CLARK NEVER IMAGINED
TEACHING AT COLLEGE LEVEL

KELSEY EPP
SPANISH

Every wild adventure in professor Rick Clark’s life is a testament to his dedication to following God’s will and God’s faithfulness to guide him along the way.

Clark’s story began in Quito, Ecuador. His parents were missionaries and ran the Christian radio station started by his grandfather. Growing up among the Ecuadorian children cultivated in him a passion for the country’s people and culture as well as bringing about a native fluency in Spanish.

From as early as he can remember, the core of his family was anchored in a real faith in Christ.

“I can remember my grandpa praying, ‘God we’ve got this light bill that’s $362.14 and we can’t pay it because we’ve got no money in the mission account,’” he recalled. “And the next day there would be a check in the mail that was for $362.14.”

Clark firmly believes God is real and moving in everyday life.

After secondary school, Clark moved to the US to start college and avoid being drafted into the Ecuadorian army. In that time in his life, he was clear to let God have the control in finding his spouse and future career.

During an unemployment spell after his move to Chicago, he decided to attend a Canadian Bible conference with his grandfather. There he met his wife-to-be.

“The best thing I did was turn that over to God,” he said, and they have been married for 42 years.

Clark’s expectation had been to graduate with a degree in communications and return to the radio station as a missionary. His plan changed along the way when he decided to pursue a teaching certificate as a way to be more useful on the mission field.

In the midst of a tough inner city student teaching experience in Chicago, Clark discovered his God-given talent in the classroom.

After studying English and communications, Clark had imagined a career tied to those subjects.

However, upon finding out that Clark was fluent in Spanish, his first employer offered him a job that included teaching multiple Spanish classes. This led Clark into a full career as a Spanish teacher.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Student breaks men’s scoring record

TYLER LIMMER SECURES RECORD WITH A TOTAL OF 49 GOALS IN 4 YEARS

CONNOR TUPPER
EXERCISE SCIENCE

Senior striker Tyler Limmer became the highest scoring player to ever wear a Red Raider men’s soccer jersey on Oct. 3. The previous record was held by Patrick Dirkse, who scored 48 goals between 1999-2002. Limmer went into the game against Briar Cliff with 47 goals, needing just one to tie the record but he had other plans.

The Raiders went down 1-0 early as Briar Cliff began the game pressing high on the field, but the lead did not last long as Limmer was able to collect a second ball and punish Briar Cliff by scoring off a deflection that lobbed the ball over the outstretched Charger keeper, tying the game at 1-1.

Equaling the goal scoring record was not good enough as the Raiders needed a stroke of brilliance from its star forward, which he produced just after halftime.

The Raiders caused a turnover deep in the Briar Cliff half where Limmer controlled the ball on his left foot at the top of the box and placed it in the bottom right corner. His second goal of the game put his team up 2-1 and put his name at the top of the record books for NW.

Though Briar Cliff was able to get a late goal, causing the game to end 2-2, a poor result would not overshadow Limmer’s record-breaking performance capping off four straight seasons of seemingly endless goals finished by the greatest player to ever play for NW.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Prof’s story a testament to God’s guidance

PHOTO BY: KELSEY LANG

Professor Rick Clark plans to retire at the end of the 2018/19 school year.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
“First Man” soars high in box office

**ARTS & CULTURE**

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**Kurt Vile releases album “Bottle It In”**

**ALBUM’S MUSIC INCONSISTENT?**

**MATTHEW FROHWEIN**

Kurt Vile has been crafting lo-fi delights for a while, but his delve into psychedelic folk-rock in his 2013 album *Wakin on a Pretty Daze* was an excellent change of pace for the then-33-year-old singer-songwriter. Now, with his seventh solo venture *Bottle It In*, does his new trademark twinge of psychedelic folk-rock still excite? For the most part, yes. Vile’s intro song “Loading Zones” is perfect in every way. With a gnarled talk box segueing into jangly guitars mixed with Vile’s gorgeous folk-funk singing, the song does not disappoint. The use of background vocals is very enjoyable, and every-thing is expertly layered in throughout.

And from there on out, the album is wholly inconsistent, having either mediocre or uninteresting songs or outright masterpieces, and seemingly no other alternative. To clarify, I would say that every song on *Bottle It In* is good. However, the songs that are great have to be sought out, which is not a good thing. Immediately following “Loading Zones” is the meandering and monotonous “Hysteria” and the overwhelming “Yeah Bones”, but then Vile hits absolute gold. Three songs in a row are absolutely sublime: “Bassackwards”, “One Trick Ponies” and a cover of T.G. Sheppard’s “Rollin’ with the Flow.” Each song builds off of the last to deliver a serene and almost Daoist calm to the listener. But then, it’s back into the average. The song “Check Baby” egregiously loses its funky distorted baseline that it begins with twenty seconds in.

Why? Why lose some-thing unique that also feels appropriate like that? The aforementioned baseline is the only thing that kept me interested as I patently listened to the song hoping it would return. Something especially heartbreaking about this album is that its title track isn’t very memorable. It is experi-mental and creative, but it lacks anything that could make it more than that. Then the song “Mutinies” arrives with little excite ment to be had. Thankful ly, “Come Again” arrives to remind us of the talents Vile has. I think the reason I adore “Come Again” so much is how dense it is musically. All the elements come together beautiful-ly. From the banjo to the twinking guitars and harsh noise halfway through, everything balances out. “Cold Was the Wind” is another break from the glory that Vile is capable of offering, but thankfully the last eleven minutes of this LP save the listener from that rank and boring sound. “Skinny Mini” and “(Bottle Back)”, bridge together such an extensive set of ideas and sounds that they flourish between the listener’s ears like a flower pluming out of the ground.

An excellent electronic end to an album that both elec trifies and stupefies. Still, the songs that are great are amazing and well worth a listen. If you still love that rock and roll, join Mr. Vile and keep on rollin’ with the flow.
Town Square Coffeehouse and the Orange City Chamber of Commerce board will be hosting a Community Connection event, including an ugly Christmas sweater contest. Drinks and appetizers are provided and all are welcome to participate.

The owner of Town Square and fellow chamber board member Steve Mahr said that the event is an opportunity for the Orange City community to get to know the chamber board in a casual setting and to encourage conversation on what individuals want for the town.

The chamber board is also hoping for feedback and ideas for the further development and prosperity of Orange City.

Town Square is already a popular hangout spot to many citizens of Orange City, which makes it an easy environment for people to chat, relax and have fun. Mahr also said people who feel “left out in the community can use this event as an opportunity” to become more acquainted with these local government officials and other involved citizens for chipping in on future Orange City events and decisions.

Above all else, Mahr hopes people have a good time and that this can create a chance for people to form more personal connections with the Orange City chamber board members. Town Square has become a common space for hosting a series of events in Orange City in the past, as well as a place for connecting individuals and encouraging open communication between citizens and the local government.

This event is a good opportunity to see the art of this community and to get to know the people directly involved,” Mahr said.

Mahr said he is excited about these steps to build Orange City up for two reasons. The first is he loves working on these events and is glad to be a chamber board member. The second, is he is excited about connecting people and developing a more active community within the citizens of Orange City.

Mahr’s dedication, as well as the dedication and hard work of everyone else on the board, promises a fantastic night of fun. From 5 - 7 p.m. will be the ugly Christmas sweater competition. Freshman Katelon Loo- ney said she plans on attending and that “ugly Christmas sweaters are amazing and deserve to be appreciated.”

Even students who don’t believe in celebrating Christmas too early or don’t have an ugly sweater to wear, this is a good chance to get to know the people in the town of Orange City and to cash in on some free food and fun.

Apocalyptic Vision hits Northwestern

My art explores metaphors for God’s mysterious presence and revelation to his people.

- Jason Van Wyk

Jason Van Wyk’s art exhibit “Apocalyptic Vision” will soon be on display at the Te Paske Art Gallery, featuring subjects such as angelic beings and the end times. The exhibit itself includes a wide variety of art mediums including large-scaled and free-standing figurative clay sculptures, oil paintings, stone lithography prints, intaglio etchings, oil pastel and graphite drawings.

Many of Van Wyk’s pieces have been shown regionally before, but this is the first time the collection will be exhibited all together, making Northwestern very privileged to host this inaugural event.

Van Wyk is a Dordt professor emeritus who maintains his own studio right here in Iowa. He has a background in art is. He focuses primarily on printmaking and clay sculpture but is well versed in oil paintings, oil pastel and graphite drawings as well. Together, the pieces all represent Van Wyk’s passion for the mysteries of God.

Intrigued by the mysterious and visionary biblical accounts of the end
Feature: Fostering Community Through Prayer

North Men Pray Together Daily

Joey Loshe
Bio-Health

Profe Clark has campus-wide legacy

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From the classroom to the basketball court, Clark has made an impact on many students. From a childhood in Ecuador to a college teaching position, Prof. Clark has obediently followed God’s plan for him. In all his endeavors, God has displayed constant faithfulness. Prof. Clark’s life is an absolute testament to God’s guiding hand.

Profe Clark says, "As I look back at my life, I just see God clearly pushing me and moving me."

- Prof. Clark

North Suites residents gather every night at 10 p.m. to pray with one another. From page 1

After 22 years of teaching at the secondary level, Clark was offered a position at NW as the assistant men’s basketball coach and Spanish professor. He never imagined himself becoming a professor; “It has been awesome for my teaching, and I have had to learn so much.” he said.

Since then, he has won NW’s Teaching Excellence Award twice. "As I look back at my life, I just see God clearly pushing me and moving me,” Clark said. Now he is in his last year of teaching, and he is continuing to trust in God’s guiding plan. He and his wife hope God will lead them to work with and serve many missionaries in the years to come. They also have a passion for finding ways to support children in the foster care system.

The Bible says that where two or three are gathered in prayer, the presence of the Lord is absolute testament to God’s guiding hand. Prof. Clark’s life is an absolute testament to God’s guiding hand.

The true motivation for the prayer time is simply to come to God in prayer and to experience His presence together. This provides a space where students can come with prayer requests, praises, or simply a voice to participate in prayer with. Facilitating a space where students can speak their inner concerns, prayer time gives residents an avenue to connect and bond with each other in a way that only prayer can form. This has sparked the opportunity for friends to be accountable for one another on who God is calling them to be. Prayer time has been helping the residents in North stay in a consistent pattern of prayer as they encourage each other to stay committed each night.

Creating an organized set time of prayer together has been strengthening the relationships among the residents in North and their own personal relationship with God. The challenge that some struggle with regarding prayer can be overcome with the intentionality of community prayer. This isn’t to diminish the importance of personal prayer with God, but instead can help encourage prayer as a daily routine. As God continues to work in the lives of the students here on campus, the students of prayer time in North feel blessed for how God is moving through the concept of prayer together.

The Bible says that where two or three are gathered in prayer, the presence of the Lord is

The Bible says that where two or three are gathered in prayer, the presence of the Lord is
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Genesis House provides support

HOUSE FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

RACHEL KOERTNER
PUBLIC RELATIONS

There is a place in Orange City that supports women and children impacted by homelessness, domestic violence and more, empowering them to live a life of independence and freedom. That place is called Genesis House.

Genesis House started in January of 2018, and although it is completely different from the Bridge, it occupies the same space and provides for some of the same women and children.

Genesis House officially opened just months ago and was established to continue serving the women and children in North-west Iowa in need of housing.

Executive Director Becky Erdmann has been with Genesis House from the start and has already seen it impact people.

“When I think about Genesis House, I think about empowering to independent,” Erdmann said. “We have learned that it is one thing to provide a roof, but it is another to provide mental health counseling, sobriety counseling, Bible study, etc. When they [the women living in the House] get to a place where they can think more clearly and be more stable, that’s when the real change starts. I didn’t know that there was a job I could love so much.”

Erdmann works alongside a couple other staff members, one of them being Direct Care Coordinator Angie Sas.

“I give my time at Genesius House because I am inspired by the strength and resiliency of the women that live there,” Sas said. “Being at Genesis House has challenged me and provided me with new insight with social injustices and issues that the women have been faced with.”

However, the staff at the house cannot do it alone. Genesis House also relies on the work of volunteers, who help with a variety of things from driving the women places to babysitting the children that live there.

Kim Van Es regularly volunteers at Genesis House and says she has loved her time there.

“I believe in the ministry of the Genesis House,” Van Es said. “[The staff there] live out the biblical call to help those in need.”

Genesis House gives women the skills they need to live fulfilling, independent lives.

There are also quite a few NW students that serve at Genesis House, and one of them is senior Hannah Lindsay.

“I have helped at Genesis House by providing childcare for some of the moms,” Lindsay said. “While I initially volunteered because I needed hours as a social work major, my motivation changed over time. I began to feel called to serve people, even in something as small as childcare for an hour or two,” she said.

“If I can give up a small portion of my time, especially that time that I would be spending doing something unproductive anyway, then I should. This is such an important ministry.”

Genesis House is always in need of resources like volunteers for driving and child care, but also tangible things like paper products, cleaning supplies, furniture, Wal-Mart cards and more.

Make your vote count on Tuesday: it’s easy!

EMMA VAN DRIE
POLITICAL SCIENCE

With election day less than a week away, now is the time for citizens to start thinking about getting registered and placing your vote on Nov. 6, if they haven’t already.

Election day voting for Precinct 2 takes place at Living Water Community Church, located at 1007 8th St. SE in Orange City. Voting booths will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Northwestern students can vote in Iowa no matter where you are from. Becoming a registered voter is a simple and rewarding process that everyone should take advantage of.

The only qualifications to vote are that one must be a US citizen and at least 18 years of age.

Pre-registration ended on Oct. 27, but one can still easily register on Nov. 6 when they go to vote.

To register on the day of the election, individuals will have to provide proof of ID and proof of residence. To provide proof of identification, voters must bring one of the following: an Iowa driver’s license number or the last four digits of their social security number.

Voters who are not from the state of Iowa will have to use the last four digits of their social security number because you will likely have an out of state license. They must also bring a photo ID, such as a driver’s license or your student ID.

Lastly, to demonstrate proof of residence, voters will have to provide an address. Students who are from out-of-state but would like to vote here can use their school address. This address must be to the building or dorm that the student actually lives in.

Proof of residence can be in the form of a piece of mail, a paycheck or a bank statement that you should be brought on election day. NW students must also list their RSC mailbox number so that their voter registration card can be sent to you.

Students who have already registered to vote should simply bring their voter registration card to the polling place when they go to vote on Nov. 6.

In the 2018 midterm elections, all of the executive officers in Iowa are up for election, including the governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state treasurer and auditor, as well as four of Iowa’s seats in the US House of Representatives, 25 seats in the Iowa Senate and all 100 seats in the Iowa House of Representatives.

It is important to vote in the midterm elections because they are an opportunity for citizens to have an impact on matters that effect them more directly. The number one way to make one’s voice heard is to exercise one’s right to vote.

Questions about election day voting and registration can be directed to Lisa Rowenhorst, the Sioux County Election Administrator, at lisar@siouxcounty.org, or call the Auditor’s office at 712-737-2216.
Schuyler Sterk
English Teaching

When most people think of the English department they think of reading, writing and how much they hated their English classes in high school. I am here to share why the English department is not only tons of fun, but also teaches skills that will benefit every other major across campus.

Not only are the English classes wildly interesting, but the professors are wonderful as well. Trust me, I went on a trip with the English department last spring and spent 30 hours round trip in a van with three professors, and I have never laughed so hard in my life. They’re always open to chat, and each one is passionate about literature, communication, creative and academic writing and just the English language in general. Likewise, English classes offer a really great opportunity for getting to know fellow classmates. Classes are typically full of discussions, workshops and learning about the art of storytelling, which often leads to plenty of light-hearted banter and recurring jokes.

In addition to the awesome professors, there have been other amazing opportunities I’ve experienced through the English department. For instance, the trip we went on last spring was to Holland, Mich., to the Festival of Faith and Writing. It was the most wonderful thing I have ever been to, and the book-nerd in me was thriving.

For two days, we had the chance to see panels, hear lectures and attend workshops on different genres of literature. Getting to hear from all the different authors who were there was definitely interesting, but it was fun to spend time with my fellow English majors and professors as well. We also went to a really good Mexican restaurant for dinner one night, so if that doesn’t convince you to become an English major, then I don’t know what will. But in all seriousness, it was one of my favorite experiences, and while I learned a lot about reading and writing with a Christian lens. I also laughed more that weekend than any other weekend all year because English people are just that fun to be around.

There are actual statistics that show how beneficial English skills are for careers in all disciplines. In a recent survey, managers across the country in all job areas — ranging from engineering, healthcare, finance, marketing and research and many more — were asked what skills they look for most in the people they hire. The top three answers given were communication skills, organizational skills and writing. These are all skills learned through English courses. The same managers were then asked what skills their employees lacked the most, and among the top answers were writing, communication skills, presentation skills and organizational skills. And as much as people might hate this, writing was the number one skill employees were lacking. From these stats, even taking one extra English class could benefit your long-term.

Now, I know that picking up an English major is a lot to add to something else, and some will think I’m crazy for even suggesting this, but what about an English minor? The classes take the English department can help you gain those critical, transferable skills that are so necessary for any major. Specifically, the writing, communication, presentation and organizational skills are valuable in so many ways. Whether you’re a pre-med student, a business major, a religion major or you’re involved in any other discipline across campus, the classes can help you seek out skills that will be so advantageous in the career field after graduation.

I know after reading this, most of you will not change your major or add a double major. That’s completely understandable. But hopefully, you might consider adding one or the other or even taking a few English classes. I promise they’re not as scary as they seem! 

Dana Van Ostrand
Christian Education

Chapel is a foundational piece of the identity of Northwestern College. It is one of the few integral shared experiences every single student on campus is a part of week in and week out. Often, jokes about the different types of people who attend chapel (those sitting in the balcony doing homework/on their phones/etc.) are talked about, but how frequently is chapel the center of campus conversation? For something to be so essential to the common experience of students but almost never the topic of conversation seems like a strange contradiction: a Christian community that doesn’t frequently reference one of its main pieces of Christian formation?

NW requires chapel so every student is shaped by the preaching of the Word and in worship. These goals are attainable, but to what extent and what end? It often seems as though chapel is this box that even many spiritual, devout Christians are attempting to check off so they no longer have to go anymore. These students, who attend D-Groups, have other Bible studies and are a part of the local church often do not desire to be a part of the chapel program.

I am not advocating for ending required chapel. I fully believe the core of the NW identity is rooted in the Christian formation program and desire for that to continue. The chapel program, however, must become more and more challenging in its engagement of ideas in culture, individual and corporate sin, and introducing controversial ideas in the Christian community. Postered here is the idea that not very many people are talking about chapel because it does not require any sort of processing to engage with. I must admit, there are rarely times when I walk out of chapel convicted about sin in my life or needing to process a new way of understanding how God is calling me to live in the world. I’ve heard many in our student body relate to this idea. So, the question is: how do we further engage with chapel?

To our student body: be willing to listen and slow to critique when you hear a new or different idea brought up in chapel. The times where difficult topics have been addressed in chapel, many students were quick to make accusations of “conservative” or “liberal” bias. If our dedication to this is落实s first, we have betrayed our Christ crucified and His Word to us for a specific set of theological beliefs that we adhere to. These biases exist, but far less frequently than we accuse and are willing to accept for ourselves. If chapel is going to be a place where Christians are truly challenged, we must be willing to interact with the ideas presented agree or disagree.

To those in charge: challenge us. One frequently discussed theme in chapel is revival. If we truly want to be revived of the Spirit of God on this campus, then it begins with these challenges. This chapel space is the one place in which all students share. If campus is supplied with lukewarm chapel time, then we shouldn’t be surprised when many recognize how lukewarm our campus might be.

This is not an attempt to undermine the efforts of our Christian formation program. This is an attempt to do extremely difficult work and look to the Spirit for guidance. God is active and working at NW. As with any good thing, I pray that God moves in new and deeper ways amongst us.

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Looking ahead in Raider basketball

SEASONS BEGIN WITH ANTICIPATION
BRADLEY LAACKMANN
SPORT MANAGEMENT

The Northwestern men's basketball team will look to build on a strong 2017-18 season that landed them in the second round of the NAIA National Tournament. The Raiders will look to fill the void left by 6 graduates, including their top 4 scorers. Last season, NW finished the season with a record of 26-7, ranked #11 in the NAIA, and as the run-

In spite of a solid NW defense, Saturday's football game ended with a score of 42-34 for a Morningside win.

Limmer’s impressive four soccer years

FROM PAGE 1

While some people may argue in favor of some of NW’s previous stars, the stats put up by Limmer over the past four seasons are hard to argue with. Limmer began breaking records as a freshman with a 4 goal game against Mount Marty, placing him tied for most goals ever scored in one game. Earlier that season, he had three assists in one game which tied the previous re-

PHOTO BY: JOSHUA RATHBUN

Limmer began breaking NW soccer records his freshman year and has not stopped since.

PHOTO BY: JOSHUA RATHBUN

Looking ahead in Raider basketball

PHOTO BY: ALI ACHTERHOF

Men's basketball starts their new season without last year's top scorers. This year, the Raider men have been picked to finish 6th in the conference according to the GPAC preseason coaches' poll. They will open up the 2018-19 season vs. Oak Hills Christian at home on Saturday and begin conference play at home vs. Dakota Wesleyan on Nov. 7. NW's women's basketball team will also hope to carry over their success from last season as they fought their way to the NAIA National Semifinals. NW finished with an overall record of 25-9 and was ranked #11 in the NAIA. The Raider women are returning 3 starters and have only lost 2 players from last year's group. The GPAC preseason coaches' poll chose NW to finish 3rd in the conference, and they will also begin the season ranked 8th in the NAIA polls. The Raiders will kick off their season by traveling to Madison on Thursday to face Dakota State in a non-conference matchup. Conference play will begin for the women on Nov. 7 as they compete in the first game of the doubleheader vs. Dakota Wesleyan.

Basketball season is almost here, and as both the men's and women's teams aim to build off last year's success, it will be an exciting season for each fan of NW basketball.
This year, in addition to the switch from the theater production, The Crucible. to work better for any theater students wishing to attend, NW has made the decision to change the date of the upcoming singing competition. This event will now be held in the spring. This is expected to help with scheduling conflicts as well.

After meeting with representatives from Dordt and NW alternate hosting the finals, and due to the change in scheduling, Airband plans to add comedy to the night, but they are still hard at work trying to come up with new acts. Between the great emcees and the nine talented acts, we hope to see lots of Raiders there as well.

"Let's just say this, " Callahan said. "You'll get to see a snapshot of the acts from NW ." Halfway through auditions, Jonathon Muyskens, who is also excited to see the preliminary round tonight at 9 pm in Christ Chapel.

"I'm pumped, " Muyskens said. "The acts so far have been really good. "

Registration can be completed on NW’s website and closes on Monday, Nov. 5. For questions or concerns, contact online@nwciowa.edu or call 712-707-7388.

Innovation and change require time and commitment. While taking a day off work or classes does not seem ideal, the ideas and concepts learned will reap far bigger rewards when put into practice.

POPPULAR SINGING EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE THIS WEEKEND

KELSEY LANG
POLITICAL SCIENCE

The annual singing competition between Northwestern and Dordt begins with the preliminary round tonight at 9 pm in Christ Chapel. While this is a head-to-head competition between rival institutions, the colleges hold the first rounds separately, featuring only Northwestern students at NW and Dordt students at Dordt.

The first round includes nine singing acts, both solo artists and group performers, and the audience will get to vote six of the nine acts on to the semi-finals. Semi-finals will take place on Saturday, Nov. 16, at Dordt College. This round will feature six of NW’s best acts facing off against six of Dordt’s best acts. Finals will take place just a week later, on Saturday, Nov. 23.

Dordt College will be hosting the finals, and this year it is NW’s turn.

Because of scheduling conflicts in the springtime with both Campus Ministry equipment and musicians, former NW student Bethana Muyskens suggested moving this event to the fall instead of holding it in the spring like usual.

After meeting with representatives from Dordt’s activities coordinators, the decision was finalized to hold NCDC in the fall. Dordt was pleased with the switch, as it frees their spring schedule from conflicts as well.

Due to the change in scheduling, Airband will now be held in the spring. This is expected to work better for any theater students wishing to participate in Airband but currently involved with the theater production, The Crucible. This year, in addition to the switch from spring to fall, the judge selection will be different from former years. One judge will be selected because of their affiliation to NW one because of their connection to Dordt College, and one judge will serve as a 'neutral,' unaffiliated judge.

Halfway through auditions, Jonathon Muyskens, main stage events coordinator, was hopeful about the acts from NW .

"I'm pumped," Muyskens said. "The acts so far have been really good." He also noted that many of the acts are soloists instead of group performers.

One of the emcees for this event, Sam Callahan, is also excited to see the preliminary round take place. As a senior, Callahan has performed in NCDC the other three years of his college career.

"NCDC is very near and dear to my heart," Callahan said.

Callahan, North States recycling coordinator, will be co-emceeing with his roommate, Dana Van Ostrand. Callahan and Van Ostrand have big plans to add comedy to the night, but they are choosing to keep their jokes’ "top secret" until tonight.

"Let’s just say this," Callahan said. "You’ll get to know Dana and me on a very personal level.

"The audience will get to see a snapshot of our daily lives," Van Ostrand added. "It’ll be awesome. Between the great emcees and the nine talented acts, we hope to see lots of Raiders there supporting or at least there supporting.

Callahan and Van Ostrand also revealed their plans to address the quality of Dordt’s new logo.

Because it has been years since a Raider victory when Abbey Slatery won as a freshman, Muyskens has one thing to say about this year’s NCDC competition... "Let’s kick Dordt’s butt."