New club shares richness of culture

BY BEATRICE MARS & ALYSSA CURRIER

Northwestern has several clubs that celebrate diversity and provide exposure to different backgrounds. New to campus this year is a club called M’Afrique which focuses specifically on African culture.

Senior Russell Kleinveldt and junior Patricia Daka are co-presidents of M’Afrique. Both have experiences that contrast considerably with growing up in Northwest Iowa. Daka is originally from Zimbabwe and moved to Bahrain at the age of 12. Kleinveldt grew up in South Africa and also lived in the Middle East.

“Here at NW, there aren’t a lot of African students,” Daka said. “Out of all the international students, we’re the least amount of people here. The reason why this club started up was to educate people about African culture and the political situation.”

Part of M’Afrique’s mission is to eradicate misperceptions of Africa.

“Every time you see the news, it’s always something negative,” Daka said. “They portray African countries like all of us are so poor, we all live in slums or villages where we don’t have proper water. But for some of us, we didn’t grow up in that kind of area.”

The club’s leaders hope to help prepare students before they go on service projects and mission trips to Africa by giving them a more accurate picture of where they are headed.

“A lot of the nursing majors go off to Africa,” Kleinveldt said. “We thought it’d be helpful if we were able to take off the stress of going to this place that they’ve only seen (portrayed) on TV as not necessarily a bad place but a really harsh environment. We’d be able to tell them it’s more than what they see on TV.”

Daka said she is also looking forward to prepping students for work in Africa.

“One issue that I find is that every time you have students go over to Africa to help, they’re always sent to the poor parts, and that’s not how Africa is,” Daka said. “All the African students who are here, we all grew up in different environments and settings, and that’s never showcased. No one knows about it.”

Northwest Iowa offers more than meets the eye

BY BAILEY VANDE WEERD

It’s only natural that a town the size of Orange City is limited in social activities. To help themselves not succumb to boredom, students might consider looking down the road for inexpensive entertainment. Within a 30-mile radius of Orange City are a variety of places perfect for a night with friends.

With fall approaching, Pumpkinland, located on the outskirts of Orange City, offers an array of activities. One highlight is the corn maze, which costs $6 per person. Pumpkinland also has a free petting zoo, a fire pit and a retail store with many homemade goods. There is an excessive amount of pumpkins for sale, too. Pumpkinland is open from 10 a.m. until as late as midnight Monday through Saturday.

Sandy Hollow in Sioux Center is another prime spot to check out. Sandy Hollow is a campsite with 37 camping spots ranging from $12 to $19 a night. Sandy Hollow includes a sand volleyball court, baseball fields and a bike trail. The campsite also has three ponds for fishing and swimming.

If swimming in murky pond water is unappealing, Sioux Center’s aquatic center would be a better alternative. The aquatic center is in Sioux Center’s Four Seasons Center, which is across from Dordt’s Campus. The name Four Seasons is fitting; the center has an indoor pool with two water slides, diving boards, a basketball hoop and a hot tub accessible year-round.

In the same building as the pool is an ice skating rink. The rink is open for free skating almost daily. There is also a moonlight schedule for evening skating. Ice skating costs $4, and skate rentals are an additional $3.

For all of the ice cream lovers out there, Le Mars, which has the title “Ice Cream Capital of the World,” might be an appealing destination. In Le Mars, students can find the famous Blue Bunny Ice Cream Parlor located downtown and treat themselves to a homemade waffle cone. Not only is the ice cream delicious but the low prices make Blue Bunny even more enticing.

After getting hyped up on sugar, students can take their energy to the bowling alley at Sweet 16 Lanes, also in Le Mars. Sweet 16 Lanes has a laid-back atmosphere with great food. With an $8 cover charge on Tuesdays, students can partake in QuarterMania. From 8:30 p.m. until 12:30 p.m., shoes are free, bowling is a quarter a game, and soda and fries are a quarter, as well.

A short three miles from Orange City is the Roadside Disc Golf course, located by the pond in Alton. Disc golf is a game that can be played both for fun and competitively. The course in Alton is relatively short and flat, although potentially challenging because of the multiple obstacles throughout the course. Although there is no admission fee, players must bring their own discs.

There are many opportunities to have an enjoyable time in Northwest Iowa, so think twice before staying on campus for the night.
NW professor to perform one-man play

“Christians Can be Sneaky,” a one-man play written and performed by Professor of Theatre and Speech Dr. Robert Hubbard, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21 in the DeWitt Center’s England Theatre. The performance is free, and seating is first-come, first-served.

Forced to attend church as a middle-schooler, Hubbard resisted with “tantrums and trickery.” Because of these experiences, “Christians Can be Sneaky” asks the question “Can God reveal himself during mandatory worship?” while introducing themes of acceptance and patience.

What made you want to do a one-man show?
Solo theater and performance art are an area of my scholarship. Several years ago, I decided to try my hand at this challenging genre when I created a show about an ill-fated rock climbing experience in the Black Hills called “Dancing with Jimmy.” I ended up performing this piece at several venues across the U.S. and Canada. Later on, as part of a sabbatical project, I devised a series of monologues that I call “Grace Notes: Stories of Surprise, Regret and Redemption.” Each of these 25-minute monologues depict moments from my life experience in which moments of undeserved grace surprised and redeemed an otherwise broken situation. I intended these stories to be appropriate for worship as well as other settings. By now, I’ve performed almost all of them at NWC’s chapel. For the final part of this project, I combined and re-worked some of my Grace Notes monologues into hour-long shows designed for fringe festivals and other venues. Two summers ago, I performed “How Helicopters Figure in My Dreams” at fringe festivals across the Midwest. “Christians Can be Sneaky” is the second combination of Grace Notes monologues. Saturday will be the first performance of it in this form.

How often do you rehearse?
Memorization is the biggest part of rehearsal. It takes me a long time to get an hour of text bouncing around my head ... probably hundreds of hours. I memorize a lot when I’m running, walking the dog or swimming laps. Local people probably think I’m crazy because it looks like I’m talking to myself. Now that I have the whole thing in my head, I rehearsed it just like any other show, working on movement and timing, showing it to people for feedback, etc.

Is it difficult to perform in front of your students?
No. I love performing at NWC because there is such a positive “I’m rooting for you” vibe from the audience. Based on past experience, I may be in danger of thinking that my solo work is better than it actually is because the audience response from the NWC community can be so positive. It feels like a party.

Why is it important that people come see this show?
I think the theme of “grace” is important for us all to reflect on as we struggle on this mortal coil. We can easily surrender to the feeling that the universe is against us; sometimes it sure seems to be. Focusing on grace can remind us to think and act differently. It can remind us about faith as “the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen.”

Jack Johnson journeys back to sunnier shores

ALBUM REVIEW

Since the early 2000s, North Shore Oahu’s Jack Johnson has been churning out his brand of cool island folk-rock. Johnson’s usual mellow, rhythmic and simple melodies almost instantly transport listeners to a weathered chair on the breezy beaches of Oahu.

Jack Johnson’s sixth album, titled From Here To You To Now, released this week, and it would seem that the 38-year-old surf-rock troubadour is back in full stride.

Following the deaths of his father and another close family member, Johnson shifted his sound in a darker direction on his two previous albums.

However, on From Here To You To Now, he returns to his laid-back, guitar-driven melodies and organic percussive elements. Then he tops it off with some of the smoothest vocals he’s produced to date.

From a technical perspective, this is one of Johnson’s best career releases. Although he doesn’t stray much out of his self-constructed genre of island-rock that draws inspiration from reggae, jazz, blues and folk, Johnson really stretches his ability as a songwriter. Tracks such as “Shot Reverse Shot,” “Never Fade,” “Washing Dishes” and “Tape Deck” present seamless transitions between verse, bridge and chorus, combined with intoxicating layers of guitar slides and drums.

Johnson also brings a lot of sentiment and introspection to the table on this album with lyrics that were written with a lot of heartfelt reflection. The biggest, and arguably one of the only, downfalls of the album is that it is rather repetitive. The only difference between this album and his early works are better musicality and improved songwriting.

From Here To You To Now isn’t going to launch Johnson into a new dimension of stardom and definitely isn’t anything groundbreaking.

Simply put, if you weren’t a fan of Jack Johnson before, this isn’t going to change your mind. If you are a fan of Jack Johnson, you’ll love it.

Rating: ★★★

Key Tracks: “Washing Dishes,” “Tape Deck,” “Borders and Aliens”
Spreading Rumors
gives old band a new sound

BY ISAIAH CUSTER

Grouplove's sophomore album, *Spreading Rumors*, hit stores Sept. 17. Following their 2011 success with the single “Tongue Tied” and debut album *Never Trust a Happy Song*, Grouplove has returned to the alternative rock scene with 13 new tracks.

Synth pop beats and careful attention to tuning gave the band a new sound on this album. This new sound strays from the previous album’s rawness and innovation, which captured listeners and brought the band out of obscurity.

“Ways to Go,” the first single released, starts slow but builds into an upbeat ear-catching anthem. The song is reminiscent of MIKA and features vocals in the style of Nate Ruess of Fun.; the best word to describe this song is bubbly. Grouplove’s new sound is exaggerated by heavy influence from studio magic. There is, however, some vocal rawness apparent in this track, which explains why it was chosen as the first single to be released.

“Borders and Aliens,” the album’s second single, has not yet made an appearance on any charts, but its strangeness might yet prove to be successful. The song is the most rock-like from the album and delivers a pounding drum line and strong vocals by Hannah Hooper and Christian Zucconi.

“Shark Attack” has the potential to be a summer favorite among the alternative crowd. Witty lyrics, a catchy tune and a fun guitar line make the perfect “roll your windows down and sing at the top of your lungs” song. Kettle drums, clapping, off-key piano lines and a sonar ping are some of the gems on this track.

Vocals by Hooper and Zucconi soar much the same as in the band’s previous release but are overshadowed by the instrumentation. This is unfortunate because their otherworldly voices were what helped make the magic on the first album.

As a whole, the album delivers a good effort from Grouplove. Hopefully, on the next album the band won’t trely so heavily on synthesized beats and will return to the barren rawness that made it famous.

The film focuses on the family under the witness protection program. The father, Giovanni Manzoni (played by Robert De Niro), is a one-time mobster Don from Brooklyn who gave up a time mobster Don from Europe. However, due to his and his family’s inability to assimilate, they move from place to place without ever quite being able to settle down in one town for very long.

The story of a family under the witness protection program. The father, Giovanni Manzoni (played by Robert De Niro), is a one-time mobster Don from Brooklyn who gave up a time mobster Don from Europe. However, due to his and his family’s inability to assimilate, they move from place to place without ever quite being able to settle down in one town for very long.

Although both play individually strong characters, perhaps the best part of Agron and D’Leo’s performance is the way they play off each other. Their portrayal of a brother and sister who try the hardest to make the conditions the family has found itself in turn out for the best.

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The gameplay was smooth and without drops in frame rate. The controls were responsive, and there were not any long cutscenes interrupting gameplay. During my playthrough, I mostly used the demon hunter class (there are four other classes to choose from: barbarian, witch doctor, monk, and wizard).

Each class has distinctive strengths and weaknesses. The monk and barbarian classes are designed for aggressive players. The other classes are more for those who want to attack from a distance. Diablo III has beautiful cutscenes, but they do not appear very often.

The story does not feel very compelling, but the gameplay makes up for it.

The game has a few other notable flaws. When it’s necessary to fight off hordes of enemies during intense battles, evading the opponent causes the character to aim in the opposite direction. It is a minor problem, but when you use the target lock after evading and he (or she) still won’t hit the target, it can be very frustrating.

The co-op gameplay works well on one screen (I was unable to try the online co-op due to network restrictions), and it is fun to play with friends. The game has much to love if you are either a new player to the franchise or an existing fan who has been playing since the first game back in 1996.

Rating: ★★★★★

Key Tracks: “Ways To Go,” “Sit Still,” “Borders and Aliens”

**'The Family' carried by strong cast**

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JACKSON NICKOLAY

“The first words we hear from Academy Award-Winning long shot Robert De Niro are, “The only real question we should ask ourselves during our existence is how much is a man’s life worth. Me, I’m worth 20 million dollars, and I’d hand over every last dollar to get my old life back.” Unfortunately for him, that isn’t an option.

“The Family,” from executive producer Martin Scorsese, tells the story of a family of the under the witness protection program. The father, Giovanni Manzoni (played by Robert De Niro), is a one-time mobster Don from Brooklyn who gave up a significant mob kingpin to the FBI. Consequently, he and his family were placed in the care of the witness protection program and moved to Europe. However, due to their fiery Italian tempers and their inability to assimilate, they move from place to place without ever quite being able to settle down in one town for very long.

The film focuses on their move to a small city in Normandy, where they make another go at being a “normal” family. The cast alone is a good enough reason to go see this film. Michele Pfeiffer plays opposite De Niro as Maggie Manzoni. The true heart of the family, Maggie provides a core of strength and is the one who tries the hardest to make the conditions the family has found itself in turn out for the best.

Tommy Lee Jones turns in a stellar performance as the agent in charge of the Manzoni family. His character is simultaneously Giovanni’s worst enemy and his best friend, and Jones plays that balance very well.

De Niro gave a fine performance as the fallen mafia Don. Because of De Niro’s roles as Al Capone in “Untouchables” and James Conway in “Goodfellas” audiences have set high standards for any movie billed with De Niro playing someone in the mafia. He certainly delivers on these expectations.

Diane Agron and John D’Leo both deserve recognition for their respective roles as the daughter and son of the Manzoni family. Although both play individually strong characters, perhaps the best part of Agron and D’Leo’s performance is the way they play off each other. Their portrayal of a brother and sister who have been forced to depend on each other for support is one of the things that make the movie’s theme of family so poignant.

It must be acknowledged that as with any film that has anything to do with Scorsese or gangsters “The Family” contains a significant amount of brutal violence. There is also a good deal of language used and a scene of sexuality. But more importantly, “The Family” is a character-driven show with a good plot, excellent writing and heavyweight actors turning in well played performances.

Rating: ★★★★

**Five Star Guide**

Classic: ★★★★★
Excellent: ★★★★★
Good: ★★★
Fair: ★★
Poor: ★
Students journey to Black Hills for retreat

BY KATHERINE THOMSON
PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Small groups consisting of faculty members and students met to share personal stories related to the weekend’s theme, “Our Story.”

Dean of Student Life, Julie Vermeer Elliott, speaking to the NW students about the theme for the 2013 retreat.

A group of students and faculty members braved the hike up Mt. Baldy, which rises almost 5,600 feet above sea level. Others went to Mt. Rushmore on a hike and to Crazy Horse.

NW students and faculty members traveled to the Black Hills for a weekend retreat in order to build deeper relationships with God and with each other.

On Saturday night, everyone gathered around the campfire to engage in worship and fellowship with one another. Tec Sun played guitar and led the group in singing for the evening.

Small groups consisting of faculty members and students met to share personal stories related to the weekend’s theme, “Our Story.”

Mon-Sat: 11am-10pm
Sun: 11am-6pm
Discipleship Groups change in women’s dorms

BY AMIE ADAMS

Freshmen learn quickly their wing is like their family. Nobody gets to choose it, but everyone spends time together and learns to love one another despite differences. In the past the Steggy, Fern and Hospers, Discipleship Groups, or D-Groups, have been an important chance for wing members to connect on a deep level. However, this year D-Groups are different.

In recent years, there were two D-Group leaders per wing. The girls on the wing were then divided between the pair. This year six girls signed up to be leaders in Steggy, but they are unequally distributed throughout the building. There is more than one leader on some wings and no leaders on others. This makes it impossible for the old D-Group format to work. This year everyone in the dorm who signed up to attend D-Groups was distributed among the six leaders. Because there are fewer leaders, Steggy has larger D-Groups than usual with each averaging 18 girls.

Fern, on the other hand, only has approximately eight girls per D-Group but is also trying out this new arrangement. Hospers also has an average of eight girls, and this isn’t the first year that they have mixed their D-Groups across wings.

There is no universal answer for how girls are responding to the changes in D-Groups. In Fern, older students said they miss the chance to connect with their wings on a deeper level but also enjoy getting to build relationships with girls they wouldn’t normally get a chance to meet.

In Steggy, the leaders have the challenge of interacting personally with each of the girls in their large groups, but Discipleship Group Intern Haley Chambers said: “I have so much confidence and faith in the leaders, and they are doing a great job being super intentional with each of their girls. They each have their own way of making their D-Group unique.”

Chambers said she also sees the larger groups as an opportunity for God to work in new ways.

“The times that the Lord calls us out of our comfort zones are when change happens and when we can learn from it the most,” Chambers said.

The new style challenges girls to be vulnerable in a big group. It takes courage. Britta Wilson, one of the four D-Group leaders in Hospers, has seen many positive outcomes already. The woman in her group are very involved by sharing testimonies, bringing snacks and providing music for worship.

“The spread of responsibility is wonderful—it means that the pressure is not on me to do everything perfectly as the D-Group leader,” Wilson said. “This mentality reinforces the idea that we are a small group that is working together and that the ground is level at the foot of the cross. Just because I am the leader doesn’t make me more spiritual than anyone in my group.”

Leaders agree God is at work empowering women to open up to one another and build new friendships. All throughout campus, women are sharing their testimonies, studying faith stories in the Bible and growing in a better understanding through each D-Group leader’s unique lessons.

“Overall, it’s really going well so far; the Spirit’s moving, and we’re just waiting arms wide open to see where we’re led,” Wilson said.

Despite the changes in the way some D-Groups look this year, their mission is the same. They remain a place of escape from the busy week of a college student and a time to reflect on God and grow together as sisters in Christ.

Common Grounds vs. local coffee shops

BY EMILY WALLACE

After much anticipation, the Common Grounds coffee shop finally opened for business on Sept. 4 in the Learning Commons. But this raises the question of how it compares to the other coffee shops in town.

**Atmosphere**

If you are looking for the perfect cozy place to sip on coffee and curl up with a book, the Old Factory coffee shop is the place to go. This refurbished barn serves as the ideal home-away-from-home. The warm and rustic atmosphere bags its customers when they walk through the door.

Although Common Grounds does not have the same homely atmosphere as the Old Factory, it serves as an easy place to study. A wall lined with booths and the multiple magazine racks makes the atmosphere very relaxed and inviting.

**Convenience**

Students can also breathe a sigh of relief because Common Grounds is by far the most convenient coffee shop in town. Being in the Learning Commons, it makes it a quick and easy stop while studying.

The runner-up for convenience De Koffiehoek is located in downtown Orange City, excelled in the cost category for event the worst student penny pincher. The average price of a specialty drink is $3. Common Grounds came in a close second for this category and gets extra props for being the only coffee shop in town that accepts flex money.

**Taste**

As far as taste goes the Old Factory comes in first once again. The average coffee there was strong and hot, and it kept its flavor the whole walk back to campus. The lattes are made out of a strong espresso, so if you are looking for an extra kick, the lattes are the way to go.

Common Grounds lacks the taste and flavor of all the other coffee shops and could not compete in this category.

**Customer Service**

The Old Factory came in first in the customer service class. The employees have been known to keep the doors open for customers who come minutes before closing. They also make foam designs in customers lattes.

Common Grounds struggled to compete in this category as there was only one worker — as is typical — on duty. The worker takes a customer’s order and makes that order before taking another, which can back a line up during busy hours.

**Variety**

De Koffiehoek excels in flavor and drink selection variety. They serve seasonal drinks and have a condiment coffee bar for customers to put in the amount of creamer and sugar they desire. Their flavors are strong and unique. De Koffiehoek is located in the southwest area of town next to Quiznos.

Variety is something that is also lacking from our campus Common Grounds. With this in mind it still is the closest and one of the cheapest in town. So if a customer is looking for convenience and on a limited budget, Common Grounds, with all of its limitations, is an excellent choice.
Learning Commons conundrum

By Mollie Ferguson

“Oh my gosh, it’s huge!” “Ooo, look at those blue lights.” “It’s a beautiful addition to campus.” “Someone gave $2 million!” The latter remark is my two cents, pun intended.

I think we’ve all heard these remarks as we get acquainted with the monster of a building between Steggy and the Chapel. Yes, it’s pretty. Yes, it’s sleek with modern style. Yes, it’s better than the old library. But $14 million? Isn’t that a bit outrageous?

Don’t get me wrong; I appreciate the Learning Commons and the funds that people donated, but couldn’t that money be used for a better purpose? I think so. The Learning Commons benefits Northwestern students, faculty and future enrollment rates. But how much does it impact “the greater good?”

I don’t think it helps anyone outside the NWC community as much as $14 million could. I know $14 million can’t save the world, but it can sponsor 400,000 acres of rainforest land or buy 280,000 acres of rainforest land or 400,000 children, buy 280,000 world, but it can sponsor $14 million can’t save the community as much as anyone outside the NWC. That’s why the Learning Commons, a location on campus frequented by many people with eyes on a day-to-day basis.

For those of you who have been to the brand-spanking-new DeWitt Learning Commons, you’re more than likely viewed the super-attractive spectacle that rests upon every barista’s noggin.

Technically referred to as a “beanie,” this type of headgear (torture/embarrassment—call it what you will) is most definitely, to my knowledge, every employee’s favorite element of working in the Learning Commons, a location on campus frequented by many.

People have questioned the usefulness of the Learning Commons, a location on campus frequented by many people with eyes on a day-to-day basis.

One staff member even confided in me that “Having the privilege to adorn the fashionable pea-green hat for every shift is honestly my only true motive for taking this job. The chicks stop by to take a gander, and they dig it.”

I should probably mention that those last few statements are in no way truthful.

Even though the beanies are quite displeasing to the eye and to the soul, I think that it is important to also consider the number of ways in which it is a useful and necessary component of the Commons Grounds uniform. First of all, it helps to keep hair out of the food, right?

I mean, the coffee shop doesn’t actually sell any soufflé gone wrong? Think again. The phenomenon that you are actually experiencing happens to be an important part of the Commons Grounds coffee shop uniform.

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I mean, the coffee shop doesn’t actually sell any foods that aren’t either pre-packaged or fruit, but it keeps those luscious locks out of the drinks, though! Or I suppose it would if it actually provided any sort of barrier between the beverage and the coiffure.

Maybe it was meant to serve as a source of warmth for the heads of baristas when the winter months roll around since Iowa tends to become a frozen tundra for half of the year. In fact, the innovative mesh design on top was probably designed to allow the cold to escape.

In reality, though, the hats do provide a source of entertainment to many customers of the new java joint, whether they’re too nice to openly admit it or not. In this way, the unfortunate garments do actually help us employees to humbly serve God.

I know I don’t possess the ability to wear that thing with much more than humility, and in lengthy discussion with a few of my coworkers, I’ve found that I am definitely not the only one. At least we aren’t forced to wear visors. Let’s be honest, I’ve been confused for a professional golfer player a few too many times already.

Keep up with social media? So do we.

#NWCBeacon

By Molly Townsend

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Raiders continue hot streak with easy sweep

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

No. 11 Northwestern is currently off to its best start since the 2010 season thanks to an undefeated weekend in Otahke, Kan., and a win against Mount Marty.

Three games (25-13, 25-16, 25-18) was all it took for the Raiders to come out victorious in their first conference game of the season against Mount Marty.

The Lancers totaled 33 errors throughout the match to counter any mishaps of the Raiders. When NW wasn’t handled points, it earned them with great efficiency. Junior hitter Kaatlin Floerchinger led the way with 12 kills and a hitting percentage of .524. Floerchinger also ace three serves.

Junior Karlie Schut added six kills and two aces. Sophomore Haley Chambers had five kills at the net and three solo blocks. Sophomore Brooke Fessler picked up her spots well and recorded four kills in six attempts. She also contributed 23 assists during the three sets.

“We were able to make decisions on when we needed to put down aggressive swings and when the off-speed shots were appropriate to score,” Chambers said.

Junior Alexis Bart had eight digs to lead a balanced defensive effort. Nine of the 11 players who received minutes recorded a dig.

This past weekend’s tournament was the last non-conference tourney for the Raiders. The team brought home four wins from the Hy-Vee Pioneer Volleyball Invitational.

On Friday, NW took care of Evangel University (Mo.) and Benedictine College (Kan.) in four games and three games, respectively.

Saturday saw the Raiders sweep (RV) Baker University (Kan.).Their final game was a five-set battle against a resilient Texas Wesleyan squad.

Two wins in Wisconsin for men’s soccer squad

BY ISAIAH TAYLOR

Last weekend the Northwestern men’s soccer team participated in the Viterbo Classic. The team won both of its games and improved to 4-4 on the season.

The Raiders beat the host team, Viterbo College, 3-0 in the first match of the classic. NW started strong and connected on a volley for a score in the first three minutes. Sophomore Nathan Huyser was the recipient off the corner kick from junior Gabriel Goncalves. After going scoreless the rest of the half, the Raiders picked up the attack in the second half and scored two more. Senior Nick Hengst rebounded and scored a mishandle from the Viterbo goalie in the 48th minute.

Football squad drops GPAC opener at Doane

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA
FEATURES EDITOR

On Saturday, the Raiders football squad fell 34-27 to the Tigers of Doane College in Cret, Neb.

Down 24-7 at haltime, the Raiders embarked on an admirable run that had the game tied up 27-27 with eight minutes remaining in the fourth quarter. However, Doane scored a go-ahead touchdown on its next possession, and the comeback was not meant to be.

“In the first half, we were very sluggish and didn’t execute well at all,” said junior nose guard Spencer Groeneweg. “It was a long bus ride to Cret, but that can’t be blamed for our slow start.”

On the Raiders first scoring drive, senior quarterback Davis Bloemendaal connected with junior wide receiver Ben Green on an 11-yard strike, which tied the game up at 7-7.

The Tigers scored 17 unanswered points and went into on top 24-7. At the beginning of the third quarter, NW put together a 77-yard drive that was capped by a second Bloemendaal touchdown pass to Green. On the ensuing Doane possession, senior safety Jesse Argue blocked a punt that was scooped up by junior safety Ben Loftis, who took it 18 yards to the end zone. The Raiders ended the third quarter behind 27-20 after a Doane field goal.

“In the second half, we came out with a lot more energy and started executing our individual assignments,” Groeneweg said.

In the fourth quarter, NW struck first with an 18-yard touchdown pass from Bloemendaal to senior wide receiver Bryce Byker. The score ended a four-play, 52-yard scoring drive. With 3:30 remaining, Doane went on a 10-play, 84-yard drive that resulted in a touchdown, which put NW behind 34-27.

“We cannot afford to start games that slow against GPAC competition and expect to win,” Groeneweg said. “It’s going to be a key coming out the gates strong Saturday at home.”

Bloemendaal completed 25 of 49 attempts for 254 yards and three touchdowns but threw two interceptions. Senior running back Theo Bartman added 97 rushing yards on 20 attempts.

NW was led in receiving by Green, who reeled in nine catches for 102 yards and two touchdowns. Byker added 57 yards and a touchdown.

On defense, junior outside linebacker Greg Hegstad led the team with nine total tackles.

The Raiders return to action on Saturday with the home opener against Dakota Wesleyan. Kickoff is at 1 p.m.

Karnish now leads ladies’ soccer

BY ISAIAH TAYLOR

The Raider women’s soccer team hired new coach Ben Karnish this summer after four seasons under former coach Blake Wiekjng. Karnish is now the eighth head coach in the team’s history.

Karnish played soccer and graduated from Northwestern in 2011. He was an all-conference midfielder his senior year for the Raiders.

Following graduation, he served as an assistant coach for the boys and girls Fairmont Cardinals team in Fairmont, Minn. He also worked as director of coaching for the 2011-2012 year at the Fairmont Soccer Association, a grade-school club organization.

“I knew I wanted to do something in sports, and I realized how much of the coaching part that I liked,” Karnish said. “We had a full business side and coaching side of the spectrum. On the business side of things there weren’t people that meshed well with me, and it wasn’t that comfortable of an experience. I knew that with coaching, it was something that I could really have an impact on people’s lives.”

Karnish served as head coach for the JV men’s team last fall; he was hired as the women’s coach this July. After having to wait for training camp week to meet the team, Karnish reached out to all of the players to introduce himself and prepare them for what was to come in the fall.

“There is a lot of transparency between all of us,” Karnish said. “We are open and honest with one another, and that has created a good bond between us.”

Karnish added that there is not much of a difference coaching on the girl’s side of the sport and that it has provided him with a new excitement and passion for the game.

“We have fun,” he said. “There is a really big part of sports that is fun, and we really try to bring that out. Working hard together and working to have some fun always brings a good team atmosphere.”

Karnish attributes his successful transition in his new position to the culture created by the girls throughout the years. He believes that because they have already developed relationships and a strong culture.

This year’s team has faced some adversity thus far, but Karnish and the squad have high hopes.

“In everything we do, whether it is playing in a game and coming out victorious or with a loss, we play for God,” Karnish said. “Not just with soccer but with our service in the community, our growth with our families and our involvement in this campus. We do it in His name.”
Nursing program goes digital

BY DELANEY DUGGER

Now, registered nurses can earn their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees by taking online courses. Northwestern has recently expanded its nursing program.

This program is specifically tailored to the nontraditional student because it can be completed in approximately 2.5 years. Most courses can be completed in just eight weeks and are taken one at a time. Professors will avoid repeating subjects that RNs have already mastered and will instead focus on advancing the students’ nursing skills.

The program was designed by Professor Ruth Daumer in the Department of Nursing. Currently, five students are enrolled in the first class. It is taught by nursing instructor Karie Stamer. Students will use technology such as Skype to keep in touch with one another as well as their instructor.

“Our goal with this course is to make it feel like we are living in the course with our rapid response time and ability to utilize Skype and Collaborate (an online communications system),” Stamer said.

This will be Stamer’s first year teaching at NW. “I thoroughly love teaching in the online environment,” Stamer said. “I feel that if the online course is well developed, students can learn very effectively while adapting it to fit into their already busy lives. Experiential learning combined with technology, evidence-based practice, research, and faith is a great combination.”

According to the NW website, the goal of this program is “to train nurses who continue Jesus’ healing ministry by advocating for social justice; healthy environments; and individual, family and community health.”

The RNtoBSN program is available for those who have an associate’s degree or have graduated from a hospital diploma nursing program and are a resident of Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota or Nebraska. Earning one’s BSN is a step towards becoming a nurse practitioner, midwife, or pursuing other careers in the healthcare field.

Janet Pitsenberger, a senior nursing major in NW’s traditional RSN program, said, “I think that classes like this would be helpful for RNs seeking their BSN because it would allow them to take quality BSN classes, and it would benefit NWC from having greater enrollment and support.”

Students showcase the real Africa

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Another objective of M’Afrique is to connect with community members who have adopted children from Africa.

“One thing I’m really kind of excited about for this club is the fact that, here in Orange City, there are a lot of people with children who are adopted from Ethiopia,” Daka said. “We want to do a mentoring program to teach them about the African culture. Yes, they were adopted into American culture — that’s their new family — but still they need to know exactly where they came from.”

However, Kleinveldt said that the mentoring program is a ways down the road. “We’re just trying to figure out a way to approach this situation properly because some people might take it offensively,” Daka said.

M’Afrique’s presidents emphasize the fact that all students are welcome to join the club. “When people hear it’s an African club people automatically think it’s only for Africans,” Daka said. “It’s not like that at all. We’re welcoming everyone with open arms. It’s for anyone who’s interested; anyone who wants to learn, get to know us and hang out with us.”

Kleinveldt encouraged students to ask any questions they may have concerning African culture. “If people want to approach us with a question, we’re not going to laugh at you,” Kleinveldt said. “We’ll answer you. You shouldn’t feel bad for asking a question. We feel better that you ask us. We’re not going to bite you.”

There will be an opportunity to learn more about M’Afrique at the club’s booth at Morning on the Green from 9 until 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28. Neither Kleinveldt nor Daka would disclose anything about their booth. “It’s going to be a surprise,” Daka said. “You’ve got to come to see it.”