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Lundberg looks forward to year on sabbatical

BY LINDEN FIGGIE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For English professor Ann Lundberg, her upcoming year on sabbatical will provide a mix of travelling, teaching, learning and exploring.

One highlight will likely come next April when Lundberg will travel to New Zealand. Lundberg will teach an intensive environmental literature course for the Creation Care Studies Program in Kaikora on the South Island of New Zealand. “This is my first year doing it,” Lundberg said. “Dr. Laurie Furlong hooked me up with the powers that be.”

To her excitement, the program will take Lundberg back to her educational roots.

“At least theoretically, environmental literature is my field,” Lundberg said. “That’s what I study, and it’s part of my graduate training. It will be nice to both travel to New Zealand and teach that literature to a small group of people.”

Before next April, Lundberg plans to work on, revise and update her work with the fire management agency. “I’m just going to keep putting them out and see what happens,” Lundberg said. “I’m hooked up with the powers that be.”

Lundberg also said that the course involves rhetoric, which incorporates some of her field of expertise.

Her most hopeful prospect, which is pending confirmation, is working for the National Park Service this summer as a park ranger.

“I’ve done that at five parks in the past,” Lundberg said. “I love being outdoors, I love teaching people about the natural history, especially the geology of the places.”

Lundberg has submitted applications for Bryce Canyon in Utah; the Agate Fossil Beds in Nebraska, which contain geology in Native American history; and at a number of other parks, including Lassen Volcanic National Park in northeastern California.

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New theater production presents challenges, humor

BY KARA NONNEMACHER

The Old Vic Theatre in London first opened in 1888, and today it stands as one of the most well known theaters in the world. Between March 8 and May 25, The Old Vic is showing "The Winslow Boy." Next week, halfway across the world from The Old Vic, Northwestern's theater department will also perform "The Winslow Boy" in the England Theatre of the DeWitt Theatre Arts Center.

"The Winslow Boy" takes place from July 1912 through June 1914 and is broken up into four acts, each of which is separated by anywhere from five to nine months. Set in pre-World War I London, the drama tells the story of the Winslow family. The youngest child, Ronnie, is accused of stealing a five-shilling postal note, which results in his dismissal from the Royal Naval Academy.

Ronnie insists to his father Arthur that he is innocent, so the family hires well-known attorney Sir Robert Morton to clear his name.

Sir Robert Morton to clear father Arthur that he is innocent, so the family hires well-known attorney Sir Robert Morton to clear Ronnie's name. As a result of the trial and the amount of time that it takes to be resolved, a fair amount of tension forms between characters, especially those in the family. NW theater professor Jeff Taylor, director of "The Winslow Boy," describes the family as being full of love but with many layers of tension.

"I guess it's like normal families," Taylor said. Taylor said that although the drama is set during a very different time period than today, the audience is still able to relate to struggles the family has and how they experience those struggles and tensions together. The drama is serious and the characters complex.

One of the central characters is daughter Catherine, played by senior theater major Abigail Bierly. Catherine "is quite radical for her time period, as she is a suffragette and a major force in supporting the Winslow case in her family," Bierly said of her character. Figuring out how to best portray this multilayered character has been one of the biggest challenges for Bierly, who described it as "a learning experience."

Jana Latchaw, who plays 14-year-old Ronnie Winslow, has had an entirely different challenge in learning how to best portray her character.

"Playing the opposite sex is pretty difficult for me," Latchaw said. "I tend to stand with my feet together, and that needed to leave completely for this role."

In order to better play her part, Latchaw has been watching movies that star boys around Ronnie's age so she can mirror their movements and manerisms.

"The Winslow Boy" is set in London, so the entire cast has been struggling together to perfect and unify their Old English accents. Taylor even brought in freshman Koray Karakas, who is from London, to help cast members with the dialect. Both Bierly and Latchaw said the voice change has been difficult but that it is one more reason why "The Winslow Boy" will be entertaining for audiences.

Along with the accent, Bierly and junior theater major Katie Shepard, who plays Catherine's mother, Grace, have been wearing corsets during rehearsals to get used to their performance outfits. The corsets force them into their character's posture.

"I think the corset has helped me get into character more," Bierly said.

Other cast members in "The Winslow Boy" include sophomore Alex Benson, who plays Arthur Winslow, the father, who suffers from severe arthritis. Senior Jordan Starkenburg plays Ronnie and Catherine's brother Dickie, sophomore Jacob Christiansen plays Sir Robert Morton, and senior Tiemen Godwaldt plays Desmond Curry, the Winslow family lawyer who is in love with Catherine.

"This is a play that shows family dynamics and how things that happen in the world affect how the family relates to one another," Bierly said.

Family is something that everyone can relate to, which is why both Taylor and Bierly believe "The Winslow Boy" will be enjoyable for all audiences. Although the plot is serious, plenty of comic relief is included in the script.

Audiences in both the DeWitt Theatre Arts Center and the Old Vic Theatre can go back in time with "The Winslow Boy" and experience the cultural challenges produced in London in the early 1900s.

"Tropico 4" is satirical take on dictators, democracy

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

BY MICHAEL GUTSCHE

"Tropico 4" is a Sim City-style game that puts players in charge of a small Caribbean island during the cold war, and allows them to take the role of Eva Peron, Hugo Chavez, Che Guevara or any number of other famed dictators from the era and swaddles the whole situation in satirical humor. That alone should be enough to sell the game, but there's more than just a premise to be had here. The Tropico series, after "Tropico 4" handily avoids these pitfalls by making few building or political options prerequisites for others. Aside from having ministers of education, internal affairs or a power plant, there's not much stopping the player from switching from an agriculture-based economy to a tourism-based system if there's suddenly a drought or a tsunami wipes out most of the farms. This has a leveling effect on certain strategies, and leaves it more up to player preference and the specific island's terrain to develop the plan.

Besides thoroughly enjoyable and well-polished mechanics, "Tropico 4" provides plenty of tongue-in-cheek humor and political satire. Every faction leader and global political figure is some manner of caricature, both in character and behavior. The nationalist leader, plastered in tattoos and wearing biker t-shirts, demands closed borders and complete isolation; the United States' senator keeps making thinly veiled threats to bomb the island into the ground. Even the weather reports are bleeding with wit — a tornado hitting the island is brought to attention as "an enemy tornado that has breached our defenses," and once the storm settles, another alert that describes the damage caused opens with the line "The tornado has retreated!" These people know how to write. "Tropico 4" stands up as a nice alternative to the somewhat-disastrous recent release of EA's reboot of Sim City by striking a reasonable balance between accessibility and depth and offering simplicity without insulting the player. It's also appropriately hilarious in concept and execution.
MOVIE REVIEW
BY MERIDEL WEITZ

Not everyone is a sports fan, but nearly everyone knows the name Jackie Robinson. “42” is the story about the two years in which baseball legend Jackie Robinson broke through the sport’s color barrier. Although not a complete biography, “42” tells the highlights of the inspiring narrative.

Following World War II, the Brooklyn Dodgers manager decides that the time is right to recruit the first black baseball player into Major League Baseball. He spends hours going through the stats of Negro players, and Robinson is chosen from the Kansas City Monarchs. Robinson is offered a spot on the team and eventually given a place in the batting order. Although not a complete biography, “42” tells the exceptional story of Jackie Robinson, the first black player in the Major Leagues.

The most memorable characters from “42” are the ones who deserve to be remembered in history. Robinson and Rickey are baseball legends. Their characters are the American archetype: strong, yet silent, and determined.

“42” is a respectful look at the remarkable life of Jackie Robinson, the first black player in the Major Leagues. Not everyone is a sports fan, but nearly everyone knows the name Jackie Robinson.

‘42’ tells the exceptional story of Jackie Robinson

ALBUM REVIEW
BY TOM WESTERHOLM

The title track on Fall Out Boy’s latest album, “Save Rock and Roll,” is an anthem of nostalgia for a lost youth. “Blood brothers in desperation,” sings frontman Patrick Stump, “The voice of our generation/How’d it get to be so much more appropriate.”

To be sure, the boast “voice of our generation” sounds cocky, but it isn’t ridiculous. For several years, the Chicago four-piece was widely considered the best pop-punk group getting radio time. The post of “Best Pop Punk Band,” at least on a mainstream level, is still wide open, but Fall Out Boy’s new goal, apparently, is to save rock and roll.

What exactly, rock needs to be saved from — and why Fall Out Boy is qualified to be the savior — remains unclear.

Where Stump’s soaring choral melodies used to leap over genre boundaries and lyricist/bassist Pete Wentz’s clever one-liners used to winkle with a strange combination of swagger and vulnerability, much of Fall Out Boy’s sound now reflects its major labelmates’ sound.

“Just One Yesterday” begins with a singing riff and an upbeat drum beat. This song is reminiscent of Stump’s solo project. The first song, “The Phoenix,” features a driving one-two beat in the chorus. Stump’s voice soars into the stratosphere in the chorus of “My Songs Know What You Did in the Dark,” which perhaps best exemplifies the rock sound Fall Out Boy wants to save.

What is perhaps most interesting about “Save Rock and Roll” is that Wentz’s lyrics seem to be both self-aware and defensive about the musical transformation at the same time. “I will defend the faith/Going down swinging/I will save the songs/That we can’t stop singing,” Stump sings in the title track.

But whatever faith Stump claims to be defending likely isn’t the faith his listeners remember.

If listeners enjoy the dance beats, they will likely enjoy “Save Rock and Roll.” If they prefer the fast punk beats and the buoyish energy, charm and enthusiasm of Fall Out Boy’s earlier work, “Save Rock and Roll” will simply be the final step away from what they used to like, which in itself makes the nostalgia seem even more appropriate.

Five Star Guide
Classic: ★★★★★
Excellent: ★★★★★
Good: ★★★★
Fair: ★★★
Poor: ★

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Main Street Holland Plaza
2011 Main Street, Suite D
Orange City

Shawn & Tony’s March 19-21
OBLIVION PG-13
4/19/09 (4:00 PM)
Sol & Sue Manlove (12:00 PM)
42 PG-13
7:00 PM, Sol & Sue Manlove (7:30 PM)
SCARY MOVIE 5 PG-13
7:05 PM, Sol & Sue Manlove (7:35 PM)
JURASSIC PARK 3D PG-13
12:05 PM, Sol & Sue Manlove (12:45 PM)
EVIL DEAD R R
7:05 PM, Sol & Sue Manlove (7:35 PM)
THE CROODS 3D PG
7:05 PM, Sol & Sue Manlove (7:35 PM)
PAIN & GAIN ★ ★ ★ ★
Thursday, April 24th (Premiere)
51 Tuesday: Soft Drinks & Popcorn Only $1 Each
Be A Con.
S I O N.E.D.
N WC

PHOTO COURTESY OF BILLBOARD.COM

‘Save Rock and Roll’ drips with nostalgia

Fall Out Boy’s latest album sounds nothing like the rest of their discography.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to the Beacon on Twitter @NWC_Beacon.

“Once you make friends with plants you have friends wherever you go.”
- Professor Laurie Furlong. Submitted via Twitter by @hstewart67.

“God’s middle name is surprise.”
- Professor Laila Edman. Submitted via Twitter by @BekyMac.

Campus Quotes
Volunteers to help host Special Olympics meet

BY MEGAN CURRENT

The Special Olympics program is holding a track and field meet April 20 at Dordt College. Northwestern students have been involved in helping with the training process. Freshman BJ Groskreutz and Senior Rick Te Grootenhuis are among the volunteers.

“Kids would scoot over after they realized you could be doing, always,” Groskreutz said. “I've loved seeing the smiles on their faces make you so happy,” Groskreutz said. “They are genuine, even when they are trying to impress you.”

“Helping the athletes train for the track meet has been a positive experience for Groskreutz.”

“From the track meet, they made their own encouragement,” Mulder said. “It rubbed off on me, and the high-fives and hugs were contagious. Everyone wanted everyone to win.”

The volunteers said they have a different perspective after getting involved in the track meet. They hope to have more opportunities to help in the future.

“Don't hey away, the athletes are a lot of fun,” Groskreutz said.

“I am hoping the athletes realize they can do anything,” Te Grootenhuis said. “They don't have to be limited.”

“Children have a lot of fun,” Anderson said.

“I've loved seeing what they say. They are themselves, even when they are trying to impress you.”

“Helping the athletes train for the track meet has been a positive experience for Groskreutz.”

“From the track meet, they made their own encouragement,” Mulder said. “It rubbed off on me, and the high-fives and hugs were contagious. Everyone wanted everyone to win.”

The volunteers said they have a different perspective after getting involved in the track meet. They hope to have more opportunities to help in the future.

“I've been able to live my life in my life a long time,” Anderson said. “I've been able to live my life in Colenbrander. I think Coly has changed a lot from the time I was a freshman to the time I'm leaving this year.”

“Children have a lot of fun,” Anderson said.

“I've loved seeing them in some really positive ways, and I think its influence is going to last in my life a long time,” Anderson said. “The guy's I've been able to live my life with have shaped me, and I hope in some ways I've shaped them, as well. I hope it's been mutual in that way.”

After he moves out of the RD apartment, Anderson said he hopes to remain in the area and work as a substitute teacher. Anderson said his ultimate goal for next year is to train for an Ironman marathon.

“I'm going to look back on these four years; I may never have a better job than these four years,” Anderson said. “It's hard to leave a job like that, but it's also time for a new perspective, a new challenge. And it's time to not live in a dorm after nine years in a row of living in a residence hall.”
Dorms make traditions

BY LIZ KOTTICH

It’s only natural that as the end of a semester draws near, students start to become anxious about the upcoming exams. The amount of homework and tests steadily increases with no end in sight, and tensions run high with no activities to bring relief. The excitement of dorm events such as Coly Christmas and Steggy Keggy offers a much-needed break for students to relax from schoolwork for a while.

Both Coly Christmas and Steggy Keggy are traditions in which each wing decorates with a different theme and the rest of the students walk through and vote for the winner. This year, Coly Christmas was the week before first semester finals and offered a night of laughter and diversion for overwhelmed students.

Steggy Keggy had the theme of Board Games, and each wing decorated to a board game of its choosing. The winner of the popular vote went to First North, which had the theme Jumanji. The other wings also received awards designated by the judges who went through at the beginning of the night.

As a first-year resident director of Stegenga Hall, Hannah McBride is new to the behind-the-scenes side of Steggy Keggy. She said she enjoyed the hustle and bustle of the preparations and being able to see the final product.

“My favorite part is walking through the hallways, both in progress and during the actual event,” McBride said. “Beforehand, I get to hear music playing and people laughing about stuff that’s going up, and help everyone running around asking for weird stuff.”

The students who participate in dorm traditions have just as much or more fun than the students who observe. Dorm traditions offer periodic breaks from the stress of school and an opportunity to have fun with friends. Freshman Katy Kuiper enjoys the atmosphere created by Steggy Keggy.

“My favorite part was the quality time spent getting the wing ready,” Kuiper said. “It was fun to be around my friends and just relax.”

Students share love of music at recital

FROM PAGE 1

Kutzner will graduate in May with a general music major but will return in the fall to finish up her Spanish degree. “After, I’m hoping to go to grad school,” Kutzner said. “I don’t know if I want to go for Spanish or music yet.”

What Kutzner is sure of is her passion and love for music. “I hope to continue playing for as long as my physical body will allow, either through symphony orchestras or just in the community,” Kutzner said. “I also hope to teach percussion and maybe have my own ensembles with high school and college students, and not just teach them how to play, but also teach them how to have the love for the instrument that I do.”

The recital will also feature juniors Sarah and Rebekah Stofer. Rebekah will perform a number of solo pieces on French horn. “I chose solos that include a wide variety of styles and technical challenges,” Rebekah said.

The twin sisters worked to combine their talents as well. “Sarah and I also decided to play three duets together,” Rebekah said. “In order to make that happen, she had to transpose the horn part to trombone.”

Both students hope the recital piques the interest of the audience. “Hopefully we can inspire them to explore other genres of music that are unfamiliar to them,” Rebekah said. “We also hope they will enjoy the sense of working together to make music while having fun.”

The concert will be at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 21, in Christ Chapel.

Are you an underclassmen looking for interesting classes?

Check out what the class of 2013 has to suggest at beacon nwciowa.edu

We need your help! If you are interested please email!
The world needs oil, and oil is in high demand. Oil is also the major reason why Persian Gulf countries are experiencing wealth and rapid modernization. When the tourist lands in Muscat, Oman, they would never guess that modernization is new. There are malls, hotels, highways, huge homes, fancy restaurants and sometimes the occasional sighting of a Ferrari or two. But when the tourist ventures farther inland into villages like Thaymsa with its abandoned mud houses and mud brick mosques, they see a glimpse of what they think is ancient.

Ameera, my Omani host sister, began our tour of Thaymsa by explaining the importance of family. The concept of family is so important in Middle Eastern culture that the layout of the hara, an area of homes, operates by familial ties. For example, the oldest member of the family would live in a central location, and the younger generations would build their homes around them (explaining the “unorganized” appearance that some of these villages have in contrast to American suburbia).

As Ameera, my friend Siinqe and I walked through the mud brick houses of Thaymsa, we asked, “How old are these?” We pointed to roofs caving in, mud brick walls crumbling, doors hanging off of hinges and small rooms that were only 10 by 10 feet. Ameera replied, “Pretty old. But people were living in them five years ago. Some older people still want to, but it’s not safe.” We stopped walking. Siinqe’s jaw dropped, my eyes widened, we looked at each other and said, “What?!” Oman’s older generation, the same generation that lived in these mud brick homes, saw cars, massive buildings, computers, and the internet spring up in Oman overnight. The culture of modernization brought about a greater focus on individuality.

Individuality seems like a good thing to Westerners. But imagine a culture where a person’s identity lies in the tribe and family. Imagine a place where the concept of a nursing home is offensive because parents always live with their children and people drive five hours home on the weekends to be with loved ones. This same familial respect exists in other cultures around the world such as Nepal, India or Thailand, but here in the Middle East, it’s religious as well.

A popular saying of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) goes, “Paradise lies at the feet of mothers.” Now, after trying that on your rebellious little sister, think about it. One guideline to gain entrance into heaven depends on how well a child treats their mother. Family makes up not only cultural identity, but also religious piety.

Financial gain fuels familial loss

The rapid accumulation of wealth from oil, modernization and the concept of individuality threaten the familiarity, identity and family of a Muslim living in the Middle East. Everything that was is quickly being lost beneath skyscrapers, materialism and a new form of pop culture that encourages provocative behavior through media.

So, before falling into belief of the falsehood that “all Muslims hate Westerners,” ask yourself a few questions. Why would a Muslim not like Western culture? What is representing Western culture around the world? How do Westerners present themselves through media? If we take the time to ask ourselves these questions and consider what we are threatening in the other cultures we are trying to influence, then maybe we can start to understand “the other” and begin dialogue.
Hutson and Huseman auto-qualify in Sioux City

BY KORAY KARAKAS

The Northwestern College track and field team headed to Olsen Stadium in Sioux City last Friday and Saturday to compete in the Sioux City Relays. The Red Raiders won four events and finished in the top-five in 17 individual events and eight relays.

“(The team’s) preparation has been good up to this point,” junior Jeriah Dunk said. “I think we definitely should make the top three or four at conference.”

Sophomore Karen Hutson had yet another exceptional weekend and finished in the top five in three individual events and one relay. Hutson won the women’s 400-meter hurdles in 1 minute and 2 seconds, almost four seconds ahead of the second-place runner, and met the NAIA automatic-qualifying standard in her first time ever competing in the event.

Hutson finished second in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.9 seconds and second in the long jump with a leap of 18 feet, 6 inches, again meeting the NAIA automatic-qualifying standard. Hutson then joined up with sophomore Megan Walhof, junior Jackie Niewenhuis and freshman Lauren Spranger to compete in the 4x400-meter relay, in which they finished fourth.

Freshman Kelly Thurman won the women’s 5000-meter run with a time of 19:33. Fellow Raider sophomore Amber Sandbulke finished second in 19:37.

Junior Matt Huseman continued his domination in the men’s high jump by clearing 6-09 to win the event and meet the NAIA automatic-qualifying standard.

Sophomore Levi Etteman finished second in the men’s shot put with a toss of 50-06, and senior Jordan Boekhout placed second in the men’s javelin with a throw 182-10. Sophomore Dalton Kelley placed third in the men’s discus with a throw of 150-10.

Sophomore Adrienne Bishop won the women’s hammer throw with a toss of 131-05, and teammate and fellow sophomore Jena Krebs finished fourth with a lob of 118-06. She also finished fifth in the discus with a throw of 125.

Spranger and fellow freshman Callie Buske finished second and fourth in the women’s 400-meter run with times of 1:00 and 1:03, respectively.

Senior Kendra De Jong finished second in the women’s high jump with a leap of 5-02 1/4.

Dunk placed third in the men’s 100-meter dash with a time of 11.03. Dunk then teamed up with sophomore Jordan Micalef, freshman Alex Van Roekel and junior Jesse Selegby for the men’s 4x100-meter relay, in which they finished third with a time of 42.1. Micalef also placed third in the men’s long jump with a leap of 21-10 1/4.

“Loosing (Brandon) Hammack was a big blow to our team,” Dunk said. “Micalef’s done a great job of stepping up. I think that if we run our best race we can make it to nationals.”

Bodin then teamed up with sophomores Logan Hovland and Skyler Giddings and freshman Kyle Anderson for the men’s 4x400-meter relay, in which they finished second in 7:48. NW’s sprint medley team, made up of Martinson, Johnson, Waltz and junior Austin King, finished fourth with a time of 3:38.

Freshmen Elliot Stoltz and Caleb VanderBaan were joined by senior Adam Potter and sophomore Jose Martinez to run the men’s distance medley, in which they finished third in 11:33.

This Saturday’s Red Raider Open has been cancelled due to the weather.

NW on three-game tear

BY ISAIAH TAYLOR

The Northwestern softball team has won seven of its last nine games and maintained its top-three standing in the GPAC. The team has improved to 20-16 overall on the season and 10-4 in the GPAC after its most recent three-game winning streak.

Tuesday, the Raiders won both games of a doubleheader against Mount Marty. NW won the first game 5-1 and scored at least one run in four different innings.

Junior pitcher Keely Bracelin pitched a complete-game two-hitter. Sophomore Jill Kleinhesselink had two stolen bases and now has 35 for the season. She now holds the NW single-season stolen bases record.

“We have been working hard preparing for each game, and it is finally coming together,” said junior pitcher Alex Brower. “We are becoming a deep team. People come in and step up each game when needed.”

Northwestern won the final game 9-0. Junior pitcher Katie Vandevoort recorded her third shutout of the year and gave up only three hits. She improved to 10 wins on the season. The Raiders had 12 hits as a team to support VandeVoort.

“In everything we do, we just try to honor God,” said junior Jordan Biehle. “We always want to, first and foremost, play for God; then we play for each other. That is really our biggest motivation.”

On Monday the Raiders played and split a doubleheader against Dakota Wesleyan. The inclimate weather may force a postponement of the conference matchup. The first pitch is scheduled to be thrown at 5 p.m.

Senior Taylor Morris delivers on the mound against Dakota Wesleyan on Tuesday. Morris is 4-1 on the year after Tuesday’s win.

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA

The Red Raider baseball team emerged from Tuesday’s doubleheader against visiting Dakota Wesleyan with a pair of 6-5 wins. After a 12-13 start to the season, the Raiders now stand at 21-14 and are on a five-game winning streak with an 11-1 conference record.

“The biggest difference has been our mental and intensity,” junior pitcher Tyler Stuerman said. “We have become a lot better at getting mentally ready to play since the start of the conference schedule.”

Tyler Stuerman has been working hard preparing for each game this season. He has pitched scoreless innings in relief for the Raiders.

Northwestern continued its early batting success from game one. Sophomore infielder Mitch Peschon hit a two-run home run in the fourth inning to give the Raiders a 4-0 lead.

Senior third baseman Noah Bohlmann went 2-2 with two doubles. Seven Raiders had hits in the contest.

On Saturday, the Raiders traveled to Nebraska Wesleyan and claimed two victories, 4-0 and 8-5, in a doubleheader. Stuerman was named GPAC Pitcher of the Week for his efforts in the front end of the doubleheader.

Stuerman threw a three-hit shutout and had seven strikeouts; he leads the GPAC in victories, 4-0 and 8-5, in a doubleheader. Stuerman dominated with a 10-2 victory. VandeVoort gave up four wins on the season. The Raiders had 12 hits as a team to support VandeVoort.

“In everything we do, we just try to honor God,” said junior Jordan Biehle. “We always want to, first and foremost, play for God; then we play for each other. That is really our biggest motivation.”

On Monday the Raiders played and split a doubleheader against Midland. The inclimate weather may force a postponement of the conference matchup. The first pitch is scheduled to be thrown at 5 p.m.

Senior Taylor Morris delivers on the mound against Dakota Wesleyan on Tuesday. Morris is 4-1 on the year after Tuesday’s win.

PhoTO BY EMILIE BERRY

Freshman Allison Herbert fouls off a pitch against Midland on Monday. The Raiders games and lost the first matchup 3-2 in a close contest.

“I think we have the talent to perform well defensively in pressure situations and just keep building consistency,” said head coach Chris Nachtigall. “Offensively, we want to be aggressive running the bases, (and) at the plate. We want to dictate the tone of the game. We’ve done that some games, but then we have let other teams dictate the tone, so we must improve in that.”

In the second match of the day, the Raiders dominated with a 10-2 victory. VandeVoort got her ninth win of the year. She gave up four hits and two runs in six innings.

“We are finally putting the pieces together it seems,” Biehle said. “We are just trying to keep working hard and keep getting better.”

Tonight’s doubleheader against Doane has been postponed and will be played on Wednesday, April 24th. Saturday’s doubleheader is still on schedule.
Secret celebrity to sing at NCDC finals

BY SAM THOMSON

Ten NCDC finalists will once again take center stage at the culmination of the annual singing competition between Dordt and Northwestern.

Last weekend, they battled in harmony on the stage of the BJ Haan Auditorium at Dordt to be one step closer to winning NCDC.

For the final round of the competition, the same 10 finalists will prepare two songs without knowing who will compete. The winners from last week’s round will be revealed that night. Once the final four are announced, the competition will begin.

The familiar faces from campus that are in the running for this weekend’s finale are senior Adam Vander Stoep, senior Alex Miles and freshman Chelsea Smith, senior Collin Gingerich, senior Erica Bauserman and junior Zach Metz and sophomore Nicole Elbers.

The Student Activities Council (SAC) has been working around the clock in preparation for the NCDC finals, the most attended round of the competition.

"I’m excited to highlight the contestants by trying some new lighting techniques," said Aaron Beadner, director of student programs. "We’ll be offering style to keep the momentum of the show going."

SAC has also arranged for there to be a special performance by a secret celebrity. For weeks, many students have been looking forward to finding out the identity of the famous mystery guest.

“From what I’ve heard, I think it’s a guy,” said senior Tom Westerholm. “It could be Phillip Phillips.”

Finals will begin with the announcement of the celebrity guest and the final four contestants. Those contestants will then perform one song of their choice and one from a movie soundtrack. The six contestants who do not advance will sing one song apiece as voting for the winner of NCDC is taking place.

Similar to the semifinals, there will be emcees, judges and a live Twitter feed to entertain between acts.

There will also be a chance to win a backstage pass to Risefest, a music festival featuring well-known Christian artists. Students who bring a pair of shoes for the Hands and Feet Project will be entered in a drawing to win the prize. The shoes can be either new or gently used, and any kind will be accepted.

The final round of NCDC will take place on Saturday, April 20, in the Bultman Center. The doors will open at 8:45 p.m., and the competition will begin at 9 p.m.

“Remember to come by at least 8:30,” said sophomore SAC member Justine Johnson. “That way you can get a good seat for the show, and it will help keep the traffic down.”

NW yearbook to return as app

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2009, NORTHWESTERN STUDENTS WON’T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT FORGETTING THEIR SPORTS’ STATISTICS OR FRIENDS’ AND PROFESSORS’ FACES AFTER GRADUATION. THIS SPRING, NW PLANS TO REINCARNATE THE COLLEGE YEARBOOK IN A WAY THAT Campus has not experienced in the past: through an iPad app.

The idea for this new platform was proposed by Professor Dayne Logan.

“I’m teaching a class called Multiplatform Communications this semester, and rather than lecturing it made more sense to have students work on developing something that can be hosted in the Apple Store,” Logan said. “I pitched the idea to several groups on campus, and the yearbook fell into place.”

The team designing the app is made up entirely of students. The group is led by sophomore Kara Nonnemacher, the project manager, and sophomore Emilee Berry, the creative director. The rest of the team is made up of senior Sara Van Gorp, junior Katie Krebs, and senior Meridel Weitz.

“We’ve mainly focused on designing templates, so hopefully it will be easy for someone to pick up this project in future years and plug in the next year’s information,” Berry said.

A Lookbook might also be available in future editions. Since 2009, all student records have been stored in a database in the Computing Service Department. Most of the information for the app is being drawn from this database, the NW Beacon’s records and the NW public relations department’s photo database.

“You can expect to see information about athletics, fine arts, campus life, special events and students studying off-campus and abroad,” Berry said. “There will be lots of photos, and the app will link to sports statistics on NW’s website.”

The main reason for the discontinuation of the print yearbook was the cost. The last print edition of the yearbook was distributed in 2009 and cost the college approximately $35,000. Distributing the yearbook on the iPad will cost a mere $1,000.

“I think the app is a great way to present this information because we’re keeping up with times and adapting to where there’s a demand,” Nonnemacher said.

The group has finished most of the design stages of the app and will soon be submitting their work to the Apple Store for approval before its launch. Upon approval, the app will be available to anyone as a free download.

“I’d love to see students in future years allowed even more flexibility,” Logan said.

“We’re working out the kinks, and I’m so proud of how patient the students have been. Hopefully they will be allowed even more room to be ambitious with their designs in the future.”