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Three band groups take the concert stage this weekend

BY SARA JANZEN

This weekend the music department will present two concerts for the student body and community. Tonight the Symphonic Band will perform at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel. The Symphonic Band, directed by Tim McGarvey, professor of music, will play seven pieces.

"Each of the pieces represent various places around the world and are from a variety of perspectives," said McGarvey. One of those places is Valencia, Spain. The band will perform "Valencia," the third movement from French composer Jacques Ibert's piece "Escapes." The piece was originally written for orchestra, but rewritten by McGarvey for band through NW's Summer Scholarship Grant program. McGarvey described rewriting the piece as considerable work but also a creative process.

The band will perform several folk songs by composer and arranger Perry Grainger and the end theme from the 1985 film "Silverado," composed by Bruce Boughton and arranged by Randol Bass. This piece will feature the direction of student conductor Larissa (Harwood) Poppen.

Along with the Jazz Band, the Percussion Ensemble will perform Saturday evening. The Percussion Ensemble is directed by Dan Duffield and comprised of 10 selected percussion players.

Among the songs the Ensemble will perform are Thomas O'Connor's Far East-inspired piece "Oriental" and Kenneth C. Krause's "Little Suite." Duffield defined this piece as a staple in percussion ensemble music. The ensemble will end with "Dragoon" by Lynn Glassock, which will feature South American jungle and tribal sounds.

BY JANICE SWIER

The Northwestern Theatre Department will present Frank Galati's adaptation of John Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath." Opening night is Friday, Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m., and there will be performances on the nights of the 10th and Nov. 14 to 17.

This portrayal follows the Joad family during the Great Depression. They are evicted from their Oklahoma farm and head to California with the promise of jobs and a better life that can save them from starvation. The Joad family, accompanied by disillusioned preacher Jim Casey, faces series of trials that test the family's strength.

Director Bob Hubbard assures that Galati's adaptation follows Steinbeck's book closely, with no lines in the play not coming straight from the book. While some parts of the book were not included in the play, the adaptation still stayed faithful enough to the story to win Broadway's Tony Award for Best Play in 1990.

Hubbard says that this production has been a huge undertaking. With cast members playing 44 different characters it has been challenging to pull the whole thing together. Also, there were some technical difficulties that the crew and cast had to find creative solutions for.

"The Grapes of Wrath" is one of the first Broadway performances that Hubbard ever saw, and ever since he saw it he knew that he wanted to do something with it.

"It is challenging, but it is also a redemptive story that is affirming of the gospel," said Hubbard.

One of the most important characters in this performance is Jim Casey, a preacher who exemplifies the Christian struggle in living out faith.

"I hope the audience understands the character of Jim Casey and what he's all about," said Tony Wilder, who plays Tom Joad, "I hope they think about how he constantly struggled to find a way to put his faith into action in a way that actually helps people. Hopefully the audience will really think about this dilemma and come up with answers for themselves."

This performance deals with a lot of serious issues and has some adult content.

"The Grapes of Wrath" is a provocative show," said Hannah McBride, who plays Ma Joad, "it is gritty, a little uncomfortable at times, and full of difficult life moments. Confronting life is healthy, that reason alone is enough to make me endorse this show."

This play demonstrates the importance of the social responsibility of our faith. Hubbard said that our individualistic society often focuses on the gospel as only meaning a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and while that is very important, the Bible also calls us to live in community. Christians are supposed to serve the "least of these."

"At its best," said Hubbard, "The Grapes of Wrath' reveals to us our corporal body and our social responsibility."

Tickets for the production can be reserved by calling or e-mailing the DeWitt Theatre box office, or you can arrive early on the night of a performance.

NC/DC Extreme Remix semi-finals!

Come watch NW's four finalist teams compete against Dordt in a battle of singing and dancing!

Saturday, Nov. 10 at 10 p.m.
B.J. Haan Auditorium—Dordt College
Election 2008: Meet the Democrats

A leader for reconciliation: Obama for President

BY CARL VANDERMEULEN

I tend to support any of the six leading Democratic candidates for the presidency, but after seven years of being mis-led in both senses of the word, I want to be sure we elect a Democratic president and Congress, so we can overcome divisions and move ahead on serious problems, especially political unrest and global climate change. The current poll leader, Hillary Clinton, has so many opposed to her that she would have a hard time winning, and even if she wins, she would have a difficult time bringing the nation and the parties together.

[His] ethos, intelligence and rhetorical ability create the possibility of a president who can inspire and lead at a time when we need a leader.

Obama has somewhat fewer people supporting him, but he has only half as many already opposed to him. Moreover, he has earned a reputation for bringing people together. That is evident at his rallies: a reputation for bringing people supporting him, but he has not been bringing together. That is evident at his rallies: a reputation for bringing people together.

The policies of the current administration have widened the gap between rich and poor, threatening democracy itself. Barack has been a community worker, part of an effort to rebuild poor communities in Chicago. Such communities and their people will not be invisible to a President Obama.

And his African heritage will help him identify with the world and begin to change America’s recently acquired reputation of being an arrogant nation, exercising power because we can.

He does lack the international experience of Biden or Richardson, but he had the good judgment to recognize a dumb war and to call it that, and this was before it began killing thousands and costing billions (eventually perhaps two trillion), resulting in less security for us and a still-uncertain outcome for Iraq. (Calculate your share of the cost and decide if you’re getting your money’s worth.) A president with good judgment can appoint advisers with experience, but good judgment is irreplaceable.

Embracing a Global Community: Hillary for President

BY JEN SHAFER

In the past four years, I have left the United States twice. The first time, I went to the United Kingdom and France, and my group and I were advised to say we were Canadian if anyone asked where we were from. Riots against the United States and George Bush’s foreign policy happened all around us the entire time we were there. The second time, just this past summer, I was in Ghana, West Africa. Many Ghanaians are supremely interested in the upcoming election because it means a change in foreign policy, which directly affects them. We talked about Ghanaian politics and American politics. When I asked, many Ghanaians nationals told me they supported Hillary Clinton. When I asked why, they told me it was because she had been there; she had spoken to them. And they liked what she had to say.

Our foreign relations have been decimated in the last eight years. The alliances Bill Clinton made during his tenure have been severed even and our most dedicated allies have turned bitter and angry toward us. Hillary Clinton can help repair that. In our ever-globalizing world, we need to work cooperatively with every nation, not manipulate and steal from them. Hillary has a long-standing rapport with the countries we have been neglecting and can help repair our broken ties, which will strengthen the global community, not just our own.

But maybe you care very little about the global community and want to see what Hillary is doing domestically. As a senator, Hillary has been endeavoring to bring about reforms in college pricing. She has consistently fought to increase the Federal Pell Grant and has proposed tax credit for college tuition. Our college tuition increases five to seven percent every year. If this trend continues without more federal support, we will eliminate the hope of those who need it the most.

These issues are very important to me because they directly affect me. Obviously, everyone will have different reasons for voting for their own candidate, but these are mine. For those of you who are concerned that a woman cannot run our country, take note. Many of you will have daughters someday, daughters who will sit on your knee and listen closely when you tell them they can be whatever they want to be. Don’t lie to them. I remember being young and telling my mom I was going to be the first woman President of the United States. I’m willing to give that dream up if it means Hillary Clinton will be. This is why I will be voting for Hillary this spring.

Embodying the American Dream: Edwards for President

BY JAMES BIERLY

Feeling disillusioned with Obama (who had been supporting from the beginning) in the wake of his reckless statements on Pakistan, and fairly unimpressed by Clinton, I went to see John Edwards speak at Windmill Park this summer. Whereas most other candidates I’d seen started off with a bit about themselves, Edwards took a few moments to orient himself before launching into a discussion of the influence of corporate lobbyists in Washington.

He is articulate and intelligent, and intelligent critique of the ways in which corporate interests stand in the way of meaningful change on a variety of issues, especially health care reform.

Edwards told the story of a man he met on the campaign trail who had been unable to speak for decades because he could not afford a simple operation and asked how such a situation could happen in America.

He explained that the reason prescription drug bills are so ineffective is that the people we elect to represent us are in the pocket of the drug companies, who get to basically write the legislation themselves. His Iraq plan was detailed and dealt with both an exit from Iraq and possible “worse case scenario” of a U.S. withdrawal, and his plan for ending serious poverty by 2036 by “making work pay” and increasing opportunities for college and business training sounded both well thought out and perfectly achievable.

Edwards also seemed to have an excellent knowledge of environmental issues and a concrete plan for how to deal with them while creating jobs and bolstering the economy.

I was convinced by his no-nonsense approach to campaigning, fiery enthusiasm about the problems of our day and optimistic enthusiasm for the potential he sees in America. I was also impressed by his detailed knowledge of and plans to address global poverty and labor exploitation, which are issues that most other candidates pay lip service to but place nowhere near the top of their agenda.

Since then, I’ve been a fairly consistent Edwards supporter. Edwards embodies the American Dream, having worked his way up from being a worker in a textile mill his father worked 36 years in, to being a wealthy lawyer, senator and presidential candidate. He’s dedicated himself to fighting for the kids of people he grew up with, and making the political system work for ordinary people. He also strikes me as one of the most honest politicians I’ve encountered. He readily admits mistakes he has made, and is transparent about his evolving thought process on most issues.

This quality is balanced by his fierce advocacy for the issues. This is why I will be voting for Hillary this spring.
“Grapes of Wrath”

wrenches with hope

American history and literature collide with a stellar ensemble

PHOTO BY KRISTIN LOREY

“Grapes of Wrath” performs November 9, 10, 14-17 at 7:30 p.m. in England Theatre. The box office can be reached at x7098 or boxoffice@nwciowa.edu. Tickets are free for NW students.

Note: arrive early for the pre-show.

ENTERTAINMENT

BY EMILY SWEET LANDEGENT

ENTERTAINMENT EDITION

WARNING: Slight plot spoilers ahead, read accordingly.

The only thing I could think of to describe the show after I watched a fully-staged dress rehearsal Wednesday night was a three-syllable expletive. And that’s not a bad thing. I was too stunned from the story, the design, the metaphors, the acting and the dust-bowlian traveling minstrel to think of any other way to describe it. Maybe that’s bad writing. Maybe that’s good theater.

At first the set design bugged me, mainly the strips of fabric hanging upstage. But when one turquoise strip was pulled down and used to symbolize the Colorado River I was sold. I loved how the “jalopy” was built onstage out of odds and ends of fabric, and the audience felt as if they were traveling with the Joads.

The only thing I could think of to do was to hold my audience’s hand, since it was true to age. Tracey Pronk, as Rose of Sharon, had an остър tone to her: giving birth on stage. My mom, who usually scoffs at portrayals of labor, would be proud. It was beautiful. And, casting Hannah McBride as Ma was perfect.

The cast is large and there are many actors who played multiple roles. This writer begs forgiveness, but they know who they are. Each carried it off, each character was distinct. I tip my hat to each of them.

The narrators, each with a wonderful voice and presence, set the mood. Their pre-show and intermission bits are a delight and inform.

Final say? American history and literature collide with a stellar ensemble of theater artists to bring some mighty fine storytelling to the stage. Ya’ll better go.

“Grapes of Wrath” performs November 9, 10, 14-17 at 7:30 p.m. in England Theatre. The box office can be reached at x7098 or boxoffice@nwciowa.edu. Tickets are free for NW students.

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ENTERTAINMENT

BY KATIE VAN ETEN

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Another victim of a vicious crime, a man lies dead in a pool of his own blood. The clues surround him, but can they be trusted? Are the witnesses telling the truth? It’s up to YOU! Only YOU can solve the mystery and bring the murderer to justice!

“TWO-MINUTE MYSTERIES,” written by Donald J. Sobol inspires an active reader’s use of imagination. This collection of 79 short, mostly murder mysteries follow Dr. Haledjian, a renowned sleuth, as he makes his way around the fictional world globe solving crimes and discarding wayward fortune hunters.

Each mystery, only about a page and a half long, has clues hidden within the text, ripe for the discovery. After reading any selected story, you can go back through the text and try to solve the crime. When you feel as though you have cracked the case, you can turn the book upside down to read the solution printed at the bottom of the page.

The mysteries range from the countryside to the city, involving common folk, balloon sellers and famous celebrities (such as fictional boxer Tony Ceronie). They also include enchanting artifacts such as cave writings, bronze nymph statues and musical performance posters.

One mystery concerning the murder of Hugh Clark, “The Case of the Coin Collector,” involves such details as a golden coin and the placement of the dead body. When Haledjian confuses the murderer by using a play on words (flour and flower), he catches him at the scene of the crime.

Though intended for an audience age range of 9 to 12, these mysteries are thrilling and tricky. Many of the resolutions contain little-known facts and can be quite challenging. (Often times even stumping this reader!)

Written in 1967, these mysteries were released when Sobol had started his world-famous Encyclopedia Brown series. Presently, he has written over sixty works, including children’s books and non-fiction, and has received worldwide acclaim. His Encyclopedia Brown series has not been out of print since its release in 1963 and is currently available in 12 languages.

Sobol’s inspiration for his “Two-Minute Mysteries” and his Encyclopedia Brown books stem from his boyhood desire to read such books. Sobol has been quoted comparing himself to Encyclopedia Brown: “He is, perhaps, the boy I wanted to be—doing the things I wanted to read about but could not find in any book when I was ten.” Donald Sobol is still alive and well. He enjoys traveling, boating, scuba diving and gardening. If you want to write him and thank him for his contributions to the literary world, you can write him at: Donald J. Sobol: c/o Children’s Publicity; Random House; 1540 Broadway; New York, NY 10036.

If you want to find a copy of “Two Minute Mysteries” you can do so at a number of used book stores and online sites. At Amazon.com, you can even find a used one for $0.01. Or, if you cannot wait and want to enjoy its wonderfulness right away, you can borrow the literary delight from me. I’m best reached by phone (x1826) and can sometimes be found where I live (apt. C, room 302).
FEATURES

Chat online and make a difference with MSN Messenger’s i’m

BY KILEY SELIGMAN
STAFF WRITER

How would you like to donate money to charity, but have it be someone else’s money that is donated just by you talking to your friends online? Sound too good to be true? Well, it’s not! Now you can make a difference in the world without even leaving your desk chair.

Microsoft began a new initiative in March 2007, called i’m, with its MSN Messenger program. With this new program, Microsoft will give a donation to a charity every time you start up a conversation with someone online. It doesn’t cost any money on your part.

i’m is a program that anyone with Messenger can join, simply by going to Messenger’s options tab and putting a code after their display name. The code tells Microsoft which charity you want to help sponsor.

There are ten charities to choose from including: American Red Cross, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, ninemillion.org, Sierra Club, StopGlobalWarming.org, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, The Humane Society of the U.S., The National AIDS Fund and UNICEF.

It can be hard to choose which organization to support, because each of these charities works with serious problems in the United States and all over the world. Curious about what each charity supports? The American Red Cross works in disaster relief. Boys & Girls Clubs provide safe places for children to learn and grow. National Multiple Sclerosis Society funds MS research and helps people overcome the challenges of living with MS. Ninemillion.org has the goal to provide education to nine million refugee children by 2010. Sierra Club works to “explore, enjoy and protect the planet.” StopGlobalWarming.org is a group that wants to, obviously, stop the effects of global warming. Susan G. Komen for the Cure fights breast cancer. The National AIDS Fund works for effective community response to the AIDS epidemic. Finally, UNICEF helps children around the world with many different needs.

There is no limit to what Microsoft will give each of these charities. Since March 2007, they have raised $201,186.67. This number can only grow as more people find out about this opportunity. Also, according to the i’m website, every i’m conversation in November and December will count as double to celebrate the release of the new Windows Live.

Once you join, you can help other people get involved as well by sending them to http://im.live.com/. At this site you can also learn how to put an MSN Messenger i’m button on your blog or website. The opportunity to e-mail your friends about this initiative is also given. In 2001, according to the ClickZ Network, people spent 13.6 billion minutes instant messaging people at home and 4.9 billion minutes instant messaging at work. Imagine how many conversations are started during that time.

According to money.cnn.com, Microsoft made an additional operating revenue of $51,122 million last year. Put together this amount of money and the amount of minutes that are spent instant messaging and we could really make a difference if we all participate.

Join i’m and make Microsoft put their money where their mouth is...or where your text is.

Want to make a difference?

Put one of these codes next to your MSN screen name

*red+u  American Red Cross
*bgca  Boys & Girls Clubs of America
*hsus  Humane Society of the U.S.
*naf  National AIDS Fund
*hsus  National Multiple Sclerosis Society
*red+u  Red Cross
*sierra  Sierra Club
*help  StopGlobalWarming.org
*komen  Susan G. Komen for the Cure
*unicef  U.S. Fund for UNICEF

To support one of these organizations

American Red Cross
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Humane Society of the U.S.
National AIDS Fund
National MS Society
ninemillion.org
Sierra Club
StopGlobalWarming.org
Susan G. Komen for the Cure
U.S. Fund for UNICEF

Stress in college? It’s become a way of life

BY JAMES BIERY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There’s no doubt about it. Northwestern College students are stressed out. “Are you stressed?" is a question that needs to be asked. Rather “What are you stressed about now?” is a question that proves to be an instant conversation starter across campus.

Most students are stressed out about homework. One student was so intent on working on a paper that he couldn’t even take the time to be interviewed for this article. I asked a few students to tell me what they were stressed about and how they cope with it. Junior Shruthi Babu explained that she handles the homework stress by setting back and creating a list of the tasks she needs to perform. Then she prioritizes them, so she has a game plan for tackling her enormous work load. This organizational structure helps her be less stressed about homework, since she always knows what she needs to do next.

Senior Zulfiya Akbarova explained that some of her stress comes from “being homesick... my dreams lately all take place at home. I’m on a bus trying to show my friends my world, but I cannot stop the bus and get out.” Homesickness plagues many international students, freshmen, and even some upperclassmen who miss the friends and family they have at their place of origin. In the hectic college life, sometimes students just want a home cooked meal in a comfortable setting.

Akbarova also highlighted a struggle many students, and especially seniors face: figuring out what to do with their lives. “You have it all in the back of your mind all the time: how to be marketable, how to be successful, knowing that thousands of other people want the kinds of jobs that you do.” She said that singing and dancing to “loud, crazy music” helps her to refocus her mind.

Junior Justin Pannkuk cited an overload of papers and exams in the space of one week as a cause of stress. He also cited great trauma because he was “still recovering from gourd week.” His fiancée, guitar and ability to buck down and get work done help him keep his stress at bay.

Anne Mead, reference and government documents librarian, offered some thoughtful observations on the difference between college stress and “real world” stress. She faces stress in the form of more distant relationships with children now that they have left, health problems and worry for her aging parents. However, through friends, prayer, exercise and relaxing reading, she manages to cope with her struggles. The problems she faces are long-term and “slow burning,” but she explained that often in the case of college students “you guys have constant, ‘new-every-week’ pressure... maybe it comes a lot faster, and comes and goes more often.”

In this kind of environment, it’s important for students to make sure they find time to relax and to find time for prayer, meditation or some other focusing activity to help relieve stress and regain purpose.
Responsibility to care

BY KRISTI KORVER

One does not have to listen long on this campus to hear complaints like, “I live in a bubble” or “I have no idea what is going on in the world.” Class reading trumps Newsweek, “The Office” beats the nightly news, the Beacon wins out over The New York Times. Why should students at Northwestern care about politics?

There are many students at NW who care deeply about politics. The origins of their passion vary. Junior, Eli VanOort attributes much of her intrigue to her high school government teacher. After 9/11 senior James Bierly started to pay much more attention to the world around him. Junior Jenna Boote remembers her mom taking her along when she voted; Boote would help pull the lever. In middle school senior Matt Huisteln wanted to be different, so he voted for Clinton while the rest of his classmates voted for Dole in their mock election.

Senior Ryan Crawford became fascinated with politics during the exciting election of 2000. But politics are not something just a few people need to be concerned about. They are not something to be crammed in the night before it is time to vote. In the words of Bierly, “As a U.S. citizen, you have a right that many people in the world would kill for: the ability to influence and participate in your government in a peaceful manner.” VanOort claims that this is not only our responsibility as a citizen but also as a Christian. “As followers of Christ, we are asked to dig into government.”

This task is daunting; there are so many issues involved. But Huisteln reminds, “There is grace involved.” We do not and cannot know about everything. Everyone has different issues that they are passionate about. VanOort cares about women’s rights, the environment and education. Boote believes that, as Christians, we should be concerned about the “least of these.” She believes that it is the “church’s responsibility to care for the widows and the orphans.” Crawford believes that the fight against terrorism, immigration reform/border security and fiscal discipline are the most pressing issues facing our country today. Huisteln is passionate about hunger, poverty and the way that “our consumer market is impacting the world.”

At NW we have the unique opportunity to be surrounded by people who care about the world and desire to be politically informed. It is our responsibility and privilege to involve ourselves in politics. But in the words of Huisteln, “We need to guard against mixing our selves up in politics and justice issues.” It is too easy to become prideful and find self-identity in politics. This is not something to check off the “good citizen” list. Rather, politics must be approached with humility and sincere concern.

The decisions that our government makes impact the lives of real people. One of Aksamit’s favorite memories is when “Professor Vandermeulen brought his homemade apple cider to one of the meetings; it was excellent.”

Ten ways to get involved in politics

1. Subscribe to a magazine like Time, World, The Week or Newsweek
2. Make a news website like CNN or BBC your homepage
3. Watch or listen to the news online (msnbc.com has a four-minute clip each day)
4. Go to the library and pick a newspaper to read
5. Join Bread for the World, Amnesty International or World Vision for e-mail updates
6. Listen to political radio stations
7. Visit a presidential candidate’s official webpage
8. Subscribe to a club; they will inform you when a presidential candidate will be in your area
9. Go to the Iowa caucuses on January 3
10. Talk to people about politics on the way to class, during dinner or in the hallway.

Serving together

BY KEVIN WALLACE

Have you ever wanted to make a difference in the way that Northwestern is run? Look no further than serving on a faculty committee. There are many ways to get onto a faculty committee. For some students it is an elected position on the student government. Others are asked by their advisers to serve on the advisor’s committee. Still others aren’t quite sure how they ended up there.

Regardless of the way a student gets onto one, there are many good reasons to serve on a faculty committee. The number one reason, according to current Assessment Committee member, junior Sarah Breen, is “to see professors act like real people.”

Senior Nasiba Khalikova feels that it is “very interesting” as well as a “blessing” to be able to serve on the Academic Affairs Committee. She says, “We have serious discussions while making different decisions, but we also can’t have a meeting without laughter, especially when Dr. Monsma shares his comments.”

Also serving on the Academic Affairs Committee is senior Kurt Aksamit, who enjoys his position. He says he likes being able to “serve the needs of the student body and have a voice through a committee like the AAC.”

Khalikova, Breen and Aksamit all share excellent stories about their time on their respective faculty committees. The stories all center around being able to see their professors outside the classroom structure.

One of Aksamit’s favorite memories is when “Professor Vandermeulen brought his homemade apple cider to one of the meetings; it was excellent.”

Breen adds, “Sometimes we students think the NW faculty and staff are out to make our lives full of homework and stress, but they really do want NW to be a welcoming and nurturing place where we grow mentally, socially and spiritually. Even though they are here to primarily teach us their discipline, faculty and staff are also interested in making NW the best institution it can be.”
**Women's basketball sweeps opening two**

BY BETHANY KROEZE

Northwestern's women's basketball team swept their first games of the season, defeating Valley City State and Jamestown in back-to-back road games.

"We played hard and were persistent in both games," said senior Crystal Algood. "However, we need to still get better on defense."

**NW 95, Valley City State 62**

In NW's 95-62 victory over Valley City State Friday night, the Raiders boasted a shooting percentage of 58.9 percent while the Vikings sunk only 35.9 percent of their shots.

NW was led in scoring by senior Deb Remmerde, who had 28 total points. Making nine of 14 field goals, Remmerde netted five of seven free throws and sunk five of six three-point shots.

Junior Jenna Koele made five of six field goals and three of five free throws for 13 points. Algood had 12 points while seniors Mandy Carr and Amy Larson and freshman Morgan Achterhoff had 11 points apiece.

"We started off slow in both games, but once we got going, things went better," said Larson. "There were some high points but definitely a lot we can do better."

Algood led off the boards with seven defensive and three offensive rebounds, and she added two blocked shots. Remmerde, senior Miranda Boekhout and freshman Becca Hurley had five boards each.

**Football falls to Morningside**

BY JENNI SYBESMA

The Red Raiders fell to Morningside 33-7 Saturday. Senior quarterback Craig Hector scored the lone touchdown on a one-yard run in the second quarter. Hector completed 17 of 32 passing attempts for 207 yards and threw five interceptions. Sophomore Taylor McMahon, pictured above, led the ground game, netting 44 yards on nine rushes. Senior Tyler Reiche led the receiving with six receptions for 50 yards. The Raiders close their regular season on Kerver Field tomorrow, taking on Doane at 1 p.m. NW needs a win over the Tigers for a chance to qualify for the postseason.

**Women's cross country continues to dazzle**

BY BETHANY KROEZE

With a team score of 88, Northwestern's women's cross country team finished second at the NAIA Region III Championships last Saturday. Concordia took first place with 62 points.

"It was a fantastic day for our ladies' team," said freshman Charity Miles. "Everyone gave it their all." Freshman Olivia Johnson and Miles both finished second overall, finishing in personal best times of 17:51 and 17:53, respectively.

Dordt's Jane Kempers finished third in 18:08. Black Hills State (106), Morningside (123) and Doane (128) rounded out the top five women's teams.

"The Raiders had a good day at the regional meet," said Head Coach Dale Thompson. "It was fun to watch the women working together out on the course and pushing each other along. Olivia and Charity really help each other to run confidently at the front of the pack."

Johnson echoed her coach's words about running together. "Running with someone is so much easier than running alone," she said. "Charity and I were both able to break 18 minutes for the first time and set personal records along with plenty of other girls and guys, which is really rewarding towards the end of a season."

"On the men's side, the Raiders finished tenth with a team score of 258. Black Hills State took first place with a team score of 262. Concordia took second with 74."

"Freshman Danny Owens was the top finisher for the Raiders, placing 44th overall with a time of 26:52. Other top finishers include senior Jon Woehl, freshman Tyler Peekenschneider and junior Jack Peterson, finishing 55th, 57th and 60th, respectively."

"The men had a solid race also," said Thompson. "They finished about where we thought they would finish if they had a good race."

"We had 13 athletes run their season best time on Saturday," he said. "We had too many turnovers and need to put the finishing touches on this season."

"The men had a solid race also," said Larson. "The men need to come out ready to play right from the start," said Larson.

"We'll focus on doing our offensive and defensive principles correctly instead of worrying too much about the specifics of the other teams we're playing," she said.

"We need to come out ready to play right from the start," said Larson.

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"We need to come out ready to play right from the start," said Larson.

"We'll focus on our defense and rebounding," said Algood.

"We need to keep getting better at defensive rebounding and taking care of the basketball," said Larson.

"We had too many turnovers and gave our opponents too many second chances."

**Up next**

The women improved to 2-0 on the season and will play in the USF Classic this weekend in Sioux Falls. They face St. Mary tomorrow at 6 p.m. and William Woods tomorrow at 2 p.m.

"I expect that we will continue to make strides as a team by improving on our defense and rebounding," said Algood.

The women play their first GPAC game in their home opener against Morningside on Tuesday, Nov. 13.

"We need to come out ready to play right from the start," said Larson.

"We'll focus on our defense and rebounding," said Algood.

"We need to come out ready to play right from the start," said Larson.

"We'll focus on our defense and rebounding," said Algood.

"We need to come out ready to play right from the start," said Larson.
Sweet revenge

Raider men defeat USF, Hastings to earn first-ever nationals bid

BY BETH MOUW

STAFF WRITER

“We were pretty confident going into the game even though we typically struggle with USF,” senior Blake Wiekig admitted.

And the confidence paid off. Within the first three minutes of play, forward Brad White assisted fellow sophomore Aaron O’Brien to score the first goal of the game. USF then managed to tie the score at 1-1 with just two minutes left in the half.

After another goal by each team in the second half, it looked like the game would go into overtime. However, with just 1:30 remaining, junior Andy Janssen managed to put the winning goal in to ensure the Raider victory.

Janssen led the shooting for the Raiders on the night with six. While followed with three while Blake Wiekig and O’Brien took two shots each.

The win advanced NW to its second straight regional final.

NW 1, Hastings 0

According to Janssen, it was “a sweet revenge” when the Raider men shut out Hastings 1-0 Tuesday night to win the regional championship and earn a spot in the national tournament.

“It’s kind of a shocker,” admits the midfielder, “but the whole team knew we could do it. It was just a matter of proving it.”

After a scoreless yet intense first half, the second began much the same. Twelve minutes in, however, the whole tempo changed when Janssen headed in a floater from junior Steven Grand to score the only goal of the game.

With NW’s first ever national tournament looming ahead, Blake Wiekig claims, “We have nothing to lose. We’ll go out and have fun, play whoever they give us to play. But we definitely don’t want to just settle for making it there.”

The national tournament is November 14 to 20 in Olathe, Kansas.

Raider men defeat USF, Hastings to earn first-ever nationals bid

SPORTS EDITOR

BY BETHANY KROEZE

Second-seed Northwestern defeated third-seed Hastings Wednesday night to advance to the GPAC postseason final. The Raiders swept the Broncos in three games, winning 30-21, 30-25, 30-27.

The Raiders started strong in game one, maintaining a comfortable lead throughout the game and winning by their widest margin of the night.

Senior Megan Meyer and sophomore Randa Hulstein led the offensive attack for the Raiders. Meyer totaled 12 kills with a .242 offensive attack for the Raiders.

Meyer led the Raiders defensively with 10 defensive boards. Sophomore libero Janna Bloemendaal had 13 and senior defensive specialist Karissa Daveelaar dug up 10. Gosselink added nine digs to the defensive effort.

NW 3, Concordia 0

The Raiders defeated seventh-seeded Concordia in the opening round of the GPAC tournament Saturday night. In the three-game sweep, the Raiders won 30-20, 30-26, 26-21.

Freshman Bobbie Jean Rich led at the net with 14 kills. Freshman Kaitlin Beaver had nine, and Meyer added eight to the team total 45 kills. Gosselink had 40 assists on the night, including three ace serves.

Defensively, Bloemendaal led with 11 digs. Meyer dug up seven while Rich and Davelaar each had six. The Raiders totaled 10.5 team blocks in the match.

The Raiders will face the top-seeded Morningside Mustangs, who defeated Dordt in three games Wednesday, in Sioux City tomorrow at 7:30 p.m.

The winner of the GPAC Championship will receive an automatic berth to the NAIA Region III Championships on November 16 and 17 in Sioux Falls, S.D. Joining the GPAC winner will be the winner of the Dakota Athletic Conference and the four highest-ranked teams remaining in the region.

GPAC honors awarded

Several Raiders earned GPAC honors for their play throughout the season. Meyer was named GPAC Player-of-the-Year and is joined by Gosselink and Beaver on first-team all-conference. Hulstein and Hanno received honorable mention honors.

Head Coach Kyle Van Den Bosch earned GPAC Coach-of-the-Year honors. In his third season, he led the Raiders to a 26-7 overall record.

GPAC Player-of-the-Year Megan Meyer goes for a kill Wednesday night versus Hastings. Meyer averaged 3.4 kills per contest with a .342 hitting average this season. Defensively this season, she averaged 3.3 digs per contest and totaled 41 blocks.

Men’s basketball starts season 2-0

BY BETHANY KROEZE

The Red Raiders opened their season winning two on the road in North Dakota last weekend, defeating Valley City State and Jamestown.

NW 89, Jamestown 82

On Friday night, the Raiders defeated the Vikings 73-60. Netting nine of 14 field goals and sinking three of four three-point shots, senior Curt Schilling led the scoring with 23 points. Schilling also added six rebounds and two assists.

Senior Chad Schuiteman led the defense with 10 defensive boards. He added 14 points to the scoring effort as well. Senior Mark DeYounge netted 13 points including a pair of three-point shots and three from behind the charity stripe.

NW 89, Jamestown 82

The Raiders pulled ahead of Jamestown 89-82 in Saturday afternoon’s matchup.

Schilling and Schuiteman led the scoring with 19 points each. Schilling netted three three-point shots and six of seven free throw attempts while Schuiteman sunk eight of 12 from the floor and three of six behind the stripe.

Schuiteman also added eight rebounds in the game, including six on defense.

Freshman Michael Jiskoot and junior Kale Wiertzema had seven and six rebounds, respectively, while Schilling added five.

Wiertzema netted 14 points, including two three-point shots. Junior Andrew Stimson and Josh Van Es added 12 and 11 points, respectively.

Up next

The men play host this weekend in the Pizza Ranch Classic. They play St. Ambrose tonight at 8 p.m. and Avila Tuesday at 5 p.m.

They will travel to York, Neb., to play on Tuesday, Nov. 13. Game time is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.
Seniors Larissa (Harwood) Poppen and Aubrey Weger will perform a vocal music recital on Sunday, Nov. 11 beginning at 3 p.m. in Christ Chapel. A reception will follow in the choir room.

“As a music major, [the recital] is like the culmination of all that you have done while studying music at college,” said Poppen. “It is a lot of hard work, but it is such a joy to be able to sing such wonderful music.”

A recital is a way to give back to the community, to the music department faculty and to their parents to show how they have grown during their time here and to thank them for the support they have given, according to Poppen.

For Weger, this recital also means fun because it is not required for her major.

“I am a violin major,” said Weger, “so I’m only required to give two violin recitals. I’m doing this recital because voice has been an important part of my life since I’ve been at college. More than that, I just love to sing and I love to see how music affects people.”

Both will perform six solo pieces and then join together to perform four duets. Although they didn’t get to choose their pieces, both vocalists enjoyed the challenges that the pieces presented.

“The most crucial thing to listen for in a performance is the message of the music and what it’s trying to communicate about life and emotion and the human experience,” said Weger. “Music is one of the most powerful ways to unify people, because I really believe that it puts into perspective the things that we all have in common, things like pain, joy and uncertainty.”

Three of the pieces Poppen will perform include Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s “Ach, ich füh’ls,” Igor Stravinsky’s “Anne’s Aria” and “Noël des enfants qui n’ont plus de maison” by Claude Debussy.

Weger’s solos will include a piece by Handel. The two will perform “Ah guarda sorella” by Mozart. They will also sing two pieces by Bernstein: “A Boy Like That/I Have a Love” from West Side Story and “Wrong Note Rag” from Wonderful Town.

“‘They are very passionate, powerful songs with strong messages,” said Poppen. “Especially Debussy’s, which is a passionate musical expression of his outcry against World War I and his response to the effects on war-stricken Paris in December of 1915.”

Other Poppen solos include George Frederick Handel’s “Non disperar,” Claude Debussy’s “Mandoline” and her sixth solo will be “Music I Heard With You” by Leonard Bernstein.

Weger’s solos will include “Esurientes implevit bonis” by J.S. Bach and Mozart’s “Laudamus te.” She will sing two solos by Johannes Brahms: “O wüst’ ich doch den Weg zurück” and “Von ewiger liebe.” From Stravinsky’s Requiem Canticles, Weger will sing “Lacrymosa” and one by Gian Carlo Menotti called “Ah, Michele, Don’t You Know.”

Together, Poppen and Weger will sing “The Lord is My Strength,” a piece by Handel. The two will perform “Ah guarda sorella” by Mozart. They will also sing two pieces by Bernstein: “A Boy Like That/I Have a Love” from West Side Story and “Wrong Note Rag” from Wonderful Town.

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“We’ve had such a great time putting this recital together, especially the duets,” said Weger.

Both friends believe it is an honor to perform with each other, but the most important focus is not on the performer, but on the music.

“The pieces we’re performing represent a very diverse spectrum of vocal music,” said Weger. “Some are easier to perform than others, and some are easier to listen to than others. Each piece has its own purpose and message and represents a different part of the human experience, so everyone in the audience will be able to find something they can understand and relate to.”