Several Northwestern professors have taken unexpected journeys to get to Orange City.

BY MARYBETH HORSTMANN

Ecuador. Idaho. South Africa. Iowa. Mexico. This might seem like an arbitrary list of locations, but they have a common denominator. Three beloved Northwestern faculty members have spent significant amounts of time in each of these places.

PROFESSOR CLARK

Professor Rick Clark currently teaches in the Spanish department and has done so for the past 16 years. Clark spent a large portion of his childhood in Quito, Ecuador. After moving from Quito to attend Wheaton College, Clark taught and coached in Illinois before moving to Southwest Iowa. Clark said as much as he enjoyed teaching at the high school and working as the athletic director, the town itself “didn’t have very much going on spiritually.”

Clark said he felt a pull toward Orange City and was asked to start the public high school’s Spanish program. He had “never had the desire to become a college professor,” and he says that his transition from the high school to NW was because of his love of teaching and God’s hand guiding him from one place to another.

“It wasn’t something I sought so much as God orchestrated it,” Clark said.

He has since discovered a love for college students. At NW, Clark gets to teach, hang out with students and share his faith with them.

“I love being in a place where faith is really important,” Clark said.

PROFESSOR GIBLER

For years, Idaho native Ray Gibler wanted to join the FBI. Everything he did was a means to that end. He majored in accounting because most FBI agents study accounting.

“I graduated and swore I’d never step foot in a classroom again,” Gibler said. “I always thought I was going into the FBI, so why would I go back?”

After graduation, he started his first job at an accounting firm in Ontario, Ore. Gibler later moved to Mexico to learn Spanish because, at the time, the FBI desired bilingual agents. For five years, he lived at a Bible college doing mission work, and his desire to join the FBI decreased during this time.

Gibler soon realized he was passionate about college students and missions.

“If I have the opportunity to share that with students, even if it means teaching accounting, then I’ll teach accounting,” Gibler said.

After returning to the U.S., he began applying at colleges across the country. The first school to show interest in Gibler was NW.

“Then everything started happening very quickly,” Gibler said.

BY IAN CARD

Next week, award-winning puppeteer Joseph Cashore will be performing in Northwestern’s Christ Chapel. Cashore’s marionette show provides a unique way to experience the fine arts. He will perform at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8.

Cashore will be performing “Life in Motion,” which features a series of short scenes inspired by everyday life, set to music by composers such as Beethoven, Copland, Strauss and Vivaldi. The themes he presents in his show are universal; audience members from all different walks of life can relate and connect with what’s happening on stage.

“I try to arrange the performance so it’s kind of like a roller coaster,” Cashore said. “It’s an emotional journey you go on; some of them are sensitive, and some of them are humorous,” Cashore said.

Cashore’s experience with marionettes began when he was young. A 10-year-old Cashore found himself enamored with a marionette hanging in a New Jersey gift shop. He asked an employee if he could try moving the puppet on his own, and she refused. Rejected but not defeated, Cashore returned home and made his first marionette himself.

“It wasn’t a very good marionette, but every once in a while, just by accident, it would move just right, and in that instant it would look like it was alive,” Cashore said.

The life-like movements and emotive expression that he could achieve with the marionettes intrigued Cashore. After graduating from Notre Dame University with a degree in fine arts, he began to create more marionettes and perform shows with them. Cashore’s keen ability to bring his puppets to life would make Geppetto proud.

Cashore pours large amounts of time and effort into the creation of his puppets and their controls. The extensive detail he puts into both is undeniably brilliant.

He said his process for creating the puppets begins with conceptualizing a theme for who or what the character is, what it will represent and the different positions that the puppet has to be in to communicate the theme. He then creates scale drawings of the character; from those he develops pieces for the puppet. Cashore uses a variety of materials when constructing his puppets. He quickly realized that wood was too heavy to achieve the intricate movements he desired, so he moved on to other more lightweight materials such as boat foam and neoprene that could offer him more finesse with the puppets.

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When she was little, Lindsey Vander Velde, a senior double major in art and business communications, loved to draw horses. In fact, it was all she would draw.

But now, years later, Vander Velde has significantly branched out. Her senior art show, which is on display at the Korver Art Center, is the culmination of that branching out. Titled “Applause,” the show is a detailed examination of human hands.

While creating her show, Vander Velde said she was seeking to focus on something that people often overlook in art. “The product of an artist is credited to the mind which came up with the idea,” she said. “But they disregard the hands that created the piece itself.”

Hands have been fascinating to Vander Velde for a long time. She wanted to create a show in which people would be able to meditate on the unique nature of hands. “Even though they have similar functions, they are very different,” she said. The playful nature of hands has drawn Vander Velde into creating this show; she used childhood memories like playing Rock-Paper-Scissors and shadow puppetry to inspire her. Vander Velde used a variety of resources in creating her show.

“I didn’t want to be confined to one particular medium,” she said. The show is made up of pieces made of clay, India Ink, foam core, yarn and an entire spectrum of materials beyond that.

Because she enjoys the tactile nature of sculpting, Vander Velde’s favorite medium is clay. “There is something about the way it can be manipulated,” she said. “If you take too much off, you can add more. I consider it to be more forgiving than other mediums.”

That’s not to say that working with clay is easy. “It is something that you need to time out right,” Vander Velde said. “It’s pretty touchy.”

The process of creating for Vander Velde is a series of hills and valleys. “I go through motivated periods where I am feeling artistic buildup where I just need to create something,” she said. “But then there are moments where I go through an artistic lull.”

For students considering studying art or are currently studying it, Vander Velde has this advice to offer: “You need a thick skin. Art is a critical field, and you need to be able to defend your work and stand behind it. If you do not support it, how can anyone else?”

“Applause” opened this past Monday, March 31, and will close tonight. A public reception will be held at 7 p.m. tonight in the Te Paske Gallery.

Although all of Vander Velde’s pieces explore and shape and function of hands, they are created in many different mediums. These include prints, ceramics, sculptures and a large painting covering one wall of the gallery.

“Still”

Congratulations to this week’s “Photo of the Week” winner, Sarah Simmons! See the hi-res version at beacon.nwciowa.edu.

PHOTOS BY EMILEE BERRY

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

northwestern college beacon
Beginning with its 2006 release, I'm Like a Virgin Losing a Child, Manchester Orchestra flooded the alternative rock scene with original guitar blends and front man Andy Hull's iconic high-pitched vocals. There was no doubt that these Georgia natives created dynamic music. However, with its latest album, Cope, the band fails to take advantage of its strongest asset.

At first listen, the album hits hard. Explosive drum patterns and palm-muted guitar crunching are just what any Manchester fan hungers for. Unfortunately, this satisfaction is dangerously terminal. The lead track, "Top Notch," has all the strength expected from these indie rockers, but after a few moments of daydreaming, listeners find themselves halfway through the album.

The next three tracks, "Choose You," "Girl Harbor" and "The Mansion," mesh into a cliché culmination of sounds: driving drum beats, four-chord progressions on reverb, and repetitive, guttural screeching. These pushy tracks seem to melt into one. The heavy lyrical content, although full of substance, is masked by a full-force slap to the eardrum. Hull bathes his words in angry religious inquisitions, which cause listeners to cringe at the thought of being accosted for 38 minutes.

What this album does well, it does really well. Cope brings a force that Manchester could only dream of mastering in past records. Guitar licks are well-orchestrated, the distortion hits a filthy chord that makes listeners smirk, and Hull's vocals soar. The harsh, grungy distortion of "Trees" combines an appealing wall of guitar slaming with the tasteful sound of the low register on a grand piano. Many of the tracks experiment with a breakdown far more brutal than anything Manchester has been capable of creating previously. The lyrical content and syncopation in "Every Stone" sets the track up for an extremely effective breakdown. Even though the repetition in vocal and lyrical content can become stale, Cope, like no other and is not afraid to show them, but in this unique drive is blanketed behind an unforgiving aura of repetitive, tiresome and run-of-the-mill hard rock.

Although it is respectable to try something new, a band once incredibly devoted to changing its dynamic throughout an album has lost its luster in this record. Manchester seems to buy into a concept of letting go of inhibitions and making gut-wrenching powerful voice turns into an airy whisper compared to the backdrop of hard rock. His calm vocals take away from the unvarnished rawness of the drums. Cope was cast for the intense action sequences that were thrown at the viewer, but there were moments between actors that are hard to be immersed in the film for long periods at a time.

The film is loaded with big names such as Russell Crowe, Emma Watson, Logan Lerman, Anthony Hopkins and Jennifer Connelly. They don't disappoint; where the film fails to impress, there are moments between actors that are hard to watch because they are so raw. However, although Crowe has the ability to portray the man who built the ark, he wasn't cast for those talents. He was cast for the intense action sequences that were thrown into the film. Noah defends his sons and the ark through violence which seems wrong for a man chosen because he was blameless and pure despite the corruption of the world.

There were moments in the story, however, that were absolutely beautiful. These few, rare gems make what some consider a childish story very real. In the ark, during the beginning of the flood, Noah and his family sit in the dark listening to the screams and pleading of those outside who are dying a slow death.

Noah must tell his son Shem that he isn't allowed to help them and then has to face his son's anger. This moment suddenly made the story real. These were real people who were told it was right.

Although there were a few redeeming moments in "Noah," in the end it was another example of a book-turned-movie failure, but this book is a lot more important to a lot more people than "Eragon" ever was.

Rating: ★★☆☆☆ Key Tracks: "Every Stone," "The Ocean" and "Indentions"

CAMPUS QUOTES

"It smells like cold. That's my least favorite thing…besides the devil." - Jacob Christiansen speaking about the weather. Submitted via Twitter by @MEGtropolis_.

"Sometimes Northwestern tries to integrate faith and learning so much that it forgets about the learning." - Kali Wolkow evaluating her college education.

"I just want a nice Christian man who can spell." - Tracy Chapman dreaming of her perfect man. Submitted via Twitter by @JocelynMarie11.

"Jesus!" - The freshman class, repeatedly, at Sunday School chapel.

Tweet quotes @NWC_Beacon

PHOTO COURTESY OF BEYONDHOLLYWOOD.COM
Students look to open eyes, minds

BY NAYELY BECERRA

"Why did we have an MLK Day Chapel? There aren't even that many black students on campus," McBride said.

You wouldn't expect to hear this in a community of educated people, but that's exactly where this micro-aggression was uttered.

Micro-aggressions are subtle biases that perpetuate stereotypes; in this case, the hidden message was that black history is not part of American History. Micro-aggressions happen everywhere — not just in homogeneous northwest Iowa. They are commonplace even in our nation's most prestigious universities.

Last month, black students from Harvard University came out with a campaign called "I, too, am Harvard" in response to the affirmative-action article, a type of racial quota that made many students of color feel the need to justify their admittance and presence in Harvard. The campaign consisted of photographs of students holding a white board inscribed with micro-aggressions they have heard or experienced on campus. Above each photograph, the hashtag #itooamharvard can be read.

Before the campaign, a group of black Harvard students had been attempting to talk to their peers and Harvard administrators about their concerns.

"Minority students would correct their peers, and other students would repeatedly brush them off," said Amar Singh, third-year student at Harvard.

The national media attention, followed by the growing number of universities across the country joining in on the national movement, pushed Harvard administrators to finally listen to the students' concerns.

Professors were among the first who began addressing racial inclusion.

"Educators put things into context for the students," Singh said. "Once their educators or superiors talked about the idea in class, it shifted the dynamic in their minds, both social and moral."

According to Singh, this was significant to Harvard students because they know their professors are leading educators in the world — educators who are being invested in by both the students and their parents.

"Now everyone is claiming to understand how our nation is not post-racial, whether they do or not is a separate matter," Singh said.

Like the minority students at Harvard, NW minorities have attempted to spark conversation on campus about race and diversity. La Mosaic holds monthly "Let's Be Real" conversations. Topics have included identity and perceptions, NW's dating rules, fitting in and the latest discussion on SSPs. The SSP discussion dealt with how to be Christ-like in serving people without judging or ranking their lives as good or bad.

NW's diversity specialist, Rahn Franklin, said there have been circumstances in which some students have had a difficult time acknowledging that they might have offended others.

"Some time ago, a white male student went around a male dormitory yelling the N-word repeatedly," Franklin said. "There was argument about who should or shouldn't say it, rather than thinking about the effect use of such a word would have on the community — understanding the current and historical context of the word and its divisive nature is critical for our understanding even today."

Stegenga Hall Resident Director Hannah McBride said she has heard micro-aggressive statements on campus. The statements draw a line between minority students and the rest of campus and create an idea of separation.

"I think the comment that I have heard and has stuck out the most, and one that has gone out with students of multiple ethnicities, is that 'those students stick together, and they're not really interested in making other friends," McBride said.

Many minorities don't seek friendships based on race.

"There have been instances where some girls come into our room to invite my roommate to dinner — right in front of me," sophomore Nancy Becerra said. "But they don't care to be like, 'Hey, do you want to go too? I don't feel at home.'"

Becerra said she feels more comfortable with International Club because its members serve people without judging or ranking their lives as good or bad.

"If professors were to position themselves as vulnerable and humble and say, 'I don't know how to talk about this, part of this is uncomfortable to me; I feel privileged or.unsure,' then students would be able to say the same things," McBride said.

For Richardson, his fear would be that a similar campaign wouldn't make a difference.

"At the same time, you can't just let the people that aren't going to change dictate your actions and what you want to do," Richardson said. "So it is definitely something I think we should do."
Puppet master tugs at heart strings

“I cut the individual pieces out ... then judiciously place lead weights in certain areas to achieve realistic movements when performing,” Cashore said.

Cashore is an adept puppet creator who also engineers complex and efficient controls for his puppets. The traditional airplane design for controlling puppets proved too limited for the expectations Cashore had for his puppets. He decided to custom-engineer all of his controls for each puppet based on the movements he wanted it to perform.

“The design of the control is an organic process of problem solving, and the way it turns out is the way it turns out,” Cashore said. “If the movement is right, the audience can start believing in the life of the character on stage.”

He uses wire as a base for the framework of the controls because it is more pliable and offers more options than wood. When it comes to the strings his puppets are attached to, Cashore said that he tries to use as few as possible, but some of the puppets have more than 20 strings.

Despite the extensive amount of effort that he puts into his work, Cashore is dedicated to the bigger picture.

“It’s what the totality of the piece means,” Cashore said. “I hope people are totally unaware of what went into it and only feeling with the puppet and the movement. If it’s done right, they can ignore me and the controls at the top and only watch the action on the stage.”

Viewing the Cashore Marionettes perform is surreal in a hauntingly self-reflective way. The puppets move with a subtle realism that makes it possible to suspend one’s disbelief for a moment and see life in the inanimate. The experience humanizes the puppets; it creates a relatable connection for audience members to see a bit of themselves in the characters on stage.

Cashore gets the concepts for the themes of his performance from many places. The title of his performance, “Life In Motion,” alludes to the way he draws ideas from common situations and real-life stories, yet the classical music that provides the background for many of his scenes also offers inspiration. Several of the scenes he performs were generated in his mind while listening to songs that moved him emotionally.

This performance will be the second time that Cashore has visited Orange City. In 2011, Cashore came and performed in the Proscenium Theatre. Janine Calsbeek of the Orange City Arts Council said that the experience the first time was brilliant.

“It’s hard to believe (the performance) would be so touching since they are just marionettes, but it is,” Calsbeek said.

Cashore’s hard work and dedication are evident in the sincerity his performances communicate.

Tickets to the performance can be purchased from the Northwestern College theater and music departments. General admission is $10 for adults and $7 for students. For more information on Cashore and his marionettes, visit cashoremarionettes.com or orangecityarts.net.

The journey continues

Within a couple of weeks, he had multiple phone interviews and had three on-site interviews, including one at NW. Within a month of the first phone call, he chose NW. The “commitment to missions, the commitment to Spanish and the atmosphere on campus” drew him here, and Gibler’s ensuing interactions with the students have kept him.

Jackie Smallbones came to NW from South Africa.

Traveling across the country for a job in small-town Iowa is one thing, but making the trek all the way from South Africa is quite another. Jackie Smallbones, a religion professor, ended up here when the South African economy crashed. Even though she had spent a considerable amount of time in Durban, southern Africa’s largest seaport, Smallbones opted for a change of scenery and began looking for her next position in the United States.

She had initially planned to teach at a graduate seminary program.

“Out of the blue, I was phoned by my predecessor here at NW asking me to put in an app,” Smallbones said. After interviewing, the search committee members decided they did not want an international professor, and Smallbones forgot about it.

A few months later, she was in the U.S. interviewing for another position, which she ended up not getting. Northwestern was struggling to fill the position and decided to offer her a job.

“I didn’t want a college job; I wanted seminary,” Smallbones said. “I didn’t know anything about the RCA. I had no idea what I was coming to.”

Yet come she did. Smallbones’ first task was to redesign the Christian education curriculum. She then added the youth ministry aspect and came to love working with undergraduate students.
Stand for slavery to stomp it out

BY MICA GRAVES

29.8 million people are in slavery today. Yeah, you read that right, 29.8 million people. That is the more than the entire state population of Texas living in forced labor. Men, women and children are facing relentless violence and oppression daily. Personally, that makes me sick to my stomach. How do we live our lives in freedom everyday knowing that slavery is other people’s reality? We do not have to.

Next Wednesday on Northwestern’s campus we have the opportunity to stand collectively for 24 hours to raise awareness for those trapped in lives of slavery and communities across 36 states and four countries raised over $130,000 and collected more than 37,000 signatures to make ending slavery a priority.

I hope that as a campus we take advantage of the opportunity to be a part of a larger movement and take some time out of our day to raise awareness for the millions of people living in a life of oppression. You have an opportunity to be a voice for the voiceless. Take a stand for what you believe in. Educate yourself and educate others.

William Wilberforce once said, “You may choose to look the other way, but you can never say that you did not know.”

Sign up today with our campus at www.stand-forfreedom.com. Sign up for a half an hour or sign up for six hours, give your time for someone who deserves it. As a campus, let’s join together to give one day for their everyday and shine a light on ending slavery.

Winging the search isn’t going well

BY EMILY WALLACE

It’s the missing plane! Nope, just a bird. It’s the missing plane! Nope, just a speck on the camera. It’s the missing plane! Nope, just a boat.

Can we all just take a moment to look back and say, “How can we not find this plane?” This is the twenty-first century. We have the technology to find phones from miles away, to project images onto walls, to have motion sensor video games but we are somehow unable to find a 300-million-dollar, 250-foot-long airplane! This is unreal.

As the news of this tragedy hit the media on March 8, it was difficult for people of our generation not to have flashbacks to the TV show “Lost.” This surreal experience of completely losing a giant airplane is just too similar to the Oceanic flight 815. The most mind-boggling fact is that the plane that is used in the TV show “Lost” is a Boeing 777, which is the exact same plane as the missing Malaysian plane. This course has brought on even more conspiracy theories. As I researched the topic of the missing Malaysian plane, I saw that the Internet was flooded with the ideas of foul play and government secrets. Let me just say this entire topic is crazy. The most realistic theories circling the missing plane are: the plane caught on fire, the plane flew in another plane’s “shadow,” depressurization in the plane, the jet exploded or the plane was shot down by another country. All of these theories cause a bit of skepticism.

But the main problem I have with all these theories is they give answers to what could have happened to make the plane disappear but weeks later we still don’t have the crash sight or any debris, so where in the world is this plane? Carmen Sandiego is probably with this plane somewhere.

Maybe we can’t find this plane because the Malaysian government was the first to throw in the towel. It’s interesting that the British, Australian and U.S. governments are still scouring the oceans for any trace of this plane and the main governments involved in the airline have called off the search.

Now in the month of April, weeks after the disappearance, the Malaysian government is releasing the plane transcripts. Where has all this information been hiding? Why can the world come together to play winter sports together barely two weeks before the disappearance, but they can’t seem to get on the same page to search for the lives of 239 people? This topic just raises so many questions that can’t be answered until the plane is found.

As if this missing plane was not traumatic enough, the passengers’ phones are still ringing. Family members of the passengers have been calling their loved ones only to receive false hope for those dialing. Phone companies have recently come out to explain that they use the sound of the phone ringing to keep callers on the line as to use phone service, whether the phone at the other end is in service or not. Of course this has caused much confusion with the loved ones and the tracking of the phones to locate the plane.

Perhaps this will just be another one of those unanswered questions to add to the books. How did Edgar Allan Poe die, is area 51 a reality and where in the world did flight MH370 go to? It’s the twenty-first century and we still can’t find things. One would think that at this point in human development we would be able to tell the difference between a boat and a plane, and also figure out when a giant flying object goes off the map and where it goes.

Editor’s Note

The opinions published both in print and online are the opinions of the authors only, Beacon staff members do not necessarily support the opinions expressed in this section. Research and editing (other than formatting) of articles is the responsibility of the authors rather than the editors.

Respectfully,
the Beacon staff

Paul McCleary and Elmer Rodriguez, a Costa Rican security guard and artist.
NW pounds Hastings after Doane defeats

BY KYLE STANEK

On Saturday, the Northwestern baseball team went to Hastings, Neb., to play a doubleheader against the Broncos. The Raiders won both games — the first 12-3 and the second 16-3.

The Raiders out-hit Hastings in game one 14-7, and were led by juniors Skylar Wheeler and Mitch Peschon, who each had three hits. Peschon hit a grand slam in the ninth inning, three other batters for NW also had two hits.

There were three pitchers in game one. Senior Matt Piocos, who pitched six innings, gave up zero earned runs, three hits and two walks. He also struck out five.

Senior Tony Schultz, who each had two hits, Senior Tyler Stuermen pitched the first game and received his first loss of the season. He gave up only two earned runs, three hits, and two walks. He sat six batters down on strikes.

The second game, NW was out-hit by Doane 9-3. The trio of Groskreutz, Widener and Wheeler supplied the hits for the Raiders.

The Raiders out-hit Doane 6-3 in the first game and were led by the duo of Groskreutz and junior Tony Schultz, who each had two hits.

In the first game against Concordia, the Raiders found themselves in a defensive struggle with the Bulldogs with each team failing to score throughout the first three innings.

"We have gotten good at playing with a couple of extra innings in game two, Northwest won 2-2. The stretch started last Friday with a 4-3 win over nonconference opponent Dickinson State. On Saturday, the Raiders split a doubleheader with Concordia by scores of 3-2 and 2-1. A rain show ended what was supposed to be a doubleheader against Morningside with a 6-4 loss. The Raiders now stand at a 17-13 record and 4-3 in conference play.

"We have gotten good at playing with a couple of extra layers on," senior pitcher Katie Vande Voort said. "Having fun and being into the games also puts the cold in the back of our minds."

In the first game against Concordia, the Raiders found themselves in a defensive struggle with the Bulldogs with each team failing to score through the first three innings. However, Concordia managed to score two earned runs in the fourth and fifth innings to gain a 2-0 edge heading into the final two innings.

"We had some errors early on, but we never gave up," Vande Voort said. "That's what I love about this team. We've all put in a ton of time with this sport, and at this point of the season, it's all about trusting in that preparation."

The Raider rally was sparked in the sixth inning when junior catcher Jillian Kleinhesselink scored off of an RBI single by sophomore outfielder Clare Ipema. Down 2-1 in the bottom of the seventh, NW scored on a solo home run by sophomore third baseman Laura Hurley and scored again when junior second baseman Kourtini Robinson scored off of a single by Kleinhesselink to give the Raiders a 3-2 come-from-behind victory.

NW totaled six hits in the contest. Hurley went a perfect 3-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Senior first baseman Lindsey Remien, Ipema and Kleinhesselink each had a hit.

Senior pitcher Keely Bracelin gave up only two hits and no earned runs in a full seven innings. Bracelin ended the day no earned runs in a full seven innings. Bracelin ended the day.

The Red Raider Men's Golf team kicked off its spring season with a second-place finish (out of the seven teams) at the Briar Cliff-Morningside Invite.

Senior Neil Malenke received the win after shooting a 70 on the day.

Northwestern finished with a score of 310, just one stroke behind Morningside. Along with Malenke's strong day, senior Ryan Kiewiet finished fourth with a 77, and sophomore Ryan Christy finished tied for eighth with an 81.

Senior Kyle Stanek finished tied for 10th with an 82, and senior Jordan Otman finished tied for 15th with an 85.

"It was pretty neat having everyone play well after not competing for a while," Christy said. "It was good to get back out there and see how we compared to other teams in conference."

Although the tally between NW and Morningside was very close, Dordt finished a distant third with a 338 mark.

Morningside had two junior varsity teams, and NW had one competing as well. The second line of Mustangs and Raiders finished within 11 strokes of each other.

"It was really crazy being out there with the other golfers," sophomore Andrew Minor said. "Those guys are really good and just being able to play with them was a great accomplishment on its own."

The men will compete and play host in the Northwestern College Spring Invite at noon on Tuesday, April 8.

Women's tennis takes home victory from weekend

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA

Friday, 7-2 win against Simpson College

Singles

Loss
Win
Junior Frankie Eszes 6-2, 6-1
Sophomore Val Robinson 7-6, 6-3
Win
Senior Hannah Stark 6-2, 7-5
Loss
Senior Alex Brower 6-1, 6-4
Win
Sophomore Amanda Bueltel 6-3, 6-2
Loss
Freshman McKayla Johnson 6-1, 6-2
Doubles

Loss
Eses/Brower 8-6
Win
Robinson/Bueltel 8-4
Loss
Stark/Johnson 9-7

Saturday, 5-4 loss against Central College

Singles

Win
Junior Frankie Eszes 6-0, 6-0
Win
Sophomore Val Robinson 6-3, 6-1
Loss
Senior Hannah Stark 6-3, 6-0
Loss
Senior Alex Brower 7-5, 7-5
Win
Sophomore Amanda Bueltel 6-4, 6-0
Win
Freshman McKayla Johnson 6-1, 6-1
Doubles

Win
Eses/Brower 8-1
Win
Robinson/Bueltel 8-3
Win
Stark/Johnson 8-1

Raiders even over last week, weather cancels game with M'side

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA

Throughout the past week, the softball team has gone 2-2. The stretch started last Friday with a 4-3 win over nonconference opponent Dickinson State. On Saturday, the Raiders split a doubleheader with Concordia by scores of 3-2 and 2-1.

In her first meet of the season, "It was all about trusting in that preparation."

The Raider rally was sparked in the sixth inning when junior catcher Jillian Kleinhesselink scored off of an RBI single by sophomore outfielder Clare Ipema. Down 2-1 in the bottom of the seventh, NW scored on a solo home run by sophomore third baseman Laura Hurley and scored again when junior second baseman Kourtini Robinson scored off of a single by Kleinhesselink to give the Raiders a 3-2 come-from-behind victory.

In the first game against Concordia, the team better, " said senior Kyle Anderson.

Malenke wins in Sioux City

BY ISAIAH TAYLOR

The Red Raider Men's Golf team kicked off its spring season with a second-place finish (out of the seven teams) at the Briar Cliff-Morningside Invite.

Senior Neil Malenke received the win after shooting a 70 on the day.

Northwestern finished with a score of 310, just one stroke behind Morningside. Along with Malenke's strong day, senior Ryan Kiewiet finished fourth with a 77, and sophomore Ryan Christy finished tied for eighth with an 81.

Senior Kyle Stanek finished tied for 10th with an 82, and senior Jordan Otman finished tied for 15th with an 85.

"It was pretty neat having everyone play well after not competing for a while," Christy said. "It was good to get back out there and see how we compared to other teams in conference."

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So in Sioux City

BY BEACON STAFF

Northwestern athletes won five events and had 10 top-three finishes at the Wildcat Classic in Wayne, Neb., last Friday and Saturday.

In her first meet of the track season following a campaign with the basketball team, junior Karen Hutson placed first in the 100-meter hurdles and long jump. Hutson ran the hurdles in 14.42 seconds and jumped 19 feet in the long jump. Both marks surpassed the NAIA qualifying standard.

"(Adding winter athletes) only makes our team better," said senior Jeriah Dunk. "They all are quality athletes."

The GPAC awarded Hutson as Track and Field Co-Athlete of the Week. It was her first time receiving the award.

Hutson also teamed with junior Megan Walhof, sophomores Lauren Spranger and Emily Culver to finish third in the 4-by-400 meter relay. Spranger won the open 400 meter with a time of 58.11 seconds, and Walhof finished fourth with a time of 59.8 seconds.

On the men's side, Dunk won the 100 meter dash with a time of 10.7 seconds. He also finished second in the 200-meter after running it in 21.9 seconds. Dunk, senior Jordan Strofaci, sophomore Alex Van Roekel and senior Jesse Selgeby finished fourth in the 4-by-100-meter with a time of 42.53 seconds.

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The track and field team will compete again in the Dordt Invite at noon this Saturday in Sioux Center.
Honor students prepare for Greece

BY DEBORAH ADMIRE

Athens, home of the crumbing but still majestic Parthenon. Delphi, the land of the Oracle. Corinth, the once-wealthy seaport. Olympia, the seat of the original Olympic games. Mycenae, the motherload of breathtaking archeological finds. Some of the best-known cities of Greece are on the itinerary of this year’s Upper Midwest Honors Conference in Waverly on April 24-26. The second class of honors students are currently taking is preparing them with detailed knowledge of the places they will see during their trip. Each student is assigned a destination in Greece to study and then educate the rest of the group on. “I got the coolest city of them all,” said Ausborn, who will be guiding the group in Corinth. “Corinth has been torn down and put back up by the Romans. It’s a Biblical city. It has a lot of history, especially in the areas that I’m interested in.”

Spangler is equally excited about her assigned locations, the Theater of Epidaurus and the South Slope of the Acropolis. “Someday, I’ll read a reference to the Theater of Epidaurus in one of my textbooks and be able to say, ‘Yeah, I know that place. I led a tour there,’” Spangler said. Ausborn said she’s looking forward to seeing the historical sites and engaging in what she calls “hands-on history.”

Both said the concept of Honors Program Study Abroad is a great idea. “Everybody’s committed to a deeper level of scholarship,” Spangler said. “We’ll be doing what we’ve been doing,” Ausborn added “only in Greece.”

Rush Presents inspired dancing

BY DAVID LI

Rush Presents put on three shows that demonstrated performers’ athleticism, coordination and talent for dancing. Each dance performed a creative story or message intentionally chosen by choreographers.

The choreographers of Rush Presents are typically specially selected senior students who are looking to showcase their choreography and enjoy the experience of Rush one last time. The three seniors selected this year were Tyler Gleason, Megan Weidner, and Emily Wohlers. This group presented a show that included symbolic and expressive solo dances, marionettes, pirates, zombies, and a toy action figure.

Gleason’s dances were choreographed to the songs “Little Secrets” by Passion Pit, “Pyramids Beware” from the latest Assassin’s Creed game soundtrack and “Animus Vox” by The Glitch Mob. His solo, “Little Secrets,” was bold and fun; as he danced to the song in short shorts, a tank top and a cape.

“Imagination is the best super power of all,” Gleason said, “dancing to this song made me feel like a superhero action figure.”

His final dance of the night was to “Animus Vox” looked like a scene from a zombie apocalypse movie. At the end of the show, all the zombie performers crawled out from under the audience’s seats onto the stage, surprising everyone.

Weidner’s contribution to the show featured a video of dancers moving to the three different choreographers’ directions. The choreographers were the marionette masters with the dancers as their puppets. Weidner chose her solo song “Forgetting” by David Gray, because it gave her the image of letting people and things go.

“This dance is about facing the things we don’t want face,” Weidner said. “Whether they are things in our past or things we don’t want to think about, we become better and we get closure from it.”

Wohlers also choreographed three dances; her songs were “Tightrope” by Janelle Monae, “Royals” by Lorde and “Dog Days” by Florence and the Machine. Wohlers’ dance to “Tightrope” was about liking yourself even when others don’t.

Wohlers chose “Royals” for her solo song because of its high compatibility with the choreography she wanted to perform. The inspirations behind her solo were her memories of her small-time high school. The students there believed that nobody in their high school would go on to do anything with their lives. Wohlers wanted to express being someone who does leave and is doing something with her life.

Although each choreographer had a different message they wanted to portray, they found a common form of expression in dance.

PHOTO BY EMILEE BERRY

Megan Weidner performs her solo to “Forgetting” by David Gray.