4-23-2010

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Housing changes for 2010-11 school year

BY ANDREW LOVGREN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Even with Heemstra Hall closing, NW campus housing is in order for the 2010-2011 school year.

All current Heemstra residents had the option to live in northwest Colenbrander Hall, which will house a majority of the current freshmen through juniors.

“We were happy we could make some space for them to move together,” said residence life director Patrick Hummel. “Depending on our numbers, we may even have some room for incoming freshmen.”

To make more room for students, the computer lounges on each of Colenbrander’s three floors will be converted to housing. The computers will be moved into the study lounge, which will be painted and refinished to accommodate the new usage.

The basement of Colenbrander will also be reopened.

“We don’t have current numbers, it looks like it will be okay,” Hummel said. “We’ll know more May 1st when housing deposits are due.”

To make more room for students in West Hall, nine men will move into Vanderhill Cottage, the white house that is currently the Mission House behind Stegenga Hall. The two study rooms in West will be converted to house one person each.

Also, married housing will not be offered to allow more men to move out of the dorms.

“We’re right where we were hoping to be,” Hummel said. “Our numbers are about where they were last year, and everything looks to be ready.”

Fierce and new: NW’s Best Dance Crew

BY JENNA VAN OORT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The reality television world has taken dance to a new level, and Northwestern students have followed close behind.

The Student Activities Council already adopted the idea of “Dancing with the Stars” by creating their own “Dancing with the Prof.” It is no surprise that when planning SAC events for this year, an idea came up to make NW’s own version of the MTV reality competition show “America’s Best Dance Crew.”

Whether students are faithful followers of the show or have never heard of it, all students are invited to check out the upcoming event, Northwestern’s Best Dance Crew. The dancing will take place this Friday, April 23, at 10 p.m. in the Bultman Center. A $2 admission will be charged.

Five crews made up of a total of 45 students have been practicing diligently to prepare for the competition. Alex Menning, Kristin Kooima, Lee Stover, Martin Beer and tag-teammates Aaron Appel and Blake Norris each serve as captains of their own dance crews. Each crew will perform a three-and-a-half minute dance. A judging panel will choose the top three crews to move on to the next round. The top crews will each perform a dance in less than two minutes, and the audience will vote for their favorite by a live-text vote.

To go along with the anticipation of this new event, Southern Movement, a hip-hop/country dance crew from Nashville, Tenn., will be visiting campus this weekend.

The five-member crew garnered national recognition after competing on season four of MTV’s “America’s Best Dance Crew.” Carone Tharp, the team captain, was the hip-hop teacher for NW sophomore Jill Black when she was in high school in Tennessee.

Jill has since been in contact with Carone and said, “I just texted him and told him about Northwestern’s Best Dance Crew. He said if they needed a judge or performance that he would bring Southern Movement to Orange City for the weekend.”

The crew will be performing in chapel on Friday, April 23, critiquing the student crews and performing a couple of dances at the competition. Students involved in a dance crew will also have the chance to learn from the professionals in a workshop hosted by Southern Movement.

Jill is looking forward not only to watching her old dance teacher perform with his crew, but also “to seeing an old friend and getting a little taste of home. I think Southern Movement is exciting to watch. They have a lot of spunk and get involved with their audience. I wish I had moves like them!”

SAC member and dance crew leader, Alex Menning said, “Everyone should come to Northwestern’s Best Dance Crew because Southern Movement is going to be sweet and there will be some fierce competition among the student crews, too!”

Volcano effects felt around the world, on campus

BY LINDEN FIEGGE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It seems Eyjafjallajökull is not only erupting itself, but also blew much of the world’s air travel economy out of proportion as major airlines worldwide struggled to find their feet under mounds of ash. The volcano erupted last Wednesday near Iceland’s capital, Reykjavik. Most Northern European airlines had to delay and close down flights completely.

According to msn.com, the volcano is the only trauma since the airline effects of Sept. 11 with such heightened flight disruption. Except for emergency situations, all airports in England, Ireland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Belgium were closed down, as well as many in France.

According to “The New York Times” interviewee, Peter Morris, chief economist from Ascend, “half a million to a million people’s travel will be disrupted in the U.K. over a couple of days.”

With ash reaching heights of the air travel, precautions were taken to limit the negative effects caused by the ash on engine and other mechanical parts. Flights in and out of the U.S. were also cancelled, such as from Chicago, New York and other major airports.

As airlines get up and running and routines get back to normal, anxious businesses and families are yet to be completely settled as concern with the possibility of future eruptions looms. While recovery was relatively quick considering the span of the volcano, future activity could detriment the world’s economy through interrupted business travel, tourism, similar airline delays and the like, msn.com reported.

While Northern Europe is certainly feeling the dramatic, physical results of the eruption, there is no question that concerns have migrated to Northwestern. Emily Mullenberg, a junior who had been studying in England this semester, returned to the U.S. this week but only after being stranded for five days due to airline delays.

As of now, most European countries suffering from airline cancellations are back on schedule with only a few delays.
Band and Choir to perform: From Beethoven to James Bond...

BY SHELBY VANDER MOLEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With guest performers of all ages, a capella vocals, and plenty of instruments, the weekend is jam-packed with musical endeavors for performers and listeners alike.

Choir
A program that included a solo for a boy soprano and a long-time interest in bringing a children’s choir to perform alongside the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus (SCOC) was what birthed the upcoming joint concert to be held Saturday, April 24, at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel.

The 64-member SCOC directed by Thomas Holm, professor of music, includes NW students and performs choral orchestral literature annually. This time the 10-member Siouxland Boys Choir will join them.

Hosapers Kimberly Miller, director of the boys’ choir, said of the opportunity, “I trust it will be a great learning opportunity for the boys and hopefully inspire other young gentlemen to participate in their school and community choirs.”

Holms said that the pieces by Faure and Bernstein add to the enjoyment of the evening. He explained Faure as “full of wonderful color changes,” of the evening. He explained Faure and hopefully inspire other young learning opportunity for the boys opportunity, “I trust it will be a great learning opportunity for them to hear us, and it might encourage them to continue with their band career in college.”

Two of the biggest pieces for the concert are Gershwin’s “Rhapsody in Blue” and Gorb’s “Awayday.”

“Rhapsody in Blue” is one of the most well-known and beloved pieces written in the 20th century,” McGarvey said. “It was the first piece to seek to combine the jazz and classical worlds of music.”

McGarvey is also excited to perform this piece with an accompaniment of “such a world-class pianist,” Juyeon Kang, another professor of music.

“I haven’t played with the Symphonic band, so I am excited to play with the group,” Kang said. “I just love playing with students.”

The piece by Gorb will top off the evening. Senior band member Sarah Shively described it as “riding in a convertible with James Bond. It is a great piece to listen to as well as to play.”

BY MEAGAN MCDUGALL
STAFF WRITER

Dance ‘season’ continues with guest performance

Dance transcends all seasons at Northwestern as Rush, Dancing with the Pros and NW’s Best Dance Crew cover the calendar from August through May. A new dance experience will be added to the list on Thursday, April 29, at 7:30 p.m. when Dance in Company, a group from the University of Iowa’s dance department, comes to campus.

Dance in Company is a collection of 12 undergraduate and graduate students that performs a wide variety of styles, from modern and jazz dance to classical and contemporary ballet. Their director, Eloy Barragán, has danced with multiple well-known ballet companies, such as the New York Theater Ballet and the Washington Ballet, as well as the New York City Ballet and the New York City Opera. He received his B.A. and M.F.A. in Dance from the University of Iowa.

Two of the biggest pieces for the concert are Gorb’s “Rhapsody in Blue” and McGarvey’s “Awayday.”

As the new SGA President-elect, Justin Jansen is ready to take the position in the fall with plenty of enthusiasm.

What made you want to run for SGA President?
I had an idea that we should have a fire pit on campus, and I had no idea how to make it happen. Turns out this thing called SGA can make things like that happen, so I joined.

Why is SGA important to you?
I genuinely feel that SGA is doing good work and that it can do a lot more good work. We always have the students and campus community in mind and we want to do what is best for them, so we are going to make it happen.

What topics do you want to address next year as president?
Many of our current student initiatives are heading in the direction of improving campus activities. I feel this is an excellent direction and that we are fully capable of enhancing this area of student life. We will also be addressing many other topics, such as meal ideas, general education requirements, the Internet filter, facility hours, and campus conservation.

What changes do you hope to see next year?
I want to start it off by saying SGA has already put in motion many changes that students will see next year. We are looking into turning an RSC classroom into a lounge area by moving the pool tables and other equipment in and taking the desks out. This summer, the cafeteria will undergo a remodel project and SGA is doing all they can to financially support this project. Also taking place this summer is the building of a fire pit. It will be located in the area east of Stegenga Hall, in front of the Franken Center. Two sand volleyball courts will also be added to this same location.

How will you implement these changes?
I do not like to call them changes; rather I would like to call them building blocks. My hope is to add to and capitalize on what we already have, building on our great institution through hard work and commitment. Abraham Lincoln once said, “If you find yourself up against a concrete wall, don’t worry, you can always jump over it.” SGA wants to do to everything possible to address the needs of the campus community.

What has been the most rewarding part of being a member of SGA?
Watching an idea become actuality and meeting the people who run and take care of this place, like all those people over in maintenance.

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All numbers per day, per student.
There’s no better way to conserve than to serve with cons.

BY JMA SWEDE, NODADUTCH

In recognition of the growing criminal population in Sioux County, and particularly in Orange City, SGA has decided to combine forces with Prison Ministry in the creation of a new service program dedicated to serving the cons of Sioux County. A couple of names were suggested for the new program, but ConServe was the name decided on. Students Unite in ConServing (SUCS) was the other name submitted.

ConServe activities will include writing encouragement letters on recycled paper to give to the cons, taking shorter showers to experience one aspect of how rough prison life is and eating food from line one in the cafeteria to experience what prison food is like.

ConServe members will also have the opportunity to help out with additional, bigger projects. These projects will take place during the times of the year when the crime rate spikes. Last year, Orange City’s crime rate peaked at 0.0001 during April and May, the city’s tulip months.

Marla Havetoserve, director of service learning, sees a definite need for this new program in Orange City.

“In the weeks leading up to the Tulip Festival, hundreds of college students, tourists and children are arrested for picking tulips,” Havetoserve said. “These people will spend anywhere from one to ten nights in prison. The city of Orange City could definitely use the extra help from students who are willing to interact with these ruthless criminals.”

As painful as it may be to serve the tulip desecrators, Havetoserve does not want that to hinder students from signing up for ConServe.

“Hopefully, by showing them Christ’s love through ConServe, they will repent from their tulip-picking sin, which is clearly condemned in the New Living Tulip (NLT) Bible,” Havetoserve said.

One of the first projects that ConServe members will participate in is renovating the inside of the Chamber of Commerce windmill. Prison cell accommodations will be placed on the first floor so that when tourists stop in carrying tulips that they “innocently and unknowingly” picked, they can be sent directly to an open cell.

Students who want to get involved in ConServe should contact Jess Marcia, SGA president. Upon agreeing to be a member of ConServe, each student will receive an orange jumpsuit.

“We live in Orange City. We’ll be working with prisoners,” Marcia said. “Of course, we ordered orange jumpsuits.”

Second Chances: 2010 Chapel schedule

BY CAMERO CARLOWDOWN

Chaplin Marlin Van Art released the chapel theme and some key note speakers for the fall 2010 chapel schedule. The theme has been declared as second chances with the five speakers being Tiger Woods, Chris Brown, OJ Simpson, Tom Cruise and Marshall Mathers.

Woods, a golfer on the PGA tour, will speak on the importance of staying pure through your relationships and marriage. He will be hosting a round table discussion on relationships and providing trust for your loved one.

Brown holds many accomplishments in the R&B industry and will be following up Woods’ lessons on proper relationships and treating women with respect. Brown will also be leading the Sunday night praise and worship.

A former NFL star and new author, Simpson will be talking about how victory is not the answer in disputes (barring if he is out on parole). He will also be doing a segment on the consequences of stealing and the consistency of the U.S. Justice System.

Cruise will be teaching about the theory of evolution and science in today’s society. He will be looking at the ultimate reality of mankind.

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Cruise will be teaching about the theory of evolution and science in today’s society. He will be looking at the ultimate reality of mankind.
RSC hurt by volcano, ready to take Heemstrites

BY B.M. EYER & FREE-BALDING
EAGLE
PH.D.s OF STRANGE LOVE

In case you didn’t notice it (and quite frankly, I’m not sure how you would have been able to miss it), the entire roof of the RSC collapsed last week. It’s assumed that this was caused by shockwaves from the recent eruption of Eyjafjallajökull, a volcano in Iceland. Luckily nobody was hurt in the collapse, and Northwestern was able to have the damage fully covered through the volcano insurance that the administration recently purchased. The collapse, however, caused delays for the restructuring of the RSC into a homeless shelter for the Heemstrites.

There was a very close call when a small puppy fell through the opening and became trapped under a piece of debris. The puppy was uninjured, but also unable to escape. Its wails could be heard coming from under the rubble. Finally, after several hours, fire fighter Bryce Vander Stelt repelled down from the hole in the ceiling and managed to use every ounce of strength in his main body to lift the heavy beam, freeing the dog.

This whole situation actually has some deep theological implications for the students here at Northwestern. The story can easily be connected to the story in Luke of when a paralyzed man’s friends lowered him down into a building, so that Jesus would free him from his affliction. But beyond that, we can also see ourselves, being rescued by Christ from the evils of this world, which have kept us trapped for so long. It’s a very powerful concept, being able to relate ourselves to the plight of a helpless puppy.

The repairs to the roof were finished a few hours after the incident, thanks to efforts of the hard-working people down at maintenance. The school believes that the new roof is actually even better than the first one. It now gives a much more open and friendly atmosphere, which will hopefully come into play when the student center is converted into housing for Heemstra refugees next year.

“It’s much different than the previous roof,” stated senior Josh Doorenbos. “I’m actually kind of glad it fell in, because if it hadn’t, the school wouldn’t have been able to fund the amazing new one that we’ll be living under next year.”

Hattrick Pummel has come to the rescue of these homeless men and generously offered them floor space in the RSC. “We’re very excited to be trying out this new style of living,” Pummel said in a recent interview. “We’ve received a lot of positive feedback from the Heemstrites.”

The Centerites (as the Heemstrites have chosen to be called pending the move) will be able to sleep in peace from midnight to seven in the morning when the RSC is unlocked. Due to a lack of space, however, the Centerites won’t have any beds, dressers or desks; they will all be provided with sleeping bags and backpacks that they can keep their possessions in. “I’m really pumped for the guys to be trying something so unique,” current Heemstra RD Murray Boriarty said. “I’m only sad that I won’t get to join them.”

When asked about the possibility of Boriarty acting as a community leader for the Centerites, Pummel refused to comment. “We’re still unhappy that Boriarty is losing his job,” Mike “Minute Man” Colonial, a current Heemstrite and future Centerite, said. “However, he said that he’ll be sure to come check up on us every once in a while, so we’ll settle for that, I guess.”

The Centerites are looking forward to all the possibilities of living in such a large open space with easy access to the Bultman Center and all its amenities. They plan on reviving their ancient tradition of jousting as well as continuing the majority of their current traditions including Ninja Dance and Defense Against Not-So-Fresh Fruit. The Centerites are also looking forward to living in a space that isn’t a death trap, unlike their current residence.
The question on my heart has always been: When is it okay to fart? There definitely isn’t evidence in the Bible of the Disciples breaking wind; so what are the rules? I myself have never been conservative about the matter. I guess it’s just a matter of respect you have for others and for yourself, but in this case I guess I am lacking in both of those areas. I’ve considered holding it in, avoiding the beans on the salad bar and taking Gas-X, but all of those choices harm me and corrupt the natural flow of my body. So, in relation to the appropriateness of expelling stool, next year’s Day of Learning theme will be Body Functions and Faith.

Flatulents can be painful, enjoyable, freeing, pleasing and conversation stimulating—just like faith. We can use our bodily functions to break down barriers between different races across the world. Farting and burping are a universal language; with next year’s Body Functions and Faith theme, we will be able to explore how the natural gas emissions of our body can improve the Kingdom and spread the Word. Some of the workshops include: Belching the Books of the Bible, The Body of Christ: Wine, Bread and Cutting the Cheese, and TOOT TOOT: How to shout our faith louder than a train siren!

Next year’s theme was recommended by our own President, Craig Pristy. “I admit that the extinction of Heemstra will cause a major downfall in community throughout campus, but I believe that bodily functions will help restore community and unite us in our faith.” Next year will be enlightening to students, faculty and staff by breaking the awkward tensions caused by emissions of natural gas. Ultimately we will learn how to grow together and live in community by accepting each other and practicing respect for the unique pitches, tones and smells we all have been made to produce. Heck, maybe we’ll even form a ministry band called, “The Rippers,” that focuses on the Body and the amazing musical tricks it can do.

Overall, next year’s theme will be a gusty one. It should be a rootin’ tootin’ time.

Project Phoenix: Can OC live up to Pella?

In a recent press conference with city officials, Orange City’s Board of Development members stated that Orange City was on its way to becoming the new and improved “Pella of the West.”

Project Phoenix, a recently launched development project, is an attempt for the downtown area of Orange City to not only mirror, but exceed the image and converse of downtown Pella, Iowa as well. Pella has forever been known to cast a shadow on its sister Dutch town of Orange City, and city officials have finally realized the potential that this Northwestern city could have in its future days. Orange City members have been upset with the stereotype of being the “smaller Dutch town” or the town that is on the “outskirts of other prime Dutch towns,” for too long. Orange City is ready to rise up and claim a well-deserved title of prestige.

Project Phoenix’s main goal is replacing the building that burned down on Central Street, however, the development goals are limitless. City officials have released in recent statements that the city is also looking at possibly painting the infamously romantic white bridge downtown, to orange, to promote city pride. Local Northwestern College will also hopefully be renamed Orange City College, to promote the beautiful location on which is sits. Pella has also been claimed to have a well known, and perhaps better-attended Tulip Festival compared to Orange City. Therefore, ideas are being thrown around to possibly change Orange City’s annual Tulip Festival to an annual Flower Festival, with the tag line that states “We accept all Floriculturists.”

The new festival will hopefully draw in more people, not just the ones who favor tulips. Northwestern Junior, Marc Clover said, “There is nothing like the Pella Pride.” However that is exactly what Orange City members are trying to prove different. Perhaps in future years, Orange City Pride will far exceed the pride of a certain central Iowaan city. That is exactly why Project Phoenix was so named. Orange City will hopefully rise from the ashes of a once shadowed city to a burning beacon of light in the Northwest corner of an isolated state.
Administration gets creative with their cutting

BY EASTON BUTTER
MASTER OF ALL THINGS BEACON

Due to the ongoing budget crunch that’s affected nearly every aspect of life at Northwestern College, all classes for years 2010-11, 2011-12, and, potentially, 2012-13 will be taught in the same room at one of two times. “What this does is allow us to expand on several of the core principles we’ve been hoping to integrate this year as, we’ve revised the college’s Mission Statement and such,” said President Craig Pristy.

All classes will now be held, simultaneously, Monday through Friday from either 8-10 a.m. or from 11-1 p.m. “Imagine how much easier it’ll be to talk about your schedule!” said Provost Casper Corsage. “Now you just say: I’m pre-Chapel, or post-Chapel, though after awhile it’ll probably just be pre- and post.”

The new scheduling system will only allow students to take one class at a time, meaning the semester system will be replaced by a block system. “The average course load is four classes per fifteen week semester, so we’ve arranged each class to meet daily for three weeks and two days, which is the most efficient solution,” said President Pristy. While the move is being instituted largely for budgetary reasons — there will only be one building to heat or clean — the administration claims the move will also increase interdisciplinarity. “By having all the classes going simultaneously, a student in, say, a history class, could eavesdrop on a religion class and, right there, make a connection across the disciplines,” said Provost Corsage. “It’s incredibly exciting, from an academic point of view.”

Along with this radical change, the college has announced that it’s in the process of winnowing available majors. “As of now, with the current system, we offer over fifty majors in various fields,” said Dean of Faculty A. Bria Dorset. “We’ve looked closely at other schools, and at the changes we’re all facing in the world, as clear lines continue to dissolve between various intellectual boundaries, and we decided that we needed to blaze a new academic trail.”

To that end, the school will, as of the 2010-2011 school year, no longer be offering degrees in education, nursing, literature, writing and rhetoric, ministry, business administration, music ministry or any physical sciences (biology, chemistry, etc.). “We’ve had to take a real close, difficult look at our major offerings and decide what worked best, not just for the students, but for the college and the remaining faculty,” said President Pristy. “Also, given that all the classes will be held in the same place, we had to make some tough calls about what classes would be appropriate to teach side-by-side.”

The winnowing of majors, which will begin in the 2010-11 academic year, will continue until there remain only ten majors, a process which should be complete as of academic year 2018-19. “What we feel is that there are ten commandments and those have done just fine over the years, and so there’s a real thought that only ten majors will serve our students and our community equally well,” said Dean of Faculty Dorset. “Will there be difficulty as we begin this transition? Of course. But we’re confident that this is the right path for the future of the school.”

Meet a duck named Chicken

BY RUDY FERSUMMER
BORDERLINE QUACK

The Northwestern student handbook says that fish are the only pet allowed in campus housing, but certain students have found their way around this regulation. While there have been rumors that a turtle, a piranha, a frog, and a cat named Roger have all been kept as dorm pets, this story focuses on how a duck named Chicken became the beloved pet and friend of an undisclosed wing in Colenbrander Hall.

Junior Busty Tallman first rescued the duckling from the Sioux Center Bomgaars, and immediately he began bonding with his new roommate. “I’d chase him around the room, watch movies with him, put him in at night,” said Tallman. “I even taught him how to swim in my fish tank and played Frisbee with him.”

Tallman wasn’t the only Coly resident to fall for Chicken the Duck, a name lovingly bestowed by Tallman’s human roommate E.Z. Going, Although Tallman was hesitant to reveal too many details, he hinted at the kind of quality relationship the duck and his owner have found their way around the rules of dormitory living. “Some people would play duck sounds on the computer to keep him from being discovered.”

Along with the unique needs of Chicken, he also advises potential pet owners to be on good terms with their roommate. “Wingmates aren’t important, but roommates are key.”

Tallman’s roommates played a vital role in maintaining Chicken’s anonymity. “My roommate downloaded a song that sounded like a duck,” he said. When someone who couldn’t approve of Chicken walked into the room, we would play duck sounds on the computer to keep him from being discovered.”

Northwestern’s try at public transportation

BY JADA WALKER
STICKING TO THE SIDEWALK

Too tired and slow to walk from the chapel to the RSC in time for class? Always late for your class in the art building after lunch? Looking for a fun and healthy new activity? Northwestern Student Government Association, more commonly known as SGA, has devised the solution: The Rent-A-Bike Program. This program allows you to rent a bike for up to 24 hours, and is all-inclusive, complete with safety helmet and padlock. Students are raving about this new opportunity.

What were SGA’s reasons for instituting the Rent-A-Bike Program? With a campus diameter of about three blocks, organized public transportation doesn’t seem necessary at Northwestern. “Larger campuses have bus systems, but this wouldn’t be logical here, obviously,” said Ike Toorne, administrator. “Whether this program will effectively combat this issue is less certain.”

The Rent-A-Bike Program is also an attempt to stem the rising rate of bike-related crimes on campus. “Bikes are reported missing pretty frequently; people just borrow them without asking if they sign up for the program, and have access to one of their own,” said Ike Toorne, administrator.

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Along with the unique needs of Chicken, he also advises potential pet owners to be on good terms with the RA, to establish hiding places in case of emergency. Most of all, it is crucial to always pay attention to your pet and its surroundings. “It’s easy to get lazy and let your guard down,” he said. “We almost lost Chicken once when we left the door open.”

Tallman and his roommates are living proof that as long as these guidelines are maintained, the sky, or flying animal in this case, is the limit when it comes to dorm pets.
Dorm Beat: A fond farewell

BY SARA CURRY
STAFF WRITER

The end of the school year comes with all kinds of “lasts”--last meal at the cafeteria, last homework assignment, last class, last chapel credit, last exam. For most students, these “lasts” aren’t really “last lasts,” but just “postponed until next semester lasts.” For graduating seniors, these “lasts” serve a bittersweet reminder that the end of the “lasts” always comes sooner than you think.

For the guys who have called Heemstra Hall home, every one of them not only faces a last “last,” but a final goodbye.

The closing of Heemstra Hall has been a difficult and pressing issue throughout the year and with the end rapidly approaching, the guys have come together to celebrate their beloved community as they share how it has influenced their lives.

"Being a member of the Heemstra community has been one of the highlights of my life," senior Jared “Buzsaw” Schmidt said. "It’s been a beautiful experience being a part of a group that loves you for exactly what you are and nothing less."

As a community built on love, Heemstra is known for its acceptance of all kinds of people.

"I think the thing that really sets Heemstra apart is the idea that anyone is welcomed and accepted here," senior David “Dutchie” Gutsche said. "It has definitely taught me to live with people that you normally would have judged and avoided, and to see past small doctrinal issues towards the larger center of love and grace."

F reshman A lex “Weaselbucket” Boston, having only been a part of the Heemstra community for one year, has also been significantly influenced by the accepting atmosphere of the dorm.

"You don’t even have to know a person in Heemstra to talk to them and relate with them on some level and have a good time," he said.

The guys are definitely going to miss those wacky traditions that define Heemstra -- El Gato Negro, the annual trip to “Heemstra Peak” in Colorado, wearing togas around campus, off-the-wall nicknames, Gourd Week -- but what they will truly miss reaches far deeper into their hearts than the mythology of the return of spring and running from muskmelons.

"I will miss having 80 of the most honest and open men I have ever known living within a hundred feet of me," senior Peter “Bottlerocket” Boscaljon said.

The men of Heemstra are more than just a group of guys living together, they are a family.

“What Heemstra has given me are brothers that I will miss more than I could ever imagine,” Schmidt said.

As far as what the future holds for Heemstra, the guys believe that the community of Heemstra will not be lost to the changes that lie ahead. Many of the guys agree that the transition into Colenbrander Hall will have positive results for the NW community as a whole.

"The future looks brighter than I thought it would last semester," Gutsche said. "I think the guys moving to Coly next year have a chance to continue the positive things about Heemstra while joining a larger community."

Sophomore Tyler “Meerkat” McKenney is optimistic about the future of Heemstra as well, but also stresses the importance of accepting and balancing the changes ahead.

“We should celebrate their beloved community as they share how it has influenced their lives.

After hating my life for about 50 hours, I finally woke up, ate a long breakfast, watched a couple of movies with my fellow refugees, and realized that I am in a great situation—thousands of people are stranded in various airports, barely able to take a shower, and I’m stuck in this beautiful city I just finished falling in love with. I think if I would have left on Saturday I would have rushed away from this experience, happy to be done with the challenge of studying abroad.

Now I’m stuck here and I have to think about things—particularly how I’ve grown and changed this semester. My time in Oxford didn’t have to end with me getting yanked out of the challenge of studying abroad.

My last day in Oxford, I took a walk. I saw the same sights as always—the stately spire of Christ Church, the hurried bustle of Corn Market Street, a haggard man, with his mangled dog, selling Big Issue magazines, an old guy with a bandaged nose, a child covered in pink, pushed in a stroller, a tragically troubled Oxford scholar stooping over in his cloak. I treaded slowly as I finished my dramatic goodbye, lingering to take one last look at the amazing view of the Dreaming Spires that make Oxford famous.

But that wasn’t my last day in Oxford. In fact, I’m still here and it’s Wednesday; I’m among one of the hundreds of thousands of stranded travelers who are stuck in Europe or unable to get here because of the Eyjafjallajökull volcano. I know, it sounds like a huge joke. Ash from an Icelandic volcano is keeping me in Oxford; something with that crazy of a name interfered with my life, ruined my plans.

At first I thought hey, this is just making my life a more exciting adventure. This will make an excellent chapter in the memoir of my life. But I think if this was really a story-worthy adventure, the plot would move in more ways than in the up-and-down whiplash I’m experiencing. There really isn’t anything that tale-worthy about saying, “then my flight got cancelled again, then I got a new one, then it got cancelled, and now I don’t know.”

I would much rather tell a story that involves one flight cancellation and then an action-packed exodus to the south of Europe, the north of Africa, the tip of South America, then back to the US. But this is my story. I’m stuck here, and the adventure part is in the subtle irks in my consciousness, the desperate hold on the fizzling hope of clear skies, and the nagging lengths of patience my soul is trying to learn.

The beloved Heemstra Hall, the building that is, is nearing its final year of occupancy. The dorm community, however, will continue.
Red Raider Sports Shorts

Women’s golf hosts another GPAC doubleheader

The Northwestern women’s golf team hosted the Lady Raider Invite on Tuesday and placed fourth out of seven teams. The Red Raiders carded a 347. Dakota Wesleyan won the meet with 318, followed by the University of Sioux Falls (335) and Briar Cliff (342).

Junior Maggie Achterhof tied for second place on the day with a six-over 78 (38/40), just four shots behind the winner. This was Achterhof’s fourth second-place finish and sixth top-ten finish of the year. Senior Rachelle Pedersen shot an 89 (46/43) to place 19th. Senior Anne Eberline (42/48) and Sara Horn (44/44) both shot 90 to tie for 20th. Sophomore Andria Hinz shot 47 and 44 for an overall score of 91, while Kayla Johnson shot a 91 with 45 and 46. The duo tied for 25th place. Freshman Caitlyn DeCock shot 50 both rounds for a score of 100 and tied for 36th, while freshman Leigh Van Hove placed 41st with 106 (54-52).

The Raiders will travel to Sioux Falls, S.D., for the USF Invite on Wednesday, April 28, and will finish the GPAC tournament with the fourth round on Thursday, May 6, in Sioux City.

Softball hits rough patch, drops two to Dordt

The Northwestern softball team lost two to Dordt on Tuesday, 1-5 and 0-8.

In one game, Dordt had 12 hits compared to five by the Red Raiders. Juniors Rachel Harris and Stephanie Van Duyun each went two-for-three and freshman Heidi Esdohr had one hit. Sophomore Kami Kuhlmann came into the game with an impressive 18-game hitting streak, but was unable to continue the streak in her four at-bats.

Kuhlmann pitched all six innings and picked up the loss, giving up 12 hits and four earned runs while striking out three.

Junior Jessica Hooper took the mound for game two, pitching 4.2 innings and allowing six hits and four earned runs. Harris went two-for-two and Kuhlmann added one hit.

Last Friday, NW dropped another GPAC doubleheader to Midland Lutheran, 1-2 and 1-3. The Raiders had seven hits to the Warriors’ six, but were unable to claim the victory.

Kuhlman again pitched all six innings, picking up the loss. She gave up six hits and two earned runs while striking out five. Esdohr went two-for-four to lead the offense.

NW had six hits again in game two. Harris and Van Duyun had two hits and Kuhlmann had one. Hooper gave up eight hits and three earned runs, walked three and struck out three to pick up the loss.

The Raiders are scheduled to host a doubleheader against Dana at 2 p.m. on Thursday for another conference doubleheader.

Baseball splits games with Waldorf

The Red Raider baseball team split games with Waldorf on Wednesday night, losing game one, 14-10, and winning the nightcap, 12-11.

In game one, Northwestern had six hits to Waldorf’s 11. Senior Brad Payne, junior Clint Gingerich, sophomore Steve Englund, junior Curt Bobbenga, junior Mike Zeoliner and sophomore Matt Negaard each had one hit. Senior Brent Larson took the loss on the mound, pitching 5.2 innings. He allowed nine hits and one earned run, walking three and striking out seven. Sophomore Jesus Santoyo finished the game, giving up two hits.

The second game went in favor of the Raiders. They had 17 hits men, placing fourth in the 100-meter dash with a final time of 10.99 after running 10.97 in the preliminaries. Hammock then joined freshmen Mark Johnson, Rick Te Grootenhuis and Taylor Hoekstra to place fifth in the 4x400-meter relay with 3:22.48. The 4x200-meter relay team of Johnson, Te Grootenhuis, and juniors Tim Vermeer and Jeremy Sheppard placed sixth with a time of 1:33.28.

Sophomore Mark Minehart cleared 6.22 in the high jump to tie for seventh place. Freshmen Jordan Vermeer and Adam Potter and seniors Nick Teerdsma and Andy Norris combined for a time of 2:09.5 in the distance medley relay and finished in seventh place.

On Friday, April 16, sophomore Shannon Bowar competed in the heptathlon at Doane relays. She placed fourth overall, setting the school record with 3560 points and qualifying for nationalists. Her best event of the week was the javelin, which she won with a throw of 49’9”.

The Raiders will compete at the GPAC meet in Hastings, Neb., next Saturday. The USF Last Chance Invite will be held on Saturday, May 8, and the NAIA Outdoor Championships will begin on Thursday, May 27.

National qualifiers so far include junior Bream Rozeboom (1:31.42) and senior Ingrid Carlson (1:31.5) in the half marathon, De Jong in the high jump (7’9”), Miles in the 5000-meter run (17:45.33), Fry in the shot put (47’8.5”) and Bowar in the heptathlon.

Provisional qualifiers are senior Angela Wiggins in the half marathon (1:34.16), Fry in the discus (137’8”) and Bowar in the heptathlon.

The fourth round of the GPAC tournament is scheduled for Tuesday, May 4, in Sioux Falls. The NAIA National meet will be from May 18-21 in the Quad Cities of Iowa and Illinois.

Tennis picks up second win over Doane

The Northwestern women’s tennis team won their second match of the season on Saturday against Doane. Sophomore Julie Mineart picked up a loss in No. 1 singles 3-6 and 0-6.

Freshman Jennifer Jansen (2-5) won the No. 2 singles 6-0 and 6-1. Senior Jessica Pomerinke (4-6) won at the No. 3 singles, 6-1 and 6-1, while freshman Keilie Korver (3-7) won 6-0 and 6-0 to win at No. 4 singles. At No. 5 singles, Nessa Summers (4-4) won 6-1 and 6-1 and senior Bobbie Lydick picked up a win at No. 6 singles 7-6, 6-8 and 6-0.

The Red Raiders won all three doubles matches. Mineart combined with Jansen (3-6) to win 8-4 at No. 1. Pomerinke and Korver (4-6) won 8-0 in No. 2 doubles. In No. 3 doubles, juniors Laura Starr and Kate Mammenbach (2-4) won 6-2.

The Red Raiders fell to Concordia 3-6. Korver picked up a win at No. 4 singles, 6-3 and 6-0. Lydick won at No. 6 singles, 2-6, 6-1 and 10-7. Pomerinke and Korver won 9-7 at No. 2 doubles.

The NAIA National meet will be from May 18-21 in the Quad Cities of Iowa and Illinois.