Paul, Minn.

Northwestern College in St.

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Community House aims

Aims

According to Multi-

The survey indicated that NW students are more

own racial or ethnic groups than other

found that students of different cultural

backgrounds are less likely to have intellectual

discussions outside class; share personal feelings and

problems; eat, socialize or study together; and have

honest discussions about racial and ethnic

outside of their classrooms.

NW’s cross-cultural

housing is fashioned after the Antioch community

Northwestern College in St.

Paul, Minn.

“Nationwide, the idea of

cross-cultural housing is

on the rise and is always
debatable regarding its

potential to retain students

and/or alienate them from

the campus community,”

Franklin said.

The hope is that the cross-
cultural housing on campus

will create a place where

community can thrive.

Located on the second

floor of Bolks Apartment

B (East), the Cross-Cultural

Community House is home

to 22 students from a wide

variety of racial and

cultural backgrounds.

Students found out about

the opportunity to live in

this community through

friends, roommates, La

Mosaic meetings and the

Day of Learning. For senior

Samantha Bender, living

in another country made

her realize the importance

of what this type of

environment could offer.

“I spent a semester and

a summer in Romania.

Something I found to

be really valuable was

spending time with people

who are different from you,”

Bender said. “Although we

approach life differently in

different situations, there’s

a lot of beauty in diversity.

I was excited to just do life

together. We don’t usually

get outside our social

sphere, but it’s the best thing

you can do for yourself.”

Junior Gee Daka said she

also saw the cross-cultural

housing as a way to branch

out from her normal group

of friends: “I thought living

here would be really cool.

As an international student,

I was hanging out with the

same people and I wanted to

meet new people,” Daka said.

“You never know what you

can learn from someone, and

I wanted to learn new things

about myself, too.”

Still others weren’t

immediately sure about

what to do for housing.

“Last year the cross-
cultural housing was

mentioned in La Mosaic. It

sounded cool, but I didn’t

really want to do it because I

wanted to stay in the dorms.

I had a few roommate offers,

but I was still struggling

with where I wanted to

live,” said sophomore Talitha

Witt. “I was praying and

asking God, ‘What do I do

for housing?’ After that, I

just saw the words ‘cross-cultural’
everywhere I looked. I took it

as a sign from God.”

Living with people from

other cultural backgrounds

is already beginning to

transform opinions.

See “Learning” on Page 4

King-Vilsack debate

bringing opportunity for both parties to visit NW

BY GILLIAN ANDERSON

Political candidates will be on Northwestern’s

Campus once again when congressional candidates

Rep. Steve King (R) and

Christie Vilsack (D) debate in

Christ Chapel Sept 27.

The debate will be notably different in tone

from the Romney rally that

was held on campus two

weeks ago. In contrast with the pep-rally feel of

Romney’s event, the debate will be more issue-focused

and informative. “It will be different from

the Romney rally because at a rally it is more to

get people hyped up and not go in depth about the

issues,” said junior Ethan

Raysby, a political science

major. “At the debate the

candidates won’t be able to

avoid questions, and they

will go more in depth.”

Unlike the Romney

rally, NW sought out the

opportunity to host this
debate on its campus.

“How a debate works is

they decide on the issues

they want to talk about,

then go through the rules

and decide on the location,”

Raysby said. “They will
decide who the moderator

will be and what questions

can be asked.”

One of the issues that

will possibly be brought up
during the debate is

healthcare; King says he

wants to repeal Obamacare

and Vilsack says she does

not. Education is another

likely topic; Vilsack says

she wants to preserve the

Fell Grant, and King has a

history of voting against

acts such as the College Cost

Reduction and Access Act.

Many professors, including Jeff Van Der

Werff, have encouraged their

students to attend the

debate and to research the

candidates’ positions.

“King has a record,” Van
der Werff said. “He has been

in congress for about 10

years. He has more of a

retrospective view, which

means we can measure

what he says against his

past actions. Christie Vilsack

has a more prospective

view in the fact that we

will have to listen to what

she has to say. We have no

past evidence since she has

never sought office.”

Recently, there has been

much debate around

campus about whether NW

should be hosting political

candidates at all.

“I think [hosting this

debate] is a good experience,

and it broadens our exposure
to politics,” said sophomore

Joleen Wilhelm.

Professor Ann Minnick

will be the representative

from NW on a panel that also

includes representatives

from KTIV and N’West

Iowa REVIEW, co-hosts of

the debate. There will likely

be media outlets from Des

Moines and Sioux City as

well as other locations.

“I am curious to see if

students are sick of political
West RD makes music to connect to God

BY JEFF HUBERS

“It’s funny that people think I’ve played a lot this year already,” said West Hall Resident Director Corey Kundert. “To me, it feels like I haven’t played in a long time.”

Since the semester began, Kundert has performed for The Red Letter Festival and a night of music at The Old Factory. Those that have seen West Hall’s R.D. perform know he is also a singer/songwriter.

Kundert is known around Northwestern for his solo act, but everything he has done for the NW audience remains only a portion of a much fuller and distinctive experience.

“The things I’ve played here are really watered-down compared to their sound as part of a band,” Kundert said.

Back in Kundert’s hometown of Las Vegas, his collaborations with his brother and friends are truly the treasures in his musical experiences. Kundert started making music in his own way. For six years, Kundert shared the drum set with his brother, until he came into possession of his uncle’s guitar.

“Finally had four strings, but from the moment I held it, I was glued to it,” Kundert said.

For the first year, Kundert stuck with the four-strings. This way he learned to write chord progressions and taught himself to make music from eerie but melodious sounds.

“The guitar was all I did,” Kundert said. “Every day, all day, that was it. I stuck to what I taught myself and from there developed my own unique style. I think teaching sometimes hinders such creativity.”

Kundert began playing with friends and writing songs in high school. He stuck with this same group through the years, going through a couple different band names and styles, but always playing with the same people. Kundert’s brother was the person to play with; the music they made together was some of his best.

“I’ve asked myself that a lot of times, and always it wasn’t the right time,” Kundert said, when asked if he would ever consider doing music full time. “I decided on school, a degree and a job. There’s always ‘what if,’ but God has given me peace and that I’m exactly where I need to be according to His plan.”

Music is Kundert’s way of connecting to God. Every time he plays before an audience, he blocks them out completely.

“A lot of things are going on during a performance,” Kundert said. “I recall the past, where God has taken me.”

“It’s not ‘radio’ music,” Kundert said, when asked to define the genre of his music. “It’s ‘not successful.’ Most people describe it as ‘post-rock/indie rock.’ I think ‘math rock’ defines it well. We always try to do different patterns; we never play the same thing twice.”

For Kundert, music isn’t about making a living, but about doing what he loves.

Carly Rae can’t replicate ‘Maybe’ magic

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

This may be difficult to believe, but The Kiss, Carly Rae Jepsen’s first full-length release since “Call Me Maybe” blew up like napalm, sounds quite a bit like “Call Me Maybe.”

The problem, of course, is that capturing the same magic twelve tracks in a row is nearly impossible, and unfortunately for Jepsen, The Kiss fails to accomplish the nearly impossible.

Much of what made “Call Me Maybe” so unapologetically catchy was the minimalist way the song was presented. There were very few synthesizer effects. The song relied on quick-hitting strings, a simple drumbeat and extended spaces in between chords to create a bouncy, energetic sound. It was oddly simple.

Jepsen’s producers went completely away from the minimalist sound for most of The Kiss, making the album little different than the Katy Perry and the Nicki Minaj of the music world. It’s easy to see why they would make this decision: it sells records. But it doesn’t make for a particularly distinct sound, and it definitely doesn’t make for an album that lives up to the “Maybe” hype.

Two of the more egregious offenders include “Tonight I’m Getting Over You” and “Guitar String/ Wedding Ring,” both of which abuse the synth sounds and auto-tune Jepsen to nearly unrecognizable lengths.

The heavy auto-tune on Jepsen’s voice is painful. Her unaffected voice is an extremely light soprano, like one’s eardrums are resting on a cotton ball. Jepsen’s auto-tuned voice is a high-pitched saw, hacking away at the eardrum with unpleasant intensity.

When Jepsen operates simply, the album works. The gem is “Beautiful,” three minutes of pop-superstar power, as Jepsen is joined by Justin Bieber, owner of Jepsen’s label Schoolboy Records. Jepsen and Bieber play a stripped-down acoustic song that allows both to demonstrate their considerable vocal talents without the overly polished auto-tune that usually pervades their songs.

As a pop-sensation, Jepsen will gain a lot of money, but not a lot of critical acclaim.

That’s probably fine with Jepsen, and it’s definitely fine with her handlers. It’s just a little disappointing for the rest of us.
As camp counselors, students work in clothes for the next day. Sometimes I'd sleep much time at all getting ready. Sometimes I'd sleep in clothes for the next day. Other Northwestern students who worked as camp counselors this summer also took a laid-back approach to style. At camp, fashion simply doesn’t matter.

"At camp, I'd just grab the first thing out of my suitcase to wear," said Rachel Kosakowski, a senior who worked at Victory Center Bible Camp in Pierre, S.D. "I got a perm before this summer, so when I first came back to college, wearing any make-up at all felt fake," Hassman said. "Eventually, I'd start to enjoy putting more on and looking nice."

For counselors and kids alike, summer is a wonderful time of the year because of summer camp. Days are filled with swimming, hiking and playing outdoors in the sun, and nights are filled with s’mores and counting stars. Especially for counselors, it’s a time when clothing, environment at school,” said Laura Jonker, a sophomore Laura Jonker, who spent her summer working at Hidden Hills in Inwood for the third summer in a row. “You’re not just around 10-year-old kids anymore.”

Hassman said now she feels as if she is conforming more to the culture of the campus, putting more time into her appearance before classes.

“I didn’t wear make-up at all this summer, so when I first came back to college, wearing any make-up at all felt fake," Hassman said. "Eventually, I'd start to enjoy putting more on and looking nice."

For others, such as sophomore Laura Jonker who spent her summer working at Camp Grow in Markesan, Wisc., it took some time to get back into the routine of dressing up. "For the first couple of weeks at school, I was just used to wearing shorts, t-shirts and sandals,” Jonker said. “I started to try to wear nicer things because it makes me feel more professional.”

Coming back to school, counselors said they realized it’s okay to look a little different.

“Working at a summer camp has helped me to feel more comfortable without makeup on,” Tellinghuisen said. “Maybe it’s the ease of not caring about style for a few months of the year, or maybe it’s the camps themselves that make the counselors feel confident, no matter how they look. I feel more confident in who I am after working at camp,” Jonker said. "You’re expected to act crazy to show the kids that it’s okay to be yourself.”

"It’s a whole different environment at school,” said senior Laura Tellinghuisen, who worked at Inspiration Hills in Inwood for the third summer in a row. “You’re not just around 10-year-old kids anymore.”

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"I wasn’t taught by Pedro Ruiz to say ‘We’re down,’ so I’m down.” - Professor Ann Lundberg, incorrectly using the phrase “I’m down.”

"You know what came through NW’s campus that was a bigger deal than Romney? Count Chocula." - Junior Micah Czirr

"Be liberal with your politics and conservative with your clicking. It’ll bring joy to your life.” - Professor Dave Arnett on the laws of using a computer mouse.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to beacon@nwciowa.edu or submit via twitter, @NWC_Beacon.

“Resident Evil: Retribution” is simple. Picture what a 12-year-old thinks is a good action movie about zombies, then make it poorly, and slow it down.

Movie Review
BY MICHAEL GUTSCHE
Even on a bad-movie-that’s-fun spectrum, Resident Evil: Retribution ranks very low, and even for a Resident Evil movie, it’s not very good.

The content is barely conveying, the acting is sub-par, and the few small glimmers of cleverness are drowned out by dialogue that might have been written by a seventh-grader. The costume design is barely semblant of the characters the actors are supposed to be representing. The score sounds like a self-respecting sound designer got asked to make a "mashup of dubstep and the Inception soundtrack because those are popular." The musician sullenly created the music as satirically as possible and when presenting it to the producers was met, aghast, with a “Yeah, that sounds perfect! Great work!”

All technicalities aside, this movie is about people shooting other not-quite-people and sometimes people, too. That’s tolerable. What isn’t tolerable is how offensively bored every actor and actress is and how poorly done every potentially cool concept is. Let’s have them fight through an underwater fortress made of gigantic urban recreations of major population centers full of clones and where a giant evil corporation tests their bioweapons. There’s a chase scene wherein heavily armed Soviet zombies, some of which are on motorcycles, pursue four humans in a fancy car through a full-scale recreation of downtown Moscow. Oh, and there’s a giant zombie bulldog-ape.

As impossible as it seems to screw that up, Resident Evil manages to do so.

The movie would be an hour long if every action scene wasn’t in slow motion. It’s as impressively saturated with slow-mo as the slow-mo is arbitrary. There’s little rhyme or reason to when it kicks in aside from “is there a bullet?” or “is someone being kicked?”

The only fun cinematographic trick involves reversing the opening action scene in (surprise) slow motion. And it isn’t even slow-mo used to hide the bad choreography. It just emphasizes how nine out of every ten shots is poorly composed.

The lowest point in a series of sub-oceanic points is probably the fact that everything could have been good. There are great concepts here, but they’re executed with such clumsiness and amateur filmmaking that it’s an embarrassment to kinda-dumb zombie action movies everywhere. Doomsday would be disappointed with the content. There’s a chase scene wherein heavily armed Soviet zombies, some of which are on motorcycles, pursue four humans in a fancy car through a full-scale recreation of downtown Moscow. Oh, and there’s a giant zombie bulldog-ape.

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Learning from each other

FROM PAGE 1

“I had so many perceptions of people, and they’ve already changed,” said senior Jasmine Smith. “We had perceptions of each other as roommates, but they’ve changed. For example, my freshman year Samantha [Bender] was a lot different than she is now. Just seeing the growth of someone that you haven’t been around for so long is fascinating.”

In weekly meetings, roommates join other students on the floor to get to know one another and to discuss ways to break down walls. Bender and her roommates collided on multiple issues, especially those regarding faith. In their apartment, not everyone is Christian. They are learning different perspectives about what it means to love one’s neighbor and what it means to love God. Bender said they appreciate the beauty in other faiths and have books about Islam, Jewish prayer books and the Bible lying out on coffee tables at the same time in their room.

Junior Isaiah Custer and his roommates are learning about perspective in another way: They are discovering how to appreciate each other’s passions. Custer is a theatre major and involved in many productions, and his roommates are on the football team. Busy schedules make it difficult for the five of them to find time together, but they are learning to appreciate one another’s interests.

“If it’s been interesting because the four guys I’m living with have known each other forever,” Custer said. “They play football together, lift weights together and eat together. It’s been interesting coming in not knowing them, but it’s been a good experience that has made me conscious of other groups on campus and what their schedules are like.”

Not only are Custer’s views changing about interests other than his own but he’s also become aware of another thing.

“I’m a minority. I’m the only white guy on the entire floor,” Custer said. “I’m used to being one in the crowd where I blend in with everyone else, so it’s really interesting to me to be the one who stands out because of my race. That’s kind of a cool thing to me because I’m so used to seeing white people as the prevalent race in my life that are unique to me,” Prachar said. “I’m learning that there are things in my culture that I’ve taken for granted.”

When people have addressed Witt with the same remark about her skin color, she has always responded, “I still have a culture!”

Living in the apartments has encouraged students not only to identify with their unique cultural backgrounds but also to appreciate differences with others.

“There’s so much emphasis on community, on loving other people and inviting other people into your space,” Prachar said. “It’s pushed us a lot to not just be intentional about living here but going out to campus and bringing people back here.”

One way in which Prachar and her roommates are being intentional about this is through hosting Saturday morning breakfasts in their apartment. Witt said the large space of the apartment allows them to create a place in which people can come and feel welcomed. So far, they’ve served between 30 and 50 people every weekend. The six students had originally planned to serve breakfast every Saturday but due to a lack of funds are only able to do so every other weekend.

A diverse community is being built not only within individual rooms, or even on one floor, but instead, it’s being spread throughout campus.

“We’ve had to approach so many things with an open mind,” Prachar said. “The cross-cultural house is not just about living together. It’s about walking in and being so open and so flexible. It’s created something that doesn’t happen in all places.”

Hit the clubs: Gospel Choir

BY ERIN VAN HORN

A flash mob in chapel Friday, Sept. 14, performed by members of Gospel Choir took many students by surprise. Northwestern senior Katie Raab, who is a leader of the group, said she planned the flash mob as an exciting fall kick-off.

“I think we definitely surprised a bunch of people,” Raab said.

During her freshman year, Raab was one of Gospel Choir’s founding members. She said she developed her love for music through her experiences singing in school choirs, in church with family members and at school sporting events, where she sang the national anthem.

Raab said singing in Gospel Choir has been an impactful experience for many members, including herself. Her favorite song, which she has sung in the choir is “Going to Another Level.”

Students seeking to join Gospel Choir are not required to audition. Raab said she wants everyone to feel welcome in the group, regardless of musical talent.

“You don’t even have to be able to sing,” Raab said.

According to Raab, Gospel Choir’s aim is to provide students with an intimidating opportunity for musical involvement. Members are not required to participate in performances.

Raab said the group isn’t only about singing, but also about meeting new people and having a good time together. She described Gospel Choir members as “very fun and very energetic.”

Students interested in Gospel Choir can email Raab at katie.raab@nwciowa. The group rehearses at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays in Christ Chapel.
**Features**

**NW grad returns as Steggy RD**

Hannah McBride is serving as Stegenga Hall’s resident director after spending the last year working with a nonprofit organization in Louisiana.

BY SARAH WEDEL

For Stegenga Hall’s new resident director Hannah McBride, living in a building surrounded by people is nothing new.

“My family is big! Six kids and two parents,” she said.

McBride grew up outside of Philadelphia, Penn. After graduating from high school, she began attending college at a state school.

There she majored in English and was a pre-law student, but she soon discovered she wasn’t satisfied. McBride started considering transferring to a Christian institution and discovered Northwestern.

“I wanted to have personal relationships with my professors, and I wanted to go to school to people I wanted to be like,” McBride said.

At NW, McBride switched her majors to English and theatre. She was a RUSH choreographer, an actor in various theatre productions and an employee at The Hub, yet she still did well in her classes.

After graduation, McBride began working as an admissions counselor for NW. She said she loved her job because she could give kids confidence in a time when they were in doubt or stressed about their college decisions.

After two years as an admissions counselor, McBride said she felt God calling her to Opelousas, La. to work with the nonprofit agency Hope for Opelousas.

The organization offers academic help, an after-school program, internships for high school students, neighborhood support and enrichment experiences for young children.

McBride specifically worked to revamp the organization’s communications department. She wrote publications and advertisements and redesigned their website.

“Moving to Louisiana was harder than I expected, but God taught me how to identify goodness even in hard situations,” McBride said. “Every day caused my faith to grow and me to have to sacrifice giving up parts of my pride and expectations.”

As her year of working with Hope for Opelousas neared its end, McBride began thinking about her future plans. Her former RD at NW called and encouraged her to think about returning as an RD herself.

At first, McBride said no. However, the more she thought and prayed about it, the more she became interested in the job, she said.

McBride called NW to ask if the job was still available. She discovered it was and applied. Later, she was offered the position and accepted it.

McBride is excited to be back at NW and living in Steggy. She said her goal is to make everyone in the dorm feel they are seen, known and wanted.

She hopes to accomplish this while coordinating hall events, balancing the hall budget, solving maintenance issues and attending meetings.

As someone who has spent much time at NW, McBride has advice for students.

“Take being a student and being engaged in the community seriously, don’t take yourself too seriously,” McBride said. “God has a way of growing us the most when we let go of ourselves and surrender to him.”

**New profs express creativity**

**BY TYLER LEHMANN**

Northwestern College’s new faculty members include sculptor and ceramicist Yun Shin and novelist Dr. Sam Martin.

Shin, who joined the art department as an assistant professor, said she appreciates NW’s Christian atmosphere after participating in an artist residency program where she was the only Christian.

At the Rochester Folk Art Guild in rural New York, Shin lived and worked with 13 other artists, including glassblowers, bookmakers and woodworkers.

“It was really good to go to a rural area and get away from the city,” Shin said. “I was isolated, so I was able to focus on my art.”

Inspired by everyday activities, Shin calls herself a conceptual artist, meaning she emphasizes the ideas presented in her art over the actual products.

Shin is currently working on a sculpture made of her father’s shirts that she has collected over the years. Woven together with golden thread, the project is a reflection on her relationship with her family, Shin said.

A native of South Korea, Shin earned a bachelor of fine arts degree in industrial design from Cho-Sun University. After moving to the U.S., she earned an additional B.F.A. in craft and material studies from Virginia Commonwealth University. Shin completed her Master of Fine Arts degree in studio art at the University of Texas in May.

Martin, who teaches creative writing in the English department, said he enjoys NW’s Christian environment as well.

“I was told there was a high density of churches, the difference being that people actually attend them here,” Martin said.

Martin previously lived in Newfoundland, a Canadian province that has become largely secularized in recent history.

“To come to a place where the churches are full was eye-opening,” he said.

While in Newfoundland, Martin completed his doctorate in English language and literature at Memorial University.

Martin received a master’s degree in creative writing from the University of Toronto, where he struggled to reconcile his opinions on writing with those of other students.

“People wanted to be jaded or ironic about things,” Martin said. “Cynicism was the tone that people assumed you needed in creative writing of that level.”

Instead, Martin said he seeks to depict the world truthfully without disregarding compassion.

“There is a difference between seeing clearly and being cynical,” he said. “Cynicism is just another way of closing your eyes.”

As a professor, Martin bases his teaching philosophy on his belief that writers must represent the world both truthfully and compassionately.

“In terms of teaching here, I teach people that you can pay serious loving attention to things,” Martin said. “Everything you look at, you should try to see truthfully, but you need to see things compassionately as well.”

Martin authored a short story collection titled “This Ramsackle Tabernacle” and the novel “A Blessed Snarl.”

**PHOTO BY EMILEE BERRY**

Dr. Sam Martin is a novelist who joined Northwestern’s English department this fall.
A view from the mountains

BY LYRIC MORRIS
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

LUPENI, Romania — I sat near the mountain top in Retezat National Park overlooking a bubbling stream with Bible and walnuts in hand I was deep in contemplation of the wonders of nature, the ways of man and how clearly God’s presence intertwines the two.

Never in my life had I felt more connected to the richness of creation around me. Yet it was in this moment that I realized it doesn’t take a semester in far off European mountains to experience the full abundance our lives have to offer. My fellow study-abroders and I happened upon several of these lessons during our time spent in the mountains last week.

First, we were shown the ways in which nature draws you closer to the people around you. When we left behind distractions, we found ourselves with hours of time spent walking across rocky plank bridges or climbing over boulders together. We could bond over the beauty of the sights we were surrounded by, as well as discover the beauty that lies inside each of our own stories.

This time also gave us chances to understand ourselves on a deeper level. When college students are caught up in trying to balance schoolwork, time with friends, church activities and extra-curriculars, it’s often our personal time that is the first thing to be cut from the list of priorities. If we don’t take this time to stop and reflect on what’s going on in our lives, everything else will fall out of whack, and we’ll lose our direction. During our trip, we were given one full day to spend in solitude reflecting on our experiences so far in Romania. It is not an impossible goal to spend a small amount of time reflecting each day during a walk down the Puddlejumper or a drive out of town to watch the sunset. When we spend time alone with the Lord, we will be brought closer to him. In Isaiah 55, it is written “Seek the Lord while he is to be found; call upon him while he is near.”

Finally, our time spent in God’s creation seemed to strike. Most saw this as a last resort. Negotiations were similar: Free swag — “Teacher’s working conditions = Student’s learning conditions.”

It’s my first time experiencing the craziness and whirlwind of a political campaign because this will be my first time voting for a presidential candidate. Would the rally have been any different if President Obama would have come to NW? No. We would have gotten the same security, -press and missed classes. It was a political rally. The Romney campaign dreamt it up with hopes that the insanity would carry us to the polls and encourage us to vote straight ticket.

The rally got me charged up to decide who I will vote for. A lot of this has come up in the conversations I’ve had and the questions I’ve asked since the rally. I don’t know if these conversations would have happened if the rally hadn’t taken place. These conversations have led me to wait in eager expectation for the political debate being held on campus next week between Kristie Vilsack and Steve King. I can’t wait to get the paralyzing glamour known as politics out of the way and actually hear a debate, one in which the candidates will hopefully stand up for what they believe and what they will do in office and explain why.

The policy, beliefs and action plans that were missing at the Romney Rally will hopefully be present at the debate. The bickering, candidate-bashing and overzealous promises that were present at the Romney Rally will hopefully be left at home.

I am not expecting much from facade-filled politicians reciting answers they have practiced for weeks, but I am excited for this campus to continue to be active this political season.

Politics at NW should spur conversation

BY JASON KATSMA

With 2012 being a presidential election year, political awareness at Northwestern has been at an all time high, and I could not be any happier about it. I loved the opportunity we had as a campus to host a presidential candidate.

I was hoping to hear more about Romney’s beliefs and policies, but I had to check my expectations and realize that the intent of the rally was no different than the pep rally that was held at Korver Field. The NW Pep Rally and the Romney Rally were similar: Free swag (if you would call it that), connecting faces with names that we often hear, a social event and a fun atmosphere.

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Teachers’ strike in Chicago hits home

BY KRISTIN TREASE

Trease is student teaching at Kelvyn Park High School in Chicago this semester.

It was the first week of school. I was in a high school with approximately the same number of students that walk Northwestern College’s campus. There were 150 some odd freshmen passing through our classroom. I was attempting to learn names; they were re-learning how to go to school.

And then the walkout happened. After four days of school, teachers were outside holding signs and chanting rather than inside the classroom teaching. Students were not in the classrooms. And I was not learning. They are fighting for my future in this city — a fight that legally I’m not allowed to be a part of as a student teacher.

Yes, it is a crappy situation. Parents are scrambling for child care, teenagers are at home bored, teachers are chanting in the streets.

Despite all this, it has been beautiful to see a huge portion of Chicago come together strong and united. Not just teachers supporting teachers but students, parents and community members supporting teachers. My favorite were the firemen and policemen joining with the chanting as the teachers rallied down the streets.

Hopefully by the time this article is published, we will all be back where we belong — in the classroom, back to reading books and grading papers. Through this all, it’s clear that no one hates kids being out of classrooms more than teachers. Why else would they spend so much time taking attendance every morning?

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And then the walkout happened. After four days of school, teachers were outside holding signs and chanting rather than inside the classroom teaching. Students were not in the classrooms. And I was not fulfilling my student teaching requirements. It was slightly problematic on all counts.

If you listen to the mainstream media, chances are the teachers and union are being cast in some pretty dim light. They are “depriving students of learning opportunities,” “being unfair in their demands,” “asking for too much,” etc.

There is a lot of misinformation out there. From my experience, very few teachers really wanted to strike. Most saw this as a last resort. Negotiations had been in the works since last November and we were getting nowhere fast.

As I walked the streets of downtown Chicago engulfed in a sea of red shirts and picket signs Monday afternoon, there were some words of wisdom being held that say it better than I do:

“I’m doing this to get rich,” said no teacher ever.

“Teacher’s working conditions = Student’s learning conditions.”

“You can’t put students first if you put teachers last.”

As for me, I’m standing with the teachers. They are fighting for their rights and for students’ well-being. They are fighting for my future in this city — a fight that legally I’m not allowed to be a part of as a student teacher.

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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.
Raiders establish ground game in victory

BY DALTON KELLEY

The Raiders emerged victorious over the Tigers from Doane College with a score of 28-14. The excitement started off with a four-yard touchdown pass from junior Davis Bloemendaal to junior Brice Byker to put NW ahead 6-0. The Tigers answered with an 80-yard drive ending in a 25-yard field goal, making the score 7-6.

With about three minutes left in the half, the Raiders took the lead once again on a three-yard run from senior running back Brandon Smith topping off a 68-yard drive. Bloemendaal rushed to convert the two-point conversion. The Raiders came out strong in the second half. They scored right away on a five-yard pass from Bloemendaal to sophomore Ben Green, which put NW ahead 20-7.

The last score from the Raiders came on a seven-yard run by junior Theo Bartman and a successful two-point conversion pass to senior tight end Jacey Hoegh, making the score 26-7. Doane ended its scoring with a 14-yard run and an unsuccessful on-side kick recovered by senior wideout Tyler Walker to clinch the win.

Overall, the Raiders recorded 406 yards of total offense led by Bartman who had a career-high 143 yards rushing and one touchdown. "Our offense started off a little slow," Bartman said, "but once we fixed the little things, we started playing our game." Smith also scored and ran for 117 yards, making this the second time the pair of backs ran for over 100 yards in the same game.

Bloemendaal went 15-22 passing with a total of 144 yards and two touchdowns. He adjusted to senior Willie Willats’ snaps after Willie Williams’ snaps a redshirt sophomore Tyler Janota had to leave the game due to injury.

Defensively, NW was led in tackles by senior linebacker Aaron Jansen, who recorded 8.5 tackles, three of which were for a loss of yards. Junior Nate Van Ginkel also had an impressive interception in the fourth quarter, giving the Raiders another chance on offense.

“Our guys stopped the run well which put them into predictable situations,” Van Ginkel said about his defensive teammates. The defensive side went on to work against the Doane offense. They held the Tigers to 234 total offense yards, irregular from the 443 yards they had averaged in previous games.

“Our defense played well and did a good job at making stops,” Bartman said. The next match up for the Raiders will be at 1 p.m. tomorrow against Dakota State at Korver Field.

Raider golfers finish tourny in first place

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA

The Raiders took home first place at the Doane College Invitational at the Wilderness Ridge Golf Course September 17-18, finishing with a 36-hole total of 611, and finishing 22 strokes ahead of second place Morningside.

Junior Neil Maleneke took home the individual championship by shooting a 146 for a two day score (71 and 75). Junior Ryan Kiewiet finished in fifth with a 154 (78 and 76) and senior Michael Dykema tied for sixth with a 155 (81 and 74).

“Neil played really well, shooting a 71 at that tough of a course,” said junior Kyle Stanek. “He put the team on his back.”

However, members of the team admitted that while they were victorious, they felt that their play was definitely not as sharp as it could be. Sophomore Jay Monahan, who shot a 157 (79 and 78 for both days), said, “It is always good when you get the win, but I know that we can play better as a whole. It was comforting to know that even when we did not play up to our standards, that we could still manage to get the win.”

Monahan won GPAC Golfer of the Week for his efforts at this meet and the GPAC Qualifier on Sept. 13, making this the third straight week a Raider has collected the honor. Juniors Kyle Stanek and Ryan Kiewiet also have claimed the award earlier this year.

“It was a very tough course, probably the toughest course we will see all year,” Stanek said. “So winning by 22 strokes really shows the potential of this team. Coach [Aaron Aberson] was pleased we won, but understands that we need to play well there next spring for the GPAC meet, so this benefited us in getting a good feel for the course.”

The Raiders will play today and tomorrow at the Palace City Invite in Mitchell, S.D.

NW pulls record even after spitting games

BY LACY GREEN

This was another busy week for the Raiders, who started off with a strong 3-1 win Saturday at Oskaloosa against William Penn. They followed the success with 3-2 loss to Central College on Tuesday.

In the Raider loss to Central, possession was in favor of the Tigers of 64%, with a career-high 143 yards rushing and one touchdown.

The offense of NW got 18 shots off, and William Penn was only able to get nine attempts on goal. “The team’s passes were really starting to connect,” Shaw said, “and no one player stood out, but everyone all played well together.”

Freshman Mattie Ostrowski tied the game at 1-1 in the 9th minute with an assist from fellow freshman Michaela Gibson.

After Central scored in the 52nd minute, freshman Nikki Zika finished sophomore Tyler Farr’s pass to knot the contest at 2-2.

A goal in the last 30 seconds of the game dropped NW. Farr led the team with six shot attempts.

“I think that we were the better team in this game,” said junior Caiti Shaw, “but the score did not show it.”

In the William Penn game, Zika scored the first goal of her collegiate career in the 38th minute. After William Penn scored just after halftime, Farr answered back with two goals to make the score 3-1 in the 70th and 89th minutes.

“The team’s passes were really starting to connect,” Shaw said, “and no one player stood out, but everyone all played as one.”

The offense of NW got 18 shots off, and William Penn was only able to get nine attempts on goal. Even though the Raiders were not prepared for playing on the turf and lacked ball control, they found a way to keep possession and create scoring opportunities.

The Raiders had a spectacular week from junior goalkeeper Ariel Watts, who won GPAC Defensive Player of the Week for Sept. 12-18. She allowed one goal with 12 saves in the William Penn and College of Saint Mary’s wins.

The team’s record is now 3-3-1. The team will play again at 5 p.m. tomorrow in Orange City against Nebraska Wesleyan in their opening GPAC game.
### Around Campus

**Art Exhibit**
NW’s Te Paske Gallery will house an exhibit of artwork by Kathleen Scott, Thursday, Sept. 21-Oct. 19. A public reception is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 21.

**Debate**
A debate between Iowa congressman Steve King and his opponent in the congressional election Christie Vilsack will be held in Christ Chapel at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27.

### Strike impacts Chicago Semester

**BY JULIA LANTZ**
Chicago public schools are in the middle of their second week without school due to the ongoing Chicago Teacher Union (CTU) strikes that began Sunday, Sept. 9.

Senior Kristin Trease and the other 13 student teachers enrolled in the Chicago Semester have been discussing the teacher strikes in their seminar sessions. Each student teacher was asked to write about the pros and cons of the strike and reflect on how the strike has impacted them personally.

“We are looking at this as a learning experience, as are most of the teachers we are working with,” Trease said. “It’s been 25 years since the last strike, so there is a lot of unfamiliar ground.”

The teacher strike was announced one week into the school year after CTU delegates and school administrators failed to reach a contract agreement despite 10 months of previous negotiations. The next day, teachers affiliated with the union began managing picket lines instead of their classrooms. Monday’s picketing activated the first teacher strike the city has had since 1987.

“This is a stressful time for [student teachers] as they were ready to teach and jump into their schools, but on their first days there were already talks of strike,” said Lisa Hensey, the student teaching program coordinator of Chicago semester.

*Compensation, health care benefits and job security* are the key issues surrounding the strike. CTU teachers want their existing health benefits and salary increases preserved and want additional job security, especially in light of the implementation of the new teacher evaluation system.

This new system has the potential to pull as many as 6,000 teachers from their jobs because the system proposed by the Chicago school district stipulates 40 percent of teacher evaluation should be based on students’ standardized test scores.

The teacher strike has also caused education majors on campus to think about their futures as teachers.

“It is ridiculous that a teacher’s evaluation is so highly impacted by student standardized test scores,” said junior Becca Rens.

Junior Kiersten Van Wyhe says she is also concerned about the teacher evaluation criteria.

“I think it is good that we are trying to hold our teachers accountable and giving districts a way to weed out bad teachers, but I don’t like that good teachers are worried about their job security,” Van Wyhe said.

The CTU strike has left 350,000 students without schools to attend and caused parents to scramble to arrange alternative daytime plans for their children. Chicago Public Schools (CPS) has expanded its activity offerings to comply with the lengthened strike.

CPS students are being served by the Children First Plan, which can serve more than 160,000 students at 450 sites in 50 neighborhoods across the city. These sites provide full-day opportunities for children and are being held in school sites, parks, libraries and community and faith centers across the city.

Trease has been reassigned from her original student teaching placement to a day camp for high school students.

“I have a special assignment with a program called Language for Scholars Camp, where students are learning speaking skills, business English and social cues,” Trease said.

The last teacher strike in 1987 lasted 19 school days. Hensey is hopeful that this one will not go on for that long.

### Debate to be held

**STEVE KING VS. CHRISTIE VILSACK**

**FROM PAGE 1**
information,” Wilhem said. “I think the debate will draw more interest, and it will show the contrast between the two candidates.”

The moderators will be in charge of asking the candidates questions. However, if students have questions they would like the moderator to ask, they can email professors Van Der Werff, Duane Beeson or Ann Minnick.

The debate will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27. Tickets are available by email at debate@nwciowa.edu or by phone at 712-707-7100. When requesting tickets include a name and address.

For those who are unable to attend the event, it will be broadcast on KTIV.com.