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The Beacon, 2022-2023

The Beacon student newspaper

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9-9-2022

## **The Beacon, September 9, 2022**

Beacon Staff

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# Unsung Heroes: Kristin Brouwer

**BROUWER STARTS NEW POSITION AT NW**

**CHEYENNE SCHMIT**  
BUSINESS ADMIN/MARKETING

Kristin Brouwer is the new director of discipleship here at Northwestern. She describes herself as a “passionate follower of Jesus, who loves a good coffee, good conversation, and hiking.” She is also a dog mom to a 5-year-old Maltese named Bonhoeffer.

Brouwer was a student at NW and was an Elementary Education major with a middle school coaching endorsement who graduated in 2004. Prior to working at NW worked a couple jobs that centered around youth. Before NW, she previously worked at Trinity Reformed Church in Orange City and as a teacher at Pella Christian Middle School. She also coached track, basketball and volleyball at the high school and college level. She started seminary in 2008 and completed in 2020 and walked for graduation in 2021. She was ordained as a pastor of word and

sacrament in 2020 by the Reformed Church in America. She serves as a host mom to Sierra Tumbleson who states, “Kristin has been one of the most impactful people to me since I’ve been at NW.” She also goes on to say Kristin is the kind of person who asks if you need anything and actually means it and Kristin has always been a positive role model to Sierra for the past four years and is a woman blessed by God. Sierra enjoys having Kristin as her host mom because they have become great friends. Her house has always been a safe and relaxing place for Sierra to stay on breaks or when she was sick and needed somewhere to crash. According to Sierra, Kristin doesn’t do it because she is my ‘host mom,’ but because she is a wonderful person who is loving and caring to everyone. The label ‘host mom’ is just what initially brought us together.”

When asked about how much campus has changed, she stated that since her time as a student was a long time ago, things on campus have indeed changed. One such example of that is when she was a



PHOTO BY SONU GUPTA

Kristin Brouwer started her new position of director of discipleship this summer.

student there was chapel 4 times a week. Not only that, but Hospers was also a girl’s dorm and 2 of the houses she lived in no longer exist. According to Kristin, “There are many people, housing, and

buildings that have changed but the core of who Northwestern is and their desire to make passionate, courageous, and faithful Christ followers has not changed.” “She has blessed our department by creating

opportunities for our students to discuss challenging biblical and theological issues in spaces that are welcoming and supportive of Christian growth,” Dr. Mead said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# Summer study abroad in Greece

**EXPERIENCING GREEK CULTURE WITH FRIENDS**

**GRACE REGINALD**  
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Ancient Greece: the birthplace of Western philosophy, literature, mathematics, history, drama, the Olympic Games, and democracy. This summer, 10 students and Dr. John Vonder Bruegge went to Greece for three weeks. These students were assigned various Greek archaeological sites and studied them extensively during the spring semester. While on the trip, they visit the sites and got to experience it for themselves, without reading from a website or textbook. The Greek Legacy trip is not just to go to Greece, rather an immersion into Greece’s history and culture.

The leader of this trip was Dr. Vonder Bruegge, an associate professor of Biblical studies, as well as the dean of arts and humanities. This will be his 19th year teaching at NWC. The first study abroad was in

2014, but this is the fourth time he has done this trip. “Easily, the best part of the trip is watching students fall in love with a place that I’ve loved for many years. Greece is remarkable, not just for the significant role it has played in Western culture, but also for its natural beauty.” Vonde Bruegge said, “Since the students spend an entire semester studying Greece, when we finally get to go and they get to see their sites, they’re like kids in a candy store. That never gets old.”

Senior Mark Cooley was one of the students who had the chance to attend this study abroad. Many things fell into place for Mark to be able to go on this trip, which was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. “My favorite part of Greece was the ability to see the history I love. My archaeological site was the South Slope of the Acropolis (also known as the superior slope of the Acropolis). Being able to research the south slope during the class was fun and exciting, but being able to see it in person was phenomenal



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The NW Honors program had the opportunity to study abroad in Greece this summer.

and jaw-dropping. Words could not describe my reaction to witnessing my site outside of the pictures online.” Another student who went

on the study abroad was Junior Jake Franksen-Small. “Getting to see all the places, culture, and artifacts that we studied in class was awesome. It

meant a lot more seeing those things when we knew all the history and importance associated with it.

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## The sweetest rush of the big time reunion

### THE MN BOYS ARE BACK

#### GRACE HARRE SOCIAL WORK

It is the age of reunions and one of the most recent reunions is Big Time Rush. That's right! The gang is back together. This four member boy band has reunited and produced some new music introducing new versions of their old hits. If you are not aware of the band, you can get a general idea from their very own TV show titled "Big Time Rush."

After their four year stint from 2009-2013, the band took a break. While the members maintained contact with one another, the band only resumed in 2020 with their new song "Call It Like I See It." They also produced other singles like "Not Giving You Up," "Fall," "Honey" and "Dale Páya."

With five new singles, Big Time Rush expands the image that we used to know and love. "Not Giving You Up," "Honey" and "Fall" are similar to their old sound; upbeat tunes about the perfect girl. However, it takes this old sound and

alters it into a more developed sound that matches the most recent hits in the music world. However, "Call It Like I See It" and "Not Giving You Up" are very repetitive. The chorus in these songs repeat a single phrase, which can get tiresome.

"Dale Páya" expands the band's repertoire the most. This song is the first song of theirs that is partially in a different language. The chorus is mainly in Spanish. The phrase "Dale Páya," sung by the guest featured artist Maffio, and verses are a mix of both English and Spanish. This song has a funky saxophone melody that reminds one of the saxophone melody in "One Problem" by Ariana Grande.

Through their new singles and old remakes, it is evident the band has matured not only with their voices, but with the overall message of their songs. Their first new single after the group united was "Call It Like I See It." It has a very different vibe than their earlier music. This song has a more beachy, upbeat feel. Additionally, it differs from the earlier music in the fact that the earlier music featured more of the

rock sound and had the typical innocent boy band topics such as bad break ups, ruling the world and partying. However, "Call It Like I See It," "Worldwide (Acoustic)" and "Not Giving You Up" show the band's growth and maturation that can be identified in the quality of their voices and the ability to produce harmonies.

One aspect that the band has grown is their tone quality. The earlier sound that some of us grew up hearing is very distinct due to the fact that the voices of the four members have unique tones that can be easily identified. For example, James Maslow, member of the group, has the breathy nasal voice that is very noticeable especially in "If I Ruled World" with his line "If I ruled the world I'd dream out loud." However, the newer songs showcase the members' more unified, blended sound where one cannot identify each individual when they sing. For example in "Not Giving You Up," the vocals, especially in the chorus and the bridge, are more unified and produce a matured sound.

Another aspect where the band has grown is their harmonies. In several of



COURTESY OF BIGTIMERUSHOFFICIAL.COM

their new songs, the group sings more harmonies than their old music. A prime example is "Worldwide (Acoustic)." The acoustic version of "Worldwide" that was recently released is a stripped down version that really showcases their growth as musicians individually and as a group. The first verse underlines the individual maturation of the voices between Kendall Schmidt and

Maslow. The chorus and the tight harmonies demonstrate the overall group growth as musicians. "Worldwide" is probably one of the best songs that Big Time Rush has produced recently. It shows the group's love for performing and making music together.

Although the band has not received much media attention compared to other reunited groups, Big Time Rush is happy to be back together.

This is evident in their music, whether they comment on it in their recordings of "Music Sounds Better (Acoustic)" and "I Know You Know (Acoustic)" or it is evident through the chemistry through their newer songs. The five new singles underline the band's individual and collective growth through their vocal abilities, new sound and chemistry through their music.

★★★★

## Slapstick humor from beloved despicable minions

### A DESPICABLE BACKSTORY

#### ANNA BRAM ENGLISH

Directed by Kyle Balda, "Minions: The Rise of Gru" sees the minions once again doing all they can to help their villainous boss achieve his goals. This time around, that boss is an 11-year-old Gru.

"Minions: The Rise of Gru" is full of goofy jokes and wacky characters. Steve Carell is back voicing Gru and his portrayal of the young boy who just wants to be like his heroes tugs on the heartstrings. The minions, who are again voiced by Pierre Coffin, act as Gru's support staff and the movie's major source of comedy.

Many of the characters that first appeared in the original "Despicable Me" movie also return and give the audience a glimpse at what they were like before the events of that first film. Julie Andrews reprises her role as Gru's mother, Marlena Gru,

and Russell Brand is back as Dr. Nefario. There are also a few new, compelling characters, one of which is Wild Knuckles, voiced by Alan Arkin. Knuckles is one of Gru's heroes in the film and acts as a role model, albeit a questionable one, to Carell's character.

The plot of the movie itself moves rather quickly. The minions and Gru go on their adventure through 70s San Francisco meeting new people, learning kung-fu, and fighting super villains. All the different tracks through the plot are easy to follow and tied together with many silly jokes.

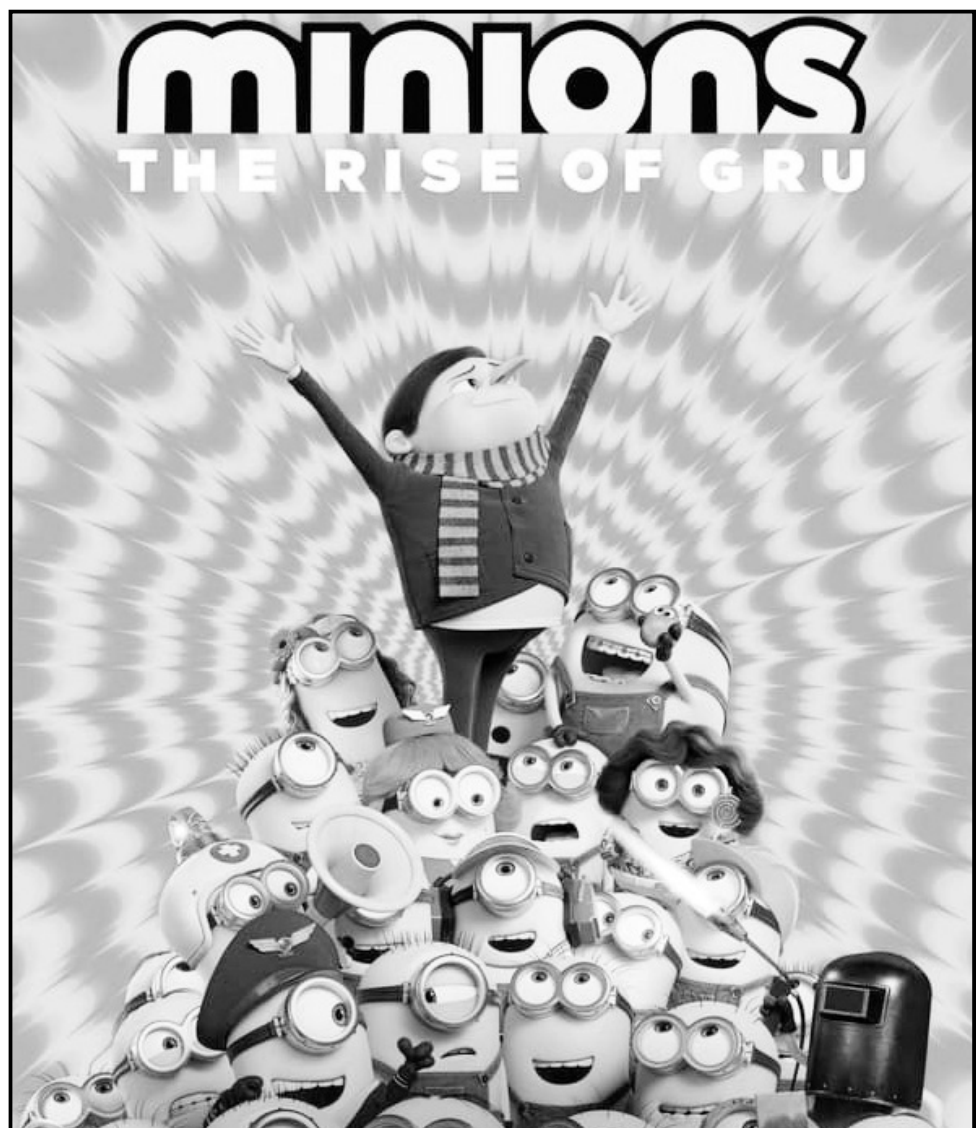
One of the film's weaknesses is when it was released. The first Minions film was released in 2015 and "Despicable Me" was released in 2010. "Minions: the Rise of Gru" is supposed to move the franchise forward while showing the audience the backstory of Gru and his minions. With the large gap between this movie and the last, the same children that the first entry in the franchise appealed to are all grown up. The jokes that

worked then do not work as well now. This makes the film overly silly and "slapsticky" at times. That can get tiresome quickly for the older audience.

"Minions: The Rise of Gru" is far from being a perfect movie, but children will undoubtedly enjoy it. It does a good job appealing to the audience it is initially made for. It hits that mark well, just like the other movies in the franchise did. The movie is fun, colorful and of course, goofy. The minions themselves keep the fun going throughout the whole hour and 27-minute runtime.

"Minions: The Rise of Gru" is an entertaining way to spend time with younger siblings, kids or even just a group of friends in the mood for a simple, lighthearted comedy. While it may get old or a bit annoying for adults, it has enough amusing moments to keep them interested and laughing.

★★★★



COURTESY OF THE MOVIE DATABASE



## The hills were alive with the sound of Acapella

### DANISH BREAD TO REMEMBER

**KATIE STRUCK**  
MUSIC EDUCATION

Every six years, the A Capella Choir goes on an international tour and this year we took a trip to Denmark and Sweden in May 2022. The choir departed for the airport on May 17 and arrived at Copenhagen the next day.

One of the first things noticeable about Copenhagen was despite it being a city, there were barely any cars on the road. In Denmark, they primarily use public transportation, such as trains and busses or biking/walking to get from place to place as those modes of transportation are much more ecofriendly than traveling by car.

After catching up on sleep and adjusting to the seven hour time difference, they began their first full day with a canal tour of Nyhavn, Amalienborg and Marmokirken. Then, there was some downtime to explore a little bit and try some Danish food, like porridge.

Then, the choir departed for a concert at the Apostelkirken,

Apostle church. The first day ended with a catered meal of lamb, cheesy potatoes and bread. Many of the choir members still think about the bread all the time.

The second day began with a walking tour that was led by Jon Holleson, choral director of Panumkoret, who the choir had a traditional Danish lunch with Holleson at Smørrebrød later that day. Then, they headed to the Karlslunde Strand church to perform their first concert.

The third day was spent in Roskilde and exploring several sites at their leisure, such as a Viking Ship museum, Roskilde Domkirke, the UNESCO world heritage site and Ragnarock/Musicon, a pop, rock and youth culture museum. This day ended with a concert at Tune Center.

The next day began with a church service held at the Bethlehemskirken in Nørrebro, which was entirely in Danish. After the service there was lunch and some more free time before their concert that evening at the Helligandskirken, Holy Spirit Church, which was a favorite for concert locations because the acoustics in the church were incredible.

The fifth day was a free day with no concerts and the opportunity to go and sightsee. All of the members of the choir were provided with several activities, castles, shops and restaurant options that they could go to and explore.

We began the day visiting the Vor Frelser's Kirke Tower, a huge spiraling tower that overlooked the entire city with crazy views. We then took a train to the Frederiksborg Castle in Hillerød, where the art and architecture was absolutely breathtaking, leading to a garden in the back that I could talk about forever.

There was more free time on the sixth day in the morning before our concert at the Solbjerg church. This concert was my absolute favorite. We got the chance to sing with Holleson's choir, Panumkoret. We got to speak with them before and after the concert and share some food and drinks with them. It was a great experience being able to meet people from across the world who also share a love for music and singing. The opportunity to share our stories and experiences and learn about each other was honestly one of



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM  
The Acapella Choir standing in a church before their concert in Denmark.

my most cherished memories on that tour. The choir members headed back to the hostel that night with a huge smile on their faces because of how much joy that day brought to all of us.

On our last full day in Denmark, we had free time for most of the day so we could explore anything we had not

gotten the chance to yet, and then held a concert at the Bethlehemskirken.

Our eighth day was a travel day to Sweden and the next day we got to sightsee before our concert in Ansgarskyrkan. The last day was spent sightseeing and shopping before the last concert at the Sankta Clara

Church.

The music department has an upcoming Fall Music Showcase during homecoming. Also, some members of the A capella Choir have senior recitals that are coming up in October.

## Women's complex reality conveyed with oil on canvas

### GENDER ROLES WITH HUMOR

**MADELYNN HARRE**  
ENGLISH TEACHING

Reimagining the feminine role in society is the goal of Klair Lockheart, through her exhibit "Feminine Attempts." Her portraits are the newest exhibit in Northwestern's Te Pasko Gallery. All of Lockheart's art is driven by her desire to address gender identities and modern feminism in American culture. This exhibit is a parade of larger-than-life truths presented in way that her viewers can understand the depth of the issues presented.

The exhibit's title, "Feminine Attempts," explains the overall struggle that women face with norms. In the excerpt that introduces her pieces, she details that "from an early age, girls are inundated with rules and mores of what it means to be feminine, and they are expected to learn how to become women."

There are 12 pieces in this series that depict women of various ages, social statuses, economic statuses and ethnicities. The women are life-sized and realistically painted

to convey that these represent real people and real struggles. Even the scale of the paintings was purposeful to make them seem "monumental and intimidating, especially since they look down towards the viewer."

Overall, Lockheart shared her commentary on the complex expectations that are pushed on women that end up conflicting with each other. For example, all the women are wearing modest clothing but have provocative heeled punk rock boots on to show the contrasting expectations to be sexy yet pure. Lockheart expertly showcases the contradictions that women face every day in a way that is easily understood by her viewers and still is in your face.

The scenes in the paintings portray all the women either helping with the children or doing house chores that are considered "dirty work." In one painting titled, "Janelle Has It All," it exaggerates the idea of being clean and looking good for one's husband even if you are dealing with the back end of things all day. The mother in the painting is pictured throwing away a dirty diaper with a baby on her hip, wearing a lovely blue dress.

Lockheart highlights the absurdity of the cleanliness ideal by exaggerating the expectations to get people's attention. She also adds a little sarcasm through the title, with yes, Janelle has all the work and a lovely home to take care of, but she must fit in a box to have it all.

"Hallie Brings Home the Bacon," a woman is making bacon in the kitchen while wearing a modest black dress with half an apron on, leading to the high leather black boots on her feet. The title of the piece gender swaps the old cliché saying that the men bring home the bacon, highlighting the fact that even though the men bring home the goods and things, the women are expected to prepare what they are given.

The faces of the women are all either frowning or outright scowling. Lockheart is throwing the idea that women should "smile more" into the wind.

Lockheart's desire to make her mark on the world of feminism is heard as she tries to defy the norms and "permits [her art] to share their displeasure about trying to fit in the role of femininity set by our culture."



PHOTO BY PRATIK PAUDEL  
Klair Lockheart's life sized pieces stand monumental for the viewers.

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## Students enjoy new ice cream location

### STUDENTS GRAB SWEET TREATS

**KAYLEE BANDSTRA**  
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Over the summer, the quaint barn-shaped building that once held the smell of espresso now holds child-like wonder. Scott Buchholtz, owner of Literary Dairy, has made his dream of owning an ice cream and book shop come true.

The idea came to Buchholtz on a bike ride nine years ago after passing a recently shutdown Mr. Movies, a DVD rental store. "When they closed their doors I mentioned to my wife, 'Orange City needs an ice cream shop, and that location would be perfect,'" Buchholtz said. "Then we turned the corner and when we got by the bandshell, I said, 'and a children's bookstore.' Then when we got a block further, I said, 'and we'd call it Literary Dairy!'"

Literary Dairy got the chance to become a reality when Roadhouse owner Aaron Lenz bought the old Town Square Coffee House building. "When I saw that the space had become available, and I was seriously thinking at this time about switching careers, I prayed

on the idea of Literary Dairy coming to light," Buchholtz said.

Buchholtz was an elementary school teacher for 22 years before opening the doors to Literary Dairy. As a former schoolteacher, Buchholtz never wanted to leave behind the joy of reading to kids, which is the inspiration for Literary Dairy's book shop. "I have seen firsthand how getting literature into the hands of children can not only bring families together, but it also broadens their minds, allows for new ideas and discovery, it can lead to important topics around the dinner table between children and their parents, and it shapes their minds in growth and has shown to develop brains to be better learners, deeper and robust vocabulary as well as a developed sense of curiosity," said Buchholtz.

Buchholtz created Literary Dairy as a space for all people. "I want to provide a space where families can come and spend time together, share a cone, make some memories and where friends can come and hang out," Buchholtz said. He envisions students studying at Literary Dairy. Buchholtz kept the Town Square Wi-Fi, so the building will continue to have a

strong signal for studying.

Along with ice cream and books, Literary Dairy also provides lunch options from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Buchholtz wishes to expand the options. The lunch menu currently holds ten panini options, as well as 7- and 12-inch pizzas, with a 10-inch gluten free crust. "In the future we have been talking about expanding the kitchen to serve dinner as well and possibly staying open on Friday and Saturday until midnight," Buchholtz said, "I am planning on continuing the tradition of game nights and am open to any ideas that our brilliant college students may have."

Loryn Schultz ventured into Literary Dairy with her brother when they had an hour of time to spare. "They have really good sundae options, and the manager was super nice," Schultz said.

Jack MacGregor claims he had an "impressive experience" at the small-town ice cream shop, with the variety of dairy free, sundae and shake options. He purchased maple pecan ice cream on a waffle cone. "I didn't expect the maple ice cream to be good," MacGregor said.

Krista Wamhoff bought a lemon blue raspberry cheesecake

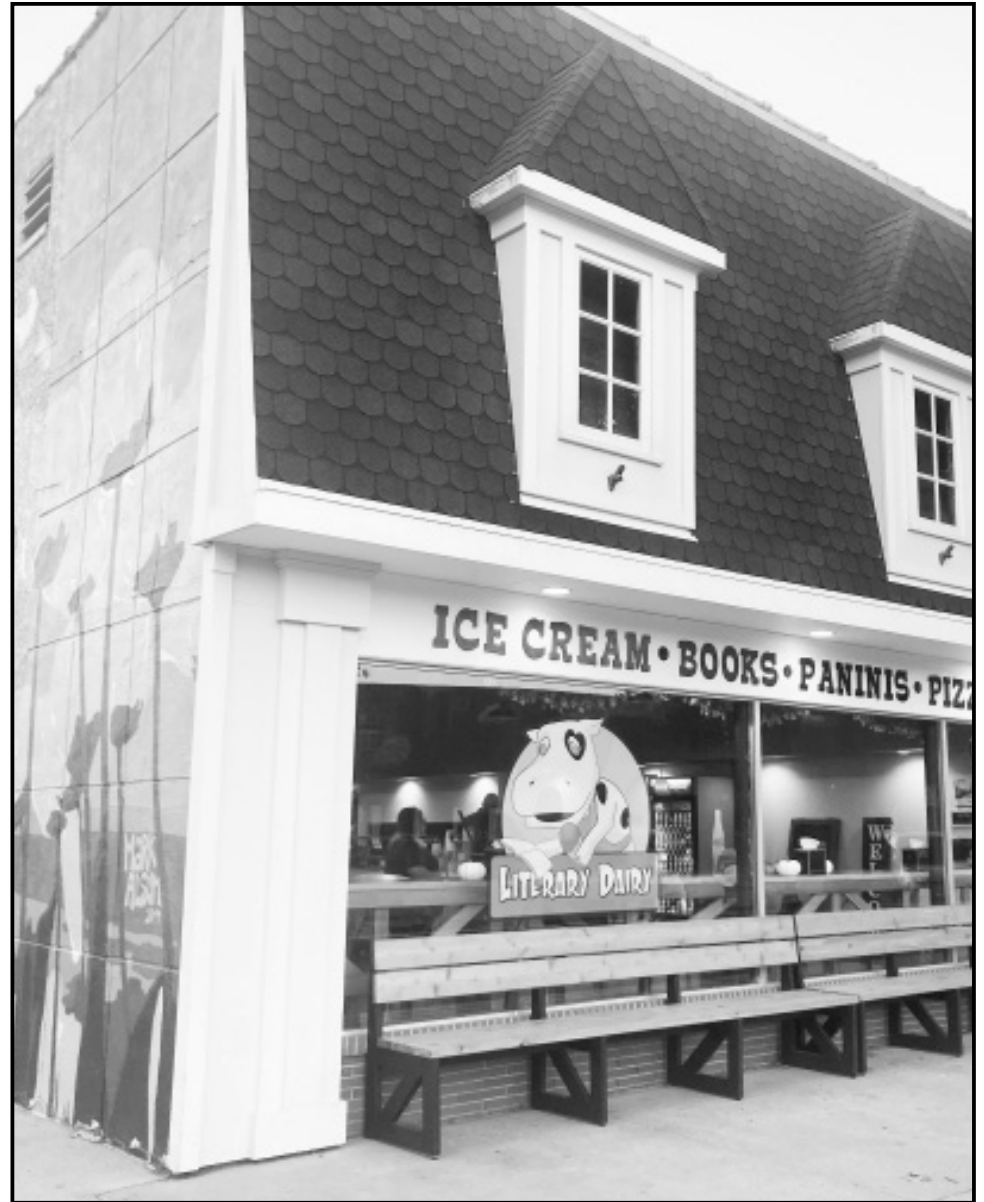


PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM  
Buchholtz looks forward to seeing new and old faces walk through the doors of Literary Dairy.

flavor after being curious about the place. "Orange City needed an ice cream location that is not soft served," Wamhoff said.

Buchholtz has been enjoying

his new business venture, seeing old and new faces waltz through the doors wishing to grab a sweet treat. "I have a little saying

that I have always said when

starting this venture. 'Ice cream may not change the world, but it can make a bad day just a little bit brighter.'"

## Brouwer returns to NW as faculty

### FROM PAGE 1

When asked about how much campus has changed, she stated that since her time as a student was a long time ago, things on campus have indeed changed. One such example of that is when she was a student there was chapel four times a week. Not only that, but Hospers was also a girl's dorm and two of the houses she lived in no longer exist. According to Brouwer, "There are many people, housing and buildings that have changed, but the core of what NW is and their desire to make passionate, courageous and faithful Christ followers has not changed."

As the director of discipleship, Brouwer oversees and facilitates the variety of small group and

prayer ministries all over campus. She does this by equipping 10 paid student staff as well as training 35 volunteer student leaders. She also provides pastoral care, connects students with mentors, connects local churches with ministry efforts and supports students in worldwide service-learning efforts. Brouwer also works alongside Mark DeYoung. "Kristin is a wonderful shepherd, her resilience, steady strength and zeal for seeing people fuller and freer in Jesus is contagious and inspiring," said DeYoung. He also stated she's been a gift and blessing to work with, even though it has only been a handful of months.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM  
The Rev. Kristin Brouwer eager to serve as NW's director of discipleship.



## NW insatutes new major and minor

NEW PROGRAMS BRING STUDENTS

NICHOLE HANSEN  
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Coming to college can be really confusing, whether you are a new, incoming freshman or a returning senior. It makes it even more confusing when you add in the arrival of a new major and minor. This past spring semester, Northwestern added the new major social enterprise, along with a non-profit management minor. The new major and minor are in place to teach NW students more about being a leader through God's word using several different business techniques. The major focuses on the aspects of business, and through the minor, students learn to bring the world of Christianity into play

through their future careers.

Another aspect students may be wondering about is why these courses were added to NW's degree audit. The school already has Public Relations and Business, are they not the same thing? Though they may be similar, there is definitely one thing Social Enterprise and non-profit management have that other majors and minors do not: variety.

When talking to Jillian Simon, she explained how crazy busy she had been the year before. "I love learning new things, but that became difficult when it came to choosing something to study. For a while, I was a double major and minor," Simon said. She continued by saying that the new major and minor were perfect for what she wanted to do, which happened

to be a little bit of everything. Simon even specifically said that she changed majors because it "combines three areas of study that were interesting and important to me in creating a successful and fulfilling career." Through further research, it's obvious that the new courses have also beneficially helped students with their faith journey and spiritual health. Many students involved with the course path have stated that it taught them to ask difficult questions and pursue answers. "Being interdisciplinary has shown me how all things work together to love God, others, myself and creation while working hard to that end," Simmon said. Though this obviously plays a large role in why students chose the new major and minor,



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM  
The new major and minor create opportunities for students.

it is definitely not the only reason. Not only does it aid students' interests while also furthering their relationships with God, it also helps with creating a new generation of leaders and inventors. After talking to many of the social enterprise students, I learned that several

of them are deciding to take their degrees to lead charities that help with certain causes. Whether it be to help a human in need or an animal, it becomes very obvious that these NW students have the ability to change lives, as do all of us.

Although it may be

confusing now as the program is just starting off, it can be seen that the new courses have the ability to truly change the world in ways that other courses may not. It truly does not take a genius to see that it has the potential to create great careers for some of NW's current and

## Students Study Greece

FROM PAGE 1

Another student who went on the study abroad was junior Jake Franksen-Small. "Getting to see all the places, culture and artifacts that we studied in class was awesome. It meant a lot more seeing those things when we knew all the history and

importance associated with it. I also loved getting to know the people that came with me. I didn't really know any of them well before the trip, but I made great friends on the trip!" He was surprised to see how proud the Greeks were of their history and past. Franksen-Small said, "The companionship you

will make on this trip is unmatched. You get to meet a handful of new people that you become very close with!"

The Greece SSA is a part of NW's Honors Program. By becoming an honors student, you too can have the first priority to go to Greece for three weeks!

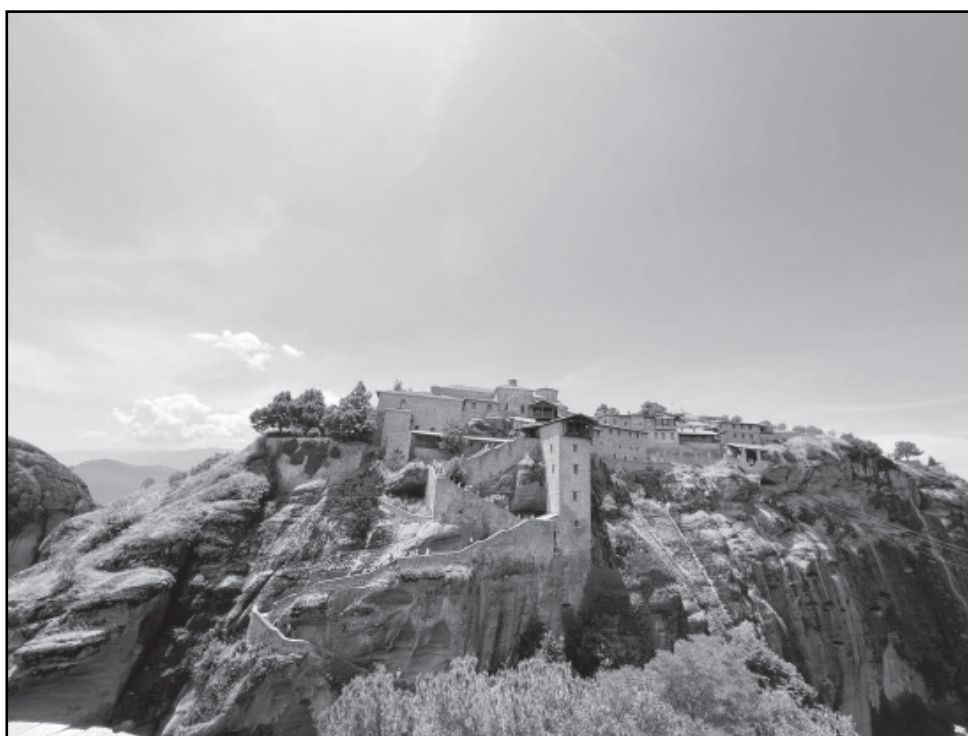


PHOTO BY GRACE WESTRATE  
NW Honor's Program studies ancient Grecian sites.



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## Hot Takes

What is something on campus you think is overrated & why?

“Ring by spring- creates a negative mindset of failure if you leave NW without a ring”

“The weird concrete yoga mats. Everyone already hates them but they are still overrated.”

Do you lick or bite your ice cream & why?

“Lick! Too cold to bite.”

“Lick!! Because you can taste it better.”

“Bite.”

The quotes expressed in these polls represent student opinion and is no way intended to indicate particular perspectives or beliefs of the beacon staff.

Be sure to follow the Beacon on Instagram to submit your own HOT TAKES!

## Who Let the Dogs Out? Kyle Christy



Jessica Nibbelink  
Psychology

As the first few weeks of school come and go, as homework gets procrastinated and practices start, students begin to find their rhythm. Our beginning days on campus bring about conversations of asking how summers went or how nervous we are to be in organic chemistry. The regular pattern of our college lives takes a hold. Though this year has started on a different note. Classes seem to have started off well, though something devious has been running ramped through our campus.

Conversations consist of hushed tones and murmurs of outrage saying, “Who is that?” or “What does he think he is doing?” or “I was having a good day, and then I saw his feet.” Many students and faculty have noticed there seems to be a mysterious man lurking around

campus exposing his feet to everyone. He has been stomping his bare feet on the green, through the LC and even in our classrooms. And let me tell you, his dogs are out and barking.

You may be asking yourself, “Who is this guy committing this heinous crime?” Well, it would be none other than our esteemed Kyle Christy. This barefoot enthusiast has made his name known among campus by starting a revolution. His revolution consists of marching around campus, tootsies out for the world to see. Though the revolution has seemed to die down, what stops Christy from sparking a revival?

There are limited ways to protect oneself from a complete dog take over, but that doesn’t mean all hope should be lost. There are a few easy tips to maintain your modest footwear status. I would encourage all of campus to refrain from our beloved birks and chacos. I know the chaco tan lines are important to maintain, but during these trying times consider putting them on hold. If you simply cannot resist the fun footwear, consider a socks and sandals alternative.

Another way to safeguard your precious little gifts from God would be to turn and repent now, Raiders. Turn to Him through our hardships. Remember

to pray constantly, not only for ourselves, but also our fallen brothers. If we rely on God to get us through these trying times, we will be able to make it out stronger on the other side, like steel toed boots.

Those who have been affected by this crisis should consider carrying an extra pair of shoes. Our fallen brothers need our help. We need to gather around and take them into our loving arms. Help clothe them, as Jesus clothes us in our salvation. We are called to be hands and feet of the Lord, but maybe it is time to be hands and shoes of the Lord.

Now what do we need? A call to action. Raiders it is time to stand up and put our shoes on.

## What Your Latte Order Says About You



Sawyer Hildreth  
Spanish

One thing about me is that I have a lot of hobbies, such as crocheting, taking BuzzFeed quizzes, palm reading, and brewing coffee and tea (skills which I have picked up from working as a barista for five years). Given my ability to vaguely guess people’s personalities from lines on their hands and the overall vibe I get from them, I decided “Why not write an article applying the same principles to common latte orders?”

To preface, when it comes to personality readings and BuzzFeed quizzes, these are all blanket statements that give an indication, not a complete sign that this is truly what your latte order means, but instead, it signifies that most people who order their lattes in this manner have some aspect of this in their personality. In other words, take what resonates and leave what does not.

I will start with the temperature of the latte you order. If you order a latte that is hot, you are very practical, have good common sense, and tend to be a very social person. You have a warm personality and a passion for life and all the opportunities it brings. If you order your latte cold (meaning with ice, or chilled), this indicates an artistic temperament and a very bright mind. You are very calm and collected and have a stable mind which comes in handy when life throws unexpected things your way, which tends to happen often.

Next, we have the different kinds of milk and what that implies. If you order a latte with regular 2% milk, this means that you are family-oriented, have a big personality and are dedicated to what you put your mind to. In the coffee world, regular milk with any fat content at all tends to mask the flavor of espresso and the syrups that are put within your coffee. Given that this order has milk as the main star of the show, this represents that you have a sort of “main-character” energy about you. Next is almond milk, which has a water base and low-fat content, allowing for the taste of espresso and syrup to be excellently supported and not overpowered. In relation to a person’s personality, this person is soft-spoken and quiet in support of the friends around them. For the oat milk drinker,

given its very creamy texture and ability to support the flavor of espresso and syrup without overpowering the flavors, they are a strong friend who is able to support themselves while also being a strong base for their other friends to lean on.

Next, we have the three main flavors, caramel, vanilla and mocha. Given the heating process in which caramel is made, this flavor tells me that you are someone who thrives under pressure and goes through trials with a sweet disposition and outlook on the grand scheme of things. This person is very perseverant. For vanilla, one may think this person is basic, but they’re not basic, they’re a fan of simplicity. A person who gets a vanilla latte is someone who recognizes that joy resides in the simple pleasures of life. They probably have a collection of stickers, trading cards, or little trinkets that they bought with their pocket money. Lastly, we have mocha. Mocha is a dark chocolate flavor that represents sophistication and appreciation for finer things in life. You are very smart, well-rounded and have good judgment.

While there are many other flavors of coffee to discuss, and a variety of milk to choose from, know that no matter what your coffee preference is, you have been created uniquely and wonderfully made and that deserves to be celebrated with a nice, iced latte.

### Editor’s Note

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## Sport Philosophy: The Magic of Volleyball

ATHLETICS AND THE ARTS MERGE

CLARA PAHL ENGLISH

There is nothing to say here, except that the beginning of the Northwestern College Volleyball season is as normal as ever. Coach Kyle Van Den Bosch and company have been stirring up wins since 2005 that now seem borderline old in all respects. This is not to downplay the movement of culture-changing, disciplined players and coaches who are united in their approach to the game.

Instead, this article is an introduction to

the Grecian subject of sport philosophy, a sub-discipline that is just as much a satirical take on the questions reporters ask at press conferences as it is a legitimate humanity.

For a brief refresher, let 'humanity' be defined as a liberal experience directed at learning human culture. Also: humanity is freedom.

Many athletes equate playing sports to freedom. Therefore, in the context of volleyball, the process of becoming more human includes smacking a leather ball at the floor on the other side of the net. Again. And again. And again.

Until what? A satisfying glimpse of boredom

derived from the repetitious thwunking and screeching that echo across the court in pulsing rhythms. Boredom is the preferred outcome.

The sound of boredom is the Bultman Center bursting with woos and whistles and the brass of the pep band. Not quite 'Roger Federer as Religious Experience,' but close enough that the swarms of attendants recognize the higher power at play and respond in a sociologically significant manner. Their reactions are validated.

For example, a pass from Junior Granstra for a Senior Horstman kill is an instinctual surrender from years of disciplined

practice. The audience is at a magic show waiting for the act's completion. The monotony reveals the win.

The more wins, the more intense the satisfaction. Of course, like this Labor Day Classic tournament, when sophomores Jazlin De Haan and Alysen Dexter led the team in double-digit kills past No.

4-ranked Park and the University of Saint Mary, satisfaction comes from taking straight sets with the same stamina as a dog chasing its tail.

For anybody tripping over the philosophical abyss that is athletics, please embrace the irony.



PHOTO SUBMITTED The tight-knit volleyball team begins their season with a flash.

Those who have been Den Bosch's crew, there athletes only know the is just something about ecstasy of being in motion; volleyball. they know the power of habits. Other than that, there is really no precise explanation for why sport calls to the heart. In the instance of Van

## First-year Soccer Standout Alexa Johnson

POWER SCORER STARTS STRONG

COLLIN VERSCHOOR ENGLISH TEACHING

With a new school year comes a new soccer season and plenty of fresh faces on the field.

One face that is fresh in everybody's mind is stand out first year forward Alexa Johnson. Johnson has had a stellar performance, leading the Red Raiders with 6 goals in just four games. The Northwest Iowa native comes from Spencer, Iowa where she grew up playing soccer since the age of five.

Throughout her soccer career, she says she has been part of some great teams, and her accomplishments reflect her statement. In high school, she

was part of three state qualifying teams. In her junior and senior year, she clinched both first team all-district and first team all-state awards. She also played on the all-tournament team her junior year and on the elite Iowa team her senior year.

These achievements are just a glimpse of Johnson's talent; her six goals are a snippet of her high school's record of an unbelievable 120 goals in three years. Like all first-year students, Alexa has been challenged in adjusting to a new way of living both on and off the field.

"The biggest change from high school soccer to college soccer is the intensity of play," she said.

She is grateful for her team and coaches: "The transition [to college] has been outstanding! The camaraderie has made this

change even easier."

Alexa is more than just a soccer player; she is also a student and a member of the campus community. The community that is so often marked as a cliché is one of the reasons she chose to come to Northwestern. When asked why she chose NWC, Johnson said, "I chose NW because of the small caring community. The coaches, the team and professors made me feel like I was at home."

Alexa is right where she needs to be. Besides the opportunity to be inspired by her dedication, there will be countless other opportunities to watch Johnson's game-changing athleticism. The next soccer game is Saturday, September 10 at 2:30 in Orange City against York College.



PHOTO BY WILLIAM MINNICK Freshman Alexa Johnson claims her space after high school career.

## Athlete Mental Health Prioritized at NWC

ADVOCATING FOR PLAYERS

GRACE BACHELDER PSYCHOLOGY

Northwestern College is where many students discover a community of people to help them through their new journey. For student-athletes, sports can provide a family and a sense of comfort. However, sports can add immense stress and pressure to the athletes' lives.

Athletes are expected to be mentally tough, so being vulnerable can be perceived as a sign of weakness. Tracl coach Matt Johnson and wrestling Coach Rik Dahl of wrestling affirmed how

pivotal prioritizing mental health is for athletes.

"On the performance side, it can be the make-or-break point and have an impact on the outcome of that competition," said Johnson.

It is the coach's responsibility to provide a safe space where the athlete can be vulnerable with no judgment. This is only possible when there is a positive relationship between the athlete and the coach. Leaders in athletics must learn to recognize signs of stress, depression, and anxiety, such as a lack of motivation or focus, or tardiness to practices.

Dahl, head coach of wrestling, believes in a transformational

coaching philosophy rather than a transactional philosophy. Transactional relationships are based on what student-athletes can do rather than who they are.

Transformational coaching does not care if the athlete is a varsity starter or a JV player. Every athlete matters to the coach, and they have value on the team. Although winning is a priority, competitiveness falls underneath the athlete.

NW coaches take the time to get to know their athletes and form a connection with them. They prove to their athletes they are more than statistics with their actions. The results are worth it.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM Coach Rik Dahl greets an athlete.

From Johnson to Dahl, athletic staff at NW look at the bigger picture by placing faith and character

above winning. Every athlete has a different background, and it is up to the coaches to take

whatever baggage each athlete has, love them and help them thrive.

A team is only as great

as its leader. A great coach can change a life.



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# The wizarding world of Hogwestern

## SAC ROLLS OUT NEW THEME

### GRACE REGINALD PUBLIC RELATIONS

This year, Northwestern College, otherwise known as “Hogwestern,” will be diving into the world of Harry Potter through the Student Activity Council’s line-up of events. Lucas Heiberger, director of student activities, has always loved the fantasy world of the Harry Potter series. “The books and movies came out while I was growing up, and with the influence of older siblings and several ‘you look like Draco Malfoy’ comments over my childhood, the series really came to hold a special place in my heart,” Heiberger said.

This fondness of the series came to inspire Heiberger’s brainstorming. “Hogwestern has been my brainchild for over two years,” Heiberger said. “The inspiration really started when I thought about

how cool it would be if NW, Dordt and Briar Cliff could all compete in a Tri-Wizard Tournament like the event from the Harry Potter series.” After looking further into it, Heiberger realized that there are many ways to integrate various Harry Potter events into all-campus events at NW.

This year’s O-Show gave first-year students an introduction to the Harry Potter theme. The rest of campus got their first glimpse of the theme with the Start-of-Term Feast and the Clash of the Houses – an adaptation of the annual Clash of the Classes. Senior Brevin Brands attended both events and observed how people who would have never met were brought together through friendly competition and gatherings. “Seeing many freshmen and transfers getting involved and meeting new people has been great!” Brands said.

Sophomore Collin Verschoor shares the

enthusiasm for Hogwestern, seeing it as an opportunity for new connections to form. “SAC created an environment where you interact with others both in your own house and in others. That helps build and strengthen relationships,” Verschoor said. He believes SAC’s theme for the year has the potential for larger impacts. “We oftentimes make fun of the word community at NW because it gets used in everything, but I think this theme for the year is really a way to build a community that spans across dorm, gender, and year,” Verschoor said.

SAC hopes that any student can find a place in this community, even if they’re not well-acquainted with the Harry Potter series. “I don’t want newcomers to the Harry Potter series to feel like they’re missing anything,” Heiberger said. “My goal is for NW students to ditch the dorm room for the day and do something memorable



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
The Hogwestern House Cup will go to the house that earns the most points throughout the school year.

and meet new people. I guess books or watch the movies!” it’s just bonus points if it encourages people to read the

# Incoming class continues the trend of growth

## RECORD NUMBER OF FRESHMEN

### EMMA GEARY HISTORY

What a whirlwind these first few weeks have been! Upperclassmen have been getting back into their school routines, and the first-year students are establishing their presence on campus. Many upperclassmen have taken the reins to introduce the first-year students to Northwestern, but has anyone else noticed how many new faces there are? This year, there are 321 new students on campus, making for the largest incoming class in the past six years. This shows a consistent trend of growth in the incoming classes over the past four years. Rising enrollment rates have been attributed to improvements in marketing, admissions and various other departments.

NW’s expanding online presence and recruitment strategies are contributing factors to getting more people in the door to see this community. The marketing department works to target students of certain demographics. Thanks to these efforts, NW is becoming known to people who may have never heard of it before. Tamara Fynaardt, vice president of marketing and enrollment, explains that while her department seeks to bring visitors to campus, it is what prospective students and their families observe on their visits that makes them want to enroll. “Although enrollment and marketing are the ‘front lines’ for recruiting each new class, attracting and enrolling students is a campus-wide effort. My team and I are so grateful for

the students, professors, coaches and staff members who help us recruit students, both directly and indirectly,” Fynaardt said. A total of 1,014 prospective students visited campus last school year, and results from surveys show that NWC’s Christian commitment, academic rigor, and community #StandOut to visitors. The NW community is witnessed during campus visits, and the funny thing is that it is not a façade. Marlon Haverdink, dean of residence life, explains that student reports indicate community is a reality found in residence halls. “Last year 96% of our students reported that they were very satisfied or satisfied with their residence life experience. We talk about being a tight-knit community at NWC, and I think our emphasis on the

student experience in the halls really contributes to that sense of community,” Haverdink said. It is a privilege and a gift to welcome more students to NW, but such an influx of new students has an inevitable impact on NW’s culture and facilities. Over 55% of the first-year students live in Coly and Fern, and some people

have complained about a lack of parking spaces. Athletic facilities are also facing new challenges with 70% of the incoming class being athletes. NW’s current layout will have a difficult time sustaining these growing numbers without some additions, but NW is constantly looking for ways to improve its current facilities, so

these improvements will come with time. Planned projects include a new women’s dorm and expansion of the Bultman Center. In the coming years, NW will continue to create spaces for new faces in its community.



PHOTO BY AMELIA HOLT  
RA Alyssa Feeley studies the names of freshmen in Fern.