News from Iraq: Islam, hangings and American reactions to the events

BY JULIE JOHNSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“Islam” is a word that conjures up many images in the minds of people all over, Northwestern students notwithstanding. When asked to relate words they associated with Islam, responses ranged from camels and sand; oppression and fear; to “turban things” and the 5 pillars.

What is Islam?
Amanda Allen, a junior who participated in the study abroad to Oman, said that Islam is as diverse as Christianity. With many different sects, not every Muslim is the extremist terrorist many characterize them to be. Instead, she said that they are gracious and hospitable people who opened their hearts to the American students.

Senior Zulfiya Akbarova, an international Muslim student from Uzbekistan, characterized the religion as a collective culture with a huge emphasis on family. “Family is everything,” she said. “As a Muslim, you don’t put your parents in a retirement home when they get older; you take care of them, because they spent all their young years...caring for you.” In Muslim culture, shaming one’s family is considered one of the greatest sins and is avoided at all costs, even if it means sacrificing one’s own hopes and dreams. “It means to think far beyond yourself,” said Akbarova.

Akbarova also commented on the different types of Islam. “In the Middle East, it’s much more strict,” she said. “Uzbekistan is much more modern.” Stereotypical dress is also an option. She said that growing up, she was told that the heart is much more important than the outside.

Traditional Islamic practices also include fasting during the month of Ramadan, praying five times daily and taking the pilgrimage to Medina or Mecca. However, the extent to which these are carried out varies in terms of devoutness. Akbarova compared it to different sects of Christianity—just as some Christians are more devout in church attendance and ritual, so are some Muslims.

Hangings a mistake?
Both Allen and Associate Professor of Sociology Scott Monsma view the date of Hussein’s hanging as a mistake. Hussein was hung on Friday, Dec. 30 at dawn, the first day of Eid al Adah, traditionally when a goat is sacrificed. Instead of leaving the image of Hussein as a mass-murderer, he could easily become a martyr. However, the Iraqi National Security adviser Movaffak al-Rubaie said in a statement that Iraqi officials intentionally decided to execute Hussein on a “special day.”

Monsma feels that would have been more beneficial to the cause of the Iraqi government to have left Hussein in prison until he died of natural causes, rather than risk him being viewed as a martyr. He questions U.S. knowledge of the culture, stating that officials here should have attempted to discourage Iraq’s executing Hussein on Eid.

Barzan Ibrahim, Saddam’s half-brother and former intelligence chief, and Awad Hamed al-Bandar, head of Iraq’s Revolutionary Court, were hung before dawn Iraqi time on Monday, Jan. 15. The men were tried and found guilty for the killing of 148 Shiites Muslims in 1982. Reactions to these hangings have been as varied as those of Hussein’s hanging, although reactions from insurgents have been less volatile than expected.

Boys die mimicking hangings
Across the world, boys ages 9 to 13 have died from attempting to mimic the hangings. Boys from Texas, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Turkey, Algeria and India have reportedly hanged themselves in imitation of the Iraqi executions. One boy was found hanging from a backyard tree, wearing a turban. Hisham Ramy, an Egyptian University professor blames it partially on media coverage of Hussein’s death and partially on the glorification of him as a martyr and hero by some Muslims.

Child psychologist Jasem Hajia from Kuwait City cautions against blaming it strictly on the coverage, calling the cases “extreme” and stating that there were probably physiological problems involved as well.

Next week: Letter from War: What one soldier has to say about the American response to the troop surge. Plus, military students on campus and a former NW student-soldier’s perspective.

New nursing lab boasts a variety of resources

BY RENEE NYHOF
STAFF WRITER

Dedication of the new nursing lab was held Friday, Jan. 12. Supporters, students, faculty and the Orange City Ambassadors gathered within the 3,800-square-feet of the new labs to be a state-of-the-art facility.

The components that make up the new nursing facility include four patient rooms and one conference room. There is also a trainer’s room, which contains items such as blood pressure and IV equipment for the students to utilize and gain experience with before using on an actual patient.

A mock clinic room with two exam tables is also available, as well as a small lounge area, which helps to mimic a home setting so the students can practice making home visits.

Two computer-augmented manikins, complete with heart sounds, a blood pressure and other human like characteristics are the patients for the nurses-in-training. In addition, these manikins come with interchangeable body parts such as amputated limbs to teach the students what to look for, how certain wounds look and how to treat them.

Because there is a limit to how many body parts the lab has, 12 to 15 audio-visual tapes are available to further explain wounds and their treatments along with other nursing skills.

Daumer said this new nursing lab brings great advantages to the nursing students. Not only does the new lab enhance practical skills, the lab doesn’t have to try to convey a hospital setting like many nursing labs do because it’s already located in an old hospital unit.

In addition, the previous hospital ICN room is still available below the nursing lab. Here, different assessments can be shown to the students and then they can go directly into the lab to practice the procedure.

Currently, the lab is being used on Tuesdays and Thursdays for labs, with lectures taking place on campus. Future plans already include the purchase of a Human Patient Simulator (HPS). This all-computer augmented manikin responds intuitively to the care it’s given and can be programmed to have any kind of medical problem.

This year’s nursing students cut the ribbon at the dedication of the new nursing lab.
Stop whining to your “mommy”

Remember when you were a little kid and “Billy the Bully” took your snack pack at lunch? You didn’t want to be the “sissy” who whined to the teacher because you were tough and could handle Billy. But when you got home after school, you went straight to your mommy to cry about your lost snack pack.

But 15 years later, you’ve grown up and learned to settle your problems the “grown-up way,” right? Apparently not.

As a frequent Facebook checker, I have become aware that many of us have yet to learn how to appropriately deal with our problems. While crying to your mommy seemed like the best solution to your problems as a child, it’s not okay anymore. And even if it was, Facebook is not your mommy.

I have always believed that if I have a problem with a specific person/group/etc, I should address that issue personally. Creating a Facebook group to whine about getting your chapel card taken away or problems with the school’s internet is not an effective way to solve those problems. Just as whining to your mommy as a child didn’t bring back your stolen pudding, maybe it made you feel better, but did it do anything to solve your problem?

While crying to your mommy seemed like the best solution to your problems as a child, it’s not okay anymore.

I would like to suggest that NW students grow up and learn to deal with their problems like adults. Next time you have a problem with a person or issue on campus, don’t create a Facebook group to whine and make you feel better. Act like the adult you claim to be and discuss your problem with the individuals that can actually solve your problem. Use your God-given communication skills to effectively voice your problem. None of you have any difficulty whining to your friends or writing lengthy rants on Facebook about your problems, so use those “skills” to actually solve your problems.

Stop whining and act like an adult. And remember, Facebook is not your mommy.

A mother’s perspective on the meaning of family values

BY JAN KIRCHER

The Christmas season always brings with it an atmosphere of love and joy. It often makes mothers think about the births of their own children, and hearts are filled with thankfulness at the thought of their sons and daughters.

We visualize Mary holding her newborn son Jesus, rocking him gently back and forth. What was going through her mind? What were her thoughts? Was she dreaming about his future? Was she picturing the wonderful life that was ahead of him? Imagine that she was as, these are the thoughts that many new mothers have about their children. However, a thought that I am sure never occurs to new parents in daydreaming about the future of their child is that he or she be homosexual. I have yet to hear an expectant parent say, “Wow, I hope my son or daughter grows up to be gay. I can’t wait for my child to start living the homosexual lifestyle he or she was meant to live.”

BY MATTHEW STANISLAV

Our chapel speaker on January 12, Professor Monoma, made a great suggestion when he encouraged us to ask ourselves who our neighbors are and to think about what it means to love our neighbors. This is a subject which I have been called to think about frequently over the last year. This question was one of the reasons I spent 15 days in Lupeni, Romania, this summer as part of the Traieste si Invata program. After much thought and prayer, I have been able to come up with answers to the two questions Dr. Monoma encouraged us to think about.

The first question was, “Who are our neighbors?” I believe the best answer to this question is that all people are our neighbors. In Ephesians 2, Paul, in writing to the Gentiles of Ephesus, made it clear that Christ came to Earth to destroy the barriers between people and to bring all people together under Him. Verse 19 says, “Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household.” Through this passage and other passages attributed to Paul, I stand firmly in my belief that everyone, all the people of the world, fall into the category of “neighbor.”

The second question was, “What does it mean to love your neighbors?” My belief is that if we truly love someone, we will want for them the thing which we ought to most desire: eternal life with Jesus. Eternal life can only be gained through a right relationship with Jesus, a relationship in which we take an active role through obeying the commands of Jesus as we love him with all of our hearts, souls, and minds. What does it mean to love him for the person that Christ is? I consider this to be a great blessing.

And yet, for many parents, one of their children may be gay. That is often a huge disappointment and even an embarrassment for parents and families. Parents learn that who their child chooses to love takes precedent over everything else. However, as the mother of a gay son, I consider this to be a great blessing, my son and I are very close, and I love him for the person that Christ made him to be.

Loving your neighbor means teaching them to flee sin

The logical question that stems from my answer is, “What does God call us to pursue and avoid?” As much as I would like to give answers to this question, I feel it is important for us all to find the answer to this on our own through our own reading of the Bible.

Sometimes I wish my God was a tolerant God; I wish that my living in obedience to him allowed me to ignore the sins of other believers, but it does not allow this. I am a Christian, a follower of Jesus the Christ, and as such, I am called to live a life that obeys the commands of Jesus and to lead others towards living lives of obedience. Yes, I am to love my neighbors, but out of love, I am also called to share in the charge that Paul gave to Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:2, to “Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.”

THE BEACON is the student newspaper serving the campus community of Northwestern College. Published weekly and distributed Friday noon. The Beacon encourages comments from readers. All letters must be 300 words or less, signed with a phone number, and turned into the Beacon office located in the basement of Granberg Hall by Wednesday at 6 p.m. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters. To obtain a subscription, please send $10 to address below.

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Boredom roaming the streets

BY JEAN PUNT
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Imagine walking out of a meeting or class in the evening and stepping outside into below freezing weather. You are walking down the sidewalk, taking notice of nothing but how quickly you lose feeling in your fingers. After only taking a few strides, your path is blocked by a group of oddly dressed people, pointing hair dryers and water guns at you. After taking in the appearance of this strange “alignment,” you suddenly realize that you have encountered the Awkward Turtles.

The Tank (freshman Rachel Fisher), Ice (sophomore Bekah Achenbach), Goose (freshman Sarah Abbas) and Maverick (freshman Carrie Manifold) were the original members of this “gang,” and it was named as such for two reasons:
1. They all come from 3rd East Fern, which is, according to them, one of the most awkward wings on campus, and
2. They all adorn themselves in awkward clothes and colors that do not match.

When I use the word awkward to describe their clothes, I am referring to the ridiculousness and the variety of mismatched clothes. Hooded sweatshirts are worn under t-shirts, caps are encouraged, silly hats are worn in a variety of ways and snow boots help announce the presence of this group when they clomp up and down the sidewalk.

During their patrols across campus, they took time to stop by Heemstra, West, Hoppers and Colenbrander, which is where they acquired their fifth member, Lumberjack (freshman Ian Dudley), dressed like his name, casually strode behind the gang on their outing, almost like a mascot.

Although presenting a slightly scary image, this group had a harmless evening of fun and entertainment. Before calling it a night, they made sure to escort a damsel in distress back to her dorm. However, only a few short seconds upon leaving the interview, a car alarm did go off behind me. The cause of the alarm is still unknown.

This gang was not formed after another woman behind your back to never repeat the behavior again.

Dear Dr. Bast,

How do I get as smart as you?

-Dumb in Iowa

The only way you could get smarter than me is if you became a zombie and literally ate brains. If you do so, please don’t eat too many brains at one time. A zombie that you do so, please don’t eat too many brains. If you succeeded, you could brag to all your friends. If you fail, you’ll at least be busy until the sun comes up and you don’t need your flashlight.

Dear Dr. Bast,

How do I get as smart as you?

-Dumb in Iowa

This will usher in a new era of peace and democracy. The lion will lay down with the lamb, Muslims will throw candy to Jewish children on Hannukah and the NW internet will start working properly. All of the good that could come from hanging one guy! Just think, all you have to do is sit down with him at a time when tensions are low and respectfully affirmingly to keep him talking and expressing his feelings. Finally, you should sit down with him at a time when tensions are low and respectfully explain that when he speaks to you in that manner, it hurts your feelings and damages the relationship.

Secondly, you must listen patiently while he responds. Look him straight in the eye and nod affirmingly to keep him talking and expressing his feelings. Finally, you should sit down with him at a time when tensions are low and respectfully explain that when he speaks to you in that manner, it hurts your feelings and damages the relationship.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to beaco@nocicoa.edu.

“Look, there goes the Trinity.”

-Junior Brett Vander Berg up on seeing Professor Vonder Bruegg, Professor Mead and Professor Andres walk by.

“My goal was to get through 12 years of school without doing any work.”

-Professor Smallbones, reflecting on her first view of school.

“He must have been really dumb or loaded with testosterone.”

-Professor Holm, in reference to Samson revealing the source of his strength.

“And the moral of the story is: the professor should read the syllabus.”

-Professor Smallbones, in response to opening Tuesday’s class with Thursday’s assignment.

Depressing stories with Dr. Bast

BY JAMES BIERLY
OPINION EDITOR

Dear Dr. Bast,

What did you think of the hanging of Saddam Hussein?

-Johnny (your most biggest fan ever!)

This will usher in a new era of peace and democracy. The lion will lay down with the lamb, Muslims will throw candy to Jewish children on Hannukah and the NW internet will start working properly. All from hanging one guy! Just think of all the good that could come from killing even more people! I’m glad our government is planning to do so as soon as possible.

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Last chance to “think about it”

BY RENEE NYHOF
STAFF WRITER

“Think about it.” We’ve all heard this statement from a close relative, parent, or friend, and, most recently, from colorful posters scattered across campus. What could such pieces of paper possibly want us to think about? Take a closer look, and you’ll find information regarding this year’s Summer Study Abroad (SSA) programs:

China: May 22 through June 9 (tentative).
Russia: May 24 through June 9 (tentative).
Ecuador: May 13 through June 12 (tentative).

Participants will travel alongside Assistant Professor of Kinesiology Dean Calsbeek and Professor of Kinesiology Paul Bartlett to study “What is the Body?” with emphasis on topics such as medicine, physical fitness and sports in China.

Instructor in Spanish Rick Clark will introduce participants to Ecuadorian life through a study of Ecuadorian society, culture and language, as well as engage in a service project.

In China, Calsbeek states “that camping on the Great Wall might be a unique highlight. Also, seeing the Summer ‘08 Olympic venues and interacting with Olympic athletes will be pretty cool.”

Clark says one highlight of Ecuador might be “traveling into the Amazon jungle and living with a tribe for four days.”

If you’re not interested in rare experiences, maybe the college credit offered for these trips will intrigue you. No matter what your motivation, another frequent question asked is “Why now?” Though college years may seem swamped, Fischer states there’s no better time. Though it may not seem like it, there is more time to participate in these programs while in college than later on in life.

Moreover, Fischer states that participants have a unique blessing because students in these groups will have others to process their exhilarating experience with them and a faculty member to help guide them.

Participating in an SSA isn’t for everyone, but just taking the opportunity to think about it can make a difference.

“I regret not participating in any of the summer study abroad programs offered when I was a student at NW, and it is not often one gets a chance to eliminate regret.”

- Dean Calsbeek

In addition, each country offers its own unique aspects participants can experience. In China, Calsbeek states “that camping on the Great Wall might be a unique highlight. Also, seeing the Summer ‘08 Olympic venues and interacting with Olympic athletes will be pretty cool.”

Clark says one highlight of Ecuador might be “traveling into the Amazon jungle and living with a tribe for four days.”

Although the application deadline for these programs is TODAY, if you have more questions, feel free to contact Jill Fischer because there is a possibility for deadline extension.

You’ve seen the signs around campus. If you haven’t already, it may be time that you “think about it.”

Barker uses blogs to help tell his story

BY LINDSAY SQUARES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Scandal, coffee makers, Shakespeare and politics—what do the items on such an arbitrary list have in common? These and millions of other topics all find a place in online blogs. In the marketplace of ideas, blogging has become a popular and effective medium for continuous conversation. At the encouragement of his wife Karen, Northwestern Professor of Theatre and Speech Jeff Barker decided to enter the fray with his Story and Worship blog.

“The purpose of the blog is to focus conversation and to begin to test out my book.”

- Jeff Barker

Also a professor of theater and speech, Karen attended a writing seminar at Calvin College, along with many published writers, during the summer. Upon her return, Jeff explained, “She convinced me that [a blog] was a valuable tool for creating a buzz on a given topic.”

With the editorial assistance of Kelly Van Marel, Jeff began his Story and Worship blog this past fall.

The primary feature of his blog is “Quiet Demons and Screaming Peter Pan,” a collection of stories on the art and story of worship.

“The purpose of the blog is to focus the conversation and to begin to test out my book,” Jeff said. “Hopefully we’ll get to see the book published, and the commentators on the blog will know they’ve helped that happen,” Jeff said.

Jeff posts two new chapters of his book every week. He also invites input from blog readers: “Let me know what you find confusing or even flat-out wrong. I appreciate your feedback, and I’ll use it to adjust the book prior to publication.”

Jeff has begun the formal process of publishing his work, and he viewed putting the book online as a “good first step toward publication.”

Identifying the three intended audiences of his book, Jeff said, “The book’s first audience includes worship planners and worship leaders. Its second audience is composed of anyone interested in thinking about worship and the arts. Its third audience consists of Christians who want to read some stories related to their faith.”

Of the inspiration behind “Quiet Demons and Screaming Peter Pan,” Jeff said, “It’s an outgrowth of my work at Trinity and my work with students at Northwestern, especially our theatre touring company and my Drama and Worship class.”

Jeff considers an understanding of the relationship of story and worship to be pivotal in bringing healing to the church. As he described in a letter to friend Lin Sexton of “Worship Leader” magazine, these healings would include “the refreshment of the church’s musical artists” and “the empowerment of the visual, performance, and dramatic artists who have languished in the pews.” He also maintained that misunderstandings surrounding the meaning of worship would dissolve and that “the stories of God at work in the lives of His people” would be reclaimed as a result of understanding story and worship.

“Let me know what you find confusing or even flat-out wrong...and I’ll use it to adjust the book prior to publication.”

- Jeff Barker

Jeff hopes that the Story and Worship blog will eventually move beyond the scope of his book. “The relationship of story and worship is a huge topic worthy of exploration in a variety of ways,” he said. Students may find Jeff’s blog at http://storyandworship.wordpress.com/.
LET IT STOP, LET IT STOP, LET IT STOP

BY ANDREA DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

While some students were lamenting a mild, not-so-white Christmas during winter break, others were experiencing something different to look forward to, said Elaine Hofland, who has many years of service in the mail room. Though Hofland did not return to campus this January as so many of us did, she still lives in town and is working on pleasant days. If you have the time, you may ask, “What will occupy her time?” Hofland has always loved crafts and attending craft shows. She enjoys making dolls, something she hopes she’ll be able to spend more time doing. “I love to make dolls,” said Hofland, “larger dolls are actually my favorite.”

For those students who may have felt left out of the winter-y action, and even for those who had the pleasure of enjoying blizzard flights, the recent substantial snowfall and cold temperatures in Northwest Iowa served as great reminders of true winter weather in the Midwest. “Welcome back to Iowa!”

Thinking theologically

BY AMANDA KUEHN
FEATURES EDITOR

Though the month of November is long gone, memories of Washington, D.C., still remain in the minds of Northwestern students Justin Pankuk, Meggan De Jong, Jenna Boote, Tyler De Jong, Amanda Kuehn, Sarah Palma and Ross Hunter. These seven students had the unique experience of leaving Orange City and spending some time in “the real world” November 16 through 19.

At the invitation and in the company of Associate Professor of Religion Michael Andres, the students attended two theology conferences. “Christians in the Public Square,” a conference that was associated with The Evangelical Theological Society and another put on by The American Academy of Religion. During these conferences students attended sessions in which papers were read regarding different views of a variety of aspects of Christianity and religion.

The group also took some time to tour the sites of D.C., including the Washington Monument, Arlington Cemetery, a walk to the National Cathedral, The Smithsonian, and a lengthy journey around the Lincoln Memorial. Over authentic Mexican, Italian and Chinese meals they discussed topics such as Consumerism, Nationalism, and what it means to be a Christian in secular society.

All members would describe their time in D.C. as a “good experience.” Students attending the conference this coming fall have a lot to look forward to.

One more mailroom change is made

BY RENEE NYHOF
STAFF WRITER

Elaine Hofland has chosen to retire from the mail room, which kept her busy for 27 years of service. Now, after a previous change of location to the RSC, and now they’re back again. Through all the years and the changes, one thing seemed to remain the same: Hofland in the mail room. Now, after a previous 27 years of service in the mail room, Elaine Hofland has chosen to retire early. Over the years, Hofland dedicated herself to the never-ending task of delivering our mail, a job which resulted in working on Saturdays and even through holiday weekends. There were benefits, however, that made her job truly enjoyable. Being a part of NW provided a great Christian environment in which to work. This was the first thing that appealed to Hofland when she decided to apply for the job. Over the years, though, nothing has been more exciting than being around and getting to know students.

“IT was so much fun to see the youth,” said Hofland with a growing smile and brightened eyes. “I especially enjoyed Valentine’s Day and seeing all the pretty flowers that would arrive.” Hofland added, “It was never boring here, which kept things quite interesting.”

Now that she has retired, you may ask, “What will occupy her time?” Hofland has always loved crafts and attending craft shows. She enjoys making dolls, something she hopes she’ll be able to spend more time doing. “I love to make dolls,” said Hofland, “larger dolls are actually my favorite.”

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All members would describe their time in D.C. as a “good experience.” Students attending the conference this coming fall have a lot to look forward to.
Wrestlers win team title at Central College Invite

BY BETSY HEIBERGER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Northwesternmen had an outstanding weekend at the Central College Invite on Jan. 13. Not only did the Raiders take first out of nine teams at the tournament, but they also had nine individual place winners. The Red Raider wrestlers are back at full force with returners junior Andrew Lundgren and seniors Courtney Goodwin and Chris Keating starting off at semester. NW has also gained freshman Jordan Keckler and sophomore Levi Price as transfers.

Four Raiders were crowned individual champions at the tournament. Four Raiders were crowned as individual champions at the tournament. These place winners included Keckler (133) with a 2-0 record consisting of some amazing throws, Price (141) with a 4-0 record including 3 pins and a major decision, sophomore Enoch Francois (174) with a 4-0 record, and junior Andrew Lundgren (197) with a 3-0 record of all pins.

NW’s only runner-up of the tournament was Keating with a 3-1 record at 149, and freshman Lamar Reed wrestled strong at 165, coming out with a 4-1 record and a third-place individual title. Goodwin (157), with a 3-2 record, and freshman Sam Zylstra (285), with a 2-2 record, both placed fourth in the tournament.

The fifth-place winner, sophomore Brian Heibberger (157), was also the NW wrestler with the most wins at the tournament. He had a record of 5-2 for the day, including one pin.

Lundgren and Price both offered insight on the team. Lundgren stated, “We have been getting stronger and stronger with each tournament we have attended. Looking at the roster we may appear to be a young team but each wrestler has a lot of talent and a lot of heart.”

Price commented on the NAIA national tournament coming up in March: “I think the team is filling out nicely and has a great shot at winning the national tournament this year.”

Coach John Petty agreed with Price and stated, “I believe that we can have multiple All-Americans and possibly NW’s first national champion(s) if we keep this pace of believing [in ourselves] and working hard. Whether that happens or not, I want us to give a championship effort on and off the mat.”

The NW wrestlers also continued their winning streak this week on Wednesday night against Buena Vista. The Raiders won with 33 team points to BV’s 11 and had seven men winning their individual matches. Sophomore Bill Fredrick (125) started the night out with an open, followed by Keckler defeating his man in a close 9-8 match.

The three pin falls of the evening went to Price, Reed and Lundgren—all previous 2007 national tournament qualifiers. The Raiders’ winning matches were finished off with Francois in a close 5-4 match and Keating dominating his man with a 6-0 final score.

The Raider wrestlers expect to continue this winning streak tonight at home against Dakota Wesleyan. Wrestling will start at 6 p.m. in the Bultman Center.

The annual Red Raider Invite will take place in the Bultman Center this Saturday. Wrestling will start at 9 a.m. and run throughout the day.

Women’s basketball drops two straight at home versus conference foes

BY DAN CLIFF
STAFF WRITER

The Northwestern Raiders women’s basketball team finally played host on Jan. 13 against Hastings College after six straight road games but lost 64-78. The Raiders are currently ranked 11th in the latest NAIA poll released on Jan. 17. The poll has the Red Raiders ranked 13th. The Raiders caught the Broncos on a hot streak, becoming the Broncos’ ninth consecutive victim.

On Jan. 16, the Raiders faced off against Mount Marty College and were handed another defeat at home, 64-49. After a solid opening half, leading 31-21 at the half time break, the Raiders couldn’t hold on as Mount Marty caught fire and exploded for 43 second-half points en route to victory.

The Raiders have the weekend off before hosting the University of Sioux Falls on Jan. 24 at home. They are 15-6 on the year and 8-3 in conference play.

Versus Mount Marty

On Tuesday, Jan. 16, the Raiders hosted a rematch against the Mount Marty College Lancers and lost 64-49. The Raiders won at Mount Marty on Nov. 18, 66-64.

The first half started with the two teams exchanging the lead and staying close before the Raiders were able to pull away with 5:28 remaining in the half. With the score 23-21 at that point, the Raiders went on an 8-0 run to finish the half and built a 10-point lead. However, the second half began with the Lancers outscoring the Raiders 24-3 to build a 34-45 lead with nine minutes remaining. The Raiders closed to within two points, 43-45, but the Lancers finished the game on a 19-6 run that closed the door on the Raiders.

“ar the second half, I thought Mount Marty did a better job of putting pressure on us,” head coach Earl Woudstra said. “This, along with our not shooting as well as we did in the first half, led to a very stagnant offense. I thought our effort remained good throughout the game, but our execution was not very good in the second half.”

“It is really hard to understand why we have gotten off to such slow starts against the good teams. It is definitely an area of concern.”

- Coach Woudstra

Senior guard Jamie Hoegh and junior Deb Remmerde led the scoring for the Raiders with 14 and 15 points, respectively. Remmerde and junior Miranda Boekhout led the team in rebounds with seven apiece, followed by junior Crystal Algood with six and Hoegh with five. Algood led the team in blocks with four. The Raiders shot 38 percent in the game but struggled at 21 percent shooting in the second half, including 0-6 from the three-point line. The Raiders also shot uncharacteristically poor from the free throw line, just 66 percent for the game.

Versus Hastings

The Raiders lost their first game on their home court in over a month to Hastings College on Saturday, Jan. 13, 64-78. The host Raiders started slowly and got behind by 15 points, 5-20, after 10 minutes of action. They were never able to recover the lead and trailed by double digits nearly the rest of the game. The Raiders played out a similar scenario at Morningside College, now ranked 6th, on Jan. 3, when they got behind by 20 points early and had to try and battle back but eventually lost 63-88.

“It is really hard to understand why we have gotten off to such slow starts against the good teams in our league,” Woudstra said. “It is definitely an area of concern.”

Despite the loss the Raiders actually outscored the Broncos in the second half, 45-44, and showed considerable improvement in their play as the game went on. “After the first 12 minutes or so I thought we did a much better job of ball movement and played more assertively,” Woudstra said. Both teams shot nearly 40 percent from the field, but the big discrepancy was in the rebounding, with the Broncos holding a 44-29 edge that included 19 offensive rebounds.

Leading the team in scoring was senior Hoegh with 14 points, followed by junior Amy Larson with 13 points, and Remmerde and junior Mandy Carr with 12 points a piece. Remmerde, Boekhout and Algood tied for the team lead in rebounds with five, with Remmerde leading in steals with three.
Raider men win big in recent hoops action

BY MIKE VAN ENGEN
STAFF WRITER

On the heels of three GPAC victories, two over ranked opponents, the Red Raiders climbed ten spots to claim the number 15 spot in this week’s NAIA poll. Most recently, the Raiders handled Mount Marty at home by a sizeable margin, 85-32. This came after a weekend win over 21st-ranked Hastings College, 89-74. The men also recorded a thrilling victory over the University of Sioux Falls in a match-up between the two NAIA poll. Most recently, the Raiders held the Lancers to their third straight conference loss.

With three players in double figures, Northwestern easily restrained the Lancer defense. Sophomore Kale Wiertzema led the team with 14 points and four assists, nine of the 14 points coming from behind the arc.

Junior Chad Schuiteman, this week’s GPAC player-of-the-week, dumped in twelve points, seven rebounds, five steals and four assists. Junior Wade Vander Maten chipped in with ten points and two assists. As a team, NW shot better than 52% from the floor and improved their overall record to 15-6, 8-3 in conference play.

The Raiders started strong and finished strong, getting off to a quick seven-point lead and never looking back. By the end of the first 10 minutes of play, NW found themselves up 26-6 and at the end of the first half, 47-19. The second half proved just as promising with the Raiders holding the Lancers scoreless for the first three minutes of play.

VERSUS HASTINGS

Coming off a big win against Dakota Wesleyan, the Raiders had much to look forward to in the match-up against the Hastings Broncos. The Broncos were on a four-game winning streak, prior to Saturday.

The Raiders outscored Hastings by 17 in the first half of play and won by a margin of 89-74. It was a team effort with four players pouring in double figures. Junior Mark DeYounge led the Raiders with 19 points and 7 rebounds. Junior Curt Schilling dumped in 17 while senior Karl Towns chimed in. Schuiteman also chipped in, scoring 10 points and dishing out 12 assists in the victory. The Raiders combined to shoot 59% from the floor and better than 46% from behind the arc.

At the 12:20 mark in the first half, the score was 21-12, and the Raiders took off, outscoring their opponents 25-17 for the rest of the half. Although the Broncos put up 45 points to the Raiders’ 43 in the second half, the Raiders maintained their convincing lead to shut down their GPAC opponent.

Indoor track season heats up despite outdoor chill

BY KAYLA MAXEDON
STAFF WRITER


This track terminology seems out of place as four inches of snow lies on the ground. But with temperatures lowering outdoors, the temperature is rising inside the RSC, as the indoor track season has begun. With a squad of 71, there is a lot of talent to be seen and plenty to look forward to.

According to Head Coach Nate Wolf, “Both men’s and women’s squads return a core group of national qualifiers.” On the men’s side, seniors Nick Fynaardt, Andrew Ortmeier, and Robbie Cundy have previous experience at the national level.

On the women’s side, seniors Megan Harding and Kristen Becker, and juniors Jessica Regan, and Laura Jacobson have competed nationally as well.

Coach Wolf also noted the potential of sophomore Amy Katsma, who qualified provisionally for indoor nationals as a freshman in the shot.

Also, juniors Anthony Ebert and Jon Woehl, sophomore Dan Walhof, and freshman Sarah Storm have all qualified for the outdoor national meet in the marathon, which is held in Fresno, Calif. in May.

In addition to individual events, each member of the team is putting in the effort to move Northwestern to high rankings. According to Wolf, the men’s team has the goal of finishing fourth in the conference, which would be the highest placing ever for NW. The women are striving for a ranking between fourth and sixth place in the GPAC.

Twenty-one Raiders will begin competition this weekend at the Iowa State University Open in Ames. The full team will compete next Saturday, Jan. 27, at the Buena Vista Invitational in Storm Lake.
The Visual Mind: Art and Theatre students compete at Theater Fest

BY ALLISON ROORDA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Next week five faculty and 30 students will attend the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) at the University of Iowa in Ames, Iowa, from January 21 to 27. ACTF is a week long event that includes expositions, competitions and performances, as well as shows and workshops that the students will be able to participate in.

Among the competitions is the Irene Ryan Acting Competition, in which students are invited to perform a scene of their choice with a scene partner. There are seven students from Northwestern performing in this competition: juniors Matthew Hulstein, and Lindsay Westercamp, and sophomores Brady Huffman, Tucker Schneider, Toney Wilder, Margaretta DeBoer and Ben Bees.

There will also be students with design work involved in workshops and expositions. Seniors Marly Wooster and Mark Larson will each be presenting a lighting design at the David L. Thayer Lighting Workshop.

Wooster will be entering her lighting design from “Gone to Earth,” and Larson will enter his design from “James Joyce’s The Dead.” Wooster and Larson were selected along with six other students from a group of 15 students to participate in this workshop.

Senior Micah Trapp is entered in the Honors Festival Stage Management Team, where she will manage a costume parade.

Students from NW were also invited to the Tech/Design Awards and Exposition. Senior Biz Grimm will participate in the exposition, presenting her set design from “James Joyce’s The Dead.”

The NW theatre department was also invited to bring along one scene from last semester’s play “Gone to Earth” to perform in a showcase of invited scenes. Finally, the Drama Ministries Ensemble (DME) will join the theatre students at ACTF from January 21 to 22 before going to the Calvin College Worship Symposium in Grand Rapids, Mich.

The DME will participate in workshops and learning opportunities from Thursday to Saturday of that week before performing at the worship service at the end of the week. This is the first time the DME has been invited to perform in the worship service at Calvin.

Termespheres are on display in TePaske Gallery this month

BY JAIME EVENHUIS
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Northwestern College’s TePaske Gallery will be exhibiting the work of Dick Termes from Jan. 16 through Feb. 15. An opening reception with the artist was held on January 16 at 7 p.m.

Termes is internationally acclaimed for his spherical paintings, called Termespheres. His paintings present geometric designs and the interiors of famous buildings wrapped around a sphere.

Termes has painted landmarks that include the Pantheon in Rome, St. Mark’s square in Venice, Stonehenge, Wrigley Field and the Globe Theater in London.

His paintings give the viewer a unique three-dimensional look at the painting’s world. Termes uses a complex six-point perspective and imagines himself in the center of a transparent sphere when painting his spheres.

Termes began painting in 1959 and began painting on spheres in 1968. That same year he received his master’s degree in art from the University of Wyoming.

Termes received a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, where his termespheres were the subject of his thesis.

His termespheres are also highlighted in chapters of academic books such as “Stretchable Space,” and “The Visual Mind: Art and Mathematics.”

Originally from South Dakota, Termes travels throughout the U.S. and abroad giving lectures and workshops on his art.

Today Termes resides outside of Spearfish, S.D., where he lives with his wife in four geodesic domes.

While in Orange City, Termes will visit local high schools. He will show examples of his work and will show a video presenting the creative process.

news AROUND THE WORLD

In St. Louis, M.O., two missing boys were found alive. Ben Ownby was kidnapped on Jan. 8, and discovered on Jan. 12. Shawn Hornbeck, who has been missing since 2002, was also discovered at this time.

In Houston, Texas, truck driver Tyron Williams was sentenced to life in prison for the deaths of 19 illegal immigrants. He packed the back of his 18 wheeler with over 70 immigrants. They died of dehydration, overheating and suffocation as he was attempting to smuggle them into the country.

On Thursday, Jan. 11, China successfully tested an anti-satellite missile, which has raised some criticism from the U.S. China’s weather satellites would travel the same height as U.S. spy satellites, so the test represented an indirect threat to U.S. security.

In American Fork, Utah, three pregnant teenagers living in a group home assaulted the director with a frying pan, tied her up with power cords, and fled in a stolen minivan. The police believe this to be a hate crime.

On Thursday, Jan. 18, French president Jacque Chirac honored “The Righteous of France,” have been recognized.

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