwise may be put together, but seems so produced and planned that it loses some edge. It's easy to listen to, but the album doesn't take any risks.

If this album was in a relationship with the listener, it would be stuck in the friend zone.



"If I wanted to snort thumbtacks, I should be free to do that."

Professor Dan Young on freedom

"Is there any way we can opt out of Social Security?"
"Well, you can die."

Brett Amiotte and Professor Elder
during an optimistic discussion on Social Security

"What did you do know?"

Jordan Vermeer

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



Michael Gutsche (second from left, back row) and five friends team up to command their own spaceship. The group takes advantage of the VPH classrooms' multiple desktop computers, projector and screen.

PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

Unique way of rapping

BY EMILY BROUWER

Unique is a band that is anything but ordinary.

A Christian group made up of four talented men—sophomores Jeriah Dunk, Demargo Friedl, Aaron Nash and freshman Alex Habeger—brings a new and uplifting perspective to the world of rap music.

The four met and started the group at Northwestern, although they each started making some sort of music or writing at a young age.

For Friedl, it started with song writing.

"I started writing poetry when I was younger, which turned into writing songs," Friedl said.

The writing continues to help the band today. In fact, the group's name came from a song Friedl wrote last year, entitled "Unique."

Nash got started not with the poetry of rap, but because of the fun and the friendship surrounding rap for him.

"People in my neighborhood were rapping, and so I started rapping with friends," Nash said. "It was for fun at first, but then I realized I wanted to reach out to people."

Dunk's background of growing up listening to Christian rap helped influence the band's style as well.

"I was in orchestra in middle school and high school, and I listened to Christian rap. I used both of those areas to start producing beats," Dunk said. "My rapping started in sophomore year of high school, and I decided I wanted to use my abilities for something more important. When I got to NW, it got a lot better."

Habeger, the youngest member of the group, began writing Christian rap lyrics when he was a still in high school as well.

"I used to listen to secular rap when I was young," Habeger said. "In eighth grade, I started listening to Christian rap and stuck with that all through high school. I started writing Christian rap in my sophomore year of high school, and now God has led me to these guys here at NW."

The four members of the group have similar inspirations and musicians they look up to. They are quick to point out that Jesus is their main inspiration, but they also look up to artists like Lecrae, Trip Lee, 116 Clique, Flame and many other musicians.

Two of their main goals are to put a lot of Christian influence into their songs and to show they are on the same



PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

Members of the band Unique, Jeriah Dunk, Alex Habeger, Aaron Nash and Demargo Friedl listen to new recordings they made during one of their recent recording sessions.

level as their audience.

"We don't want to sound like we're way up here, and you're way down there," Dunk said. "We talk about ourselves and our own flaws before we talk about someone else's. We don't want to sound ignorant."

Friedl agreed with Dunk.

"We aren't judging, and we know we aren't greater than anyone else," Friedl said.

Unique performed at the Old Factory last year, which was a big show for them. They have also performed at the ethnic fair put on by NW's I-Club.

Right now, the guys are working on making their own album. They are recording a couple times a week in the VPH studio basement, sometimes working late into the night and early into the next morning.

"Sometimes we are up until 3 or 4 in the morning recording or writing," Nash said. "God just starts working, and we forget about the time."

Unique is currently working on a song entitled "Puff Puff Pass." The group thinks it might end up being controversial

because people might twist the meaning, but it has a strong message that Unique is really trying to focus on this year.

"The song's basically about how we don't need weed and drugs because we got God," Friedl said.

Along with "Puff Puff Pass," Unique is also working on other songs for their upcoming album called "Younique."

Even when the guys aren't writing or recording their songs, there is still always a sense of family and brotherhood among them, which they say is the most rewarding part about being in Unique.

They can talk to each other about more than just music, and they can see the Holy Spirit work through each other.

"I like the feeling of family I get from being in the group," Habeger said. "I grew up in a small town and was the only guy that listened to Christian rap. It's good to have others that do the same here, and I've been so blessed to meet these guys."

Although there is no expected date for the release of the album, NW students and their other fans can wait for it with eager anticipation.

Crazy-haired Bjork brings new album 'Biophilia'

BY KATI HENG

A&C EDITOR

Say what you will about Icelandic electronic artist Bjork, the girl is ambitious.

She easily could have released her newest album, "Biophilia," impressed fans with its intricate percussion arrangements and called it a day.

Instead, Bjork decided to simultaneously release an infinite number of remixes, created by anyone with an iPhone or an iPad.

With the help of Apple, Bjork designed an application that would allow listeners to mix, twist around, isolate individual notes or instruments and design their

own recreations of songs from the album. Fans, or simply those fascinated by the science of music, will be able to explore her music in a unique and hopefully fun new way.

"Biophilia" is a geek-chic delight. The album is full of lyrical ruminations about rocks, viruses, earth's continuing evolution and even more scientific topics. But to give a fair warning, Bjork is sure to offend some strict Creationists with a few of her lyrics. In the song "Cosmogony," she brings up several perspectives on how the universe may have come to life, including the idea that "Our universe was an empty

seat/until a silver fox/and her cunning mate/began to sing/a song that became the world we know."

The concept of an album with lyrics all about science rather than the typical topics of love or emotions, for example, is a fun idea. However, "Biophilia" seems better as a soundtrack for a "Bill Nye" opera than as an album standing alone. Although it would be a great accomplishment to create a song about rocks that actually, well, rocks, Bjork isn't there yet.

While those who are already fans of Bjork are sure to love the sound on "Biophilia," the album is

unlikely to win over any new fans. Her gasping, almost hiccup-sounding style of singing takes time to learn to appreciate.

Although it was her goals to stay away from using guitars or ordinary pianos, the instruments she used instead are just plain strange. Some listeners may enjoy them for that reason, some definitely won't.

Even for those with the chance to play with the tunes on their iPhones, the songs themselves may be less memorable than the app itself—kind of like the preset songs that come on toy pianos or the free songs already on that new computer.



Bjork continues her odd music style with a new album that incorporates the musical talents of many of her fans.

TOMS for sharing, TOMS for styling

FROM PAGE 1

"Organizations like TOMS know marketing," Smith said. "Like any business that sells a product, they will use the knowledge they have about consumers to sell their product."

Junior Morgan Stahl thinks that wearing the clothing can often be more supportive than simply donating money to an organization.

"I feel pulled both ways because wearing a shirt is supportive, but not that meaningful," Stahl said. "Just because you wear a Cloth Your Neighbor as Yourself shirt does not mean you really care."

She emphasized the need to connect relationally with the needy, not just financially.

While buying charitable products does help those in need, consumers are also receiving a gift in return for their monetary help.

"I bought the clothing and shoes because it goes to a good cause and they are comfortable to wear," said senior Kelli Neevel.

However, because donors to these charities receive shirts or shoes in return for their giving, the true purpose of giving to the charity has the potential to get lost to fashionable materialism.

"I can't help but wonder what might happen to these organizations when social justice, charity clothing isn't the trend anymore," Neevel said.

Smith also sees negatives in the trend.

"We live in a society that wants something in return," Smith said. "While this is an unfortunate mindset in America, people are still being helped, and there can be nothing wrong with that, regardless of how wrong the motives might be."

"Whenever you bring the consumer mentality into the organization, funder relationship, you do risk the focus being shifted away from the actual mission of the organization," said junior Jennifer Kahanic.

Hendricks thinks that charity clothing might be turning



PHOTO BY KATI HENG

Freshmen Katie Thompson and Abbie Goldschmid are among many NW students who choose to wear their TOMS with pride.

into more about the clothing than the work of the organization, but "there is a tremendous beauty in the vogue nature of social-justice clothing."

As trendy and supportive as charitable clothing is, there could be downsides to wearing justice-themed clothing.

Some argue that wearing these types of clothing in public is unhealthy, attracting unnecessary attention to the wearer.

"I would agree that it can be seen as pretentious," Hendricks said, "but by wearing their clothes, I am also advertising for their organization which will, hopefully, bring

more people to contribute to their cause."

Smith sees a similarity to wearing TOMS and a Hollister sweatshirt—in both cases, consumers are paying money to advertise for a company.

"Regardless of whether someone buys the shirt because it's trendy or because they actually want to help someone, people are being helped," Smith said. "And at the end of the day, that's the goal, and it is being met."

So maybe the clothing can be misunderstood, but for many students at NW, the cost of the clothing is still worth the results.

Fathers and cops learn about love and Christianity in 'Courageous'

BY JOHN SLOTER

Unlike a typical Hollywood film, "Courageous" isn't afraid to delve into the sticky issue of divorce and its effect on homes and isn't scared to do so with an unapologetically Christian approach.

While this movie is about family life in general, the clear emphasis is on the role of the father in the home and the effect of his presence, or his absence, in the life of his children.

The film follows Adam Mitchell (Alex Kendrick) through his life as a cop and a father. As a cop, Adam tries his best but is clearly aging and is no longer able to keep up with the crooks.

As a father, Mitchell ignores his son, but lavishes love on his daughter—a daughter who is taken from him by a drunk driver. After the loss, Adam solemnly resolves to live a life that will impact his remaining family for God's purpose.

The rest of the story focuses on the challenges and triumphs of this commitment, culminating in a rather stirring call for men to take responsibility for the state of their families. Following him in this commitment are fellow cops Nathan Hayes (Ken Bevel), David Thomson (Ben Davies) and Shane Fuller (Kevin Downes).

With problems that range from a dating daughter to

illegitimate children, all of these cops have familial and personal issues to work through.

Although predictable, the plot is deeply emotional in a way that makes the movie feel almost tangible.

"Courageous" is an odd conglomeration of action, emotion, and humor with an extra-large dose of spirituality thrown in for good measure. The movie's clear attempt to speak to male audiences is rather out of place, as men are likely to prefer to see fireballs rather than tears in the theater.

In spite of this, or perhaps because of it, this movie is refreshing and highly entertaining.

Top 5

Songs by Nirvana

As the iconic band celebrates 20 years, NW students and staff discuss its best songs.

1. "Smells Like Teen Spirit"

"The guitar parts are bone-chilling. Their complexity is intriguing."

Freshman Tim Stephens

2. "Lithium"

"I like this because Cobain will never crack."

Junior Brett Amiotte

3. "The Man Who Sold the World"

"It is metaphorically meaningful. I gazed a gazeless stare."

Sophomore Heather Heilman

4. "In Bloom"

"Cobain wrote the chorus to be easy to sing along with but kept it mindless as well. Intense guitars and simple but driving drums."

Professor Phil Scorza

5. "About a Girl"

"It's got an old-school sound but a rock edge to it. It's soulful."

Junior Mark Blankers

BY TYLER ZEUTENHORST



Professor Playlist

	▼	Title	Artist	Description
compiled by Scott Monsma department Sociology	1	Over the Rainbow	Eva Cassidy	Eva has a beautiful voice that makes her rendition of this song both haunting and evocative.
	2	Boston	More than a Feeling	Sitting directly in front of a 50-foot stack of speakers when I saw them perform live made it difficult to hear afterwards.
	3	What's Love Got to do with It?	Tina Turner	A perfect song to introduce the topic of romance, sex and attachment in my marriage and family class.
	4	Gooble-digook	Sigur Ros	An appropriate song to listen to when grading some papers or exams?
	5	Summer (the entire album)	George Winston	Wonderful pianist to listen to when I am too keyed up and need to relax.



The cat in the courtyard

FROM PAGE 1

Pagekopf said. "I warmed the milk up since it was cold outside and neglected to test it first. Needless to say, he scalded his tongue and was afraid of the teacup for a while. Since then, he's warmed up to it—no pun intended—and practically begs us to fill it."

Although they were united in their affection of the cat, some controversy arose amongst the cat's caretakers as to what he should be called.

Because of the cat's color, Mueller advocated for the name Ginger. Leikvoll wanted a different name, but suggested a compromise.

"I wanted Henry, and Natalia wanted Ginger. I

think he should be called Genry," Leikvoll said.

Menchaca and Pagekopf, who room together, had a different idea.

"The cat's name is Simba," Menchaca said. "Not Frankie or Henry or Ginger. It's Simba."

Not everyone was happy about the cat's arrival.

"I think the cat is cute, but I'm allergic, so it makes me sneeze a lot," said senior Kim Reisma, who lives in the east building of the Courtyard Villages. "And I know that other people are more allergic than I am."

Reisma was also concerned that the cat could develop a dependency on the plex community, which

could prove harmful in the long run.

"My dad brought a cat from Sioux Center to Boyden, and it came back two days later," Reisma said. "Even if we get the cat a good home, it's probably going to just make its way back here. We're making this its permanent home."

Furthermore, Reisma was concerned about what would happen to the cat when it got cold out. She noted that if the cat grew dependent on them to provide during the winter months, it might not survive.

Senior Ross Fernstrum, who also lives in the east building of the plexes, also expressed concern about what would happen when winter came.

"It's becoming dependent on us. During the winter, what's going to happen?" Fernstrum asked. "It's temporary goodness, but is it sustainable?"

Fernstrum and his roommate, junior Nathan Nieuwendorp, were also worried about the prospect of leaving food outside.

"It's going to attract animals," Nieuwendorp said. "Mice, raccoons, mountain lions, stuff like that."

Nieuwendorp admitted that he didn't necessarily have rational reasons for being against the cat.

"I want to punt the cat," Nieuwendorp said. "I've just never liked cats."

Mueller was not pleased with that prospect. "If anyone kicks the cat," she said. "I will write them up."

Dean of Residence Life John Brogan had his own take on the cat. He pointed out that the student handbook stipulated that, "The only pets allowed in campus housing are fish. Cats, mice and hamsters are not acceptable. Violations of this policy could result in cleaning charges up to \$300," a stipulation which Menchaca and Mueller, both resident assistants, insist they're observing.

On a more personal level, Brogan recalled a similar experience a few years ago.



PHOTO BY NATALIA MUELLER

Senior Brittany Leikvoll plays with the cat, whom she affectionately dubbed, "Genry." Leikvoll was active in taking care of the cat and in finding him another home.

"We've had cats that have been adopted before. This is nothing new," Brogan said.

A few years ago, Brogan's future son-in-law Bryce Vander Stelt was living in the apartments when a cat began to hang around the area. At the end of the semester, Brogan's daughter Erin was helping her then-fiancé move out when her and her mother came upon the cat, nearly frozen to death.

"I can imagine them walking back to the van and there's this cat with icicles hanging off his fur," Brogan said. "Anyway, Erin scooped it up, put in the van and brought it back home with her. The cat's still living with me today."

Brogan felt that this story illustrated the danger of having cats around.

"I'm not a cat-hater. My major concern is that it's all fine and well now, but what happens when winter comes along? It can't stay inside and Maintenance doesn't want it around," Brogan said. "It makes sense to find a home or shelter."

Mueller had the same idea. Earlier this week, she took the cat to the Siouxland Humane Society in Sioux City. Unfortunately, the humane society told Mueller that because the cat had lived outdoors for so long, the possibility of diseases meant they'd likely have to put the cat down.

"I'm a little frustrated," Mueller said. "Animal shelters take dogs they find on the street all the time. How come they don't take cats?"

Mueller did eventually

find an adoptive family. After she had returned from Sioux City, Mueller was discussing the situation with her fiancé Bobby James.

"I overheard the conversation and said, 'Hey, I'll bet my parents could take it,'" said junior Tyler McKenney, whose family owns a farm in Inwood. McKenney's parents agreed to give the cat a new home, and he will be bringing the cat to their farm on Saturday, Oct. 15.

"If I could have my way he would live in my apartment," Mueller said. "But since we aren't allowed to have animals, this is the next best thing."

Visit the Beacon website for a gallery of photo submissions from plex residents featuring the Courtyard Cat.



PHOTO BY HEATHER PAGELKOPF

A stray cat who has taken many names—Ginger, Simba and Genry among them—prowled the plexes for a few weeks this fall.

‘This is not your high school mission trip’

-Jennifer Kahanic



PHOTO BY JENNIFER KAHANIC

Junior Jennifer Kahanic (second on the left) stands with a group of high school students she worked with at a youth camp on the Bay of Bengal in India. “I got really close to these girls over my short week at the youth camp. They helped remind me of the connection all people share simply by being human,” Kahanic said.

BY JEB RACH

This summer, 18 Northwestern students served through the Summer of Service program, both domestically and abroad.

Through their times away from home, these students witnessed different cultures, underwent extreme culture shock, had humbling experiences and felt moments that drew them closer to God.

Students served in numerous places, including places as far away as Ghana and India and sites as close as Denver, Colo. The positions and organizations in which these NW students served varied widely.



PHOTO BY KELSEY LEONARD

Senior Kelsey Leonard holds Lydia, a small girl in the Ghanaian town of Akotoshie. Leonard worked at the Haven of Hope Academy in Akotoshie, where she taught elementary school.

Junior Jennifer Kahanic worked with an organization called Word for the World in India. She traveled with a team around southern India, helping with missions outreach (including preaching, Bible studies and children’s camps) to lepers, widows, the disabled and generally those “lost and forgotten” in India.

Senior Kelsey Leonard served with Every Child Missionaries in Accra, Ghana. She worked in a children’s house where she handled programming, tutored young adults and taught religion and social studies.

Closer to home, senior Jennifer Carlson served with Dry Bones in Denver, Colo., through the Denver Urban Semester. Dry Bones is a relational ministry and, as such, Jennifer’s role was building relationships with street kids, aged between 12 and mid-20s.

Junior Jacob VanDerLinden served in Ukraine with International Messengers. Their organization teaches English as an outreach opportunity, and Jacob’s role was to be a native English speaker with whom students could practice their English skills.

Although all the SOS members felt their experiences were filled with challenges, the universal theme for the international SOSers was cultural differences and challenges of being in a different environment and culture.

Both Leonard and Kahanic found major differences between U.S. culture and the cultures they lived in. Both of their cultures were very generous, even when they didn’t have much.

Leonard recalls being woken up at around 6 a.m. by a knock on her door. Some of the children who came to the home for education were at her door offering her some of their biscuits, even though she insisted that she had enough to eat.

She felt that Americans tend to keep their best possessions to themselves. Ghanaian culture, on the other hand, leads people to share these good things more generously.

VanDerLinden found that while he didn’t have a lot of culture shock in Ukraine, he did have a lot of big city shock. Having grown up in a small town, he had never lived in a big city. Adjusting to Odessa, Ukraine, a city of 1.3 million people, was challenging.

Although the most jarring experience was the clash between his rural upbringing and the big city environment, VanDerLinden did recall one large difference in the culture.

“We were told that if you wanted to have your own water, leave the water bottle in your room,” VanDerLinden said. “Otherwise, many would treat it simply as communal water that they could take a drink out of.”

Carlson found that serving in the U.S. meant that she didn’t experience most of the culture shock her fellow SOSers felt. She did not need to spend time adjusting to a different culture, which gave her more time to focus on building relationships and working with the ministry.

Kahanic distinctly remembers the huge levels of poverty

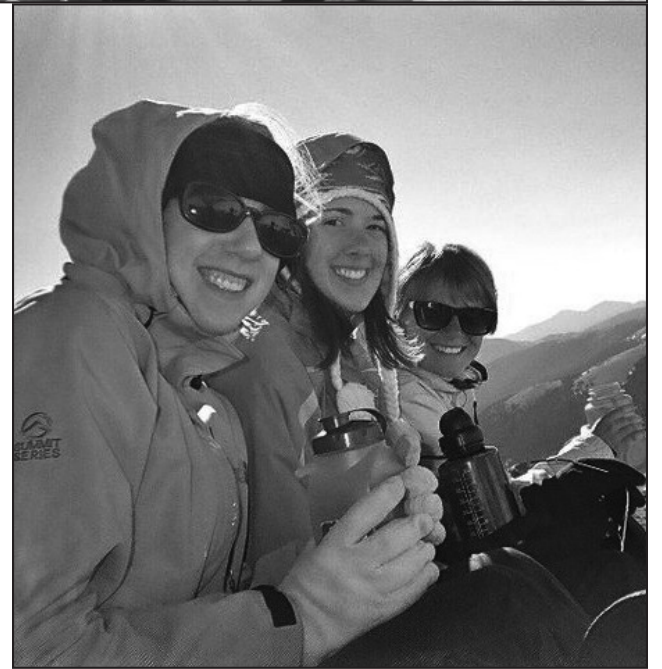


PHOTO BY JENNIFER CARLSON

Jennifer Carlson (back) sits on Mt. Engelmann in Colorado with members of a Texas youth group. Carlson worked with a program called Elevations, which takes youth groups on backpacking trips in the Rocky Mountains and opens their eyes to conditions on city streets in Denver.

and how difficult this made it for her to effectively do her work. Kahanic described the slums as “just like out of a magazine” in terms of their extreme levels of poverty.

Kahanic also recalls the differences in diet. She related that most of the food that they eat in India has little or no nutritional value. Typically they only eat fried bread, rice and similar foods, which was something that she had difficulty adjusting to.

Despite all these challenges, Kahanic, Leonard, VanDerLinden and Carlson said they would all do it again, without reservation. They further reaffirmed the value of the challenges they faced, stating that they found them to be growing experiences. All four shared about their experiences at the SOS chapel on Oct. 11.

In addition, they all had advice for those considering SOSes of their own and encouraged them to talk with previous participants if interested.

All of them encourage students to look into the program. Both Carlson and Leonard find the SOS program unique. NW offers an opportunity to be part of a structured program which is nearly impossible to find outside of college.

However, both Kahanic and VanDerLinden urge students to make sure that they don’t go on an SOS simply because others are pushing them to do it. Both did not foresee that they would go on an SOS when they started school, and VanDerLinden was not particularly interested in the program when he first started the process.

Both felt led to go on these trips out of their own heart and prompting from God, and both encourage students to make sure that their reasoning for this trip is similarly motivated.

Features 17

Role models shape local youth

BY JENNA VAN OORT

Many Northwestern students grace the pews at any one number of churches in the Orange City area on Sunday mornings.

Some students do much more than that, however. Whether it's in an internship, part-time job, volunteer position, practice for their majors or just for fun, these students take pride in giving back to their community.

Sophomore Jordan Starkenburg leads worship and helps with the American and Alton Reformed Church high school youth group. Starkenburg said that being involved in a church gives him the opportunity to meet people from the community.

"It gives me the chance to serve them with my gifts and glorify God in the process," Starkenburg said.

Junior Hannah Krohn is a youth sponsor at Bethel Reformed Church in Sheldon and seniors Natalia Mueller and Bobby James are two of four in the IMPACT program that work with the Alton Reformed Church's middle school youth group. Both felt called to work with youth in churches because they

understand the importance of role models in their lives.

"I know that when I was in high school I would have absolutely loved having a college student come and talk with me every week," Krohn said. "God calls us to be in fellowship with one another, with people that are older, younger or the same age."

Senior Christian education major Bryan Langfitt is the part-time youth pastor for Bethel Reformed in Sheldon.

"I wanted to work with the youth because I have a desire to share my faith with those who struggle with a familiar path that everyone has experienced—brokenness," Langfitt said.

"My youth pastor was this person for me when I was trying to figure out where I fit into everything, and seeing how that impacted my life, I want to do the same for the youth today."

According to Krohn, these students get a chance to put what they're "learning about Christ into action."

Langfitt loves the hands-on ministry that goes beyond the classroom.

"The relationships with the youth that I work with are such a blessing," Langfitt said. "Seeing them adapt to the Word of God and understand it as their own is powerful."

Most NW students believe that the best part about working with church youth groups is the youth.

"I love the kids," Mueller said. "They each have so much to offer, and they have great ideas about how to serve others."

Junior Vallen Cook works at both the Alton and the American Reformed groups.

"I really like watching the youth develop as young adults and make the transition from middle school into high school or from high school to college," Cook said.

Surprisingly, the time commitment isn't the only challenge. Students working with area youth groups also find other aspects of their endeavor to be a struggle.

"Sometimes I have to step out of my comfort zone," Cook said, "but in turn, the students have to do the same."

Starkenburg had a hard



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Senior Bobby James works with members of the Alton Reformed Church middle school youth group as a member of the IMPACT program. Many NW students give their time to area youth groups like this one.

time just remembering names. Mueller realized that "middle schoolers can be exhausting."

Krohn was nervous to work with high schoolers.

"I feel that I mesh well with younger kids, and honestly, high schoolers kind of intimidate me," Krohn said. "But I thought it was a good way to work my elementary education major into a real life situation."

For Langfitt, the hard part is defining youth ministry.

"The challenge is having 25 students, which means about 50 adults who have expectations for their child's faith," Langfitt said. "I think

youth ministry has become so focused on the church and what the youth pastor does, but faith must go beyond the four walls of the church and into the homes of the youth."

The value of the experience overcomes the challenges for these NW students who give their time and energy to the youth of the communities in the area.

"I will be using my experiences, both good and bad, to help me with my future as a youth pastor," Langfitt said. "Technology and methods of youth ministry may change throughout time,

but a genuine relationship is something that will never change. It is because of this relationship that God empowers us through the Holy Spirit to speak into these kids' lives."

These students got involved in churches by asking how they could help, and they encourage all students to do the same.

"You can simply ask, because churches are always looking for ways to integrate college students," Cook said.

Starkenburg noted one additional incentive. "Of course, involvement with local churches means plenty of free food."

Balancing children with scholarship

BY JOCELYN VAN DYKE

College is a huge, long-term commitment.

So is being a parent. Imagine combining the two and you'll get a feel for what it's like to walk in Noah Adams' shoes.

As a senior at Northwestern and a parent to 3-month-old son Malakye, Adams is learning how to juggle the responsibilities of both roles.

"Things are a lot busier than before. It's hard to stay on one task," Adams said. "I will sit down to do homework and 20 minutes later, I need to give [Malakye] a bottle or change his diaper."

Malakye's arrival has brought great joy to Adams and his wife, Brittany.

"[The biggest reward] is coming home from a day and spending time together," Adams said. "Being a parent

is great. It's a lot of work, but it's worth it."

Brittany Adams agrees but also thinks that one of the best things about Malakye is "when he smiles at you."

With the joys also come the struggles. Noah Adams has found that his biggest challenge is budgeting his time. While committed to doing well in school, he also wants to spend enough time with his wife and newborn son. This has forced him to make careful decisions about where to devote his energy.

"Malakye is a good motivation to do well and finish school," Adams said. "It's hard to stay motivated at the same time, though, because it's hard to focus. Sometimes I'd rather stay home and be with him. I take care of him in the mornings when I don't have class, and then at noon I have to go to class. It's

about finding your balance, knowing your priorities and sticking with them."

Senior Josh Meis can relate. A single father to 5-year-old Ava, Meis knows the dedication it takes to budget time effectively.

"It's about making sure to balance everything," Meis said. "It's also about spreading yourself out enough that you're not lapsing in one area."

As a captain on the fire department, coach of a little league football team and owner of his own carpentry business, Meis has his hands full. The added responsibilities of being a student and a father only add to the stress of day-to-day life. For Meis, though, this is all well worth it.

"[My biggest joy is] definitely seeing Ava smile and laugh and have fun," Meis said. "Also, seeing

how she's progressing when it comes to reading and learning her letters. Part of being a parent is about teaching. Seeing her learn

the things that I'm trying to teach her is rewarding."

Amidst papers to write and tests to study for, the added responsibility of

being a parent has rewards along with challenges. It's about finding the balance between these two important commitments.



PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

Noah and Brittany Adams relax with their 3-month-old son, Malakye. Going to school and raising a child at the same time has proven to be a rewarding challenge for the young couple.

Sports | 8

Raiders dominate ranked opponent

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

After two relatively easy games in a row, the Raider football team was faced with their first ranked opponent since consecutive losses marred the beginning of their season.

They passed with extraordinary flying colors.

Northwestern dominated No. 24 Midland University in Fremont, Neb., on Saturday, posting an impressive 51-14 victory and extending their winning streak to three games.

Junior quarterback Davis Bloemendaal started and won his third straight game, throwing for 196 yards on 11-21 completions. Bloemendaal also scored on a 60-yard touchdown run, the longest of his career.

Meanwhile, sophomore Theo Bartman rushed for a career-high 111 yards and a score.

"It all starts with our offensive line," said coach Kyle Achterhoff. "They've

been creating great holes, giving Davis time to throw. And also, our receivers aren't dropping footballs like they did earlier [this year]. We are stretching teams vertically, throwing the ball downfield more, but guys are making plays on the ball."

Meanwhile, defensively, the Raiders picked up right where they left off.

NW kept Midland from moving the chains in the first half and held them to just over 200 yards. However, a large number of those yards were gained in the final two possessions for Midland, when the game was already out of reach.

Sophomore Gerard Fluellen posted four tackles and recovered a fumble, while junior Aaron Jansen pulled down five tackles and broke up a pass.

"It seems like every time we make a tackle, there's eight or nine of our jerseys close to the ball," Achterhoff



PHOTO BY LINDSEY GEELS

Sophomore quarterback Davis Bloemendaal fakes a handoff to sophomore Theo Bartman, and the offensive line provides protection. The men in the trenches allowed Bloemendaal to throw for 196 yards and cleared room for the team to total 285 yards on the ground.

said. "We are getting a lot of people to the ball. Everybody wants to get a piece of the action."

Midland was coming off a very difficult stretch of their schedule, losing to both

Morningside and Doane before facing NW.

"We were surprised at how the fight seemed to go out of [them] once we had an early lead," Jansen said.

Next up for NW:

hosting an equally hot team, Concordia, winners of their last four. Playing mistake-free football will be a priority.

"Concordia has been running the ball effectively

this year, and as a defense, it will be a priority to stop the run," Jansen said. "Their defense fed off of turnovers against BC last week."

Kick-off will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at Korver Field.

Women's cross country sees personal bests, men struggle to overcome injuries

BY ALEX HERRINGTON

The Northwestern men's and women's cross country teams competed in the Briar Cliff invite last Saturday. The women finished fourth out of 14 teams and the men's team finished 10th out of 14 teams.

An impressive seven of the Lady Raiders' top 10 runners ran personal bests on Saturday. Senior Teresa Kerkvliet led Coach Wolf's team for the third straight meet and finished

11th with a time of 18:39, 43 seconds faster than her previous career best.

Sophomore Dawn Gildersleeve clocked a career-best time of 19:07 and finished 22nd, while senior Allison Weeldreyer recorded a season-best time of 19:24 and finished 31st. Three additional NW runners registered personal bests: junior Amy Van Skike, freshman Amber Sandbulte and freshman Sara Edwardson.

"It was a great day to run," Gildersleeve said. "A lot of our girls ran personal records, which was a good confidence boost for us. We continue dropping times as a team, and I think we are where we need to be as we approach the end of the season."

The men's team was missing two of its top four runners due to injury.

The top six runners for NW all ran personal bests as well, led by freshman Logan

Hovland and junior Jesse Baldwin. Hovland finished in 44th place with an 8K time of 26:39. Baldwin finished 47th and crossed the line in 26:41.

Freshmen Jose Martinez (51st-26:51), Skyler Giddings (60th-27:08) and Anthony Epp (80th-27:56) were also among the top Raider runners.

NW will run at the Mount Marty Invite on Oct. 22 in Yankton, S.D.

Soccer squad recovers from last-second loss with home GPAC victory

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

The Northwestern men's soccer team split two games this week, winning 2-1 Wednesday night at home against Briar Cliff and losing a heartbreaker 2-1 at Midland on Saturday.

Against Briar Cliff, the Raiders were attempting to bounce back. They got on the board early from a great individual effort goal by freshman midfielder Gabriel Goncalves.

"Gabriel scored a gorgeous goal," said coach Dan Swier. "He got the ball at midfield, dribbled all the way into the box and put the ball over the keeper's head."

Briar Cliff evened the score

early in the second half, but sophomore forward Graham Kinsinger scored on a header inside the six. He was assisted by freshman Leo Sanchez. It would turn out to be the difference in the game.

"After every goal we give up, our guys get together on the field for a quick motivational talk," Swier said. "They've been doing that since the first game of the season. I think it helps us respond really well."

On Saturday, NW traveled to face a tough Midland team. The Raiders led at half 1-0, off freshman Adam Abuhadema's first goal of the season. Not staying down for long,

Midland evened the score in the second half.

"We did a good job of counter-attacking and of getting in behind," said junior defender Nate Mastbergen, "[but] we need to do a better job of finishing."

With 10 seconds left, Midland crossed the ball to the middle of the box, and freshman goalkeeper Luis Hernandez punched it away to a Midland player, who scored with two seconds left.

"You rarely, if ever, see a buzzer beater in soccer, but that's as close as it can get," Swier said. "The guys were pretty down afterward."

The men host Doane at 7 p.m. on Saturday.



PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

Sophomore Jeriah Dunk looks to receive a pass in Wednesday night's game against Briar Cliff. NW held off a resilient Charger team for a 2-1 win.



PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

Sophomore Alyssa Duren looks to attack as sophomore Jessica VanderBaan looks on in Wednesday's game against Briar Cliff. The two midfielders combined for nine shots in the game.

Red Raiders fall in overtime

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

On Wednesday night, the Northwestern women's soccer team followed up a demolishing loss to Midland with a heartbreaking 3-2 overtime loss to Briar Cliff.

Their record stands at 2-8-3, as the squad is still looking for its first conference win of the season.

The Raiders did not lack for chances in the contest, as they amassed 35 shots and 13 corners throughout.

"We had a lot of good crosses in," said sophomore Gretchen Sutherland. "And got a lot of heads on them, but they just weren't going in [for us]."

The scoring was opened up in the 20th minute when freshman Tyler Farr

headed in sophomore Alli Dunkelberger's cross to give the Raiders a 1-0 lead, which they took into half.

Briar Cliff got some help from the home squad, as the Raiders were credited with two own goals in the 65th and 73rd minute.

NW continued to rally and found the tying goal in the 87th minute. This time it was Farr assisting Dunkelberger.

The game went into double overtime, and it was Briar Cliff who found the golden goal to come away with the victory.

Senior goalkeeper Wendy Hofmeyer saved six shots and allowed two goals.

On Saturday, NW couldn't find a way to contain Midland and were sent home with a 4-0 loss.

The Raiders went into the half only down 1-0, but Midland came out firing in the second half and NW couldn't respond.

"We broke down as a team and didn't play with the intensity we needed," Sutherland said.

The stats are closer than the outcome of the game would suggest. The Raiders were efficient with the shots they did take, putting nine of their 14 on goal, and earned four corners. They allowed only 16 shots and surrendered six corners.

Dunkelberger alone had 14 shots.

Hofmeyer had the start in goal and made five saves while allowing four goals.

NW will return to action Tuesday at Mount Marty.

Volleyball team continues to roll in sweeps

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

The volleyball squad continued their hot streak in the conference by sweeping both Nebraska Wesleyan and Dakota Wesleyan over the past week.

On Tuesday night, the Raiders beat Dakota Wesleyan 3-0 (25-11, 25-17, 25-20) with a barrage of kills and blocks to improve to 13-13 (6-3) on the season.

Sophomore Megan Hutson led the offensive onslaught, hitting .556 and matching her career high of 12 kills. Hutson also contributed six blocks and went 13-14 on serves. Senior Kate Boersma threw down seven kills and five blocks. Junior Jaci Moret and junior Jennie Jansen also contributed nine kills each.

Moret, normally a back row player, filled in for injured senior outside hitter Rylee Hulstein.

Freshman Kaitlin Floerchinger set up 34 assists

and had five blocks.

Dakota Wesleyan only managed to hit .033 in the match and had trouble getting any kills over the front line of the Raiders. The defensive play of NW led to exciting attacks on offense.

Last Friday night the Raider volleyball squad hosted Nebraska Wesleyan. NW came away with a 3-0 (25-21, 25-15, 25-20) win.

Jansen had a well-rounded game, earning 10 kills and a career-high eight digs. Huston provided versatility from the middle hitter spot, gathering seven kills, six digs and four blocks. Kaitlin Floerchinger lofted up 27 assists to go with her 12 digs and five kills.

"Our passes were really on, and that helps us get into the groove of things," Jansen said. "Once that's on, the sets are there, and the hitters can swing away."

Freshman Alexis Bart had 15 digs to lead NW. Junior

Heather Goehring and freshman Mikinzie Phillips were perfect from behind the service line. Goehring had three aces.

"This game was exciting because all the fans got really into it," Jansen said. "And that's always great to see and fun to play with."

This makes three straight games that have been dominating 3-0 victories for the Lady Raiders, which has helped the team get back to .500 on the season. Huston believes the recent roll has been because of an improvement in the intensity of practices.

"Lately in practice we have really been pushing each other in practice," Huston said. "That allows us to play at a consistent level and not play to the level of our competition."

NW will try to continue their hot streak on Wednesday when they travel to Briar Cliff for a 7:30 p.m. contest.

Women's golf closes fall season with qualifier

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Raider golf squad finished their fall season last Saturday at the second GPAC Qualifier in Fremont, Neb. The squad shot a 361, which was enough for Northwestern to earn third place at the meet. The team is also in third place overall after two of the four qualifying meets to Nationals.

Sophomore Taylor Kline shot a season-best 83 to put herself in third place. Freshman Emma Wynja, who was sitting in second place going into Saturday's meet, carded a 91 and tied for 15th place. Senior Andria Hinz shot a 93 and placed 23rd.

Freshman Betsy Wallin recovered from a rough front nine (52-41) to finish with a 94.

Freshman Jess Locker also fought back from a 51 on the front to round up the scorecard with a 95.

Cumulatively after two rounds, Kline is in third place overall, Wynja is sixth, and Hinz and Locker are tied for 19th. Wallin is currently sitting in a tie for 33rd.

Dakota Wesleyan currently is in first place. The Raiders will be looking to close the nine-stroke gap that Morningside currently holds for second place.

"The biggest key for us is to individually just get rid of a few strokes," Locker said. "If we can find ways to eliminate a couple big numbers, we'll all be better."

NW will return to the links for the second half of their season this spring.

Linebacker uses ministerial switch in differing activities

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

Ben Aguilera is engaging and easy to talk to, and he plans to go to seminary after he graduates.

So his reason for playing football is mildly disconcerting: "I wanted to hit and hurt someone," he said. "It's weird, because I have this 'ministerial' switch. When I'm doing ministry, I love, love, love, but when I'm on the field, I love to hit, I guess."

Aguilera, a senior linebacker for the Northwestern football team, grew up in Redlands, Calif., with a single mother, who encouraged him to take up sports as an escape. His first strong football memory came during his freshman year. Ironically, it's the only part of that game he remembers; he concussed himself on the play.

"[On kickoff], I ran down the field as fast as I could, hit someone very hard and blacked out," Aguilera said. "The first thing I remember is the varsity coach after the game saying, 'You are going to become a great football player.'"

"When I'm doing ministry, I love, love, love, but when I'm on the field I love to hit."
- senior Ben Aguilera

He did indeed, on an excellent team. "My senior year we were ranked 14th in the nation," Aguilera said. "I played with a lot of good football players. Almost every single [NCAA Division I] West Coast team has someone I know."

NW noted Aguilera's talent, but he didn't come to Iowa alone. Sophomore defensive back Jerel Kyles and sophomore defensive end Gerard Fluellen graduated from the same high school and followed him to Orange City.

"I don't know what I'd do without those two guys," Aguilera said. "I would go crazy. I'd probably leave."

There is one disadvantage in playing for talented football teams his whole life: Aguilera never learned how to lose.

"Two in a row? I've never done that. This year, losing to Morningside, then Doane was just, it destroyed me," Aguilera said. "If I wasn't a captain, I don't know if I would have flipped the switch."



PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

Senior Ben Aguilera is a captain on the football team and the Christian education major will be attending seminary next fall.

There's one thing in Aguilera's career that he feels is missing.

"I don't have a ring. That's heartbreaking, because in football, I haven't won the big game," Aguilera said. "Here, we haven't even gotten to the playoffs. I don't know what

that feels like."

As NW enters the last half of the season unranked but on a roll, Aguilera's playoff aspirations rest on the Raiders' ability to win out. Here's to ending a winning career appropriately: with a win.

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Violinist Wolfgang David and pianist David Gompper will perform a guest recital on Friday, Oct. 28, at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel. The concert is free.



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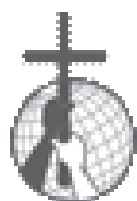
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September's over: Students are on the prowl

BY TAYLOR HOEKSTRA

The Google definition of the word "prowl" is as follows: "To move around in search of or as if in search of prey." Google then gives the example "black bears prowl the canyons."

A second example is "Northwestern College students in search of a mate, before they graduate."

The word "prowl" does not describe everyone on NW's campus, but I think we all can agree that it does describe some.



Too often we see people forcing themselves into relationships before they even know each other. The problem is that these relationships usually do not last very long, and soon they are back searching for someone new. This is

the everlasting cycle of the prowlers.

Whether you are single, dating or committed, everyone senses the feeling of urgency that students on our campus have. You know, that urgency to change their Facebook relationship status from "single" to "in a relationship."

Let me dissolve a myth for you right now: if you do not find someone by the end of your senior year at NW, you will not automatically be single for the rest of your

life. Fact.

The average age of marriage for the United States is 28 for men and 26 for women. Contrary to popular Northwest Iowa beliefs, you have plenty of time to tie the knot. This goes to show that not everyone gets engaged before they can legally drink alcohol.

The solution to the prowling pandemic on campus is simple: let relationships happen. I am a strong believer that if something is supposed to

happen, it will. Some things simply cannot be forced; good relationships are one of those things.

"Too often we see people forcing themselves into relationships before they even know each other."

Do not rush into a dating relationship just because you really want a significant

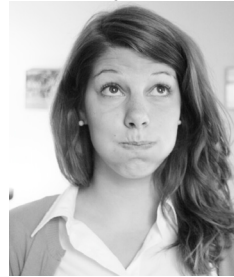
other or because all your friends have dates on Friday nights. A relationship takes time, and there are opportunities to be in one; you just need to let that time come.

NW is a great place with tons of great people. But in order for students to build lasting relationships they have to have patience.

If it is supposed to happen, it will; don't be in such a hurry to make it happen—it only makes matters worse.

My office disappeared

BY ALYSSUM ROE
FERN RESIDENT DIRECTOR



I have seen first hand that pranking is an integral part of Northwestern's culture.

The pranks that I have witnessed range from wearing another individual's clothes to relocating an entire office 18 feet up in the chapel. From my understanding, the tradition of elaborate pranks has been around long before most faculty and staff started working here.

I'll be honest: I have a love for pranks, but I am not original at all in my ideas and not dedicated enough to implement the few ideas I do have. When I am motivated enough to complete a prank, it is performed on those whom I love and someone whom I know will appreciate and feel valued through my actions.

"I feel that I am loved when others take the time to prank me in a creative way."

In return, I feel that I am loved when others take the time to prank me in a creative way. I think that pranks can build community and be a fun-loving way to communicate your appreciation for another person through the planning that goes into them and the laughter that follows.

Who the prank inconveniences is equally important. For example, when my entire office was relocated to the chapel: this was a minor inconvenience for me because the only work I had to do to right my office was hang a few decorations back on the wall. However, for Maintenance, this involved six workers putting in more than an hour of their valuable time to return my office to where it belonged.

I feel slightly honored that I was chosen for a prank of this caliber, but my opinion is only a small part of the opinions that really matter in this situation.

I want to encourage students to think through their pranking decisions and ask themselves who are they inconveniencing, are they damaging anything and will Maintenance need to be involved before taking action.

Pros and cons of the new RSC gym

"It's something new that brings students together. What isn't to like?"
-Adam Van Der Stoep, Junior

"There's more color. It looks like they actually put work into it."
-Jerry Lansink, Sophomore

"The new dividers make it hard to jump for loose balls."
-Jacob Van Steenwyk, Sophomore

"I like the lighting from the new windows."
-Tyler Zeutenhorst, Junior

"The new basketball surface has really good traction."
-Logan Gooch, Freshman

"The new track is super thick. It will really cut down on injuries for the track team."
-Ashley Schneider, Sophomore

"The screens help me focus on the game."
-Brett Amiotte, Senior

"The new floor surface is comfy."
-Alex Herrington, Sophomore

"The new floor made my TOMS turn red."
-Kelsey Martinez, Sophomore

"I feel like I'm in a spaceship."
-Jeff Hubers, Junior

"The water fountains run out of the same pipes. If someone else is next to you, the water pressure drops."
-Micah Czirr, Sophomore

"The lines on the tennis courts are hard to see."
-Eli Groenendyk, Junior

"The new color scheme is visually stimulating."
-Brad Smith, Sophomore

"Dave McGarvey is always here. I love it."
-Aaron Galloway, Sophomore

"I was hoping for wooden floors."
-Phil Hilla, Sophomore

"It gets really hot. The AC should be turned on."
-Cameron Turner, Senior

Think outside of the safety bubble of OC

BY MEGAN RUSTAD



I don't think Invisible Children's mission has been as effective on campus as it could be.

Yes, we did collect a few hundred books from the book drive last winter, and the profits of selling those books through Better World Books did help fund literacy and education for Northern Ugandan kids.

I've seen the videos and heard the stories about the child soldiers. Between the disturbing images and personal testimonies, IC has a convincing platform. Every time I hear those horrific tales, I try to imagine living in that kind of fear.

The stories and images from the IC presentations resonate with me for a few weeks afterward, but after that, as much as I wish it weren't true, I lose interest and continue on with my life here at Northwestern. I really do care about those issues,

but I just can't relate to those children's experiences.

I think my response to the situation is similar to other NW students—ask God to send help, thank Him for my blessings and move on to the next thing.

So is it worthwhile to continue to have IC come to campus and raise awareness?

I think it is, since this issue needs to be addressed and NW could be a great place to make a difference. If we can find the passion, that is.

Perhaps IC could look for some common denominators between us and our counterparts in Uganda. Or maybe they could give us some practical ways college kids can make a difference. I could use some tips on how to continually care about the plight of the hurting amidst the paper writing and cramming of college life.

I think we just need to be reminded that outside this little safety bubble of Orange City people are dying, and we can help defeat injustices.

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Around Campus

Invisible Children

A team from the organization Invisible Children will be presenting information about child soldiers in Uganda in the Vermeer Dining Hall from noon-1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14.

Campus Convo

This week's topic will be "Sex at Northwestern: Myths and Data." The discussion will take place in the Franken Center's Red Room at 10 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19.

Art Exhibit

Internationally acclaimed artist Tim Lowly's art exhibit will open Thursday, Oct. 20 in Korver Visual Art Center's Te Paske Gallery.

Photo Contest

Students can submit their summer study abroad photos to ssapromo@nwciowa.edu by Nov. 1 for a chance to win a T-shirt. Contact the above e-mail address for more information.

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

♦No chapel

Tuesday

♦No chapel

Wednesday

♦Rev. David Powers, Newkirk

Friday

♦Lindsay Squires '08

Facebook to introduce new profile timeline

BY JENNA VAN OORT

The rumors are true. Within the next couple weeks, Facebook is going to change again.

According to junior Matt Bodensteiner, who got a sneak peak at the set up, the new profile features "The Timeline,"—a more in-depth look at one's life, from birth to present with all of the details in between.

"It takes everything you've ever posted on Facebook and puts it in chronological order on your profile page, with the most recent at the top," Bodensteiner said.

Bodensteiner explained that his timeline will start in 2007 when he signed up for the social networking site. Everything before that date will be empty.

According to Facebook, the timeline will have a section called "Stories" for highlighting memorable posts, photos and life events. There will also be an "Apps" section for sharing the "songs

you have on repeat, the movies you quote and the activities you love."

"This change is big and will take creeping to another level," said senior Rachel Peterson.

With millions of users worldwide, many question why Facebook needs to change at all, especially since each redesign is met with a considerable amount of protest.

"Changes made to social networking sites are necessary for the user, the site administration and technology communication as a whole," said senior Aaron Appel. "Users overreact to changes and need to realize that if changes don't work, things will be fixed."

Some students see the need for change to keep the site fresh.

"Facebook has to make changes often enough to keep the users interested," said senior Tamara Smith. "If they get bored with it, they'll stop

visiting the website."

Among Facebook users on campus, there are mixed feelings about the upcoming changes.

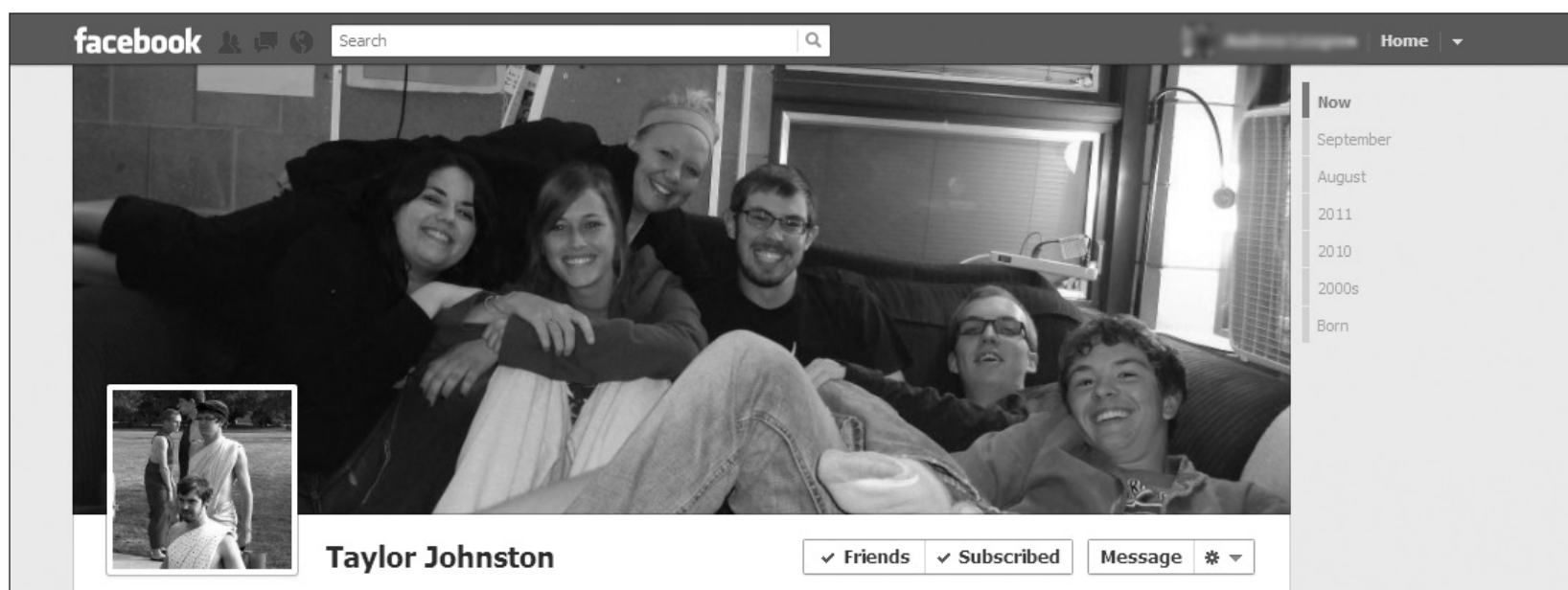
"It's way more convenient to use," said freshman Taylor Johnston. "It's nice to be able to easily look back at past posts."

Bodensteiner likes that all of the information is on one page instead of separate tabs. However, he isn't completely sold on the new design.

"It's weird to think that Facebook has been keeping track of everything I've posted since 2007. That has to be a huge database for everyone using the site and all of their history," Bodensteiner said.

For students like junior Jeff Hubers, Facebook may have gone too far.

"It's amazing that our kids will probably have their whole lives, from birth, on Facebook," Hubers said. "I think it's bad enough to have my current life on it now, but to be born on Facebook is just crazy."



Freshman Taylor Johnston has already designed his timeline on Facebook. Facebook users can start building their timelines at mashable.com/2011/09/22/how-to-facebook-timeline. According to a Facebook press release, the timelines will be enabled "within the next couple weeks."

Young Christians abandon church

BY TYLER LEHMANN

New research has found that nearly three out of every five young Christians disconnect from the church after age 15.

The five-year study was published last month by the Barna Group, a research organization that focuses on interactions between faith and culture. It was conducted with young adults who were active churchgoers at some point in their teenage years. The study identified reasons for the trend.

Shaped by a culture that values open-mindedness and tolerance, young adults want to find areas of common ground. Three out of 10 young Christians said that "churches are afraid of the beliefs of other faiths."

"The church doesn't make room for those who are different. This

is in contrast to the sub-culture represented by this generation, where being different is sometimes seen as a badge of distinction," said Professor Hubers of the religion department.

The study also found that many young Christians find church to be antagonistic towards science. Thirty-five percent said Christians are too confident they know all the answers.

"The church is reaping the seeds of anti-intellectualism it has planted," said professor Mitchell Kinsinger of the religion department.

Twenty-three percent said they are not comfortable expressing significant intellectual doubts about their faith in church.

"Even Jesus doubted," Kinsinger said. "In the Garden of Gethsemane, he asked God, 'Is there some

other way to do this?' If Jesus can doubt, then let's be honest about our doubts."

The new statistic on young adults abandoning church isn't surprising for senior religion and music ministry major Simon Campbell.

"I think the model that we're operating under at this point in time is lacking participation and involvement that brings us into a long-term relationship," he said.

Both Hubers and Kinsinger believe that by weathering this challenge, the church will continue to grow and evolve.

"The church has gone through these kinds of situations before, including when I was in college," Hubers said. "It always finds a way to survive and thrive because ultimately God is in charge—not us."

ORANGE CITY CHURCHES AND SERVICE TIMES

American Reformed 407 Albany Ave. S.E. 9:30 a.m.	Calvary Christian Reformed 709 5th St. S.E. 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Faith Lutheran 710 8th St. S.E. 9:30 a.m.	Cornerstone Baptist 221 3rd St. S.W. 10:30 a.m.
First Christian Reformed 408 Arizona Ave. S.W. 9:30 a.m.	Dover Avenue Alliance 417 3rd St. N.E. 10:30 a.m.
First Reformed 420 Central Ave. N.W. 9:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.	The Church of the Savior 530 Arizona Ave. S.W. 10 a.m.
Living Water Community 1005 8th St. S.E. 10 a.m.	Harvest Community 209 1st St. N.E. 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
New Hope Evangelical Free 718 Florida Ave. S.W. 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.	Immanuel Christian Reformed 1405 Albany Ave. N.E. 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Trinity Reformed 310 Albany Ave. N.E. 8:45 a.m.	Redeemer United Reformed 302 St. Paul Ave. S.W. 9:30 a.m.