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Heritage Singers perform at B.J. Haan auditorium

BY EMILY BREWER

The Northwestern College Heritage Singers will join the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus and chamber orchestra to perform Handel’s “Messiah” in the B.J. Haan Auditorium at Dordt College on Saturday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m.

The choir will be conducted by Thomas Holm, associate professor of music at NW. “People need to hear Messiah in their lifetime,” said Holm. “Handel was a dramatist. He knew how to write for an audience. It’s like telling a story — it never lets you go.”

Students can look forward to hearing “glorious music, virtuosic singing and various musical moods,” according to Holm, as the chorus moves them through the story of the Messiah from birth to resurrection.

Featured soloists include Tricia Van Ee, soprano; Emily Lodine, alto; Jeffrey Brich, tenor; and Bryan Van Gelder, bass.

“I really look forward to just being a part of this great work,” said Van Gelder. “Everyone should hear Messiah at least once, and even if you already have, it will be worth hearing again.”

Admission for the concert is $7 for adults and $3 for students with advance purchase, or $9/$5 at the door. Advance tickets are available at True Vine and the Northwest Christian Bookstore in Sioux Center. Tickets are available at True Vine and the Dordt College music department.

Symphonic band joins forces with Le Mars High School band

The Northwestern College Symphonic Band will present a concert with the Le Mars Community High School Band tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel.

This is the first time the NW Symphonic Band has had an area high school band share the stage with them in Christ Chapel.

“This idea came about as a way to reach out to area schools,” said Timothy McGarvey, professor of music. “It is something that I would like to continue doing.”

The Le Mars band directed by Curt Oehrlund will perform in the first half of the concert. They will perform “Blessed Are They” by Johannes Brahms, “A Jubilant Overture” by Alfred Reed and “The Crosley March” by Henry Fillmore.

The Symphonic Band, directed by McGarvey, will present the second half of the concert and will open with “Outdoor Overture” by Aaron Copland.

The band will also present the world premiere of “After Darkness, Light” by Luke Dahn, assistant professor of music. Dahn was commissioned by NW to write the piece with funds from a gift to the music department by alumni Josiah and Kristin Dunlap.

Dahn composed the piece over a period of two months after receiving the commission at the end of last year.

“The piece is based on the tune of our alma mater, which is also the tune of the Dutch national anthem,” said Dahn. “The work’s title, ‘After Darkness, Light,’ is a literal translation of the Latin phrase ‘Post tenebras lux,’ which became a kind of motto for the Protestant reformers.”

The Symphonic Band will finish with “Blue Shades” by Frank Ticheli. This piece will feature an extended clarinet solo by junior Sarah Shively, the 2009 recipient of the Herman and Elizabeth Ritsema Family Music Scholarship.

Computer programming team advance to world finals in Sweden

BY KRISTIN KODIMA

April 18 to 22, Northwestern seniors Ben Kester, John Calsbeek and Curt Van Wyk participated in the Association for Computing Machinery International Collegiate Programming Contest’s World Finals in Stockholm, Sweden at the Royal Institute of Technology.

The team did not know what to expect for the World Finals having never reached this level.

NW and Iowa State University were the Iowa teams present at the competition. NW was among some of the most prestigious schools in the world, including Oxford, MIT and Stanford.

Kester said that it was “near to be in a completely different setting after doing so well in the local competitions.” The library at the Royal Institute of Technology was completely cleared out and was filled with rows of desks and computers. Teams that spoke different languages were placed next to each other so that cheating was not an issue.

While one person manned the computer, the remaining team members would assist in figuring out the problem. Although NW did not complete any of the eleven problems, neither did many other schools.

As many prestigious universities were present, the atmosphere was intimidating. But according to Calsbeek, “there is so much adrenaline in the room, you can’t be intimidated.”

Michael Wallinga, instructor of computer science, enjoyed the other team’s cordiality. During the competition, Wallinga and the other coaches watched the competition on a live feed elsewhere.

“No matter what team somebody was there for, if a team answered a problem correctly, everybody cheered,” Wallinga said.

“There was a spirit of challenge and not of being cut-throat.”

Working on problems didn’t take up all the time spent in Sweden. The few free days the programming team had were spent touring Stockholm.

“Seeing how the Royal Institute of Technology was able to make the competition work with all the different languages and cultures was incredible,” Calsbeek said.
SGA announces possible trayless dining next fall

BY LEANN JOHNSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As students return to Northwestern’s campus next fall, it is possible that the cafeteria trays will not be joining them; the SGA unanimously approved a motion to begin trayless dining in the cafeteria at the start of the next school year. Their proposal to eliminate trays gained the support of Sodexo and the administrative council. Their proposal to eliminate trays at the start of the next school year.

“Trayless Tuesday” last year. Last fall, the SGA hosted a trayless week and this spring students went trayless for three weeks for a Day of Learning in Community contest.

Senior Carson Norine, president of SGA, said that although some members of the SGA originally disagreed with the proposal, after examining the results of first semester’s trayless week, they, “saw what it specifically did for NW, and that really opened some eyes.”

Before and during the trayless week, Todd Tracy, professor of biology, conducted research with his Environmental Science class and the SGA about the amount of food wasted in the cafeteria. The data collected showed that the amount of food wasted reduced 19 percent of the food and 42 percent of the beverages students throw away. This translates into NW saving nearly five tons of food and 2,000 gallons of beverage annually.

During the trayless week, the SGA also conducted a survey to find out what the students thought about it. They asked students, “Would you be willing to give up your tray to help NW cut back on food and water waste?” Of the 438 students (42 percent of students on a meal plan) that responded, 57.1 percent responded “yes,” 21.7 percent responded “don’t care” and 21.2 percent responded “no.”

After gaining proof of the large impact that going trayless had for NW and finding that almost 80 percent of students have a “why not?” attitude toward going trayless, the SGA approved a motion for NW to begin trayless dining next fall.

The motion includes several provisions, including having the Sodexo checker provide trays for people who have special/medical needs and having the SGA annually evaluate the continuation of trayless dining.

Overall, Norine believes that this is a huge step for NW, with results that will add up quickly, including a decrease in student food waste and Sodexo production costs.

Right photo by Anna Yarrow

The winners of the Battle of the Mighty Floyd: junior Jeff Regan, freshman Devin Thompson and senior Jerome Hoegh row away to the finish line.

Correction for the April 24 Beacon issue:
The dance team photo credit belongs to Doug Burg. It was not courtesy of the NW Dance team as we had indicated.
Heemstra and West scheme against Obama

BY B. MINE’ER HERS
LORD OF THE BRITONS

Lately, rumors have been spreading around campus regarding two of the male dorms. Apparently, West and Heemstra Halls are working together to sabotage the States’ economy. According to most sources, the purpose for this is so that Northwestern will not have sufficient funds to build the new dorm that has been planned to replace them.

Most of the men who were approached about the matter simply denied the existence of such a plot. However, there are some who were more open to discussing it. When asked whether or not the rumors were true, Heemstra resident J. Whostheboss responded with a simple and clear “Yes.” Whostheboss was also questioned as to how exactly the two dorms have been going about their schemes. His answer was “Dynamite. Lots of it. Also some napalm. Yeah…” Whostheboss denied all accusations of terrorism.

...and Straight (KIRS) are rallying of terrorism.

Sophomore E. Rod spoke on his own role in the conspiracy. “Todo procede como previsto. Esto es solamente el primer paso en mi complot para dominación mundial,” explained E. Rod. “Algin día, todos van a ser mis esclavos.” These are indeed powerful words. Perhaps there is more to this situation than meets the eye.

Some of the men involved believe that if nothing is done, soon all of NW will be in trouble. Junior Nickle Wolf expressed his concern on the matter. “First it’s just this one dorm, then what comes after that? This doesn’t just end with Heemstra and West. We’ll eventually see Hospers and Fern combine. They’ll take down Coly for another parking lot. There might even be co-ed dorms! We have to do something before it’s too late.”

However, many people do not see things the same way. Tin Of Paan, who has never lived in either of the two dorms, was a bit upset when he found out that West and Heemstra were to blame for the recession. “I guess I understand why they’re doing it, but I just wish they did it in a way that didn’t cause hundreds of companies to go bankrupt. It’s really kind of selfish of them.”

Whether or not their tactics and motives are respectable, it appears that the two dorms have placed our nation in a situation from which will take a long time to recover. All of the suffering may have been for nothing, as the administration of NW still appears to be intent on building the new dorm. Whether escalated attacks will occur in the future is yet to be determined.

Student group would cancel rights for gays and lesbians

BY CHARLES THE SIMPLE
KING OF TOOLS

A group of students calling themselves Keep Iowa Regular and Straight (KIRS) are rallying to support an amendment to the Iowa Constitution that would define marriage exclusively as being between “one man and one woman.”

While they’re at it, they’re also considering defining a family as “A heterosexual couple with maybe two or three kids, a dog, an SUV, a house in a nice neighborhood, with a weed-free lawn, shade trees, some tulips, a swing set, a barbecue and a few bikes and mopeds, with a summer vacation to Yellowstone or Disneyland.”

KIRS is reacting to a recent decision by the Iowa Supreme Court, declaring that there is no constitutional basis for discriminating against gays and lesbians when it comes to civil marriage.

Because the decision cites the Iowa motto, “Our Liberties We Prize and Our Rights We Will Maintain,” KIRS is also planning to propose a change to the motto to “something less liberal-sounding,” according to their leader, sophomore Rush Dimbo.

Inspired by Iowa Fifth District Congressman Steve King’s declaration (quoted in the SC Journal) that this unanimous decision of the court means that, “our worst fears have been realized,” group leaders have announced that it’s time to quit worrying about such lesser fears as two wars, global climate change, crime, terrorism, declining energy supplies, environmental degradation, loss of jobs, lack of affordable health care, poverty, famine, a possible flu pandemic and the worldwide economic collapse.

Instead, they will focus their efforts on preventing gays and lesbians from gaining equal access to the tax, social security and insurance benefits enjoyed by heterosexual couples and from having the right to visit a loved one in the hospital, make emergency and end-of-life decisions for them, declare a lifetime commitment to another person, make emergency and end-of-life decisions for them, declare a lifetime commitment to another person, make emergency and end-of-life decisions for them, declare a lifetime commitment to another person, make emergency and end-of-life decisions for them, declare a lifetime commitment to another person, make emergency and end-of-life decisions for them, declare a lifetime commitment to another person.

“Christians must rally to fight this menace,” said a KIRS member. Dimbo added, “If we let people like that have all this normal stuff, they might start seeming kinda like the rest of us, and then where would we be?”

Graduation: An Integration of Culture and Learning

BY PEACHY KEEN
FRUIT FARMER

Each May, the Orange City community experiences two short-and-fast periods of economic and social infux, two weekends of scurrying visitors eager to explore Northwestern and discover the Dutch. This year, the city will dare to see what happens when they combine the two events that put Orange City on the map.

Saturday, May 16 not only marks the culmination of 285 graduating seniors’ NW experiences, but the final full day of Orange City’s much-acclaimed annual Tulip Festival. Much debate has surrounded the issue, with City Council members threatening to vandalize the college. Due to the neat and tidy nature of the Dutch, however, threats were never carried through.

In an effort to soothe tension, make peace and keep from further division within the Reformed tradition, the academic and Dutch world will unite, sharing in a number of integrated events. “We thought it would be best to make the most of the scheduling fiasco,” said council member Von Klaussen. “By combining college and city events, we make it possible for visitors to see as much as possible.”

Friday night is traditionally when NW holds its baccalaureate service. But, this year, the service will join forces with the Tulip Festival’s Night Show performance of Brigadoon. Seniors will dress in pastoral clothing and recount their time at NW in dream-like fashion. Celtic music will be played during the cutting of the cord at the end of the service. Attendees are encouraged to process to the Remedy Drive Concert directly afterward.

Saturday morning’s Road Race will end at the Bultman Center just as the graduation ceremony begins. Led by the Tulip Queen herself, graduates will begin processing on 1st and Central, where they will join in sweeping the streets and Dutch dancing prior to commencement exercises. A horse-drawn trolley car will be used to transport distinguished faculty and commencement speakers. Following graduation, poffertjes will be served at a small reception in the RSC.

“I think this will be a wonderful way for the city and the college to unite,” said president Kraig Misty. “I’m looking forward to finding my inner Dutch, and am especially anticipating a Petty cab ride around Zwemer.”

The weekend will be a learning experience, furthering the education of graduates and the community alike.
2032: The mini-gym equipment is new!

BY ALWAYS SMILEY
TIME TRAVELLER

Giant golden scissors snapped as the red ribbon was cut to the entrance of the long-awaited, updated RSC mini-gym.

The first inquiry for new exercise equipment was introduced by the SGA about the turn of the millennium. One treadmill was added in 2010, however, economic problems and other priorities prevented NW from updating any more.

“We’ve had a lot of updates to make,” president Lance De Vander Schaaf said. “Now, it’s time we make students’ dreams a reality.”

Maintenance staff used their new hovercrafts to bring in the new equipment.

Twelve electric exercise bikes, five elliptical machines with attached radios and fans, three treadmills and two stair-step machines with television screens have been added to the mini-gym.

The old windbikes have been donated to The Center for Veteran Rehabilitation in Bogota, Colombia.

Students felt happy when they heard about the updates, but are not sure these machines are up-to-date.

“When I’m at home, we have machines that send electrical impulses through you to burn calories and tone muscles,” sophomore Sara TenDenSchul said. “I’m not sure I want to spend hours on those older machines to burn calories when I can do it without trying on another machine.”

Alumni director, Bet C. Poppyseed, said that she remembers pining after new equipment when she attended Northwestern 2005-2009.

“We all dreamed of having updated equipment,” Poppyseed said. “I would have killed to have this stuff.”

She’s not convinced that the equipment is what is needed today though.

“It’s nice stuff, but I still don’t know how much the students will use it now,” she said. “What do you say, ‘Go grab your jetpack and ride over to the RSC to spend an hour working out on elliptical? But remember to bring your headphones, you can listen to the radio.’ I’m not sure students even have headphones anymore, most already have the stick-on chip where they can get XM radio anywhere.”

No matter how much the equipment will be used, the SGA is still appreciative to NW for finally recognizing their request.

De Vander Schaaf said. “Thank you NW for listening to the students and fulfilling their dreams.”

Frost your own. Fry your own: Taking cafeteria favorites a step further

BY PEACHY KEEN
FRUIT FARMER

You cross the street, follow the sidewalk under the canopy, go by the fountain, pass through the doors and join the herd of hungry students waiting to see what culinary wonders are in store for dinner. You swipe your card, pick up a tray—or wait to see what culinary wonders are in store for dinner. You swipe your card, pick up a tray—or wait to see what new and exciting sandwich awaits you.

“Is this heaven?” you ask yourself. “No,” says a friendly Sodexo employee as she rips open another bag of salad and gently tosses the leaves into the black plastic bin, “it’s the cafeteria.”

You may not think “heaven” when you enter the caf, but over the course of the past year or so, remarkable changes have been made in Northwestern’s cafeteria.

“I think the caf has really brought their ‘A game this year,” senior Sara Smiles said. “I especially appreciate the middle line. I can hardly wait to see what new and exciting sandwich awaits me.”

Freshman Steve De Something agreed.

“I can hardly believe all of my options,” De Something said. “At home we had frozen pizza for dinner every night. Don’t get me wrong, I like my Tombstone, but here in the caf I can try something different each time I come. I can even have pasta and waffle sticks in the same meal.”

In light of such positive feedback (and perhaps in order to keep their contract) Sodexo is kicking it up a notch. A committee of very creative people was organized to brainstorm ways that the caf could keep up the good work and increase the satisfaction of its eaters. Here are just a few:

Due to the popularity of “frost your own cupcake,” “frost your own cookies” and even “frost your own miniature wedding cake was also suggested.

As an extension of NW’s desire to create a more global mindset and offer more diverse food options, one line in the caf will begin offering “convenience meals,” composed of items you can find at your local Casey’s. Twinkies, Polish dogs, mustard-flavored pretzels and Red Bull are a few of the items that might make an appearance.

“A number of people live off of gas station food,” a committee member said. “We think it would be a great way for students to let their creative juices flow,” one committee member said.

The option of icing your own chocolate, strawberry icing, and even investing in some pastry bags, fake flowers and decorating tips.

“We thought broccoli would be a good choice, and maybe mushroom as well,” a committee member said.

Using frozen vegetables was suggested as a way to keep the water cold, save money and serve students at the same time.

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Perfectly inexpensive wedding venues

BY A MAN IS WRONG

Spring is in the air and so are the delightful squeals of seniors getting engaged all over campus.

How many times have you turned on your computer to find that one program or another is in need of an update? How many of them already have benches and tables for public use. Some even have a grill ready to be fired up.

Another great option would be your parent's backyard. If dad is up for it, he might be your parent's backyard barbeques. There's nothing better than that.

Looking for a nice scenic venue for the ceremony? Ask around for locations of roadside parks; many of them already have benches and tables for public use. Some even have a grill ready to be fired up.

Another great option would be your parent's backyard. If dad is up for it, he might be your parent's backyard barbeques. There's nothing better than that.

The Terabytes wreak havoc through “Terms and Conditions”

BY CUDYLY SWAN

How many times have you turned on your computer to find that one program or another is in need of an update? How many times have you abandonedly clicked yes to progress through the update and agreed to the “Terms and Conditions” without bothering to read more? It’s become a common occurrence.

The group of IT technicians who refer to themselves as The Terabytes, innocuously maneuver the unwanted agreements into the “Terms and Conditions” of the updates on their computers. The FBI is working around the clock to find the source of The Terabytes has yet to be discovered. The FBI is working around the clock to find the source of The Terabytes has yet to be discovered. The FBI is working around the clock to find the source of The Terabytes has yet to be discovered. The FBI is working around the clock to find the source of The Terabytes has yet to be discovered.

The Terabytes just took him from me,” said Raul Girdlemale, Northwestern’s Academic Computing Manager.

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Swimming with the Profs

BY ROACH REESES AND REIGNY KNIGHT
FUN-LOVING ROOMMATES

Synchronized Swimming with the Profs will debut this Sat. May 2 at the Sioux Center All Seasons Center. Eight student-professor pairs will take turns making their splash in the 4-foot section of the pool.

Unlike Dancing with the Profs, this competition requires participants to develop the choreography. All of the pairs have reserved different blocks of time at the pool so their competitors don’t steal their moves or costumes.

One guideline for the competition includes wearing matching wet suits that embodies their song. Contestants are not allowed to use flippers or flotation devices. Goggles must be clear, so that the audience and judges can view the swimmer’s emotions.

Center chlorine, she performed her routine using, I freaked out,” Track said. “I love ‘It’ by Will Smith.

Their first day of practice proved difficult, as Kung couldn’t stop creating monstrous bubbles after eating a Chile cheese dog and “downing three cans of Dr. Pepper.” However, before the next day’s practice, he opted for the fruit salad instead.

After overcoming that setback, they dove right into their routine. Creating top-notch choreography was challenging for Kung and Knop.

Another pair, junior Betty Kluster and professor of ancient knowledge Marty Kung, will keep the Lord of the Rings alive through their rendition of “May It Be” by Enya.

As this is Kung’s first synchronized swimming experience, he has been a little leery of joining the competition. This team has been preparing for two weeks and their journey hasn’t been the smoothest.

Their heart and soul.”

“Some students were not thrilled with the idea of a cap and gown competition requires participating professors and their overall performance of the routine.

“Some students were not thrilled with the idea of a cap and gown,” Track said. “I love ‘It’ by Will Smith."

Contestants are not allowed to use flippers or flotation devices. Goggles must be clear, so that the audience and judges can view the swimmer’s emotions.

There have been many moments of laughter between this pair. According to Kluster, watching Kung practice the Rocket Split was “a priceless moment” and she ended up losing her left eye contact.

“Even though we had to call it quits that day, I had a blast,” Kluster said. “One time I even got cramped from watching Marty swallow too much water after tipping over.”

The remaining six couples are also looking forward to this event and know that all of their hard work will pay off.

“My family and friends are excited to watch,” Track said. “But, after a few hours of rest, I jumped back in. Synchronized swimming is my life and I couldn’t stand the thought of someone else winning the Golden Goggle trophy.”

Job testing: finding your place

BY KATYDIO GRAHAM
SUPPORTIVE

With the current economic crisis, graduating students are looking at their soon-to-be-completed degrees as something that is in no way going to help them receive the job they’ve dreamed of all their lives.

According to a recent and very reliable poll, 100 percent of May 2009 graduates not only get to keep their cap and gown as a souvenir, but also receive the added bonus of a staggering amount of debt. Nevertheless, many of the students remain optimistic about their future.

“I know starting off with a whole bunch of debt is not the most ideal way to start life on my own,” senior Iva Richdad said, “but I know everything will work out, it always does.”

However, members of Northwestern’s Student Academic Development (SAD) board have decided to approach the problem a bit more proactively.

“We always talk about vocare on this campus as a way to inspire students to discover,” commented committee chair Claire Asmudd. “Well, we’re not really sure what vocare is either, but we think the program we are instituting this year will help eliminate all the work and confusion involved in that pursuit.”

There is an experimental program being instituted at NW this year. As a drastic attempt to combat the problems students are encountrering on the job search, a new form of job qualification testing is now available and mandatory to all graduating students, regardless of major.

As of this year, not only will seniors have the opportunity to take the standard Myers-Briggs, Stafford loan exit counseling, Northwest Iowa trivia and GRE tests, but they will also take the Job Isolation and Placement (JIP) test.

The JIP test is comprised of 300 multiple choice, 30 matching, 15 short answer and three essay questions to determine personality, intelligence and seasonal allergy levels. There will also be one current-events extra-credit question.

Students will take the test one month before graduation and will later receive the results, along with their recommended occupation and the name and location of the employer that has hired them.

Rather than mailing the results to students along with their diplomas following graduation, school officials will have each student’s individual results emailed to their NW account as a way to make the process more convenient.

Students are required to work at least two years at the job and location to which they are assigned. Following the obligatory two-year term, students that wish to change occupations will be allowed to retake the exam and be reassigned.

Although news of this extreme shift in policy has a few students upset, others are excited about the benefits of the JIP test.

“Now I don’t have to worry about finding time to go to the Career Development Center to make resumes and cover letters,” senior Tom Orowsbetter said. “Nobody really uses those things anymore anyway.”

Decorations year-round? NW takes themed housing a step further

BY WITLALLO STEGOSAURUS
NOT TOTOPHORAISED

Due to the clear interest in the allotted campus married housing, Northwestern will reserve additional campus residencies for themed housing in the 2010-2011 school year.

Although specific themes have not been officially announced, a planning committee is working with several ideas for the project.

To correspond with married housing, several apartments in the Plexes will be set aside for engaged couples, separated by gender. This way, brides-to-be can confine their stressed planning to a limited area, and grooms-to-be can live together as a mutual support group. In the 2011-2012 school year, additional housing may be made available for recovering bridesmaids.

Other apartments will be set aside for year-round decorative housing, similar to Steggy Keggy, Coxy Christmas or Heemstra Harvest.

Potential themes include Disney, the Wild West, Popular Musicals, Kenya, Under the Sea and the 1970s.

In addition to the hallways, apartment living areas will also be transformed, although residents may choose whether or not their bedrooms will be decorated. Residents may be required to dress in related costumes, but this has not been officially decided.

The new themed housing will likely occupy an additional Plex, a majority of Bolks A and C, as well as the first floor of Coly.

The planning committee thinks that students will respond positively to the increased amount of themed housing.

“We think students will see the new themed housing as a worthy community-building cause,” said committee member Yunita Cashews, “so they won’t mind that only a handful of them will get into the apartments their senior year.”

Student reactions so far have been mixed.

“I’m actually pretty excited about it,” admitted Anna Vandenosse. “I’m always a little depressed when we have to tear down Steggy Keggy. I think it’d be so cool to live like that all year.

Others are less enthusiastic.

“I think we should at least be able to vote on themes,” added Ann Otherstuden. “I don’t want to go ‘Under the Sea’ to visit my friends. It sounds scary to me.”

Anyone with a flair for the exciting is eligible for application. Applicants may list their top two preferred themes, but are not guaranteed to be placed in their theme of choice.

Continuation of themed housing depends on its success in 2010-2011.

THE END
First tennis season ends with a 5-4 win over Buena Vista University

BY RENEE NYHOF

The Red Raider tennis team closed their season last night with a 5-4 win over Buena Vista in a non-conference tennis match last Monday. Northwestern finished 4-5 overall and seventh in the GPAC at 3-6.

To start against BVU, freshmen Julie Mineart picked up two Raider wins. First, in her no. 1 singles match, she achieved a 6-2 and 6-0 win over her opponent. Then she joined forces with junior Jessica Pomerene in no. 1 doubles, defeating their opponent, 8-5, 6-3 and 6-4.

Five champions, two national qualifiers for the track teams at USF Invite

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT

SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern track and field teams faced cold temperatures and high winds at the USF Invitational last Friday, but brought home 21 top-five performances.

Two national qualifying performances came from junior Kyle Sauter and sophomore Logan Ogden. Sauter ran the 110-meter hurdles in 15.06 seconds to win the event, while Ogden threw 50 feet, 1.25 inches to win the shot-put. Sauter also added a second place in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 56.49.

Other Raider champions were junior Emily De Weerd, who won the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 1:25 inches to win the shot-put. Sauter also added a second place in the 3000-meter steeplechase with a time of 10:24.07. Sophomore teammate Akacia Wentworth placed fourth in the event with 13:34.3.

NW was well-represented in the women's 400-meter hurdles, as sophomores Corrie Fauk and Amy Sauter took second place with 1:08.8 and sophomore Stacey Dietrich took fourth with 1:11.8. Freshman Allison Weeldreyer finished second in the 500-meter run with a time of 1:56.2 and was closely followed by sophomore Sara Hess, who ran a 1:50.0 to finish third. Freshman Elizabeth Stevens threw a school record-breaking 104-11 in the javelin to place second, while freshman teammate Bridgett Hasche finished right behind in third (104-0).

Freshman Andrew Johnson finished second in the men's 400-meter hurdles with a time of 52.20. Sophomore Kristin Neth ran a 22:27 in the 800-meter run to take third, and junior Luke Hofmeyer added two fourth place finishes, running 11:29 in the 100-meter dash and 23.06 in the 200-meter dash.

Senior Derrick Rensink ran a 16:42 in the 110-meter hurdles to finish in fourth place. Sophomore Paul Lundgren placed fourth in the discus with a heave of 44-11.7 and sophomore Mark Mineart also placed fourth, clearing 6-3.5 in the high jump. Sophomore Lucas Peterson added a fifth place finish in the long jump, leaping 20-7.7, while senior Matt Roese added a fourth place finish in the long jump.

“Since it was the first year for our program, we had a rough start,” said Mineart. “However, where we ended up at the end of the season was even better than any of us expected. I’m really excited for next season. We’re going to do nothing but get better.”

Softball finishes home season with two wins over Mount Marty

BY RENEE NYHOF

The Northwestern College softball team finished the home portion of their scheduled games with a pair of conference wins over Mount Marty Friday night. Game one ended with a 6-3 victory and game two ended after five innings with a 16-6 victory. The Raiders totaled 16 hits, led by senior Rachel Hermann who went 3-for-4 with four RBIs and two runs scored, and junior Sara Curry added two hits and three runs.

Even with a losing season, Hulsart said the team remained positive, which made the season fun. He hopes the team will hang on to their positivity for their last game and for next year.

For the Raider’s season finale, they will travel to Bellevue, Neb. to take on the Bruins this Saturday.
Baseball splits against Briar Cliff, Dordt

BY CAMERON CARLOW

The seniors of the Northwestern baseball team played their final stretch of games this past week. The Raiders competed in two double headers, the first against Briar Cliff and the second against Dordt, going 1-1 in each.

Against the Chargers of Briar Cliff on Friday, April 24, the Raiders lost the first game, 3-4, but bounced back with a win in the second game, posting a 4-3 victory.

“I think we played well as a team,” junior shortstop Brad Payne said. “It was nice to see the team battle throughout both games although it has been a frustrating year for us as a whole.”

In the first game, NW got a strong pitching performance from sophomore Drew Nonnemacher, who threw six and three innings, giving up only two earned runs off six hits. The Raiders took a 3-2 lead in the sixth, but the Crusaders managed to put up two runs in the final inning to pull out the 4-3 victory.

In game two against Briar Cliff, the Raiders battled closely before Payne scored the game-winning run in the seventh off a throwing error. Payne pitched six innings for the Raiders, giving up three runs before being relieved by freshman Jared Kirkeby in the seventh, who picked up the victory.

Junior center fielder Matt Gray went 1-for-2 in the first game for NW and scored one run, then followed it up in game two going 2-for-4 and picking up another run.

“He was hitting the ball well and it is nice to see him cover so much ground out in center field,” Payne said. “Some of the balls that are hit to him will come out of nowhere and make a catch. It is nice to have a guy that can patrol the outfield like that.”

Along with Gray, sophomore catcher Clint Gingerich performed well, going 1-for-1 and being walked twice in game one, and then scoring a run in the second game.

“He’s a guy that coaches love to have because he will give it his all no matter what position he’s playing in the field or in the batting line-up,” Payne said.

In the two games combined Payne went 4-for-6 with an RBI and scored two runs himself.

Women’s Golf

Chelsea Harberts said one of her favorite memories was playing in Arizona her sophomore year and all of the blessings that came from the trip. The daughter of Lennis and Marvella Harberts, her hometown is Sidney.

Rachael Mineart is from Sheldon. The golfer is the daughter of Brad and Mary Jo Koeningberg. Kelsey Shiflett, from Humboldt, is the daughter of Dan and Candy Shiflett. Her favorite memory is any golf trip in the van.

Carrie Spree really enjoyed being on the women’s golf team because it taught her how to be a student-athlete and balance her time when it came to studying and preparing to play the next meet. The daughter of Rod and Judy Spree, she is from Parkersburg.

Lisa Wiersma, of Hawkeye, is the daughter of Bill and Kathy Horn. She says the best thing about being a Red Raider is “building relationships with people who love God and love the sport that you’re playing.”

Softball

Gabrielle “Gavvi” Burrola advises underclassmen to “Train hard and don’t be afraid to push the limits; it’s always better to try to reach your potential than to always wonder what things could have been like.”

Derrick Rensink, of Clinton, Wis., was a hurler for the Raiders. His parents are Clyde and Debbie.

Women’s golf finishes strong

BY BRITTANY MOORE

Last week, the Northwestern women’s golf team finished its season third in the GPAC conference at Landsmeer, where they competed in the fourth and final GPAC Qualifier.

After four grueling rounds of play, the women finished behind runner-up University of Sioux Falls, and champion Dakota Wesleyan.

Northwestern missed out on qualifying for the NAIA Championship by 20 shots.

Some individual stand-out performances included those by senior Carrie Spree and junior Rachelle Pedersen, who tied for second on the day at 85.

Freshman Andria Hinz and senior Kelsey Shiflett also did well, tying for 16th, and sophomore Maggie Achterhof tied for 24th with a 94.

Senior Captain Carrie Spree ended up 11th overall in the conference, missing out on the top ten by only two strokes.

Women’s golf finishes strong

BY BRITTANY MOORE

To get ready for the match, the women’s golf team prepared mostly mentally, as schoolwork kept them from getting much time on the course.

“It goes for every team, so we didn’t feel too unprepared going into the meet,” Spree said.

Senior Kelsey Shiflett said, “We prepared both mentally and physically all winter, and we played three meets the week before the qualifier to prepare.”

Although the Raiders placed third overall in the GPAC conference, they placed second for the day, with a score of 352 behind Dakota Wesleyan at 341.

Going into the meet, Shiflett, “was excited to see what we could do.”

In the final round, Northwestern shot a 352, but that wasn’t enough to take second place overall from USF.

The Raiders are done for the season, but they will soon be back in action next fall.