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Bush continues to threaten Senate bill which will remove troops from Iraq

BY BETHANY KROEZE

Yesterday, the Senate voted 51-47 to pass the Iraq war spending bill, despite promises from President Bush that he will veto the bill because of the inclusion of a timetable for withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq.

The proposed bill will designate $122 billion in emergency supplemental funds for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as requiring Bush to begin bringing troops home within four months of the bill's signing with the entirety of U.S. forces removed by March 31, 2008.

“The American people have lost faith in the president's conduct of this war,” said Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

During a speech to the National Cattlemen's Beef Association on Wednesday, Bush said, “Here's the bottom line: the House and Senate bills have too much pork, too many conditions on our commanders and an artificial timetable for withdrawal. And I have made it clear for weeks, if either version comes to my desk, I’m going to veto it.”

“Funding for our forces in Iraq will begin to run out in mid-April,” Bush continued. “Members of Congress need to stop making political statements and start providing vital funds for our troops.”

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) said, “We’ve spoken the words the American people wanted us to speak. There must be a change of direction in the war in Iraq, the civil war in Iraq.”

Over the past week, Bush has been urging Congress to pass the bill without the timeline included.

“I want a deadline not only for commencing the withdrawal of our forces but also completing it rather than a target date,” said Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt).

Dick Cheney accused the House of “They're not supporting the troops. They're undermining them.”

Bush continued. “If troops are pulled out on short notice, it will create a security vacuum in Iraq that cannot be filled by troops that have not been trained and armed and not available in sufficient numbers,” he continued.

This legislation is the Senate’s first bold challenge of Bush’s war policies since the Democrats took control of Congress in January. Democrats only narrowly hold the majority, but Republicans allowed this proposal to pass because they were confident that Bush would veto the bill.

I think the sooner we can get this bill...down to the president for veto, we can get serious about passing a bill that will get money to the troops,” said Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky).

SIFE initiates micro-financing program in Nicaragua

BY REENI NYHOF

When I say Butler’s Café, many might think of the coffee shop, but it is also connected with Christian Investment Action Outreach (CIAO) program and Teach a Man to Fish. These programs have one thing in common; they began as ideas from SIFE members to help people and create realistic solutions to problems.

SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) recently initiated a new micro-financing program in Bluefields, Nicaragua called CIAO. CIAO grants low-income entrepreneurs opportunity to receive financing.

For CIAO, SIFE members Alla Miroshnychenko and Angela Jiskoot taught over 40 women about free enterprise, marketing and budgeting. These women then formed groups, created an idea involving the manufacture or sale of food products, received training and then a low interest loan to bring their ideas to the marketplace.

SIFE improvements local and world communities,” said Miroshnychenko. “It’s amazing the things you can do and the people you can reach.”

As a nonprofit free market leadership opportunity for students, Avery saw SIFE as a great tool for students and introduced the program to Northwestern in 2001 because many people have ideas to solve problems.

“SIFE is not just a business thing, every person can participate,” said Miroshnychenko. “They can bring new ideas or improve old projects.”

One former student, Collin Doughan, saw a need to have a coffee shop on campus. SIFE helped with marketing and, though the location is different today, his idea still lives through Butler’s Cafe in Sioux Center.

SIFE members also worked on the Teach a Man to Fish project for three years. Their goal was to feed the hungry, and this project consisted of self-sustaining aquaculture kits that requiring only sunlight and water, operating on a 12-volt solar system for low-income families to raise fish and vegetables to sell.

The 12 active members of SIFE usually meet every two weeks. According to Avery, the members have approximately 1200 combined hours placed into researching, planning and implementing ongoing and new project ideas for this year.

Funding for SIFE comes from regional competitions only according to Avery.

“We’ve been blessed to have won money at competitions to keep going,” said Avery. “And even though we have a low budget operation, we’ve learned we can do a lot with a little.”
People that we disagree with aren’t evil, just different

An angry student recently decided to send me an e-mail informing me that he was “sick of” my opinions being on this campus, that had “gone too far,” politely asking me to “stoposphing your far left propaganda into the school paper.” This is a symptom of a much greater problem in America today. There is a tendency of many people to paint anyone who disagrees with them as some kind of dangerous extremist who is an enemy. On the “right,” pundits like Bill O’Reilly and Anne Coulter attempt to paint those who differ from them on even the most minute issues as “far left, godless seculars” who are trying to destroy America. To those who subscribe to this worldview, like the gentlemen who wrote me that e-mail, suggesting alternative ways of viewing the world is tantamount to treason. On the left, oversimplifications of world issues lead to ideas that those on the right are “imperialists,” “fascists” or “oil mongers.” One must assume that there are only two main sides to every issue? That someone who disagrees with you must do so because “they are a liberal” or “they just follow everything the President says?”

There is a tendency of many people to paint anyone who disagrees with us as “they are a liberal” or “they just follow everything the President says?”

In a perfect or infallible interpretation of the Bible. Even popes change their churches and religious discussions. No one has actually seen God and talked with God when we refuse a relationship. How can democracy survive when we have a generation growing up that is unable to dialogue with those who are our neighbors? What bothers me even more is the tendency for this attitude to creep into churches and religious discussions. No one has actually seen God and talked with him face to face, at least at anytime recently. No human mind will ever have a perfect or infallible interpretation of the Bible. Even popes change their minds and acknowledge the existence of unfathomable divine mysteries. Yet when it comes to religious issues, there is a dangerous tendency among some groups to attempt to force the political “right/left” division into the religious world, assuming that if someone views God or the Bible differently than they do, it must be because of their “liberal/conservative bias.” This attitude cuts any meaningful discussion short and quenches the Spirit who is constantly moving us as a Church to grow, change and reform.

The opinion page of the Beacon exists in part to allow students to learn how to discuss and debate using the medium of writing. If you disagree with an opinion written here, then you can write an opinion piece of your own, join in the written discussion and take a step toward learning to interact with the ideas of people you disagree with.

Is there tension between civil rights and religious freedom?

During the forum on same-sex relationships, the question was asked, “Is it denial of civil rights vs. denial of the Word?” Has it become anyone else’s business? Is it possible that people who claim to believe wholeheartedly in a God of love, that people whose entire belief structure, in fact, rests upon the claim that love is the be-all and end-all of the universe, how is it possible that people who claim to believe things like this will deny civil rights to another person? Christ’s greatest commands to us were first to love God with all that is in us and secondly to love our neighbor as ourselves. This command is, in fact, where all of the controversy on campus this semester has stemmed. Dr. Monsma asked us to consider “who is my neighbor, and how can I love them?” This question is very difficult to answer. Christian who wishes to abide by the Good News in the world as Christ was. How can we as Christians—those who are called above all else to love other people and to care for them as we would ourselves—how can we as Christians, love God and to have a relationship with God when we refuse a relationship with those who are our neighbors?

How can we deny civil rights to those who are marginalized in society and point to a book of love? Is it truly to deny civil rights to another person? Christ? His greatest commands to us were first to love God with all that is in us and secondly to love our neighbor as ourselves. This command is, in fact, where all of the controversy on campus this semester has stemmed. Dr. Monsma asked us to consider “who is my neighbor, and how can I love them?” This question is very difficult to answer. Christian who wishes to abide by the Good News in the world as Christ was. How can we as Christians—those who are called above all else to love other people and to care for them as we would ourselves—how can we as Christians, love God and to have a relationship with God when we refuse a relationship with those who are our neighbors?

There is a tendency of many people to paint anyone who disagrees with us as “they are a liberal” or “they just follow everything the President says?”

The word of God? In the United States, which is home to more religious diversity than anywhere else on earth, how can we deny civil rights to others because we disagree with them?

The word of God? In the United States, we are all guaranteed religious freedom by the Bill of Rights. Yet, despite this freedom, we have a tendency to paint anyone who disagrees with us as “they are a liberal” or “they just follow everything the President says?”

How can we deny civil rights to those who are marginalized in society and point to a book of love in order to justify such a belief? Is it really to deny civil rights to another person? Christ? His greatest commands to us were first to love God with all that is in us and secondly to love our neighbor as ourselves. This command is, in fact, where all of the controversy on campus this semester has stemmed. Dr. Monsma asked us to consider “who is my neighbor, and how can I love them?” This question is very difficult to answer. Christian who wishes to abide by the Good News in the world as Christ was. How can we as Christians—those who are called above all else to love other people and to care for them as we would ourselves—how can we as Christians, love God and to have a relationship with God when we refuse a relationship with those who are our neighbors?

There is a tendency of many people to paint anyone who disagrees with us as “they are a liberal” or “they just follow everything the President says?”
“Grey’s Anatomy” obsession

BY RACHEL RIESEMA
STAFFWRITER

As the tension rises, each individual gathered in Steggy room 146 have their eyes glued to the TV screen. This anxiety occurs often on Thursday nights at 8 p.m. among six women who watch “Grey’s Anatomy.”

Sophomore Katie Terveen is one of the dedicated viewers who owns two seasons on DVD. When the series first aired, she didn’t take an immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurts out immediate interest in it; however, the series first aired, she didn’t take an immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurts out immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurts out immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurts out immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurts out immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurts out immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurts out immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurts out immediate interest in it; however, she has never missed a season three episode. Each week she blurts out

Terveen admits the show doesn’t reflect her morals; she watches it mainly for entertainment value, and it keeps her guessing. Since the show ranks as second in the nation, she said incorporating religion in the script would allow for Christian values to be influenced significantly.

“I would be great if they took out the excessive sex, but I’m also aware that it would completely change the dynamic of the show. They would have to bring in something else to compensate for the loss.”

Across campus in Hospers Hall, a larger group of girls meet in Resident Director Ann DuMez’s Hall, a larger group of girls meet in Resident Director Ann DuMez’s Hall, a larger group of girls meet in Resident Director Ann DuMez’s Hall, a larger group of girls meet in Resident Director Ann DuMez’s Hall, a larger group of girls meet in Resident Director Ann DuMez’s apartment. Freshman Catie Sabata, a devoted fan who meets with this group, has been watching since the pilot episode.

Despite watching episodes repeatedly, each time a random phrase is integrated into a serious scene, she always laughs. She said she would be very distraught if the show left the air for good.

“‘Grey’s Anatomy’ hour, that’s the special hour. I plan my schedule around ‘Grey’s Anatomy,’” Carmean said, “if something is going on it has to be planned around (‘Grey’s’).”

Aubrey Earl, a sophomore, has been watching since the pilot. She doesn’t have a concrete reason for watching it but says that it allows her to be worry-free for an hour.

“As far as life problems, I wouldn’t say that it would be an escape,” Terveen said. “It’s an escape from daily stress.”

Escaping from the problems in everyday life is also why Sabata watches every week. Her obsession with the show rates at a nine on a scale ranging from one to ten because it has become a big necessity in her life. It brightens her week and recommends everyone to become a part of the McDreamy craze.

“It’s exciting. Even though it’s immoral, it’s also funny and thrilling,” Sabata said. “It draws you in.”

Counter-Strike: a new way to do community

BY BETSY HEBERGER
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

On Thursday night in VPH 302, a different kind of community takes place. The gaming community.

Meet the Robinsons $ NP
Fri & Mon-Thu 7:05, 9:25
Sat & Sun 7:10, 9:25, 11:50
Blades of Glory $ PG-13 NP
Fri & Mon-Thu 7:00, 9:40
Sat & Sun 1:20, 11:40, 7:00, 9:40
Wild Hogs $ PG3
Fri & Mon-Thu 7:15, 9:30
Sat & Sun 7:10, 9:30, 11:50
300 $ PG-13 Fri & Mon-Thu 7:10, 9:30
Sat & Sun 7:40, 9:10, 9:30
The Hills Have Eyes II $ R
Fri & Mon-Thu 9:35, Sat & Sun 4:20, 9:35
Shooter $ R
Fri & Mon-Thu 6:50, 9:45
Sat & Sun 4:20, 11:50, 9:45
Last Mimzy $ PG Fri & Mon-Thu 7:10
Sat & Sun 1:40, 11:40, 7:10
TMNT $ PG Fri & Mon-Thu 7:15, 9:35
Sat & Sun 1:20, 9:10, 7:15, 9:30
Starting Wednesday April 4th
Are Wo Done Yet $ PG-13 NP
West-Thu 7:10, 9:30
Firehouse Dog $ PG NP
West-Thu 7:10, 9:30

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Students $5.45
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On Thursday night in VPH 302, a different kind of community takes place. The gaming community.

From 9 p.m. to 12 p.m., men and women alike head to VPH to take part in Counter-Strike, a first-person shooter computer game. Now some of you may wonder, “What is Counter-Strike?” Thanks to junior Tom Dose, I am now able to enlighten you as to what exactly it is.

Basically, the team of “terrorists” and the team of “counter-terrorists” run around and shoot each other. Pretty simple strategy.

However, killing your opponent isn’t the only strategy of the game. Sometimes the counter-terrorists have to play the hero and, in addition to killing the terrorists, must rescue the hostage. Other times the terrorists are commissioned to create more mayhem and must plant a bomb, demolish something and attempt to defeat the counter-terrorists.

At the very beginning of the game (before the killing starts), you are allowed to purchase either weapons (guns or grenades) or items to hold Counter-Strike in VPH.

There is no sign-up, and all you need is a pair of headphones. As Dose said, “it’s come and go, and new people are always welcome.”

So next Thursday night, grab a few friends and head over to VPH 302, newbies and novices welcome.

By Mo: “Bling for You and Me”

BY KILEY SELIGMAN
STAFF WRITER

Junior Molly Keese began her new earring business, By Mo, only a little over a month ago to raise money for her Spring Service Project to Trinidad. With friends, family and Northwestern students as her customers, business is looking up for this hopeful entrepreneur.

Keese started making earrings about four years ago as a hobby and as a way to give fun, unique gifts to people. To help support her SSP to Trinidad, she decided to turn her hobby into a business and give the profits to that mission. She makes all the earrings herself, sometimes in the company of friends, such as Fern Resident Director Lisa Barber.

By getting her style from current trends or from her own imagination, her goal is to create earrings that are unique and can’t be found anywhere else. “I try not to ever make two of the same; I try to design them all different,” said Keese.

The earrings are made from many different types of beads in all different styles and colors. Earrings range from $5 to $15, depending on the time spent and the type of beads used. Most earrings are pre-made, but Keese does take specialty orders for those who want something specific.

As an elementary education major, Keese’s dream is to teach while still running her business on the side in order to “bling up the teachers of tomorrow” with her unique jewelry. If the opportunity arose, she would love to expand the business to stores and would even be open to hiring others to create her ideas.

Keese doesn’t do it for the money, though. “I like to make them [earrings], and if people like what I have, they can come check them out.” Interested in checking out some of Keese’s creative and affordable earrings? You can contact her at mkeese@nwciowa.edu or check out her pictures on Facebook, but if you want a more hands-on experience, stop by room 348 in Fern Smith Hall to take a look.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to beacon@nwciowa.edu.

“I had three goals to achieve before I graduate. First, I was going to be homecoming queen. Then I was going to be Northwestern. Now I just want to make campus quotes. David Bray is achieving all of my goals.”

- Senior Cindy Sipes, voicing her frustrating with life

“All great artists die in plane crashes. If you ever become great, and you’re an artist, stay on the ground.”

- Professor Thomas Helm, commenting on the many musicians who have died in plane crashes

“Yes, it’s true. The Holy Foreskin of Jesus.”

- Professor Bob Winn, lecturing on religious relics used in the early church

Photo courtesy of Molly Keese

Junior Molly Keese makes these beautiful homemade earrings in her dormroom in Fern Smith. She has an assortment of pre-made earrings for customers to choose from and is also available to custom make earrings of your choice.

“Grey’s Anatomy” are Thursday nights at 8 p.m. on ABC.

Photo courtesy of Google.com

“Grey’s Anatomy” are Thursday nights at 8 p.m. on ABC.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to beacon@nwciowa.edu.
Eating disorders in America: Warped perception of beauty and need for control are leading contributors in the cause of serious eating disorders

BY CLARE WINTER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

People want to be beautiful. People want to be attractive. People want to fit the into culture's warped perception that thinness equals beauty.

In “Little Miss Sunshine,” Frank explains the principle of weight gaining to his seven-year-old daughter Olive. “So, if you eat a lot of ice cream, you might become fat.” And if you don’t, you’re going to stay nice and skinny, sweetie.” This pressure to “stay nice and skinny” can result in serious problems.

Eating disorders are defined in the dictionary as “psychological disorders characterized by serious disturbances of eating behavior.” Anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge-eating are the most common eating disorders.

The seriousness of eating disorders like anorexia, which has the highest premature mortality rate of all psychological disorders, cannot be ignored. It is estimated that approximately one percent of Americans are anorexic, and an estimated five to ten million Americans struggle with eating disorders, including up to 40 percent of college age females. A study done in 2004 helps explain these sky-high estimates. The study found that 42 percent of first- to third-grade girls want to be thinner, while 81 percent of 10 year olds feared getting fat.

Both genetic and environmental factors can trigger the onset of the devastating illnesses referred to as eating disorders. Sally Oakes Edman, director of Northwestern’s counseling services, explains that those who have been physically or sexually abused, have low self-esteem, come from dysfunctional families and have grown up in households where appearance and thinness were highly valued are the most susceptible to eating disorders.

Stegenga Hall Resident Director Sara James, who has helped students with anorexia and bulimia in the past, says that eating disorders frequently start when a person experiences a “chaotic situation that leaves them feeling helpless and in need of control.” Often the disease begins with a slow progression from regular eating habits towards disordered eating. Edman relates that the individual then becomes “more and more careful about counting calories and their appearance until they actually have a disorder.”

People struggling with eating disorders need to hear concerns voiced from their friends and family in order to recognize that a problem exists. One individual who struggled with anorexia relates, “I wish my friends would have said something like, ‘You are way too small.’ By hearing others say it, I would have known something was wrong. It just kept getting worse, so by the time I got in front of the mirror… it was horrible to see myself look like someone who was from a Nazi camp.”

James suggests that when confronting someone with an eating disorder, it is crucial to first confirm your love and care for them. Before suggesting they have an eating disorder, it is important to provide concrete examples of patterns in their life that have changed (e.g. dramatic changes in eating habits, weight loss, excessive exercise or preoccupation with weight). Edman says it is also important to avoid simplifying the problem and to avoid increasing shame and guilt.

While a friend or group of friends could help someone with a mild eating disorder, someone who has a serious eating disorder will require professional treatment. According to Edman, three sources should be consulted in these cases: a therapist, a medical doctor and a dietician.

If you or someone in your life is struggling with an eating disorder, seek help through an RA, RD or the free and confidential counseling services available on campus. According to a student who suffered from an eating disorder, “It’s going to be hard to go in for help but it’s only for the best.” Counseling services can provide objective advice to a struggling individual or prepare someone to discuss their concerns with a friend.

When helping someone with an eating disorder, the most important thing is to continue to love and support the struggling individual and to remind them that you desire them to be healthy and happy. Although it will be difficult and you will be unable to understand everything they are going through, helping a friend with an eating disorder will make a difference in their life.

FAST FACTS
8 million people in the United States suffer from eating disorders.
3% of all young women suffer from anorexia.
3-4% of all young women suffer from bulimia.
1% of men suffer from eating disorders.
15% of young women have some kind of disordered eating patterns.
Eating disorders have the highest mortality rate of any psychological disease.

There are more than 8500 different web sites that deal with anorexia.

From http://www.randomhouse.com/features/eatingdisorders/stats.html
What does Lilly do for you?

BY LINDSAY SQUIRES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As I sought to answer this question, I discovered that the Lilly Grant does more for Northwestern College than most people would even begin to realize. Since receiving the $2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment in 2003, NW students and faculty alike have had numerous opportunities to explore God’s calling in their lives and to discern their place in his world. But when it comes down to it, what does Lilly do for you?

Interim Director of Spiritual Formation and Vocation Susan Reese explained that the Lilly-funded Vocare Program has five overarching purposes: worship and the arts, multi-cultural education and awareness, practice of spiritual disciplines, vocational formation of faculty and staff and finally, leadership and ordained ministry.

While each of these five concentrations are pursued in various ways, the practical outworking of these purposes include: visiting artists, the Deep Song reading series, multi-cultural internships, spiritual development retreats, vocation-infused courses, faculty research initiatives, chapel visits, leadership projects and summer ministry internships.

“We wanted to make it far-reaching,” said Associate Dean of Spiritual Formation Barb Dewald. Lilly funds are not specific to certain departments but are spread through a wide spectrum of programs and projects.

As Dewald also explained, three new student leadership positions have been made possible by the Lilly Grant, including residence hall discipleship interns, worship interns and multi-cultural interns.

The Black Hills Retreat, which over 100 students attended last semester, was also subsidized by the grant. Moreover, Lilly funds will be used to purchase a portable prayer labyrinth. New study abroad exploratory trips, graduate school visits and conferences attended by faculty, staff and students also enjoy Lilly funding.

Professor of Theater and Speech Jeff Barker’s “And God Said” project received Lilly funding. This weekend, a travel group will be going to New York to create a demo-recording of some of the music from Barker’s production with “the hope that theatres, schools and churches throughout the world will be drawn to join us in performing the Old Testament,” Barker said.

In the communication department, Assistant Professor of Communications Jamey Durham received Lilly funding to assist in the production of “The Prairie Pirates” film. Associate Professor of Biology Ralph Davis has also benefited from Lilly in the Neuroscience and Persons program.

Over spring break, five NW students embarked on a journey of over 4,000 miles in order to work with four different ministries in cities around the United States. Supported by Lilly funding, Jason Blaha, Sam Galloway, Jonathan Kuik, Caleb White and Josh Kuipers traveled to St. Louis, Mo., Memphis, Tenn., the New York/New Jersey area and Chicago, Ill. While these young men were traveling to learn, serve and discern God’s calling in their lives, they were careful to distinguish their journey from a typical mission trip in their original Lilly Grant proposal.

“We are not merely preparing to go on this trip and have it be a stepping stone on the way to a new attitude and new way of life,” Kuik reflected on his spring break trip, “We must try to process our trip, figure out what we learned and come up with conclusions based on these things. This is by far the hardest part and is something we would not be doing if it were not for the Lilly funding we received.”

While the extension of the original Lilly Grant will last through May 2008, which totals eight and one half years of Lilly funding, the Lilly Grant is meant to leave a legacy beyond the funding.

“We hope people come to understand that this is a life-long process and that day-to-day decisions have a large impact,” Reese said.

According to Reese and Spiritual Formation and Vocation Executive Assistant Rachel Te Grootenhuis, a vital emphasis of the Vocare project is assessment.

Endeavoring to do just that, Kuik reflected on his spring break trip: “We must try to process our trip, figure out what we learned and come up with conclusions based on these things. This is by far the hardest part and is something we would not be doing if it were not for the Lilly funding we received.”

While the Lilly Grant has allowed NW to explore questions of calling by creating many new opportunities for students and faculty, Reese said, “NW has remained committed to the mission of the school, and that has been complemented by Lilly funding.”

Even when the grant has expired, however, Reese maintained the importance of owning the ideas and concepts of Lilly.

So what does Lilly do for you? The list extends off this page. What can Lilly do for you? The possibilities are as large as your vision. For more information, check out www.lilly.nwciowa.edu.
Persistence at the plate pays off for NW softball

BY LAURA JACOBSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Strong hitting and nearly error-free defense earned the Red Raider softball team a pair of wins Tuesday against Mount Marty College. The Raiders defeated the conference competitor 11-0 and 8-1.

“The biggest thing was our hitting as a team,” said Head Coach Melanie Mason, citing the team’s .482 average Tuesday afternoon. “That’s a pretty incredible batting average for a doubleheader.”

Senior pitcher Megan McHugh, who threw a no-hitter in the fifth inning, agreed. “Everyone was able to step up to the plate and do damage. We were able to play well through two games,” she said.

The Raiders got the bats going right at the start, when junior Lizz Swanson, batting lead-off, tripled in the first inning. Senior Brandi Redel singled to drive in the run. A pair of singles by sophomore Melanie Fisher and freshman Tina Jacobsma advanced and scored sophomore Emily Boettcher, who was walked.

NW added another run in the second inning on a solo homer by junior Amy Larson—the first of her career. But the Raiders really let loose in the third, totaling eight runs on nine hits. At the end of the beating, Fisher and Jacobsma had each gone 3-3. Swanson drove in four runs, and the women marked only one error.

“Everyone was able to step up to the plate and do damage. We were able to play hard and well through two games.” - Megan McHugh

The Raiders’ were busy at bat again in the second contest, defeating the Lancers 8-1. Mount Marty scored first, getting on the board in the first inning. But the run would prove to be the Lancers’ only as well, and NW tied it up in the same inning on an unearned run by Swanson.

The third inning was the charm again as the Raiders tallied four runs on four hits, then added one each in the subsequent three innings. Jacobsma and sophomore Michelle Van Duyne were each a perfect 3-3 at the plate, and the Raider defense was flawless. Sophomore pitcher Laura Calvert allowed only one earned run and recorded eight strikeouts.

Mason is pleased with the Raiders’ current level of competition, but noted aspects of their game needing improvement. “Offense has been a strength of ours,” she said. “I think we’re hitting really well right now, but our short game has struggled.”

McHugh pointed to the Raiders’ need to stay consistent. “We play really well some games and others aren’t up to our potential,” she said.

However, McHugh said the Raiders’ determined attitude as a driving force behind their recent success. “We never give up,” she said. “We know that at any time things could turn around, so we always have to play to the best of our ability.”

According to Mason, the women share the end goal of making the national tournament. “We view each step as one step closer to our final goal,” she said.

In order to achieve this, McHugh said the women approach each game with confidence. “We carry the mentality that if we play our type of ball, we can’t be beat,” she said.

NW is now 12-11 on the season and 4-3 in the GPAC. Today and tomorrow they compete in the Morningside Tournament in Sioux City. NW faces Saint Mary of Kansas at noon today.

NW wins a couple wet ones against Waldorf, splits with Doane

BY MIKE VAN ENGEN
STAFF WRITER

The Raiders recorded another couple of wins here on Tuesday as they took on Waldorf. The Raiders won the first game, 13-3 and the second game 11-5 to improve their overall record to 16-6. The Raiders still sit at 2-2 in the conference since they played Tuesday’s game with another competitor 11-0 and 8-1.

The Raiders started the second game off quickly, jumping out to a 10-run lead in the first four innings. The Warriors scored five runs in the top of the fifth to prevent a short game, but NW went on to score one more run in their half of the fifth to make the score 11-5. Waldorf failed to score again in the sixth inning, and the game was called due to the rain.

Offensively, sophomore Austin Malone went 4-4 with a double, two runs scored and an RBI. Michael Jansen and junior Justin Lane added two hits apiece for the Raiders.

Brad Payne picked up his second win of the season (2-0) as the freshman gave up three hits and five runs. Sophomore Andrew Brower pitched the final inning as a reliever for Payne.

NW traveled to Doane to put a first game walkoff, and a second game close loss in the record books. NW won the first game 19-3 and lost the second game 4-5. The Raiders improved to 14-5. The games were originally scheduled for March 23, but got rained out and moved to March 26.

The Raiders sealed the deal with 19 runs in the first four innings leading them to a 19-3 win over Doane. Sophomore Grant Wall went a perfect 4-4 with four runs scored and three RBIs to lead the offense.

Jansen had three hits, including a three-run home run in the second inning. The senior scored three runs and drove in a career-high seven RBIs. Freshman Scott Mineart and sophomore Justin Boersma each added two hits and two RBIs.

Senior right-hander Jake Koerselman went four innings to improve to 4-0 on the season. He gave up five hits, two runs and struck out six Tiger batters.

Game two however was a different story, as the Tigers took advantage over the Raiders.

Doane scored three runs in the first inning off Raider pitcher Dusty Meyn to take a 3-1 lead. NW tied the score in the top of the third inning with a double by freshman Matt Gray, followed by a walk to sophomore Austin Malone.

Sophomore Jake Jansen singled to drive in both Gray and Malone to tie the game at three. The Raiders took the lead in the fourth inning when Heitritter scored on a sacrifice fly by Gray.

Doane would not give up, as they took the lead good in the bottom of the inning when they scored two runs on three hits. The Tigers reliever pitched a three-inning shut-out to close off any offensive attack the Raiders could have had.

Offensively, Jansen led the attack with two hits and three RBIs. Wall, Heitritter, Lane and Gray all had one hit for NW.

Meyn suffered his second loss of the season to drop to 2-2 overall. The senior went four innings, giving up seven hits, three earned runs and striking out one.
Men’s golf looks for a successful spring season

BY BETHANY KROEZE

The men’s golf team will kick off their spring season on Monday at the Midland Lutheran Invite in Fremont, Neb.

Last fall, the Raiders enjoyed a successful season with a first place finish at Wayne State as well as a few top five finishes.

According to Head Coach Mark Bloemendaal, “Our primary goal is to qualify to move on to the conference and regional meets. The Raiders will host the NW Invitational on April 18. ‘It would be great to see a few fans out at our home meet,’ said senior David Klyn.

Junior Nate Summers said, ‘A personal goal of mine in my last two years here is to see the golf program at NW gain some prestige in the area and in the NAIA.’

‘I think our program can use last year’s successes to build on and produce a successful spring season this year,’ Summers said.
Interest in studying off-campus continues to rise; some students crushed by rejection

BY KIM EASON  
NEWS EDITOR

When several students checked their e-mail last week in anticipation of being accepted to the semester study abroad program, they were sadly disappointed.

There were 75 applicants to study abroad next year; 56 were approved.

The admission process for the program administered by Doug Carlson, Associate Dean of Off-Campus Programs, has changed in recent years. Carlson said the program accepts applications based on academic and extracurricular factors. The committee reviewed and discussed each one.

“Tens were turned away based on GPA or their application,” said Program Director Nancy Landhuis.

Since Romania is Northwestern’s own study abroad program, those applicants were accepted. There are other majors where students are required to study abroad, so those were also accepted.

The rest were put on a list in case of attrition. There have been smaller waiting lists the past two years, and everyone who applied has been able to go because some have changed their mind. This year, the list is much larger.

“President Murphy has made it a priority,” said Carlson. “We hope that the institution will continue to raise the budget for the study abroad programs.”

Students apply to study abroad in a variety of places, including Romania, Chicago, Los Angeles, Uganda, Washington D.C., China, Russia, Australia and the United Kingdom.

Applications to study abroad were received in early March. Each application was sent to the committee consisting of Carlson, Vice-President of Academic Affairs Jasper Lesage, a representative from student life, Program Director Nancy Landhuis and Director of Career Development Bill Minnick. The committee reviewed and discussed each one.

“No one was turned away based on GPA or their application,” said Program Director Nancy Landhuis.

Since Romania is Northwestern’s own study abroad program, those applicants were accepted. There are other majors where students are required to study abroad, so those were also accepted.

The remaining 20 students were put on a waiting list in case of attrition. There have been smaller waiting lists the past two years, and everyone who applied has been able to go because some have changed their mind. This year, the list is much larger.

“President Murphy has made it a priority,” said Carlson. “We hope that the institution will continue to raise the budget for the study abroad programs.”

Students apply to study abroad in a variety of places, including Romania, Chicago, Los Angeles, Uganda, Washington D.C., China, Russia, Australia and the United Kingdom.

Graduation Housing

Housing is available in Fern Smith Hall for family and friends of graduates on Friday night, May 11.

The cost is $5 per person (linens will be provided).

Make your reservations with Lisa Barber at 720-9276 or lbarber@nwctown.edu.

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