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Steve King receives backlash

KING CAUSES DISPUTE AFTER CONTROVERSIAL COMMENTS

ANNA PERRENOUD FEATURES EDITOR

Steve King, who represents Orange City as a U.S. Representative for Iowa’s 4th Congressional District, has been stripped of his committee duties and is facing hostility from members of both parties. In recent months, King has been in the news for controversial comments about immigrants and other minority groups. His newest commentary has had tough consequences for him on Capitol Hill.

According to the New York Times, King has previously “publicly promoted white nationalists and neo-Nazis on Twitter and disparaged nonwhite groups for years.” Despite most of this and more happening before the midterm election this past November, in which King was up for re-election, he was still chosen again to represent the 4th District – although by a surprisingly small margin for this historically conservative area.

It seems the final straw for members of the GOP was an interview with the New York Times in which King wondered why terms such as “white nationalist” had become offensive, according to CNN. Despite condemning both white nationalism and white supremacy, King does define himself as a nationalist, which was made clear in a press release sent out by his office dated Jan. 10.

The Washington, D.C.-based news outlet The Hill reports that Utah Senator and former GOP Presidential nominee Mitt Romney was the first Republican on Capitol Hill to suggest King’s resignation.

Other congressmen who have urged King’s resignation or condemned his remarks include Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), Rep. Chris Stuart (R-Utah), Rep. Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.), Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Ohio), and Rep. Bobby Rush (D-III.).

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP TO HOLD EVENTS

HANNAH WAMHOFF THEATRE

Campus has been buzzing with curiosity ever since the mysterious posters regarding a new club for women in leadership appeared across campus. Since then, the official club launch has taken place, but there are still questions amongst students regarding what this club is and what it does.

The posters and Instagram account originally had zero information about who is in charge of the club. The faculty advisor is Sandi Altena, who is the head of the Franken Leadership Center. Sydney Rodman and Emma VanDrie are the club officers who lead a team including Debola Adeyemo, Makayla Bjork, Kendra McGinnis and Lauren Faber. The leadership team meets twice a month to plan events for the club.

The leaders hope to hold events such as documentary screenings, a TED Talk + discussion event, a conversation panel, inviting an influential speaker, holding a service project and facilitating a Bible study. However, Rodman says the leadership wants to get input from the campus and facilitate events that people want.

The purpose of the club is to encourage, equip and empower women in roles of leadership. However, this doesn’t mean the club is exclusively for women. In fact, men play an important role in encouraging women in leadership, and the club leadership team encourages men to become involved as well.

According to information put out by the club, Women in Leadership is an opportunity for students who are passionate about women in leadership to come together. According to the Center for American Progress, women have outnumbered men on college campuses since 1988, yet they have not moved up to positions of prominence and power in America at anywhere near the rate that should have followed. Further, at the current rate, it will take until 2085 for women to reach parity with men in key leadership roles in the U.S. This statistic is eye-opening to the current reality of female leadership roles and is encouraging women on campus to get to work. Will hopes to inspire more women to take the initiative and move up into crucial roles of leadership.
Movie incorporates comic features

**SPIDER-MAN STORY DIVERSIFIED**

**LIZZY JOHNSTON**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

If your reaction after seeing the “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” trailer was “Why are they making another Spider-Man movie?!” then reconsider your reaction because this movie is unlike any other Spider stories previously created.

“Spider-Verse” has already won Best Animated Feature at this year’s Gold-en Globes and will most likely receive the same nomination at the Academy Awards. But how exactly did this movie pull off making a whole new Spider-Man story amidst the countless comic books, TV shows and movies currently existing?

This Spider-Man story brings six characters who have previously appeared in past comics into one movie. The mix of Spid-erpeople include Peni Parker, a Japanese anime style Spider-Man, Gwen Stacy or Spider-Gwen, Spider Noir, a Spi-der-Man created during the Great Depression; Peter Parker, the classic hero; Miles Morales, the character we all know, Spi-der-Ham, which is literally a pig in a Spider-Man suit; and finally, Miles Morales, a chubby middle schooler from Brooklyn.

To make it even more complicated, these Spider people are from different dimensions and exist as Spider-Man in their respective dimensions. Overall, these characters are brought together to expand arguably one of our favorite fictional character’s universe to give it a fresh story.

The plot of this story focuses on Miles Morales, a cop’s son growing up in Brooklyn and attending a prep school. When he is bitten by a radioactive spider, he gets all his Spidey powers and becomes Spi-der-Man. The conflict starts when the villain, King-pin (a massive, hulking dude with no neck) opens a portal to an alternate dimension; and as a re-sult, all the Spider-people are brought to New York. Miles then encounters a chubby, recently divorced Peter Parker (voiced by Jake Johnson from “New Girl!”)

As the other Spi-derpeople make their appearances, the group devises a plan to defeat Kingpin and return to their dimensions. Howev-er, even with all the char-acters and storylines, the plot is incredibly simple to follow.

If this plot doesn’t seem like your jam or you’re not a fan of Spi-der-Man in general, see this movie for the visu-al effects. Amazing is an understatement — you will most likely watch the movie with your mouth open the entire time. The animation itself is grainy and comic-book style. Additionally, to ex-pand the comic book aspect, there are wiggly lines showing when spider senses are tingling, speech bubbles, split screens and even words like “WOOOOO” that scroll across the screen as Miles jumps from buildings. As a whole, the animation takes on bright, wild patterns that are visual eye candy throughout all parts of the movie.

Spider-Man has been rebooted three times as a movie, but this is not your typical Spider-Man mov-ie or Spider-Man story for that matter. Even with similar parts of stories from the past, all the Spi-derpeople in this movie bring diverse expressions of the Spider-Man charac-ter, all with something to contribute to the new sto-ry.

The movie is full of hilarious quips and mo-ments, but the heartfelt moments that have de-fined the Spider-Man sto-ry in the past are still present. Go see this movie to have fun, be blown away by the animation and spe-cial effects and see a sto-ry that has been told over and over again get a new face.

Chainsmokers release second album

**“SICK BOY” LACKS SUBSTANCE**

**ETHAN HUSBANDS**

**PSYCHOLOGY**

At first listen to the new Chainsmok-ers album, Sick Boy, it feels like I have heard it enough times to be tired of it.

The Chainsmokers are not known for saying anything of substance in their songs, and this al-bum is no different. Al-though lyrics themselves don’t have to be deep or particularly thought provoking, when there is almost nothing else note-worthy or interesting in the music, bad lyrics stick out like a chainsmokers’ song at a funeral.

If you are unfamil iar with the Chainsmok-ers, I suggest opening up Spotify and clicking on any one of their top five tracks, and I imagine you will be struck with the feeling of seeing that aunt or cousin at a fam-i ly get together. The face is familiar, but you’re not happy about seeing it.

To continue with the analogy, once you have heard the Chainsmokers’ song, in this case see-ing the unwellcome, let’s call her Aunt Judy (don’t worry she doesn’t read this), she will undoubtedly come up to you and converse whether you want to or not.

A Chainsmokers song is no different. Once you’ve heard it, it will stay in your head whether you want it to or not. The Chainsmokers have mastered what I like to call the “call-me-may-be-effect” which might explain how they remain relevant even as the EDM wave ebbs and flows.

On this album, the most interesting sections are those done by other artists.

This album range from new love to self-pity but don’t scratch the surface enough to get anything above a fifth-grade read-ing level.

I don’t think anyone is asking for a “Ulysses” reference or the same level of vulnerability you would offer a therapist, but there are ways of tell-ing stories and conveying emotion through music that isw unattainable in the safe territory that the Chainsmokers insist on staying in. They say that com-parison is the thief of joy and to compare the Chainsmokers to elec-tronic artists like Daft Punk or Justice would be both an injustice to the aforementioned artists and unfair to the Chain-smokers, but the band still shows little signs of growth or ingenuity.
Art exhibit compiles mixed media

**REGIONAL ARTIST FEATURED**

**HANNAH WAMHOFF**

Northwestern recently opened a new exhibit featuring the art of regional artists: Shannon Sargent. He’s been featured at the Te Paek Gallery twice before, but this installment brings a whole new meaning to immersive art.

Entitled “Striped Sounds,” the exhibit employs the entire gallery as its canvas, with repurposed found materials conveying visual “sound.”

The show is an interactive installation composed of mixed media containing manipulated materials such as paintings, sculptures and found objects.

The exhibit nods to artists such as Robert Rauschenberg, renowned American artist whose work contributed to the pop art movement through utilizing innovative materials, as well as Marcel Duchamp, associated with Cubism, Dadaism and conceptual art. Sargent combines the unique art styles of pop art, Cubism and conceptual art and incorporates those techniques and stylistic choices into an immersive installation piece.

Professor Stokes, associate professor of art, describes the exhibit, saying, “Rather than being an exhibition of related paintings or sculptures, the entire gallery is the actual artwork, and Sargent does not know how it will look until he sets it up. Each component ties together conceptually and aesthetically to create one large artwork.”

Sargent’s position as the Exhibitions and Collections Coordinator makes him uniquely suited to create this immersive type of installation art.

Professor Stokes explained that this experience “gives Sargent a great understanding of gallery spaces and ability to treat the gallery walls as canvases.”

This installation type of work takes an extra dose of labor and time to ensure the installation draws viewers in and immerses them with the subject matter, “Striped Sounds.”

Sargent truly poured himself into this labor of love, making several trips to the gallery in order to set up the pieces. As a matter of fact, it took him six trips from his home in Sioux City to Orange City in order to deliver and install the exhibit over NW’s winter break. With exhibits like these, timing is crucial since the turnover is a long process. Opening the exhibit in January made it easy for Sargent to have the time he needed and the gallery to continue to turnover efficiently.

In addition to his work on behalf of the Sioux City Art Center, Sargent is an adjunct art professor at his alma mater, Morningside College. After receiving his bachelor’s degree in art, he went on to earn a Master of Fine Arts degree in painting from the University of South Dakota.

Currently, Sargent produces and shows his art in the region across six states. He is also a frequent juror for the Sioux City Art Center and the University of Texas Permian Basin.

Students should take this opportunity to experience an immersive art exhibit by simply stepping into the Te Paek Gallery and enjoying Sargent’s exhibit, “Striped Sounds,” which will be on display through Feb. 15. NW’s Te Paek Gallery, located in the Thea G. Kover Visual Arts Center, is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday as well as 1 to 7 p.m. on Sunday.
Students reflect on semester abroad

FEATURES

STUDENTS LIVED IN NEW CULTURES

KAITLYN ASMUS
WRITING AND RHETORIC

Saint Augustine once said, "The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page."

Visiting different countries is an experience one would never forget. From witnessing God’s creation and history to being pushed outside our comfort zones and experiencing the world, God has created, there are numerous benefits to exploring the world. Three Northwestern College students were blessed with this opportunity and recently returned from studying abroad with new perspectives, new friends and a new appreciation for God’s world.

Corrie Hayes spent a semester studying theatre at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. Days filled with Shakespeare, movement, voice and acting lessons still left her time to explore the city and its sights. She said she enjoyed the “shared love and passion for art and accessibility to art” and witnessed more than 40 shows, including one in the back of a pub.

Cassidy Bultena’s semester in Seville, Spain featured classes, including one in the back of a pub. Bultena also took Flamenco dance lessons and rock climbing classes, enjoying the interaction with Spaniards in everyday life.

Bekah Muilenburg studied language and culture in Romania. A favorite memory was her visit to the Revolution Museum, where she learned more about Romania’s history and its split from communism. She also worked with teenagers through her programs impact club (similar to a church youth group), climbing gym and bike trails. Through her classes, Muilenburg was able to take a five-day backpacking trip to the mountains, experiencing the beauty of God’s creation.

All three students formed new friendships abroad. Bultena enjoyed long talks with the mother of her host family, Muilenburg bonded with her host family by cooking together and through weekend getaways. Hayes and a new Christian friend participated in a Bible study, attended church and had deep conversations about faith together.

Along with the good times, the women experienced some challenges. Bultena found learning the Spanish language and navigating the unknowns frustrating at times, and she turned to God for strength on difficult or uncertain days. She says these challenges ultimately humbled her as she was put in a vulnerable place and was able to grow by stepping out of her comfort zone.

Hayes encountered distinctive religious barriers during her visit. One unexpected development was a friendship with a gay Catholic man. “It was like the beautiful thing about human connection with people that are very different from you,” Hayes said. “It makes you think a lot about who you are and what your faith is and what you believe and what your values are.”

All three women are grateful for their time abroad. Hayes said that she grew not just through her theater classes, but also through her friendships as well. Muilenburg said that stepping out of her comfort zone into a different culture can be “scary at first, but it’s definitely worthwhile. I probably learned more about myself in this semester than I have the previous two years in building my relationship with God and others and learning how to be independent.”

The deadlines for studying abroad are approaching. The deadline for the summer study abroad is Feb. 1 and the deadline for a spring or fall semester abroad is Feb. 10.

Women in Leadership Club launches

FROM PAGE 1

Starting in February, monthly events will take place, open to anyone on NW’s campus, including men, women, students, faculty and staff. These events will be varied and largely informed by the students who are involved in the club as well as the leadership team.

This club’s inspiration comes from a woman in leadership herself, Sandi Altena, Director of The Frank en Leadership Center, which supports development of Christ-like leaders who will capably and confidently bring their faith into their careers and communities after graduation. As the faculty advisor for Women in Leadership Club, she will be partnering with the student leaders to support them and advise them on the direction and execution of club activities.

The presence of this club on campus has brought more attention to the need for women in leadership positions, respect for those already in leadership and inspiration for women who feel the call to be a leader but don’t know how. This club aims to reach campus as a whole to encourage and inspire more women in leadership.

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PHOTO SUBMITTED BY: SYDNEY RODMAN
Sandi Altena presents at the launch of the Women in Leadership Club, which hopes to empower women who are or desire to be in a leadership position.
IMMIGRATION AT CENTER OF DEBATE

BRANT VERMEER
CO-EDITOR

At the beginning of a new year, history is being made. At the time of writing this article, the United States government shutdown is in the midst of the longest federal funding gap in its history.

King, who has been without an operating budget since December 22, 2018, to fully understand the history of federal funding gaps, or government shutdowns.

The United States government has experienced 21 gaps in funding with the first occurring in 1976. The previous record for a federal shutdown was 21 days, which happened under former President Bill Clinton in 1995.

Before the late 70s, the U.S. government passed appropriations bills which funded the government without a hitch. That precedent was changed by former President Ronald Reagan in the 1980s. Reagan realized that the government budget could be held as a bargaining chip to advocate for unpopular policies. Reagan would veto budgets that contained measures he disagreed with, which typically presented Congress into including funding for measures he wanted. This tactic was effective because shutting down the federal government, even one agency, costs millions of dollars and prevents citizens from receiving government services.

In the 80s and 90s, government shutdowns rarely lasted more than a day. Even then, government shutdowns cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars.

1995, former President Bill Clinton clashed with Republican leadership over funding for Medicare. In 2013, former President Barack Obama clashed with Republican leadership over funding for Obamacare. In recent years, government shutdowns have become more common as political leaders have become more willing to subvert common legislative process to force favorable legislative outcomes.

Shutdowns typically occur when a president disagrees with a funding bill that comes from the House or the Senate. These disagreements rarely happen when the House, Senate and president are all from the same party. This shutdown is no different. The conflict is between Trump and the House Democrats. Since the midterm elections, the House held a Democratic majority. The previously-passed appropriations bill ran out on Dec. 22, 2018, which meant that the House and Senate needed to pass a budget by that time. Republicans, led by Trump, originally wanted funding for a border wall between Mexico and the United States. Democrats were unwilling to grant funding for this wall and advocated for a different immigration solution. This was the origin of the conflict that has shut down the U.S. government for 30-plus days.

Since the original conflict, a few Republican lawmakers have sought compromise with Democratic lawmakers, but Trump has made it clear that border wall funding will not be compromised. This inability to compromise has stretched out the shutdown.

Recently, Trump has offered a deal to Democrats: the authorization of DACA in exchange for border wall funding. It may be too early to tell, but Democratic lawmakers appear to see this as too small a concession to be worth making a deal.

It is typical for Congress to go back and forth on legislation, but this debate is intensified due to its consequences for each day a compromise is not reached.

The current government shutdown, which has become the longest in United States history, is centered on President Trump’s promise with Democratic makers have sought compromise with Democratic lawmakers, but Trump has made it clear that border wall funding will not be compromised. This inability to compromise has stretched out the shutdown.

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The employees will be paid eventually, but many federal workers may have to work without pay until the government is funded. The government would issue a formal statement of disagreement. Iowa Senators Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst – both Republicans – have also stated their disagreement of King.

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Senator Tim Scott, who is the only black GOP senator, released an opinion editorial in the Washington Post where he denounced King’s comments.

“When people with opinions similar to King’s open their mouths, they will wonder why party leaders have not responded the same way to anything said by President Trump, who has not denounced King’s words and said he hasn’t been paying attention to the news about King.

King’s comments also leave room for consideration of other candidates in the 2020 election, in which Iowa will have yet another chance to choose someone over King. Other Iowa Republicans are already eyeing King’s congressional seat.
Video games consume lives

The relationships Christians build while gaming should be looked at in a similar way as other relationships we build.

Dana Van Ostrand
Christian Ed/Youth Min

Video games: a point of much ire for many parents, the enjoyment of many teenagers and college students and a topic discussed in a poor manner for an extremely long time. Video games can be an incredible force in building community. Many games involve social skills such as cooperation, teamwork and, in some cases, even problem-solving skills. At the same time, video games also serve as a buffer between a number of individuals in building authentic relationships. Video games consume an individual’s presence while he or she is playing. Their entire focus is on that game, especially in the context of games like “Fortnite” and “Call of Duty.” These games tend to be 10-15 minutes with a necessity of high awareness of what is going on in the game. The implication of this is that not much conversation can happen outside the gameplay. There might be games that involve less focus, but these are less popular amongst the general population. Many people choose to play these games with their friends and even develop new friendships through these video games. Frequently, the friendships that are centered around video games are solely about playing these video games. These communities do not go any farther than the task at hand: to win the game. Video games can be and are a clear part of people’s rest and relaxation.

Recreation and relaxation are essential to our existence as human beings. God’s seventh day of creation being a day of rest and the concept of Sabbath should be present in each of our lives. However, these relationships tend to only scratch the surface of other types of relationships we should be developing as Christians.

Christ calls us to love God, love our neighbors and make disciples of all nations. These kinds of relationships happen over our lives, even in our leisure time.

The relationships Christians build while gaming should be looked at in a similar way as other relationships we build. To love our neighbor, we should recognize their dignity and humanity and display love and care as we would with any of our other friends. If we merely view them as the people we play video games with, we have lost a sense of their humanity. These spaces should not be treated any differently than spaces we operate in in the “real world.”

To continue, the way we should conduct ourselves in our leisure time should be God-honoring and respectful of others as individuals. Often, there is conduct that comes out of an individual while gaming that no one would be comfortable with in normal everyday life, but somehow, it is okay when playing video games.

This conduct is quite rude and even reaches the level of cyber-bullying. There is plenty of space for passion in competition without being disrespectful and acting poorly towards others.

In gaming, poor behavior has been normalized in the name of a “competitive spirit.” As Christians, we must look more critically at this conduct during these times to see what this might be revealing about our hearts.

Video games can clearly be an effective means of an end of authentic community, but due to overuse, time, poor behavior and a focus merely on the games themselves, they become more of a barrier than a tool.

As Christians, we must not only call of Christ over the entirety of our lives seriously, we would choose not to engage in shallow relationships and poor behavior. Instead, we would choose options of leisure that drive us toward deeper relationships with others, but ultimately, a deeper relationship with Christ.

Rhetoric provides civil debates

The point of an argument should not be to change someone’s mind. Read that again.

Vanessa Stokes
Writing and Rhetoric

Are you a Democrat? Well, then you must just want to give up everyone a handout.

Are you a Republican? Well, then you must be stupid not to believe in global warming.

You’re a Catholic! That’s not really Christian because you just worship statues.

You’re a Christian! That must mean you don’t believe in science or evolution.

Did I make you uncomfortable? I know I was uncomfortable just writing those statements. That’s because people today do not know how to talk about conflicting issues. They just make blatant misconceptions, as those listed above, without leaving room to discuss the issue at hand.

That is why there is so much value in the rhetorical classes the Northwestern English department provides. They teach students how to have civil dialogue. I know from personal experience there is no way to avoid talking about your opinion or your values all the way through life. By learning strategies in rhetorical classes to help navigate these situations, I have become a better citizen.

If you can’t find the time to fit at least one of the rhetorical classes into your schedules, here’s a short snippet. The point of an argument should not be to change someone’s mind. Read that again.

That is the biggest issue. I believe, when it comes to disputes. I know I’ve been prone to hearing someone say a statement counter to my own viewpoints and the argument goblin in me wants to jump at them about how they are wrong.

However, that’s not the point. The point should be to have an intellectual discussion that will enlighten both people into seeing their own perspectives from new angles, coming to new standpoints.

The strongest argument is one that ponders both outlooks of an issue in order to build up their own case. Also, the viewpoint of all conflicts being an argument rather than a debate is important. A debate indicates that the conversation is centered around the other’s reasoning. An argument usually means it’s about to get heated, which shouldn’t be the case.

I also am pushed daily to debate rather than argue because of my calling as a Christian. All of us should respect other people enough to hear their perspective on an issue. If you are a Christian, you should at least hold hearing over our lives, even in our leisure time.

The relationships Christians build while gaming should be looked at in a similar way as other relationships we build. To love our neighbor, we should recognize their dignity and humanity and display love and care as we would with any of our other friends. If we merely view them as the people we play video games with, we have lost a sense of their humanity. These spaces should not be treated any differently than spaces we operate in in the “real world.”

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Tough competition in Missouri

NW PLACES 24 OUT OF 43 TEAMS

MATTHEW SHUCA MUSIC

Last weekend, eight men from the Red Raider wrestling team traveled south to the Missouri Valley Invitational wrestling tournament. This year brought the toughest competition ever seen in the tournament. The Raiders finished twenty-fourth overall out of a total of 43 teams.

The Missouri Valley Invitational consisted of two days of competition. After a tough first day of competition, the Raiders advanced junior Dante Preciado, junior Andrew Null and junior Dyllen Gist to the second day of the invitational. Each of these wrestlers had a chance to place, however, Null was the only Raider to place, finishing in seventh. Null went 5-2 in the tournament, collecting two falls and two major decisions.

The team as a whole went 15-16 in the tournament.

"The numbers may not show it, but these guys are making strides and learning to fight," head coach Rik Dahl said. "We will spend the week ironing out some little things and focusing on winning those tight matches as we prepare for four big GPAC duals over the next two weeks."

The teams ahead will prove to be tough opponents for the Raiders as they compete for a GPAC title. The Raiders are currently ranked first in the GPAC, followed by Morningside in second place, Concordia in third place and Midland in fourth. Northwestern, Morningside and Concordia are all undefeated in the GPAC competition.

On Saturday, the Raiders will face the #1 Concordia Tigers, who are 6-17 on the season, and Chad Barkema had the highest scoring totals for Dordt, scoring 19 and 17, respectively. The Red Raiders finished with a 55% mark on three pointers, with Dordt shooting 33% from beyond the arc.

Next up for the Raiders are the Doane Tigers, who are 6-17 on the season, and 3-12 in the GPAC. NW won 80-70 in the first matchup between the schools in Orange City. The next opportunity to see the Raider men at home will be on Feb. 2 against Concordia.

Away win over the Defenders

OFFENSE LEADS TO ROAD WIN AT DORDT

BRADLEY LAACKMANN SPORT MANAGEMENT

Wednesday’s game between Dordt and Northwestern provided some clarity in the mix of a crowded GPAC postseason race. Coming into the matchup, both teams were tied for fifth place in the conference. NW jumped ahead of the Defenders with an 89-80 win in Sioux Center. The Red Raider men are now 14-9 overall, 6-6 in the GPAC, and Dordt fell to 15-9, 7-7 in the conference.

NW never let go of the lead, staying in control throughout the contest. NW is looking to finish the season on a high note, as they have won six of their last seven games. The Raiders used sharp shooting to earn their second win against the Defenders, shooting 54% from the field, including 14 three-pointers on the night. NW sophomore Isaac Heyer scored eight points within the game’s first five minutes. His scoring provided an early spark that pushed the lead to 24-7 with 12:54 in the first half. The 17-point lead, which was the largest of the game, was capped off by a sophomore Jay Small three-pointer.

Dordt fought back to cut their deficit to only three after a free throw from Ben Gesink, but they were never able to catch the Raiders in yet another competitive game between the two rivals.

NW was led in scoring with a career-high 20 points from Heyer, who finished with 10 rebounds to complement a strong scoring night. The Raiders used a balanced scoring effort as senior Steven Kraayen had the highest scoring totals for Dordt, scoring 19 and 17, respectively. The Red Raiders finished with a 55% mark on three pointers, with Dordt shooting 33% from beyond the arc.

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With four more wins, NW will earn an automatic bid to the NAIA Division II National Tournament in Sioux Falls, SD.
**Northwestern adds esports**

**STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE NEW CLUB**

**MATT SCOTT**

**ACTUARIAL SCIENCE**

Northwestern College has recently made the move to add an esports club. Students were invited to attend a meeting earlier this semester to learn more about what is in store for the club. Organizers and coaches include Ben Karnish, Dan Swier and Lucas Heiberger. The club’s primary location for practices and other team events will be in a former communications lab in the basement of VPH. The necessary equipment has been ordered and should be moved into the esports room by the end of next week. Practices will begin once the room and equipment are fully functioning.

Karnish and Swier are the women’s and men’s soccer coaches on campus and have been advocating for a NW esports club for quite some time. Heiberger is a recent graduate of NW and an admissions counselor on campus. Heiberger is enthusiastic about the new club and has been involved with esports in the past. In the initial meeting, Karnish mentioned how the continuously changing nature of esports will be both a challenge and a source of excitement for the club. NW’s student-athletes will be expected to step up and help each other improve in the games being played, especially for those games which the coaching staff has less experience.

The club members have already cleared out the former communications lab so it can be put to use. Accommodations will be modified this year but should continue to improve. The club has ordered six gaming computers to be used for practices and online competitions along with desks and chairs. Once the room is set up, it will be fitted with a swipe entry system so esports members can use the space whenever VPH is open.

NW is evaluating the possibilities for a number of different games as a part of the esports club. Currently, “Overwatch,” “League of Legends,” “Rocket League,” “Smash Ultimate” and “Hearthstone” are being considered. Of the games mentioned, “League of Legends” and “Overwatch” have the most developed college esports scenes. Students on campus have expressed the most interest in forming “Overwatch” and “Rocket League” teams, but other games have also piqued students’ curiosity.

The club has attracted a number of video game enthusiasts, but the likelihood of this year’s teams making big waves in the competitive community is slim. This semester will be a trial run for esports on campus. However, the club should draw more talented players to NW. The goal would be to have a varsity esports program that regularly competes against other schools and attracts top level competitors.

Students interested in joining the esports club should contact Coach Karnish at bkarnish@nwciowa.edu.

**The former communications lab in VPH has been cleared out and six gaming computers have been ordered.**

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**Chris Hoke and Ramon Luna speaking to Campus**

**SPKERS WILL COVER TOPICS OF INCARCERATION**

**RACHEL KOERTNER**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

On Tuesday, Feb. 5, Chris Hoke and Ramon Luna will be coming to Northwestern’s campus to open the eyes of students and faculty to topics like incarceration in a different light.

Hoke, a gang pastor, prisoner reentry organizer and writer, is currently promoting his book, “Wanted: A Spiritual Pursuit Through Jail, Among Outlaws, and Across Borders.” This book details stories of things that we ourselves may have pain but also the hope that Christ brings. DeYounge, she was instrumental in getting Hoke and Luna to campus.

“I’m very excited to have Hoke here soon,” Ellis said. “I think it is important to bring speakers here who have a variety of backgrounds, and I think that it is valuable for the students here to hear stories of things that we ourselves may not have experienced.”

Ellis went to Texas on a Spring Service Partnership last year which involved jail ministry. Because of this, the topic of jail ministry is close to her heart.

“I have seen firsthand not only the pain but also the hope that Christ brings to those who are incarcerated,” Ellis said.

Hoke is passionate about this topic as well. Along with writing about the topic extensively in his book, he has also written about it for many different journals and magazines. More information can be found on Hoke’s writings and his ministry at http://chris-hoke.com/.