11-9-2018

The Beacon, November 9, 2018

Beacon Staff

Follow this and additional works at: https://nwcommons.nwciowa.edu/beacon2018
Senior soccer girls say goodbye

WOMEN’S SOCCER TEAM WILL BID A FOND FAREWELL TO THEIR SENIORS

COURTNEY MITHELMAN
GENETICS

The women’s soccer team had a hard day on Saturday, October 27. Their season ended in the last conference game against Hastings. This game was especially difficult for the seniors as it was time to finally say goodbye to the game they love.

The class of 2019 was the largest class to come into the women’s soccer program with 16 girls. This group brought a new level of competition to the program. Despite the ups and downs of wins and losses, the senior class was able to have fun every season and see the bigger picture of what it means to be part of a team. It seems that this was primarily due to the uniqueness of each senior.

The women had a wide range of personalities and abilities that led to a more unified program and cohesion within the team.

“This senior class got along better than any other group before. I think that is due to our ability to see the bigger picture of athletics,” said senior captain Jessi Carver.

The senior class continually encouraged the team to look past mere wins and losses and to see what bigger lessons they could learn from the beautiful game.

It is uncommon for a program to accept each member as they are, but this team did it well.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

OC Pride a controversial topic in town

RESPONSES TO EVENT VARY THROUGHOUT COMMUNITY

BRANT VERMEER
SPORTS EDITOR

Orange City finds its way into national news more often than the average small town in Iowa. Sometimes, Orange City is in the national spotlight as a shining example of people living in community with one another. Reporters have commented in the past on the town’s close-knit Dutch community and juxtaposed it with city life.

In 2017, The New Yorker ran a piece titled “Where the Small Town American Dream Lives On.” The piece highlights Orange City as a beacon of hope for small-town life as similar rural communities stagnate.

The town also finds itself in the national spotlight for entirely different reasons. In 2015, The New York Times ran a piece titled “How a Quiet Corner of Iowa Packs Such a Fierce Conservative Punch.” The article dives into the conservative political makeup of Orange City and the surrounding county.

Recently, Orange City found itself in the national spotlight again as a piece was published highlighting the burning of Orange City library books in the wake of OC Pride weekend.

The events of the weekend were held Oct. 19-21 at Town Square Coffeehouse. Friday began with an “evening of pride” celebration that included a performance from the Des Moines Gay Men’s Chorus and a drag queen event.

On Saturday, there was an informational fair during the day with a “buried seeds” event which invited LGBTQ+ people to share their stories at an open mic. The festivities concluded with a brunch and worship service Sunday at Town Square.

SUPPORT FOR OC PRIDE

The events of OC Pride brought a wide range of reactions from the people of Orange City. Steve Mahr, owner of Town Square, helped organize the event. He explained the great lengths he and the rest of the organizers went through to ensure that the event would go smoothly. He explained the great lengths he and the rest of the organizers went through to ensure that the event would go smoothly.

On Saturday, there was an informational fair during the day with a “buried seeds” event which invited LGBTQ+ people to share their stories at an open mic. The festivities concluded with a brunch and worship service Sunday at Town Square.

Mahr said about the logistics of planning Pride weekend.

Given the political climate of north-west Iowa, Mahr and the rest of the organizers knew that the event would likely be controversial.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
“A STAR IS BORN” SHINES BRIGHTLY

ETHAN HUDBYS

“A Star is Born” opens with the male lead Jackson (Bradley Cooper), playing at a festival while clearly drunk and ingesting a handful of pills. As the film progresses, the growing love story between the falling - from - fame, Jackson Maine and the rising star Ally (Lady Gaga). The romance between the main characters is filled with face touching, lots of close ups and genuine affection and care for each other. The sense is that, despite their flaws and weaknesses, Jackson’s substance abuse and Ally’s insecurity – their love for each other is still evident. Furthermore, the love story between them is very well done and both Cooper and Gaga provide depth to their respective characters and the story itself.

The music is also most-likely decent, despite some lackluster songs by both Jackson and Ally. One of Jackson’s most memorable lines that serves as a major theme throughout the film is when he says to Ally, “Look, talent comes everywhere, but having something to say and a way to say it to have people listen to it, that’s a whole other bag.”

Musically, both Gaga and Cooper’s characters are incredibly talented. The common anxieties of critics (Jackson) and Gag’s Gage could act and if Bradley Cooper could song, however, both did a tremendous job doing so. When it comes to the music, they both always have a way to say it but don’t always have something to say. Specifically, with songs like “Music to My Eyes,” “Look What I Found” and “Why Did You Do That?” There is nothing memorable within the lyrics, but Cooper and Gaga find a way to make them interesting.

Another criticism of the music is that although some of the tracks are very powerful and tell a compelling story, some have little to do with the storyline of characters at all.

Given these faults, the music is still a strong point in the film. With the most memorable and arguably best tracks in the movie being “Shallow” and “Always Remember Us This Way,” the songs do a brilliant job of showcasing the leads’ chemistry, singing and musical ability as well as providing depth to the characters and their story.

In the song “Shallow,” Jackson and Ally sing together for the first time, and it is infectious for both the crowd in the film and for the audience in the theater. Additionally, in the song that catalyzes Ally’s career, “Always Remember Us This Way,” we get to really see how powerful and brilliant of a singer and performer Ally is. With a chorus reminiscent of Dan Fogelberg, the song serves as a love letter to Jackson and the experiences they have shared.

Where I believe this film really shines is in its portrayal of addiction. From the first shot of the film to the last scene, we are constantly aware of the looming presence of Jackson’s substance abuse. It is a problem that rears its head throughout the movie and provides valuable insight into what it’s like to be with an addict and how it affects them and the people around them. Jackson’s substance abuse is a constant struggle, and although Ally can look past it and see Jackson not as an addict himself but someone who suffers from addiction, the distress and tribulations of this disease are always at the forefront of their lives. Overall, this movie is well worth a watch and a brilliant rendition of an old story.

Tori Kelly goes gospel in new album

RECOMMENDED SONG: Psalm 42

JESSI CARVER

It’s not uncommon for a gospel artist to transition to the pop genre. But for a successful pop artist to make a gospel album? That’s almost unheard of.

In her sophomore album, Hiding Place, Tori Kelly has done just that. Her first studio album, Unbreakable Smile, had immediate success with songs “Nobody Love” and “Not Too Little, Not Too Much.” However, the success of artists like Lauren Daigle, gospel seems to be having a moment.

For now, Tori Kelly has assured fans that more pop music is on the way. The album opens with the soulful jam “Masterpiece,” featuring Lecrae. It’s the type of song that is impossible to listen to without bobbing your head. The energetic song is about self image and how God sees us. In our busy lives, we need reminders that God makes us his masterpiece. This is Kelly’s second collaboration with Lecrae. Lecrae is a Christian rapper who has recently been trying to reach a more secular audience. He adds a fresh sound to this already unique album.

In “Help Us To Love,” it is sure to be one of the most powerful songs in Hiding Place. In it, Kelly laments to the Lord of the brokenness of this world. As the title implies, she cries out, “God, help us to love the way that you love me.” Her song “Questions” has a similar theme, and is undoubtedly the most thought-provoking song on the album. It begins, “Always Remember Us This Way,” we get to really see how powerful and brilliant of a singer and performer Ally is. With a chorus reminiscent of Dan Fogelberg, the song serves as a love letter to Jackson and the experiences they have shared.

Where I believe this film really shines is in its portrayal of addiction. From the first shot of the film to the last scene, we are constantly aware of the looming presence of Jackson’s substance abuse. It is a problem that rears its head throughout the movie and provides valuable insight into what it’s like to be with an addict and how it affects them and the people around them. Jackson’s substance abuse is a constant struggle, and although Ally can look past it and see Jackson not as an addict himself but someone who suffers from addiction, the distress and tribulations of this disease are always at the forefront of their lives. Overall, this album is for anyone who has been through the struggles of life and is searching for meaning.
“The Crucible” opens this weekend

WITCH TRIALS BROUGHT TO LIFE
RACHEL KOERTNER PUBLIC RELATIONS

The theatre department is about to open another play this weekend, and it is a classic. In fact, many students may recall having read the play in high school. It is called “The Crucible,” by Arthur Miller.

Open now through Nov. 17, there will be six public performances of “The Crucible” in Northwestern’s Prosценium Theatre. The show is directed by professor of theatre Bob Hubbard and involves a large number of NW students on stage and off.

“The Crucible” is based off the true stories of the Salem witch trials in 1692 and was written by Miller to rebuke the dangerous hysteria of 1950s McCarthyism. The play explores viewpoints to show the issue from many perspectives.

Underlying themes include humility, the danger of moral certainty and society’s susceptibility to authoritative bullies. Hubbard says the play was chosen this year because it is a classic and the staff thought the show wrestled with these themes.

“I knew [“The Crucible”] would be a challenge, but I was thrilled to take it on with our ensemble,” Hubbard said.

Senior theatre major Randy Lynn Getz was around when the show was announced last year, and even though she didn’t know a lot about the show then, the more research she did, the more excited she became.

“It was a role that I had really hoped for and worked really hard in preparation for auditions,” Getz said. “[Abigail Williams] is a very challenging role because she’s so different from me, but at the same time, I like the challenge. It makes it more fun.”

Freshman Rachel Smart was also overjoyed when she found out she was cast in the show. Smart plays Mary Warren and is very grateful to be in the show. She says that everyone has been very inviting to her, making her experience as a freshman a good one.

“(The process) has been really good,” Smart said. “Everyone is so supportive and kind, and they make you feel like part of the family right away. It has also been so much more professional.”

Agreeing with Smart, both Hubbard and Getz said the process has gone really well. “It has been a lot of fun,” Hubbard said. “The designers have come up with some very creative and unexpected choices; it has been a joy to watch it grow.”

Many others are also involved in the show, including stage manager Hannah Wamhoff, assistant stage manager Max Taylor, a total of 19 actors and a very large number of crew members and professors who have helped tremendously.

After putting forth a countless number of hours on the show, Hubbard, Getz and Smart all agree that people definitely should come see it. “I think it is just a really powerful show,” Smart said. “It makes you think about how to apply it to your own life and how to look at injustice.” Getz thought along similar lines.

“The play helps people look at things that happen in the world from multiple perspectives,” Getz said, “and not be quick to judge or jump to conclusions.”

Tickets for “The Crucible” can be ordered at nwciowa.edu/tickets or by calling the box office at 712-707-7098.

This event hopes to bring students across campus together in a fun environment of self-expression. Plus, it’s not just NW students who end up attending.

“Usually students from Dord College join Coffee House as well,” Boursiquot said. “So, it is like a way to further the relationship between the two schools.”

Senior Ntenna Nwaelugo, who is one of the students in charge of planning the International Coffee House, explained what to expect at this unique event.

“Coffee House is an event to showcase various talents such as singing, dancing, poetry and just enjoying each other’s company,” Nwaelugo said. “We will also be giving out free coffee and the Hub will be selling cookies. But the Coffee House doesn’t end at the Hub.

“Once all the performances are over, students gather at the fireside room in Ramaker for an after party where everybody dances it out,” Boursiquot mentioned.

So, come join in on the fun! There will be free coffee to sip and cookies to munch on while you enjoy the performances, there are interactive portions throughout the night between the audience and the emcees and a dance party afterwards.

Nwaelugo has performed dancing routines in past Coffee House events. “My favorite part is performing because I feel free to dance and have fun in a non-judgmental environment,” she said.

Portillo had some input on why students should attend. “It serves as a way to meet more people and get to see people you don’t know perform. It introduces you to new and talented people – maybe even people you wouldn’t expect.”

Boursiquot added, “Coffee House is a fun event, and who doesn’t like free coffee?”

If any NW students would like to perform at this years International Coffee House, fill out the form found at nwciowa.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_c0QkagYvZnZqYgl.
that there would likely be pushback. "What's public relations, and what can you do as a job?" PR majors know there are a wealth of career opportunities to choose from.

The major is diverse, and students learn to speak, write, research, design, advertise and plan effectively. They can work in places that seem not typical for PR like hospitals. That was just what Ann Minnick, Associate Professor of Public Relations at NW, did for a large chunk of her career in PR.

Healthcare experience ran in Minnick’s family. Her father was completing his medical internship at Broadlawns Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa when Minnick was born. From Des Moines, she spent some years of her childhood in Arizona on Native American reservations while her father worked as a doctor with the Indian Health Services. Her family later relocated to Orange City. Minnick spent a lot of time traveling with her father to make house calls, nursing home visits and hospital trips for her work once in Orange City.

"I often drove him to the Sioux Center Hospital when he had to do surgery at night, and I would do my home-work in the lobby while he worked," Minnick said.

Even though she grew up with a father heavily involved in the medical field and she herself volunteered at a local hospital, she had no interest going into a medical career when the time came to transition to college. Instead, Minnick double majored in Political science and communications at NW.

"I liked writing, speaking, planning, and art. I found in PR I could do all of these things that I loved," she said.

After NW, Minnick continued to pursue a career in PR by completing her graduate degree at the University of Iowa. Her work was in PR and Hospital and Health Administration, influenced by her many years of being in the healthcare environment.

Since graduating with her masters, Minnick has worked PR in four different hospitals and done freelance non-profit work. She enjoys the diversity of work PR offers and all the different moments being in PR entails.

In her years spent in healthcare, she saw both difficult and joyful moments.

She dealt with train derailment, air ambulance and plane crashes and tornadoes that brought challenging media relations situations.

However, Minnick also saw the opening of an eight story wing at the University of Iowa Hospitals and the opening of the new health system in Orange City. She got to run media relations for hospital VIPs and do media stories and news conferences for individuals on the cutting edge of healthcare.

In healthcare, there were also teaching opportunities. Minnick supervised interns from colleges and universities and led employee teaching and training. From this, Minnick found she also had an interest teaching—she even taught as an adjunct at NW.

Given her years of experience in the PR field and interest in teaching, she was approached for a job at the college when the PR major was created.

Since then, Minnick has enjoyed her time as a professor in PR. Her career demonstrates where passions can lead and even where different passions can intersect.

There are also Christians with faith-based convictions that have trouble supporting an event like Pride. Along with teaching Sunday school, Swart has been an elder at New Hope. His beliefs cause him to have concerns about supporting an event like OC Pride.

LIBRARY BOOKS BURNED

Not all have reacted to OC Pride the same way. Paul Dorr, a local religious political activist, checked out books from the Orange City Library and burned them during a Facebook livestream. During the stream, Dorr read a post from his blog that articulated his views about OC Pride. The burning of library books is destruction of public property, and Dorr stated that he would not pay to replace the destroyed books.

A GoFundMe was started to replace the books and received over $2,300, which would more than cover the $50 cost to replace the books. The Orange City Library declined to comment on this. This story was picked up by the Des Moines Register and even USA Today. This type of backlash against LGBTQ+ material is unique to conservative pockets in the United States like Orange City, and national news outlets continue to report on it whenever it breaks out.

OC Pride drew mixed reactions and actions from the people of Orange City. The OC Pride planning committee plans to hold another Pride festival around the same time next year.

"This community does not have a lot of spaces where LGBT people can feel love and acceptance,“ Mahr said. Mahr understood that there would likely be pushback against the event from the community and explained his motivations for helping to put on the event.

"We are trying to create. We are not trying to de-motivations for helping to put on the event. We are trying to make people feel loved and accepted. “ Mahr said.

"OC Pride (PR) to make people feel loved and accepted.”

Another Christian perspective

Mahr, and many others like him, see OC Pride as an opportunity to extend love to people typically marginalized in the Orange City community. However, there are members of the community that do not view the event as positively. John Swart, a member at New Hope church, articulated his views on Pride weekend. Swart teaches a college Sunday school class at New Hope Evangelical where his group studies one book of the Bible over the course of a school year. This year, the group is studying 1 Corinthians, which is where Swart gets the basis for his stance on Pride.

"The church has a responsibility to be concerned about behavior of a congregation," Swart said.

He argues that homosexuality is a sin and professing Christians should not participate in this type of lifestyle. He clarified that the church should be open to allowing people who feel same-sex attraction to attend the church, but his stance is that they cannot be members if they live in this lifestyle.

These convictions cause Swart to question Christian support for an event like Pride. His chief concern with Pride is when people say that it is something consistent with God’s word, which he believes is not the case.

Former student’s perspective

Orange City is a small town filled with people that attend church regularly. There is a pervading sense in the broader culture that all Christians agree on most things, but many Christians know that this is not true. There are Christians like Mahr and former NW student Garrett Beeck that are supportive of an event like OC Pride.

"Many LGBT+ students [at NW] have felt left out of this community. Several of the people who founded OC Pride are NW graduates and have taken that understanding of community, acceptance and love and opened it to everyone, without restriction. Of the many things that NW taught me, the most important is that the love of God is a truly amazing gift that makes us whole despite our faults, and that this love is available to everyone in all circumstances.“

Christians like Mahr and Beeck look through the lens of God’s love for all and view OC Pride positively.
FEATURES

Futures Program connects students

PROGRAM FOSTERS INTENTIONALITY
TORI BUCKLER MEDICAL LAB SCIENCES

As you are walking around campus, what do you see? You see people. No matter their exterior features, we all share one commonality. We were all born and created in the image of God.

The image of God focuses on being relational. The heart and soul for the Bridge and Futures program is to fulfill that exact desire by providing a space for people to get close to their neighbors. Better yet, we often connect with people who are not like ourselves. More specifically, the Bridge program is an opportunity for students to be diversity ambassadors.

The program focuses on students to harbor their leadership, reconciliation and cultural intelligence skills. The Futures program is another opportunity available for students who often live far away. Both programs are directed by Rahn Franklin, the Director of Multicultural Student Development.

These programs were designed to be a safe place for people of difference or from long distance locations to gather together and simply build relationships with one another. Nnenna Nwogehu, a senior, describes the program as friendly Faith Anderson, a junior, mentioned it was a home away from home. Last-by, Cailey Linn defined it as her family and a safe place.

Each group focuses on the same drive to have a place to belong, yet both provide different experiences. The Bridge program would be described to be campus-community based.

One opportunity Bridge students had was being able to attend a weekend retreat at Inspiration Hills to focus on connecting with one another. This was a time of team building, relationship growing, fellowships, games, trusting others and pursuing challenges together. There was an immense amount of trust and friendship built after just a day of hanging as a group.

The Futures program is more one-on-one focused. The people who desire to have a home away from home are able to be partnered with a host family.

A host family from the community is matched with a student. Host families can range from being very involved in the student’s life to being involved only when needed, having the option to have a family or person to go to.

Tanya Vaas, the Campus Ministry Administrative Assistant and former host parent, testifies how this program not only impacts the student, but it also impacts the family or host. She described her experience to be life changing. The student Vaas was partnered with taught her their culture, beliefs and background while she taught the student her culture. Despite her adoptee’s graduation a couple years ago, their relationship never burned out, and they stay connected to this day.

These are just little snippets of what the Bridge and Futures programs are like. They are opportunities for students to build a foundational relationship with peers and community members.

If you have any questions regarding the Bridge program, contact Rahn Franklin.

If you have interest in learning more about the Futures program or having a host family, contact Vaas in Campus Ministry.

Influenza and flu shots are back in season

TIPS AND TRICKS FOR FLU SEASON
KELSEY EPP SPANISH

As the trees begin to lose their leaves and days get shorter, impending flu epidemics creep up on us. According to the Center for Disease Control, “Influenza activity often begins to increase in October and November.”

Influenza outbreaks in the United States are at their peaks during these fall and winter months. At the threshold of this flu season, focusing on prevention is key.

The primary form of prevention is vaccination. The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases led a poll in 2015 that asked college students about their attitudes towards the flu vaccine and their participation in vaccination programs.

The results show that 70 percent of students believe that receiving an annual influenza vaccine is important. However, only 46 percent of students say they get a vaccine in a typical year.

The most common reason students reported for not getting the vaccine was “I’m healthy. I do not need it.”

Northwestern’s nurse practitioner Michelle Van Wyhe understands some students prefer to face the flu season without the shot, but encourages them that even though they are young and healthy, “every-one is at risk for influenza and should receive the vaccine.”

Van Wyhe adds not only is the vaccine helpful in avoiding the disease, but “it also helps to decrease the severity of illness in those who contract the virus.”

The NFID found after the poll that providing easy access to the vaccine is a significant encourager for students to get the vaccine.

NW students are able to get a flu shot right on campus. Appointments can be made at the Wellness Center by calling Lila at 707-3321, emailing wellness@nwciowa.edu, or stopping by the office.

Other vaccine providers such as Walgreens and Target offer monetary incentives with the shot. Alongside vaccination, the Center for Disease Control also provides a few other methods for influenza prevention.

Keeping distance from others who are infected by the disease significantly reduces a person’s risk of contracting the sickness. On the other hand, staying home from class or work when sick can stop the disease from spreading to others.

The CDC also recommends taking initiative to stop the spread of germs by always washing hands and sanitizing spaces as well as coughing and sneezing into a tissue instead of a hand.

Other helpful tips to follow during this upcoming season are to get adequate sleep, manage stress, drink enough water and eat a healthy diet. Not having these habits can make someone vulnerable to diseases like influenza, especially during epidemics.

Going into the end of the semester, finals and the holidays, the last thing any student wants is a bout of influenza. Following the CDC’s simple steps to stop the spread of germs can help keep everyone healthier this flu season.

When asked to share personal experiences from the flu, students have various responses. The most common is they feel like they wasted a couple days of school being sick.

Tanya Vaas had a similar account of her experience. She shared her flu shot made her sick and she also had the flu but was able to get her flu shot the very next day. She received the flu shot in her arm and the pain shot up through her body. Now she is a believer of getting the vaccination. She said, “I promise you that if you are not sick, you will not be sick from the flu shot.”

The flu shots are back in season. The flu shot is available by calling Lila at 707-3321, emailing wellness@nwciowa.edu, or stopping by the office.

October and November see rises in influenza, according to the CDC.
Dr. John Walton was on campus this week. His chapel and talk later in the day challenged students to consider their interpretation of the Bible. As an Old Testament scholar, Walton has a deep wealth of knowledge about the biblical texts, and he shared that knowledge with campus on Tuesday. Students especially appreciated his talk on Tuesday night. At this talk, he challenged ideas about how the book of Genesis is to be interpreted using his understanding of the Hebrew language.

Having what seemed like only one week of fall has students irritated with this cold weather. Yesterday, (Thursday Nov. 8) we received some unwelcome snow, and it’s only getting colder. Students are not excited about the nasty weather. I’m not excited about the nasty weather especially appreciated his talk on Tuesday night. At this talk, he challenged ideas about how the book of Genesis is to be interpreted using his understanding of the Hebrew language.

The movie industry has recently stepped up its game. Movies like “First Man,” “Mid90s,” “A Star is Born,” “Bohemian Rhapsody” and many more are killing the charts. Various students are screaming with excitement about how well these movies are doing. Some are even in the running for the 2019 Oscars. Take a study break to go out and watch some of these new top hit movies and join the uproar of enthusiastic movie fanatics.

OPINIONS

There are many more pros than cons when I think about the dorms. The dorms are my family, my home away from home.

- Brandie Marling

There are many more pros than cons when I think about the dorms. The dorms are my family, my home away from home.

- Brandie Marling

Dorm life becomes family

Brandie Marling

English Teaching

Everyone had their own expectations before arriving on campus about how their lives in the dorms would be. We all thought about what it would be like to live with some stranger we have never met before. I was extremely nervous when I came to college.

Many questions raced continuously through my head for the weeks leading into move in day. Will she like me? Will we get along? Will she wear my clothes without asking? Most importantly: Will she eat all my food? Under most circumstances, being thrown into a room with someone you don’t know has high potential to end terribly; however, there is also room for it to turn out really well. In college, they simply put you in a fairly small room with another person and basically say, “Don’t kill each other! It’s too much paper work.”

Being condensed in a room with another person can be challenging to say the least. The first thing roommates must figure out is how they want their room and furniture to be set up. And then there are the awkward questions. Those that neither one of the roommates want to be the first to answer just in case the other disagrees, such as: Who gets top bunk? Which side of the room are the beds going to be? Where are we putting the couch? Even if you come with a plan on move in day, the plan ends up changed at least ten times. I changed the layout of my room 15 times before my roommate said to keep it one way for a while. After getting the room situated, it was time to make friends. This meant leaving my room to talk to other strangers.

Going from the last child in the house, to living with 20 other girls the same age was a huge change for me. I imagined, being a freshman, that all the upperclassmen would leave the younger class, like myself, behind. After these memories came, I realized that they had already made connections among each other. However, it is completely the opposite. There is an upperclassman on my wing that goes around to everyone’s door in the morning and night saying, “I hope you have a good day,” and “good night.” My amazing resident assistant invites everyone to join her in watching shows in her room and talk about their day.

All the upperclassmen are welcoming and genuinely glad that everyone is here. The feeling they give me is much more exciting than I ever thought I would feel. Coming from a place where girls found any reason not to like others made it difficult for me to be willing to live with 20 strangers on a wing, about 100 in the whole dorm. Even though many have a solidified group of friends, we keep open arms to others who might want to join into the group.

College is a place for social butterflies to thrive. With all the socializing that is basically mandatory in the dorm, it is very hard to get some time by yourself. I have learned, however, that it is perfectly acceptable to go a day for yourself is hard to come by in college. Living in the dorm with other people, being a part of group homework sessions, attending classes, meals and a number of other campus activities does not leave much open space in your schedule.

There are many more pros than cons when I think about the dorms. Who am I stuck on a writing assignment or a project, I know there are other students on my floor who can help. I also know, if they don’t have time, that the faculty, staff members and people in the Learning Center are located. The people in the dorms are my new family, my home away from home. Families get annoyed and tired of each other but more importantly, they love one another.

There is love on this campus, a love built by people who are missing their homes and families. We support each other and lift each other towards our goals. I am glad to live in the dorms because it has given me the opportunity to meet people I would never have been able to normally meet.

NW presents “The Crucible”

Vanessa Stokes

Writing and Rhetoric

One of many controversial lines from this year’s fall production “The Crucible” by Arthur Miller says, “Life is God’s most precious gift; no principle, however glorious, may justify the taking of it.” The scene is set in 1692 Salem at the start of the witch trials. Many people are accused, and the town is descending into chaos.

All of this turmoil is portrayed by a cast of twenty, myself included. We have been rehearsing since October, and it has been a blast. Even though the content can be dark, there are so many times I have burst out laughing during rehearsal. Our director, Robert Hubbard, loves to make jokes during scenes, which makes it hard to stay in character. He also brings hacky sacks which we all participate in. The games have even ended up with it flying off the stage and bouncing off an actor.

I especially enjoy the community sense of warm ups. Every night, we start with all the cast running together and playing acting games with odd sounds or strange motions. I have learned quite a few new acting warm ups that I had never used in high school or community productions in the past. They are honestly one of my favorite parts of each rehearsal. We all know that we are going to look weird and probably mess up on the improv parts, but that is what makes the whole experience fun.

At the end of warm ups, we settle down for a moment of prayer. Everyone squeezes into a circle and holds hands and then someone volunteers to pray. With so many new and old friends in the cast, I have become connected to each and every one of them through this time. The prayers are all heartfelt and honest about the show, how much homework everyone has or how great a God we worship that hears praise through performances as well as prayer. Though unexpected, I have grown in my faith from just being in this production with so many wonderful Christian peers.

Through watching rehearsals and going through different parts of “The Crucible,” I have found there is more to the show than just witches and trials. There is a depth that brings into question what is considered too horrible of a sin to warrant death and how much power structures hold in society today. Though “The Crucible” is set over 300 years ago, it does not mean it is not relevant for today. For instance, every college student like myself has grown up in a world filled with school shootings and church bombings. How I feel dissociated from the past and heartbreak of it all after being surrounded by these my entire life. Being in this production has put all of these parts back into perspective. Theater has a way of doing this because we are more open to accepting grief and discomfort than in reality.

I encourage all students to come to the show, not only to get a new perspective on life, but also to just enjoy a phenomenal show put on by a marvelous cast that portrays the characters with immense accuracy. Also, you will be able to meet some new freshman theater faces that will hopefully show up in the future as well. However, do not avoid coming for fear of the content. I promise you that after Giles Corey’s one-liners and at Reverend Parris with his awkward nature. Order tickets to multiple shows, support friends and peers and fully take in the entirety of this dynamic production. The show starts on Nov. 9 and continues until Nov. 17. I hope to see you all in the crowd!

Editor’s Note

The opinions published both in print and online are the opinions of the authors only. Beacon staff members do not necessarily agree with the opinions expressed in this section. Research and editing (citing and formatting) of articles is the responsibility of the authors rather than the editors.

Respectfully,
the Beacon Staff

$ Get wealthy

off your words...

With the

the Beacon...
Successful weekend for women's basketball

The women's basketball team beat Friends 94-55 and Valley City State 96-82 this past weekend. The Raiders decided to go on another surge and took the lead over the next few points, but the Raiders had earned a 18-17 win to take the whole match. Emily Van Ginneken scored the last point of the night with a solo block, sending the Raiders to the GPAC Championship. The winner of the GPAC will be determined this Saturday, Nov.10, where NW will take on Dordt. The game will be played at 7 p.m. at Dordt.

2019 soccer sisters

FROM PAGE 1

Throughout the last four years, small moments of laughter through the quirkiness of each person added up to a team dynamic that accepts people where they are. Whether those were moments of breakdown procedures, putting Hastings in the third seed and Midland fourth. With a 16-0 record, Dordt College was tied with two other GPAC schools, Midland and Hastings, but due to tiebreaker procedures, Northwestern dominated for a majority of the game, shooting 54 percent from the field and starting the game on an 18-4 run. NW was not only strong on offense, but they also set the tone defensively, forcing 29 turnovers. In Saturday's matchup versus Valley City State, the Red Raiders used a second quarter run to separate themselves from the Vikings. VCSU held an 18-17 lead going into the second quarter but lost it quickly as NW went on a 14-0 run and did not look back, shooting 63 percent in the first half. The run was started on a basket by Gustafson, followed by a three-pointer from Kasie De Jong. The Raiders led by a score of 54-31 at halftime and kept the lead for the remainder of the contest. VCSU was led by Mackenzie Huber, who finished with 23 points, while senior De Jong scored 29 for NW. Gustafson also had a strong performance on Saturday as she finished with 21 points and 9 rebounds.

NW moved to 3-0 as they now look ahead to the GPAC opener against second-ranked defending national champions, Dakota Wesleyan, on Wednesday, followed by a matchup with College of Saint Mary on Saturday. Wednesday's game will provide a clearer outlook into conference play as Dakota Wesleyan and NW were picked to finish second and third respectively in the GPAC Preseason Poll.

Raider volleyball heads to championship

WINNING STREAK OVER WEEKEND SENDS TEAM ON TO CHAMPIONSHIP

JAYCEE VANDER BERG
CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The lady Raiders finished their regular season with a 13-3 GPAC record. When the office of the GPAC Volleyball Tournament released the rankings, the Raiders had earned the No.2 seed in the upcoming tournament. Northwestern was tied with two other GPAC schools, Midland and Hastings, but due to tiebreaker procedures, NW came out on top, putting Hastings in the third seed and Midland fourth. With a 16-0 record, Dordt College took the No.1 seed spot in GPAC play.

Overall in the NAIA, NW sits No.9, and staked to bring their confidence back at 18-17. Van Den Bosch motivated the Raiders to get back on track, and the Raiders took a 4-point lead going into the second quarter but lost it quickly as NW went on a 14-0 run and did not look back, shooting 63 percent in the first half. The run was started on a basket by Gustafson, followed by a three-pointer from Kasie De Jong. The Raiders led by a score of 54-31 at halftime and kept the lead for the remainder of the contest. VCSU was led by Mackenzie Huber, who finished with 23 points, while senior De Jong scored 29 for NW. Gustafson also had a strong performance on Saturday as she finished with 21 points and 9 rebounds.

NW moved to 3-0 as they now look ahead to the GPAC opener against second-ranked defending national champions, Dakota Wesleyan, on Wednesday, followed by a matchup with College of Saint Mary on Saturday. Wednesday's game will provide a clearer outlook into conference play as Dakota Wesleyan and NW were picked to finish second and third respectively in the GPAC Preseason Poll.

NW DEFEATS WITH STRONG OFFENSE

BRADLEY LAACKMANN
SPORT MANAGEMENT

The 8th-ranked Raider women swept their weekend's back-to-back, defeating Friends 94-55 and 16th-ranked Valley City State 96-82. In Friday's game versus Friends, the Raiders were led by Darbi Gustafson, who finished with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Northwestern dominated for a majority of the game, shooting 54 percent from the field and starting the game on an 18-4 run. NW was not only strong on offense, but they also set the tone defensively, forcing 29 turnovers. In Saturday's matchup versus Valley City State, the Red Raiders used a second quarter run to separate themselves from the Vikings. VCSU held an 18-17 lead going into the second quarter but lost it quickly as NW went on a 14-0 run and did not look back, shooting 63 percent in the first half. The run was started on a basket by Gustafson, followed by a three-pointer from Kasie De Jong. The Raiders led by a score of 54-31 at halftime and kept the lead for the remainder of the contest. VCSU was led by Mackenzie Huber, who finished with 23 points, while senior De Jong scored 29 for NW. Gustafson also had a strong performance on Saturday as she finished with 21 points and 9 rebounds.

NW moved to 3-0 as they now look ahead to the GPAC opener against second-ranked defending national champions, Dakota Wesleyan, on Wednesday, followed by a matchup with College of Saint Mary on Saturday. Wednesday's game will provide a clearer outlook into conference play as Dakota Wesleyan and NW were picked to finish second and third respectively in the GPAC Preseason Poll.

SPORTS

Successful weekend for women’s basketball

The women’s basketball team beat Friends 94-55 and Valley City State 96-82 this past weekend. The Raiders led by a score of 54-31 at halftime and kept the lead for the remainder of the contest. VCSU was led by Mackenzie Huber, who finished with 23 points, while senior De Jong scored 29 for NW. Gustafson also had a strong performance on Saturday as she finished with 21 points and 9 rebounds.

NW moved to 3-0 as they now look ahead to the GPAC opener against second-ranked defending national champions, Dakota Wesleyan, on Wednesday, followed by a matchup with College of Saint Mary on Saturday. Wednesday’s game will provide a clearer outlook into conference play as Dakota Wesleyan and NW were picked to finish second and third respectively in the GPAC Preseason Poll.

The women’s basketball team beat Friends 94-55 and Valley City State 96-82 this past weekend. The Raiders led by a score of 54-31 at halftime and kept the lead for the remainder of the contest. VCSU was led by Mackenzie Huber, who finished with 23 points, while senior De Jong scored 29 for NW. Gustafson also had a strong performance on Saturday as she finished with 21 points and 9 rebounds.

NW moved to 3-0 as they now look ahead to the GPAC opener against second-ranked defending national champions, Dakota Wesleyan, on Wednesday, followed by a matchup with College of Saint Mary on Saturday. Wednesday’s game will provide a clearer outlook into conference play as Dakota Wesleyan and NW were picked to finish second and third respectively in the GPAC Preseason Poll.

When he said, “I wish there was a way to know you’re in the good old days before you’ve actually left them.”
Kevin Cloud to speak in chapel

Author, Pastor Speaking Nov. 16

Rachel Koertner
Public Relations

Kevin Cloud, author of “God and Hamilton: Spiritual Themes from the Life of Alexander Hamilton & the Broadway Musical He Inspired,” is coming to campus on Nov. 16 to talk about two prominent figures in his book and how they are more similar than one might think.

These figures are Jesus and Alexander Hamilton.

Cloud was asked to come to Northwestern to speak in chapel about this book and its themes. “My chapel presentation will focus on the idea that God uses stories to transform our lives,” Cloud said.

This is Cloud’s first time visiting NW, and he will be here for a couple of days. He hopes to teach people to learn to see God’s truth in the stories culture is telling.

Cloud graduated from the University of Kansas with a bachelor’s in music theory and then went on to get a Master of Divinity degree. He has served as a pastor for 20 years. He is also a church planter, with four successful church plants in the Kansas City area over the past 15 years.

Cloud currently serves as lead pastor of Midwest Fellowship in Overland Park, Kan.

Additionally, Cloud is the founder and executive director of Re:Create, a non-profit whose mission is to inspire people to live at the intersection of creativity and faith. For more information on his non-profit, visit recreateus.com.

His passion for combining the lives of Jesus and Hamilton started when he saw “Hamilton” on Broadway a few years ago. He said he was deeply moved by the story. “I felt like I experienced God and His truth at the center of the story that Hamilton tells,” Cloud said. “I wrote this book to help others see these spiritual truths in ‘Hamilton’ and apply them to our lives today.”

In addition, Cloud continues to be an avid writer and is already working on his next book, which will be called “Re:Create.”

“My next book is about living at the intersection of creativity and faith,” Cloud said. “It identifies the four steps we can take to live at that intersection and discover our best creative self.”

The material in “Re:Create” and his first book are applicable to NW students, and Cloud is looking forward to sharing that information.

“I hope that people will learn to see the ways God uses story to transform us, to inspire us, to cast vision for what our lives could be,” Cloud said.

Professor of Theatre Jeff Barker was one of the people who asked Cloud to come speak. He is looking forward to the chapel service and thinks that everyone should come.

“Students should go to chapel because Cloud will help us remember that God cares deeply about culture, truth and beauty, whether it’s found in church, at the movies or on Broadway,” Barker said.

For more information about Cloud’s book, visit odandham.com. The book itself costs only $10 on Amazon, and on the website there is an offer for a free 30-day devotional guide to go along with the book.

Cloud will speak in chapel at 10:05am Friday, Nov. 16.

Campus Ministries to host new retreat

The Solitude Retreat will take place on Nov. 17

Hannah Wamhof
Theatre

In busy seasons, it’s easy to neglect to take time with our Lord. To that end, Campus Ministry is debuting a new event, the Solitude Retreat, on Saturday, Nov. 17. The retreat will run from 9am-5pm. It will be a quick, one-day get-away to a church here in Orange City.

Planned activities include solo Bible study, praying and spending time doing whatever the Spirit calls students to do. Acoustic worship will also be offered throughout the event. On behalf of Campus Ministry, Jacob Johnson said, “Our goal is to step away from the crazy fast pace that our world is even, if it is for a few quick hours. A lot of the feedback from the fall retreat was to have more time in personal devotions, so that is our main goal with this solitude retreat: plenty of time and space to offer students to spend time with our Heavenly Father.”

This goal echoes verses from the Bible when Jesus sought solitude to pray. Luke 6:12 says, “In these days, he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God.” (ESV)

Additionally, Mark wrote, “And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.” (Mark 1:35, ESV)

In fact, every gospel mentions Jesus retreating to desolate places to pray. Unfortunately, making time to go to desolate places to pray isn't typically on a student’s schedule, so this opportunity is a beautiful way to set aside time and just be still in God’s presence.

This event is whatever individual students make it to be. Johnson explained further that “Students should expect a fulfilling time where they can make [the retreat] what they want it to be. We will provide options for devotions, but if somebody has their own plan or books they are using, they are more than welcome to make [the retreat] what they need it to be.”

Students are encouraged to come as they are and use this time to revel in God’s glory and be still in his peace. Students are urged to take a step away from the busyness of school and life to reflect on God, spend time in his presence and rejoice in time spent alone with the Father. A sign-up sheet is at the Campus Ministry desk in Ramaker, and registration closes Tuesday, Nov. 13.