Earl Woudstra leaves NW after 30 years

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR DECIDES TO STEP DOWN FROM HIS POSITION

BEN HENKER

What is a Raider? What distinguishes a Raider from the rest of the world? There are many different definitions of what a Raider may be, but at Northwestern, a Raider is: one who is fearless, confident and prepared to finish the task through discipline, sacrifice and the relentless pursuit of excellence.

Earl Woudstra is one of the many Raiders who has shown the working power of Jesus Christ. He has made God the main focus of all that he does on this earth, bringing a little bit of heaven here for us to witness.

It was the year of 1974 when young Earl Woudstra came to Northwestern where he got his bachelor's degree four years later. He then received a master's degree from the University of Iowa and finished his schooling at the University of Minnesota where he received his Ph.D.

At NW, Woudstra worked part-time as a junior varsity men's basketball coach until 1984. He began his full-time position as a faculty member in the kinesiology department in 1989, while still coaching other sports like women's tennis, and most notably, women's basketball, in which he led the Raiders to four national titles and was named the NAIA National Coach of the Year in each of those years.

By the year 2004, Woudstra became NW's assistant athletic director and has been the director of the athletic program since 2014. Under his leadership, he has brought many teams to national titles and has continuously made academics and Christianity a high priority in all the sports of NW.

"Earl Woudstra embodies Northwestern College. He is an incredible supporter of not just the wrestling program, but of all programs because he sees how each sport can be a light in a particular life," said Coach Richard Dahl, head coach of the wrestling program for the past six years. "He is a respected man. He is known for his competitiveness, but he is respected because of his Christ-like qualities that he exhibits day in and day out."

New school year brings increase in enrollment

ADMISSIONS TEAM WORKS TO INCREASE ATTENDANCE

ALLISON WHEELER

"Our standout programs speak for themselves," Davis said. In response to the question of whether she thinks enrollment will continue to increase in future years, Davis replied, "The only thing predictable with admissions is that it is unpredictable."

When asked about specific departments, Davis stated that a lot of credit goes to the athletic department and "the coaches [who] brought in a large athletic class."
Gottsagen is a man with Down syndrome, placed in a dingy nursing home by the state. He has no family, and his only friends are the gezzer residents and Eleanor (Dakota Johnson), a worker at the home.

The highlight of Zak’s days are watching an old VCR tape featuring Salt Water Redneck, a wrestler who runs a wrestling school and urges view- ers to come learn from him (a main skill to learn: hitting people with chairs). Every day, Zak watches the tape and dreams about escaping to the school.

Zak finally busts out one night, lathered in soap to squeeze through the window. He runs off in the dead of night, dressed only in white underwear. He walks all night, and stows away on a fishing boat to take a much needed half-naked nap.

Tyler (Shia LaBeouf) is a struggling crab fishermen in North Carolina consumed by the loss of his older brother. After committing ar- rests and destroying his -worth of his rivals’ fishing equipment. Tyler hops in a boat and is chased through the swamps by his deadly oppo- nents.

Tyler finds Zak (poking) under a tarp on the boat. Tyler tries to get rid of him and has no interest in Zak’s dreams of the wrestling school. The mov- ie wouldn’t be a good story unless the two finally become friends. The buddy comedy starts when Tyler discovers Zak is also a man on the run.

Zak is on a journey to find his personal freedom and fol- low his dream and overcome other people’s judgements and expectations of him. Tyler is on a journey to get away from being stuck in the past. The two travel across the off roads of North Carolina to rediscov- er themselves and find Salt Water Redneck.

A promising aspect of the movie is minority represen- tation. Frequently, characters with disabilities are portrayed by actors or actresses who do not share the disability. Gottsagen is a man with Down syndrome, just like his char- acter. Instead of being used as sort of a prop or solely the inspirational piece of the sto- ry, Zak is the main character. He wants to be a hero, and he has a hero’s journey. He knows he is considerably more than a syndrome, and the movie shows this—the story is about what he can do, not what he can’t.

Tyler and Zak buddying up is the best part. It is sweet, it is fun and it is adventurous. It all takes place in the wild out- doors walking through fields, sleeping under the stars and floating on rafts. Tyler takes care of Zak and cares about Zak’s dreams almost as much as Zak.

With the tired cycle of re- makes and sequels being con- stantly released, this creative story sticks out. Visually, the cinematography is goodlook- ing; audibly, the Bluegrass, folkly, gospel soundtrack is catchy. It has natural perfor- mances, shows the vulnerabil- ity and power of relationships and accomplishes so much in under two hours to warm your heart right up.
Jonah and the Giant Fish sure to make a splash

TAKING DRAMA TO THE NEXT LEVEL
ANGELA WINTERING

THEATER

If you grew up around the Bible at all, you proba-

bly heard the story of Jonah at least once. Or maybe you
even watched the VeggieTales movie adaption of the story. Now you have the chance to see it performed live tonight in the Black Box theater.

Directing this play is head of the theater department, Jeff Barker. Barker has directed many plays in and outside of Northwestern, teaches classes, as well as heads the campus group Drama Ministries Ensemble. For many years, Bark-
er has made it a frequent hobby to adapt the "ancient plays of the Bible" into full-length dramas for the mod-
er-day stage. "A drama is meant to be taken from the page to the stage," he said. "Since [the Bible] got turned into a book, we've treated it as a book. We've forgotten that it was meant to be heard, felt and seen. So I'm just trying to make these things be what they were intended to be."

There are many biblical texts that have been turned into stage plays over the years, but Jonah's account does not make the cut often. Howev-
er, Barker is excited about the challenge from the start. "People think this is a story about disobedience, when the dramatic meaning of the story is forgiveness," he said. "Jonah disobeyed because he knows God's compassion." The ensemble is working off of a verbatim Hebrew-to-English translation of Jonah, done by Old Testament scholar Tom Boogaart. Barker instilled the only one who is looking forward to opening night. Cast and crew alike are thrilled to be a part of it. Kara Meier, stage manager for the play, expresses how excited she is for kids to "really see how a Bible story can be an adventure, with kind of a magical, mystical experience and just really love this Bible story!"

The rehearsal process has been filled with actor and director collaboration, as the translation does not hold the typical elements of a script. The ensemble cast brought many ideas to the table. "Everybody's commitment and love has been tremen-
dous," Barker said. However, the process has not come without its chal-
 lenges. Because the manu-
script is just a translation, the ensemble has to be immense-
ly creative. Cast member So-
phia Schaeffer mentions how "the most challenging [part] was that only a few characters really knew exactly what they were saying." There are no stage directions, no blocking, almost no specific lines. This play is dependent on its en-
ssemble to make it the beauti-
ful creation it has become.

But why go see the show? We go to a Chris-
tian college and have the Bible presented to us con-
stantly, but there are sev-
eral reasons that make this produc-
tion important, according to students. "[This play] tells this sto-
ry of God's redemption, and witnessing that kind of mercy is something that everybody needs to see," Meier said.

Must member Marcus Dykstra said, "it's not a normal show. It's going to be more interactive, un-
like when everything is written and cut-and-dry."

Others pointed to its theatrical presentation as a strength. "You should come for the showing of God's word, not necessarily the telling," said Rachel Wyborny.

Assistant stage manager Jeremiah Mitchell says, "This is going to be one of the only times you see scrip-
ture performed verbatim in a theatre company, using all the creative resources we have, with you living an experience of what Jonah would've lived in."

According to Schaeffer, "it will just leave you with a re-
ally good, profound, close-
to-God feeling."
Anderson educates future leaders

NEW PROF BRINGS EXPERIENCE
CAMER HERRIG
WRITING AND RHETORIC

One of the many new faces on Northwestern’s campus belongs to professor Doug Anderson. As a new addition to the business and economics department, Anderson stands out with his past education of seminary and his past experience with nonprofits.

A professor of practice, Anderson does not have a degree in education, and this is in fact his first official gig as an educator. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa in political science, and his graduate degree in Christian ministries from Evangel University.

Without previous knowledge of the college’s opportunities, Anderson’s journey to NW was unexpected. He first began his career in managing a congressional campaign in Maryland. After realizing this was not his calling, he enrolled in seminary school and began working with nonprofits.

Anderson always knew he wanted to teach, and in a way, he has been teaching his entire career in the nonprofit industry.

A job at a nonprofit was just a way to pay the bills until he finished his master’s degree, but Anderson soon found a temporary home in the nonprofit industry. He spent most of his time in executive leadership roles: fundraising, program management, turning around failing nonprofits and teaching those around him how to run a successful nonprofit.

“I really just fell in love with it and how you can impact people and change their lives,” Anderson said.

He worked for a variety of nonprofits centering around youth development, troubled teenage girls and poverty diminution. Through his work at nonprofits, Anderson had opportunities to teach in smaller ways, but he always knew his goal one day was to teach on a larger scale.

“I realized, through praying a lot, that I didn’t want to teach the next generation of pastors. I wanted to teach the next generation of business leaders and nonprofit leaders,” he said.

Out of the blue, Anderson received a message on LinkedIn from a NW faculty member about the job opening and encouraged him to apply. He did apply, but he never thought he would get the job. However, God seemed at work during this process.

Once Anderson applied for the professor position, he received news that his nonprofit job in Kansas City, Missouri was being eliminated.

After different levels of phone and on-campus interviews, and even with a good experience on campus, Anderson still had doubts about getting the job. He was looking into other jobs, yet none of them seemed like the right choice.

When he was offered the job, he knew he was excited for the change, but he consulted his wife about it to see if she thought this move was in God’s will for their life. After talking and praying about it, they started looking for a home in Orange City.

As he learned more about the college, Anderson was intrigued by NW’s mission statement, specifically on “engaging students in courageous and faithful learning.”

“Everyone needs to learn math, marketing, history, and English... and you can learn all these things, but not understand how they integrate deeply into your faith and how we are each uniquely and wonderfully made,” he said.

In preparing for his first year of classes, Anderson is excited to see how NW’s faith integration is evident through their academics.

As Anderson continues his career, he hopes to continue to build personal relationships with students and his fellow faculty members. He hopes he can guide students in understanding that they have a calling from God, whether that is as a business leader, accountant or pastor; everyone has a calling that is unique to them.

New school year brings increase in enrollment

FROM PAGE 1

One particular freshman the athletic department was able to recruit was Annika Spirgath. Spirgath is a computer science major from Bammental, Germany.

The main reason she decided to come to NW is because she was offered a scholarship to play for the women’s tennis team.

During the recruiting process, Spirgath was able to Skype with the tennis coach and learn more about the tennis team and NW in general.

“It felt like I was welcome here,” Spirgath expressed with a smile. She was also intrigued by the small-town feel of Orange City as well as the dedication that almost everybody knows everybody.

Spirgath’s impression of NW so far is that there are “super nice people” here and everyone is “very welcoming.” Spirgath has also been impressed by NW’s faculty and stated, “The relationship between students and professors is really close.” She feels like she can talk to her professors about anything.

The admissions team, as well as the athletic department, work hard to not only bring in students from the United States, but from all around the world.

When it comes to the recruiting process and treatment of prospective students, it appears as though NW does “Stand Out” in multiple ways.

Whether it is a student who has lived in the same town as NW all of their life or a student thousands of miles away, NW cares enough to get to know students and encourage them to become Red Raiders.

Northwestern’s admission team puts emphasis on their personal relationships with incoming freshmen, along with focusing on international recruitment for the college.
New clubs offer new opportunities

**FIVE NEW CLUBS STAND OUT ON NW CAMPUS**

**Pastor’s Wives Club**
New to campus this year is the unofficial Pastor’s Wives club started by Kitrick Fynaardt. Unlike what the name suggests, this is not a club for the wives of NW students who want to be pastors. It is actually a support group for the roommates of Resident Assistants. Both male and female “wives” are welcome to come and talk about everything involved in being the roommate to someone who is always available. Kelsey Lang is a club member and the roommate of Blake B RA, Anna Tiegland. In reference to the club, she says, “It’s nice to have an outlet to openly talk about the joys and frustrations of rooming with an RA.” Membership is limited to the roommates of current RAs, but everyone is welcome to buy a t-shirt, by contacting Kitrick Fynaardt, to show their support.

**Positive Action Committee**
The Positive Action Committee, PAC for short, was started for just this reason. Its founder, Colin Kaemingk, wanted to represent the best of NW by striving to “create a more authentic and positive community within the campus.” PAC will be encouraging people through actions like PACmail, which will deliver encouraging notes to the community. Almost all of the events are city-focused because they believe that “volunteering is one of the most authentic displays of positive change.” Anyone is welcome to join and can do so through Kaemingk or the PAC Instagram: @nwcpcac.

**Investment Club**
The Investment Club was started by accounting major Ben Hengst and assistant professor of business Fan Fei. It was started some years ago with the intent to be a resource to business and finance majors or minors through hands-on capital management experience. On the NW website, it states, they are “committed to promoting financial literacy and expanding and deepening knowledge of financial markets in its members.” Any business, finance or likewise major is encouraged to be a part of this group hoping to prepare students for life after college. Those interested can contact Ben Hengst or professor Fan Fei for more information on how to become a member.

**Earl Woudstra leaves NW after 30 years**

Earl Woudstra, retiring after 30 years at NWC, will continue his invaluable work as the new city administrator for Orange City.

From Page 1

Not only has Woudstra been a coach and an Athletic Director, but he has also honorably served as a member of the President’s Cabinet as well. Raider Nation has not just won under his outstanding leadership as an Athletic Director, but they have excelled, winning the GPAC All-Sports Trophy in 2017-18, where that same year Woudstra was named the GPAC Athletic Director of the year. “I have the privilege of working with an incredible group of coaches and staff in the athletic department,” Woudstra said. He not only played a big part in and oversaw the renovations of the DeWitt Fitness Center in the Rowenhorst Student Center, but he also planned and constructed the Juffer Athletic Fieldhouse as well.

His most recent work done at NW is creating two new club sports – bowling and esports – which has already attracted recruits to campus. “He lives a meaningful life because he is always pouring into the lives of others, and this is why he’ll be missed,” Dahl said. Woudstra will now be serving as the city administrator for Orange City where he will have other opportunities to show God’s redeeming work to all sorts of people in the community.

“I am grateful for the opportunities I have had at Northwestern,” he said. “It is an amazing place with a compelling mission. My wife Karen and I will always be Red Raiders!”

Earl Woudstra, retiring after 30 years at NWC, will continue his invaluable work as the new city administrator for Orange City.

PHOTO BY ABIGAIL MOODY
OPINIONS

WE WANT YOU!

Attention, NW Students!

Are you looking for a laid-back, work-from-the-comfort-of-your-own-dorm job? Well, you’re in luck!

The Beacon is looking for new writers.

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You can get wealthy off your words.

The Beacon pay scale: What you earn for what you write:

For 1 - 4 stories = $10 ea.

5 - 9 stories = $15 ea.

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Write:

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Features

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Opinions

Caleb Arnett

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If you are interested in being a part of our team, writing stories weekly and making a little extra money, please contact one of the editors listed above.

Your general education matters

C ommon quotes heard around Northwestern include: “You didn’t finish your gen-eds before your senior year?” “Yeah, I’m looking forward to getting my gen-eds out of the way!”

These quotes reflect a prevailing attitude about general education that it is secondary to the rest of a college education. As economic anxiety rises in college students, our perspective on our college careers begins to be molded in the shape of economic cost/benefit analysis. Many have made their college experience about the economics of their future: money spent now for money made later. This is a limited view of the education that students receive in gen-eds at liberal arts institutions.

To begin, the idea that employers are looking for the skills that the liberal arts develop through a vast general education is not just a mantra that admissions devises to get prospective students to come to Northwestern. The communications and critical thinking skills that are developed through the general education are valued highly by employers even in highly skill-oriented careers. When you will just be employed if you do not know the skill, people with a liberal arts training will be valued even more highly. On a purely economic level, the liberal arts are still valuable as an education.

However, this conversation should not revolve around economics solely. As human beings, there is a lot more to our existence than merely our economic future. We operate as physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual beings. As we progress out of college and into our future vocations, communities, and society, it is an education that addresses each of these parts of our human experience that will benefit us most. Gen-ed classes address each of these things through various means and methods. Not only will these classes prepare us for the challenges that we might face in our future workplaces, but they better prepare us for the variety of people we will encounter in our lives and the challenges we face in our communities and in our own personal lives.

To choose to neglect gen-ed courses because they do not apply to your specific career is to view your future through a lens of economic opportunism.

The world we inhabit today tends to emphasize three things: economic prosperity, personal success and social influence. The main benefactor of these three values is the individual seeking out and determining what those three things mean to them as a member, or rather, the individual.

The culture we inhabit might convince you to pit your way of life against how “those” people live out of these values. Yet there is a call, beyond all selfish ambition and out of self-sacrifice, to love God and to love your neighbor. These gen-ed courses help us to remember different parts of the world that we don’t normally get to encounter. We hear the stories of people we would not normally interact with; observe connections between ideas we would not normally see and have opportunities to love our neighbor in ways we do not normally get. Through gen-eds, we might practice the office of our own interest for the sake of others.

It may be that your gen-ed classes do not pertain to your career. However, they pertain to your existence as a person created in the image of God. If this is who we want to be, we need to do more than merely prepare ourselves for the job market. We need to consider our general education and neighbor might be the means through which we can best show love to who or whatever God places in our path.

Why the 2020 election matters

Y ou have most likely heard it, “2020 is the most important election of our lifetime.” But is it really? Was it not the same thing said about 2016? And 2008? What is so special about 2020 then? Each of those elections were all special in their own way.

In 2008, we elected our first black president, a massive step forward in our concurrent battle against racial disparity. In 2016, two less than ideal candidates battled it out in what would become one of the ugliest and most divisive elections in recent history. But 2020 is different than those elections; the soul of our country and our democracy is on the line, and how we vote next year will decide the direction of the United States for years to come.

The list of why 2020 matters is a long one that varies with perspective, but there are three universal reasons that everyone should know.

First, 2020 will set the tone for future presidents. Whether or not you support our current president, it is hard to disagree that Donald Trump has had an unusual presidency. From excessive name-calling to cozying up with foreign dictators, Trump has redefined the standards of the highest office.

When we vote in 2020, it will not just be for Trump or his democratic opponent but for future presidents as well. Electing Trump will stamp our seal of approval on future presidents behaving in ways that were not previously acceptable. But electing his opponent, whoever that may be, will say the opposite: that we will no longer stand by and watch the Oval Office be degraded to a platform for lies and insults. The identity of the presidency is on line, and what we decide now could go down in history books as one of the most critical turning points in American politics.

Second, 2020 is a decade year, which means it is time for the census. The census, despite sounding very anticlimactic, actually has the power to define the next 10 years. This is all because of a sneaky tactic called gerrymandering.

For those who are not familiar with the term, gerrymandering is the manipulation of congressional districts for the benefit of a certain party. Every 10 years, with the release of the census, state legislatures are required to redraw their districts in accordance to the population change. Often, the party who controls those legislative bodies will redraw the districts in ways that limit the electability of the opposition and increase the chances of reelection for themselves. This is not a partisan issue, both sides have been known for using this technique.

But since Republicans had more control in 2010, Democrats have been much more outspoken about ending the practice for good in recent years. Gerrymandering eats away at our democratic values, and we should not and cannot allow it to stain more years of elections.

Finally, every election matters. It does not matter who is in office, how the economy is doing, every vote we cast should be considered of high importance. It may seem like Washington, D.C. or Des Moines are far away, but every little decision they make can and will directly impact our life. That is not just policy from a policy standpoint, rhetoric also can affect us, a fact that was proven by the rise of white nationalism under Trump.

The general election is over a year away, but that does not mean we should not start caring now. We live in Iowa, one of the most critical states in the electoral college system. Candidates will be head over heels to get a foothold; gerrymandering is the manipulation of congressional districts for the benefit of a certain party. Every 10 years, with the release of the census, state legislatures are required to redraw their districts in accordance to the population change. Often, the party who controls those legislative bodies will redraw the districts in ways that limit the electability of the opposition and increase the chances of reelection for themselves. This is not a partisan issue, both sides have been known for using this technique.

Get out. Hear them talk. Take advantage of Iowa. Prepare to make an informed vote to redrew the districts in accordance to the population change. Often, an informed vote is usually the right vote.

Get wealthy off your words...
RAIDER XC kites off season with back-to-back meets

WESLEY MILGAN
SPECIAL WORK

The Northwestern cross country team kicked off their season with two back-to-back Friday night meets in Augusta, South Dakota and South Dakota State University, respectively, Friday, Sept. 6. The men’s and women’s teams competed at the Auggie Twilight Invite in Sioux Falls. Both competed well, beating several GPAC and NAIA schools in the field.

Junior Dylan Hendricks led the NW men’s team, placing 15th overall out of 321 athletes. He was followed by junior Josh Starr, freshman Jakob VanDerWerf, senior Ben Aberson and sophomore Hayden Lee to round out the top five scorers for the team.

Senior Bre Hartthorn led the women to finish 11th overall as a team against tough competition. Teammates include junior Hunter Koeppel, senior Kelsey Lang, junior Anna Teigland and senior Emma VanMeeteren complete the top five NW scorers. These runners packed closely together through the race and competed well as a unit, with some achieving all-time best race times.

The following Friday night, NW ran again in Brookings, South Dakota at the SDSU Cross Country Classic. NW ran on a new course and competed against large NCAA schools. Conditions were tougher than usual, as the course was wet and there was standing water in several places. The runners had to splash through large puddles and work up hills. The Raiders competed well even when the conditions were not in their favor.

For the men’s team, junior Dylan Hendricks once again led the team. Freshmen Alan Trainor with Hendricks, Eric Heibelt, Dyllon Graham and sophomore Xavier Wright rounded out the top five for the men.

NW has been on the road the last two weeks, traveling to face Midland and Dakota Wesleyan in weeks two and three, respectively. The Raiders needed a rally to defeat Midland, trailing 25-17 with seven minutes remaining in the contest. Kooima went 4 out of 4 during a late 72-yard drive, connecting with Solberg to bring the game within two. After a failed two-point conversion for NW, the Raider defense forced a 3-and-out to regain possession at their own 20-yard line.

After an 8-play drive, junior K Beaton Williams was set up for a game-winning field goal from 22 yards out, allowing NW to sneak into the 25-22 win. Northwest shooed off a quick start from the Tigers to earn a 52-7 win. It was a day to remember for the Raider offense, as Kooima moved up to 4th place in career passing yards, Solberg moved to 2nd place in receiving yards, and senior RB Jacob Kalganoff finished with 137 rushing yards to place him in fourth place in school history. Senior LB Tanner Machacek led the way on defense with 11 tackles, and junior DL Carter Van Gorp finished with a career-high of nine tackles.

Coach Kyle Van Den Bosch on his 400th win

VOYELLECOACH
REFLECTS ON HIS TIME AS HEAD COACH

LAUREN FABER
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Northwestern’s head volleyball coach, Kyle Van Den Bosch celebrated his 400th win earlier this semester. Van Den Bosch’s players surprised him with celebratory cookies that caught many eyes at the holiday bazaar. He became a head coach right out of college when he moved to California where he coached high school volleyball for six years. He met his wife, who is actually from Sioux Center, while working there. They decided to move back to the area. He then worked for MOC-Floyd Valley High School for a year before he applied for the job he currently holds.

Since accepting this position, Coach Van Den Bosch has led the Raiders to many exciting victories. For him, it’s not about the wins. Instead, it’s about the young ladies he gets to coach. When asked about his favorite thing about coaching, Coach Van Den Bosch said, “I enjoy watching the girls improve, watching the girls reach their potential but also watching them become a team. It’s fun to watch them really each other and bring out the best in each other.”

One of his past players said, “Coach Kyle always invested one hundred percent into his players. He never treated any of the girls like they were just a volleyball player. He cared about everything that encompassed us as people, from our athletics to our personal lives to our faith journeys.”

Coach Van Den Bosch doesn’t just love volleyball, he loves being a Raider. When asked if he had any career goals beyond NW volleyball, he said that he is here to stay. The players that NW attracts are the players that he really wants to coach. The team has had a successful season so far. NW beat DWU in their most recent match and improved their GPAC record 5-0. The Raiders boast a 16-0 record overall this season.

Strong start to NW football season

TEAM HAS BIG SEASON GOALS

BRADLEY LAACKMANN
SPORT MANAGEMENT

The Northwestern football team is living up to the high expectations that were set in front of them to begin the season. Through the first three games, NW remains undefeated, beating their opponents by a combined score of 125-39. The source of NW’s success has come on both sides of the ball, as the 8th-ranked Raiders are 9th in the country in total offense, and 11th overall in scoring defense. NW is looking to continue their winning streak back at Korver Field against their top five overall in scoring defense. NW remains undefeated, beating Sioux County where he watched his dad coach these teams when he was growing up in Sioux Center, while working there. They decided to move back to the area. He then worked for MOC-Floyd Valley High School for a year before he applied for the job he currently holds.

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Central College in Pella, Iowa is cutting tuition by $20,000. It will go into effect fall of 2020 for current and new students. This change stemmed from years of studies and conversations with parents who were dissatisfied with the high cost of a college education.

Last year, Central College cost a student $38,600 tuition overall with $10,280 for room and board. The room and board remain the same, but the tuition is now $18,600 with scholarships and financial aid still available to all students.

“All of this is being done to make clear how affordable and mind-opening a high-quality, personalized Central education really is,” Mark Putnam, president of Central College, said in a press conference.

They are marketing the change as a rebellion against the current models of high-tuition and high-aid where colleges set high sticker prices but provide more aid in return. The model has shown that students feel valued more because their college is willing to help them.

However, this tuition cut is solely a price reduction, according to President Greg Christy. “The new pricing model being used by Central College does not change the amount of revenue they need to operate annually. Students will be paying what they would pay under their current price,” Christy said.

Corrie Hayes, a senior business administrative/marketing major at Northwestern College, still feels like she is getting a good deal.

“Central College’s tuition cut is purely a marketing tactic aiming to diversify its market while playing into the current issue of making college affordable and available to all,” Hayes said.

Though many students on campus were shocked at the announcement, Central College is not the first. Four liberal arts colleges have recently cut their sticker prices. Colleges like Central are creating a domino effect that more universities are taking hold of.

NW students pay is $13,700. Central College expects to have an average aid and scholarship amount of $8,927, prior to loans. Thus, the average out-of-pocket expense that NW students pay is $13,700.

Central College slashes tuition from $38,600 to $18,600. The 2019 tuition at NW is $41,700, including room and board. The average financial aid each student receives is $28,000, including loans of about $5,500. Thus, the average out-of-pocket expense that NW students pay is $13,700.

Central College expects to have an average aid and scholarship amount of $8,927, prior to loans. With their new tuition cut, this brings their average student cost, including room and board, to $19,953. Assuming a similar loan amount of $5,500, Central College students will be paying an average of roughly $1,000 more out-of-pocket than NW students currently are paying.

The editorial staff reserves the right to edit submissions for style, clarity and length.

The recent construction near the science building has been underway for several weeks now, and the finished project promises a new and exciting addition to Northwestern’s campus. The plaza will be an outdoor multipurpose space that can be used by all students. It will include some grassy areas surround-
ed by connecting concrete, lots of planters and flower beds, and short seating walls. There will be lots of seating options and possibilities for using the space.

Science classes will be able to host their class ses-
sions outside to enjoy being outdoors and also use the plants around the plaza for their projects. Professor of biology, Dr. Laurie Furlong helped pick out specific plants for the area in hopes that her classes will be able to study them.

Because the plaza will have electricity, lighting and Wi-
fi, students will be able to study there any time, work on group projects, charge their phones and laptops and hang out. The college also plans on using the space for dif-
f erent events, like after com-
mencement when graduates get together with their family and friends to take pictures.

Vice president for finan-
cial affairs, Doug Beukelman, who is helping with coordi-
nation between the college and the architects of the proj-
ect, is excited to see the dif-
f erent ways the space will be used. He also points out that there are many areas around campus for smaller groups to gather, but this will be a bigger meeting option where students can still be in smaller groups or larger ones.

“This is a space that’s going to make you stop and spend time there,” Beukelman said. “There’s so much grass on campus, and this is a way to use the grass, ramp it up a notch, make it more inviting and turn it into a fun place where students can spend time together.”

Senior Kaylee Henn, studying English and second-
ary education, is also stoked about the idea of the plaza.

“I feel like this is a great use of space because so many students already study out-
side – it’ll be nice to have a designated spot,” she said. “If I wasn’t graduating next sem-
ester, I would write all my papers out there.”

Designs for the plaza have always been part of the plan for the new science center, but because construction got delayed last fall and the plaza piece of the project involved a lot of concrete work, it was pushed back until this year.

The crew hopes to have their work completed by the end of October, so soon students can begin filling the space with studying, relaxing and good conversations.

Central cuts tuition cost in half

OUTDOOR ADDITION ON NWC CAMPUS, KARLI LANG ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Northwestern College’s 26th annual Red Raider Road Race
Saturday, Sept. 28 | 9 a.m.
5K race ($25) and 1-mile walk ($15)
Register at the event!
The race begins on the boulevard between Christ Chapel and the DeVitl Learning Commons. Check-in opens at 8 a.m.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CARLEE DAVIDSON
Construction of the outdoor plaza is expected to be completed by the end of October.