Granberg falls, legacy stands

BY BRIAN BRANDAU

The final chapter is being written for the longtime home of Northwestern’s English department.

Granberg Hall, the earth-toned house nestled between the Franken Center and the chapel, was built in 1964 to act as a home for the president of the college. After 50 years and nearly as many purposes, Granberg will be torn down at the conclusion of this semester to make room for the new Learning Commons.

As the building approaches its end, many of its tenants have been given cause to reflect on its history.

When it was first built, Granberg Hall was known as Prexy House and both Drs. Preston Stegenga and Lars Granberg took up residence there between 1964-75.

Dr. Granberg in particular, after whom the building was eventually rechristened, left his mark on the place.

“President Granberg, an avid horticulturist, raised begonias in the basement and planted many of the lovely trees on the property,” said English department faculty member Barbara Turnwall. “Throughout the years, the English department looks forward to the lovely trees on the property,” said English faculty member Michael Kensak describes as a “sort of hippie commune.”

After Prexy House hosted the communal living experiment, it went on to become a men’s dorm. Because the house was receiving such hard treatment from its residents and the department of language and literature was being housed in what Turnwall describes as a “fire trap” north of Granberg, the decision was made to repurpose Granberg as the home of the department. When the department of language and literature was split into the foreign language and English departments, the English department remained in Granberg and expanded to fill all the offices.

The English faculty has found the building to be a perfect home for their department.

“I consider it a house,” Kensak said. “It’s important to the ethos of the place. The physical space you occupy affects the atmosphere. It can actually alter relationships. I like to think there’s a family atmosphere created by the space.”

English department chair Ann Lundberg also thinks the atmosphere facilitates relationships among students and faculty.

“My favorite memories of this place are definitely the day to day of wandering in and out of my colleagues’ offices,” Lundberg said. “Students wander in and out of my office, too. It’s home. We’re just so comfortable here with each other.”

Lundberg explained how the faculty submitted a capital request about ten years ago for the round tables which characterize English department classes. Rather than the typical collection of desks, English department faculty find that the round tables foster discussion and promote engagement among students and professors.

“This arrangement suggests we are all learners and the instructor is a facilitator of learning rather than emphasizing her role as authority,” Turnwall said. “Are there tables in any other classrooms on campus?”

Because it has operated as a private residence, as a dormitory and in an educational capacity, Granberg Hall has a sometimes curious mix of features. In some classes he used to teach, Kensak would have a scavenger hunt in which he would challenge students to find some of Granberg’s hidden secrets. Hidden elements of the house include two boarded up fireplaces, a laundry chute, a sink in the copier room and the building’s five—yes, five—bathrooms.

The building has been more than just a home for English department faculty. The Beacon staff has been telling the campus’ news from Granberg’s basement for many years.

“There was just something special, something homey about Granberg Hall that made Beacon production nights enjoyable,” said former editor-in-chief LeAnn (Johnson) Hjelmeland. “I’ve worked at two newspapers since graduating, both of which are in an office setting, and I sometimes just miss the feel of working in Granberg.”

Originally, Granberg Hall was scheduled to be demolished along with De Vries cottage as the Learning Commons begins construction. Because of their partiality to the house’s environment and difficulty of moving in the middle of December, the faculty was able to convince the NW administration to postpone demolition of the house until after the conclusion of the semester.

Plumbing will soon be cut off in Granberg Hall and so classes as well as the Beacon offices will be relocated to the basement of the North Suites for the remainder of the semester.

Meanwhile, English faculty prepare to move to their new homes in Muilenberg and Doorenbos Cottages.

“Kati Heng will be dividing up our coffee mugs into two boxes to be sent to the new cottages,” Kensak said. “Before the building is torn down, I’d like to take some of the railings and trim to reuse in my house.”

As the longest serving faculty member in the college’s history, Turnwall has a special affinity for the hall.

“Granberg has been a great home for us,” Turnwall said. “We’re all sad to see it go.”

Granberg Hall served as a haven for family, community and education for nearly five decades at NW.
**Tatum and Hill are still playing high-schoolers**

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**BY JEFF HUBERS**

Just when you thought all the dynamic duos had been used up, “21 Jump Street” presents Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum as the newest team in comedy. Hill and Tatum portray the classic socially-awkward-but-smart partnering with the all-brawn-but-no-brains persona that gives audiences an overdose, yet humorous friendship. The guys are both police force rejects who aren’t quite up to the standards of actual police work, and so are thrust into the undercover world of high school criminal justice and placed in an undercover agency known as the “Jump Street division.”

Roles are reversed for the heroes on their return trip to high school. Hill gets in with the “cool” crowd and Tatum hangs behind with the “chemistry nerds.” The rest of the film revolves around Hill and Tatum using their new identities and connections to navigate the criminal underworld of a senior high and track a new illegal drug from the dealers to the supplier.

Nothing so far has presented “21 Jump Street” to be a moving, original film, but let’s face it: It’s not. The film is pure and cheap humor at its best—it’s jokes fun of itself in places where writers know that the jokes have been far overdone. Even the actors at times seem to joke around in their roles at the lack of original humor presented in the film, but that’s what keeps the laughs coming.

The film gives a fairly accurate view of today’s high school students, and it’s quite funny watching Hill’s and Tatum’s interactions with the hipster-based culture of high school.

“21 Jump Street” boasts quite the cast lineup, with a few surprising faces thrown in here and there. The family of high school. It will almost make you wish there

**Overall, “21 Jump Street” is an entertaining, slightly crass, but fun trip down memory lane through the wild atmosphere at times.**

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**MOVIE REVIEW**

**BY BRITTANY LEIKVOLL**

This year, theatre majors and theatre-loving students alike have had the opportunity to write, direct and perform in 16 original and unique plays, each written in Jeff Taylor’s play writing class during the past fall semester.

“It’s interesting that Northwestern’s campus is involved in this kind of production,” said junior Abigail Bierly, the writer of the play “Explosions of Beautiful Change.”

“It’s a new experience because once you write [the play], it’s no longer in your hands,” Bierly said. “I’m excited to see all of that work on stage and coming to life.”

Directors picked plays that had meaning to them and performance elements that they appreciated from the plays written by fellow students from their class.

“One acts are a great opportunity for all of campus to be involved in theater—it’s a low time commitment and helps to bridge gaps between different majors,” said junior Keeley Wright, who is acting in the play “A Date to Keep” and is directing “Your Home Now.”

“My favorite part is that not all of the actors are consistently in productions, but they are still passionate about trying, and to see that growth and the production come to life in a way that is different than maybe expected,” Wright said.

Even within the plays, the audience can expect a certain level of unpredictability.

“Every performance is a little different and susceptible to change and brings its own unique feel,” Wright said.

Many of the writers, including senior Ericha Walden who wrote “Ajodha and Shanigans,” are looking forward to seeing their pieces getting acted out.

“‘To see it being performed is intimidating, but also very exciting,” Walden said. “What I’m most excited for is the conversation it will evoke.”

The 16th annual World Premiere Festival will be held at 6:30 pm on March 23 and 24 in the Allen Theatre of the DeWitt Theatre Arts Center.

Each performance is approximately 10 to 20 minutes long.

Admission is free, and people are welcome to come and go as they please.

**Play premiere on campus**

**Una pelicula muy divertida con Will Ferrell**

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**BY MICHAEL GUTSCHE**

Will Ferrell is clearly an intelligent person behind the scenes.

Between his behavior off-screen and his often confusing repertoire of films—ranging from comedies to existential dramas—he isn’t anyone’s dummy and not nearly as stupid or clueless as the roles he is often cast in.

Ferrell’s latest endeavor is “Casa De Mi Padre,” the part-satire, part-homage to what has suddenly become something of a staple in television—the telenovela.

The story is a standard tale of scandalous love and family conflict that escalates into legitimate and extremely armed conflict, and unfolds in a fittingly absurd and gun-filled way. The film makes it a point to bring into play the extremely low budget and limited resources of the telenovelas that it bases itself on.

Most importantly, the movie is funny. It’s funnier than might be expected, considering the premise of the movie basically is the entire joke.

It helps that Will Ferrell is one of the least Mexican people imaginable. It’s the premise for a lot of the jokes that the movie makes, not overtly, but just by virtue of the juxtaposition of his character to the actor himself.

“Casa De Mi Padre” is not a terrible movie at all. It would certainly be no great crime to miss it in theatres, but it is certainly good for a few laughs, especially for Will Ferrell fans.

**Rating: ★★★★☆**

**Submit your own campus quotes, with context, to beacon@nwciowa.edu**

**Campus Quotes**

“So, maybe the crusades weren’t such a bad thing.”
- Prof. Habers on the positive effects of the crusades.

“I know that Beethoven is not Bugs Bunny.”
- Jessica Kleveland on the conducting styles of the two.

“I would rather be stripped naked and put on top of an ant hill covered in jelly, rather than see Oklahoma.”
- Dr. Bob on how he really feels about the play “Oklahoma.”

“See? I’m like Jesus...”
- Prof. Elder after fixing a PowerPoint slide.

“Dyslexia, terrible way to die.”
- Dr. Bob after mixing up right stage with left.
The Magnetic Fields return to synth with their latest album

BY LYRIC MORRIS

Stephin Merritt would hate this article.

Merritt, the master songwriter and lyricist behind the group The Magnetic Fields shows no abashment in expressing his dislike for anything considered mainstream, typical or sappy.

“Out of these feelings comes the concept for the group’s latest release, “Love at the Bottom of the Sea.”

Merritt’s interests lead to most of the songs’ lyrics, alluding to important issues including religion, breakups, death and homosexuality, all while speaking towards these topics in a humorous, sarcastic and often cynical way, such as the album’s top single “Andrew in Drag” which tells of a man who falls in love with his friend after seeing him in a dress.

After their experiment into a “non-synth” acoustic style, many fans of the group were excited to hear The Magnetic Field’s typical synth style return.

The upbeat melodies of each track add to the fact that after one play of this album, listeners will be left with nearly every track permanently stuck in their head. The group layers catchy repetitive melodies over thick electric sounds to create an ambiance that is both ethereal and upbeat.

The ambiance these instruments create is best illustrated in the track "Horrible Party" in which listeners can vividly picture the murmur of a bustling crowd being covered by the tinkling of a somewhat sinister clown’s circus music.

Coupled with this instrumental style, Merritt’s deep baritone vocals create a style that can be compared to that of Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros.

Despite Merritt’s outspoken hatred towards big time recording labels, music festivals and fan attention, it seems that The Magnetic Fields are not stepping out of the spotlight anytime soon.

Though the album may not leave listeners feeling enlightened or hopeful, it is undoubtedly proof that after over 10 years of recording, The Magnetic Fields still have what it takes to create albums that are thought-provoking and fun.

Rating: ★★★

Key Tracks: “Andrew in Drag” “Horrible Party”
Spring has officially sprung. The snow has melted and the rain has washed away the last bits of salt and sand from the sidewalks.

Most students take this opportunity to stow away boots and break out the sandals, but some students trade out shoes altogether. The casual observer will notice bare feet not just outside, but also indoors in this newly warm weather.

“Why do you wear shoes?” said junior Zachary Hankel when asked why he chooses bare feet over shoes. “It’s more comfortable. After my feet are in shoes the whole winter, I like the feel of the ground under my feet.”

Other students agreed that comfort is the main reason for going without any shoes.

“I hate shoes. They don’t feel good,” said junior Zachary Hankel.

Some students have been going without shoes for a long time.

“Why do you wear shoes?” said freshman Emilee Berry. “Working at camp, we had said freshman Emilee Berry. "I haven't liked wearing shoes since I was little," said junior Emilee Berry.

“On a prison ministry trip freshman year, we were all in the van ready to leave but we ended up having to run back inside. I had already kicked off my shoes, so I just decided to go barefoot in the rain,” Lynn said. “As I ran inside, I slipped on the tile floor and completely biffed it.”

Besides embarrassments, bare feet can get hurt. “I've stepped on many things,” Hankel said. “I've stepped on dog poop. Sometimes choosing to go without shoes can lead to minor embarrassments."

"On a prison ministry trip freshman year, we were all in the van ready to leave but we ended up having to run back inside. I had already kicked off my shoes, so I just decided to go barefoot in the rain,” Lynn said. “As I ran inside, I slipped on the tile floor and completely biffed it.”

“Bait and Switch”

For girls especially, complicated shoes or heels can be a nuisance which are easier to avoid altogether. “I am one of those people who kicks off my shoes as soon as I get inside,” said junior Rachel Lynn. “So when it’s nice enough outside, I’d rather just not have to mess with putting them on and off.”

Some places on campus, however, require footwear. The Cafe and Hub do not allow shoeless patrons.

“I know it’s a federal requirement. I think it’s stupid though,” Herning said. “Is it any less sanitary than wearing sandals?”

Senior Keagan Hicks agreed with Herning’s questioning of the system.

“The rules don’t make sense to me,” Hicks said. “I’d like it explained how my foot is different from the bottom of a shoe. If someone steps in dog poop they can tramp that around the Cafe, but I can’t walk through barefoot?”

Others disagree, seeing things from the Cafe’s view.

“It makes sense. You want to be sanitary about it,” Hankel said. "As I ran inside, I slipped on the tile floor and completely biffed it.”

But be warned—it may hurt to ditch shoes completely, at least at first. “It takes time,” Hicks said. “You have to build up foot endurance, which sounds ridiculous, but the muscles in most people’s feet are quite weak from your shoes doing all the work for you, so there will be some soreness and some cuts and bruises before your skin and muscle adapts to the change in scenery.”

For many students on campus, the excuse to kick off the shoes is completely worth it.

The Shins return with big sound on ‘Port Of Morrow’

Despite the years since they’ve released a new song, despite the members that have been let go or replaced, despite the explosion of “indie” music that has taken over in those five years they’ve been away, The Shins are back and have fully reclaimed their cult-like following.

Ever since the scene in “Garden State,” an unorthodox film about love from 2004, in which Natalie Portman forces a giant bear to dance, telling him The Shins’ song “New Slang” changed her life, the band has enjoyed a prime position in listeners’ hearts. The Shins music embodies youth, rebellious spirits, quickness and laid back love.

And although they’ve appeared on TV, in the soundtracks of other movies and even received a Grammy nomination, The Shins have managed to escape the “sell-out” connotation that has compromised the fanbase of many other “indie” musicians from the early 2000s.

It’s that loyal group of listeners that’s made The Shins’ new release, “Port Of Morrow,” such a success.

Even though almost all the members have been replaced since their last release, founder, guitarist and lead singer James Mercer is the only real key to The Shins’ sound. It’s his ever-youthful voice and carefree lyrics that listeners love. It’s Mercer who’s the heart of the band.

Mercer has made the transition into 2012 flawlessly. Although The Shins have always produced albums that seem to be manipulated down to the last detail from the bass, “Port Of Morrow” goes further than previous albums in its careful controlled production.

The first single released from the album, “Simple Song,” is the perfect example of the new level of detail Mercer and the new members of the group have brought to the album. Setting the lyrics aside, “Simple Song” is really anything but. The guitar dives and rolls all over like a power-pop dance.

Strangely, guitars that give off the plugged-in sound take the place of the acoustic chugging of the guitars that used to drive The Shins’ songs. Instead of a few chords played again and again until they’re stuck permanently in the ears, “Port Of Morrow” lets the guitars steal the show with their intricate movements.

Vocally, Mercer has been ahead of his time in creating vocal distortions. Classics like “Sleeping Lessons” showed off his fantastic range, made even more impressive during production. “Port Of Morrow” continues to serve up samples of what he can do.

Unlike “Wincing the Night Away,” their last studio release, “Port Of Morrow” steers clear of singing about the dark or deeply personal. Songs tend to gravitate towards beach scenery and faint memories of a favorite girl. The lyrics are secondary really—it’s the tunes that are going to be whistling around in your head for hours.

It’s not a comeback album, not a journey into the mainstream big-money music scene. “Port Of Morrow” is simply Mercer returning to play again for those loyal fans.

James Mercer is The Shins’ lead singer and guitarist and the consistent member of the group.

Key Tracks: “Simple Song” “Pariah King” “Bait and Switch”
Serving on spring break

Juniors Katie Raab and Darci Jansen give piggyback rides to students at City Youth Ministries in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Freshman Aly Austin, freshman Cristina Bovarev and admissions counselor Karla Arevalo work at the Voice of Calvary Ministries in Jackson, Mississippi.

Sophomore Ashlie Lobaugh and senior Kiersten McConnel eat with some residents at the shelter in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Sophomore Josh Horstman, freshman Logan Hovland and junior Ashley Van Wyhe sort clothes as part of a street ministry outreach affiliated with Calvary Commission in Lindale, Texas.

Senior Leah Mabee, senior Brian Brandau, Director of Missions Patrick Hummel, a guest of the hostel, junior Becca Lokker and senior Anna Yarrow play Jenga together in Amsterdam.

Senior Leah Mabee, senior Brian Brandau, Director of Missions Patrick Hummel, a guest of the hostel, junior Becca Lokker and senior Anna Yarrow play Jenga together in Amsterdam.
Music professor continues to practice her talents

BY JOSH KLOPE

Music professor Juyeon Kang brings a variety of experiences to her teaching at Northwestern.

Kang was born and raised in Taejon, the sixth largest city in South Korea. As a child she went to a Catholic private school. The curriculum required every student to play an instrument, and before long her family discovered that she had a special talent for music.

“My brother’s cello teacher found that I had perfect pitch,” Kang recalled.

Kang began learning to play the piano for both school and church and her skills developed throughout her school career. After attending college in Korea and moving to America to pursue graduate studies, she planned to get a degree in teaching. But that soon changed.

“During those years at Eastman [School of Music],” that soon changed.

She came to teach at Northwestern in 2003, but that has not stopped her from conducting master’s workshops on four different continents.

Special talent and an impressive résumé are not all that Kang brings to her teaching. She also has personal knowledge of two cultures, and her unique teaching style has been influenced by that background.

“In Korea we always say ‘We,’” Kang said. “Even if it’s my sister, we say ‘Our sister,’ and even if you’re not family, there’s some sort of funny bond in the society.”

Kang has found that Korea is not only less individualistic but also more competitive.

“The competition is enormous,” Kang said. “During my time, we could apply to only one college, and if you failed, you had to wait another year to get in. So in high school, we just studied and practiced; that’s all we did. So that’s why Asian people seem to have a higher work ethic. It’s because of the competition.”

Having a background in such constant competition, Kang’s teaching style is sometimes different from other teachers at Northwestern.

“Here, everything is relaxed. It’s about saying ‘Good, good,’ but I tend to point out something not good,” Kang said. “But at the same time, I see better output. No pain, no gain.”

Kang has advice for students at Northwestern, who have a high work ethic, but also try to learn from the American culture. They should balance the two.

Students struggle getting around with broken bones

BY TYLER LEHMANN

Simple tasks suddenly become a lot less simple when you can’t use all your body parts. That’s what Northwestern students Emily Wohlers and Isaac Ruiz learned when they injured their bones earlier this semester.

Wohlers, a sophomore, slipped on a patch of ice in January when she was walking to breakfast. Realizing her fall had ripped her tights, Wohlers turned around to go back to her apartment and change. That’s when she slipped again, this time landing on her wrist.

“I fell, got up, turned around, literally took one step and fell again,” Wohlers said.

Unaware she had injured herself, Wohlers continued her day as usual. It wasn’t until that afternoon that she visited Orange City Hospital, where doctors discovered she had fractured her elbow.

Ruiz, a freshman, injured himself in February during wrestling practice when another Northwestern wrestler pinned his leg. A few days after the accident, Ruiz received an X-ray and learned his leg had been fractured.

According to Ruiz, doctors believed his fracture was mild enough for him to continue normal activity.

“They told me I could do whatever I wanted as long as I could handle the pain,” he said.

Soon after his hospital visit, though, Ruiz further injured the same leg at dance team practice. It was now broken.

Doctors gave Ruiz crutches, but snow and ice made them impractical. He eventually went without his crutches, opting to limp instead.

A California native, Ruiz was unaccustomed to snow and ice. His broken leg made adapting to the conditions especially challenging.

Wohlers experienced challenges at Rush rehearsals because of her injury. With her arm in a sling, she initially struggled to keep her balance while dancing.

RUSH choreographers Andrew Stam and Amber Andunson decorated Wohlers’ sling to coordinate it with the steampunk style of their dance.

“I got asked a lot if my sling was for real, or just a part of my costume,” she said. “A lot of people liked it, so that was cool.”

For Wohlers, a bigger challenge was a task she had previously taken for granted.

“It was my stupid coat that upset me the most, not dancing in RUSH,” she said. “Putting on that coat was the worst.”

Unable to zip up her coat by herself, Wohlers relied on the help of her friends.

“It was so embarrassing. I felt like a child sometimes,” she said.

For both Wohlers and Ruiz, eating in the cafeteria presented challenges. With her dominant right arm injured, Wohlers had to eat left-handed. Because of his limp, Ruiz needed friends to carry his food for him.

Other daily activities that Wohlers and Ruiz found difficult included showering, brushing teeth, opening doors, climbing stairs and exercising.

However, their injuries came with a silver lining. Both Wohlers and Ruiz now feel more comfortable asking for help because of their dependence on others during their injuries.

“It makes you more humble,” Wohlers said. “I learned to give up control to other people.”

“I’m pretty independent, so I usually don’t like getting help,” Ruiz said. “After a while, I learned how to ask.”
Relationships built through hockey

BY KATE WALLIN

Despite a warm winter, some people at Northwestern found a way to keep their cool. Senior Felipe Silva and freshman Josiah Veurink were part of a group of NW students and staff that kept their hockey sticks dust-free. The Sioux Center hockey league took to the Vernon Rink located on Dordt’s campus on Thursday nights, with players of all ages and experience levels.

“The Sioux Center Hockey league is a good place for people who have a little bit of experience, but not much. There are good hockey players and others are there for first time,” Silva said. “It is a lot of fun, and mostly because there is a group from Orange City that got to bond quite a bit by playing together every week. The games can get pretty rough sometimes, but it is hockey, so you have to be prepared for that.”

Veurink sees the league as a place for anyone who loves the sport.

“The Sioux Center league is for people of all skill levels that just enjoy playing hockey, he said. “Everyone has some sense as to how hockey is played but there is a lot of room for improvement. Trust me, I am Canadian, so I would know. This league is a great way to have fun playing hockey and meet a lot of cool people. I enjoy my trips out to my games, not only for the hockey, but also because of the group that I played with.”

Veurink has been playing ice hockey since he can remember. Hailing from Canada, he enjoyed the opportunity to get together with friends and partake in the favorite Canadian pastime.

“Hockey is by far the best sport in the world. It is great to talk about it, watch it, play it and, in some cases, dream about it. From playing at Sioux Center, to the pond in Alton, to playing floor hockey in the RSC, I could not think of a better way to spend my time.”

And while Silva never played ice hockey before this winter, he was first introduced to the game through pick-up games on the streets of his native Brazil.

“When I was younger, I used to play ball hockey with my friends in front of my house on the street, but never really had played ice hockey before, even though it was our dream to be like the Mighty Ducks,” Silva said. “Every other year our city would have an ice rink so we could skate a little bit. That’s where I learned how to skate.”

Years later, as a high school student, Silva was introduced to ice hockey.

“I was studying abroad in Ontario, Canada,” Silva said. “And for the first time I got to play ice hockey for the school team. I really loved it.”

And while the season has finished for the year, the group plans to keep in shape for next season with work-outs and continued team bonding.

In the end, it’s not all about the hockey.

“We just had a lot of fun playing together and forming some close friendships,” Silva said.

Nerf gun game gains popularity

BY PRIYANKA FERNANDO

Running through the dark halls of Van Peursem Hall, weapons are readily drawn and deserted hallways are carefully searched. The occurrence? A little game called Nerf Zombies.

First organized by West Hall residents, a small group of West and Heemstra residents now continue the game “Nerf Zombies.” An unofficial club at Northwestern, they play every Friday night at 10 in VPH.

Nerf Zombies is relatively simple. Apocalyptic rules are set, with humans vs. zombies at the helm.

A third of the group are zombies. They scatter throughout VPH. The objective for each side is simple: the humans try and shoot down all zombies, and the zombies try and tag the humans. Any tagged human immediately becomes a zombie.

If there are any humans left after a 30-minute period, they become the victors.

The students work their way through the halls of the VPH, making sure to “turn off as many lights as possible,” to add to game’s excitement.

“Last year I just got invited by a couple of upperclassmen,” said junior Drew Hackenmiller.

“It’s kind of a West Hall tradition that they played every once in a while.”

Junior James Wilhelm, who’s been around West traditions and events for a while, couldn’t recall when the “club” was established. “I don’t know when it started,” Wilhelm said. “I just know we’ve been doing it since my freshman year.”

The game has become a favorite Friday night activity.

“It’s fun,” said junior Seth Herning, a resident of Heemstra. “You get to play with nerf guns and have the chance to run around. It’s a Friday night. We’re bored and there’s nothing else to do.”

The Nerf Zombies club is small; only a small group of residents play regularly.

“A few West boys play,” Hackenmiller said, “around six or seven a week.”

“There are four people that show up regularly from Heemstra,” Herning said. “Sometimes we’ll only have 10 people,” Herning said, “but last time, before spring break, we had 30 people show up.”

This isn’t only a men’s game. Girls are welcome to play. “Boys who are close to girls, who like this kind of thing, invite them,” Hackenmiller said.

The game sounds like fun, but that doesn’t mean it is always so. What happens when you put a group of college students in a competitive scenario?

“We try to keep it as much of a gentlemen’s game as we can,” Hackenmiller said, “but sometimes tempers fly.”

The competition isn’t a bad thing, but when it does get out of hand, changes are made.

“Sometimes we do have our disagreements,” Wilhelm said, “but if we see a flaw in the rules, we’ll change them to keep the game fair and balanced.”

What does Hackenmiller enjoy most about Nerf Zombies?

“The chance to hang out with people. The adrenaline, the competition I guess,” Hackenmiller said. “It’s b&c308 nch a bunch of people hanging out, having fun.”

“Just having fun with different people you wouldn’t normally hang out with on campus,” Wilhelm said.

As the semester runs its course, the club has no intentions of ending the game.

“I’ll be doing it as long as the school allows it,” Wilhelm said.

“It would be nice to keep it going,” Herning said. “Even if it’s not zombies, doing something with nerf guns on a regular basis would be great.”

Nerf Zombies may be played only one night a week, but the enjoyment is evident. Hackenmiller described the game as “adventurous.”

And when asked if he loved it, Wilhelm answered simply: “Yes.”
Red Raiders compete at nationals, Leither earns fifth place

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK

Senior Nic Leither took home fifth place from the NAIA National Wrestling Tournament over spring break, which was hosted in Des Moines. Nine other members of the squad competed against the best the country has to offer.

As a team, the Raiders finished tied with Concordia in 18th place out of 35 teams.

At 197 pounds, Leither went 4-2 at the championships. He opened up with a pin in 4:16, but dropped his next two matches. Freshman Tyler Schafer and sophomore Ariel Bosque both qualified at 157-pounds, but they each dropped their two matches. Schafer had a close 5-3 loss in his second match.

Senior David Carter won his first match at 174-lbs. by a 13-3 major decision. He finished with a 1-2 record.

Off the mat, Leither and Dowell earned recognition as NAIA Scholar Athletes. It was the second time Dowell had received the honor.

Head coach Rik Dahl hugs senior Nic Leither after his final match. Leither went 4-2 and earned All-American honors for the third time.
Huseman wins indoor championship, four others All-Americans

BY DALTON KELLEY

The Northwestern track and field team started off the month of March with a bang while competing at the indoor nationals in Geneva, Ohio.

The Raiders left the meet with a national champion, three All-American events, three more advancing to the finals in their events and four new school records.

The top story from the meet was sophomore Matt Huseman leaping for a national title in the high jump and setting a new school record in the event. He jumped 6-11.75.

“Winning this event is credited to Huseman having more cleared attempts than the other finalist, Herb Gary, from Indiana Tech. This was a perfect ending to the great indoor season that’s included five first place finishes and a conference championship.

“It was awesome to win it,” Huseman said.

“It’s something I’ve been working toward for the past year. Especially after coming close in the outdoor last season. I trained a lot this summer to be able to put myself in a position where I could do well.”

The close call Huseman referred to was placing second at the conference meet and fifth at outdoor nationals last spring.

“I’m thankful that God gave me the opportunity to use my talents for His glory. At the end of the day all you can really do is go out and compete, have fun with it, and let the chips fall where they may.”

The women’s side of the team is proud to have the 4x800 also winning All-American honors. They finished in seventh place and ran a time of 9:15 minutes. The team consisted of senior Teresa Kerkvliet, junior Brianna Hobbs, freshman Sara Kuhlmann and sophomore Dawn Gildersleeve.

“Our women’s 4x800 was strong and they ran very well,” Huseman said. “They put a lot of hard work in this indoor season and it showed. They have great runners.”

Gildersleeve made another appearance in the spotlight running the third fastest time in prelims for the 1000m (2:55). She set a new school record and advanced to the finals where she finished sixth.

“Dawn did very well again,” Huseman said.

“She ran a lot that week and her performance was very strong. I mean, she had to turn around and run more the next day. She has a huge potential, and it will be awesome to watch that unfold.”

Senior Kristina Bouchard finished eighth in the 600m finishing in a time of 1:35 minutes.

Kristina showed a lot of perseverance and fought through an injury to place and be an All-American,” Huseman said. “I really thought that she exemplified what our program preaches as far as pushing through and always finishing. She gave a phenomenal effort and we were very proud of her.”

Hobbs also placed 11th in the 800m with a time of 2:39 which was just short of advancing to the finals. Kerkvliet finished the meet in the 15th place spot running for a time of 3:11 minutes.

Another mens athlete finished well at the meet. Freshman Logan Hovlan finished in the seventh spot overall in the 1000m with a time of 2:31 minutes.

“As a team I think we have the potential to send a lot more people to nationals,” Huseman said. “We were very close with multiple people, and I look for that to push them in the outdoor season. None of us are content with what we have done or where we are at, so I think this outdoor season will be great.”

The Raiders will begin their outdoor season on March 31st, when they travel to Pella for the Central Invite.
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Chapel: a campus community event

BY TYLER MCKENNEY

Chapel is a time for the Northwestern campus community to come together and worship God; at least that’s what we’ve heard. However, in my four years here I have noticed that some people seem to be missing this time of campus community worship. We can all list a handful of faculty and who are regular chapel attendees, and we can all probably list some faculty and staff whom we hardly, if ever, see at chapel. We as students know what will happen if we do not obtain the necessary 45 chapel credits in a semester, but do the same rules apply to faculty and staff? Should they?

According to the NW Faculty and Staff handbooks, the expectation is that all full-time employees of the school attend chapel. Under section 6.2.10, the handbook states as one of the criteria for hiring full-time faculty is to, “...support the college’s chapel program, including regular chapel attendance.” Section 6.5.2. further explains saying, “Faculty shall attend the chapel services held daily.” The handbook also says, “... it is expected that all full-time employees will join the college community in worship on a semi-regular basis to underscore our common commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.” So the handbook says that faculty are required to attend chapel, but as we can and do see in chapel, this is not occurring.

We are missing the point of Lent

BY NATE JOHNSTON

Lent began this year on February 22. Since then over 30 days have passed and many faithful observers find themselves roughly three-quarters of the way through this season of self-denial. Each of my three springs at Northwestern, I have watched as my friends have given up meat, sweets, soda, Facebook and other forms of technology. Each spring some fail to get through forty days, some cheat, some barely see in chapel, this is not occurring.

But once you get your feet wet and get the swing of things, it gets be/g308 er. That being said, as students we have a lot on our plate also. Classes, sports and extracurricular activities all take up a lot of our time, but with good time management we can do all that and still go to a 25-minute chapel. And guess what: NW makes it pretty easy, considering that there is rarely, if ever, anything scheduled during that time.

I am not calling for the college to change its chapel program, simply for it to re-look at who is participating in the weekly chapel. In order for a campus community to worship Christ together, all the members of the community need to be present. I also think that if faculty and staff were to attend chapel, they could take the community that comes out of worship and bring that into their classroom which would help to foster a better integration of faith and learning, which we also hear so much about.

If NW wants to say that it is “Worshipping all together” and a “Christian Academic Community” (as it does on its website) then I think all of NW should indeed take time out of their day and worship together at Christ Chapel.

So why are so many of the faculty and staff absent at chapel? I would guess that many of them would respond to this question with some version of, “we are too busy with our classes” or “we have office hours during chapel time.”

Now I have never taught a college course before, but as a senior education major, who is currently student teaching this semester, I have an idea of how much time it takes to teach a course. And for those of you who don’t know or realize, it does take a lot of time and effort, especially as a new teacher. But once you get your feet wet and get the swing of things, it gets better. That being said, as students we have a lot on our plate also. Classes, sports and extracurricular activities all take up a lot of our time, but with good time management we can do all that and still go to a 25-minute chapel. And guess what: NW makes it pretty easy, considering that there is rarely, if ever, anything scheduled during that time.

It's okay for girls to be friends with boys

BY EMILY WOHLERS

The second week of my first semester at Northwestern, I was called over by a new acquaintance.

“Are you dating that boy?” she innocently inquired. I laughed and responded with, “No way! Why do you ask?” “Because I’ve seen you talking to him,” was the flat response.

This is the most confusing phenomenon I have encountered at NW. In high school, I was friends primarily with boys because that’s how it ended up. I have always identified more with my male friends, so spending last year in a tight community with females was a huge culture shock.

All of my friends smelled nice and wanted to give hugs, things I was obviously not accustomed to. I enjoyed my new friends but, of course, found friends of the “other” kind as well. Suddenly I was apparently dating every boy I talked to or was condemned for abandoning my gender.

I was then shocked to find that I was not the only one with such problems. Why are the genders so separated? Sure, we have brother and sister wings but does that really help inter-gender friendships? Can guys and girls really be friends without it becoming something more?

I fully believe they can. I believe there should be more friendships across genders without assumptions being made or expectations for something more. Assuming that someone should date because they are friends and are compatible gender-wise is an interesting concept to me.

But, on the flip side, the only way you will get that “ring by spring” is to make friends with the opposite gender. There are positives for bothsides. Guys bring low drama and are way more chill. And girls can bring an energy and wit that might surprise you. Basically, expanding your group of friends gives everyone new opportunities to grow.

Being in a community doesn’t mean just getting to know your floor or dorm; it’s about making friends with everyone. Once we quit worrying about what other people are really like, we can make moves to actually know them. Without inter-gender friendships, there is only ignorance.

So, I challenge you to hang out with your brother or sister wing outside of set activities. Or get a group together to see “The Hunger Games” this weekend. Try sitting somewhere new in chapel. Get out of your comfort zone to make new friends. It never hurts to try!
Guest cellists to join faculty
BY GILLIAN ANDERSON

A variety of pieces will be played at the Chamber Collaborative Recital. Dr. Juyeon Kang will perform on piano, and instructor Beverly Gibson will perform on clarinet. There will also be two guest cellists from the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, Maxim Kozlov and Kathryn Hufnagle.

During the recital the ensemble will play two pieces by Johannes Brahms: “Sonata for Piano and Cello No. 2 in F major, Op. 99” and “Trio for Piano, Clarinet and Cello in A minor, Op. 114.”

Students who attend music events frequently look forward to certain aspects of the performances.

“I like applying different people’s techniques to enhance my musicality,” said sophomore Kayla Vetter. “I also like to see how different people express themselves through their instruments.”

Kang, associate professor of music at Northwestern, was on sabbatical this past year. She has performed in many solo recitals including one earlier in the year.

Gibson is an instructor at NW and Dordt, as well as the Dakota Academy of Performing Arts at the Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls. She began playing clarinet in sixth grade and since then has expanded her ability to other woodwind instruments.

“I am very excited about playing the Brahms with my colleagues. It is very gratifying to collaborate with others at this level and perform such a beautiful piece,” Gibson said.

Maxim Kozlov has been playing the cello since he was six years old, and he also plays piano. He is currently performing as the principal cellist in the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra. Kozlov has also performed with the internationally renowned Chamber Orchestra of St. Louis, which is based in Moscow.

“I was invited by Dr. Kang last August when she attended a Dakota Sky Piano Festival recital,” Kozlov said. This will be his first time performing with Kang.

Kathryn Hufnagle is a cello instructor at Augustana College. She has participated in many orchestras including the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra.

Each of the performers has received several musical awards.

“It is important for students to go to Kang’s recital because she is a professor and we should celebrate her talents and gifts she has brought to Northwestern College,” Vetter said.

The recital will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 24 in Christ Chapel.