Students scream for fro-yo

BY LINDEN FIGGIE

With an explosion of color and flavor, the frozen yogurt craze has hit Orange City.

De Zoete Winkel, Dutch for “The Sweet Shop,” is anything but subtle as it boasts electric blue and cotton-candy pink walls. A ‘50s theme was owners Neel and Melissa Johnsen’s original design idea. “I love old drive-in movies,” Neel said. “I just like the ‘50s.”

It’s bright retro meets futuristic Candyland. With colorful spirals, old records adorning the walls and a large mural of a ‘50s drive-in, the Johnssens took the theme seriously. “We did a bit of homework on that,” Johnsen said of the color selection and design pieces.

Whether sitting on the comfy couches, chrome and white four-person tables or high barstools, the atmosphere is cozy and eclectic. Soon the shop will add a jukebox to give an even more authentic feel.

Six large, self-serve machines line the back walls and provide a wide variety of flavor options including fruity pomegranate and mango; creamy cheesecake and cookies ‘n cream; and chocolate and mocha, along with many others.

The pomegranate energy/vitamin boost is “Red Bull in yogurt form,” according to Neel. “That’s for the college kids; it’s full of energy and caffeine.”

After filling their cups with any number of yogurt flavors, customers have numerous topping choices. From wall-mounted pulleys to a complete treat bar, customers can choose any amount of additions. Pineapple, kiwi and berries; cookie dough, brownie and cheesecake bits; candy pieces and a variety of sauces: the possibilities abound.

On Monday’s grand opening, a line of eager customers formed far outside the shop’s doors. Energy was high, and excitement was obvious as visitors anxiously bobbed heads hoping to somehow shorten the line.

Northwestern juniors Kara Nonnemacher, Kaitlein Floerchinger and Elizabeth De Jong were excited about the new addition to Orange City’s attractions. “It brings a big city flair to small town Iowa,” Floerchinger said. “It’s a lot like ice cream, with that tropical kick,” she said after tasting her vanilla yogurt with pineapple toppings.

After trying a mix, Nonnemacher offered advice: “You have to be careful with your flavor selection. It’s not like ice cream. Fro-yo has its own unique flavor.” Junior Elizabeth De Jong agreed after a not-so-perfect combination. “I put some of the white chocolate sauce on, and I shouldn’t have,” she said.

Don’t get your heart set on a flavor though. “We’ll be switching up the flavors,” Neel said. “We’ll keep the staples,” but the owners are already expecting new flavors. They’ve ordered a non-dairy based blue daiquiri sorbet and a sea salt caramel pretzel.

Perhaps one of the bigger draws is the shop’s hours. The yogurt bar is one of few places in Orange City open on Sundays. “We’re always looking for something to do on Sundays,” Neel said. “Now we can stay here.” Once things get going, the Johnssens will reassess their decision, but they say they are looking forward to the business.

Students agree that the hours are a positive component. “It gives us somewhere to go on Sundays, and we don’t have to go to Sioux City to get fro-yo,” said junior Keely Bracelin. Many anticipate the shop will become a popular college student hangout.

De Zoete Winkel has only been open for a week and a half, but the Johnssens are optimistic about the community’s response. “I haven’t heard one bad thing,” Melissa said, “except that we need a highchair.” They already have an order shipped.

The idea for a frozen yogurt shop was a bit of a whim. After a Sioux Falls visit, the couple asked what if…? Once the location opened up, the Johnssens felt they couldn’t say no. “We decided to jump off the ledge and go for it.” So far, it’s been a success.

Naming the shop was a relatively easy task. The Dutch name for “Sweet Shop” was purposeful on the Johnssen’s part. “We wanted to make sure we kept it Dutch,” Neel said. “We wanted to tie in the community.”

Avoiding frozen yogurt in the name was also strategic. “We did that specifically because maybe in five years we will decide to start serving something different,” Neel said. “We decided to jump off the ledge and go for it.” So far, it’s been a success.

Self-proclaimed “yogologists,” the Johnssens say they hope to bring the frozen yogurt craze of the west and east coasts to small town Iowa. They have big plans and aim to provide a fun place for students, families and people of all ages.

Court Yard Village and Bolks Apartment resident assistants from left: senior Eli Groenendyk, junior Katherine White, senior Meg White, senior Jono Taves, junior Hannah Heagy and senior Taylor Culver enjoy their first visit to the frozen yogurt bar.

Inside this issue:

• Page 2: An inside look at Orange City Poetry Slams
• Page 4: RUSH photo recap
• Page 7: Football team wins in overtime
• Page 3: New Muse album steps up dubstep
• Page 5: Coffee addicts confess their secrets
• Page 8: Celebrating Canadian Thanksgiving in the states
Slam poetry has nothing to do with Shakespeare or Michael Jordan. Poetry slams began in Chicago in the ‘80s in a small cafe with an open mic night. Marc Smith, also known as Slam Papi, is credited with creating this unique type of poetry.

Since their humble inception, slams have spread across the United States to include more than 80 certified teams and a National Poetry Slam event. Slam poetry now takes place all over the world.

This genre isn’t poetry as your English teacher taught it. Poetry slams are a performance and a competition.

The style of slam poetry lands somewhere between hip-hop vocals and a theatrical monologue. Although the emotion and focus of the poems can have a broad range, the poems are typically bitter and full of frustration.

The movement came out of a culture of poets who were sick of critics controlling what they think the audience considers to be legitimate and well done.

The structure of the slams is based around this idea. The audience responds directly to the performers with boos, cheers and claps, and the judges are chosen by the MC from the audience at random. They each give scores between 0 and 10, and only the poets with the highest scores advance to the next round.

Despite the big city ethos of poetry slams, the competitions have been taking place in Orange City for more than 7 years, according to Northwestern graduate Steve Mahr.

“(NW graduates) Cody and Jen Shafer started hosting slams here around 2005,” Mahr said.

Mahr now coordinates and promotes poetry slams with a Facebook page, “Orange City Poetry Slam.”

“I do all the planning and logistical side of it all, but I think of it as a communal effort,” Mahr said. “I like to empower people to take ownership of this with me.”

The slams happen once a month and usually take place at The Old Factory Coffee Shop.

“Generally, poetry slams are as wild as they want to get,” Mahr said. “We don’t censor the poets, so we host the events off-campus out of respect for those who may be offended by the language.”

Although anyone is invited to attend, Mahr said people connected to NW usually make up most of the slam’s audiences.

All are welcome to try their hand at slaming, but many people are nervous about making personal things public in their poems.

“Orange City is the most welcoming, nice slam crowd you can imagine,” Mahr said. “The more you do it, the better you will become. When I first started, I got mocked. Then I started listening more and creating my own style.”

The next Orange City Poetry Slam will take place at 7 p.m. on Oct. 20 at The Old Factory Coffee Shop.

Above: Senior Sarah Kugler performs a poem at The Old Factory, the site for many of Orange City’s poetry slams. Poetry slams are a mix of rap battles and theatrical performances.

**Campus Quotes**

“Ringing bells is good for people with multiple personalities.”
- Professor Heather Jasselyn-Cranson at handbell choir practice.

“I’ve come to the conclusion that everyone sucks.”
- Senior Ignacio Realte-Higuera at Praise and Worship

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to beacon@nwc.edu or submit via twitter, at #nwcbeacon

**Five Star Guide**

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**Movie Review**

**‘Looper’ takes viewers for a wild ride**

**BY JEFF HUBERS**

“Looper” doesn’t just play with the concept of time travel—it takes viewers along for the ride.

Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Bruce Willis complement one another perfectly as they play the present and future versions of the same character. Gordon-Levitt is the smooth-cheeked, arrogant, mob-employed killer with nothing to lose, and Willis fleshes out the role further as the grizzled old-timer carrying the weight of Gordon-Levitt’s life choices on his shoulders.

The film utilizes time travel well, to connect past, present and future in a thrilling mix of cause and effect. What happens to the present version of characters affects their future selves.

The story of “Looper” may seem like it could trip up audiences with all the time hopping, but the film presents the tale easily enough that you won’t leave the theater scratching your head and wondering what just happened.

“Looper” takes place in a not-so-distant future and maintains enough of a realistic view that the film isn’t far from the possible. The story does perhaps dabble a bit too far into the science fiction realm that could turn off a few people, but for the most part, the action and suspense of the film are of the highest caliber.

It’s more than just your high-octane action flick with the sci-fi effects and story; there are twists to be taken in following the “loop” of this film. You remain unsure of how the connection between present Levitt and future Willis will be bridged until the very end.

See the film for its fresh take on the old workings of time travel, a great cast and gun-slinging thrills till the very end.
Latest Muse album dabbles in dubstep

By Tom Westerholm
A&C Co-Editor

Since its inception in 1994, English three-piece alt-rock outfit Muse has been nothing if not progressive. The band’s latest album, “The 2nd Law,” continues to push boundaries, even if those boundaries might seem strange to a long-time listener. But if listeners can get past the unfamiliar dabbling into dubstep and sound sampling, they may find an enjoyable album, even if it ends up being a guilty pleasure.

The first single, “ Madness,” is extremely catchy. And despite the pulsing, synthetic bassline pumping below the vocals like a robot’s heartbeat, it’s pumping below the vocals pulsing, synthetic bassline catchy. And despite the pulsing, synthetic bassline pumping below the vocals like a robot’s heartbeat, it’s pumping below the vocals pulsing, synthetic bassline catchy. And despite the pulsing, synthetic bassline pumping below the vocals like a robot’s heartbeat, it’s pumping below the vocals pulsing, synthetic bassline catchy. And despite the pulsing, synthetic bassline pumping below the vocals like a robot’s heartbeat, it’s pumping below the vocals pulsing, synthetic bassline catchy.

Part of the uniformity is due to Matthew Bellamy’s distinctive, soaring vocals, which would make any genre of music sound like Muse. But when his words are soaring above the wub-wub of a dubstep beat, it’s jarring, to say the least.

Even more jarring, perhaps, is that it works for the most part. Muse has always tended toward a somewhat dark, apocalyptic sound, and if there is one thing that dubstep does well (a distinct possibility), it’s that it offers a sort of dark energy. When combined with real, unaffect ed vocals, especially Bellamy’s intense, high-pitched shrieking vibrato, the result is surprisingly powerful. Fortunately, the album isn’t entirely wubs and screeches. Parts of “ The 2nd Law” are as heavy as Muse has ever sounded. “ Survival,” the soundtrack of the 2012 Olympics, ends with a single-string breakdown below a soaring guitar solo. The opening track, “ Supremacy,” ends much the same way, with Bellamy sing-shrieking on top of the guitar-induced chaos. In general, it’s worth noting that the complex guitar and drum work continues to make an appearance on “The 2nd Law,” although it isn’t as heavily featured as on previous releases.

The album isn’t perfect, and it doesn’t come close to perfection, as 2003’s “Absolution” arguably did. The problem for a band as intelligent as Muse is that when they’ve found a sound that fans find perfect, they remain discontent, interested in continuing to push the envelope. Too much tinkering can hurt an album, and it certainly hurt Muse on tracks such as “Explorers” and especially “ Panic Station,” which sounds like a strange hybrid of Queen and Fall Out Boy. The good news is that even with imperfections, Muse remains well worth a listen, even if the sound isn’t exactly what fans are looking for. But frankly, if it was, Muse wouldn’t be Muse. So maybe it’s just as well.

Rating: ★ ★ ★

New ‘World of Warcraft’ expansion is indecisive

By Michael Gutsche

The latest expansion to “ World of Warcraft,” Blizzard’s Massively Multiplayer Online behemoth released on Sept. 25, calls for an investigation into the more unknown reaches and promises lots of new things for everyone.

Promises aside, “World of Warcraft” is an old game. Very old. Nearly a decade old, in fact. That’s pretty impressive, considering how it continues to engage players. Not that the core mechanics aren’t showing their age, but they were designed for a bygone era of considerably less consistent Internet stability and connectivity. “Mists of Pandaria” continues to broaden the scope of available areas to explore, classes to play, races to choose from and horrid things to kill.

Almost all of it is engaging, if condescending at times. It seems that the oversimplification of the game has caught on like a fever at Blizzard, with more and more complex aspects, such as stance-specific skills for the Warrior, being removed or smoothed out into something that feels less like accessibility and more like homogeneity.

Regardless, the new zones are well-realized and beautiful, more beautiful than the eight-year-old engine warrants. The artistic direction of the game has always held sway far more than the technical achievements in the past, and the new assets, both audio and visual, are impressive both on their own and when brought together to form something far more than the sum of their parts.

More about the new expansion itself, though: It’s really quite good in terms of playable content, but it seems indecisive about what it wants to deliver.

The new race and class, Pandaren and Monk, respectively, make for yet another change of pace, but the change itself seems only partially welcoming and a bit tacked-on.

The new quests and dungeons maintain an excellent sense of polish and quality. This, doubled with the new sights and sounds, makes the game more polished.

This is not about the content of the game so much as the attitude towards that content. All of WoW’s expansions have had tons of new places to see and things to do, but it was the way that the content was presented to the consumer and the player that mattered.

Although the delivery for the most part seems more directed toward maintaining and engaging an already-existing player base, the excessive streamlining of mechanics and class features toward simplicity and ease of access seems to be geared more toward newer or less dedicated players.

In the end, “Mists of Pandaria” is good. The prime time of “World of Warcraft” has come and gone, and, barring something incredibly drastic, the future is only a steady but pleasant decline into an old standby MMO, a shadow of its former glory.

Rating: ★ ★ ★

“World of Warcraft” has been an RPG heavyweight for nearly 10 years, and the makers continued their tradition of producing popular content with WoW expansion “Mists of Pandaria.”
Features | 4

RUSH dancers shake it out

Senior Holly Stewart and junior Ed Sanchez-Perry perform a Latin dance choreographed by Stewart that tells a story of unconditional love.

Dancers in “Feel Good, Inc.” choreographed by junior Tyler Gleason, combine hip-hop and swing to portray young love.

A Lindy Hop dance choreographed by junior Brooke Johnson gives dancers a chance to kick up their heels.

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The contemporary style dance “Masquerade,” choreographed by junior Abby Korver, is dedicated to strength and beauty.
There is nothing more necessary—or more cherished—to a college student than a nice kick of caffeine to get through the day. And now that fall has arrived, what better way to fuel up than with a delicious cup of coffee?

The richness, the flavor and the feelings associated with a good ol’ cup of joe make it quite popular with students. This coffee community is represented by the true aficionados, the coffee addicts who appreciate the deeper side of the brew.

One such enthusiast is senior Jasmine Smith, who has coffee down to an art. “When you are able to make that perfect cup with just the right amount of beans and just the right amount of cream, the taste of it all is perfection,” Smith said.

Not only is coffee appreciated through this delicate balance of flavors, it’s appreciated through the many ways one can acquire it. Corey Kundert, resident director of West Hall, roasts his own coffee. A technique acquired and inspired from a friend back home in Indiana, Kundert’s hobby has led him to purchase high quality beans from California.

“It’s so interesting to me that something that is so universal is also so diverse,” Kundert said. “There are so many ways to drink it, and making coffee is like making something that is a little handmade.”

To Kundert, the process isn’t a solitary undertaking. “Making coffee is a communal process,” Kundert said. “I never make it alone. Guys from the wing make it with me, so it’s a lot of fun.”

Those who aren’t adept at the science of roasting can skip that step and head straight to brewing, which can take on many forms.

The method of choice for Sam Martin, a professor at Northwestern, is through a French press. “I drink French press coffee because there’s no filter,” Martin said. “It’s the most eco-friendly coffee.” For these coffee lovers, roasting and brewing is time well spent. But like any person who appreciates coffee, trying out the local coffee shop is a must.

Junior Ann Calsbeek sees these very places in her future. “I love going to coffee shops,” Calsbeek said. “I hope to own one someday, so I’m always looking for ideas.”

Many coffee lovers appreciate The Old Factory, a coffee shop in Orange City. It’s a place visited by Kundert and others at NW.

“I love the Old Factory,” Kundert said. “They really know their coffee, and seeing them do their stuff is really amazing.”

Kundert is an avid coffee shop customer. “The atmosphere of coffee shops is amazing,” Kundert said. “Coffee is a communal activity, and to bring it back to its roots, to bring it back to the people, you can do that in a coffee shop.”

The time is just as important as the place when it comes to coffee. When is coffee most necessary for these enthusiasts? “I think coffee is best in the morning, but I can enjoy it at any hour,” Calsbeek said. For the addicts out there who can’t go a day without waking their senses to the aroma of fresh coffee, it’s no surprise they have positive words about drinking coffee.

“It’s peaceful,” Martin said. “I usually drink the first cup in the morning while everything is still.”

“Coffee makes me feel warm and cozy,” Calsbeek said. “It’s my ultimate comfort food.”

Students find caffeinated love affairs

BY PRIYANKA FERNANDO

Fellowship of Christian Athletes has been a club on Northwestern’s campus for many years but has just recently been revived. FCA is a group that meets together to encourage others in Christ. Senior Cody Engebretson, faculty member Ray Gibler and a group of student leaders at NW are the team members that made this happen.

“FCA to me is just an awesome opportunity to get to know other athletes, encourage them and get to a deeper level with them and Christ,” said Gretchen Sutherland, one of FCA’s student leaders.

FCA provides students an opportunity to interact with others who compete athletically as well as those who do not.

During this time, people are able to get to know others on a deeper, faith-based level. It’s a casual environment with no attendance or time commitments.

The FCA team leaders, Gretchen Sutherland, Brianna Hobbs, Cody Engebretson, Ben Loftis and Alii Dunkelberger say that God has given them the platform of athletics as a way to demonstrate the love of Christ.

A typical FCA meeting consists of ice breakers, games, prayer, small groups and a devotional message.

The main theme FCA focuses on is living intentionally and how doing so relates to different aspects of reality.

“To me FCA is a bunch of people who enjoy sports coming together to find a deeper meaning with their relationship with God,” said sophomore Ben Loftis, another student leader.

Meetings are run by the student leaders with occasional faculty speakers. It is a joint effort by the team leaders to create a down-to-earth feel with valuable information for each person to take away each time.

“The main reason I wanted FCA here is it’s always been a part of my life,” Engebretson said. “My dad was a huddle coach for Le Mars. I’ve grown up around it. I wanted to let other people share the same experiences.”

Engebretson’s experience is characteristic of FCA, positive and encouraging.

FCA meets at 4 p.m. every other Sunday in the Bultman Center. The group’s next meeting is Oct. 7.
Opinion

Homecoming offers little to students

BY GRAHAM KINSINGER

Homecoming is coined on the Northwestern website as an event meant for “alumni and students as well as their parents and family members.”

Somehow it feels more like it is focused on alumni and other visitors, while students fall by the wayside. With a slew of sporting and music events centered on alumni and various events for parents and family, what portion of the weekend is intended for students?

Of course, there are the spirit days held during the week leading up to Homecoming, and that is a student event. However, how many students are eager to display their relationship status via clothing? And I have noticed that many students roll their eyes in reminiscence of their relationship status via clothing?

Throughout it all, please keep in mind that if someone is wearing white, it doesn’t automatically mean they’re single anymore.

I appreciate the effort to give a warm welcome to visitors, but let’s not forget about the students who are already here. I don’t know how to remedy the situation, but have a lot of fun this weekend. Support the football, volleyball and soccer programs if you can. Spend some time with family if you are blessed with the opportunity. Say “hello” to old friends if they are back on campus. After all, it is homecoming for them, as well.

Throughout it all, please keep in mind that if someone is wearing white, it doesn’t automatically mean they’re single anymore.

We want your opinions!

Please email beacon@nwciowa.edu with comments, concerns and letters to the editor.

London is a melting pot

BY ALI SONDREAL

Foreign Correspondent

London is a melting pot. According to BBC, former Foreign Secretary Robin Cook called chicken tikka masala “Britain’s true national dish.” My British classmates have told me that eating in a kebab shop is actually a very British thing to do. It’s their equivalent of late-night McDonald’s or pizza. Thankfully they haven’t changed their minds about drinking tea. Tea still gets top billing.

But perhaps this isn’t a question of change but rather an example of assimilation. A city by its definition is a center of culture, so maybe it’s more a constant combination of cultures. If we’re open to learning about another person’s way of life, we should also be open to apply the things we admire to our own lives. Culture is nothing more than the agreed-upon behaviors and beliefs of a group of people. As young adults just beginning to discover what we truly believe, we’d be out of our minds to resist growth.

Change does not equal growth. But in my limited experience, it seems that an open mind grows faster than a closed mind. Whether that means immersing yourself in a different culture, taking a class outside your major or accepting the new with the old, it just might be worth a try.

Beacon Staff

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Men draw in double overtime

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA

The No. 11 Raiders came out swinging in their Sept. 26 game against Dordt. The men’s squad played to a physical 1-1 draw against Morningside on Tuesday night.

RAIDER VOLLEYBALL breaks losing streak

BY LACY GREEN

After three tough losses, Northwestern pulled out a dominating win against Mount Marty at Yankton, S.D. on Wednesday.

The overall score was 3-0, with sets of being 25-12, 25-12, and 25-14. This put NW at 4-3 in the GPAC and 14-6 overall.

“Mount Marty was a scrappy team, but we definitely out-powered them at the net,” said junior Claire Roesner.

The Raiders totaled a .310 hitting average for the match with 39 kills in 87 attempts. Junior middle hitter Megan Hutson led the team with a season-high 10 kills and hit .571.

The team also hit a season high 11 aces. Sophomore Alexis Bart had a match-high 10 digs, and was followed by Roesner with nine digs.

The Mount Marty game was a turning point for the Raiders, who were coming off a trio of tough losses.

Northwestern lost its third-straight match on Saturday against Midland in the Bultman Center.

“Volleyball is a game of emotion and excitement, and we didn’t show enough of that,” Roesner said, “which in turn caused us to come up short of the win.”

The match was tight, but NW had an early advantage and hung on for the win.

Set two looked similar with each team staying within three points of the other. With the game tied at 23, Midland earned two straight points to win the second set.

The Raiders were down 8-3 in the third set but rallied to gain the lead 14-13. Midland then scored six points to get a 25-20 win and make the overall score 2-1.

NW fought to get a fifth set but lost the deciding fourth game 25-19.

“We all had moments where we played great, but we also had moments where we lost our focus,” Roesner said.

The Raiders totaled 46 kills out of 152 attempts and hit .151 for the match. Floerchinger led with 15 kills. Sophomore libero Alexis Bart had a total of 24 digs and freshman setter Madeline Hanno added 26 assists.

The volleyball team will play again at 5 p.m. on Saturday against nonconference opponent Jamestown.

OVERTIME WIN FOR NW

BY DALTON KELLEY

The NW football team came away with a 33-27 victory last Saturday in overtime over the Nebraska Wesleyan Prairie Wolves.

The No. 11 Raiders advanced their record to 4-1 on the season.

The excitement started with a fumble forced by senior defensive tackle Jordan Carlson on the first play of the opening drive for the Prairie Wolves.

A few plays later the Raiders would punch it in on a three-yard run by senior running back Brandon Smith. Nebraska Wesleyan answered the score with a 32-yard field goal giving the score 6-3.

Shortly after an NW interception, junior running back Theo Bartman scored from 17 yards out to put the Raiders ahead 13-3.

Nebraska Wesleyan then went on a seven-yard drive of its own before halt time.

NW came out swinging in the second half.

The Raiders scored on their first drive with a seven-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Davis Bloemendaal to senior receiver Tyler Walker to make the score 20-10 in favor of the Raiders.

The Raiders fired back from a Prairie Wolves touchdown with a 39-yard touchdown pass from Bloemendaal to Smith to put the team ahead 27-17.

Nebraska Wesleyan then scored 10 straight points to force overtime.

In the first overtime, the NW defense pulled together an aggressive stand and forced a fumble.

The contest was finished with Smith rushing in the final score for the Raiders.

The Raider defense was led by senior Nate Fischer with 9.5 tackles, eight of which were solo stops, and 1.5 sacks.

NW’s offense went for 360 total yards. Smith had 86 yards on 19 carries on the ground, 58 yards in the air and three touchdowns.

Bloemendaal passed for 250 yards on 16-28 passing and had two scores.

Walker had a career-high 153 receiving yards and one touchdown for the Raiders.

NW’s game will start at 1 p.m. tomorrow.
Canadians can’t catch a break

BY SARA VAN GORP

To most students at Northwestern, the second Monday in October is nothing more than a normal day of classes. To NW’s Canadian students it means a lot more.

In Canada, the second Monday in October is Thanksgiving Day. It is held earlier than Thanksgiving in the U.S., right at the end of harvest, because the Canadian Thanksgiving is a celebration thanking God for a bountiful crop.

The traditional Canadian Thanksgiving celebration is very similar to the average U.S. celebration. Sophomore AJ Gruwal grew up in Canada and shared a little bit about his typical Thanksgiving traditions.

“We have a normal sit-down dinner and pray before the meal,” Gruwal said. “My family spends the evening together. We watch movies and play games. Sometimes it’s just my immediate family, and sometimes my extended family members are there, too.”

Canadian junior Josiah Veurink also has good Thanksgiving memories.

“Being early in October, the forest is in full fall mode with many different colors,” Veurink said. “Our Thanksgiving dinner is always accompanied by a hike up one of the mountains near my home. It’s a great time to see the beauty of God’s creation and what we are being thankful for. It’s a great way to celebrate the fall and enjoy the season before it’s gone.”

U.S. students get a break from school for their Thanksgiving holiday. They have time to relax and reflect on what the holiday actually means. The Canadian students have to go to class on their Thanksgiving holiday. However, Canadian students still find ways to celebrate Thanksgiving and observe some of their traditions.

“Being in the USA, I have and will continue to celebrate Canadian Thanksgiving Day,” Veurink said. “I have a close friend who is also from Canada, and last year I visited his house to enjoy a Thanksgiving meal and some fellowship time with fellow Canadians. It will always be an important day in my life no matter where I am living.”

Despite the efforts to observe the Canadian holiday in the U.S., some Canadian students still miss home during the holiday.

“I miss not being home for the long weekend in Canada,” Gruwal said. “Everybody else gets to go home, and it stinks that I can’t be there with my family.”

Since NW dismisses class for Thanksgiving in November, Canadian students have the opportunity to celebrate the U.S. holiday. Some choose to celebrate it; others decide to do other things.

“Even with the break, I did not celebrate American Thanksgiving,” Veurink said. “I was able to go back home and visit my family, but it was weird because I was the only person with time off. It was more about being home than it was about celebrating Thanksgiving.”

The Raider Days concert will begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 6, in Christ Chapel.

Theater
NW’s children’s theater production of “Trickster Tales” will show at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 5 and 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 6, in the Black Box of the DeWitt Theatre Arts Center. Tickets can be purchased at the box office and cost $7 for adults and $4 for children.

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