Day of Learning raises awareness of “Creation Care”

BY LEANN JOHNSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In an effort to raise awareness and promote action as Christians who care for the environment, Northwestern College is hosting its second annual Day of Learning in Community on April 1 with the theme “Creation Care.”

The keynote speaker, Dr. J. Matthew Sleeth, will share his knowledge and opinions on the theme at 9 a.m. in the Bultman Center and 7 p.m. in Christ chapel. His speaking topics, respectively, are “How do we work toward a type of Christian life?” and “Where do we go from here?” Each session will be worth two chapel credits. Throughout the day he will also host four workshops.

As a former emergency room physician, Sleeth said he felt like he was “straightening deck chairs on the Titanic,” saving one patient at a time while the whole ship—earth—was going down.

Eventually Sleeth resigned from his job so he could dedicate himself to teaching and writing about his faith and the earth’s environment. He is now the executive director of Blessed Earth, a nonprofit organization that teaches people how to become better stewards of the environment. He is also a visiting scholar in creation care at New York’s Houghton College.

Throughout the Day of Learning, faculty, staff, alumni and students will host over 30 workshops covering a wide range of Creation Care topics. This year, the Day of Learning planning committee decided to offer financial support to students who wanted to host a workshop or start a Creation Care project. Six students accepted the offer to host a workshop and at least three students are starting Creation Care projects.

Senior Kristin Spidahl was one student who decided to host a workshop. She saw this as a good opportunity to educate people around campus about the benefits of switching to non-toxic cleaning products.

“It’s part of your everyday life,” Spidahl said. “People don’t realize the threats of cleaning the home.”

Continued on page 8

Junior scholar research within field of study

BY LEANN JOHNSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Senior Rachel Schultz, juniors Brittany Montgomery and Heidi Doty and sophomores Aaron Hambleton, Heather Pagelkopf and Matt Vander Molen have been selected as the 2009-2010 Junior Scholar recipients.

Each student will be working with a faculty scholar as they design and perform concentrated research projects within their fields of study.

These scholars will expand their knowledge and master the techniques needed to continue their studies after college.

Working with Michael Kensak, associate professor of English and modern foreign language, Hambleton will be gathering and organizing cultural materials to design a classroom program for two semesters of German study. By researching German magazines and Web sites, Hambleton will be able to construct homework assignments and classroom activities beneficial to the German program.

According to Hambleton, this award not only allows him to make significant contributions to the German program, but also provides an opportunity to further his own study of the language.

“This program allows me to use German on a daily basis so I can learn more and stay up with the language,” he said.

Pagelkopf will be working with Laurie Furlong, associate professor of biology, conducting an ongoing study within the forests of Sioux County on the impact of invasive plant species on native invertebrate communities in the Midwest. This experience will provide an opportunity for these students to expand their knowledge of the dynamics of ecology and contribute to their lives outside of the classroom.

“This opportunity will give me field experience that will help me in graduate school as well as my future career if I continue down the path of field ecology,” Doty said.

Within the field of biochemistry, Schultz will be working with Elizabeth Tuedsevell, associate professor of biology, and Montgomery with Karissa Carlson, instructor in chemistry.

From this research, Schultz and Montgomery will design experimental protocols that will be included in the NW biochemistry program. They will compile their research reports into one paper describing a comprehensive series of laboratory experiments for biochemistry courses at liberal arts colleges.

To these students, the Junior Scholar Award entails more than just a helpful transition to graduate school or a fancy label on a resume.

“This award is a stepping stone to our next great achievement,” Montgomery said, “the Nobel Peace Prize.”


Mehlhaf presents student voice recital

ON TUESDAY, March 31 at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel Amber Mehlhaf will be performing her junior vocal recital. Mehlhaf is a mezzo-soprano and will be accompanied on the piano by Northwestern staff member, Lori Vande Brake.

Mehlhaf is a double major in Elementary Education and Music Performance with an endorsement in K-6 Music Education and an endorsement in K-6 Reading. She also has received many scholarships including the Vocal activities scholarship for voice and piano, McGilvra Scholarship for Voice and the Marion Hinds Hosper competitive scholarship.

The recital consists of 14 pieces ranging from the Baroque period to the 20th century. The genres include arias from operas, Italian art songs, German lieder and 20th century Gilbert and Sullivan. She will be performing two pieces by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, one of them, “La ci darem la mano” from “Don Giovanni,” with junior Andrew Kumpf, a fellow music major. Also, among her pieces are “The Year’s at the Spring”, “Ah, Love, but a day!” and “Send My Heart Up to Thee” by Mrs. H.H.A. Beach.

Senior Sarah Shively, also music majors, are performing a trio of “Poor Wandering One!” from the musical “Pirates of Penzance,” by Gilbert and Sullivan.

The recital is free and following the performance there will be a reception in the choir room. The reception is open for anybody who attended the recital.

Mehlhaf is very actively involved in musical groups on and off campus including the A cappella Choir and Heritage Singers along with being a vocal tutor and instructor at Northwestern. She is also a piano player at Redeemer United Reformed Church in Orange City.

“It’s been a lot of work, but I am very excited for Tuesday night,” Mehlhaf said. “It will be a fun program.”
front desk
 WITH RACHEL RIETSEMA

A dance in the air

As I grasp the metal chains with my legs dangling from the swing, most people probably pass by wondering what “that crazy girl” is doing. But I really don’t care.

This past summer I decided to take my iPod, flip-flops and my out-of-shape self to the Hollandale park to go swinging. I started pumping my legs for three minutes straight, tapping my foot on the peak of the dome-shaped swing set.

My bangs blew in the air. It was exhilarating. But there was a problem. I was panting like a parched dog. After one song worth of swinging, I had to mosey on over to the nearest bench because my heart was beating at an unbelievable rate.

I seriously thought my arms and legs were going to explode at any minute. That didn’t stop me from coming back almost every single day that summer. Even if it was blistering hot out, I put my headphones in and burned calories.

At first, my intention was to get in shape, but now that’s just a perk. It’s my own place where no one can bother me and is available at any time free of charge. Frigid temperatures didn’t stop me this past winter. I thought that they would, but one day I just needed to let off a lot of steam. I put on gloves, a hat and an extra layer of pants and I was good to go.

It’s something that I just can’t get enough of. I dance in the air to the melodies of Rascal Flatts when I’m blissfully happy. Sometimes I play angry music and kick my foot on the top bar and get blisters from the chains.

Many might wonder why I chose swinging as an exercise regimen in the first place. I really can’t explain it to your satisfaction. Swinging is supposed to be for little kids. That’s what people think at least. Maybe it’s time you find something that brings you great happiness. It may be embarrassing at first, but sometimes you just have to let loose.

People can stare all they want. I’ll wave back at people and listen to the faint sounds of honking as my music blares in my ears. While the music helps me block out all distractions and doesn’t make me very approachable, visitors are welcome.

I’ve had people of all ages come and visit me. Just lately, a little girl named Olivia wanted to play with me. Not knowing who she was, I was leery to take off my headphones, but she was persistent. Eventually I spun her around in the swing and her uncontrollable laughter reminded me to live in the moment.

Gliding back and forth on the swing set has unexpectedly brought me back to life. It’s been so long since my heart was completely closed off to possibilities. I had checked out for good, but now I’m back with a vengeance. Sometimes the simplest things can change your life; you just have to be patient.
Zach Maxon to present student art show

BY LEANN JOHNSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A deer skull covered in cicada exoskeletons. A human skeleton made from cow bones. A painting of an atomic bomb. These are three examples of the wide variety of art that Zach Maxon plans to display in his senior art show.

Maxon’s artwork will be available for viewing from Sunday, March 29 to Saturday, April 4 in the Korver Visual Art Center’s Te Paske Gallery. The opening reception will be at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31.

The art on display will include drawings, photographs, paintings, sculptures and ceramics that Maxon created over the last two years at Northwestern. His favorite piece is a painting of a large eye that uses all eight tones of the gray scale.

The largest work of art Maxon will display is an 8 feet by 12 feet painting of a family watching an exploding atomic bomb with a newspaper incorporated into the scene. He decided to create the painting after taking a Western Civilization class.

“We talked about the undertone of fear and retaliation in our culture,” Maxon said. “I hate watching TV and hearing about all these things that make us scared.”

He sees his painting as a social satire against how the media hinders personal growth by causing so much fear in people.

While Maxon’s art show does not have a single theme, he created two disturbing and destructive images that relate to the nuclear painting. One piece is a real cow skull with a bullet hole in its forehead. Maxon fixed cicada shells to the skull, so they are protruding out of the bullet hole and eye sockets. He also covered an entire deer head with cicada shells to show how flesh without bone could give the skull a new flesh.

Although Maxon is an art major, he admitted, “I’d pick up a guitar before I’d pick up a pencil.”

“I don’t really consider myself an artist,” Maxon said. “At best, I do art.” Maxon describes art as something he likes, not needs, in his life, and he believes that to a certain degree, a lot of people probably feel the same way.

“I think we’re all sort of drawn to art, whether we admit it or not,” Maxon said. “We all have a sense of aesthetic value.”

Not so mad in March

BY GREG WHITE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

St. Patricks day is over, now what? If you are asking that question, you likely have not filled out a basketball bracket, bought your favorite team’s t-shirt or even heard of March Madness. That is alright because there is plenty of stuff to do in March instead of going mad.

Instead of watching basketball this weekend, you could enjoy a number of activities around Orange City. This Saturday, March 28, Trinity Reformed Church is hosting the Red Letter Festival. The festival is a fundraiser for The Bridge, a transitional housing facility for women and children in need. You could eat tamales, go to a concert, buy some art or run from Sioux City to Orange City for the Red Letter cause.

If you are not interested in running or participating in the Red Letter Festival and you have a taste for fine theatre, you could take a date to “Parcel.” The student written and directed drama, “Parcel,” is playing Friday and Saturday night at 7:30 this weekend. It’s free to go, so take a date or some friends and support the Northwestern Theater program.

Dancing is another option to stay entertained while your friends go mad. Tonight, the Hub will be rocking out with the new event, Club @ N-Dub. This is a cheap way to have fun, only two dollars. Maybe ask that cute girl who sits on the opposite side of your forty-student lecture class to go to da’ club wit ya.

“What’s March Madness? I don’t know, I’m not a fan.”

- Kepha Abraham

For those of you who were interested in March Madness, but made poor picks like Tennessee or Texas, campus provides plenty of other athletic outlets during the spring. Intramural soccer sign-ups are past, but you could still hop on a friend’s team.

If you could also hone your ultimate frisbee skills for the tournament in April. Head out to the green with some friends on a nice day and throw a frisbee around. But watch your head, because conflict could erupt with the disc golfers who are coming out of hibernation now that the sun has started to shine.

When asked if he paid attention to March Madness, Kepha Abraham replied, “What’s March Madness? I don’t know, I’m not a fan.”

Whether your bracket is all screwed up, or you just don’t care too much for March, you can find plenty of entertainment while the madness rages on. Find out what teams are still in the tournament. Jump on a bandwagon. If you know nothing about basketball, you should know not to jump on the bandwagons of both North Carolina and Duke. If friends invite you watch the games, just root for the underdog or for whoever scores the first points.

I can suggest some bandwagons for you: Kansas, Villanova and North Carolina. Kansas took the crown last year. North Carolina is always a powerhouse, with their signature baby blue color, and Villanova just sounds cool.

“I’m a female and I lactate.”

- Senior Josh Doorenbos, on Frankenstein’s monster.

“My spiritual gift is sleeping, I can snore in tongues.”

- Senior Nick Rohlf on his spiritual gifts.

“I’d really like to know when our issues are happening for the rest of the year.”

- Junior Rachel Rietsema, while thinking about the Beacon.

Send your Campus Quotes, with context, to beacon@nwciowa.edu.
Hope Haven sends wheelchairs to help the disabled around the world

BY LEE STOVER
STAFF WRITER

Robbing the rich to feed the poor is how Robin Hood viewed justice. Though it doesn’t steal from anyone, Justice For All (JFA) of Rock Valley, Iowa does its fair share of helping people.

JFA is a ministry that collects gently used second-hand goods and distributes them to those in need throughout the Midwest, the nation and the globe.

The projects take place with ministries around the country who carry out Christian community development in poor and disenfranchised urban and rural areas.

Projects are a part of a ministry’s own neighborhood housing program, health clinic, school, church or other projects.

JFA volunteers have served at ministries in Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, Montana, New Mexico, South Dakota and Tennessee.

JFA’s warehouse ministry collects good clothing, household items, toys, building supplies, furniture and appliances.

Donated items are received daily and volunteers unload, sort, repair, package and reload these items for distribution. The goods are used to serve those with needs in communities through local churches and ministries that JFA partners with.

Shipments are also made to ministries around the country where the supplies are used to serve the people of those communities.

Many of the ministries have thrift stores through which they provide needed items at low prices.

Hope Haven sends wheelchairs to help the disabled around the world

BY SARA JANZEN
STAFF WRITER

A volunteer helps paint while on a work trip to Jackson, Miss.

Donating time and goods across the country

Right next to the Orange City Taco John’s, in an unassuming one-story building owned by Northwestern College, eight senior citizens diligently do God’s work.

Every week, from Tuesday through Friday, they are there with buckets of bolts, racks of handlebars and rooms full of seat cushions.

These volunteers refurbish wheelchairs that will be sent, free of charge, to needy recipients around the world.

This wheelchair repair shop is one of nine operated by Hope Haven International Ministries (HHIM) throughout Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota.

These shops have delivered 77,047 refurbished wheelchairs as of December 2008.

The Orange City shop opened in 2001. Since then volunteers have refurbished 4,048 wheelchairs.

Most of this work is done by a core group of volunteers who, although they are retired, still work six to seven hours a day at the shop.

Many of the volunteers have served part time between planting crops, milking cows and teaching classes. In their eyes, being retired is not a chance to stop working, but to do different work.

“God’s hands for a time,” retired farmer and volunteer Lee De Haan said.

“I’ve been to poor regions, and I saw how the rest of the world lives, how blessed we are here. We have time on our hands and when you see the need…” volunteer Phares Lefevers’ unfinished sentence implied that his conclusion, to serve, is obvious.

Volunteer Carl Mulder wanted to help the world’s needy ever since he was in the service.

“I was in Korea. I couldn’t believe what I saw, the poverty! I came home to Iowa, milked cows for 39 years, and now I can do something,” Mulder said.

Merle Vande Brake has been volunteering at Hope Haven since 2001.

He said, “Refurbishing is all about improving. What we do is just a service for someone who can’t walk.”

He added, “I imagine they really appreciate it.”

Being physically disabled in an impoverished country can be unbearably hard for both the disabled and their caregivers.

Mulder traveled to the Dominican Republic to help distribute the refurbished wheelchairs. While there, he saw firsthand the difficulties faced by disabled people.

“One woman who was carrying her child, bringing him for his first wheelchair, told me ‘It’s like I’m in prison,’” he said.

Mulder said seeing the impact made by the wheelchairs “will make you get up in the morning and get you more to work.”

The wheelchairs refurbished in Orange City give people mobility and opportunities that were unavailable to them before—adults can find work, children in some regions can attend school.

What makes HHIM Wheelchair Ministry successful are donations of time and supplies—and most importantly the wheelchairs.

The Orange City shop specializes in Quickie brand wheelchairs. This allows them to save parts to use on different chairs. The volunteers’ dedication to reusing parts saves HHIM money and in 2002 earned them an Iowa Recycle Award.

If you are willing to help, let your family or home church know that HHIM needs used wheelchairs. Hygienic kits in gallon Ziploc bags are also needed. For more opportunities go to www.hopehaveninternationa.com or email Val at vbrummel@hopehaven.org.
Exercise equipment forever on hold?

BY ANDREW LOVGREN

The “airport,” the RSC or the student center. Whatever students choose to call it, the Rowenhorst Student Center is a part of every student’s life in some way. How students use it depends on both what’s available and what they need.

“The RSC is all about the students,” said Dale Thompson, the director of the center. “However, with the variety of students on campus, fulfilling everyone’s needs can be difficult.

With over a thousand students on campus, it’s difficult to specialize the equipment to a specific group,” Thompson said.

“Many students have requested new exercise equipment for the RSC’s mini-gym. Others would like to see new safety netting to catch the loose basketballs.

The administration is not against these ideas, but the money needs to be in place for this to happen.

“It isn’t about what should or shouldn’t be,” Thompson said. “It’s all about what is most important, about what students want to pay for. But overall, it’s about what’s best for students.”

“Dale loves the college,” said senior class representative Tyler Nesper. “He devotes more time to his job than is required, because he really cares for students.”

The student government has worked alongside Thompson, using his guidance and advice, to help put student requests into action.

Thompson has worked for Northwestern for over 20 years and has been a part of the development of both the old and new student centers.

Nesper said, “It’s up to us to use it the best we can.”

With demand growing, plans are being put together to possibly add more equipment to the RSC.

“We have a 52-inch LCD TV purchased with money from an anonymous donor and hope to have it put in soon,” Nesper said.

Currently, the plan is to put the TV in the back-right corner of the RSC. The SGA has submitted a request to maintenance to get the TV up and running.

The exercise equipment, however, may have to wait.

“The demand is there, but there is a need for more finances to make it happen,” Nesper said.

Across campus, many projects need funding: a new men’s dorm to replace West and Heemstra, a new library, a new academic building or Learning Commons and several others.

With so many projects in the works, it will be difficult to find the money to purchase exercise equipment.

Until the equipment can be purchased, the RSC is still there for its students in more ways than just entertainment.

Along with the mini-gym, the RSC is home to clubs and organizations, such as the International Club and SGA, the Hub @ N-dub, the mailroom, the bookstore, the Wellness Center, the Student Development office and other offices and services for students.

The RSC mini-gym has exercise bikes, full basketball courts, an indoor track, racquetball courts, pool tables, a foosball table and even a checkerboard table.

The RSC itself is open for students to watch TV, meet with others, play games or just hang out.

“Like anything else in life, the RSC is about what you put into it,” Thompson said.

If you would like to submit your opinion on the RSC or any other issue on campus, click the SGA link under “Students” on the intranet page.

“Student government is here to serve and represent students to the best of our ability,” Nesper said. “We really appreciate hearing about what students would like to see around campus.”

Turning your competition habits into a lifestyle

BY KILEY SELIGMAN

Fourteen thousand three hundred gallons; 4,300 kilowatt-hours. This is how much the shower and energy-reduction green week competitions saved in just one week.

Today, March 27, is the final day for the trayless competition, which in its first week reduced tray usage by 61 percent.

Jill Haarsma, leader of the green week competition team, is excited about the participation in the events.

“Overall, I believe our team is pleased that students are engaged and participating,” she said. “We wanted it to be a fun way for students to prepare for the Day of Learning.”

Some response for the competitions has been negative.

“To be real, I have actually heard a lot of complaining about the green week competition. People do not feel like it is fair or accomplishing its purpose,” senior Kristi Korver, a green week competition team member, said. “I see their point. Boys in West shower in the RSC but use the same amount of water. Guys in Heemstra won’t turn on the lights in their dorm for a whole week but use electricity elsewhere. It is all a little over the top.”

Haarsma has heard some criticism as well.

“We’re pleased that students are engaged, even if their responses are critical,” she said.

Korver is happy that the competitions have stirred up conversations on campus.

“I have had more conversations about environmental stewardship in the last month than ever before,” she said. “The competition is getting people to talk, not always positively, but at least we are talking about this issue. It is a start.”

The competitions are not just a preparation for the Creation Care Day of Learning in Community, but for changing the way students think about conservation.

“It’s short-sighted of us to continue to use resources as if we will always have them in plentiful supply,” Haarsma said. “We are already seeing water shortages in other states and countries; it just hasn’t hit us here in Northwest Iowa yet. Why not try to live in such a way that preserves that precious resource?”

On average, Northwestern students use over 11 million gallons of water in the dorms and the cafeteria each year. Though the green week competitions made a large dent in this number, many students went right back to their old habits of wasting water.

“I think, unfortunately, many of the people who contributed to the reductions seen during these past few weeks have returned to their old habits,” sophomore Jacob Gaster, another team member, said. “However, some are maintaining the energy efficiency they exercised during the competitions, which is wonderful to see.”

The dorm that won the competitions will be announced sometime during the Day of Learning on April 1. The winner will receive a movie night out to Holland Plaza Theatre in Orange City.

Even though the competitions will be over, Haarsma stressed the importance of still conserving water and energy.

“What we do on a day-to-day basis does make an impact for future generations,” she said.

Sue Taylor, NW’s government regulations specialist, said the biggest threat that students can do to conserve is take shorter showers and turn off lights. These are the biggest ways students waste on campus.

Korver also hopes that conservation stretches beyond these weeks.

“The point of green week is to give students the opportunity to see how practical caring for creation can be,” she said. “I hope they continue to talk and think about this issue, and most importantly act on it. We are called to be stewards of creation and this means so much more than taking a short shower or skipping the trays. It is a lifestyle.”

Get Your Diamond Degree Tuition Free!

When it’s time to buy THE KING
Windmill Park Jewelers is here to help.

We will teach you what you need to know about diamonds so you can purchase with confidence.

With 22 years of experience, we can help you select the perfect one.

Windmill Park Jewelers
Downtown, Orange City
For the second straight year and third time in four years, Northwestern women's basketball team advanced to the final four of the national semifinals. This year the sixth-ranked Raiders lost to #1-rated Morningside, 63-58, in the 2009 NAIA D-II Women's Basketball National Championships, ending their season with a 26-9 record.

"It was a great opportunity for our women to play in the final four of the national tournament," said Head Coach Earl Woudstra. "They played excellent basketball to earn that opportunity."

This Final Four game was the fourth meeting between NW and Morningside, with the Mustangs taking the win each time. With nine minutes left in the first half, Morningside held the lead, 23-12. Yet NW fought back with a 13-2 run to tie the score at 25. The Mustangs and Raider continued to trade shots, giving the Mustangs a one-point lead, 29-28, at intermission.

Morningside began the second half on a 19-5 run, grabbing their largest lead of the game, 48-33. NW rallied again and the Raiders got as close as four (62-58), but fell short as Morningside made enough free throws to take the victory, 63-58. "We demonstrated great patience and really moved the basketball well throughout most of the game," said Woudstra. "Defensively I thought we did a very good job of making Morningside work hard for their shots."

The Raiders defeated top-seeded Davenport (Mich.) 76-66 to advance to the semifinals. During that game, the Raiders were up 41-34 at the half. Yet, Davenport cut the Raider lead to five (49-44) with 12 minutes remaining. NW held the lead even after Davenport came back with 7-2 run. But the Raiders held on with free throws down the stretch to clinch the Elite Eight win.

Woudstra most enjoyed seeing the team members grow together as a team during the week. That time provides great opportunities to get to know and value the other members.

Although the basketball season just ended, Woudstra said he is looking forward to next season. "With many of these women planning to return to play, it will be interesting to see how the new freshmen will blend in and complement the returning players," said Woudstra. "For now we will just enjoy the memories of the journey we have been on for the past few months."

Wrestlers place 20th at nationals, Eaton and Leither earn All-American

The season is over for the wrestling team after they finished in 20th place at the NAIA National Tournament on March 5-7 in Oklahoma City, Okla. The Red Raiders had two athletes named All-Americans, senior Tom Eaton with first-team honors and freshman Nic Leither with named honorable mention.

Eaton went 4-3 on the day and finished in fourth place. He wrestled in the 171-pound weight class and was named All-American for the second straight year. Finishing 3-3 was Leither, who picked up eighth place. Leither competed in the 197-pound class.

NW ends its season graduating five seniors: Eaton, Price, Noel, Spree and Kyle Ochsner. The Raiders will look to continue their success next season, returning four national qualifiers and one All-American.
Baseball faces Dakota Wesleyan and Doane in two doubleheaders

BY CAMERON CARLOW
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Four games in two days: that is what the Northwestern baseball team went through this week after competing in doubleheaders at Dakota Wesleyan on March 20 and at Doane on March 21.

The Red Raiders split the series with Dakota Wesleyan last Friday, losing the first game, 0-5, and winning the second, 6-1. In game one, NW had eight hits along with three errors, which gave three unearned runs to the opposition. In the second game, NW had seven hits along with zero errors.

The Raiders lost both games to the Tigers by only one, the first, 3-4, and the second, 1-2. In the first game, NW had six hits along with two errors. The second game was similar, also with six hits and two errors.

Junior Brad Payne and Andrew Engesser each picked up a loss in their pitching efforts, even though they only allowed a combined total of three earned runs in the two games.

NW falls to a 12-10 overall record, 1-3 in the GPAC. The Raiders will host Hastings on Saturday at 1 p.m. and Concordia on Monday, also at 1 p.m. before traveling to Waldorf on Tuesday afternoon.

Raiders still positive after double losses to Concordia

BY RENEE NYHOF
EDITOR

The Raider softball team lost a pair of games to second-ranked Concordia in their GPAC game last Saturday. Northwestern fell in game one, 10-0, and 10-2 in game two. They are now 0-4 in the GPAC, 10-0, and 10-2 in game last Saturday. Northwestern fell in Concordia in their GPAC game a pair of games to second-ranked

“Concordia is ranked #2 so

“Concordia tied the game in the bottom of the second. With one run in the third, they took the lead for good. The Bulldogs finished the game with four runs in the fourth and three more in the fifth.

In game two, the Raiders totaled four hits and two runs. Hooper took the loss on the mound as she went four innings and allowed eight earned runs on 12 hits.

Although NW lost to Concordia, the team remains positive.

“Concordia is ranked #2 so we knew the game was going to be difficult to start with,” said Hooper. “It was upsetting that we lost by so much, but it was also good. We need to keep finding things that work so that we pull all our potential out at the same time.”

— Jessica Hooper

Shelby Johnson recorded the lone base hit against Concordia. Senior Gavi Burrola picked up the loss, with seven innings and gave up one earned run while striking out six. NW then traveled to Doane last Saturday and competed in its second straight double header. The Raiders lost both games to the Tigers by only one, the first, 3-4, and the second, 1-2. In the first game, NW had six hits along with two errors. The second game was similar, also with six hits and two errors.

Junior Brad Payne and Andrew Engesser each picked up a loss in their pitching efforts, even though they only allowed a combined total of three earned runs in the two games.

NW falls to a 12-10 overall record, 1-3 in the GPAC. The Raiders will host Hastings on Saturday at 1 p.m. and Concordia on Monday, also at 1 p.m. before traveling to Waldorf on Tuesday afternoon.

“We’re a young team and we’re still focusing on finding our niche. We’re still figuring out how to play together and support each other.”

NW will play this weekend in Sioux City, Iowa at the Morningside Invitational, weather permitting. The Red Raider softball team’s home game scheduled for Tuesday, March 24 against Mount Marty was postponed due to the wet field conditions. The games will be made up on Monday, April 27 at 5 and 7:00 pm.

“While our overall ranking is down, we have time to improve,” said Curry. “We’re a young team and we’re still focusing on finding our niche. We’re still figuring out how to play together and support each other.”

Miles and DeWeerd compete at track nationals, Miles earns All-American honors for second year

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT
SPORTS EDITOR

Two Red Raiders had the opportunity to represent the Northwestern track team for the second straight year at the 2009 NAIA Indoor Track and Field Championships in Johnson City, Tenn. on March 6-7.

Sophomore Charity Miles earned All-American honors by placing fourth in the 5000-meter run. This season, Miles qualified for nationals in three running events, the mile, 3000-meter, and 5000-meter. She chose to run the 5000-meter run and competed in the prelims on Friday night. She ran a time of 18 minutes 12.26 seconds, the eighth-fastest of 12 runners that advanced to the finals.

“Nationals is always a fun meet to participate in because it’s such a competitive atmosphere and there are some amazing runners to watch as well.”

— Emily De Weerd

Less than 24 hours later, Miles bounced back and took more than 30 seconds off her time, running 17:40 and placing fourth. She was just two seconds behind an Azusa Pacific runner, who took third. The top six competitors in each event are named All-American, and Miles earned the honor for the second straight year. She placed third in 2008 with a time of 17:24.

Junior Emily De Weerd also got the chance to compete at the national championships for the second year. She placed fifth in her heat of the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 9.51 seconds to finish 26th out of 34 runners. De Weerd finished 13th overall last year with a time of 9.46.

“I came very close to running the NAAYC Invitational to surpass the qualifying mark. Junior Kyle Sauter ran a 7:91 in the 55-meter hurdles at the Buena Vista University Open. Sophomore Kevin Krueger finished off the season at the GPAC championships with a time of 1:22 in the 600-meter run.

The NW track team has been transitioning to the outdoor season. They are scheduled to compete in Madison, S.D., on Saturday at 12:30 p.m., weather permitting.

SPOTLIGHT ON SENIOR ATHLETES

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT
SPORTS EDITOR

The college athletic careers of nine Red Raiders have come to an end with the close of the winter sports season. These seniors dedicated an immense amount of time and effort to their teams and have made a lasting impact on the Northwestern sports programs.

Men’s Basketball

TJ Phillips, a guard for the Red Raiders, is from LeMars, Iowa. He is the son of Derald and Jane Philips. Andrew Stimson, point guard from Clarinda, Iowa, is the son of Jon and Jane Stimson. He advises underclassmen athletes to give all they have to the Lord. “Live, prepare, and play with no regrets. Represent Christ well. Put the Lord first in everything, and if you do this you will never fail.”

Tyler Tigges, of Lanark, Ill. is the son of Larry and Cindy Tigges. Tigges served as a student coach for NW.

Josh Van Es, son of Galen and Cathy Van Es, is from Orange City, IA. He played forward for the Raider men.

Kale Wiertzema, a guard from Hills, Minn., is the son of Steve and Connie Wiertzema. His favorite thing about being a Red Raider is that “It’s about more than basketball, it’s about preparing us to become great leaders in our future families and careers, and that’s more valuable than basketball could ever be.”

Wrestling

Tom Eaton, who wrestled 174 for the Raiders, is from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and San Clemente, Calif. He is the son of Tom and Pam. His advice to underclassmen is to lift hard and faithfully, and do Matt Schmidt’s workout because it will pay.

Claudel Y. Noel, from Port St. Lucie, Fla. is the son of Christmene Noel. He wrestled 157, and his favorite memory during his sports career is having the opportunity to talk to Coach Dahl about his faith and meeting the wonderful men and women in “the wrestling crew.”

Levi Price, who wrestled 149 for the Raiders, is from Cannon Falls, Minn. He is the son of Nick and Terry Price.

Cole Spree wrestled 184. The son of Rod and Judy, he is from Parkersburg, Iowa.

Miles qualified for nationals in three running events, the mile, 3000-meter, and 5000-meter. She chose to run the 5000-meter run and competed in the prelims on Friday night. She ran a time of 18 minutes 12.26 seconds, the eighth-fastest of 12 runners that advanced to the finals.

“I came very close to running the NAAYC Invitational to surpass the qualifying mark. Junior Kyle Sauter ran a 7:91 in the 55-meter hurdles at the Buena Vista University Open. Sophomore Kevin Krueger finished off the season at the GPAC championships with a time of 1:22 in the 600-meter run.

The NW track team has been transitioning to the outdoor season. They are scheduled to compete in Madison, S.D., on Saturday at 12:30 p.m., weather permitting.
“Parcel” chosen for 14th annual World Premiere Festival

BY EMILY BREWER
STAFF WRITER

At 7:30 p.m., tonight and Saturday, the Black Box Theater will host the world premiere of “Parcel,” a full-length play written by senior Brady Greer Huffman. Huffman’s play was selected by award-winning playwright Jeffrey Sweet for performance in Northwestern’s 14th annual World Premiere Festival.

“Parcel” started as a ten-minute play for the 24-hour theatre festival. “It was written on little sleep and great gallons of caffeine,” Huffman said. He credits NW alum Vaughn Donahue for the inspiration when he developed the full-length play.

“Vaughn Donahue directed the ten-minute version,” said Huffman. “What he believed the parcel to be has heavily influenced the full-length.” Huffman added that another source of inspiration was the TV show “Lost.”

“The entire series [Lost] is about trying to discover what the island is,” Huffman said. “Parcel is about a mysterious box that gets passed around. The plot hinges on ‘what is the parcel?’”

Senior and director Kelly Holtom describes “Parcel” as more metaphor than plot. “I hesitate to say too much about what the play means,” said Huffman, “I want audience members to arrive at their own interpretation.”

The play’s ambiguous plot was one thing that caught Jeffrey Sweet’s attention. Sweet appreciated the way the audience is “invited to fill in the gaps.” Huffman uses simple dialogue to enhance the play’s open interpretation, and finds himself interpreting the play a different way each time he sees it.

“I’m not even sure if I know what’s being said,” said Huffman. “Every rehearsal I watch, I walk away going ‘Oh, the play is about this.’”

The show’s cast includes seniors Ben Bees and Josh Doorenbos, junior Nick Rohlf, sophomore Daniel Cole and Madison Kuiken, age 10, a student at Orange City Elementary School.

The show is free and seating is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Students are encouraged to arrive early to ensure prime seating.

Day of Learning con’t from page 1

Anderson’s hope for the Day of Learning is that it leads to further thoughtful, faithful actions and “we would all become more firmly committed to lifelong learning in Christ.”

Classes and regular activities will be suspended on April 1 to give members of the campus community the opportunity to attend the free workshops and presentations.

Eating Disorder Awareness Week

As a unit project, the abnormal psychology class is organizing two events to promote awareness of eating disorders on campus.

EVENT 1 - Reflections:

A 4-stage display that reveals the process of someone dealing with an eating disorder through the items and layout of their college room. The display will be open throughout the week from Monday, April 30 at 3 p.m. through Saturday, April 4 at 5 p.m. in RSC 140.

EVENT 2 - Video and Discussion:

A documentary on eating disorders and people dealing with them will be shown followed by a discussion. Come to watch and learn on Saturday, April 4 at 2 p.m. in RSC 154.