The Beacon, October 14, 2011

Beacon staff

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Stray feline adopts NW family

BY BRIAN BRANDAU
FEATURES EDITOR

A new tenant recently took up residence in the Courtyard Village for a few weeks.

An orange-white, stray cat first appeared around Northwestern’s campus about three weeks ago. Senior Krystina Bouchard and her husband, Ty, were the first students to interact with the cat when it showed up at their apartment off campus.

“T had just come back from grocery shopping, and there was this poor little kitty,” Bouchard said.

It didn’t take long for Krystina Bouchard and her husband to let the cat into their apartment, but the arrangements were not ideal for a cat to live there. Ty has allergies, and the couple has a large dog named Dré.

Although the Bouchards kept the animals separated for a while, tensions arose when they eventually did come together.

“Dré is just so much bigger than him,” Bouchard said.

“T wasn’t working out.”

After the cat attacked Dré and Ty, Krystina made the decision to evict it from their apartment. However, the cat’s normally friendly demeanor quickly endeared it to another group of students living in the Courtyard Villages, also known as the plexes.

“She just kind of trotted up one day, back when it was kind of cold out,” said Senior Kristen Menchaca, who lives in the north building of the plexes.

Fortunately for the cat, the plexes and apartments had just recently held a hog roast and much of the meat was left over from the event. Seniors Natalia Mueller and Brittany Leikvoll decided to feed it to the cat.


Although initially Mueller and Leikvoll were feeding the cat leftovers from the hog roast and dog food, it wasn’t long before they started buying food from the grocery store specifically for the cat. According to Mueller, some of the foods they tried originally were unpopular.

“He’s very picky,” Mueller said.

Eventually, Mueller and Leikvoll had even put out a bed for the cat, and Mueller bought a collar. But they are not the only plex which took a personal interest in the cat’s welfare.

Senior Heather Pagelkopf also took her part in caring for the cat. When the cat first started appearing, she decided to put milk out in a saucer for him.

“I had an unfortunate incident with the little guy the first time he came around.”

See “TOMS” on Page 4

Rick Perry visits Orange City

Texas Gov. Rick Perry holds up a Sharpie that he would use to revoke Obamacare if he were elected president. Perry paid a visit to Orange City on Saturday, Oct. 8 as a part of his Iowa tour.

See “Cat” on Page 5
Mannequins and People

BY BRITTANY LEIKVOLL

“People and Things” will definitely satisfy fans eager to hear more of the band Jack’s Mannequin’s signature sound.

The new album is polished, has a cohesive tone and is driven by upbeat, pop-rock tempos.

The band’s lead singer, Andrew McMahon, who also serves as the group’s songwriter, went through a battle with cancer in 2005. McMahon has said that the experience taught him to slow down and appreciate life—an inspiration for much of the album.

“People and Things” focuses on relationships, but not at all in the typical, cliché way. While in the midst of his battle with leukemia, McMahon let a lot of people slip out of his life, so this album served as a way to “make up for lost time.” Instead of building around Andrew’s piano and lyrics, as the band often relies on for their sound, Jack’s Mannequin decided to get out of the city scene to escape all of their possible distractions. They believe it gives the album a freer tone and helped them connect deeper as a band.

“People and Things” serves as the group’s songwriter, went through a battle with leukemia, McMahon let a lot of people slip out of his life, so this album served as a way to “make up for lost time.”

The band often relies on for their sound, Jack’s Mannequin decided to get out of the city scene to escape all of their possible distractions. They believe it gives the album a freer tone and helped them connect deeper as a band.

The single “My Racing Thoughts,” is about the waiting for new targets to arrive, which means that sometimes there are slightly-too-long pauses between one interesting thing and the next.

There also isn’t much in the way of graphics—the visual representations of the ships are a bit underwhelming, and the players spend most of the game staring at charts and navigational maps. However, once the yelling starts, you’re in for a time you’ll not soon forget. The game is brilliant in its simplicity, and wonderful in cooperation and chaos.

Six friends command imaginary spaceship

BY MICHAEL GUTSCH

“Artemis Bridge Simulator” is probably the nerdiest thing you could ever do. Or won’t do.

“At any rate, a few clarifications are in order. Despite how its name may make it sound, “Artemis Bridge Simulator” has nothing to do with architecture or those big connecting things that let people drive over rivers and chasms. “Artemis Bridge Simulator” has everything to do with Star Trek.

With each player on his or her own screen, a group of six controls every part of a starship. Here’s a peek into the operation.

“Okay, here’s the plan,” said the captain. “We drive right into them, and then we nuke them, and then we run away before we die.”

It didn’t work exactly like that. Our science officer couldn’t get a proper reading on the enemy ships’ shield frequencies, so our lasers were useless—not that we were even close enough to use them. Instead, the gunnery officer fired the nuclear missile as soon as we got in range.

Then we flew into a singularity for fun and to see what it would do. It didn’t do anything besides claw us up.

No fancy space-teleporting or reality-bending good times—just explosive death.

The science crewman is in charge of providing directional headings to the helmsman, who controls the ship direction and drive speeds. The helmsman can also scan down other ships for the weapons crew to fight more effectively.

Communications is kind of an odd duck. They spend most of their time talking to various allied or enemy ships, giving orders from the captain or taunting them into surrendering, respectively. Also under the communications department lies the task of relaying messages and requests for resupplying to any space stations in the near area.

The crew works together to make this starship zoom about and blow up other starships and occasionally complete specific missions or take part in certain scenarios, like sieges on star systems or defense of multiple fronts in a nebula.

It’s more fun than it sounds, and usually involves a good deal of scrambling and hollering at one another to get each others’ stations in order.

Some of the positions are somewhat lacking in interaction from time to time.

For example, the science officer often finds himself simply waiting for new targets to arrive, which means that sometimes there are slightly-too-long pauses between one interesting thing and the next.

The science officer often finds himself simply waiting for new targets to arrive, which means that sometimes there are slightly-too-long pauses between one interesting thing and the next.

Library

Submit your own campus quotes, with context, to beacon@nwcio.edu

“If I wanted to snort thumbtacks, I should be free to do that.”

Professor Dan Young on freedom

“There is only one way we can opt out of Social Security?”

“Yeah, you can die.”

Brett Amiotte and Professor Elder during an optimistic discussion on Social Security

“What did you do know?”

Jordan Vermeer

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PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW
Unique way of rapping

BY EMILY BROUWER

Unique is a band that is anything but ordinary. A Christian group made up of four talented men—sophomores Jeriah Dunk, Demargo Friedl, Aaron Nash and freshman Alex Habeger—brings a new and uplifting perspective to the world of rap music.

The four met and started the group at Northwestern, although they each started making some sort of music or writing at a young age.

For Friedl, it started with song writing.

“I started writing poetry when I was younger, which turned into writing songs,” Friedl said.

The writing continues to help the band today. In fact, the group’s name came from a song Friedl wrote last year, entitled “Unique.”

Nash got started not with the poetry of rap, but because of the fun and the friendship surrounding rap for him.

“People in my neighborhood were rapping, and so I started rapping with friends,” Nash said. “It was for fun at first, but then I realized I wanted to reach out to people.”

Dunk’s background of growing up listening to Christian rap helped influence the band’s style as well.

“I was in orchestra in middle school and high school, and I listened to Christian rap. I used both of those areas to start producing beats,” Dunk said. “My rapping started in sophomore year of high school, and I decided I wanted to use my abilities for something more important. When I got to NW, it got a lot better.”

Habeger, the youngest member of the group, began writing Christian rap lyrics when he was still in high school as well.

“I used to listen to secular rap when I was young,” Habeger said. “In eighth grade, I started listening to Christian rap and stuck with that all through high school. I started writing Christian rap in my sophomore year of high school, and now God has led me to these guys here at NW.”

The four members of the group have similar inspirations and musicians they look up to. They are quick to point out that Jesus is their main inspiration, but they also look up to other musicians they look up to. Two of their main goals are to put a lot of Christian influence into their songs and to show they are on the same level as their audience.

“We don’t want to sound like we’re way up here, and you’re way down there,” Dunk said. “We talk about ourselves and our own flaws before we talk about someone else’s. We don’t want to sound ignorant.”

Friedl agreed with Dunk.

“We aren’t judging, and we know we aren’t greater than anyone else,” Friedl said.

Unique performed at the Old Factory last year, which was a big show for them. They have also performed at the ethnic fair put on by NW’s I-Club.

Right now, the guys are working on making their own album. They are recording a couple times a week in the VPH studio basement, sometimes working late into the night and early into the next morning.

“Sometimes we are up until 3 or 4 in the morning recording or writing,” Nash said. “God just starts working, and we forget about the time.”

Unique is currently working on a song entitled “Puff Puff Pass.” The group thinks it might end up being controversial because people might twist the meaning, but it has a strong message that Unique is really trying to focus on this year.

“The song’s basically about how we don’t need weed and drugs because we got God,” Friedl said.

Along with “Puff Puff Pass,” Unique is also working on other songs for their upcoming album called “Youunique.”

Even when the guys aren’t writing or recording their songs, there is still always a sense of family and brotherhood among them, which they say is the most rewarding part about being in Unique.

“They can talk to each other about more than just music, and they can see the Holy Spirit work through each other.”

“I like the feeling of family I get from being in the group,” Habeger said. “I grew up in a small town and was the only guy that listened to Christian rap. It’s good to have others that do the same here, and I’ve been so blessed to meet these guys.”

Although there is no expected date for the release of the album, NW students and their other fans can wait for it with eager anticipation.

Crazy-haired Bjork brings new album ‘Biophilia’

BY KATIE HENG

A&G EDITOR

Say what you will about Icelandic electronic artist Bjork, the girl is ambitious.

She easily could have released her newest album, “Biophilia,” impressed fans with its intricate percussion arrangements and called it a day.

Instead, Bjork decided to simultaneously release an infinite number of remixes, created by anyone with an iPhone or an iPad.

With the help of Apple, Bjork designed an application that would allow listeners to mix, twist around, isolate individual notes or instruments and design their own recreations of songs from the album. Fans, or simply those fascinated by the science of music, will be able to explore her music in a unique and hopefully fun new way.

“Biophilia” is a geek-chic delight. The album is full of lyrical ruminations about rocks, viruses, earth’s continuing evolution and even more scientific topics. But to give a fair warning, Bjork is sure to offend some strict Creationists with a few of her lyrics. In the song “Cosmogony,” she brings up several perspectives on how the universe may have come to life, including the idea that “Our universe was an empty seat/until a silver fox/and her cunning mate/began to sing/ a song that became the world we know.”

The concept of an album with lyrics all about science rather than the typical topics of love or emotions, for example, is a fun idea. However, “Biophilia” seems better as a soundtrack for a “Bill Nye” opera than as an album standing alone. Although it would be a great accomplishment to create a song about rocks that actually, well, rocks, Bjork isn’t there yet.

While those who are already fans of Bjork are sure to love the sound on “Biophilia,” the album is unlikely to win over any new fans. Her gasping, almost hiccup-sounding style of singing takes time to learn to appreciate.

Although it was her goals to stay away from using guitars or ordinary pianos, the instruments she used instead are just plain strange. Some listeners may enjoy them for that reason, some definitely won’t.

Even for those with the chance to play with the tunes on their iPhones, the songs themselves may be less memorable than the app itself—kind of like the preset songs that come on toy pianos or the free songs already on that new computer.

Bjork continues her odd music style with a new album that incorporates the musical talents of many of her fans.
Fathers and cops learn about love and Christianity in ‘Courageous’

BY JOHN SLOTER

Unlike a typical Hollywood film, “Courageous” isn’t afraid to delve into the sticky issue of divorce and its effect on homes and isn’t scared to do so with an unapologetically Christian approach.

While this movie is about family life in general, the clear emphasis is on the role of the father in the home and the effect of his presence, or his absence, in the life of his children.

The film follows Adam Mitchell (Alex Kendrick) through his life as a cop and a father. As a cop, Mitchell ignores his son, but lavishes love on his daughter—a daughter who is taken from him by a drunk driver. After the loss, Adam solemnly resolves to live a life that will impact his remaining family for God’s purpose.

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The rest of the story focuses on the challenges and triumphs of this commitment, culminating in a rather stirring call for men to take responsibility for the state of their families. Following him in this commitment are fellow cops Nathan Hayes (Ken Bevel), David Thomson (Ben Davies) and Shane Fuller (Kevin Downes).

With problems that range from a dating daughter to illegitimate children, all of these cops have familial and personal issues to work through.

Although predictable, the plot is deeply emotional in a way that makes the movie feel almost tangible. “Courageous” is an odd conglomeration of action, emotion, and humor with an extra-large dose of spirituality thrown in for good measure. The movie’s clear attempt to speak to male audiences is rather out of place, as men are likely to prefer to see fireballs rather than tears in the theater.

In spite of this, or perhaps because of it, this movie is refreshing and highly entertaining.

Top 5

   “It is metaphorically meaningful. I gazed a gazeeless stare.”
   Sophomore Heather Hellman

4. “In Bloom”
   “Cobain wrote the chorus to be easy to sing along with but kept it mindless as well. Intense guitars and simple but driving drums.”
   Professor Phil Scorza

5. “About a Girl”
   “It’s got an old-school sound but a rock edge to it. It’s soulful.”
   Junior Mark Blankers

As the iconic band celebrates 20 years, NW students and staff discuss its best songs.

1. “Smells Like Teen Spirit”
   “The guitar parts are bone-chilling. Their complexity is intriguing.”
   Freshman Tim Stephens

2. “Lithium”
   “I like this because Cobain will never crack.”
   Junior Brett Amiotte

Sent by Tyler Zeutenhorst

Professor Playlist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Over the Rainbow</td>
<td>Eva Cassidy</td>
<td>Eva has a beautiful voice that makes her rendition of this song both haunting and evocative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Boston</td>
<td>More than a Feeling</td>
<td>Sitting directly in front of a 50-foot stack of speakers when I saw them perform made it difficult to hear afterwards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. What’s Love Got to do with It?</td>
<td>Tina Turner</td>
<td>A perfect song to introduce the topic of romance, sex and attachment in my marriage and family class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Gooble-digloop</td>
<td>Sigur Ros</td>
<td>An appropriate song to listen to when grading some papers or exams?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Summer (the entire album)</td>
<td>George Winston</td>
<td>Wonderful pianist to listen to when I am too keyed up and need to relax.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The cat in the courtyard

FROM PAGE 1
Pagelkopf said. “I warmed the milk up since it was cold outside and neglected to test it first. Needless to say, he scalded his tongue and was afraid of the teacup for a while. Since then, he’s warmed up to it—not pun intended—and practically begs us to fill it.”

Although they were united in their affection of the cat, some controversy arose amongst the cat’s caretakers as to what he should be called.

Because of the cat’s color, Mueller advocated for the name Ginger. Leikvoll wanted a different name, but suggested a compromise.

“I wanted Henry, and Natalia wanted Ginger. I think he should be called Genny,” Leikvoll said.

Menchaca and Pagelkopf, who room together, had a different idea.

“The cat’s name is Simba,” Menchaca said. “Not Frankie or Henry or Ginger. It’s Simba.”

Not everyone was happy about the cat’s arrival.

“I think the cat is cute, but I’m allergic, so it makes me sneeze a lot,” said senior Kim Reisma, who lives in the east building of the Courtyard Villages. “And I know that other people are more allergic than I am.”

Reisma was also concerned that the cat could develop a dependency on the plex community, which could prove harmful in the long run.

“My dad brought a cat from Sioux Center to Boydien, and it came back two days later,” Reisma said. “Even if we get the cat a good home, it’s probably going to just make its way back here. We’re making this its permanent home.”

Furthermore, Reisma was concerned about what would happen to the cat when it got cold out. She noted that if the cat grew dependent on them to provide during the winter months, it might not survive.

Senior Ross Fernstrum, who also lives in the east building of the plexes, also expressed concern about what would happen when winter came.

“It’s becoming dependent on us. During the winter, what’s going to happen?” Fernstrum asked. “It’s temporary goodness, but is it sustainable?”

Fernstrum and his roommate, junior Nathan Nieuwendorp, were also worried about the prospect of leaving food outside.

“It’s going to attract animals,” Nieuwendorp said.

“Mice, raccoons, mountain lions, stuff like that.”

Nieuwendorp admitted that he didn’t necessarily have rational reasons for being against the cat.

“I want to punt the cat,” Nieuwendorp said. “I’ve just never liked cats.”

Mueller was not pleased with that prospect. “If anyone kicks the cat,” she said. “I will write them up.”

Dean of Residence Life John Brogan had his own take on the cat. He pointed out that the student handbook stipulated that “The only pets allowed in campus housing are fish. Cats, mice and hamsters are not acceptable. Violations of this policy could result in cleaning charges up to $300,” a stipulation which Menchaca and Mueller, both resident assistants, insist they’re observing.

On a more personal level, Brogan recalled a similar experience a few years ago.

“A few years ago, Brogan’s future son-in-law Bryce Vander Stelt was living in the apartments when a cat began to hang around the area. At the end of the semester, Brogan’s daughter Erin was helping her then-fiancé move out when her and her mother came upon the cat, nearly frozen to death.

“I can imagine them walking back to the van and there’s this cat with icicles hanging off its fur,” Brogan said. “Anyway, Erin scooped it up, put it in the van and brought it back home with her. The cat’s still living with me today.”

Brogan felt that this story illustrated the danger of having cats around.

“We’ve had cats that have been adopted before. This is nothing new,” Brogan said.

A few years ago, Brogan’s future son-in-law Bryce Vander Stelt was living in the apartments when a cat began to hang around the area. At the end of the semester, Brogan’s daughter Erin was helping her then-fiancé move out when her and her mother came upon the cat, nearly frozen to death.

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Brogan felt that this story illustrated the danger of having cats around.

“I’m not a cat-hater. My major concern is that it’s all fine and well now, but what happens when winter comes along? It can’t stay inside and Maintenance doesn’t want it around,” Brogan said. “It makes sense to find a home or shelter.”

Mueller had the same idea. Earlier this week, she took the cat to the Siouxland Humane Society in Sioux City. Unfortunately, the humane society told Mueller that because the cat had lived outdoors for so long, the possibility of diseases meant they’d likely have to put the cat down.

“I’m a little frustrated,” Mueller said. “Animal shelters take dogs they find on the street all the time. How come they don’t take cats?”

Mueller did eventually find an adoptive family. After she had returned from Sioux City, Mueller was discussing the situation with her fiancé Bobby James.

“I overheard the conversation and said, ‘Hey, I’ll bet my parents could take it,’” said junior Tyler McKenney, whose family owns a farm in Inwood. McKenney’s parents agreed to give the cat a new home, and he will be bringing the cat to their farm on Saturday, Oct. 15.

“If I could have my way he would live in my apartment,” Mueller said. “But since we aren’t allowed to have animals, this is the next best thing.”

Visit the Beacon website for a gallery of photo submissions from plex residents featuring the Courtyard Cat.
This summer, 18 Northwestern students served through the Summer of Service program, both domestically and abroad.

Through their times away from home, these students witnessed different cultures, underwent extreme culture shock, and had humbling experiences. They felt close to God, sharing simply by being human, Kahanic said.

Students served in numerous places, including places as far away as Ghana and India and sites as close as Denver, Colo. The positions and organizations in which these NW students served varied widely.

Junior Jennifer Kahanic worked with an organization called Word for the World in India. She traveled with a team around southern India, helping with missions outreach (including preaching, Bible studies and children’s camps) to lepers, widows, the disabled and generally those “lost and forgotten” in India.

Senior Kelsey Leonard served with Every Child Missionaries in Accra, Ghana. She worked in a children’s house where she handled programming, tutored young adults, and taught religion and social studies.

Closer to home, senior Jennifer Carlson served with Dry Bones in Denver, Colo., through the Denver Urban Semester. Dry Bones is a relational ministry and, as such, Jennifer’s role was building relationships with street kids, aged between 12 and mid-20s.

Junior Jacob VanDerLinden served in Ukraine with International Messengers. Their organization teaches English as an outreach opportunity, and Jacob’s role was to be a native English speaker with whom students could practice their English skills.

Although all the SOS members felt their experiences were filled with challenges, the universal theme for the international SOSers was cultural differences and challenges of being in a different environment and culture.

Both Leonard and Kahanic found major differences between U.S. culture and the cultures they lived in. Both of their cultures were very generous, even when they didn’t have much.

Leonard recalls being woken up at around 6 a.m. by a knock on her door. Some of the children who came to the home for education were at her door offering some of their biscuits, even though she insisted that she had enough to eat.

She felt that Americans tend to keep their best possessions to themselves. Ghanaian culture, on the other hand, leads people to share these good things more generously.

VanDerLinden found that while he didn’t have a lot of culture shock in Ukraine, he did have a lot of big city shock. Having grown up in a small town, he had never lived in a big city. Adjusting to Odessa, Ukraine, a city of 1.3 million people, was challenging.

Although the most jarring experience was the clash between his rural upbringing and the big city environment, VanDerLinden did recall one large difference in the culture.

“We were told that if you wanted to have your own water, leave the water bottle in your room,” VanDerLinden said. “Otherwise, many would treat it as communal water that they could take a drink out of.”

Carlson found that serving in the U.S. meant that she didn’t experience most of the culture shock her fellow SOSers felt. She did not need to spend time adjusting to a different culture, which gave her more time to focus on building relationships and working with the ministry.

Kahanic distinctly remembers the huge levels of poverty and how difficult this made it for her to effectively do her work. Kahanic described the slums as “just like out of a magazine” in terms of their extreme levels of poverty.

Kahanic also recalls the differences in diet. She related that most of the food that they eat in India has little or no nutritional value. Typically they only eat fried bread, rice and similar foods, which was something that she had difficulty adjusting to.

Despite all these challenges, Kahanic, Leonard, VanDerLinden and Carlson said they would all do it again, without reservation. They further reaffirmed the value of the challenges they faced, stating that they found them to be growing experiences. All four shared about their experiences at the SOS chapel on Oct. 11.

In addition, they all had advice for those considering SOSes of their own and encouraged them to talk with previous participants if interested.

All of them encourage students to look into the program. Both Carlson and Leonard find the SOS program unique. NW offers an opportunity to be part of a structured program which is nearly impossible to find outside of college.

However, both Kahanic and VanDerLinden urge students to make sure that they don’t go on an SOS simply because others are pushing them to do it. Both did not foresee that they would go on an SOS when they started school, and VanDerLinden was not particularly interested in the program when he first started the process.

Both felt led to go on these trips out of their own heart and prompting from God, and both encourage students to make sure that their reasoning for this trip is similarly motivated.
Role models shape local youth

BY JENNA VAN OORT

Many Northwestern students grace the pews at any one number of churches in the Orange City area on Sunday mornings.

Some students do much more than that, however. Whether it’s an internship, part-time job, volunteer position, practice for their majors or just for fun, these students take pride in giving back to their community.

Sophomore Jordan Starkenburg leads worship and helps with the American and Alton Reformed Church high school youth group. Starkenburg said that being involved in a church gives him the opportunity to meet people from the community.

“It gives me the chance to serve them with my gifts and glorify God in the process,” Starkenburg said.

Junior Hannah Krohn is a youth sponsor at Bethel Reformed Church in Sheldon and seniors Natalie Mueller and Bobby James are two of four in the IMPACT program that work with the Alton Reformed Church’s middle school youth group. Both felt called to work with youth in churches because they understand the importance of role models in their lives.

“I know that when I was in high school I would have absolutely loved having a college student come and talk with me every week,” Krohn said. “God calls us to be in fellowship with one another, with people that are older, younger or the same age.”

Senior Christian education major Bryan Langfitt is the part-time youth pastor for Bethel Reformed in Sheldon.

“I wanted to work with the youth because I have a desire to share my faith with those who struggle with a familiar path that everyone has experienced—brokenness,” Langfitt said. “My youth pastor was this person for me when I was trying to figure out where I fit into everything, and seeing how that impacted my life, I want to do the same for the youth today.”

According to Krohn, these students get a chance to put what they’re “learning about Christ into action.”

Langfitt loves the hands-on ministry that goes beyond the classroom.

“The relationships with the youth that I work with are such a blessing,” Langfitt said. “Seeing them adapt to the Word of God and understand it as their own is powerful.”

Most NW students believe that the best part about working with church youth groups is the youth.

“Sometimes I have to step out of my comfort zone,” Cook said, “but in turn, the students have to do the same.”

Starkenburg had a hard time just remembering names. Mueller realized that “middle schoolers can be exhausting.”

Krohn was nervous to work with high schoolers.

“I feel that I mesh well with younger kids, and honestly, high schoolers kind of intimidate me,” Krohn said. “But I thought it was a good way to work my elementary education major into a real life situation.”

For Langfitt, the hard part is defining youth ministry.

“The challenge is having 25 students, which means about 50 adults who have expectations for their child’s faith,” Langfitt said. “I think youth ministry has become so focused on the church and what the youth pastor does, but faith must go beyond the four walls of the church and into the homes of the youth.”

The value of the experience overcomes the challenges for these NW students who give their time and energy to the youth of the communities in the area.

“I will be using my experiences, both good and bad, to help me with my future as a youth pastor,” Langfitt said. “Technology and methods of youth ministry may change throughout time, but a genuine relationship is something that will never change. It is because of this relationship that God empowers us through the Holy Spirit to speak into these kids’ lives.”

These students got involved in churches by asking how they could help, and they encourage all students to do the same.

“You can simply ask, because churches are always looking for ways to integrate college students,” Cook said.

Starkenburg noted one additional incentive. “Of course, involvement with local churches means plenty of free food.”

Balancing children with scholarship

BY JOCelyn VAN DyKE

College is a huge, long-term commitment.

So is being a parent. Imagine combining the two and you’ll get a feel for what it’s like to walk in Noah Adams’ shoes.

As a senior at Northwestern and a parent to 3-month-old son Malakye, Adams is learning how to juggle the responsibilities of both roles.

“Things are a lot busier than before. It’s hard to stay on one task,” Adams said. “I will sit down to do homework and 20 minutes later, I need to go [Malakye] a bottle or change his diaper.”

Malakye’s arrival has brought great joy to Adams and his wife, Brittany.

 “[The biggest reward] is coming home from a day and spending time together,” Adams said. “Being a parent is great. It’s a lot of work, but it’s worth it.”

Brittany Adams agrees but also thinks that one of the best things about Malakye is “when he smiles at you.”

With the joys also come the struggles. Noah Adams has found that his biggest challenge is budgeting his time. While committed to doing well in school, he also wants to spend enough time with his wife and newborn son. This has forced him to make careful decisions about where to devote his energy.

“Malakye is a good motivation to do well and finish school,” Adams said. “It’s hard to stay motivated at the same time, though, because it’s hard to focus. Sometimes I’d rather stay home and be with him. I take care of him in the mornings when I don’t have class, and then at noon I have to go to class. It’s about finding your balance, knowing your priorities and sticking with them.”

Senior Josh Meis can relate. A single father to 5-year-old Ava, Meis knows the dedication it takes to budget time effectively.

“It’s about making sure to balance everything,” Meis said. “It’s also about spreading yourself out enough that you’re not lapping in one area.”

As a captain on the fire department, coach of a little league football team and owner of his own carpentry business, Meis has his hands full. The added responsibilities of being a student and a father only add to the stress of day-to-day life. For Meis, though, this is all well worth it.

“My biggest joy is definitely seeing Ava smile and laugh and have fun,” Meis said. “Also, seeing how she’s progressing when it comes to reading and teaching her letters. Part of being a parent is about teaching. Seeing her learn the things that I’m trying to teach her is rewarding.”

Noah and Brittany Adams relax with their 3-month-old son, Malakye. Going to school and raising a child at the same time has proven to be a rewarding challenge for the young couple. 
Raiders dominate ranked opponent

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

After two relatively easy games in a row, the Raider football team was faced with their first ranked opponent since consecutive losses marred the beginning of their season.

They passed with extraordinary flying colors. Northwestern dominated No. 24 Midland University in Fremont, Neb., on Saturday, posting an impressive 51-14 victory and extending their winning streak to three games.

Junior quarterback Davis Bloemendaal started and won his third straight game, throwing for 196 yards on 11-21 completions. Bloemendaal also scored on a 60-yard touchdown run, the longest of his career.

Meanwhile, sophomore Theo Bartman rushed for a career-high 111 yards and a score.

“It all starts with our offensive line,” said coach Kyle Achterhoff. “They’ve been creating great holes, giving Davis time to throw. And also, our receivers aren’t dropping footballs like they did earlier [this year]. We are stretching teams vertically, throwing the ball downfield more, but guys are making plays on the ball.”

Meanwhile, defensively, the Raiders picked up right where they left off.

NW kept Midland from moving the chains in the first half and held them to just over 200 yards. However, a large number of those yards were gained in the final two possessions for Midland, when the game was already out of reach.

Sophomore Gerard Fluellen posted four tackles and recovered a fumble, while junior Aaron Jansen pulled down five tackles and broke up a pass.

“It seems like every time we make a tackle, there’s eight or nine of our jerseys close to the ball,” Achterhoff said. “We are getting a lot of people to the ball. Everybody wants to get a piece of the action.”

Midland was coming off a very difficult stretch of their season, losing to both Morningside and Doane before facing NW.

“We were surprised at how the fight seemed to go out of [them] once we had an early lead,” Jansen said. “Next up for NW: hosting an equally hot team, Concordia, winners of their last four. Playing mistake-free football will be a priority.

“Concordia has been running the ball effectively this year, and as a defense, it will be a priority to stop the run,” Jansen said. “Their defense fed off of turnovers against BC last week.”

Kick-off will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at Korver Field.

Women’s cross country sees personal bests, men struggle to overcome injuries

BY ALEX HERRINGTON

The Northwestern men’s and women’s cross country teams competed in the Briar Cliff invite last Saturday. The women finished fourth out of 14 teams and the men’s team finished 10th out of 14 teams.

An impressive seven of the Lady Raiders’ top 10 runners ran personal bests on Saturday.

Senior Teresa Kerkvliet led Coach Wolf’s top 10 runners ran personal bests on Saturday.

Three additional NW runners registered personal bests: junior Amy Van Skike, freshman Amber Sandbulte and freshman Sara Edwardson.

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Soccer squad recovers from last-second loss with home GPAC victory

BY TOM WESTERHOLM

The Northwestern men’s soccer team split two games this week, winning 2-1 Wednesday night at home against Briar Cliff and losing a heartbreaker 2-1 at Midland on Saturday.

Against Briar Cliff, the Raiders were attempting to bounce back. They got on the board early from a great individual effort goal by freshman midfielder Gabriel Goncalves.

“Gabriel scored a gorgeous goal,” said coach Dan Swier. “He got the ball at midfield, dribbled all the way into the box and put the ball over the keeper’s head.”

Briar Cliff evened the score of the second half, but sophomore forward Graham Kinsinger scored on a header inside the six. He was assisted by freshman Leo Sanchez. It would turn out to be the difference in the game.

“After every goal we give up, our guys get together on the field for a quick motivational talk,” Swier said. “They’ve been doing that since the first game of the season. I think it helps us respond really well.”

On Saturday, NW traveled to face a tough Midland team. The Raiders led at half 1-0, off freshman Adam Abuhamed’s first goal of the season. Not staying down for long, Midland evened the score in the second half.

“We did a good job of counter-attacking and of getting in behind,” said junior defender Nate Mastbergen. “[but] we need to do a better job of finishing.”

With 10 seconds left, Midland crossed the ball to the middle of the box, and freshman goalkeeper Luis Hernandez punched it away to a Midland player, who scored with two seconds left.

“You rarely, if ever, see a buzzer beater in soccer, but that’s as close as it can get,” Swier said. “The guys were pretty down afterward.”

The men host Doane at 7 p.m. on Saturday.
Red Raiders fall in overtime

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

On Wednesday night, the Northwestern women’s soccer team followed up a demolishing loss to Midland with a heart-breaking 3-2 overtime loss to Briar Cliff.

Their record stands at 2-8-3, as the squad is still looking for its first conference win of the season.

The Raiders did not lack for chances in the contest, as they amassed 35 shots and 13 corners throughout.

Senior Ben Aguilera, a senior linebacker for Northwestern football team, has one strong memory; he concussed himself on the play.

“It’s weird, because I have this ‘ministerial’ switch. When I’m doing ministry, I love, love, love, but when I’m on the field, I love to hit, I guess.”

“His first strong football memory has someone I know.”

“My first strong memory is the varsity coach after the game he remembers; he concussed himself on the play.”

“But his reason for playing football is just because I have a ring. That’s probably leave.”

“He did indeed, on an excellent senior Ben Aguilera

ON TUESDAY night, the Lady Raider golf squad finished their season unranked but on a roll, managed to hit .033 in the conference by sweeping both Nebraska Wesleyan and Dakota Wesleyan over the past week.

So his reason for playing football is mildly disconcerting: “I wanted to hit and hurt someone,” he said.

“It’s weird, because I have this ‘ministerial’ switch. When I’m doing ministry, I love, love, love, but when I’m on the field, I love to hit, I guess.”

“Aguilera, a senior linebacker for the Northwestern football team, grew up in Redlands, Calif., with a single mother, who encouraged him to take up sports as an escape. His first strong football memory came during his freshman year. Ironically, it’s the only part of that game he remembers; he concussed himself on the play.

“[on kickoff], I ran down the field as fast as I could, hit someone very hard and blacked out,” Aguilera said. “The first thing I remember is the varsity coach after the game saying. ‘You are going to become a great football player.”

“We have a lot of good football players. Almost every single [NCAA Division I] West Coast team has someone I know.”

On Tuesday night, the Raiders beat Dakota Wesleyan 3-0 (25-11, 25-17, 25-20) with a barrage of kills and blocks to improve to 13-13 (6-3) on the season.

Sophomore Megan Hutson led the offensive onslaught, hitting .556 and matching her career-high of 12 kills. Hutson also contributed six blocks and went 13-14 on serves. Senior Kate Boersma threw down seven kills and five blocks. Junior Jaci Moret and junior Jennie Jansen also contributed nine kills each.

Most notably a back row player, filled in for injured senior outside hitter Rylee Hulstein.

Freshman Kaitlin Floerchinger set up 34 assists and had five blocks.

Dakota Wesleyan only managed to hit .033 in the match and had trouble getting any kills over the front line of the Raiders. The defensive play of NW led to exciting attacks on offense.

Last Friday night the Raider volleyball squad hosted Nebraska Wesleyan. NW came away with a 3-0 (25-21, 25-15, 25-20) win.

Jansen had a well-rounded game, earning 10 kills and a career-high eight digs. Hutson provided versatility from the middle hitter spot, gathering seven kills, six digs and four blocks. Kaitlin Floerchinger lofted up 27 assists to go with her 12 digs and five kills.

“Our passes were really on, and that helps us get into the groove of things,” Jansen said. “Once that’s on, the sets are there, and the hitters can swing away.”

Freshman Alexis Barth had 15 digs to lead NW. Junior Heather Goehring and freshman Mikinzie Phillips were perfect from behind the service line. Goehring had three aces.

“This game was exciting because all the fans got really into it,” Jansen said. “And that’s always great to see and fun to play with.”

This makes three straight games that have been dominating 3-0 victories for the Lady Raiders, which has helped the team get back to .500 on the season. Huston believes the recent roll has been because of an improvement in the intensity of practices.

“Lately in practice we have really been pushing each other in practice,” Huston said. “That allows us to play at a consistent level and not play to the level of our competition.”

NW will try to continue their hot streak on Wednesday when they travel to Briar Cliff for a 7:30 p.m. contest.

Women’s golf completes fall season with qualifier

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

Freshman Jess Locker also fought back from a 51 on the front to round up the scorecard with a 95.

Cumulatively after two rounds, Kline is in third place overall, Wynja is sixth, and Hinz and Locker are tied for 19th. Wallin is currently sitting in a tie for 33rd.

Dakota Wesleyan currently is in first place. The Raiders will be looking to close the nine-stroke gap that Morningside currently holds for second place.

“The biggest key for us is to individually just get rid of a few strokes,” Locker said. “If we can find ways to eliminate a couple big numbers, we’ll all be better.”

NW will return to the links for the second half of their season this spring.
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We’d also love to have you as a volunteer.
My office disappeared

BY ALYSSUM ROE
FERNS RESIDENT DIRECTOR

I have seen first hand that pranking is an integral part of Northwestern’s culture.

The pranks that I have witnessed range from wearing another individual’s clothes to relocating an entire office 18 feet up in the chapel. From my understanding, the tradition of elaborate pranks has been around long before most faculty and staff started working here.

I’ll be honest: I have a love for pranks, but I am not original at all in my ideas and not dedicated enough to implement the few ideas I do have. When I am motivated enough to complete a prank, it is performed on those whom I love and someone whom I know will appreciate and feel valued through my actions.

“Too often we see people forcing themselves into relationships before they even know each other. The problem is that these relationships usually do not last very long, and soon they are back searching for someone new. This is the everlasting cycle of the prowlers.

Whether you are single, dating or committed, everyone senses the feeling of urgency that students on our campus have. You know, that urgency to change their Facebook relationship status from “single” to “in a relationship.”

Let me dissolve a myth for you right now: if you do not find someone by the end of your senior year at NW, you will not automatically be single for the rest of your life. Fact.

The average age of marriage for the United States is 28 for men and 26 for women. Contrary to popular Northwest Iowa beliefs, you have plenty of time to tie the knot. This goes to show that not everyone gets engaged before they can legally drink alcohol.

The solution to the prowling pandemic on campus is simple: let relationships happen. I am a strong believer that if something is supposed to happen, it will. Some things simply cannot be forced; good relationships are one of those things.

“Too often we see people forcing themselves into relationships before they even know each other.”

Do not rush into a dating relationship just because you really want a significant other or because all your friends have dates on Friday nights. A relationship takes time, and there are opportunities to be in one; you just need to let that time come.

NW is a great place with tons of great people. But in order for students to build lasting relationships they have to have patience. If it is supposed to happen, it will; don’t be in such a hurry to make it happen—it only makes matters worse.

In return, I feel that I am loved when others take the time to prank me in a creative way. I think that pranks can build community and be a fun-loving way to communicate your appreciation for another person through the planning that goes into them and the laughter that follows.

Who the prank inconveniences is equally important. For example, when my entire office was relocated to the chapel: this was a minor inconvenience for me because the only work I had to do to right my office was hang a few decorations back on the wall. However, for Maintenance, this involved six workers putting in more than an hour of their valuable time to return my office to where it belonged.

I feel slightly honored that I was chosen for a prank of this caliber, but my opinion is only a small part of the opinions that really matter in this situation.

I want to encourage students to think through their pranking decisions and ask themselves who are they inconveniencing, are they damaging anything and will Maintenance need to be involved before taking action.

Pros and cons of the new RSC gym

“It’s something new that brings students together. What isn’t to like?”
-Adam Van Der Steep, Junior

“There’s more color. It looks like they actually put work into it.”
-Jerry Lansink, Sophomore

“The new dividers make it hard to jump for loose balls.”
-Jacob Van Steenwyk, Sophomore

“Like the lighting from the new windows.”
-Tyler Zeutenhorst, Junior

“The new basketball surface has really good traction.”
-Logan Gooch, Freshman

“The new track is super thick. It will really cut down on injuries for the track team.”
-Ashley Schneider, Sophomore

“The screens help me focus on the game.”
-Brett Amiotte, Senior

“The new floor surface is comfy.”
-Alex Herrington, Sophomore

“The new floor made my TOMS turn red.”
-Kelsey Martinez, Sophomore

“I feel like I’m in a spaceship.”
-Jeff Hubers, Junior

“The water fountains run out of the same pipes. If someone else is next to you, the water pressure drops.”
-Michah Czirr, Sophomore

“The lines on the tennis courts are hard to see.”
-Eli Groenendyk, Junior

“The new color scheme is visually stimulating.”
-Brad Smith, Sophomore

“Dave Mcgarvey is always here. I love it.”
-Aaron Galloway, Sophomore

“I was hoping for wooden floors.”
-Phil Hilla, Sophomore

“It gets really hot. The AC should be turned on.”
-Cameron Turner, Senior

I don’t think Invisible Children’s mission has been as effective on campus as it could be.

Yes, we did collect a few hundred books from the book drive last winter, and the profits of selling those books through Better World Books did help fund literacy and education for Northern Ugandan kids.

I’ve seen the videos and heard the stories about the child soldiers. Between the disturbing images and personal testimonies, IC has a convincing platform. Every time I hear those horrific tales, I try to imagine living in that kind of fear.

The stories and images from the IC presentations resonate with me for a few weeks afterward, but after that, as much as I wish it weren’t true, I lose interest and continue on with my life here at Northwestern. I really do care about those issues, but I just can’t relate to those children’s experiences.

I think my response to the situation is similar to other NW students—ask God to send help, thank Him for my blessings and move on to the next thing.

So is it worthwhile to continue to have IC come to campus and raise awareness?

I think it is, since this issue needs to be addressed and NW could be a great place to make a difference. If we can find the passion, that is.

Perhaps IC could look for some common denominators between us and our counterparts in Uganda. Or maybe they could give us some practical ways college kids can make a difference. I could use some tips on how to continually care about the plight of the hurting amidst the paper writing and cramming of college life.

I think we just need to be reminded that outside this little safety bubble of Orange City people are dying, and we can help defeat injustices.

Think outside of the safety bubble of OC

BY MEGAN RUSTAD

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I think we just need to be reminded that outside this little safety bubble of Orange City people are dying, and we can help defeat injustices.
## Facebook to introduce new profile timeline

**BY JENNA VAN OORT**

The rumors are true. Within the next couple weeks, Facebook is going to change again.

According to junior Matt Bodensteiner, who got a sneak peak at the set up, the new profile features “The Timeline,” — a more in-depth look at one’s life, from birth to present with all of the details in between.

“It takes everything you’ve ever posted on Facebook and puts it in chronological order on your profile page, with the most recent at the top,” Bodensteiner said.

Bodensteiner explained that his timeline will start in 2007 when he signed up for the social networking site. Everything before that date will be empty.

According to Facebook, the timeline will have a section called “Stories” for highlighting memorable posts, photos and life events. There will also be an “Apps” section for sharing the “songs you have on repeat, the movies you quote and the activities you love.”

“This change is big and will take creeping to another level,” said senior Rachel Peterson.

With millions of users worldwide, many question why Facebook needs to change at all, especially since each redesign is met with a considerable amount of protest.

“Changes made to social networking sites are necessary for the user, the site administration and technology communication as a whole,” said senior Aaron Appel. “Users overreact to changes and need to realize that if changes don’t work, things will be fixed.”

Some students see the need for change to keep the site fresh.

“Facebook has to make changes often enough to keep the users interested,” said senior Tamara Smith. “If they get bored with it, they’ll stop visiting the website.”

Among Facebook users on campus, there are mixed feelings about the upcoming changes.

“It’s way more convenient to use,” said freshman Taylor Johnston. “It’s nice to be able to easily look back at past posts.”

Bodensteiner likes that all of the information is on one page instead of separate tabs. However, he isn’t completely sold on the new design.

“It’s weird to think that Facebook has been keeping track of everything I’ve posted since 2007. That has to be a huge database for everyone using the site and all of their history,” Bodensteiner said.

For students like junior Jeff Hubers, Facebook may have gone too far.

“It’s amazing that our kids will probably have their whole lives, from birth, on Facebook,” Hubers said. “I think it’s bad enough to have my current life on it now, but to be born on Facebook is just crazy.”

**Young Christians abandon church**

**BY TYLER LEHMANN**

New research has found that nearly three out of every five young Christians disconnect from the church after age 15.

The five-year study was published last month by the Barna Group, a research organization that focuses on interactions between faith and culture. It was conducted with young adults who were active churchgoers at some point in their teenage years. The study identified reasons for the trend.

Stapled by a culture that values open-mindedness and tolerance, young adults want to find areas of common ground. Three out of four young Christians said that “churches are afraid of the beliefs of other faiths.”

“The church doesn’t make room for those who are different. This is in contrast to the subculture represented by this generation, where being different is sometimes seen as a badge of distinction,” said Professor Hubers of the religion department.

The study also found that many young Christians find church to be antagonistic towards science. Thirty-five percent said Christians are too confident they know all the answers.

“The church is reaping the seeds of anti-intellectualism it has planted,” said professor Mitchell Kinsinger of the religion department.

Twenty-three percent said they are not comfortable expressing significant intellectual doubts about their faith in church.

“Even Jesus doubted,” Kinsinger said. “In the Garden of Gethsemane, he asked God, ‘Is there some other way to do this?’ If Jesus can doubt, then let’s be honest about our doubts.”

The new statistic on young adults abandoning church isn’t surprising for senior religion and music ministry major Simon Campbell.

“I think the model that we’re operating under at this point in time is lacking participation and involvement that brings us into a long-term relationship,” he said.

Both Hubers and Kinsinger believe that by weathering this challenge, the church will continue to grow and evolve.

“The church has gone through these kinds of situations before, including when I was in college,” Hubers said. “It always finds a way to survive and thrive because ultimately God is in charge—not us.”

**Orange City Churches and Service Times**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Service Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Reformed</td>
<td>407 Albany Ave. S.E.</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvary Christian Reformed</td>
<td>709 5th St. S.E.</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Lutheran</td>
<td>710 6th St. S.E.</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornerstone Baptist</td>
<td>221 3rd St. S.W.</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Christian Reformed</td>
<td>408 Arizona Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dover Avenue Alliance</td>
<td>417 3rd St. N.E.</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Reformed</td>
<td>420 Central Ave. N.W.</td>
<td>9:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Church of the Savior</td>
<td>530 Arizona Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvest Community</td>
<td>209 1st St. N.E.</td>
<td>10 a.m. and 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hope Evangelical Free</td>
<td>718 Florida Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immanuel Christian Reformed</td>
<td>1405 Albany Ave. N.E.</td>
<td>9 a.m. and 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity Reformed</td>
<td>310 Albany Ave. N.E.</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redeemer United Reformed</td>
<td>302 St. Paul Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
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