Soccer team to travel to athletes’ home for SSP

BY KATIE KREBS

In approximately one week, members of the Northwestern men’s soccer team will travel to Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. The men, ranging from freshmen to seniors, have been planning the trip since early last fall. Sophomore Gabriel Goncalves and freshman Pedro Fonseca, both from Brazil, influenced the decision to make the trip.

“I’m personally most excited to meet Pedro and Gabriel’s family,” said junior Michael Simmelink. “To see where they come from and where they’ve been defined.”

When the team reaches its destination, they will participate in a variety of activities, both service and recreational. Along with seeing sights such as the Christ the Redeemer statue and Sugarloaf Mountain, the team will spend time with Goncalves’ and Fonseca’s families. They will visit the places the two grew up and went to school.

“I’m really excited for them to see my culture,” Goncalves said, “and to show them my neighborhood and for them to see my people.”

Goncalves said he is most excited to show his teammates the diversity of Rio.

“I love my hometown,” Goncalves said. “We have the beach, the mountains, lagoons and the city. Rio has everything.”

After spending time in Rio, the team will have an opportunity to serve in Belo, the third most populous city in Brazil. They will be working for a sport-based ministry and leading soccer camps for young children.

“I want to bring hope to the kids,” Simmelink said.

Goncalves and Fonseca said they hope the people of Brazil will be able to teach their American teammates something, too.

“I hope my teammates see how joyful we, the people of Brazil are,” Goncalves said. “Even though they are in poor situations, they are really happy. That’s something I want them to see.”

Fonseca agreed. “People there don’t have as much as people here,” Fonseca said. “People there are happy even though they don’t have as much.”

After helping with the soccer camps, the team will play a game against a Brazilian team.

“It’s a pretty big deal,” Simmelink said. “We’ll be playing in a fairly nice stadium, and there will be a few hundred people who will come out and watch.”

The team has participated in a variety of fundraisers to help finance the trip. The players have been busy with Pizza Ranch tip nights and delivering phone books.

“We’re working hard to reach our team goal,” Simmelink said.

This trip will be a chance for students to see the sights of Brazil and serve others, but it will also be an opportunity to grow as a team.

“I hope that this trip will bring the team closer and everyone takes something away from this awesome experience,” said senior Taylor Biggs.

Most students do not get to go on a trip like this during their college experience, and the team is excited for the opportunity.

“This is the first time our soccer team has done something like this,” Simmelink said. “The spiritual level of the team is on a higher level than it has been. It’s exciting to be a part of that.”

Folk duo to perform with usual quirks

BY KALI WOLKOW

Four years ago Kay Gillette jumped off the opera bus and landed in the world of indie-folk music. Now she’s modeling a new last name, touring in a veggie van as part of a musical husband-wife duo and releasing independently produced albums, all thanks to a typewriter, a kazoo and a Minneapolis musician, Joseph Barker.

Kay Barker, formerly Gillette, attended Hope College in Holland, Mich., as a vocal performance major with a minor in piano. After graduating in 2008 with a belt full of opera awards, she headed to the twin cities to try her hand, or rather voice, at a new genre in collaboration with future husband Joseph.

“I met Joseph in college, and he asked me if I would sing in his folk band. I wanted a change, so I said I would,” Kay said.

Although the gap between opera and folk is large, Kay had little difficulty adjusting to her new style and sound.

“The jump from opera to folk music was a pretty easy decision to make,” Kay said. “I wanted to do something completely different with my voice. And basically, I just did everything my teachers in college taught me not to do.”

Thus, the folk band Bella Ruse was born.

When on the road, Bella Ruse is the Barker duo; however, it typically has four members: Kay on vocals, Joseph on the guitar, Alex Young on the drums and Nathan Elliot on the bass. Add to that mix a toy piano, a melodica, a suitcase organ, a typewriter and a kazoo, and the wide range of unique sounds so characteristic of Bella Ruse is hard to forget.

On two full-length albums — one of which just come out Tuesday — and three EPs, Bella Ruse uses these distinctive instruments in a variety of ways.

The band’s first self-titled EP was the result of the RPM Challenge, an annual contest that encourages artists nationwide to write and record an entire ten-song album within the 28 days of February.

See “Bella Ruse” on Page 2
Bella Ruse brings indie-folk stylings to NW

In 2011, Bella Ruse released its first full-length album, “Kuhzoo.” An upbeat blend of bouncy melodies and energetic rhythms is intermixed with more serious musical stylings to create an album that is balanced and ready for every mood.

When performing the song, “Complicated Rhythm,” Kay said she feels the most like herself. However, Bella Ruse’s newest album of French tunes, “Golden Baby,” debuts the song she is most proud of.

For every mood. Only at the black box theater in the DeWitt Theatre Arts Center. Attendees can expect to hear some songs for the first time.

The show starts at 8:30 p.m., but show up early. Maybe if you’re really lucky, you’ll get the chance to see them pull up in their veggie van.

MOVIE REVIEW

“Safe Haven” runs a mile of emotions

“Safe Haven” is a touching and emotional journey of love lost and love found from best-selling author Nicholas Sparks.

The story follows the struggles of a mysterious woman named Katie who has just arrived in a small North Carolina town. Her reluctance to join the tight-knit community raises questions about her past, and as she starts to put down roots, she gains courage to start a relationship with widower Alex and his two young children. Soon, her dark past comes back to haunt her new life, and she is forced to come to terms with her past and learn the power of true love.

A mysterious and broken girl, a sad and lonely widower, two rambunctious children, a terrifying unknown man and a yellow floor all combine to create a great romance that stays true to the standards Sparks set.

The beautiful shots of the North Carolina ocean, the singing of seagulls and the tall trees of an old forest create a backdrop as gorgeous as the movie’s romance. Katie struggles to build friendships in the town and is helped along by her neighbor, Jo, who is just as mysterious a character as Katie. Jo helps Katie learn to trust Alex and his children as well as make friends with other people in the small seaside town.

A mile’s worth of emotions are felt during this movie. The audience can feel the horror as Katie runs away from her past, the love between Alex and Katie grow and the rage as a mysterious person chases Katie down the Eastern Seaboard.

“Safe Haven” is not a typical love story but one that shows the reality of relationships, as well as the messiness, the hope and the love that can be found inside each relationship. This is not only a chick flick about romance and love, but also a film full of mystery and drama that brings the entire story to an intense and surprising ending.

Although fans of Sparks’ books will be able to pick out discrepancies between the movie and the book, the movie does a good job of getting rid of unnecessary characters and keeping to the storyline. At times the melodramatic story can get in the way, but let your brain relax and take in the sunsets and romance.

Rating: ★★★★★
“Dead Space 3” is acceptable but tries too hard

**VIDEO GAME REVIEW**

**BY MICHAEL GUTSCHE**

“Dead Space” shares more with “Resident Evil” than either would be comfortable admitting.

The two games are both maddeningly interesting horror franchises. They are third-person shooters designed to mildly frighten the player while spiraling into safe but profitable mediocrity. Marketability over integrity, sales over curiosity and exploration of the medium. Admittedly, “Dead Space 3” is certainly a well-crafted game. And although that’s more than can be said for the recent “Resident Evil” installations, it does prevent the off-putting more-plastic-tupperware-than-art design.

There are certainly good moments, and the ending manages to outdo a lot of other gaming fiction in terms of sheer scale and stakes combined with the absolute intimacy of the situation. With squishes, bangs, rumbles, crunches and groans of wrenching steel, this game warrants a proper sound system to bring the desolation to life.

The game’s smallest pieces hold slivers of excellence, but as the scale increases, so does a creeping sense of being too refined. Something seems too clean about the game, and stalking around the dankest corridors can bring to mind equal parts interest and familiarity.

The evil Necromorphs must have undergone some kind of ancient military arts training and memorized Sun Tzu, because they are so intensely gifted with cunning. Other games have had monsters hiding in stairs, tunnels, doorways, vents and so on, but “Dead Space 3” has a saturation of them. There are probably more Necromorphs in the snow than there is snow. “Dead Space” has relied on tension in the past, and although there is more tension here than in “Dead Space 2,” which was much too hard, it still isn’t anything that resembles that great helpless, terrified feeling that can come from a proper horror game. The operating system exists, and although it is immediately enjoyable, it limps along at times, missing the essential element of actually scary content.

What is scary? Small children; cramped, dark spaces, the unexplainable, utterly alien and unreasonable malice; hatred with no explanation; the prospect of dying alone and unloved; responsibility; snakes.

What isn’t scary? Stomping around a planet with a friend and massacring anything that moves suspiciously with increasingly impressive means of laying waste. Nothing is scary when you have a grenade launcher.

Half of the press coverage that surrounded the launch of “Dead Space 3” was slinging insults about the slew of “microtransactions,” or purchasing resources with money if the player is impatient.

Electronic Arts will make offensive amounts of money from the game. That’s just how they do. There’s nothing wrong with making money as a publisher, they’re in the business for a reason. These are troubling times we live in as excellent, daring, well-run companies like THQ file for bankruptcy and the shadiest, safest possible corporations such as EA and Activision prosper. Woe is us and all that. “Dead Space 3” is so well-oiled, it oozes grease. But although the extreme safety of the campaign design is certainly a step back up from the middle child, “Dead Space 2,” it still lacks a lot of the intensity and groundedness of the original game as it tries to one-up itself in scale. It’s trying so hard, and it really should stop.

Nevertheless, the ugliness cannot outweigh the major success that the rest of the game provides. The fact that the game (and the process of making it) was so safe, comfortable, and mundane hollows out the success. But there’s something acceptable here.

The McClanes are a killer tandem, but their interaction is bad.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THEALIVEZONE.COM

*Dead Space 3* is too polished, but that doesn’t mean the game itself is bad.

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

The McClane stumbles upon Chernobyl disaster.

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**BY TOM WESTERHOLM**

Time has been kind to neither Bruce Willis nor the “Die Hard” franchise, and this is evident in the latest installment, “A Good Day to Die Hard.”

To be clear, time hasn’t really been kind to “Die Hard.” It was a lot of fun. That’s terrorists, and frankly, building and shooting giving the pilot the middle finger to pack theaters to see him tough with a machine gun. And groans of wrenching situation. With squishes, absolute intimacy of the stakes combined with the in terms of sheer scale and lot of other gaming fiction ending manages to outdo a than-art design.

It’s just that Willis once spent an entire film running necessarily been cruel, to Die Hard.” “Die Hard” franchise, and to life.

The game’s smallest than either would be. There are certainly Admittedly, “Dead Space” shares with the off-putting more-plastic-tupperware-than-art design.

There are precious few moments of believable dialogue between McClane and his son, which is unfortunate because the bulk of the plot is based on the progression of their relationship. We don’t really understand why the younger McClane resents the older one so much, nor do we understand how the relationship ends up fixed. All we know is that, together, they are able to kill a lot of people.

Perhaps the movie is best summed up by a moment early in the film. McClane and his son are stuck in a bad situation. They are outnumbered, trapped behind a hotel bar and being shot at by men with machine guns. As bullets whiz by, McClane tries to engage his son in a discussion about the last time they saw each other.

“Oh no you don’t,” his son tells him. “That’s not your thing.”

“What’s my thing?”

John asks.

His son looks at him incredulously.

“F***ing killing bad guys. That’s your thing.”

Indeed it is. But somehow, killing bad guys just isn’t as fun as it used to be.

Rating: ★★

PHOTO COURTESY OF THEALIVEZONE.COM

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB.COM
Features

Students deepen spiritual relationships during Lent

BY PRIYANKA FERNANDO

Although Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, is widely celebrated, the original reason for the season can sometimes be forgotten. For some Northwestern students, Lent means a lot more than the chance to gorge on Fat Tuesday.

“Lent is the 40 days before Easter when Christians prepare themselves for the resurrection of Christ,” said sophomore Ben Lofts. “They strive to become closer to God in that time.”

During this time period, some people choose to give up various items or habits for different reasons.

“The main purpose of Lent is to help you empathize with Jesus and how he made it through the 40 days of fasting,” said freshman Erin Brasser. “It’s about convincing yourself that you can go without something and some things aren’t necessary in life.”

Senior Sarah Jones decided to give up something that made an impact on her life daily: caffeine.

“When I was thinking about what I wanted to give up for Lent, I wanted it to be something important to me, and I felt like caffeine is something that I came to depend on,” Jones said. “I felt like I was relying on caffeine more than God’s strength to get me through the day.”

Lent is intended to cause people to think about more than surface worth and instead reflect on Christ. This year for Lent, Brasser decided to give up cookies.

“Every time you are in a situation where you are tempted to eat or use what you gave up, you remember why you are doing it in the first place,” Brasser said.

Some students chose to give up food items, but Loftis chose to give up a bad habit: swearing.

“It’s a bad habit that obviously doesn’t glorify God, and our spiritual relationship is supposed to bring us closer to God,” Loftis said. “I’ve already found myself trying to avoid swearing, gossip and other negative language.”

Jones said she gained a better understanding of fasting through Lent.

“I gave up one thing, but Jesus fasted from food and water for 40 days,” Jones said. “All I’m giving up is caffeine. It’s hard sometimes, but it gives me a better perspective.”

Instead of giving up something, senior Jeffrey Hubers decided to focus on doing more.

“I’m trying different spiritual disciplines like prayer, reflective reading and meditation,” Hubers said. “I’m trying to come to terms with my sinfulness and Christ’s sacrifice and to accomplish that by doing more.”

Through this, Hubers said he hopes to have a grateful spirit and develop a better sense of humility and understanding of the Lenten season, Easter and Christ’s gift of sacrifice.

Different people choose to celebrate the Lenten season in various ways, but the reasons for involvement during Lent seem to have a common thread.

“I think that there are a lot of spiritual disciplines that come from Lent,” Loftis said. “The degree to which you want to participate is totally up to you. If there is something that is a sin in your life, you can give it up and use it to deepen your relationship with Christ.”

Northwestern pranks cross line

BY ERIN VAN HORN

Although Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, is widely celebrated, the original reason for the season can sometimes be forgotten. For some Northwestern students, Lent means a lot more than the chance to gorge on Fat Tuesday.

“Lent is the 40 days before Easter when Christians prepare themselves for the resurrection of Christ,” said sophomore Ben Lofts. “They strive to become closer to God in that time.”

During this time period, some people choose to give up various items or habits for different reasons.

“The main purpose of Lent is to help you empathize with Jesus and how he made it through the 40 days of fasting,” said freshman Erin Brasser. “It’s about convincing yourself that you can go without something and some things aren’t necessary in life.”

Senior Sarah Jones decided to give up something that made an impact on her life daily: caffeine.

“When I was thinking about what I wanted to give up for Lent, I wanted it to be something important to me, and I felt like caffeine is something that I came to depend on,” Jones said. “I felt like I was relying on caffeine more than God’s strength to get me through the day.”

Lent is intended to cause people to think about more than surface worth and instead reflect on Christ. This year for Lent, Brasser decided to give up cookies.

“Every time you are in a situation where you are tempted to eat or use what you gave up, you remember why you are doing it in the first place,” Brasser said.

Some students chose to give up food items, but Loftis chose to give up a bad habit: swearing.

“It’s a bad habit that obviously doesn’t glorify God, and our spiritual relationship is supposed to bring us closer to God,” Loftis said. “I’ve already found myself trying to avoid swearing, gossip and other negative language.”

Jones said she gained a better understanding of fasting through Lent.

“I gave up one thing, but Jesus fasted from food and water for 40 days,” Jones said. “All I’m giving up is caffeine. It’s hard sometimes, but it gives me a better perspective.”

Instead of giving up something, senior Jeffrey Hubers decided to focus on doing more.

“I’m trying different spiritual disciplines like prayer, reflective reading and meditation,” Hubers said. “I’m trying to come to terms with my sinfulness and Christ’s sacrifice and to accomplish that by doing more.”

Through this, Hubers said he hopes to have a grateful spirit and develop a better sense of humility and understanding of the Lenten season, Easter and Christ’s gift of sacrifice.

Different people choose to celebrate the Lenten season in various ways, but the reasons for involvement during Lent seem to have a common thread.

“I think that there are a lot of spiritual disciplines that come from Lent,” Loftis said. “The degree to which you want to participate is totally up to you. If there is something that is a sin in your life, you can give it up and use it to deepen your relationship with Christ.”

Although the number of thefts is not higher than previous years, the damage is a new development.

“It’s probably the first time they’ve broken signs,” Wiegling said. “They normally just pull them out of the ground.”

These items have a cost.

“It’s not just a couple dollars,” Wiegling said. “It’s man hours, you know, for all of that to go back.”

Theft also comes with a punishment.

“If someone is caught in the act, they could be reported to the dean of students, John Brogan,” Wiegling said. “If students are taking signs from campus buildings, so it could be, but it wouldn’t surprise me if it was students from another campus either.”

Wiegling said that whoever is going around campus with the intent of taking signs, nameplates and other property should know that their acts aren’t harmless pranks.

“It’s stealing,” Wiegling said. “And it takes time and money to replace all that stuff. It’s a little disappointing that people would think it’s OK to do that.”

“First, I thought (the sign stealing) was hilarious,” Nathan said. “But then I realized it could cause serious problems.”
One of the interviewees was a former supermodel who turned down an offer with an international agency. When asked why she turned down the offer of a lifetime, she explained through her nijab that while she was walking down a catwalk or posing for cameras in revealing outfits, she could not control the thoughts of men and women looking at her. If she took the job, the way she presented herself would not match how she wanted to be perceived — as a self-dignified woman who desired respect from others rather than vulgar thoughts.

Our clothing serves as a cover to our story whether we are aware of the observer’s attention or not. And no matter how many times we hear “don’t judge a book by its cover,” we do. Every day. We look at people’s clothing and assume that the materials that cover skin somehow give us an insight into an individual’s mind. Although this might be true to a point, it is unfair to assume that someone’s entire religion is oppressed because they choose to wear an abaya. An abaya is a cultural symbol, and women are not forced into wearing them. A woman can wear Western-styled clothing and still maintain modesty.

While in Oman, a friend told me that “men fall in love with their eyes while woman fall in love with their ears.” For us Muslim women, men have to fall in love with our faith and our minds rather than our skin. Our flesh is the source of every temptation.” She explained that as a major part of society, women cover not only for themselves but also to protect the interest of others half of society, men. I have recently chosen to wear the hijab, a folded and wrapped headscarf for the duration of my stay in Oman. Whether or not I will continue to wear it upon returning to the States is yet to be decided. I know that the decision is mine and mine alone. There is nothing wrong with feeling secure under a scarf and wearing something that reflects my submission to Allah (the Arabic word for God, the same God of Jesus [peace be upon him] and Isaac).

While in Oman, it has been wonderful to hear women giggle about their beauty and chatter about men while dressed in traditional hijabs and abayas. I know that they do not feel the need to show skin, cleavage or legs in order to feel beautiful.

Start with a ‘hello,’ not a judgment

BY JASMINE SMITH
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

Due to the media’s erroneous representations and skewed interpretations of the Holy Book of Islam, the words hijab, abaya, nijab and burqa (all parts of the traditional dress of Muslim women) give haunting impressions rather than simply respect.

One day, while surfing through YouTube, I came across a Muslim-British talk show interviewing Muslim-converted British women. I was shocked to find that, despite the words of the Holy Book of Islam, and skewed interpretations, there are women who give haunting impressions rather than respect. I thought about the words of the Holy Book of Islam, and thought about the things I need to fall in line with it. I have recently chosen to wear the hijab, a folded and wrapped headscarf for the duration of my stay in Oman. Whether or not I will continue to wear it upon returning to the States is yet to be decided. I know that the decision is mine and mine alone. There is nothing wrong with feeling secure under a scarf and wearing something that reflects my submission to Allah (the Arabic word for God, the same God of Jesus [peace be upon him] and Isaac).

While in Oman, it has been wonderful to hear women giggle about their beauty and chatter about men while dressed in traditional hijabs and abayas. I know that they do not feel the need to show skin, cleavage or legs in order to feel beautiful.

Experience unveils truth about Muslim coverings

BY AMALIA VASQUEZ

“I’m gonna pop some tags, only got $20 dollars in my pocket...” Within the first few words, you made a judgment on who I am and what I like. You made decisions about my character and my lifestyle without knowing anything other than the fact that my name is Amalia and that I know the popular song “Thrift Shop” by Macklemore.

In the theater department, it is said that the first 30 seconds of an audition will determine if you make the cut or not. Outside of the theater is no different; a person has 30 seconds to impress. This got me to thinking about my own judgments of people and how I make decisions about others based on first impressions alone. I was shocked to find that I was making the same judgments that I hated others for making. It was a discovery that wasn’t easy to swallow because I had always thought of myself as an open person who gets to know people before making a judgment.

I think we as a campus need to be reminded that we don’t have the right to make judgments of people we barely know.

Being a Christian is about more than just having a loving heart for the people we know; it’s also about having a loving heart for the ones we don’t. We make judgments of people whom we have known for only 30 seconds and make assumptions of them being bad or good. Then we decide whether we will love them or not before we even get to know them. And what good does that do? As a result, both parties get the short end of the stick. Someone walks around with a false label and the other with one fewer friend because of it.

For example, when we eat dinner and hear someone curse at another table, we assume the person is bad and lacks self-control. However, do we really know why that person swore? Do we know that person’s background or story? For a lot of people, swearing isn’t bad, but we don’t know this based off of a 30-second impression. Don’t get me wrong; I am not saying that swearing is right. I am saying we shouldn’t assume something about people we haven’t really gotten to know.

If Jesus came down to save all of us and loved on all of us, then why do we judge when he didn’t? Why do we make 30-second decisions about someone when God himself knows everything about us down to the number of hairs on our head and loves us and accepts us anyway?

Despite Northwestern’s emphasis on community, something that our campus lacks is a purposeful effort to really get to know the other, to really understand why people make decisions and to love like He loved.

I’m not saying that we should just stop making assumptions. I’m saying we should get to know people. We need to take risks, meet new people and make real friends. We shouldn’t live by our head and love us and everything about us down when God himself knows what’s best for us.

The editorial staff reserves the right to edit submissions for style, clarity and length. For advertising rates and submissions, email Advertising Manager Sara Van Gorp at sara.vangorp@nwciowa.edu.
NW cruises into second round

The No. 8 Northwestern women’s basketball team cruis ed in to the semifinals after defeating the Mount Marty Lancers 89-63 in the quarterfinals of the GPAC tournament on Wednesday night.

With the game tied at 2-2 early on, NW went on an 11-3 run to open up a 13-5 lead. The Lancers replied quickly before senior Kendra De Jong scored three straight layups to lead NW on a 16-3 run to restore their lead.

NW came out strong in the second half with a 45-32 lead and finished the game off early by opening up a 20-point gap with 10 minutes remaining and crushing any remaining hopes of a Lancer victory.

The Raiders shot 58 percent and had five players score in double figures and had a huge 48-21 advantage on the glass.

De Jong led the team with another exceptional performance and recorded her sixth consecutive double-double with 23 points and 16 rebounds. De Jong drained a team-high 13 three-pointers to extend NW’s lead to 37-33 at the break.

The team’s sophomores are infielder Kayla Kooiker, catcher Jill Kleinheselink and second baseman Kara Nonnemacher, who hit .303 last season and earned all-conference honors. Freshman fill the remaining spots in the lineup with catcher and third baseman Tiffany Bakarich, outfielder Clarissa Ipena, infielder Tierra Fletcher, pitcher and infielder Kayla Foaresman, first baseman Laura Hurley, outfielder Allison Herbert and outfielder Jordan Harkemlin.

“I think it will be really interesting to see how consistent we are,” VandeVoort said of the young team. “We did so well last year because we were really consistent.”

The team has now competed in some opening games this season that, according to Nachtigall, should not count against their record. They participated in an event at Mount Mercy College two weeks ago and last weekend traveled to Oklahoma Baptist.

“I think this weekend was a good learning experience for us because the teams we played were nationally ranked,” VandeVoort said. “It was an eye-opener. It will help us prepare for conference and help give us confidence that we can beat anyone because we’ve competed against the toughest teams.”

This team is high motivated and ready to succeed, but they believe their success comes only from one source: God.

“I think above any other goals, we all agree that we just want to honor God this year,” Biehle said. “We want to be good stewards and representatives of our families and NW in the way we act off the field and interact with the opposing team, opposing coaches and umpires throughout this season.”

This goal is one that the entire team has bought into, and they are ready to face the challenges this year.

“We want to be a unit that works together, that moves as one and that is closely knit together,” Nachtigall said. “That is going to make the best team, both on the field and off the field.”

The women play next in Arizona during spring break at the Tucson Invitational.

RAIDERS HOPE TO RIDE CHEMISTRY AND PITCHING TO CROWN

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK

Picked to place third in the GPAC this season, the 2013 edition of the Raider baseball squad has a mix of high expectations and things to prove.

After posting a 30-23 record last season that didn’t reflect the perceived talent level, the Raiders are expecting to play up to their potential this season. The unity within the squad will be a key strength for the team.

“In my four years here, I haven’t been on a team like this where everyone has such good chemistry on and off the diamond,” said senior third baseman Noah Bohlmann. “Guys want it so badly for the team and are focused on the common goal of winning every pitch, inning and game.”

But good vibes only take a squad so far.

The Raiders will hang their hats on their pitching staff. Senior Taylor Morris, junior Tyler Stuerman, junior Ryan Brasser and freshman Isaac Horgan will be the four starters. The returners have a combined ERA under 4.00.

Senior Chase Rozeboom, junior Matt Piccos and freshmen Josh Turner will provide late-inning relief from the bullpen.

“If we can limit free bases and pitch to our abilities every time, then our team should be able to win any game,” Stuerman said.

Manning the pitching staff will be sophomore catcher Tony Schultz, who started 36 games last season and had a team-high .460 OBP. Junior Cody Groskreutz hit a team-high .337 last spring and will start at first base.

Bohlmann will be at the other infield corner.

Junior transfer Erik Widener and senior Corey Van Gorp will make up the double-play combination at second base and shortstop, respectively. Van Gorp is a three-year starter.

“Our team has a lot of returning players who know what it takes to get it done,” Groskreutz said. “I think that is another key to our success as a team. A lot of us have played a few years together.”

Sophomore Mitch Peschel will hold down the spot in left field, but his biggest contribution to the team will be with his bat. He hit .307 last season and will be a middle of the lineup threat.

Junior Nikko Melonas will use his speed to patrol center field after being used mainly as a bench presence in the past.

Groskreutz was also named to the All-GPAC second-team for his accomplishments on the season.

Fishman was also named to the All-GPAC second-team for his accomplishments on the season.

This season, the top four wrestlers from each weight class and 15 at large bids from each of the four qualifier tournaments earned trips to Des Moines.

A transfer student from Pratt Community College, Lynch went 16-15 on the season. Fishman went 24-16 on the season and will be returning to Des Moines after qualifying as a freshman last season.

Fishman received an All-GPAC first-team selection last year in the 149-pound weight class, and he was proud to be named to the team, but my goal was to be an All-American and make the All-GPAC first-team like I did last season,” Fishman said.

The two will compete at the NAIA National Championships in Des Moines on March 1 and 2.
**Dunk, Huseman bring home top finishes**

**BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK**

The best track and field athletes in the GPAC convened at the annual indoor conference meet last Friday and Saturday. The event was held in Lincoln, Neb.

"Conference is one of the most exciting meets of the year," said junior hurdler Kyle Heidebrink. "It was fun to go out and compete against good teams that we haven’t seen yet.

Juniors Jeriah Dunk and Matt Huseman each took home conference crowns for the Northwestern squad. Dunk ran the 60-meter dash in 6.95 seconds, and Huseman skied to 6-10.75 feet for a victory in the high jump. Both men will compete at the national meet in Geneva, Ohio, Feb. 26-March 2.

"I have absolutely no doubt in my mind that I can go seven feet (at nationals)," Huseman said. "It’s just putting everything together. My best effort is all that God requires."

There were plenty of other notable performances for the Raider squad. The top-eight individuals in each event received all-conference honors.

Junior Jesse Selgeby finished fifth in the 60-meter. Heidebrink placed sixth in the 60-meter hurdles, which he ran in 8.52 seconds.

Dunk and senior Brandon Hammack earned third- and fourth-place finishes in the 200-meter, and were separated by less than a tenth of a second. Tired legs are on the minds of multi-event runners.

"Fatigue is going to happen whether you have three races or just one," Hammack said. "The trick is to compete fearlessly no matter what."

The Raiders had a strong showing in the 600-meter, as well. Senior Brandon Schuler, junior Austin King and sophomore Scott Strand were separated by less than a second as they locked up sixth through eighth place.

Sophomore Taylor Bodin ran his 800-meter race in 1:56 and finished fourth. Sophomore Skyler Giddings was in fifth place and posted a time of 1:57.

Sophomore Logan Holand met the provisional qualifying time in the 1,000-meter. He ran it 2:32 and finished second.

"My mindset now is to continue to stay focused on what we are training for," Hovland said. "We all need to realize that what we do these next few days is the training that we’ll be depending on at nationals."

Junior Zach Wittenberg joined with freshmen Kyle Anderson, Elliot Johnson and Elliot Stoltz to place another automatic qualifying time in the 4×800. They finished second on Saturday.

The women’s side had positive showings in the middle and long distance races on Saturday.

Junior Jackie Niewenhuis received one of her three all-conference honors by placing fifth in the 800-meter.

Junior Dawn Gildersleeve met the provisional qualifying time again in the 1,000-meter. She posted a time of 3:03.

NW’s 4×800 squad finished in an impressive fifth-place. Senior Brianna Hobbs, Niewenhuis, freshman Lauren Spranger and senior Leslie Stover cleared the NAIA-automatic qualifying standard by 10 seconds.

"The GPAC is arguably the most talented conference in the NAIA when it comes to track," Hovland said.

Sophomore Katie Florschuter long jumped 16-10.5 feet. That was good enough for fifth place, and an all-conference nod.

**Miller tallies triple-double in win**

**BY JORDAN DYKSTRA**

The Raider men’s basketball team will advance to the GPAC Tournament Semifinals after defeating visiting Dakota Wesleyan 77-63 Wednesday night at the Bultman Center.

Senior guard Ben Miller filled out the stat sheet and recorded a triple-double. Miller scored 11 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and dished out 10 assists. Senior post Daniel Van Kalsbeek led all scorers and finished with 18 points. Junior guard Zack Leeper notched 15 points and recorded six rebounds.

"We came out and performed well with a lot of energy tonight," said senior guard Josh Vander Plaats. "We did what we had to do and got the win."

The Raiders stifled the Tigers from the start and held them to a mere 38 percent shooting from the field and only 31 percent from three-point land. In contrast, the Raiders shot 46 percent from the field and 36 percent from deep.

"We had to adjust to the defense that they played as they tried to press us more in the second half," Vander Plaats said. "We responded well to it, and we are all excited to get to play Morningside on Saturday."

NW dominated the points in the paint and outsized Dakota Wesleyan 44-28 in that category. The Raiders also topped the Tigers 11-1 in second-chance points and outscored them 37-19 in bench production.

On Saturday, the Raiders claimed their eighth-straight victory by defeating a resilient Midland squad 89-86 at the Bultman Center. The game was senior day for the Raiders.

In a close game from start to finish that included nine lead changes, the Raiders held their composure to the very end. Vander Plaats hit four free throws in crunch time to put NW ahead of the Tigers with only seconds to spare.

In their last regular-season home game, it was the seniors who led the way for the Raiders. Miller scored a team-high 22 points. Miller also obtained nine rebounds and tallied nine assists in the contest, just missing out on a triple-double.

Senior big men Stuart Goslinga and Van Kalsbeek each scored 12 points. Leeper dropped in 13 points, and sophomore forward Levi Ettleman scored 11 points.

The Raiders shot a respectable 49 percent from field while the Tigers shot 45 percent. The Raiders managed to shoot 50 percent on three-point attempts by going 3-6 and held Midland’s attack to only 37 percent on 4-13 shooting from beyond the arc.

The Raiders will play host to Morningside on Saturday. Tipoff is at 3 p.m.

**Feb. 15 tennis final**

**Northwestern: 7**

**Grand View: 2**

**Singles**

Sophomore Frankie Eszes (2-2)  
Win (6-0, 6-1)

Junior Terry Odera (1-3)  
Win (6-0, 6-0)

Sophomore Jami Koens (0-4)  
Loss (6-1, 6-2)

Sophomore Hannah Stark (1-3)  
Win (7-6, 7-6)

Junior Missy Yorchak (0-2)  
Loss (1-6, 7-6, 10-7)

Freshman Amanda Bueltel (1-1)  
Win (6-0, 6-0)

**Doubles**

Eszes/Koens (3-1)  
Win (9-7)

Odera/Yorchak (1-1)  
Win (8-1)

Stark/Bueltel (1-1)  
Win (8-3)
NW athletic facilities to replace grain elevator

BY JULIA LANTZ

Plans are being made to demolish Northwestern’s longtime neighboring landscape of grain elevators, feed mills and the Conex Convenience Station.

According to President Greg Christy, NW recently purchased the six acres that adjoin the southwest portion of campus because the land poses great prospects for the college.

“This property offers us the opportunity to reconsider future expansion,” Christy said.

According to Christy, NW plans to expand the Rowenhorst Student Center to the west by building more athletic facilities.

Student-athletes and non-athletes alike agree extra space is needed.

“There is a lot of competition for the space that is available between the sports teams, intramurals, the students and the general public,” said junior baseball player Cody Groskreutz.

Groskreutz and the baseball team have had to adjust the time of day they practice because most sports teams practice right after classes. As a result, the baseball team practices either early in the morning or late at night so it can use all the courts without interference.

Senior Kayla Johnson said the women’s golf team has had to overcome the athletic facility’s limited space by getting creative with scheduling.

According to Jonson, the golf team holds winter practices in four half-hour shifts on Tuesdays and Mondays from 9 to 10 p.m.

“We work around everyone’s schedule,” Johnson said.

Many non-athletes who use the facilities for working out feel similar frustrations.

Senior Taylor Hoekstra uses the RSC mini-gym almost daily whether he is working out or participating in an intramural game.

“At times, there are literally hundreds of people in the RSC,” Hoekstra said. “Some running, some walking, some shooting hoops, some passing a volleyball and some throwing 90 mph fastballs. It just gets dangerous.”

According to Christy, NW has other reasons for buying the land besides expanding the athletic facilities. Demolishing the grain elevator could decrease truck traffic on Highway 10 and has the potential to improve the campus aesthetically.

“As people are entering from the west side of campus, we will have even more of a presence,” Christy said.

Demolition is scheduled to start after graduation so that everything can be cleared before next school year.

“It will look a lot different when students come back in the fall,” Christy said.

Community is made a minor

BY ALYSSA CURRIER

For students who cannot get enough community, Northwestern is now offering it as a minor.

Professor Michael Andres was one of the driving forces of the interdepartmental group of professors that designed the new Christian community development (CCD) minor.

“I think there is a sense, even in the broad evangelical world, that God has a heart for justice,” Andres said. “Christian community development is a model for how you restore under-resourced communities.”

Although the minor was orchestrated through the religion department, it is intended for students of all majors and contains coursework in religion, political science, sociology and economics.

“It’s very holistic,” Andres said. “It could almost be called the holistic ministry minor. It fits liberal arts like a glove. It really shows how interrelated these things are.”

Sophomore Kara Nonnemacher said she is interested in minoring in CCD and has already begun taking some of the classes. Currently, she is in “Slavery, Separation, Redemption and Reconciliation” and “Survey of Economics.”

“I have always been interested in CCD and was really excited to hear that it is officially offered as a minor,” Nonnemacher said.

An integral component of the CCD minor is that it involves a service-learning experience in the community as part of its capstone course. The goal of this project is to put what has been learned in the classroom into practice in the real world.

“With this class, our hope is that students will give time to Justice for All or the Bridge or some other such organization that’s in or around Sioux County that will tie into things they’re learning in class as a direct application,” said Professor VanDerWerff, who will alternate teaching the capstone course with Andres.

According to Andres, the CCD minor will be a good fit for NW because of the large number of students who are passionate about social-justice issues.

“More and more students, we’re finding, captured a vision for justice, for holistic ministry,” Andres said. “Yes, we need to proclaim the word, but it’s not just about saving souls; it’s about restoring communities, breaking poverty and healing people. It’s about health clinics and after-school programs.”

Nonnemacher said she hopes to combine her public relations major with the CCD minor to work in a nonprofit setting.

“I think these two subjects together can best utilize my interests,” Nonnemacher said. “I’m hoping to do my PR internship somewhere that will also allow me to do community development work so I can get an idea of how best to combine the two.”

NW athletic facilities to replace grain elevator

PHOTO BY KATIE KREIBS

Northwestern plans to demolish the newly purchased grain elevators in order to expand the RSC.

PHOTO BY KATIE KREIBS

Northwestern students.

Basketball

The Northwestern men’s basketball team will play Morningside at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25, in the Black Box Theatre. West Hall resident director Corey Kundert will open. Admission is $2 for the public and free for Northwestern students.

Chapel

Monday

• Jeffrey Hubers ’13

Tuesday

• The Rev. Roger Lokker, Preston, MN

Wednesday

• Dr. John Hartog, Northwest Iowa Community College

Friday

• Prayers of Blessing