PHOTO SUBMITTED BY NORI ODATE

Fumiko Morii, senior Jasmine Smith, sophomore Honna Brown, Risako Yajima, Sani Okada and Maki Oka hang out in the Fern lounge. The Japanese students have already experienced much in their time at Northwestern's long-awaited English camp.

BY BRIAN BRANDAU
STAFF WRITER

The land of the rising sun has come to the land of the falling snow.

For the past two weeks, Northwestern has been host to an English camp for 15 Japanese high school seniors. The students came from Meiji Gakuin High School in a suburb of Tokyo called Ogawa.

The camp is a result of a long-time coordination effort between Nori Odate, a 1980 graduate of NW and English instructor at the high school, and Kevin McMahan, head of NW's multicultural office.

"Mr. Odate talked to Kevin for four years before there were enough students interested to come," said the coordinator of the camp Kari Beadner. "They finally decided to do it in September."

McMahan was excited about the prospect of an

See “Students” on Page 5

BY ALYSSA CURRIER
NEWS EDITOR

Students across campus have been preparing since last semester for Northwestern's annual production of RUSH next week.

More than 200 students will dance in 16 different dances created and taught by 23 student choreographers. Styles range from hip-hop, jazz and gypsy to Steampunk, salsa, Romanian and some that cannot be so easily labeled.

Junior choreographer, Joel Hegeman, described his dance.

“It’s lyrical hip-hop meets robots, meets partner dancing, meets Michael Jackson, meets Chachi Gonzales, meets awesome fun,” Hegeman said.

Like Hegeman, there are many new choreographers participating in this year’s production.

“My first dance experience was RUSH last year, and I’ve been dancing as much as I can ever since," said sophomore choreographer Tyler Gleason. "Seeing your choreography come to life within other dancers is pretty cool.”

However, not all the first-time choreographers’ love for dancing has translated into a love for putting a dance together and teaching it to others.

“For me, this isn’t the way to utilize my creativity,” said senior choreographer Aaron Bauer. “I love dancing and choreographing has been a lot of fun, but this just isn’t my outlet.”

From dance moves to music, lighting and costumes, new and veteran choreographers alike run into challenges. When they do, RUSH’s artistic director junior Amber Amundson is there to help.

“I can help choreographers if they are stuck and need fresh ideas or give them suggestions about things that might enhance the desired mood or aesthetic,” Amundson said.

“Students unite through show & dance

As RUSH draws closer, I will be dropping in on the dances, making sure that they are on track and reporting things back to the stage manager and student producers,” Amundson said.

A dedicated group of student leaders in years past has contributed to RUSH becoming an anticipated event within the community that draws students, not only from NW, but from Dordt and Northwest Iowa Community College as well.

“I’m excited to be a part of a dance crew,” said Miguel Dortian, a junior at Dordt who is dancing in RUSH. “It’s something I’ve always wanted to do and I’m happy I have a chance to be in it.”

Sophomore Jessica Mars, a freshman at NCC, is also participating in RUSH.

“I’ve met a lot of new friends through RUSH,” Mars said. “I’ve really been accepted even though I don’t go to school here and it feels good.”

Students involved in RUSH choose to put school rivalry aside for the sake of artistic expression.

“The students from Dordt and NCC add a lot of personality to our group,” said junior choreographer Emily Loveland.

During the weeks leading up to RUSH, students dedicate significant amounts of time and energy to practicing. It is not uncommon for practices to go until midnight.

“Having RUSH on top of all my homework makes it difficult to have a social life,” said sophomore Kori Heidebrink.

This time commitment is a deterrent for some.

“I decided not to do RUSH this year because I really didn’t enjoy my dance this year and it just wasn’t worth the time commitment to me,” said sophomore Lauren Van’t Hof.

“That doesn’t mean I won’t do it next year.”

To others, sacrificing time and sleep is a small price to pay for the experience of being in RUSH.

“The memories and the people you meet make it worth

See “RUSH” on Page 8

PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

Junior Kate Wallin and senior Dana Franken rehearse for their traditional Romanian partner dance to be performed during RUSH.
Beyond this world

BY KATI HENG

For anyone bored with rappers trying to prove their own worth or blackness or player power, for those bored with the ‘girls and money’ themes running wild through the indie-rap scene, for those buying the ‘clean’ versions of songs and still wishing they were cleaner—we proudly present Jay–Rah and his first solo release “Life Beyond Living.”

“Life Beyond Living” says our life here on earth is only a part of our life—there’s more,” said Jeriah Dunk, the sophomore at Northwestern College who has been performing and recording under the name ‘Jay–Rah.’ “The album is about finding life, finding rebirth in this life through Christ; a life beyond selfish ambitions, one lived whether listening to his album or talking to him in person.

“I check myself before I check the mic,” Dunk said. “If you put ‘rap music’ in front of Christian music, it’s not going to work.”

But unlike so many of the Christian rappers around, Jay–Rah has some terrific beats, splices from friends like Soul Sista and Big Nash and instrumental sections backing up his stuff. It’s not just simple rhythms holding the tempo for his words—the instrumentals, all written by Dunk himself, sound so intimately familiar, it almost sounds like Dunk has been stealing lines from Mozart, or some other composer you recognize but can’t quite pick up, to get his sound.

Combine that with his crisp, youthful voice, “Life Beyond Living” isn’t just a great Christian-rap album, it’s a great album in every sense of the word.

Yes, it gets bogged down at times with stretches of preaching, but almost every rap-album has that long, spoken bridge, and since it’s there, it’s refreshing to hear a rapper talk about something other than his own cred.

Finishing this album doesn’t mean Dunk is going to be slowing down anytime soon. After putting his album up for sale on iTunes, Dunk plans on spending more time in the recording studio and with Unique.

Make sure to check out the album “Life Beyond Living,” available on iTunes.

Nada Surf reminisces on youth

ALBUM REVIEW

BY LYRIC MORRIS

It’s hard to imagine anything typical sprouting from a dreadlock-sporting, MTV performing group of 45-year-olds, and yet, Nada Surf’s most recent release “The Stars Are Indifferent to Astronomy” has proven to be a typical piece of work to add to the band’s discography.

While advancing years have not dulled their passion, Nada Surf has run their race. And they realize this. “Stars” is a refreshingly sentimental reflection on the band’s glory days and timeline of the band’s story as a whole. Tracks such as “When I Was Young” and “Teenage Dreams” speak about the band’s memories of 90’s MTV appearances and concerts alongside big names like Death Cab For Cutie.

When it comes to the music, past fans will be comforted to hear the same fast-paced drumming, layered vocals and predictably 90’s rock styled guitar riffs that Nada Surf seems to have perfected over the course of their previous six albums. Those who are more interested in stimulating melodies, however, will need to look somewhere else.

The album’s lyrics have reached a new level of sophistication for the group. Nada Surf is best known for their 1996 hit “Popular,” which quotes, “I’m popular, I’m never last picked/I got a cheerleader chick”—catchy, but meaningless.

While many songs on ‘Stars’ stick to Nada Surf’s tried and true themes of love, heartache and angst, they do seem to be widening their horizons with thought provoking lines addressing environmental issues, the meaning of human existence and the band’s future.

The album raises several questions regarding the future of the group—is this the final “hoorah” of a 20 year-long musical career? Whether or not Nada Surf answers these questions just yet, their fans have been left with another solid album to record the legacy that is Nada Surf.
Markie-Mark shoots and scores once again

MOVIE REVIEW
BY JEFFREY HUBERS

“Contraband” is the classic action-packed race to get the job done before the bad guys, or in this case, the worse guys, harm Wahlberg’s family.

Markie Mark uses all his signature moves to play this concerned “family man” bad boy. Faul temper, foul language and a carefree attitude that says, “I don’t really care what you think… I’m still going to punch you in the face.”

As far as action movies have gone, “Contraband” is no “Mission Impossible 4”, but it gets the job done, just like Wahlberg’s world-class smuggling skills.

The movie has plenty of gunfights, explosions and criminal intrigue to fill a Friday night, and it entertainingly tries to give smuggling an “Ocean’s 11” kind of appeal.

“Contraband” features some great actors like Ben Foster, Giovanni Ribisi and Kate Beckinsale, who add spice to the criminal world. The plot is not complex, but it does give the viewer an interesting story. Think of it as a “how-to” on smuggling, with the sum being a “get rich or get busted” scenario, and it almost makes the film educational.

The movie’s fast pace, with the clock ticking on Wahlberg as he rushes to complete the smuggling job before time runs out on his family, is great for awhile, but by the end, leaves viewers wondering, “How did we get here again?”

Overall, the ocean tanker’s worth of action, crude humor and violence combined with Wahlberg’s classic “tough guy” character make “Contraband” worth checking out for any action fan who can take some serious elements.

Rating: ★★★
Northwestern graduate running across Iowa

BY KATI HENG
A&C EDITOR

At about 9:15 a.m., after an hour of running, Jim Ellis realized his water, the only clean, bottled water he would see for miles, had frozen.

Hitching a ride with a trucker traveling the same road and calling his friend to ask for fresh water, Ellis found a few minutes of relief in the warm vehicle. Jim explained what he was doing running with a stroller packed to the tipping point, and it was a comfortable break from the 20 mph headwinds he faced as he made the 34.1 mile trek from Kingsley to Orange City this past Monday.

“It was fun,” Ellis said with a laugh. Since completing his first marathon in high school in a futile attempt to impress a girl, a 2006 Northwestern graduate Jim Ellis knew he had a passion for running long distances.

“So far, the longest I’ve run has been 61.05 miles,” Ellis said, “but I’ll be running 68 miles from Grinnell to Iowa City later this year.”

Ellis is devoting his year to running 1,500 miles across Iowa, stopping each mile at churches, schools and colleges such as NW in a journey called ‘Awake My Sole’.

“I want to inspire and challenge people of all ages to use their God-given abilities,” Ellis said. “It would be a bummer if people in their 70’s look back and realize they hated the life they lived, that they did their job just to pay for a house. I’m hoping to encourage people to use what they are passionate about. ‘Awake My Sole’ is the perfect combination of Ellis’ own passions: running, speaking and encouraging others.

“Running this journey has taught me about the connection of spiritual life to the race of life,” Ellis said. “We begin, we run the race, we finish. Not only do I want to run well physically, I want to run well in everything I do—in my relationships, in my career, in my spiritual life—everything.”

Ellis was quick to point out that ‘Awake My Sole’ is less about his run and more about the stops along the way.

“I don’t think it matters that I ran across Iowa if I did it just for the sake of running across Iowa,” Ellis said. “I’m not trying to get people to quit college or leave their jobs not trying to get people to quit their job, it’s all about finishing the race.”

Of course, Ellis’ trip for running has a purpose. It’s not about ‘skipping town’, running away—it’s like running in the winter—you have to keep going, even when the wind is blowing in your face and it’s zero degrees out and you’d rather be at home. It’s all about finishing the race.

Ellis’ trip would have been impossible without some help. Even though he is running alone on all but a few miles, Ellis is supported the whole way. “I’m using other people’s talents and passions during this trip—for instance, Mark [Alsom] loves to make these graphic t-shirts, so he’s making shirts for ‘Awake My Sole,’” Ellis said. “Another guy is great with social networking, so he’s doing all that for me.” And in places like Sanborn, where Ellis is heading next, he’s got a host-family to stay with and a clean, bottled water he would see for miles, had frozen.

Jim Ellis arrives in Orange City after running 34.1 miles from Kingsley. Jim’s advice for those wanting to run in the winter? ‘Don’t’.

Barker brings back art of storytelling

BY KATE WALLIN

Speak with any number of students on campus about worship in the Church and you’ll undoubtedly hear that something is missing.

What does Jeff Barker, professor of theater, believe is missing? Story.

Barker’s most recently published project is “The Storytelling Church,” a full-length book.

It’s a collection of stories illuminating Barker’s own storytelling journey and the need for story in the midst of modern worship.

“The Storytelling Church” is about telling family stories, Barker said. “Stories about who we are and whose we are. From the moment God created people, he’s been revealing himself saying, ‘Here I am,’ inviting us to be a part of his story in the world. I see the church as the family Jesus instituted when he said, ‘God is my Father, you are my brothers and sisters.’”

Barker has been telling these family stories as a professor of theater and speech at NW for over twenty years. Most recently, over winter break, nine NW students toured his play “Iowa Ethiopia” in Ethiopia. It tells the story of local missionary nurse Arlene Schuiteman. Her story is one such example of the power in a storytelling church.

“People tend to forget easily,” Barker said. “God has given us the gift of tools for memory. One of the most blessed tools is the gift of storytelling.”

The stories Barker refers to come from a patchwork of sources: the ancient Hebrew Scriptures, the life of Christ, thousands of years of church tradition and the people sitting next to you in the pews today.

“God makes things happen in our lives so we can tell others the story,” Barker said. “God blesses us so we will tell someone. The end game is the story, not the blessing. The story is the point and any story that’s a good story can be revisited. There’s a kind of thrill in being able to go back over a story and say, ‘I was there.’”

Professor Jeff Barker: “What stories are you going to be telling your friends? Your kids? Your family? This question of ‘Who gets to narrate your life?’ is the question everyone in the world needs to ask.”
English camp for Japanese students, but knew his office wouldn’t be able to handle the additional workload of organizing and putting on the camp. Dean of Students John Brogan then approached Beadner, whose husband Aaron started as the head of Student Activities this semester, to ask if she would be willing to take on the responsibility. Beadner was particularly well-suited for the job. She spent three years planting churches in Japan, where she learned a bit about Japanese language and culture.

Furthermore, as a new member of the NW community, she felt that running the camp confirmed her family’s choice to move to Orange City and would give her an opportunity to get to know faculty, staff and students better.

During their two weeks here, students have had many opportunities to engage American culture and improve their English. Each day, the students have a two hour class on American culture and a two hour Oral English class. In between that time, students work with five NW students who volunteered to be tutors.

Sophomore Sarah Shapiro is one of those tutors. She recalled an amusing anecdote from her time eating lunch with the Japanese students.

“I pointed out this pizza (and said) ‘Here’s taco pizza,’” Shapiro said.

Hayato Mori, one of the students, recalled his initial confusion at Shapiro’s identification.


Risako Yajima had her own problems with the food.

“I don’t like the food here. It makes me fatter,” she said. “I want to stay here longer, except I miss Japanese food. Other than that, I could stay here forever.”

The students have had the chance to see more than just Cafe food in their introduction to American culture. So far, the group of students has visited classes on campus, the Vogel Paint plant, the Blue Bunny Ice Cream Parlor in Le Mars, a basketball game and several activities at American Reformed Church. They even got to visit Minneapolis.

Many of the Japanese students enjoyed getting to know more about the religious aspect of American culture. Meiji Gakuin is a private Christian high school that teaches the faith openly.

“Students learn about Christianity and the teachings of Christ in the classroom,” Beadner said. “But Japanese culture is so closely tied to traditional religions like Shintoism and Buddhism . . . it’s a long road for Japanese students to become Christians.”

Of the 15 students on the trip, only two of them are professing Christians. One of them is Ayane Kyo, an ethnic Korean who was born in Japan.

“Learning about (American) religion is very interesting,” Kyo said. “American churches are very big and very luxurious.”

Fumiko Mori found American religious culture to be very diverse after visiting St. Paul’s Cathedral in Minneapolis.

“There are many varieties of people,” Mori said. “Young people through old people. There are a lot of kinds of Christians.”

The students have also had to come to terms with one less pleasant aspect of Iowa.

“It’s very, very cold,” Rikuto Nagai said. Many other students shared his discomfort at the frigid temperatures, comparing them to Japan’s much milder wintertime climate.

“I worry about snow,” Morii said. She has good reason to worry. On the way back from Minneapolis, one van full of students slipped on the ice and slid forty feet off the road into a ditch. Fortunately, no one was harmed.

During their visit, the girls have stayed on campus in Hospers Hall while the boys have been split between host homes in Sioux Center and Orange City. All the students were very happy with the hospitality shown by their hosts.

“Americans are very kind to us,” Yajima said. “They do not know us but they always say to us, ‘Hi.’”

“High school students from Japan participate in a game night at Northwestern. Students took part in many different activities while visiting the college.”

“Students experience cold, college and pizza”

“Visiting Japanese students practice English during class about American culture in the Franken Center.”

“PHOTO BY NATE JOHNSTON”

“PHOTO BY NATE JOHNSTON”

“PHOTO BY NATE JOHNSTON”
I was wrong about Tim Tebow

While this was true then, I am now more interested in politics and was intrigued to see how the Iowa caucus works. It is not often when Iowa, a small Midwestern state, gets the chance to lead the nation and take center stage.

While it is true that since 1972 only three non-incumbent candidates who won the Iowa caucus have gone on to win the presidency, no candidate who has finished worse than fourth place in Iowa has won the Democratic or Republican nomination.

As we know now, this will again be true. Only the top four finishers in the Iowa caucus are left in the race for the Republican nomination.

This shows that Iowa caucus voters truly have a say in narrowing down the nation’s choice of candidates and do make a difference, whether good or bad.

Keeping in mind how important the Iowa caucus is, I headed to East High School in Sioux City to caucus with my mom.

Upon arrival we waited in a long line to be checked in. When checked in we headed into the auditorium to await the start. One representative from each campaign was allowed to speak on their candidate’s behalf.

In the end, the majority of the votes in our precinct went to Rick Santorum. Santorum also ended up winning the Iowa caucus by less than fifty votes, which is quite amazing considering more than 120,000 voters showed up to the polls. Reflecting back, I learned something valuable. We can make a difference. If only a few more supporters had showed up to vote for Mitt Romney, who knows what would have happened.

Before, I did not believe my vote mattered. Now, I may be naive, but I believe my vote makes a difference, and yours does too. Those of us who live in Iowa need to take advantage of the opportunity we have of being one of the leading political states in the country. In Iowa we are blessed to be able to meet the candidates, see their faces, and hopefully vote with confidence for who we think will lead our great nation courageously and loyally in this decade and beyond.

Iowa caucus is a unique blessing

The SSA to Turkey was a short three-week trip, but it was intense. We wasted no time digging into Turkish culture and history a few months before the trip. This is one of the most valuable parts to traveling: Preparing for and learning about the place to which you are going to live or visit.

When I think back to Turkey, I am amazed with everything that we saw and experienced. It was a whirlwind but we were prepared for that whirlwind.

The biggest struggle with traveling is moving beyond the traveler status. This often requires time and effort to connect by spending time with locals and allowing yourself to see life from their perspectives. Being part of a longer program does increases the time available to make this happen, but it does not mean it is any easier.

The key concept to moving beyond a traveler status is a conscious effort. Allowing the culture to influence, teach and challenge you is a valuable way to travel.

My final comment is to take the leap, whether it is an SSA or a semester-long trip. Both programs allow for amazing experiences that you will not forget.
Men's basketball humbled in GPAC match-up

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

The Northwestern men's basketball team fell to Briar Cliff Wednesday evening 82-60. Briar Cliff avenged their 30-point loss at the hands of the Raiders earlier this season, dominating the Raiders in Sioux City.

Coming into the game, NW was ranked 12th in the nation and second in the GPAC, while Briar Cliff was 14th in the nation and third in the GPAC.

"Going into the game our mentality was good," said senior guard Walter Seim. "We were on a winning streak and playing good basketball. Going on the road in the GPAC is never easy, but we knew that going in."

The Raiders struggled to score all night, managing just 25 points in the first half. BC swarmed NW in the post, preventing easy baskets from junior post players Stu Goslinga and Daniel Van Kalsbeek.

When the Raiders got easy shots, nothing seemed to fall. NW shot 31 percent from the field and 27 percent from behind the three point line.

As a team, the Raiders managed only nine assists to 11 turnovers.

"We were out of sorts on offense," Seim said. "But I would have to say that their size and length was able to bother us around the basket."

Briar Cliffs was scraching from the three point line, shooting 43 percent from beyond the arc. When the Raiders starters left the game, the bench made the final score look more respectable. Senior Kurt Korver dropped 10 points and junior Jacey Hoegh put in eight of his own.

But NW is making a point not to let the loss affect them mentally as the regular season has less than a month left.

"I feel like there are positives in any situation," Seim said. "Some are harder to find than others, but the biggest thing we need to realize is that the season is not over. We still have seven GPAC games left and a good shot at winning the conference. As long as we take care of ourselves, we do not need to worry about what other teams do. We need to realize that that night is over and move on."

On Jan. 18, NW beat Morningside at the Bultman Center 96-86. The Raiders took care of the ball, giving it up only 13 times, and were efficient from the field, shooting 49 percent.

Junior Ben Miller scored 23 points on 8-13 shooting, and junior Zack Leeper was 6-13 from the field, adding 14 points.

With the Mustangs trying to neutralize Goslinga after he exploded for 33 points in their first meeting, Van Kalsbeek picked up the scoring in the paint, scoring 13 points. Seim also added 13 points off the bench.

NW's next game is this Saturday against Hastings. Tip-off is at 4 p.m.

"Hastings is another quality team so we need to prepare for them as if we were playing the number one team in the nation," Seim said.

Lady Raiders notch road win at Briar Cliff

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

Needing a win to stay in the GPAC title hunt, the women of No. 9 Northwestern went to Sioux City to face No. 2 Briar Cliff Wednesday night.

They rode the scoring of junior Kendra De Jong and a strong bench performance to an 89-88 victory.

The win puts NW's record at 16-5 overall, 10-3 in the GPAC on the season.

The Chargers led for the entirety of the first half, but the Raiders were never more than 10 points down.

Sophomore Kenzie Small provided eight points in three minutes towards the end of the first half to give the Raiders momentum going into the locker room.

NW's first lead came with 15:47 left in the second half when senior Kanti Kuhlmann hit a three-pointer to make the game 55-54.

"In the second half we tried to take better care of the ball," junior guard Mallory Cunard said. "We also won the offensive boards, which was big in getting us a lot of second chance points."

The Raiders couldn't pull more than seven points ahead because of costly turnovers, racking up 21 lost possessions throughout the contest.

Briar Cliff was down by four with 1:41 left, and cut the lead to a single point after completing an and-one with 1:31 remaining. The play turned out to be the final scoring of the contest.

A tense atmosphere was partially to blame for the sloppy play at the end. After both teams traded turnovers, the Raiders missed two free throws to close the competitive game.

"I think we all had a little bit of anxiety towards the end," Cunard said. "The gym was fairly loud and they were putting some pressure on us. Even so, I felt like we relaxed at the end and then finished the game well."

De Jong provided consistent scoring for the Raiders, dropping 27 points on 10-18 shooting while grabbing eight rebounds and picking up three steals.

Sophomore Small and Sam Kleinsasser provided 15 points each in 25 minutes off the bench.

Sophomore Alli Dunkelberger was team leader in rebounds, rapping down nine. Kuhlmann played all 40 minutes of the game, and added 18 points and six assists.

Despite losing the turnover battle 21-16, NW dominated the rebounding margin, outmuscling Briar Cliff 44-30 on the glass.

On Jan. 18, the Raiders dropped a closely-knit contest with No. 7 Morningside in the Bultman Center 76-74.

Their perimeter defense could not keep up with the Morningside outside shooting, as the Mustangs went 40 percent from beyond the arc. The Raiders were far less lucky, knocking down only 25 percent of their attempts.

De Jong once again led the Raiders in scoring, earning 22 points and nine boards. She also dished out five assists and forced three steals on the night.

Cunard added 13 points of her own in a full 40 minutes of playing.

With seven games left in the conference schedule, any loss at this point would be decimating to NW's hopes of winning the GPAC regular season title.

No. 5 Concordia is currently in the lead with a 12-2 record conference record. No. 7 Morningside is a game behind with their 11-3 record, and then Briar Cliff and NW are 10-3 on the year, tying for third.

After overcoming some early season obstacles, the Raiders have been on fire as of late, and they do not plan on changing their gameplan in the later part of the season.

"We'll definitely work on details and some little things," Cunard said. "It'll be tweaks on defense, but we always focus on what we do well and who we are as a team."

The Raiders travel to Hastings this Saturday to play the No. 18 Broncos.
**New scanning system frustrates students in Cafe and Hub**

*BY JOLEEN WILHELM*

Students on campus have encountered some changes in the Cafe and Hub since their return from Christmas break, all of which are centered around Sodexo’s new scanning system known as “Halo.”

“It was time for an upgrade,” Chef BJ Whitmore said. “The old system gave out several times and was 10 years out of date.”

Due to the old system’s malfunctions, students often had to write down their names and ID numbers instead of getting their cards scanned which created longer Cafe lines.

However, long lines are an inconvenience still present with the new system.

“The system is cloud based,” Whitmoresaid. “This means it individually checks each card with the online data base to track meals which unfortunately slows down the process.”

Many students have expressed frustration with the new system.

“The scanner is a lot slower,” said sophomore Kyle Stanek.

Stanek is not alone in his sentiments.

“The new system is annoying,” said junior Eric Posthuma. “It’s tough to get mad though, because Kathy is so nice.”

Freshman Tyler Farr agrees that three meal exchanges per week are not enough.

“I tried to be honest with the meal exchange system,” Farr said. “But now that they’re cracking down I need to put more thought into where and when I’m eating. This can be a real challenge for students involved in extracurricular activities.”

Both Cafe and Hub employees agree that the new system is better.

“Halo has better reporting features,” said Whitmore. “It can better track who is eating which meals when and where. The system is customized for our location and is not tied to the college’s Internet.”

Sodexo plans to set up an online meal account feature that will allow students to see how many meals they have and how much flex money is in their account.

**New scanning system frustrates students in Cafe and Hub**

*BY GILLIAN ANDERSON*

New Summer Study Abroad opportunities are available for students to explore different cultures.

- **Ethiopia**: Professor Arnold Carlson will lead students to Ethiopia where they will study visual art and design May 16-June 7.
- **Austria**: Professors Bob Hubbard and Jeff Taylor will lead students in music history in Austria May 1-June 10.
- **India**: Professor Joel Westerholm will lead students to India where they will focus on Indian arts and culture July 1-July 23.
- **United Kingdom**: Dr. Randy Jensen, Coach Dan Swier, and Luke Dahn will lead students in cross-cultural studies in the United Kingdom May 14-June 10.
- **Germany**: Professors Dr. Kim Jongerius, Dr. Emily Fuchs, and Professors Bob Hubbard and Jeff Taylor will lead students in culture through art and theatre May 16-June 7.

Each Summer Study Abroad lasts approximately one month and fulfills a general education requirement. This year there are several SSAs to India, Austria, Great Britain, Ecuador and Ethiopia.

**Coffee House**

West Hall will be serving coffee from 8-10:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 27. There will be live music performed by the resident assistants for Coffee House to enjoy.

**Submit Events**

Submit your campus happenings and events to the Beacon for inclusion in this column. Submissions should be roughly 50 words or less and be e-mailed to beacon@nwciowa.edu.

**RUSH**

NW’s annual dance performance, RUSH, will open at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 2 at the Procenium Theatre. Tickets are available at the box office on a first-come, first-serve basis.

**Chapel**

**Monday**
- Dr. Kim Jongerius, Math professor

**Tuesday**
- Chapel Music Team

**Wednesday**
- Coach Dan Swier

**Friday**
- Dr. Randy Jensen, Philosophy professor

**RUSH**, held in the Proscenium Theatre at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2; and 4, 7 and 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, and 4. 7 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4. Tickets are available through the box office on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The dancers and designers have worked so hard. I’m excited for everyone to see the show,” said senior choreographer Lindsey Boulais. “My favorite part is the beautiful moment when what was in your mind turns into something 22 people are having fun doing.”

**New scanning system frustrates students in Cafe and Hub**

*PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW*

**News**