By Megan Current

 Globally, there are an estimated 4.2 million pornography websites. That makes up 12 percent of all the websites on the internet. Forty percent of students at Northwestern have used pornography and 30.1 percent have done so in the last six months. These numbers come from a recent study conducted by senior Jenni Kahanic. Although the scope of Kahanic’s study reaches far beyond a statistical profile of Northwestern College, the numbers suggest the need for a discussion of a vice that is often difficult to talk about.

In fact, Kahanic’s study also yielded another surprising statistic: Among Christians, pornography use is not exclusive to men.

According to christianNet.com, of all Christians, approximately 50 percent of men and approximately 20 percent of women are addicted to pornography. In addition, of all college students, approximately 62 percent of male students and approximately 17 percent of female students look up pornography every week.

A voice of hope comes from freshman Miles Fletcher, who recently struggled with a pornography addiction before giving his life to God. The first time he encountered pornography was when he was in elementary school.

“The first time I looked it up, my dad said to never do it again,” Fletcher said. “I knew then it was wrong because I got in trouble, but I was addicted, and I couldn’t fix it.”

When Fletcher’s parents got divorced, the addiction took over his life. Fletcher said he was exposed further to pornography by boys in his class.

“I didn’t have friends,” Fletcher said. “I didn’t have any relationships. I needed something to show me some type of love. Pornography shaped every part of my day. It ruled my thoughts, words and actions.”

Pornography shaped every part of his day. Fletcher said being a man in today’s society is extremely difficult but that excuses shouldn’t be made.

“I believe we are in control of what we look at and continue to look at,” Fletcher said. “The way a woman dresses is not OK to use as a scapegoat.”

Chaplain Harlan Van Oort said he was not surprised by the number of Christian men and women addicted to porn.

“The way a woman dresses is not OK to use as a scapegoat.”

Chaplain Harlan Van Oort said he was not surprised by the number of Christian men and women addicted to porn.

“Some have sinned, we don’t realize how pervasive and destructive it is,” Van Oort said. “We as Christians underestimate the depth of the alienation of sin. It is a lot nastier than we sometimes think.”

Former NW student shot and killed by police

By Sarah Wedel

On Friday, March 8, former Northwestern student Adam Donohue was shot and killed by police in Boca Raton, Fla.

According to the Palm Beach Post, a Florida newspaper, two police officers responded to an emergency call around 8:45 p.m. The caller said a man was attempting to carjack a Comcast employee’s vehicle.

When police arrived on the scene, the man, failing to overtake the Comcast employee, carjacked a taxi instead. The police then pursued the stolen vehicle and were able to pull over the taxi.

A local Florida newspaper, the Sun Sentinel, interviewed witnesses who were present when the taxi was pulled over. The witnesses said that the man got out of the taxi and charged the two police officers, one of whom had his gun drawn. The other had a Taser.

Witnesses then said the gun went off when the armed police officer was tackled by the man. The man who was shot and killed was later identified as 20-year-old Adam Donohue.

Witnesses at the scene did not think Donohue was armed.

Boca Raton police identified the police officer who shot Donohue as Brian Pare and his partner with the Taser as Chris Bradley.

There is an ongoing open investigation into the events of that night by the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office. As of Wednesday, the sheriff’s office spokesperson Theresa Barbera said there was no new information.

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• Page 4: NW student with narcolepsy shares his story.
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• Page 5: Students share opinions on new pope.
• Page 8: Dean of Students John Brogan is leaving.
‘20/20’ beautiful, occasionally lengthy

BY MERIDEL WEITZ

Six years ago, Justin Timberlake released an album that established him as an R&B singer unafraid to take risks in his music. Although a lot of time has passed since his last CD, his newest release shows he has not lost any charm on his latest album “The 20/20 Experience.”

The entire album is a conglomeration of elegance and indulgence. Songs average more than six minutes in length, and Timberlake uses all the sonic possibilities available, as well as heavy jam sessions for the band.

Each song on the album works to create a mixture of pop, soul and R&B, and the sound melds together to tell a story throughout the album. The sounds of “Don’t Hold the Wall” are psychedelic with a touch of Hollywood sci-fi thrown in. Flutes, rain-stick percussion, crickets and pitch-shifted voices encourage listeners to get up and dance. “Blue Ocean Floor” brings together old rock and Usher’s influence to make an eerie song that seems to creep out of the speakers and snake along the floor.

Many people already know “Suit and Tie,” first single from this album. This song almost sums up the theme Timberlake presents throughout the album. In “That Girl,” Timberlake croons, “I’m in love with that girl, and she told me that she’s in love with me.” “Suit and Tie” tells about his date with this girl.

Timberlake has been busy working in Hollywood, but does he have the talent to continue singing? The eight-minute songs in “The 20/20 Experience” suggest he’s lost some of his touch. After a while, listeners find themselves skipping the last few minutes of the song to get to the next one. Although each song is beautiful, the length makes the songs inaccessible.

The only song in which the length is appropriate is “Tunnel Vision,” a daring, dense production.

“The small symphony that accompanies Timberlake’s crooning voice adds a startling contrast to the syncopated percussion. “Tunnel Vision” is the spiritual yet sexy high point of “The 20/20 Experience” and is hopefully the model for the second installment of this album that is due for release this fall.

Rating: ★★★

‘StarDrive’ wants to be played

BY MICHAEL GUTSCH

“StarDrive” is an ever-unpleasant mid-word capitalization is almost distracting enough to mask its misleading name and genre classification. Almost.

It’s a 4X game, the four Xs standing for Explore, Expand, Exploit and Exterminate. Most 4X games are slow-paced, methodical affairs, full of chin-stroking political maneuvering. “StarDrive” is more of an action game, facilitating much speedier raising of armies and conquering of planets—or peaceful expansion and friend-making. Additionally, the ability to take direct control of a ship and fly it around manually can make for great fun, especially in small skirmishes when proper helmsmanship can guarantee decisive victory.

The fun little features aren’t what “StarDrive” needs. Most 4X games are clinical, and staring at the same information on the screen is a bit too often considering how uninteresting it can be. These aren’t huge problems, but rather minor plateaus of fun in such an engaging game.

“StarDrive” is still in beta, but it has been released on Steam (a popular digital distribution platform) for pre-purchase that allows for beta access. Fans of the genre who are interested in something with a bit more flair and newcomers who have felt intimidated by the massive learning curves that other 4X games present will enjoy what “StarDrive” can provide.
‘Snitch’ surprisingly good, has problems with perception

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

“Weird science” faces a rather complicated problem: No demographic group will enjoy it. This is a shame because the preconceived notions viewers bring in will likely make them miss a surprisingly decent movie.

Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson plays John Matthews, a contractor whose son is caught receiving a huge shipment of ecstasy and — according to mandatory minimum sentencing laws — is looking at spending at least 10 years in prison. In an attempt to reduce his son’s sentence, Matthews goes undercover for the Drug Enforcement Agency to try to bring down a dangerous drug cartel. He soon finds himself well over his head and in grave danger.

A big part of the problem was the trailer. The focus of the trailer was the climactic car chase and the gang-related gun battles, which made “Snitch” look — on the surface — like any other movie starring The Rock. This attracts Johnson’s fanbase while simultaneously turning away the kind of person who would enjoy “Snitch” for what it is, a surprisingly well-acted drama with a few scenes of intense action.

The decision to hire The Rock is puzzling. Put Denzel Washington in The Rock’s role, and “Snitch” is likely to be lauded for its solid acting and plot development. And this isn’t necessarily fair. The Rock delivers one of the most believable, realistic performances of his career. His shirt stays on throughout the film, and he emotes like a father who is confused and earnestly trying to help. What’s more, director Ric Roman Waugh develops the relationship between Matthews and his family convincingly.

But The Rock’s physique and reputation presents an inherent problem to the movie’s believability. Even a discerning viewer who recognizes Johnson’s solid performance knows Johnson’s reputation as an all-powerful action star. This makes the realistic actions and reactions conversely unbelievable. Early in the movie, street thugs pull Johnson from his car and beat him senseless before a passing cop chases them away. This is a tough sell for viewers because, frankly, The Rock is 6’4” and 265 pounds of sheer hulking muscle, and we have seen him playing a special ops character or the Scorpion King too many times. Viewers will find themselves wondering why he doesn’t just fight back and crack their heads on the ground.

The answer, of course, is that he’s John Matthews, a divorced father and family man — not the Scorpion King. And if the problem “Snitch” struggles with the most is that it is distractingly realistic, that’s a pretty acceptable problem to have.

It’s not a perfect film, of course. The ending is perhaps too clean, and the opposition to the mandatory-minimum sentencing is heavy-handed at best, distracting and counterproductive at worst. The female characters are unlikeable and, excepting Susan Sarandon as the DEA prosecutor, unimportant.

“Snitch,” for the most part, comes down to a question of preconceived notions. If viewers want a fast-moving movie full of explosions, they will be disappointed. But if they can put aside their preconceived biases for (and against) The Rock, they will be pleasantly surprised.

Rating: ★★★★

Expect to be let down by ‘Burt Wonderstone’

BY KARA NONEMACHER

Viewers expecting to be dazzled by the magic and humor in “The Incredible Burt Wonderstone” should also expect some letdown. This star-packed comedy isn’t a complete waste of time, but the talents of mainstream actors such as Steve Carell, Jim Carrey, Olivia Wilde and Steve Buscemi fall short of their potential.

Burt Wonderstone’s (Carell) childhood is anything but incredible. He’s the target of the class bully, and he can’t even count on his own family’s support. One year for his birthday, Burt receives a magic kit that changes his life. Burt bonds over magic with fellow outcast Anton Marvelon (Buscemi), and 30 years later, the two are dominating the magic scene together on The Strip in Las Vegas. What audience members don’t know, is that Burt and Anton secretly hate each other. When big shot street magician Steve Gray puts their show out of business, Burt and Anton split up.

Burt eventually hits rock bottom when performing for residents in a nursing home, but it’s at this point that he begins to rediscover his initial love for magic.

This film is like Midwestern weather. Viewers see a preview for “The Incredible Burt Wonderstone” and recognize the faces of actors known for their wit. The viewer needs a good comedy, and why wouldn’t a film with Steve Carell and Jim Carrey provide that? It’s like a sunny, 55-degree Sunday followed by a windy 32 degree Monday. The well-reputed actors and seemingly-interesting plot are only teasers to the actual viewing experience. Similar to the anxious wait for spring, viewers wait for the plot to grab them or at least draw out more than a chuckle.

Much of the humor, especially in scenes with Carrey, is just weird. Careless use of dialect fills the theater as Carrey performs a “magic trick” that involves him cutting his own cheek, then pulling out a bloody playing card from his gash. Nearly every scene with Carrey includes humor of this sort, which is one reason his character does not take full advantage of the talent available. Recently, Carrey has fallen out of the spotlight in Hollywood, so it was exciting to see that he would once again be gracing the screens in a comedy. But his role in “The Incredible Burt Wonderstone” is perhaps the most disappointing to date. Other than the grotesque magic tricks, there were flashes of brilliance in his performance, but the script did not allow him enough screen time to expose his talent.

Similarly, Steve Buscemi was disappointingly absent for the majority of the film. Steve Carell saved this movie, but even his character fell short of Carell’s potential. Burt has an ego with more audacity than his ridiculous costume, and Carell pulls off that role with ease. As Burt leaves the stage and experiences a month of discovering himself, his funny, egotistical personality disappears all too easily. His assistant, Jane, loathes him as a performer, but in almost no time falls in love with the “new” Burt. This transformation happens too fast, and it seems as though Carell struggles with the transition.

“The Incredible Burt Wonderstone” was released into theaters on March 15. The film isn’t quite “abracadabra,” but it also won’t be a complete waste of money.

Rating: ★★★
Archer stays on stage despite condition

Many college students relish opportunities to take a nap, but imagine not being able to control when those naps occur. Imagine attending a movie, suddenly falling asleep without knowing it and waking up to find most of the movie has passed. welcome to the life of senior Toben “Little Foot” Archer.

Archer was diagnosed at age 16 with a condition known as narcolepsy. Narcolepsy is a neurological condition that occurs when the brain cannot normally regulate cycles of sleeping and waking. This causes daytime sleepiness that results in episodes of falling asleep suddenly.

Although Archer wasn’t diagnosed until age 16, he says he began to show symptoms of narcolepsy around age 12. He noticed that although he was well-rested, he would randomly fall asleep at times and places he didn’t want to.

“My narcolepsy can be negated by adrenaline,” Archer said. “I’d even fall asleep in band practice.”

Surprisingly, none of Archer’s friends at school noticed his narcolepsy until he was a junior in high school. Archer said he was thankful nobody made a big deal out of it.

The fact that Archer’s friends didn’t notice his narcolepsy for so long speaks to the fact that he hasn’t let his condition hold him back in any way. Archer is a computer science major who participates in just about everything aside from sports.

Archer’s favorite activities are band and theater. Some people have wondered how someone with narcolepsy would have the courage to get on stage knowing that there is the possibility they could fall asleep.

“My narcolepsy can be negated by adrenaline,” Archer said. “So it won’t happen to me while I am performing. I fall asleep when I am not interacting.”

This means that Archer will never fall asleep mid-conversation. He also said that when he falls asleep he doesn’t change body positions. If he falls asleep while standing, he won’t fall over.

He was once writing a paper when he suddenly fell asleep with his finger on the “E” key. He awoke 10 minutes later to find a very long string of “E’s” on his computer screen.

Narcolepsy affects not only where and when Archer falls asleep but also how he sleeps. A normal sleeper’s sleep pattern consists of rapid-eye-movement (REM) sleep and non-rapid eye-movement (NREM) sleep, which is made up of four stages.

When a normal sleeper falls asleep he or she initially enters a light stage of sleep and then progresses into increasingly deeper stages. These stages are a part of NREM sleep. The stages of NREM sleep alternate with stages of REM sleep. REM sleep is when dreaming occurs. When someone with narcolepsy falls asleep, the body completely skips the first stage of NREM sleep and goes directly into REM sleep.

“Because my body goes directly into REM sleep, I am dreaming the entire time I sleep,” Archer said. “It gives me the feeling that I am almost conscious when sleeping, like I am always on the edge of waking up.”

Archer said he is grateful for his specific case of narcolepsy because he can feel when the sleeping attacks are coming on 10 to 15 minutes before they occur. This means he is able to drive without the fear of falling asleep at the wheel. If he feels sleep coming on, he can simply pull over and take a nap.

An ironic thing about narcolepsy is that what normally stimulates people to stay awake puts a narcoleptic to sleep. Archer tries to avoid caffeine and sugar.

“5-Hour Energy would put me to sleep,” Archer said.

Archer and his friends and family have been able to find the humor in his condition. Archer said his three older brothers, older sister, younger brother, mom and dad have many jokes about it, but they are all done in good fun. Archer even uses the online name “narcilapser.”

Archer encourages those with questions about his condition to come talk to him instead of jumping to conclusions. But be sure not to act like an expert on the topic of narcolepsy or sleep.

“Most narcoleptics are going to know more about sleep than you do,” Archer said. “It’s the world we live in. Literally.”

Sudoku

8 1 3 5 7
5 4 3 6 7
1 7 9 5 4
4 7 6 9 1
3 9 8
2

FROM PAGE 1

Van Oort said that all addictions are lies and that the core of porn is a lie.

“The message is intimacy when there isn’t any,” Van Oort said. “There has to be a gift from God in order to set the prisoner free. The person who is addicted is powerless.”

Students on campus showed concern over the situation.

Junior Matt Dowie said he was not surprised by the number of men addicted to porn, but he was shocked by the number of women.

“It is surprising because I realize now that it isn’t just a problem for guys; it’s a problem for girls as well,” Dowie said. “If I am dating a girl and thinking about marriage, I think pornography should be discussed.”

Junior Kippen Larson-Gulsvig said that addiction to pornography can result in broken trust.

“Not being willing to give an addiction up changes trust,” Larson-Gulsvig said. “When guys think it’s acceptable, that’s when you lose trust in someone.”

Larson-Gulsvig said that people who seek healing are brave.

“Just because half of the world is addicted doesn’t mean it is OK to live with,” Larson-Gulsvig said. “I really admire people who want to seek help.”

Fletcher said he found the most comfort in people who wanted to help, pray and understand the struggle.

“Not being judged is so uplifting,” Fletcher said. “Just because we are Christian doesn’t mean we have a handle on it.”

For those seeking help with any addiction, the counseling services in the Wellness Center are available. If interested in learning more about Kahunic’s study, she can be contacted at jennifer.kahunic@nwciowa.edu.
NW students discuss election of pope Francis

BY JULIA LANTZ

On Wednesday March 13, the Roman Catholic Church elected a Latin American cardinal into the papacy for the first time in history.

After white smoke ascended from the chimney above the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City, Jorge Mario Bergoglio appeared before those gathered in St. Peter’s Square to be introduced as the 266th pope and leader of the world’s 1.2 billion Catholics.

Although Northwestern is an institution affiliated with Protestantism, among the student body and faculty are a few who have close ties to the Catholic Church and strong interest in the recent election of the pope.

Professor James Mead of the religion department came to appreciate Catholicism when he attended Georgetown University, the oldest Jesuit and Catholic university in the U.S.

“I have had a long appreciation for the Roman Catholic Church and its ability to be truly global as it has attracted believers from a vast range of ethnic groups, language groups, nationalities and political persuasions,” Mead said.

Even though Mead is closely affiliated with the Presbyterian Church, he followed the papal election closely and was excited Bergoglio was selected to take office.

“I was hoping it would be any one of the possible candidates from the global south,” Mead said.

Along with Bergoglio’s appointment as the first non-European pope of the modern era, he can claim two other “firsts.” He is the first Jesuit pope and the first pope to bear the name Francis. Bergoglio chose the papal name to honor St. Francis of Assisi, who was known for his simple living and dedication to service.

Within Pope Francis’ first nine days, he has gained attention for modeling the ways of St. Francis of Assisi. The pope told the Argentinians to help the poor rather than come to Vatican City to see him, said sophomore Taylor Studer, citing an example of the pope’s humility.

Likewise, Mead has also noted signs of the pope’s character within his first week and a half in office.

“By all accounts, he seems to be a humble person,” Mead said. “He takes public transportation and does not lord over anybody in his office.”

According to sophomore Joleen Wilhelm, a leader of Pax Cristi on campus, Pope Francis has kept security guards on edge with his lack of fear to mingle in the streets of Vatican City. However, Wilhelm said she believes this shows how personal a pope he will be.

“He is going to be a very unique pope,” Wilhelm said. At the same time, Wilhelm finds irony in the timing of the new pope taking office during the current season of Lent.

“Lent is a time for reflection and growth and a time of reforming,” Wilhelm said.

Although it is too soon to know exactly what is on the pope’s agenda, Mead said he believes change is inevitable because Pope Francis has lived in closer proximity to the poor in the world than have previous popes.

According to Wilhelm, Pope Francis is in a position to bring a more global outlook to the Catholic Church, especially with his connection to Latin America.

Pope Francis was introduced as the 266th pope.

Shaw leaves library to others

BY ERIN VAN HORN

Although Ramaker Library is located in the center of Northwestern’s campus, not all students take advantage of it. Junior Caiti Shaw has not checked out a single book out of the library in the three years she has been on campus.

“I haven’t needed any books out of it, and I can’t study in a place that is so big and quiet yet has so many people in it,” Shaw said.

Although Shaw has never checked a book out, she doesn’t have any phobia involving books or the library.

“I’m not avoiding the library at all. I even have meetings in there with people who do like to use the library to get work done,” Shaw said. “Besides that, there is just no reason for me to use it if I cannot get my school work done in it.”

Although Shaw hasn’t recently checked out a book, that doesn’t mean she doesn’t enjoy reading.

“In high school, I was a huge bookworm,” Shaw said. “I would read a book a week—maybe more sometimes. I didn’t own that many books, so I was in the library checking out books at least once a week. I love reading. If I didn’t have as much schoolwork as I do, I would be reading all the time.”

When asked if any professors knew about her lack of library usage, Shaw responded, “I don’t think they know, but I guess now the secret’s out.”

Shaw is majoring in athletic training, a field that appears to take minimal use of library resources.

“I think I have visited the website before, but besides that I haven’t used any resources,” Shaw said. “The only effect my major has on the library is the fact that when we write papers we need interlibrary loans from places sometimes, but even then I don’t use the library to get an interlibrary loan on a book.”

Shaw also enjoys a good movie, but even that isn’t enough of a reason for Shaw to use the library.

“I do love movies, but I have not gone to the library to check one out,” Shaw said. Shaw said she was optimistic about making it all the way through her college career without ever checking a book out.
Omani hellos aren’t given cheaply; they cost time

BY MATT LATCHAW
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

Think about the last time you saw someone you know in passing. What did that interaction look like? “Hey, what’s up?” “Not much.” And then you pass by. Did you share a hug, a handshake or any friendly acknowledging gesture? Did you even speak? What were your emotions like? Sometimes we even avoid acquaintances because we want to avoid that somewhat awkward half-communication.

In Omani culture, cheap greetings like this never take place. Even the smallest of greetings between strangers is “Peace be upon you.” “And upon you, peace.” As respect between the two goes up, so does the depth of the acknowledgment. “How are you?” “Fine, and you?” “Fine, how is your family?” “They are all good, thanks for asking,” “No news.” The interaction continues on at a more personal level until it closes with the customary “Peace be with you.”

As far as physical greetings go, a handshake is the least you can expect to see. Women often greet each other with kisses on each cheek, and some men will briefly brush their noses together before delving into the complete discussion. Each party is always excitedly smiling from ear to ear.

Excuses for our short interplay are easy. Both people are busy on their way somewhere to do something with someone. We don’t have time to tell how things are going, and we don’t really want to hear what’s been happening to our neighbor either. We just want to acknowledge their existence and keep going.

It can seem that the Omani greeting is even more practiced and ritualized than ours. However, just like in our culture, it’s not so much the content of the greeting that matters but rather the investment and acknowledgment between the friends.

Omanis aren’t afraid of being late to their next appointment because of an extended greeting with someone they care about. Taking time out of your day for someone, even for a relatively short exchange, shows that you value the person more than where you’re going, what’s next on your list or yourself.

One of the most beautiful moments I’ve experienced is at the beginning of a traditional Omani wedding ceremony. All of the men in the community, from toddler to elder, gather in a large hall and line up against the walls. Everyone who comes in briefly greets and shakes the hand of each host and guest before taking their place at the end of the line. The interactions are much shorter, but everyone is included.

Omanis don’t value a schedule or punctuality, but they place great value on people and the relationships surrounding them. Let’s all try to respect each other with our time and sacrifice a few more seconds to show someone we care.

Give the breaks a break?

BY CAITLIN PORTER

As we are approaching yet another break from school, the question of whether or not it’s a good thing that we have two breaks so close to each other keeps coming up in conversation.

On one hand, we have this short, back-in-action dive into academics that hardly feels long enough to get back into the swing of college academia.

On the flipside, which would we want to give up? Could we make it until the middle of March to have our first break? Or would it be better for us to just give up Easter break altogether and have a couple vacation days sprinkled throughout February like other colleges?

Personally, I think two weeks is enough time to adjust back into school. We may not be able to just flip a switch, but it’s definitely doable. However, these two weeks at school have sandwiched me with an overload of projects and assignments to finish.

This stockpile of assignments that have been thrown at us can result in unnecessary stress. So much so that it’s almost enough to convince me to change my answer to this question. Breaks are good to have from school, and sometimes weeks feel like years while others feel like minutes. However, I think it’s hard on some people to go back forth from home and school. The travel time can be expensive and time consuming.

Also, if you went on a Spring Service Project trip like I did, being able to go home so soon after Spring Break seems like heaven because we didn’t have the free time like other Northwestern students did. So, in my opinion, I think our schedule is good the way it is. It may cause extra stress, but unless you want “Spring” Break in February or are willing to skip your mom’s Jell-O eggs at Easter dinner, it’s probably best to leave our schedule alone and just be happy we can give thanks that it’s just about over.

Omani hellos aren’t given cheaply; they cost time
Smith participates in NFL combine

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

Northwestern senior Brandon Smith, All-American running back for the Raider football team, participated in the NFL regional combine in Chicago on Sunday, March 10.

The regional combines are an extension of the national combine, at which the top draft prospects attend and compete against one another. The regional combines take place in 10 cities across the United States. Select players from each regional combine advance to the Super Regional combine in Dallas. Despite posting very competitive scores, Smith was not invited to the Super Regional.

Smith finished first at the regional combine in broad jump and third in vertical jump among other running backs. He ran a 4.57-second 40-yard dash and finished with a 4.38 pro agility score. According to Smith, his broad jump would have placed second in the national combine, his vertical would have placed fifth, and his 40-yard time would have been in the top 15.

“It’s definitely disappointing,” Smith said. “According to their standards, I was overqualified to make the Super Regional. But I realize it’s sort of a politics game, and I don’t regret doing it. I did the best I could, and that’s all I could really control.”

NW head football coach Kyle Achterhoff coached Smith for four years. According to Achterhoff, there are few players even at the NFL level with Smith’s explosiveness and size.

“I really think Brandon deserves a chance to play at the next level,” Achterhoff said. “He has the skill set to be a player in the NFL, and I think if a team gives him the chance, he can make a team. I’m still holding out hope that someone will call.”

Both Smith and NW defensive lineman Jordan Carlson received invites to the combine through Achterhoff, but Carlson already had a contract with the Jacksonville Sharks of the Arena Football League, so Smith was the lone Raider in Chicago. To prepare for the competitions, Smith trained with NW conditioning coach Kyle Ochsner, who said he was very impressed with Smith’s work ethic.

“We used some very complex and advanced training methods that he attacked every training day, and he excelled at them,” Ochsner said. “I have worked with athletes who are Division-I national champions and All-Americans, and I can honestly say that Brandon is right up there with (them).”

When Smith arrived in Chicago, he was dropped off at the competitions in the Chicago Bears’ official practice facility.

Senior Brandon Smith looks for an opening this fall against Briar Cliff. Smith recently participated in the NFL regional combine in Chicago.

Raider baseball’s offense falls silent

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA

The Red Raider baseball team finished a tough weeklong stretch that began with a road trip to Minneapolis and ended with a surprising home game weekend venture to Omaha, Neb. The Raiders went 0-6 in those contests and now stand at a record of 9-11.

Following a spring break excursion to sunny Arizona, where they went 8-2, the Raiders came back to reality, to the chill of the Midwest and to last-minute schedule changes due to the weather. But they refuse to blame Mother Nature for their recent slump in play.

“I don’t think the weather or schedule changes have anything to do with our games recently,” said sophomore infielder Mitch Peschon. “Everyone, including our opponents, has had to deal with it. We just need to play better baseball.”

Last weekend, the Raiders played two bright-and-early double-headers at Mall of America Field in Minneapolis against Mayville State. On Saturday morning at 6:45, NW fell 5-2 to the Comets.

Senior designated hitter Taylor Morris had three hits in three at bats.

In the second matchup, the Raiders were defeated 11-0. NW only managed to tally three hits. Mayville State scored at least one run in every inning but the first.

On Sunday, NW again played a double-header against Mayville State at Mall of America Field.

In the first matchup, NW picked up the play and was narrowly defeated 4-3. Junior pitcher Tyler Stuerman had nine strikeouts in six innings and surrendered only four hits. Junior second baseman Eric Widener drove in two runs on one hit.

They dropped the next game 4-2. Senior Corey Van Gorp had two RBIs.

On Tuesday, the Raiders trekked to Omaha to play in a double-header against Bellevue. NW was defeated in the first game 4-0 and again fell to the Bruin Bears 2-1 in the second contest. NW’s offensive woes continued as the Raiders only managed to have a combined five hits throughout both games.

Freshman pitcher Josh Turner went six innings in the second game, and only surrendered five hits.

In their final game in Arizona against St. Ambrose, the Raiders had 14 hits and scored 12 runs, which nearly doubled their offensive output in the last six games.

“Recently, we haven’t hit the ball very well, and our defense has had a few lapses behind our pitching staff,” Peschon said. “Our pitching staff has been great. We need to play better behind them offensively and defensively.”

The Raiders look to get back on their feet with some rest and some solid practices to hone their skills.

“We’re going to use these upcoming practices to work on the things we’ve been struggling with,” Peschon said. “If we can get back to swinging the bats like we did in Arizona and play solid defense behind our pitchers, we’ll be fine.”

The Raiders seek revenge Saturday in a double-header against Bellevue in Omaha. The first game begins at 2 p.m.

Schedule changes for spring sports

Women’s Golf

The March 25 and 26 meet at Bellevue is cancelled. Meet at Central added on April 19 and 20.

Baseball

Revised Schedule: March 25 @ Bellevue March 26 @ Augustana March 28 vs. Mt. Marty March 30 @ Briar Cliff

Softball

March 19 games at Sioux Falls cancelled and will not be made up. March 20 game against Dakota State has been postponed.
**Dean of Students John Brogan to leave NW**

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

On Wednesday, the news became official that Northwestern will begin searching for a new dean of students for the 2013-2014 school year. Dr. John Brogan accepted the position as dean of formation for Ministry at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Mich.

“As I examined the position, I saw it as a continuation of my work forming students,” Brogan said. “This one being a little more specific with preparation of seminary students for ministry.”

Western contacted Brogan when the position opened up, and he pursued the opportunity by applying. He was the only candidate selected to travel to Western this past weekend to do an on-campus interview, during which he met with seminary students and local ministers to get better acquainted with the seminary community. Brogan said the whole day was long but not competitive or nerve-wracking.

Western’s selection committee unanimously decided to bring their recommendation of Brogan’s name to the Board of Trustees and President Tim Brown. On Wednesday, Brogan was offered the position and accepted.

Brogan said the visit was an affirmation of his pursuit of the opportunity, but his wife, Kathy, and he had to “process the decision with friends and colleagues who know us well.”

Another benefit that Brogan saw in the move is to be closer to family. Both his and Kathy’s parents live in Michigan.

For NW, a hole now has to be filled.

Provost Jasper Lesage outlined the process that will take place in finding Brogan’s replacement, although no details have been finalized.

Lesage said a search committee will be formed out of representatives from residence life, the counseling center, campus ministry and the international affairs office. The committee will approve an advertisement that will be released to various outlets to garner applicants.

The committee will screen applications, conduct phone interviews and eventually bring two or three candidates onto campus. On the applicants’ visits, there will be an opportunity for students and community members to meet the hopefuls.

Lesage said the committee will “look for someone who resonates with the mission of the college.” A master’s degree and experience in residence life will also be required of the applicants. During his time at NW, Brogan developed skills such as versatility and built up his list of credentials. His first eight years were spent as a professor in the religion department, where he won the Teaching Excellence Award in 2000. He spent the past eight years as dean of students.

According to NW’s website, “Brogan has a doctorate in New Testament and Christian Origins from Duke University, a Master of Divinity degree from Bethel Theological Seminary and a Master of Arts in Modern Middle Eastern and North African Studies from the University of Michigan.” These are high honors for any dean of students.

“He has a really good understanding of our mission as a college,” Lesage said. “He has a real pastoral heart for students.”