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Sexual assault awareness month

NORTHWESTERN'S TITLE IX POLICIES

VANESSA STOKES
WRITING & RHETORIC

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Since 1993, the number of sexual assault cases in the United States has been cut in half. Yet, every 73 seconds, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted.

The national statistics on sexual harassment—the official legal term—are very different for men and women. One of every six women has experienced sexual assault through physical force, violence or incapacitation. For men, one in 33 are affected.

However, only five of every 1000 rapists are in prison.

By law, Northwestern follows tightly what state and federal governments mandate. One of the first assemblies for freshmen is the Title IX presentation that makes clear what the national and campus policy is that year.

“Whereas some colleges try to ‘sweep it under the rug,’ we’ve worked hard to respond promptly and justly when reports have come to us,” dean of student life Julie Elliott said. “Our responsibility is to ensure that our campus is a safe place to live, learn and grow.”

The Title IX presentation is followed in each residence by a video about consent using the analogy of tea. The residency restriction of no closed dorm rooms when members of the opposite sex are present were also put into practice with Title IX cases in mind.

NW’s Title IX team consists of Deb Sandbulte, Chris Yaw, Marlon Haverdink and Julie Elliott. Sandbulte is the Title IX coordinator who safeguards regulations. In cases involving employees, she is the primary investigator. Yaw is the deputy coordinator that steps in when Sandbulte is employed as an investigator. Haverdink and Elliott are Title IX student investigators.

A complainant is the person stepping forward with the case. The



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM
Julie Elliott is one of the Title IX student investigators on campus.

respondent is the party the case is directed toward. Investigators sit down with the complainant, hear their story, talk through their

options and ask for suggestions of who else to talk to. Then they do the same for the respondent. Afterward, Haverdink and Elliott determine

if actions need to be taken, i.e. changing classes, moving living arrangements or establishing no-contact orders.

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Unsung Heroes: Marie Jeppesen

DISABILITIES SERVICES PROVIDER

JORDAN DESMET
PUBLIC RELATIONS

It is no secret that college is demanding. It tests students mentally, physically and emotionally. Unfortunately, learning disabilities and the struggles of mental health can make the college experience even more difficult, and both can force some students to believe that college is not even an option for them. However, Marie Jeppesen works relentlessly in her role as the disabilities services provider to push students to overcome the challenges that these obstacles bring to the table.

Before Jeppesen accepted the position, she was the teaching assistant for writing studio under Tom Truesdell during her senior year at NW.

“We worked really well together,

and it just so happened that they were looking to fill John Menning’s old position after he was moved to the director of the NEXT program,” Jeppesen said. “I started my first year in 2018 and haven’t looked back.”

In her current role, Jeppesen’s main priority is to provide academic accommodations to students with learning disabilities and mental health problems. On top of that, Jeppesen works with students on academic probation, coordinates the speech fellows for the first-year seminar classes and teaches the writing studio class for incoming freshmen.

Even though Jeppesen was planning on becoming a high school English teacher after she graduated from NW in 2018, she has not had second thoughts about taking this job.

“I can undoubtedly see why God has placed me here. I love school, I love learning, I love students and I love teaching,” Jeppesen said.



PHOTO BY JADEYN VELTKAMP
Marie Jeppesen, the disabilities services provider, poses outside of her office.

“Making the experience of college manageable for students who might not do as well on their own feels

like the perfect fit for me.” Although Jeppesen’s duties throughout the day are rewarding

for her, she still sees her fair share of challenges.



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Bryan releases new album, nothing original

MUSIC REVIEW

BRYAN'S 16 TRACK COUNTRY ALBUM

KALEB SCHROCK
SPANISH

"Born Here Live Here Die Here," is the latest 16 track album from the country singer Luke Bryan. For my review, I follow a four-part criterion, first, being instrumentals, vocals, lyrics and overall opinion.

This album was pleasantly surprising and the first track called, "Knockin' Boots," brought a bouncy love song that had me tapping my foot the entirety of the song. The instrumentals helped to make this song and the album. Overall, the use of drums and occasional guitar solos really make these songs move the listener to get up and dance. However, that is not to say it was not without the slower songs thrown in that did well to break it up.

The instrumentals have a good way of complimenting Luke Bryan's singing, and it never feels like there's too much overlap where vocals and instruments clashed. They always came

in at the right moment where neither felt like it was dominating the song.

Much like the rest of Luke Bryan's songs you can definitely hear that Georgian twang to his voice that makes his singing recognizable. His vocals always fit the songs, and it never sounded like he was going for anything new with his singing.

Compared to other albums I can see how it could be hard to distinguish some of his songs because of how little is done with his tone and range which he has shown he has. He doesn't need to make himself unrecognizable, but more to differentiate the songs would be a good thing. Without the different lyrics and instrumentals it would all blend together to me.

The most important part of the album is the lyrics. The hardest part I found with reviewing this album was the relatability of lyrics. Many of them felt stereotypically country which is to be expected to a certain extent. The

songs can be broken down into three basic categories: love, drinking and country living.

The love songs were the best songs on the album and what were the most relatable. They were all good at expressing the feelings of the singer and inspire the listener to think about their own life, which was a bit unexpected.

The drinking songs were enjoyable, but there was a catch. They were pretty standard drinking songs just talking about slamming down drinks like in, "One Margarita." These aren't songs to sit and listen to while relaxing, but they would be perfect songs to have in the background at a sit-down bar having a few drinks with friends.

The country living songs had themes that ranged from growing up to wanting a boat to small-town vibes. It was all stereotypically country, which were the weakest parts of the album. They were hard to relate to and much of the lyrics were

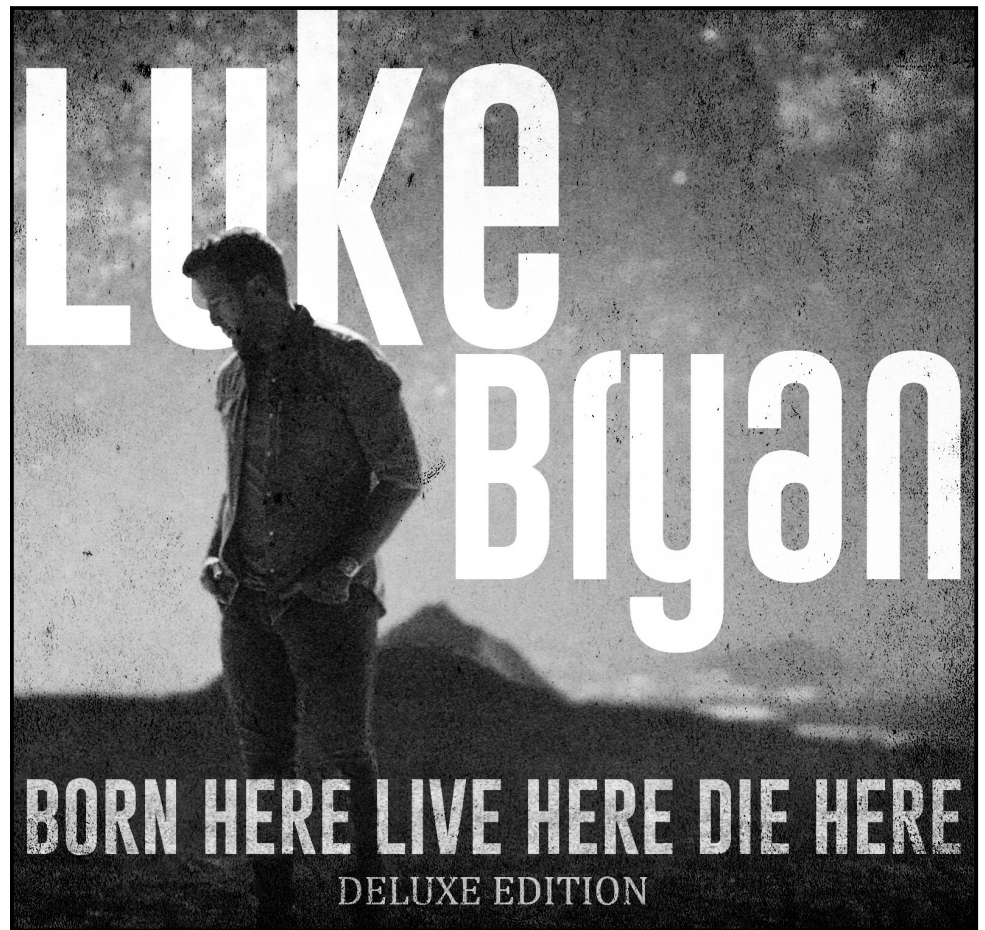


PHOTO COURTESY OF LUKEBRYAN.COM

pretty bland copy-pastes of that country formula.

This album deserves three and a half stars because of the great instrumentals that bring

the listeners into the songs and the good vocals that left a bit to desire but were still good. What really brought this album down were the lyrics. They were

really enjoyable in the love songs and drinking songs, but the stereotypical country songs really brought the album down.

★★★★

A space movie that does not explore the new frontier

MOVIE REVIEW

VOYAGERS IS SET IN OUTER-SPACE

MISAEEL BRUZZONE
ECONOMICS

In this movie directed by Neil Burger, a crew of astronauts on a multi-generational mission descend into paranoia and madness, returning to their primitive natures. While it's a space movie that tackles interesting themes, *Voyagers* remains in familiar outer-space.

The movie is an attempt to explore the theme of human nature. As the crew descends into chaos, they also revert to primitive impulses. Tribes are formed and power struggles occur as violence escalates. This situation is similar to the classic novel "Lord of the Flies" by William Golding. This theme is one that has been explored and developed through film history. In this movie, however, all the attempts to tackle this theme fail at adding any new depths.

As the plot begins to unfold, the characters revert to violent, impulsive states

and the movie brings into question the true nature of human behavior. Different characters serve as a variety of possible answers to this question. However, in trying to answer the central theme of the movie, the characters become one-dimensional. The different tribes basically are the "good guys" and the "bad guys." It would have been more interesting to see both tribes exhibit good and bad traits in an attempt to have layered and more complex characters.

The movie stars Tye Sheridan and Lily Rose Depp. They offer decent performances, considering what they are given to work with. Fionn Whitehead plays the antagonist and is probably the most interesting character in the movie until he becomes a cliché villain.

The cinematography in this movie also fails to impress. Given it is a space movie, audiences are expecting great visuals that do justice to the genre.

Cinematographer Enrique Chediak delivers a very average take behind the camera, never once being able to offer a memorable

shot. Cinematography is one of the biggest strengths of space movies, and this one falls short.

The movie nonetheless took more chances in editing than in cinematography. Unfortunately, the editing in this movie is confusing and even pretentious. At times shots are cut at weird moments and other shots start seemingly out of nowhere. There are also spliced stock footage shots of nature and other visuals that are supposed to represent what is going on inside the characters as the movie progresses. However, the latter attempt is laughable and very out of place.

The pacing in this movie also has some issues in the first half. The time is spent setting up plot points for the second half in very obvious and unimaginative ways. Instead of intriguing and drawing in the viewer, the setup causes the first half to drag. Coupled with the less than stellar editing, the first half of the movie not only drags but is also uninteresting. The second half of the movie is more enjoyable as the plot ramps up and the core story and themes of the movie are

developed. However, a lot of the setup is wasted on cliché reveals and disappointing choices by the director.

The movie does however offer an interesting premise that can entertain viewers, even if it is at shallow depths. Action sequences are brutal and engaging. There is also a good amount of tension building in the second half that draws in the audience successfully.

Voyagers is a space movie that never dared to venture into unknown territories. Even with a good cast and decent performances, the movie struggles to reach any meaningful stages. Unimpressive cinematography and terrible editing make the movie a lot more average than it should have been. The premise might be enough to draw viewers in but most will be left unsatisfied as the movie promised more than it could deliver. *Voyagers* is another take on a familiar story that never quite manages to become anything to make it stand out.

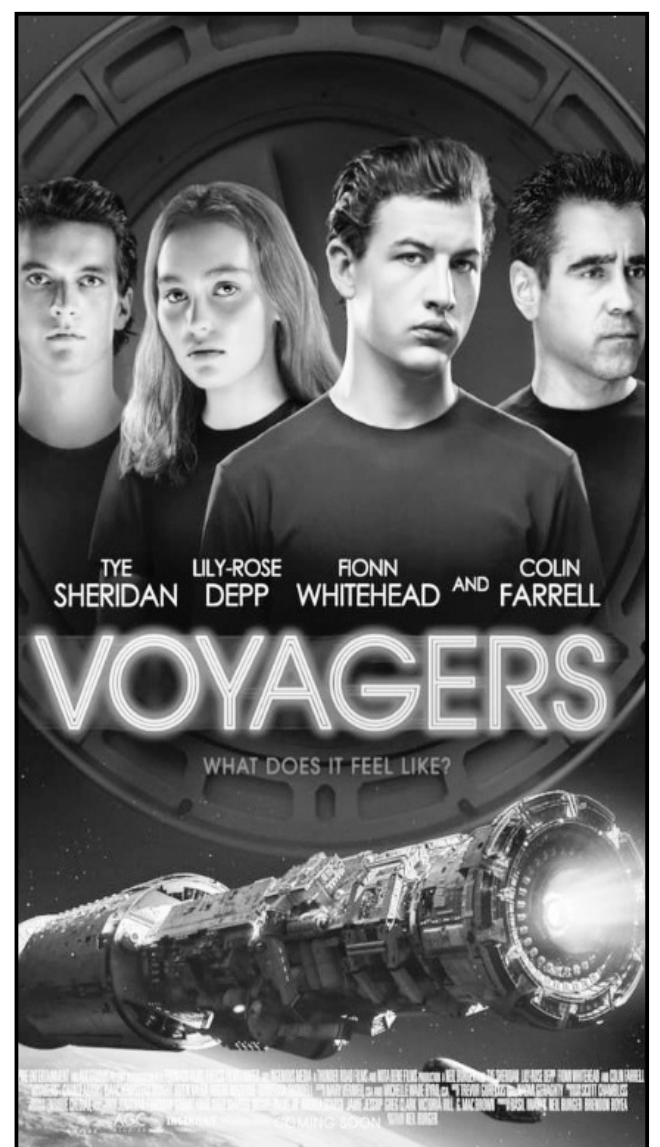


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MOVIE DATABASE

★★

Music flows with themes of spring and excitement

WOMEN'S CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

ANGELA WINTERING THEATRE

This weekend the Women's Choir and Orchestra are offering their spring concert, which will be Friday, April 23, in Christ Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

The Women's Choir will be performing before the orchestra with several pieces, conducted by Dan Sailer. Sailer is in his second year with the Women's Choir and also teaches some percussion as well. Two of the first pieces are, "Were You There?" and "Enter Into Jerusalem." The percussion ensemble will accompany the choir on the latter piece, with marimba and steel drum.

Along with these pieces, they will also be singing "Ave Maria" by Zoltan Kodaly, "I Bought Me a Cat" by Aaron Copland and "For the Beauty of the Earth" by John Rutter. All of the selections carry upbeat tones and rhythms, and convey a feeling of bouncing up and down to the atmosphere.

Elise Petty, junior modified music major and member of Women's Choir, feels confident and prepared going into the concert. She selected "For the Beauty of the Earth" as a highlight of the setlist.

"We take the earth for granted all the time, and don't stop to 'smell the roses,'" said Petty. "This song reminds us that God created the earth and reminds us to stop and thank him for the amazing place he has given to us."

The arrangement holds a light and fantastical tone that flowers would bloom to.

The orchestra performance will follow Women's Choir and is directed by Dr. Kang. They will be performing "Romance Cantabile in E minor" by Ludwig van Beethoven, "Capriol Suite" for String Orchestra by Peter Warlock and "Symphony No. 41 in C Major, K.551" by Mozart, which is also known as his Jupiter Symphony.

Samantha Monsma, sophomore music major and orchestra member, is also ready for this concert. Her favorite song being performed is "Capriol Suite."

"It has so much variety between each of the six movements, which are all different styles of dances," said Monsma.

Naomi Lief, freshman art major and orchestra member, echoes that choice for a favorite and said, "The six songs are very similar in style, yet very different in format. Combined, they create a musical masterpiece."

Within the Orchestra's performances will be several featured players. During "Romance Cantabile in E minor" by Beethoven, the bassoon, flute, and piano will be featured. Respectively, they will be played by members Elena Davidson, Clare Struck and Dr. Kang herself.

The music selected for the concert ushers in feelings of springtime and excitement to the listener. All three of the orchestral pieces carry a high energy of potential and excitement, yet are balanced with sections of slower, abiding notes. All are very fitting for the coming spring



PHOTO BY AMELIA HOLT

Dr. Kang conducts the orchestra to warm up for the concert on Friday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m.

season.

"I'd say that we are conveying a ground-breaking theme, as the music that we are performing is transitioning from the classical style, which

is characterized by balance, into the romantic style, which is full of emotion," said Lief. Among the various experiences available to students this weekend, the

concert holds members buzzing with excitement. Having practiced the entire semester, the ensembles are eager to share what they've created.

Symphonic band welcomes summer with final concert

"SOAKING IN THE SUN" THEME FOR CONCERT

ALLISON WHEELER GRAPHIC DESIGN

As summer quickly approaches, the Symphonic Band is preparing to enjoy the new season with their concert in Christ Chapel this Saturday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m. with the theme of "Soaking in the Sun!" The theme for the concert is based on the Bible verse Ecclesiastes 11:7, "The light is pleasant, and it is good for the eyes to see the sun."

The songs that the band will be playing fit right into the theme by referencing light and summer in different ways. The pieces are "Summer Dances" by Brian Balmages, "Radiant Shadows" by Julie Giroux, "Illumination" by David Maslanka and "Blue Shades" by Frank Ticheli.

"Each piece is a unique ingredient to the

concert, and captures a variety of color, technique and styles throughout for the audience," said Dr. Angela Holt, director of the Symphonic Band.

Junior Brandon Glasgow is a percussionist in the Symphonic Band, and he's excited to share with the public what the band has been working on since finishing up tour earlier in the semester.

At the band's last concert, "Let it Go" from the Disney movie Frozen was a crowd pleaser, but the set list for this concert has a completely different vibe. Glasgow described the songs for this concert as being upbeat tunes that are summer classics.

"Sadly, 'Let it Go' will not be played for this concert," said Glasgow.

However, Glasgow said that his favorite song for this concert is "Blue Shades" by Frank Ticheli.

"It's a jazz piece," he said, "and I love jazz."

The song also features multiple solos by

different students in the band. Freshman clarinetist Sarah Sundet and freshman flutist Emma Anunson echoed Glasgow's comments on "Blue Shades" by saying that they appreciate the jazz style of the song and they think the audience will be impressed by it.

Another song that seems popular with the band is "Illumination" by David Maslanka. Dr. Holt described the piece as "an invigorating piece of music with an assortment of textures."

With its catchy new tune, the piece is a favorite of many students.

"['Illumination'] got stuck in my head the first day we had it," said Sundet.

Preparing for this concert has had its challenges because the band has had to spread out in order to follow COVID-19 regulations. The band has spent some time figuring out how they should be set up on the stage in order to sound good while still staying socially distant from one another. It

has been over a year since the band has been on the stage in Christ Chapel all together.

"We continually are grateful for the opportunities God has given us and allows us to ultimately do for his glory," said Dr. Holt.

As a member of the band, Glasgow is proud of how his fellow band members have preserved and worked hard this year. "[We] pulled together as a band family to share God's love and do his work," said Glasgow.

This concert will also be the last concert here at Northwestern for the seniors who are graduating in May so they will be recognized during the concert. The seniors this year were freshmen when Dr. Holt was hired by Northwestern four years ago.

"It has been a gift to see them grow, and how we have supported one another over the last four years," said Dr. Holt. "We will truly miss them a lot, but I am excited for their new adventures ahead of them."



PHOTO BY AMELIA HOLT

Ian Else practices for the band concert on Saturday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m.

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PIECE brings tutoring opportunity

STUDENTS TEACH ENGLISH SKILLS

CAMBER HERRIG
PUBLIC RELATIONS

A new opportunity available at Northwestern to both students and staff is PIECE, Partners in Education, Community outreach and Embracing diversity. This program helps English language learners partner with an individual in the community who is dedicated to teaching them English.

NW's Hispanic liaison Martha Draayer co-founded PIECE in 2013 as an outreach measure at her church. Draayer's role is to recruit and train volunteers and inform the community about this opportunity. The program has been successful in Sioux Center, but it is very new to the Orange City area, however Draayer has already heard success stories.

"It's great to see so many students stepping outside of their comfort zone to engage in practical cross-cultural experiences," Draayer said. "I have also seen success in volunteers learning more about our immigrant neighbors and building authentic relationships with Latinos in our community."

Tutors not only help with the tutee's language skills, but confidence, as well.

"I have also seen participants become more aware of the resources at their disposal and utilize the resources they have access to, such as the library, going to events they would otherwise feel intimidated attending on their own or going into different restaurants where they normally would not feel welcome," Draayer said. "Having their tutor with them gives them the confidence to engage in new experiences."

For accounting and business education major Emily Bosch, becoming a PIECE tutor was a way to complete her diversity hours needed in the education department. With the help of a curriculum book, Bosch and another tutor met with their learner twice a week, reviewing the session before diving into new material.

"The language barrier is a real thing and a challenge to overcome!" Bosch said. "We worked a lot on vocabulary, numbers, the alphabet, address, months, days of the week and have just started scratching at the pronouns."

After her first visit, Bosch was nervous. She felt she had a grasp on Spanish until she was paired with a woman who did not know any English. However, once the two formed a bond, the nerves went away. Through the help of Google translate, they are overcoming the



Tutors Paige Ginger (middle) and Cherokee Horton (right) volunteer their time to meet with an adult to help her with English.

PHOTO BY CHEROKEE HORTON

language barrier.

For Steven Van Meeteren, a biology health professions major, he enjoys Spanish and knows the language barrier for the Latinx population is huge, so he wanted to help out.

"I learn about my student's life: his family, his job, his past," Van Meeteren said. "I am also always reminded just how hard it is to communicate with someone who doesn't speak the same language as you."

Like Bosch, Van Meeteren was nervous at first. However, after the first meeting was out of the way, a comfortability and trust was formed between the two.

"We start out by going through the workbook, and then, as words come up in our conversation, I'll write them down and explain them," Van Meeteren said about the tutoring session.

Even staff members have realized the potential this opportunity provides. Lynn

Mouw, a maintenance worker on campus, is also a tutor for the program. Mouw is a former English teacher, so she felt confident she could help someone learn the language.

"I bring treats and coffee, and we dive into the curriculum that Martha was able to provide for us," Mouw said. "Before we got the curriculum, I had her read some baby books in English and gave them to her after she read them since she has a 6-month-old."

For Mouw, she is also able to learn during these sessions.

"You learn how to interact and care for another person despite communication handicaps," Mouw said. "You can learn about another culture and different ways of doing things, or just continued practice of respecting differences and being humble in developing and strengthening your own personal growth and character."

Sexual assault awareness month

FROM PAGE 1

Once those steps have been taken, the recorded conversations are put into a report for both parties; the complainant can move forward to a hearing or resolve the issue personally. If a hearing is chosen, the NW Title IX team brings in a Title IX attorney to lead and student advisors make cases on students' behalf.

Whichever way the complainant may move forward, legal action is not necessarily taken. The most NW can do is expel a student, and this has happened several times.

"Sexual misconduct has happened and does happen on this campus, and we want anyone affected by it to feel safe to come forward," Elliott

said. "We are committed to objectively pursuing the facts, supporting survivors and stopping perpetrators."

Every NW employee is a part of the work to stop Title IX cases. Except for those serving in psychological services or ministry, NW employees are required to share information about sexual misconduct with the Title IX team. Reporters includes resident assistants, Campus Ministry Team leaders and other paid student leaders. People at NW who need to report these cases are mandatory reporters.

"Being a mandatory reporter means that if I know anything about a potential Title IX violation, I have to pass that communication up

the ladder," Hospers Hall resident director Michael Simmelink said. "It is not necessary that I have any level of proof outside the judgement. The claims are the bare minimum of credibility."

Raiders can report anything they see or experience on My Northwestern using the anonymous Raider Reporting Center.

"Even if you just hear a rumor about something happening to someone, or a pattern of disturbing behavior, please report that," Simmelink said. "Your role is to take care of your brothers and sisters and hold them to a higher standard."

The national sexual assault hotline is 1-800-656-4673.



PHOTO BY JADEYN VELTKAMP
Individuals needing help can call the national hotline at 1-800-656-4673.

Preparations for dorm life next year

A LOOK AHEAD AT RES-LIFE STAFF

ALLISON WHEELER
GRAPHIC DESIGN

As one school year comes to an end, preparations for next school year have already taken place in the residence life office. The resident directors of each dorm conducted interviews and chose the resident assistants for next year with some of them being returners and other newcomers.

Colenbrander Hall will be led by Jordan Blok, Misael Bruzzone, Joseph Kunert, Eric Salazar, AJ Schaefer, Jonah Tews, Isaac Thurm, Nicolaas VanRijs and Kirby Willats. Coly will also be welcoming a new RD, Brian Follett, who is a 2018 Northwestern graduate. During his time at Northwestern, Follett was a varsity athlete, discipleship group leader, SSP leader and RA for two years. After graduating, Follett went on to earn his Master of Divinity degree with a concentration in chaplaincy from Denver Seminary.

“He has a passion for relational ministry and is ready to begin developing relationships with the guys so that he can encourage, educate, inspire and challenge the guys to live faithful, flourishing lives

of service to God, one another and the world,” dean of residence of life Marlon Haverdink said.

Hospers Hall’s resident life staff will consist of Brandon Glasgow, Hadyn Lee, Michael Leon and Jamie Stoscher. Hospers RD Michael Simmelink has three newcomers on his staff, all with the virtue of patience.

“All three new hires were told ‘no’ once before they got hired this year,” Simmelink said. “They’ve taken their lumps before getting this opportunity.”

Junior Brandon Glasgow will be a first-year RA in Hospers next year. After applying last year and receiving a “no,” Glasgow was motivated to get to know more people and grow as a leader. He then decided to apply again this year and was hired.

“I wanted to try something new my senior year,” said Glasgow.

Stegenga Hall will have whole new staff with Jenna Albers, Madelynn Harre, Emily Kraft, Audrey Leyen, Elizabeth Olsen and Riley Rasmussen.

Caylan DeLucia, RD in Steg, is also excited for next year and welcoming six new women into her staff.

“I’m looking forward to seeing what the Lord has in store for this sweet team,” said DeLucia. “I already love my new staff and am eager to



PHOTO BY ALLISON HAVERDINK
Resident assistants for next year are hoping for less COVID-19 regulations.

dream, serve and grow with them!”

There will be a mix of returners and newcomers in Fern with Sara Bosman, Tori Buckler, Emma Geary, Haley Hofmeyer, Vanessa Gomez, Grace Reginald and Noelle Wamhoff.

Sophomore Noelle Wamhoff will be a returning RA in Fern Smith Hall this next year. In her second year as an RA, Wamhoff is looking forward to new relationships, new beginnings and new opportunities to grow, learn, fail and then try over again.

“This year was more than I thought it would be. It was an absolute blast,”

Wamhoff said.

The RAs for Bolks apartments will be Makayla Bjork, Cory Bryan, Kyra Klinghagen and Noah Kullman. Cameron Esch, Luke Haverdink and Aaron Shepard will be the RAs in North Suites. Janaya Battles will be leading the women living in the Koinonia House.

A common thought amongst all the resident life staff is how COVID-19 will be dealt with in the dorms. The RDs and RAs have noticed that COVID-19’s presence has put a bit of a damper on community building

within the dorms, and they’re hoping to get that back.

When reflecting on this school year and residence life, Haverdink shared how proud he is of this year’s staff and how thankful he is for them.

“This year’s staff had to endure some very tough realities,” Haverdink said. “They endured all of that and still did an incredible job fostering community on campus. I can’t say enough positive things about this group and their sacrificial service.”

Unsung Hero: Jeppesen

FROM PAGE 1

“Working so closely with students who struggle for any number of reasons can be simultaneously so rewarding and so challenging,” Jeppesen said. “I get a ton of joy from a student’s successes, but I take the let-downs just as hard.”

However, Jeppesen’s perseverance through difficult times is something that has not gone unnoticed to her co-workers in the peer learning center. Randy Van Peurse, the science support services professional in the PLC, has been moved by her impeccable work ethic since she started working alongside him.

“Her unwavering dedication to her students,

positive attitude in tough circumstances and unending patience in trying situations are impressive,” Van Peurse said. “Those qualities help create a strong academic environment here in the PLC and make my job all that much more enjoyable.”

Even though Jeppesen’s colleagues can agree that she is excellent at her job, she still strives to find ways to improve herself, the students she teaches, the PLC and NW as a whole.

“She is always thinking about ways that she can better serve and support students she works with,” Truesdell said. “She also is not afraid to bring up ideas or ask other faculty and staff about what NW can do

differently to better serve its students.”

Jeppesen’s dedication to her enormous number of responsibilities causes her schedule to be jam-packed, and she typically does not have many free moments in her daily schedule. However, Jeppesen knows her effort is worth it because of how important it is for her to prepare students to make an impact in their communities once they leave NW.

“Every student should come away from NW with the critical thinking skills that life beyond college requires,” said Jeppesen. “Our world is so desperately in need of adults who can think for themselves and think well.”



PHOTO BY JADEYN VELTKAMP
Jeppesen meets with students to learn how to accommodate their academic experience.



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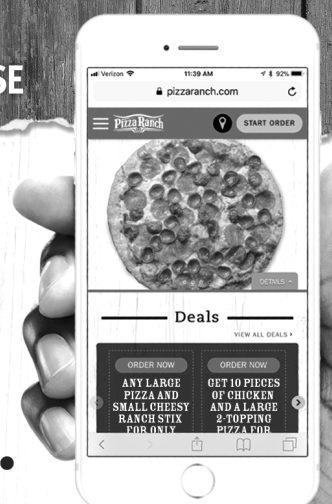
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(As voted on by you, the students)

Would you rather go to an event held by?

SAC

71%

OR

NWC Admissions

29%

Would you rather go to the same or different college than your parents?

Same

29%

OR

Different

71%

Would you rather use...

Apple

78%

OR

Android

22%

The opinions expressed in these polls represent student preference and is no way intended to indicate superior qualities of one choice over another or endorse certain stereotypes

Tolerance can be hateful



Craig Sterk
Religion

As the sexual revolution has made its way from the secular world into the church's landscape, Christians have been faced with the question: "How do I love my neighbor who identifies as a homosexual and practices a homosexual lifestyle?" Various church denominations have supplied conflicting and contradictory answers.

Some tell Christians that homosexual practice is not sinful, and that even if you may disagree, you should still be tolerant of their beliefs and behavior. We are told that tolerating, accepting, and affirming those in the LGBTQ+ community around you is the "loving" thing to do. But if we wish to be shaped by the Word of God and not the ever-changing expectations of the world, we will follow a different path.

When it comes to the meaning of "love" we could do no better than consulting 1 Corinthians 13. You have probably heard this passage a dozen times at Christian weddings: "Love is patient, love is kind..." and so on. It is a beautiful passage giving a testament to what biblical love looks like, but we must not neglect the end of the pericope where Paul writes: "[Love] does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth." (vs. 6) Apparently the most unloving thing we can do is express approval and affirmation of someone living in unrighteousness, in sin and open rebellion of God's clear design for human sexual expression.

In Scripture, the solitary sexual ethic is the enjoyment of sexual pleasure between a husband and wife in the lifelong covenant of marriage. Period. In the seven or so times same sex behavior is mentioned in the Bible, it is consistently and completely condemned.

If you were to observe someone walking along a dark path, headed for a deadly cliff, what would be the right thing to do? If you hated the person, you might be tempted to say nothing or even to affirm them in their chosen path, the path to utter destruction. But if you loved the person, as God

commands, of course, you would do everything in your power to steer them away from that deadly way.

Of course, we must not swing to the other extreme of cheerful condemnation: yelling, threatening, cruelly censuring those with same sex attraction, gleefully celebrating their impending eternal torment. The Christian call is to: "Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you should know how to respond to each person." (Col. 4:6)

And Jesus gives us the perfect response, an example of genuine, seeking, compassionate love in action. When the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery before the Lord Jesus (John 8:1-11), He did not spit in her face or tell her she deserved to go to hell because of her moral failure. Nor did he condone or celebrate her actions because she was "being authentic, true to her inner self."

Rather, the Lord of love told this broken woman: "go, and from now on sin no more." (8:11) Jesus called her to a higher purpose of rejecting her fleshly desires and conforming the pattern of her life to the always ennobling will of God. And that is the way of love.

Why manatees are the best



Elizabeth Olsen
Social Work

Do you ever sit around and wonder, "What is the most majestic animal on the planet?" Well, now I have an answer for you—the manatee. I truly believe with my whole heart that manatees are the best animal ever. These adorable animals are often referred to as "sea cows" because they are large animals that move slowly, just as cows do. Manatees are so gentle. They glide around peacefully under water, just simply living their best lives. When I watch them on the manatee live cam, which you can find on Youtube by searching "manatee live cam," I feel only good vibes. The next time you're having a bad day, try searching "manatee runs into glass," "manatee rolls around" or "baby manatee with an itchy nose". It is guaranteed to put a smile on your

face and brighten your day.

Now, let's get to know a little more about the manatees so we can fully appreciate them. An adult manatee is usually around 9-10 feet long and weighs 1,200 pounds. They can swim up to 15 miles per hour—pretty speedy for a big fella. Manatees can be found in the Caribbean, Central America, South America, Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina and Massachusetts; so, manatees are tropical beings, and everyone loves tropical things, right? Manatees are vegetarians, and they eat 10% of their body weight in plants each day. On average, they spend eight hours a day grazing on plants. They spend 12 hours a day sleeping, coming up to the surface every few minutes to breath of course. Let's be real. Manatees are living our dream lives, eating for 8 hours and sleeping for 12. Amazing.

If I haven't already sold you on why manatees are the best, let me give you some other reasons. Manatees are playful, loving creatures that enjoy cuddling. They hate the cold, which is something a lot of us can agree with them on. Manatees are boujee, as they are constantly being pampered by fish that clean the algae off of them. It's like a never-ending spa treatment. I wish!

Now that I have captivated you and made you fall in love with these majestic, wonderful creatures, I am going to break your heart. The manatees are dying. They used to be on the endangered list, but they were recently moved to the threatened list, which means there are even fewer left. Just in 2021 alone 593 manatees have died, mostly due to a sewage leak in one of the manatee habitats. This is tragic. How would you feel if there was a sewage leak in your living space? Probably not great. These poor animals are suffering. We can't let them die! Everyone please go to www.savethemanatee.org to donate to this wholesome cause.

I'm sure that I have by now convinced you that the majestic manatee is the best animal ever. Please enjoy the manatees by watching them on Youtube, going to visit them in person, or buying one as a pet; wouldn't that be so awesome! Also, if you are lucky enough to have the chance to swim with the manatees, my lifelong dream, take full advantage of it! It is a privilege to spend time with these adorable animals. Thank you for taking the time to read this article and giving the manatees the attention they deserve. Save the manatees!

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Raider's football dominates in first round playoffs

NW ADVANCES IN NATIONALS

CLARA PAHL
MATHEMATICS

On Saturday, April 17, Northwestern dominated Dickinson State in the opening round of the NAIA Football Championship Series. After a five-month interlude, the Raiders were determined to start their postseason strong, defeating Dickinson State 31-7, their record improving to 9-1.

"Our players deserve a ton of credit for handling the adversity of the five-month layoff and being ready to play again at a high level," head coach Matt McCarty said.

After a slow start, with eight minutes remaining in the first quarter, senior quarterback Tyson Kooima

sparked the offense with a 60-yard rushing touchdown.

The momentum continued into the second quarter, with freshman running back Konner McQuillan carrying the ball into the endzone and freshman kicker Eli Stader completing the touchdown with an extra point. Though the Bluehawks' scoring drought ended with a passing touchdown, NW responded with a 24-yard field goal by Stader.

Later in the quarter, Raider defense prevailed when freshman defensive back Jalyn Gramstad intercepted a pass by the Bluehawks quarterback.

The Raider defense was equipped to battle the Bluehawks, holding them scoreless till mid-second quarter. Dickinson State's quarterback struggled underneath NW's defensive pressure; freshman Parker

Fryar claimed the first of three sacks against Dickinson state near the end of the first quarter, igniting the Korver Stadium crowd.

At the start of the second half, junior safety Noah Van't Hof intercepted another pass to interrupt a Bluehawk drive; Kooima's second touchdown brought the score to 24-7 with four minutes left in the third quarter.

A series of major defensive efforts closed the third quarter, including a sack by linebacker senior Brett Moser and an interception by senior defensive back Devin Mouw. To cap off the win, Kooima threw a 35-yard touchdown pass to senior wide receiver Shane Solberg.

Kooima, who was chosen as the most outstanding player of the game, believes the team is capable of success continuing into the



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW ATHLETICS

Senior captain Tyson Kooima runs in a touch down to start the Raiders off in the lead.

playoffs.

"Our team just needs to be present in the moment during these playoffs," Kooima said. "There's never going to be easy games; we just have to stay focused

each play on what we have to do to win that play."

"It is exciting to be one of the final eight teams left competing for the national championship," coach McCarty said.

The Coach also expressed his excitement in moving on into the playoffs.

The Raiders will compete against number two ranked Grandview next Saturday, April 24, in Des Moines for the quarterfinals.

Colton Harold receives GPAC and NAIA recognition

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

BEN HENKER
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Going, Going, Gone! Colton Harold hits his fourth home run this week. Colton Harold, a senior from Abbotsford, British Columbia has been a big part of the Northwestern baseball team this year. During his career here, he has played third base and right field for the Raiders but has been primarily third base this season.

On April 6, Harold was awarded the Baseball Player of the Week for the GPAC and

for the NAIA. For the week he was named, Harold's slugging average was a 1.667 over four games, helping the Raiders win three of the four games over that weekend. He would hit four homers in those four games, record 13 runners batted in and hit at a .667 batting average for the week.

Coach Wede has been impressed with the way that Colton impacts the team on and off the field.

"Colton is a big presence in the middle of our lineup. He is a big guy 6 feet and 4 inches and can run a little, so his presence in our lineup is something that

other coaches are always aware of. He has the ability to beat a team in so many ways offensively that he is very difficult to pitch to. He can hit for power, hit to any part of the field and will take a walk if teams try to pitch around him" Coach Wede said.

Overall, Colton is hitting at .331 average with a 1.026 on-base plus slugging over 36 games this year. He leads the team this year in doubles with 10, RBIs with 36, homeruns with eight, slugging percentage with a .630 and 13 multi hitting games.

During Colton's five-year career he has 155 hits, 40 doubles, 20 home runs, 97 runs



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW ATHLETICS

Senior Colton Harold hitting one of the many homeruns he has this season.

scored and 124 RBI with a 0.331 batting average as of right now. He is just outside the top five in career doubles, home

runs and RBIs.

The Raiders baseball team is 15-21 overall so far for this season with an 8-12 record in

the conference. The next games for Raiders baseball team are on Friday, April 23 hosted at Midland.

Men's and women's tennis take on Concordia at home

BOTH TEAMS FALL IN MATCHES

BREANNA CARR
ENGLISH TEACHING

The Red Raider Men's and Women's Tennis teams faced Concordia in two conference matches at home on April 17. Starting the day at noon was the women's matches.

Up first in the singles match was sophomore Wynne Vandersall who played two tough sets against Concordia's Sofia Morales. Vandersall lost six to four in set one and six to 3 in set two. Sophomore Jessica Wilson followed with her tough-fought sets against Claudia Viera, losing six to one in both sets. Freshman Emma Montenegro went up

against Tara Ferrel with a six to zero loss in set one and a six to one loss in the final set. In three tough sets, freshman Noelle Phlippi fought hard against Katy Jarejci with a set one loss six to three, a set two win four to six then a set three loss six to two. Freshman Grace Twelmeyer lost in her two sets to Ansley Gates six to two and then six to zero. Rounding out the Women's Singles was freshman Abby Dahl losing six to one in the first set and six to zero in the second set against Kaitlin Seja.

First in the doubles was Vandersall and Wilson, who faced Morales and Viera, with their loss of six to one. Then Montenegro and Twelmeyer teamed up to face Ferrel and

Gates with the loss six to three. To round out the women's doubles, and the entire match, Phlippi and Dahl faced Seja and Luisa Esquivel with a loss 6 to zero. Concordia came out on top with the seven to zero victory over the Red Raiders.

In the men's match, the Red Raiders fell six to one to Concordia. With the exception of the first men's match where the set scores are assumed Northwestern then Concordia. Starting the men's singles match, sophomore Brian Vanden Berg brought home the win over Gregor Lainer with a set one loss five to seven, then two set wins of six to three and 10 to four. Senior Juan Mackrey followed with a loss to Jeremiah Berryman six to one and then

six to two. Senior Chris Jelken fell to Eduardo Rojas six to zero in set one and six to four in set two. Senior Bradley Bourland lost his match six to two and six to four against Luke Zoller. Sophomore Nick VanRijs lost six to two in both sets to Isaac Howes. To round out the men's singles, senior Peyton Scott fell six to one and six to two to Joseph Bindl.

In the men's doubles, Vanden Berg and Mackrey fell in their set against Lainer and Rojas six to four. Jelken and Bourland also lost six to four to Berryman and Zoller. Rounding out the Doubles matches, and the day, was Jack and Noah Roisum who lost to Jack Kitson and Juan Rabellino six to two in their set.



PHOTO BY WILLIAM MINNICK

Senior Peyton Scott in his singles match against Concordia.

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Campus activities flourish in spring

WARM WEATHER BRINGS NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

JILLIAN SIMON
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The snow has melted, and temperatures are rising. Because of this Northwestern is seeing more campus activities. Some recent events have been the Easter Egg Hunt, Humans v. Zombies and Mission: Impossible.

Director of student programs Aaron Beadner said, "All of our events are focused on strengthening the community and student involvement on campus. With COVID-19 and the cold winter we have felt, students need a few activities that are joyful, lighthearted and fun."

The Easter Egg Hunt took place right before Easter break. Eggs were hidden around campus and students were able to pick them up around campus in hopes of finding small prizes inside. Freshman Leah Bassett shared that this activity got her excited for the upcoming holiday. Bassett also said that she did not appreciate the few students who got up at the crack of dawn to take all of the eggs. Overall, the activity was a hit and students were able to get some prizes.

Humans v. Zombies was a longer activity taking place over a few days, having over 100 students participating. The goal was for the zombies to tag all of the humans while the humans were trying to defend themselves using socks and Nerf guns.

When asked what he liked about the game, senior Cameron Esch said, "I really liked how it made such a basic thing like walking around campus into something competitive."

All around campus, students would be running around trying to safely make it to their classes. At the end of the week there were a few students that were left as humans. Esch shared that he did not know some of the people beforehand but was able to get to know them through the game. This is exactly the goal of student



COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM

Students welcome many spring on-campus activities planned by student activities and admissions.

activities: to build community.

Another outdoor activity on campus was Mission: Impossible. This game was played on a night that Red101 students were visiting campus.

Admissions marketing and event strategist Lucas Heiberger said, "It was scheduled during RED101 so prospective students would get to spend the evening on campus hanging out with some of our current students in a fun way allowing them to see some of the community aspect."

There were around 170 students that participated in Mission: Impossible. One of the goals of this event was to get dorms working towards a common goal and get

everyone involved.

Senior Shonna Ritz said, "I liked that there were things to do for all types of people. It was also a way for a whole building to come together with the same goal."

There are some upcoming events for NW students to be on the lookout for. The Beloved Festival of Culture will be held on April 23. There will also be Skate the Bultman in which students can get dressed up and roller skate around the gym listening to 70s-90s music on April 24. These events will be a great chance to make memories with friends and even meet some new people.

Middle School Retreat

NW STUDENTS HELPED WITH RETREAT

VANESSA STOKES
WRITING AND RHETORIC

From April 9 to 11, 450 middle schoolers and their youth pastors packed into the campground of Hidden Acres in Dayton, Iowa to experience God in a new way at Middle School Retreat.

Led by the RCA Synod of the Heartland and their Office of Youth Ministries, MSR has been an April tradition for many years. What separates this event from others put on by the Synod office is that MSR partners specifically with Northwestern College for its volunteer staff and worship team.

In the fall before each retreat, two NW students are chosen as leaders and coordinators of the retreat. The baton is passed from the previous two leaders to the next along with a long list of tasks and planning to take place over the next eight months.

MSR 2021 was headed by seniors Shonna Ritz and Chris Jelken. They collaborated with events coordinator Kelsey Wielenga and events director Bob Cleveringa at the Synod office to put together schedules, teams, information guides and more.

This year's theme was centered around Psalm 34: "Magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together!" The "magnify" theme encouraged participants to focus on not how they see

themselves but on how God views them.

The weekend started on Friday at 5 p.m. with buses and vans rolling in amidst shouts of greeting from the welcome crew. Then the night tumbled into the first main session where the speaker, Bradley Rees, and the NW worship team drew the students and their youth leaders into a space of vulnerability and Christ-like love.

Celeina Hernandez, one of the NW worship leaders, said, "They sounded like a beautiful choir that I bet the Lord loved listening to."

Then came the fun: after-hours. For the last two hours of Friday and Saturday, the students had the opportunity to play hard and snack up. There was glow-in-the-dark 9 Square, glow dodgeball, a pool, a bonfire, board games and the snack shack.

After very little sleep, Saturday brought another main session before the afternoon event nicknamed "The Big

Game." This year's Big Game was Eagle's Nest—a combination of capture the flag, dodgeball and hide-and-seek. Two hours of weaving and swiping had the kids hyped up and ready for another main session.

Saturday evening's main session was a deviation from the common thread. The MSR staff set up a canvas that each student could paint on as they came up to confess, question or comment on their faith with God as they used art to express themselves.

"They are such goofballs when you give them the space to be themselves," said Ritz. "In creating a judgement-free, authentic space, the middle schoolers really open up."

Sunday morning wrapped up with a final main session encouraging people to take what they learned and felt home to their families, and after an emotional send-off, the NW students trekked back to campus feeling full of the Holy Spirit but empty of sleep.



PHOTO BY RILEY RASMUSSEN
NW students prepared activities for the middle schoolers.



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