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The art of prison ministry in the U.S.

PRISON MINISTRY
OPPORTUNITIES FOR NW
MAK HICKLIN
PSYCHOLOGY

As a Christian, you have a never-ending job of spreading the love and grace of God everywhere you go. This can be done in numerous ways, including those you would least expect. Although you may be apprehensive at first towards working within a prison with those convicted of various crimes, prison ministry is a beautiful insight into what it means to give everything to God and allow yourself to succumb to His grace.

At first glance, the work of prison ministry can seem apprehensive given that it requires working with prisoners convicted of a different assortment of crimes. However, it is a beautiful form of worship as many people can attest to. Northwestern College has been organizing prison ministry trips

for many of years. This includes Spring Service Partnerships and various trips throughout the year. Prison ministry allows you to attend chapel, worship with prisoners and join in fellowship afterwards. It is an incredible opportunity and allows many prisoners a chance to be seen and heard. Many prisoners in situations such as this have no one left but God, and they choose to give their entire selves to pursuing the Gospel.

Justice and Service Coordinator Gabriel Rathbun, who helps to organize prison ministry at NWC, says that he does it because, “Prisoners are just like us...what they have done does not define who they are.” Rathbun, a junior, first experienced working with the prison ministry team at Sioux Falls State Penitentiary. Rathbun encourages everyone to take the chance with prison ministry. He says it is a “...great opportunity to worship God with people you may not usually talk to.” This is true for both the prisoners and



PHOTO BY JADEYN SJAARDA
Zoe Heemstra, Patrick Hummel and Gabriel Rathbun passionately serving in prison ministries.

those on your team, allowing you to build relationships in a multitude of ways. Sarah Hummel, a sophomore here at NWC, has also had the chance to serve through prison ministry. Hummel spoke of how she found herself in awe of those inside choosing God through circumstances that they find themselves trapped in. Although many prisoners are sentenced to prison for life, they still choose to give their entire being to God.

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New assistant of NW Bridge Center

KELSEY JOSEPH HOPES
TO MAKE NW BETTER
GRACE REGINALD
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Kelsey Joseph is a Northwestern graduate with a bachelor’s degree in social work. Prior to joining NW’s staff, she served as the My Day Program lead for Hope Haven; an organization that seeks to improve the economic position, social welfare and independence of people with disabilities throughout the world. “I think that social work can be so versatile. But at its core, I believe it’s about caring for others.” Joseph said.

While Joseph was attending NWC, she traveled to Haiti for a Summer of Service. “I spent six of my eight weeks in northern Haiti at an organization called Children of the Promise (COPT). While at COTP, I spent most days shadowing and assisting the Haitian social workers with some of the outreach programs,” said Joseph. “The Haitian social workers would do

the intakes - getting weight, height, background information - and I would be an extra set of hands. Oftentimes, I would be the one entering the information into their database. During downtime between programs, I would sit with the Haitian nurses and social workers to help translate the information and notes in the database so that it could be read by Creole speakers and English speakers.”

While serving on the Summer of Service, Kelsey met her now-husband, Elleson (Papito) Joseph. “Papito worked at COTP and although his role encompassed many different things, I got to know him during outreach programs as he primarily worked with the prenatal program so I would also go on home visits with him,” Joseph said. “Because I identified early on that he could also speak some English, I asked if he could teach Andrea and I more Creole and the rest is history.”

When Joseph came to NWC for her interview, she said that she felt at home. “I grew in ways I never would have thought or imagined when I



PHOTO BY PRATIK PAUDEL
Kelsey Joseph, newest addition to the Bridge Center, meets with NW student in her office.

was here as a student and thinking about potentially being in a role to encourage and support students during a time where there can be so much personal growth, really felt right to me.” Joseph said. Martha Draayer, the Director of Intercultural Department, mentioned that Kelsey had the warmth and approachability of an Assistant Director. “Kelsey showed a passion for learning the role, she showed deep care for students and what their experience is like at NWC. She was genuine in her interest to make NWC better.” Draayer said. “Seeing Kelsey serve is seeing her put people first. Kelsey is always willing to help in every way possible.”

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Bassett’s new album leaves a sour taste

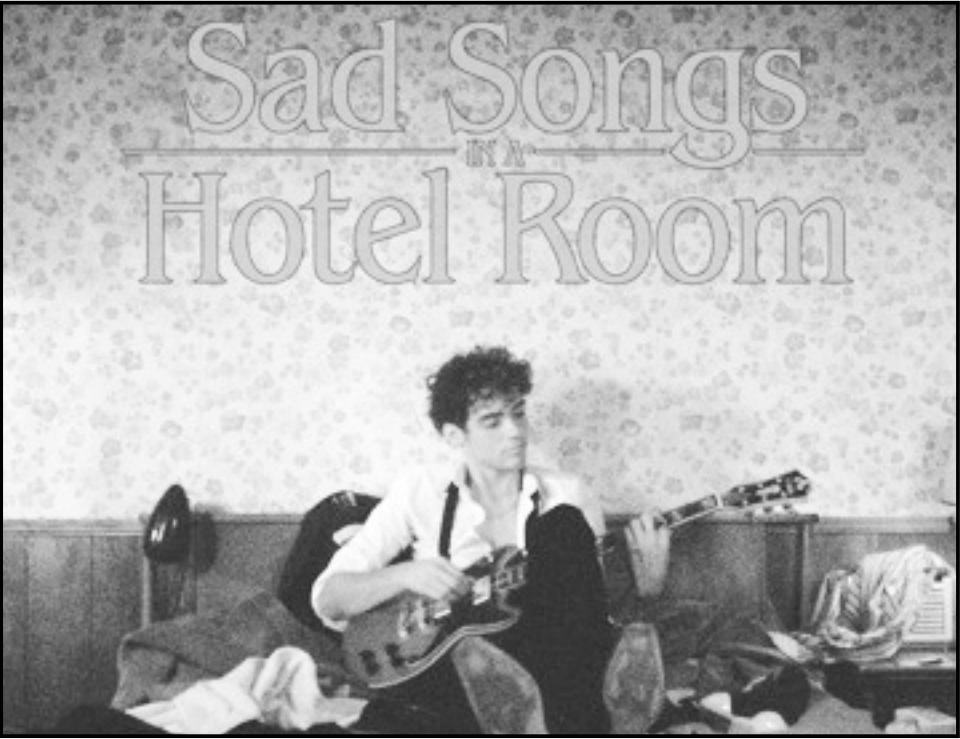
DISNEY STAR
AND MUSICIAN

EMMA GEARY
HISTORY

There are two camps of people who know Joshua Bassett: the people who watch "High School Musical: The Musical: The Series" and the people who love Olivia Rodrigo. Bassett is best known for his music career as a vocalist. His rise to fame is primarily due to his role as Ricky in Disney’s new rendition of High School Musical and his previous relationship with his co-star Olivia Rodrigo. On May 21, 2021, Rodrigo released an album called "SOUR" and people targeted Bassett because it is believed he was the main inspiration for much of "SOU." Bassett received a lot of hate from the TikTok community. Was this hate justified? That is up to interpretation, but let’s turn our focus to Bassett’s EP release called "Sad Songs In A Hotel Room," which I would have to wonder if this is

some sort of response to Rodrigo’s album. On Sept 23, 2022, "Sad Songs In A Hotel Room" dropped with a total of six songs. In the initial listen to the EP, I was not impressed by Bassett’s attempt to be sad about previous relationships and portrayal of the burden of fame. I never want to be unsympathetic to someone’s struggles, but I wish Bassett would have found a more interesting way to tackle this issue. The EP did not have a diverse selection of music. It felt like they could have all been the same song. If that was the point of the EP, the mission was accomplished, but I was expecting more from him. The song that differed the most from the rest of the EP was Smoke Slow and this also happens to be the song with the most streams on Spotify (the best music streaming platform). This would probably be one of my least favorite songs on the album. The music was good, but the lyrics were basic. This was a consistent

theme while listening to the album. The music is good, but not anything unique, and the lyrics were unoriginal. I was able to predict some of the lyrics in the songs during my initial listen. Personally, I often resonate with the lyrics of a song more than the music and if the lyrics do not provoke an emotional response in me, I am inclined to not listen to that song again. The two songs I think captured the essence of the album is "LA" and "Used To It." "LA" touches on the toxicity of fame and the expectations of emotional regulation, which brings an interesting light to his life as a Disney star. The music is catchy, and it has been stuck in my head and some of the lyrics were hard-hitting. "Used To It" definitely fits into the overarching sound of the EP, but I was more drawn to it because the lyrics were more transcendent. Out of "LA" and "Used To It," "Used To It" was the only one I added to my liked songs. I think the biggest



COURTESY OF JOSHUABASSETT.COM

improvement needed for this EP is the lyrics and the narratives Bassett is portraying. Bassett explains his narratives thoroughly and shallowly which does not entice me to go back and listen to the music again. For me, good lyrics make the listener sit in the lack of resolution which can then

make the song about what narrative it is trying to portray. This invites more space for the listener to interpret for themselves the narrative for deeper levels of resonance. This is something Bassett can improve with time. I am excited to see how he grows as an artist, but, for now, "Sad Songs In

A Hotel Room" will stay locked in a room with a do not disturb sign.

★★

The Woman King reigns supreme in the theatres

CHARACTER AND
HISTORY

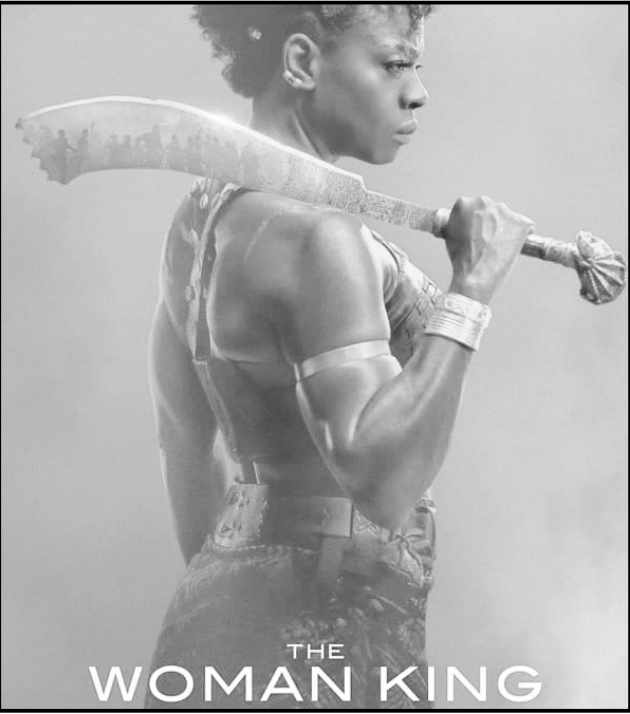
ROSE HOOGERS
HUMANITIES

Inspired by true history, “The Woman King” takes place in the 1800s and tells the story of the Agojie, an all-female unit of soldiers who protect the African kingdom of Dahomey. The film follows the warriors’ general as she trains the newest group of recruits to defend Dahomey against foreign enemies. Viola Davis plays the Agojie’s leader Nanisca, a woman who exudes power and commands the respect of all, but she is secretly being haunted by her past. Davis gives a compelling performance, masterfully adding and peeling back the emotional layers to this complex character. Thuso Mbedu portrays the story’s other main heroine, a young recruit named Nawa. Mbedu perfectly encapsulates the character’s teenage defiance, all the while reaching moving emotional depths. Other memorable performances include the funny and fierce Izogie, played by Lashana

Lynch, and the spiritual second-in-command Amenza, played by Sheila Atim. The film itself is visually stunning. Vibrant colors and bold patterns decorate the ensemble’s costumes, all while maintaining believable practicality for women going into battle. In fact, the whole film was vibrant. This paired against red soil, green flora, and deep blues of the night painted a rich and vivid world. One of the main draws of the film is its thrilling action scenes. In the first few minutes of the movie, we are given a swift introduction to the ferocity in which the Agojie women fight. They are expertly skilled and are ruthless in their battles. There is intense hand-to-hand combat, flipping and spinning through the air and men being slaughtered left and right. Time and time again, the women prove they are a force to be reckoned with, making them revered by all in the kingdom. Where "The Woman King" really thrives is in its characters’ humility. A central theme of the film is found sisterhood. Something worth appreciation is the depth that is given to the

characters. The women are not simply portrayed as strong and brutish soldiers, but also caring and compassionate people. Tight friendships are formed as the Agojie encourage and care for their sworn sisters. They endure grueling training sessions as well as risk their lives for each other in battle, and yet, there is a sense of camaraderie and playfulness as they still sing, dance and joke at the end of the day. One criticism to be mentioned is where the movie strays from historical accuracy. The Dahomey people played a large part in the Atlantic slave trade, which is how they thrived economically. Where it seems to diverge from reality is what brought this practice to an end. While the movie portrays Dahomey’s breaking away as a moral obligation done on their own accord, the recorded history is that England ended overseas slave-trading, consequently putting a stop to the kingdom’s involvement. Many critics have argued that this film glorifies a group that took part in the slave trade by revising history. However, being that it is not a documentary, one could argue that the main purpose

of this film was to entertain, not educate. The film’s focus is not to redeem the kingdom’s slave trading, but to tell the story of a unique female battalion. Regardless of the historical accuracy, audiences are introduced to a subject that is not widely discussed. Additionally, it is important to bear in mind that the recorded history of the Dahomey kingdom was likely written by white Europeans and not by the people who actually lived it. It seems appropriate that the few of the downfalls of this female-focused movie were because of its male characters. One of the strictly enforced rules of being part of the Agojie is the women are not allowed to date. Enter a ludicrous romance sub-plot that fails to play any hand in developing Nawa’s character. If anything, it does the opposite, possibly even downplaying other more meaningful relationships. The whole pairing felt like a too-convenient, underdeveloped afterthought. The other misstep the film took with male characters was in the casting of the main slave trader, Santo. Upon entering the theater to watch a



COURTESY OF THE MOVIE DATABASE

harrowing story of women, one is probably not expecting to be suddenly reminded of Netflix’s 2019 fanfiction-turned-romance movie, "After." However, that might be exactly what audience members get when actor Hero Finneas Tiffin appears on the big screen. If it was not off-putting enough just seeing him, then listening to the terrible cadence that is his feigned Portuguese accent

may be. Aside from its few missteps, The Woman King is a success. Audiences will laugh, cry and celebrate with its courageous heroines. Its powerful storyline, character arcs and cinematography paired with the ensemble’s gripping performances makes the film well worth the watch.

★★★★

The dazzling lights of the West End and beans

SHAKESPEARE AND THE ARTS

SIERRA TUMBLESON
THEATRE

Shakespeare’s Globe, Buckingham Palace, riding “the tube,” Jack the Ripper tour, learning the Charleston dance with Daisy Buchanan at the Gatsby mansion and seeing original Van Gogh’s and Monet’s. Works of art are a fraction of the things that the England Summer Study Abroad class got to partake in this summer throughout late May and early June. The class is a three week, cross-cultural engagement credit that is open to Northwestern students every two years. It is led by the theatre department, but any student is welcome to join! Eight NW students, 1 Hamline University student and two theatre professors, Dr. Bob Hubbard and Ethan Koerner, made up the trip. The trip consisted of a homestay with a British family for a few days, seeing over a dozen theatre shows, attending five art museums, hiking a mountain and touring countless cathedrals, exhibits and monuments. The students would meet for

class every morning in the hostel they stayed at to talk about the art and theatre that they had seen the day before, and then a student would be in charge of previewing the show that they would see that night.

Rachel Smart, a senior Theatre, English and Secondary Education major, felt that the trip really opened her eyes to British culture. One of her favorite memories of the trip is spending time with her host mom Maureen and Maureen’s daughter, Becky, in Worcester, England. “Hanging out with actual Brits like Maureen and Becky really strengthened the cross-cultural aspect of the class for me” said Smart. Smart described that one night, after the Uvalde school shooting had happened in Texas. It was a poignant experience to talk through the differences and similarities in culture between America and Britain with Maureen and Becky. Smart realized how difficult things can bring people together across cultural boundaries, and feels as though she bonded with her host family over something that was happening in her

home country.

Smart’s favorite part of the trip had to be seeing “Much Ado About Nothing” at Shakespeare’s Globe. The group had a front row seat to the magical action of Shakespeare’s timeless comedy, except they were standing in the groundling section right in front of the stage and got to interact with the cast. “Much Ado About Nothing “holds a special place in Smart’s heart because it is her favorite Shakespeare show. “Much Ado About Nothing” is meaningful to me because it was the show that made me want to be an actress when I was in it in high school.” Getting to see her favorite show at one of the most famous theaters in the entire world was another stand out experience.

The group of students that went to London had a special bond throughout the entire trip in a way Dr. Hubbard hadn’t seen before, as he had led the trip three times previously.

“I got to spend three weeks in London with my best friends, making memories that I will cherish for the rest of my life,” Smart reflected.

The group of students got to try foods from all



PHOTO SUBMITTED
The London Study Abroad trip in Shakespeare’s Globe before “Much Ado About Nothing.”

over the world, as well as authentic British food. Smart described that she didn’t love original British food like meat pies and beans on toast, but she did really enjoy their pastries, tea and scones. Her last day in Worcester before going to London, her host sister Becky invited Rachel over to her flat to make her a “full English breakfast.”

This consists of hashbrowns, eggs, bacon, sausage, mushrooms, beans, toast and tea. Afterwards, Becky made Rachel a Victoria Sponge Cake to take with her on the bus to eat as they traveled to London.

The next year for NW’s England Summer Study Abroad is 2024. All students from any department are

welcome to join this amazing experience where you will create memories that will last a lifetime. It is a fun and adventurous way to receive your Cross-Cultural Engagement credit.

Senior Spotlight: McClintock is behind the scenes

A CHANGE OF HEART BUT NOT MAJOR

AUDRIANA NIEMEYER
BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Senior Hannah McClintock, a Worship Arts major, is passionate about the act of worship. Although many people would view this as working in a church and leading worship sets on a stage for Sunday mornings, McClintock has found her gifts elsewhere by providing help towards others with her skills of communication and

organization.

“I chose my major because when I was in high school, I thought I wanted to be a worship leader and lead worship a lot,” McClintock said. “Much has changed since then, because that is the last thing I want to do now.” While also being involved in Northwestern’s Worship Arts major, McClintock also had a participating in tutoring for all the Music Lab and piano classes at NW. She also had an involvement in the A Capella Choir throughout her years at NW.

“I don’t think I have only one favorite

memory from NW just because I’ve made so many friends and have had so many great experiences here,” McClintock said. “But the A Cappella Choir went to Denmark and Sweden this last summer so that was definitely a highlight!”

Although it was hard for McClintock to choose a singular favorite memory, she did have a few favorite classes that she took while at NW. One of McClintock’s favorite classes at NW was Worship Technology. “One of my favorite memories from my Worship Technology class was when our class got to learn how to use the lights in the chapel and all wore our pajamas while learning because it was at 10 o’clock at night,” McClintock said. McClintock’s favorite classes however, included any class with Drew Schmidt, the professor of theatre arts at NW. McClintock felt that he had an effective way of embracing his students’ natural talents and abilities.

“With Worship Arts, he [Drew Schmidt] is super gracious in recognizing that everyone is at a different place in life and level of skill and adapts to each student individually. As someone who does not fit the mold of a ‘typical worship leader,’ that really has helped me grow in my other skills.”

McClintock plans to eventually move to Iowa City and pursue her dream job while also incorporating the organization and communication skills that she has attained while attending NW.

“My dream job is to be an Administrative Assistant,” McClintock said. “The way I tie that to Worship Arts here at NW is by being Drew Schmidt’s Worship Arts Assistant, and I work for Josh Kuipers on CMT as the Christian Community Coordinator.”

Although McClintock does not plan to work in a church, she does want to work in any setting in which she can apply her skills of communication, planning and organization into her work routine.

“I have no idea where I will be in 10 years. Hopefully, I’ll have an awesome job where I get to wear cute office outfits and walk around with an iPad while planning different projects and events!” said McClintock. While McClintock has a had an eventful and full college experience here at NW, she is excited for the next chapter of her life to begin and be able to continue fulfilling her dreams of working in an environment in which she can thrive and grow.



PHOTO BY ALLIE HAVERDINK
NW Senior, Hannah McClintock, loves organization and helping others.

Students benefit from sleep and rest

THE IMPORTANCE OF SLEEP

NICHOLE HANSEN
PUBLIC RELATIONS

When discussing the matter of sleeping and its benefits, it is known that many people lack what is needed for a typical healthy lifestyle. The amount of sleep you get in one cycle typically affects your mental, physical and spiritual health for the next day to the next several days. Upon talking with several different faculty members, one fact became extremely clear: sleep is essential in several ways for everyone.

One topic that came up was the need for sleep for academic purposes. While we sleep, our brains are busy storing memorized facts, organizing those facts and helping to repair our inner and outer wounds. Without sleep, our bodies are unable to do these things to our potential. We learn quicker and are able to remember information more effectively when we have had a good night’s sleep. Therefore, staying up and studying for that exam may not be the wisest decision. As Fern Smith Hall’s Resident

Director Natalie Wheeler puts it, sleep “helps us maintain a healthy brain, which then leads to a good, successful day.”

Sleep also helps with keeping our bodily health in check. In fact, sleep deprivation can lead to several serious health defects. Most young adults need 9-10 hours of sleep at night. When we do not get those hours towards rest, it is proven that it can lead to heart disease and dementia, which can have several serious implications on a human being’s life. Though it may be fun to stay up late talking to your roommate, lack of sleep is often a great contender in younger aged deaths.

What happens if one gets good sleep? Oftentimes, if you get good rest with the right number of hours, you may experience improved moods, grades and friendships. Without sleep, you may be slow to react to things, act moody throughout the day and feel groggy. As college students and professors, it can be extremely hard to get the necessary amount of sleep in a day, whether that be weekend or weekday.

Sleep also affects us spiritually. Pastor Tim Breen, who also teaches here at NW, said that “our bodies are the temples of God’s spirit... without rest we cannot have the understanding that God is in control.”

Though sleep and rest are such an important piece of our lives, the act of it looks different to different people. Some people don’t need as much sleep as others may need. Along with that, different people rest in different ways. Wheeler said that she rests by taking the beloved dorm dog, Oakley, out for walks later at night. She then returns and sometimes journals. “It slows me down,” she continued, “which enables me to have a good night’s rest.”

Breen mentioned a similar motion but continued more in depth on resting during the daytime. “I like to spend time outdoors,” said Breen. “It helps me try for eight hours of sleep a night.”

Suzanne Haverdink from the Wellness Center, has been working to give insightful tips on how to achieve a good state of rest to students. She said to avoid drinking caffeine



PHOTO BY TAYLOR MESMAN
Students relax by spending quality time together

late at night and to be wary of how we eat during the day. She also mentioned how we should stay consistent in our bedtime routines. Furthermore, she concluded that exercise typically induces a better sleep

schedule. Whatever you do before sleeping, it is important that it helps you to get good rest. With fall break right around the corner, it is extremely important that we respect our

bodies and give it the rest it deserves.

Students grow spiritually with Campus Ministry prison visits

FROM PAGE 1

Hummel also speaks of what we can learn from those who do not have the option to take anything for granted. Many of us lead lives that do not allow us time to continuously worship God as much as we should, but inside, prisoners dedicate themselves to a life of worship. Hummel stated she found herself, “Rejoicing because of realization of how much more we should worship the love of God.” This allows you to reflect on how much time you give to God and realize you can learn a lot from those you would not expect, including the prisoners. Zoe Heemstra, also a Justice and Service Coordinator at NW, speaks of prison ministry on a more personal level. “Students often leave prison visits feeling more impacted by the

inmates and the experience than they ever expected,” said Heemstra. “Meeting real people that have a passion for the gospel in such a different situation than what the students are used to is eye-opening and often humbling.” For those who find themselves leading relatively comfortable lives, it opens the opportunity to view the art of worship through a different lens. Prison ministry is a beautiful experience and an amazing opportunity. This form of ministry allows you to immerse yourself in a different environment and form relationships you never would have otherwise. NW has made a huge impact in the lives of those they visit and will continue to for the foreseeable future.



COURTESY OF DOC.SD.GOV
Students have the opportunity to grow spiritually with prisoners in South Dakota this fall.

HOT
TAKES

LEFT OR RIGHT? WHICH IS
SUPERIOR AND WHY?

“Right, obviously. Because
right is ALWAYS right.”

“Left. Right is boring and
you know what to expect
but left has some spice”

“Right because you can’t
turn ‘left’ on red.”

IS PUMPKIN SPICE
OVERRATED? WHY?

“No because it is only given
attention during the later
months of the year!”

“It is overrated when it
comes to coffee, but is
perfectly rated when it
is put in pie.”

“Not all PSL’s are
created equal.”

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!

Photo Op? Photo Stop.



Elena Lee
History

Green grass, blue skies, red shirts. Visions of grinning young adults set to a generic upbeat song. No, this isn’t a commercial for your local dentist - it is yet another Northwestern promotional video to be played for unsuspecting RED101 visitors and prospective students across the Midwest. It seems as if NW has promotional content for every occasion, but how do current students feel about it and are these videos worth the price paid to obtain them?

I have no doubt that when I finished paperwork to attend NW that I unknowingly signed a dotted line that gave them the right to use any pictures for promotional material. Makes sense, not a problem. What I do not remember agreeing to, however, was having said material take precedence over the personal lives and privacy of students on campus. Maybe it was in the fine print

(that I did not read), but that does not mean that it is fine. Throughout my time here, I have noticed how marketing is often placed as priority number one. At events, moments that should have been unique were repeated for the sake of a better camera angle. Numerous times I have opened my eyes after praying in chapel or P&W to see a camera lens in my peripheral vision. Furthermore, as someone who can barely see over a crowd, having a photographer step in front of me at a sporting event or campus activity not only reminds me of my height deficit, but also is a reminder of who is the priority for these events. This leaves students frustrated and questioning what the intent behind them is: student enjoyment or publicity?

Of course, we greatly appreciate our media team and all that they do for NW. They are highly skilled and passionate about their work, and whenever I see them at sporting events, they are often in pursuit of the best shot, running just as fast as the athletes themselves which is no easy feat. I know that years from now I will look back at photos from past events, grateful that there was someone there to preserve those moments. There is absolutely a time and place for pictures, but worship and discipleship events are not one of them.

Students who attend these events should not have to worry about how they look, and the presence of cameras quickly invokes self-consciousness and causes students to hold back in fear of having their private conversations with God plastered on the college website. There is a way to demonstrate Northwestern’s commitment to faith, friendship and learning without intruding on any of the students that embody them.

This year, we have one of the largest freshman classes yet, and I am positive it is not due to pamphlets, posters and Instagram posts; but rather, the personality and people on campus. No one decided that Northwestern was the school for them based on a photograph. Prospective students should know that we are a Christian community by the way we act and treat others, not because they saw a picture of students at a praise and worship event. Let’s let those students on campus enjoy their time here and have the ability to grow in their faith and personal lives without having cameras in their faces. We are students, not a photo opportunity.

More Folks Need Indie Folk



*The author of this article insisted this photo on threat of tantrum
Collin Verschoor
English Teaching

Much like many other people of our generation, I often find myself listening to music during most of the day. I listen on the way to class, while doing homework, hanging out in the dorm, going for a run, falling asleep and if I’m being honest, sometimes when I’m in class. Music has become a huge part of my life and I find that I have a soundtrack for almost every event or mood. My taste ranges from the likes of Kendrick Lamar to Nat King Cole, all the way to The Avett Brothers. However, no matter how much music I listen to, I always find that I fall back on indie folk.

The acoustic guitar, soft yet chilling vocals and stories about getting up and leaving to find a new life hit a certain spot in my soul that truly soothes all my anxieties. You see, I enjoy country, hip hop, rock, lo-fi,

classical and pop music, and I am nearly certain that you enjoy at least some of these genres as well. However, I would argue that indie folk should be everyone’s favorite genre of music.

Whether you are more of a sad song, or happy song person, whether you like your music a little faster or prefer it go slow, indie folk has it all, usually even one band has all of this. One example that I would highly recommend you check out is Caamp. They have songs ranging from love fading away from two people to a person growing up and finding out who they are. Indie folk is versatile and encompasses different topics and moods that truly allow for anyone to find at least a few songs, albums or artists that they can genuinely enjoy.

This can easily be seen as a hot take. Who am I to tell people what their favorite genre of music should be? I recognize this is one opinion, but for those of you who like other genres better, I offer this. If you were to name one part of what you like of other genres, I am nearly certain that I can find the same aspect in indie folk music. If you listen to hip hop or rap because of the lyrical talents of the artists, I assure you that I can find similar lyrical talent in different indie folk artists. If you enjoy country music because of the twang, or acoustic

guitar than you will enjoy the vocals and instrumentals that are found in artists such as Caamp, The Lumineers and Penny and Sparrow.

No matter how you feel about any genre of music, I would highly recommend that you expand your taste and check out not just indie folk, but others genres like garage rock, blugrass, zydeco and anyother genere you have never heard before. Expanding music taste is a great way to indirectly branch out from what you would normally do. New music can help you connect with different people who have different, ideas, beliefs and backgrounds than yourself. I would more than happily give you plenty of recommendations if you do not know where to start. No matter what, you should expand your music taste, because music is truly one thing that can bring us together.

Editor's Note

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Respectfully,
the Beacon staff

\$

Get wealthy

off your words...

...With the new Beacon pay scale

\$

Write 1-4 stories = \$10 each | 5-8 stories = \$15 each | 9+ stories = \$20 each

NW Women’s Golf Takes Care of Business

WOMEN'S GOLF SWINGING WINS

KAELIN ALONS
PRE-LAW

The Northwestern College women’s golf team won the Matthew Goette Fall Classic in Omaha, Nebraska, on Sept 21.

This is the second straight time the women have won the Omaha-based classic. Four of the five top finishers placed in the top 10 with the fifth finisher taking 11th place.

Freshman Claire Yunag finished 11th with a score of 85. Junior Taylor Van Ostrand took 7th overall with a score of 82. Just ahead of her was Freshman Ellie Erickson with a

score of 81. Tied for 3rd was Sophomore Emily Hulshof with a score of 79. Finally, taking first place from Milford, Iowa, was Junior Martha Stein with a career low of 76. Their team total of 318 was enough for the Raiders to take first place at the meet as well.

“I’m very proud of the girls,” said Head coach Courtney Den Herder. “This group of girls has tons of potential and were finally able to put together a good round of golf on a tough course. To have four girls in the top-10 is amazing.”

Stein’s victory at the meet was her first win as a Red Raider, and it was the first individual title for both the men’s and women’s teams in over a year.

“I will never forget finishing on the 18th green and looking over to see Sophie and Laci behind the green cheering me on,” Stein said. “It has been a lifelong goal to win a collegiate tournament.”

What set this meet apart? Teamwork and competition.

Stein says, “we work hard and push each other to be better golfers.”

Hulsof agrees, stating “This year’s team has more competitiveness. We push each other to get better every day.”

As the women look forward to the rest of the season, they are optimistic to say the least.

“We had previous meets where we all played pretty well but



COURTESY OF RAIDER ATHLETICS
NW women's golf team ready to take the greens of the course.

had things we could work on,” said Ericson. “It was just a matter of time until we all just relaxed and played how we know we can.”

The team credits the victory to the coaching staff, the simulator in the Juffer fieldhouse and their excitement to go out and get better every

day. The Raiders will travel to Kansas City next to compete in the Park University Fall Invite on Oct 10-11.

NW Cross Country Seniors Carry on Legacy

“LANKY BOI” STANDOUT NW SENIORS

GRACE BACHELDER
PSYCHOLOGY

Together with their “lanky boi” legacy and Christ-as-servant leadership, there are three seniors who star on the cross-country course.

Joseph Kunert has completed multiple races and has been chosen as a captain for his team. Joseph’s personal best time achieved this year at the DSU Herb Blakely Invitational with a time of 27:23.0. He finished third out of 40 runners.

Kunert completed his junior year at the GPAC championship where he placed 31st out of 90 runners with a time of 28:34. However, for Kunert, the PR’s will come and go, but Jesus is constant.

He hopes the “lanky boi” legacy is more about Jesus than running and that people remember the awesome short shorts they wear.

“We do our best to excel through running, but I think a lot of us value our relationships with the team to an even higher standard,” said Kunert. He will never forget the time he slept on Coly bunk beds in Coach Marlon’s front lawn before 5:30 a.m. practice.

According to Coach Bahrke, “Joseph’s love of Jesus and wanting others to have a personal relationship with Christ” has defined Kunert’s impact on the team.

Daniel Nordquist transferred to Northwestern after running two years at Iowa Central Community College.

“The NW (cross-country team) feels like a family. I have met some of my best friends here running for

NW and these friendships will last for a lifetime. We are here for each teammate for whatever reason at any time of day,” he said.

Nordquist has grown to be part of the “lanky boi” legacy. Nordquist will never forget when he transferred to NW his teammates and coaches showed him love, grace and helped him regain a personal relationship with Christ.

“[Daniel] knows what it means to be a Raider and wants to pass that legacy on to the younger men on the team and his greatest impact has been his passion for running and competing,” said Coach Bahrke.

Alex Nonhof has been running with Northwestern since he was a freshman in 2019. He competed in multiple races including the GPAC Championship where he finished



Joseph
Kunert



Alex
Nonhof



Daniel
Nordquist

COURTESY OF RAIDER ATHLETICS
Standout senior cross country runners will leave NW with a new legacy.

37th out of 90 runners with a time of 28:53.

His personal best was at the Briar Cliff Invite his sophomore year with a time of 27:33.9. Coach Bahrke described Nonhof’s greatest influence on the team being his work ethic. Because of this, he has achieved great success in college. He pushed himself to be a top runner on the men’s cross-country

team with extra miles.

The end is in sight for Kunert, Nordquist and Nonhof. In fact, through Christ and tradition, the race is already won.

Gramstad Leads the Charge Past Concordia Bulldogs

NW TEAM BEATS THE BULLDOGS

CLARA PAHL
PSYCHOLOGY

On Saturday, Sept 24, the No. 4-ranked Northwestern College football team stifled the 0-3 Concordia Bulldogs. An impressive feat by sophomore quarterback Jalyn Gramstad propelled the Raiders to 34 points with four rushing touchdowns and one passing touchdown to Michael Storey.

After four turnovers within the first-half, the frustrated Raiders faced a 10-0 Concordia lead going into halftime. Gramstad’s

performance was unlike any of his previous performances. The Lester, Iowa native accredits the win to his team’s ability to overcome adversity.

“We got knocked down that first half, but we got right back up and came back firing,” said Gramstad

Two minutes into the third quarter, Gramstad scored his first rushing touchdown to spark the Raider’s action. Part of his support system included Parker Fryar, who tallied 16 tackles, almost sneaking into the program’s top-10 for most tackles in a game.

Though the Raiders made it seem easy, the real battle was fought in

the locker room. Leaders stepped up and held one another accountable for their first-half mistakes.

“We were tested that game and it really showed a lot about the team and men we have in the locker room,” said Gramstad.

The team’s energy was contagious and created pressure for CUNE turnovers. An immediate Concordia unsportsmanlike penalty in the third quarter was welcomed with open arms. The second Gramstad TD was a 32-yard dash to raise the score to 13-10, and he did not let up the fight.

“Jalyn provided a spark for our team. We were able to create some big

plays that changed the energy and how the game was played,” commented Coach Matthew McCarty.

A combination of six plays and an 86-yard drive created a hopeless situation for the Bulldogs. It was 20-10 at the end of the third quarter.

There was nothing complicated about the Raider’s game plan. What made the win special was the team’s ability to charge forward despite discouraging moments.

“[I am] proud of how our team responded to adversity. At half we talked about keeping it simple and getting back to doing what we do well,” said Coach McCarty.

The icing on the cake was a magnificent Gramstad pass to senior Michael Storey and eventually, with a minute dwindling on the clock, Gramstad finished the Bulldogs with his fourth touchdown of the game.

The Raiders beat the Bulldogs 34-10, and Gramstad’s leadership was rewarded with the Male Athlete of the Week award.

“It’s a cool honor and I’m very thankful,” said Gramstad. Our approach was to reset our minds from what all happened in the first half...It was a good win.”



COURTESY OF RAIDER ATHLETICS
Football team charging the Bulldogs to an impressive win.

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Popping tags and raising awareness

POP-UP THRIFT STORE FOR IJM

JAIRO HERNANDEZ
TRANSLATION/INTERPRETATION

Many of us are fortunate to awake from last night’s nightmare and continue living. For others, that nightmare never comes to an end. Living a life filled with violence, some may even prefer to continue experiencing such dreadful dreams than experience the pain and suffering that awaits them when they wake up. A light of hope is needed to combat this darkness and The International Justice Mission is doing just that.

The International Justice Mission (IJM) is a global organization that protects people in poverty from violence. IJM began their work after the Rwandan Genocide brought a group of lawyers together who vowed to improve and terminate such horrible tragedies. IJM partners with local authorities from 20 program offices in 13 different countries to combat slavery,

violence against women and children and abuse of power by police against the poor. Their work involves rescuing and restoring victims’ lives, holding perpetrators accountable and helping strengthen public justice systems. One of their efforts is raising funds through pop-up thrift shops to support rescue missions.

These pop-up thrift stores have been hosted on college campuses across the country over the last seven years. After hearing about this type of fundraiser being put on by other IJM chapters, the IJM chapter here at Northwestern decided to host a pop-up thrift store on our campus. “We were given the idea by IJM last year as a fall fundraising campaign,” said NW’s IJM chapter president Zoe Heemstra. The event made its first appearance on campus during the fall of 2021. People from the college and community dropped off clothing donations in the weeks leading up to the event. Students involved with the IJM chapter then sorted through the clothing and set it



PHOTO BY ZOE HEEMSTRA
Customers browsed racks of donated clothes at the Threads event to benefit International Justice Mission.

all up for display in Ramaker. “The response of our campus and community blew us away, so of course, we wanted to do it again,” said Heemstra. According to Heemstra, the event was a great success this year as well. With extra traffic from people coming to attend the homecoming events on campus, they were able to raise over 800 dollars.

“This is a cool, practical way for people to learn about what is going on both across the world and in our community and contribute to fighting human trafficking. It raises awareness, plus everyone has clothes that they don’t use or no longer want so it provides a way for anyone to get involved,” senior Ruth Chalstrom said. NW’s IJM

chapter encourages students to keep a watchful eye on their upcoming spring advocacy campaign.

A walk through the history of NW homecoming

CHANGE IN NW TRADITIONS

GRACE REGINALD
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Since Northwestern’s founding in 1882, many traditions have come and gone. This year’s homecoming events build off homecoming history, bringing back familiar traditions and attempting to forge new ones. The first NW Homecoming was Oct. 24, 1946, when NW was officially Northwestern Junior College and Academy. There was only a queen crowned that year because young college-age men were barely back from World War II.

The events consisted of the queen’s coronation in the afternoon, followed by a homecoming parade through Orange City. The parade was led by the queen and her attendants in a 1946 maroon convertible with

the NW band float and the entire student body trailing behind. After the parade, there was a hotdog roast held on campus. NW had an epic Homecoming game against their rivals – the Morningside Reserves. NW won the game by one point with a low score of 13-12. These events did not happen over the span of a week but a single day.

In 1947, the snake dance was one of the most enjoyed traditions at that time, and choosing partners for the dance was a unique process. Partners were selected by auctioning off the women’s shoes to the men. Then, the men had to match the auctioned shoe to the woman wearing the other shoe to complete the pair. One shoe turned out to be \$1.25, which is equivalent to around \$16.60 today.

On Oct. 18-19, 1956, the NW student body celebrated homecoming with a victory bonfire on the athletic field, a

homecoming play at the science hall, a coronation ceremony for the homecoming queen (there wasn’t a homecoming king for unknown reasons), a parade of floats and bands and finally, the “big game.”

The homecoming court is a tradition that has been off and on in NW’s history. Mark DeYounge, current dean of spiritual formation, was even on the homecoming court in 2007. After 2009, this tradition was done away with. Fast forward to 2021 – Student Activities Director Lucas Heiberger revived the homecoming coronation tradition after a 12-year hiatus. The king and queen from 2009 crowned the 2021 king and queen, Tanner Oleson and Mikayla Bjork. This year, Joseph Kunert and Elizabeth Olsen were crowned king and queen and recognized during half time of the football game.

Along with bringing back old traditions, this year’s homecoming schedule includes events that are just beginning. The Camping on the Green event made its first appearance in 2021. Even though it was a bit of a bust (with a few hammocks and a tent or two), Heiberger believes that it will take a few years to catch on. “The dream

is that 10 years from now, the campus green is just a giant sea of tents on Homecoming Friday,” said Heiberger. “Why in the world wouldn’t you do this at least once in your four years in college? Guaranteed memory made versus another normal night in your dorm room.” While that vision remains a dream, the eight Fern women who slept in the

single tent on the green this year had a memorable time.



PHOTO BY TAYLOR MESMAN
Camping on the Green emerged as the newest homecoming tradition, but it has not caught on quickly.