Spring musical opens next weekend

MENTAL ILLNESS PORTRAYED THROUGH ROCK-N-ROLL

WARREN DUNCAN
THEATRE

Next Thursday, the Northwestern theatre department will open the Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning rock musical "Next to Normal," with music by Tom Kitt and lyrics by Brian Yorkey, this musical has reached critical acclaim, receiving awards such as two Tony Awards for Best Original Score and Best Orchestration. Along with those, "Next to Normal" is one of only 10 musicals to have won a Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the most recent being the hit musical "Hamilton."

The musical centers around a mother who struggles with worsening bipolar disorder and the effects that her illness and its management have had on her family. Some major themes in the show are issues of grief, suicide, drug abuse, and ethical issues in modern day psychiatry.

Sophomore Corrie Hayes, whose most recent musical credit was Princess Fiona in "Shrek the Musical" during Orange City's Tulip Festival, talks about what it is like to handle such difficult subject matters.

"It's such a heavy topic, and we [as an ensemble] all want to do it right and do it well," Hayes said.
For Corrie, playing the mother in the show has also had its fair share of hardships.

"I want to get the character right, and I want to represent mental disorder in the best way that I can," Hayes said.

When asked how this show is different than most NW shows, Hayes said, "It's definitely a PG-13 show. It's very heavy. There is humor, but overall it's more in your-face than other NW shows."

Despite the weight of the topic, Hayes believes that the beauty of this show will allow audiences to realize that life is bigger than just us.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Artistic passion relaxes, decorates

PASSION SERIES EXPLORES WATERCOLORING

ALYSON EVERSMAN
BIOLOGY ECO SCIENCE

Watercoloring is an art form that uses water to direct the flow of colors on a piece of paper. The best part about watercoloring is that no two pictures are identical because of the different methods and procedures that contribute to this kind of art. It takes a lot of practice to master the techniques that cause the pigmented water to flow or be absorbed in order to create each unique piece of art.

Sophomore elementary education major Leah Wright, however, has a good handle on this art type and has used her talent to brighten different areas of Northwestern's campus.

Wright first discovered her love of watercoloring during high school when she participated in a few art courses. She gained the extra motivation to practice this talent because her older sister also enjoyed watercoloring as a pastime. Wright and her sister used this shared passion to bond and provide tips to one another.

One of the reasons Wright is so passionate about watercoloring is because it is a great stress reliever.

"I enjoy watercoloring because it helps me relax and become calm," Wright said. "It allows me to get away from the busyness of college."

Not only does this art form reduce Wright's stress level, but watercoloring has also become a means of providing encouragement to her friends around campus.

"I just really love making personal creations for people," Wright said, "especially if they are having a particularly tough week. It's just a good way to encourage others and hopefully boost their mood."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

INSIDE

2 | "Lady Bird" Review
3 | Spring Musical
4 | Lent
5 | Kids on Campus
6 | Basketball
7 | PA Program
8 | Beacon, NorthWestern College - Beacon
@NWC_Beacon
ARTS & CULTURE
An Oscar-worthy coming-of-age

MOVIE REVIEW
RATED R, 94 MINUTES
BRANT VERMEER
POLITICAL SCIENCE

Greta Gerwig’s most recent film, “Lady Bird,” was released earlier this year and has been brought back into the limelight after it received a few Oscar nominations. The film follows a high school senior who chooses to go by the name “Lady Bird” instead of her given name, Christine, as she struggles to find her path in this coming-of-age tale.

The realistic dialogue is immediately striking and sets a standard for Greta Gerwig films. Lady Bird speaks the way a teenage girl does, and it is evident that the film was not written by older writers trying to resonate with younger audiences. Conversations between a mother and a rebellious daughter are imbued with passive-aggressiveness. Conversations between best friends feel real, and conversations between young boys and girls contain the timid anxiety that feels realistic.

Since the dialogue is very human, this helps to create scenes that will be relatable to audiences of all types. College students will relate to moments that Lady Bird lives through, and mothers will relate to certain situations Lady Bird’s mother encounters. These situations offer humorous moments where characters put words to feelings many have had. A few weak points in the story involve clichés that are usually not the norm for a Greta Gerwig film. A film that bears a likeness to “Lady Bird,” “Frances Ha,” is a similar coming of age story from Gerwig that does a better job of avoiding these clichés. Lady Bird’s mother is arguably the most interesting character in the film. She is faced with the difficult task of raising a daughter with the same strong personality.

This similarity creates a divide between the two, and the mother is clearly torn between wanting to shape her daughter into the best version of herself and a deep love for her. These conflicting desires are often lost on Lady Bird, who questions throughout the movie if her mother loves her, or if she even likes her. The relationship between Lady Bird and her mother highlights some of the difficulties of parent-child relationships.

The film also does a great job of highlighting many of the questions high school-aged people struggle with. Lady Bird struggles through the desire to leave home and see the world while also questioning sex and finding her identity. The film handles these questions with care and does a great job of presenting how Lady Bird struggles through these questions and learns from her experiences.

Lady Bird delivers an authentic experience with deeply interesting characters yet stumbles on a few clichés that prevent it from being a truly great film.

AWOLNATION resists “pop” label

MUSIC REVIEW
UNIQUE SOUNDS WITH DEEP LYRICS
HANNAH WAMHOF
THEATRE

AWOLNATION, most well-known from their 2012 hit “SAIL,” dropped their latest album, Here Come the Runts, on Friday, Feb. 2. Don’t be fooled by the “pop” label. AWOLNATION employs unique percussion, rock riffs reminiscent of Aerosmith, indie acoustics and electronica. This creates a unique musical blend that is sure to please the early 20s crowd who remember their earlier albums as go-to angsty teen anthems in high school.

AWOLNATION began as a solo getaway from a collaborative work for Aaron Bruno, who had previously worked with Home Town Hero and Under the Influence of Giants. The multi-instrumentalist broke away to a free-for-all blending of genres with a mix of live instrumentation and electronic elements.

He started working on Here Come the Runts in 2016 while living in a secluded mountain range in southern California. According to Bruno, the mountain landscape had a large impact on the sound of the resulting album that avoided “fake” musicality like vocal tuning.

Bruno said, “It’s like a non-GMO record.” His latest album opens with the title track “Here Come the Runts,” an echoing anthem with electronic vibes and a rock riff our dads would appreciate. Although a fun song to work out to, it sounds too much like a garage band from high school. “Passion” ironically leaves the listener strangely unimpressed. It could be the soundtrack to a melodramatic fight scene in an action movie. The most forgettable track of the album, “Sound Witness System,” features a slow rap filled to the brim with innuendo. However, the album takes a turn with “Miracle Man,” a dance anthem with relatable lyrics and a sick beat. "Handyman" offers a different emotion entirely. The touching ballad speaks to insomnia, young love, the millennial obsession with fixing things (and people) and a fear of the government. The rest of the album is a vast improvement on the first three songs, including a mix of relatable ballads and indie-rock anthems that balance angst and reality just right.

“My Molasses” lamenting feeling like an underdog and an embarrassment, saying “Hold back my tears, I don’t spoil your wine/ I thought the party started to nine/Felt like an idiot for running the night.” Mixing nostalgic beats with a comical commentary and the struggle of life in 2018, this album is the perfect background sound track to the college student’s hectic life.

My personal favorite track is "Table for One," an overly dramatic rock ballad about love, drama and feeling too many feelings. An apt song for any overly-dramatic and emotional college student.

CAMPUS QUOTES

“Does white wine come from green grapes... interesting.” - Meridith Lee
“Look! The Queen of London is on my postcard!” - Morgan Tigler
“Sopranos and altos: you are the scary teenagers.” - Dr. Holm
“Sopranos and altos: You are the scary teenagers.” - Darby Skillew
ARTS & CULTURE
NW theater tackles heavy subject

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

From a directorial viewpoint, Prof. Bob Hubbard emphasizes that this is a show that everyone should see. "It's about an American family struggling with an impossible situation. It's about finding hope in a hopeless situation," Hubbard said. "It's about advances in mental health and yet our failure to understand mental illness and how to treat it effectively."

With heavy themes such as these, Hubbard goes on to say that having rock and roll portray mental illness is inventive and appropriate.

"In some ways it gives us more insight into what it's like to be inside the mindset of bi-polar disorder. I believe rock and roll is uniquely equipped to replicate that," he said.

As Hayes and Hubbard previously stated, this show is tough and contains themes that may be hard for some audiences. However, theater artists feel called to hold a mirror up to nature. Through difficult subjects, they compel audiences to embrace the hardships of life and to continue fighting through it when things may seem hopeless. Fortunately for most people's lives and for the musical, there is always a light in the dark.

"Next to Normal" opens at 7:30 p.m. next Thursday. You may reserve tickets online at nwciowa.edu/tickets, email the box office at boxoffice@nwciowa.edu, or even call at 707-7098. Tickets are free for Northwestern students/faculty and staff. $8 for adults and $4 for children.

Townsquare begins concert series

SUPPORTING LOCAL MUSIC WITH NEW CONCERT EVENT

EMILY RAHER
UNDECIDED

In the upcoming months, Townsquare Coffee House will be hosting "First Friday," a concert series that will consist of local bands performing concerts on the first Friday of every month. The concerts will typically begin around 7 p.m. and last between three and four hours. These concerts and live music sessions are open to Northwestern students, the surrounding community and the public as well anyone who appreciates the music of local bands. In addition to the concert, band merchandise will be for sale, along with drink specials.

"We want to create a consistent time for people to know that they can come to the shop and hear local music," Townsquare Coffee House owner Steve Mahr said. "Creating and sustaining local culture isn't easy. The musicians work hard to create the sound and message they want people to experience."

Townsquare is hoping to have several local bands perform, including The Ruralists, The Aircraft and The Hiccups. The shop recently had a successful concert featuring the winter Wayfarer and Community Trees, and the shop was packed with over two hundred students, locals and community members.

"If you are making music and want to play at the shop, hit us up," Mahr said. NW students are encouraged to attend these concerts as the musicians that perform at Townsquare work to create a fun and lively atmosphere so that people can truly appreciate the music they perform.

"It takes work to create a space for those musicians to play in," Mahr said. "It takes people interested in music to sustain live music, or art of any kind. What is unique about any place is the relationship between local folks who create and those who are willing to engage in what is being created."

"This goes for food, music, theater, etc."

Overall, the purpose of the "First Friday" concert series is to build a community and integrate arts and variety into the local community. On a typical concert evening, there is a wide variety of people who come to take in the music, and the event really brings out the community and personalities in the local area.

Townsquare wants to create an atmosphere where arts, music and variety is appreciated.

"At the end of the day, the reason we do anything at our shop is to continue our vision of creating a space where all are welcome continues to take shape," Mahr said.

Bibles for Missions
Thrift Center

All proceeds support Bible placement in Haiti.

Find furniture, electronics, kitchen supplies, clothes and more.

Check us out:
116 2nd St. NW
707.9933

Like us on Facebook for updates on sales and specials!

We'd also love to have you as a volunteer!
Lent inspires spiritual growth

STUDENTS FAST AND REFLECT

HANNAH WAMHOFF
THEADE

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, 40 days prior to Easter, many Christian denominations observe the season of Lent, a liturgical season which commemorates the death of Jesus Christ on the cross. This year, Ash Wednesday falls on Wednesday, Feb. 14, and will be observed during a brief chapel service on campus.

For many, Lent is often thought of as a time of deprivation from things that are enjoyable or a period of getting rid of bad habits, it is so much more than that. The custom of fasting did not originate as a second attempt at keeping New Year’s resolutions alive, but rather as a practice in mourning Christ’s death and recognizing his sacrifice on the cross. The culmination of Lent is Easter Sunday, a celebration of the resurrection of Christ.

It may be hard to imagine Easter on the horizon with heaps of snow in the way, but senior Beth Benschoter feels that the timing of the Lenten season could not be more appropriate.

“I love that Lent usually aligns with the dreary end of the winter season because it provides a powerful symbol of the darkness that Christ faced before he could offer the hope of salvation through the Resurrection,” Benschoter said. “Easter usually begins the warmer spring weather, just like it marks the joy and freedom of the Resurrection.”

The 40 days of Lent also allow Christ-followers to reflect on his beautiful sacrifice for a longer period of time than just Good Friday or Easter weekend.

With the coming joy of Easter in mind, both Benschoter and freshman Halle Van Vark will observe Lent by intentionally spending more devotional time with God. “They remarked that, for them, Lent is not about ‘giving things up,’ but rather spending more time reflecting on the sacrifice of Christ,” Benschoter said.

To that end, Benschoter is going to focus her time on reading through the Gospels, which former faculty member Jackie Smallbones encouraged her to do at least once a year.

Van Vark has set a goal of spending one hour with God each day, whether that be through reading Scripture, praying or worshpping through painting.

“For me, I think that spending more time in devotion will force me to be more aware of the reason for Lent,” Van Vark said, “rather than just be annoyed at myself that I can’t eat chocolate.”

While many college students may feel like Lent is unachievable since they might not have much to “give up” and perhaps not enough time to add a Lenten practice, Benschoter remarked that college students need this time of reflection to bring their focus back from future plans to the present gift of eternal life.

Van Vark believes the time is essential for realigning one’s focus.

“I think Lent is especially important for college students because it makes us slow down a little bit and remember something really important: that God humbled himself by coming to Earth and Jesus Christ suffered on the cross to forgive us for our sins,” Van Vark said.

Lent is a season of consciously remembering the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross and looking forward to celebrating his resurrection and the gift of eternal life. It does not have to be a season of avoiding sweets, but it can be a sweet time of year to intentionally spend more time with the God who gives salvation.

Watercoloring
FROM PAGE 1

One place Wright uses her watercolor paintings to inspire others is within her dorm. As the resident assistant for third south in Stegena Hall, Wright exercises the opportunity to express her artistic abilities by creating and displaying inspirational illustrations for her residents around the wing.

“I used watercolors to make the nametags that go on my residents’ doors as well as the decorations along the walls,” Wright said.

Between her RA duties and education courses, Wright stays pretty busy. When asked how she finds time within her demanding schedule to watercolor, Wright said, “I usually watercolor on the weekends, but sometimes I will paint while watching movies or during the little free time I have as well.”

Sometimes that extra time goes into searching for new inspiration or watercoloring techniques. Wright receives most of her inspiration from Pinterest, but she also browses the internet for tutorials on the new methods of painting she wants to attempt.

“I usually look for different ideas and techniques on Pinterest,” Wright said. “I especially like to do this with my flower wreath pictures, but then I’ll put my own twist on the design to make it unique.”

Inspired to begin your own watercoloring journey? Well, Wright has some excellent advice for beginners: “I know it sounds a little weird, but just let it flow. Watercoloring is a great way to express yourself. Look up ideas you want to create and just go for it!”
FEATU0ES

Born to be NW college students

CAMPUS KIDS FIND A HOME IN THE DORMS

BREE HODNIEFIELD
WRITING AND RHYTHMIC

Having children living on a college campus may not be the common way to live for most families; however, there are three resident directors on Northwestern's campus that love the students and the environment their kids live in.

Stegenga Hall RD Celeste Ryan and her husband Nathaniel live on the third floor with their one-and-a-half year-old Ellie. According to Celeste, Ellie is very extraverted and loves running into people's dorm rooms to say "hi," checking out what's going on.

"She loves people because that's all she's used to: living in and around students and their lives," Celeste said.

Both Celeste and Nathaniel agree that the environment of NW and the students living on campus make for the perfect atmosphere. What Celeste enjoys most is that there are so many girls in Steg who love their daughter and are more than willing to babysit when needed.

"I trust the girls enough to watch her if they feel comfortable with her being around, no doubt," Celeste said.

North Suites RD, Tyler Zeutenhorst, lives with his wife Rachel and their four-and-a-half-month-old son Isaac.

"We love bringing him up in this environment because the guys are a lot of fun," Tyler said. "They have high energy and are very interested in Isaac.

The men on third floor even bought Isaac a onesie that reads "Third floor is my favorite" with his name on the back. Both Tyler and his wife have gotten to see other RD kids developing great social skills which is something they look forward to seeing in their own child as well.

The guys in North enjoy the interaction when Tyler brings Isaac around.

"It's fun and interesting to see their moods instantly change when a cute baby comes into the room," Tyler said.

Just last Sunday, the Zeutenhorsts watched the Super Bowl with everyone while Isaac played with his toys and bounced around in his jumper.

"There's a different set of people than

Tyler and Rachel Zeutenhorst pose with their son Isaac and the students who live on the third floor of North Suites. Rachel says it is a joy to have her baby living there.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

any other residence hall. Mady's birthday is in the summer, so she was always bummed that she never got to celebrate with the boys. So they decided to throw her a surprise early birthday party for her fifth birthday. They bought her a princess tent, made her a cake and packed the North Suites lounge to celebrate with her.

Drew and Jack's favorite part about living around the boys of North is getting to talk about Batman and superheroes, while Mady hangs out in Steggy for movie nights. The Stanislars' agree that living on campus has allowed them to be a part of their students' lives. They have a lot of good role models who encourage them and interact with them," Rachel said. "They've grown closer to the kids in North Suites than we have ever been before."
OPINIONS

Is summer really that great?

ABBEY SLATTERY
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

We may be divided as a nation on many fronts, but one thing we can all agree on here at Northwestern is this: it's really cold outside. Stepping out of your dorm and into the often below-zero weather on your way to a morning class would rather not have to attend, it's easy to see why anyone would wish for the warmth and release of summer. However, I love hand-hitting opinions and I love controversy, and I'm here to say, once and for all: summer sucks.

First of all, the sun is the worst. As someone who cannot go outside for mere moments without catching a burn, I'm really not a fan of full-on natural light.

Also, yikes, let's not even get into the fiscal of sweat that comes along with that direct sunlight. Ultraviolet rays are dangerous. People. You shouldn't have to put on special shielding lotion just to go outside.

Let's talk about everyone's favorite place to go in the summer: the beach. The beach is awful. No matter where you are, you're going to get sand everywhere. Every-where. Especially if you're wearing sunscreen. Then you just turn into one of those characters in the movies that get doused in syrup and coated in feathers as a prank, except you're the one pranking yourself by going to beach. Also, water is scary. Do you know how many things in a sand-box are in the ocean?

And you won't even see them coming! Pass.

Ah, but the foods of the summer. Cookouts, watermelon, popsicles, all the staples. I'm sorry, but I just find some of the mostest things I have ever eaten. How do you eat watermelon and popsicles without feeling like you need a wet wipe afterward? And cookouts, come on. I'll take a real plate that isn't filled with mosquitoes, please. I know this is negative, but really, I just want you to appreciate the benefits that come in the winter months.

For example, one of my favorite hobbies is to stay inside, read, watching my streaming services. In the winter, I don't have to make excuses like "I have a headache," or "my mom says I can't hang out today." No one is asking me down that comfort of my room, and if they are, it's just to go to the comfort of their room and to keep watching TV.

Also, winter has some of the best foods. It's all about comfort foods, like potatoes and stew and potato stews. You think you can enjoy a good stew in the summer? I don't let's forget about winter style. Who doesn't love to put on a nice chunky sweater or their favorite cozy hoodie? If you're like me, then your style is mostly sweater, leggings, and layering in the summer food is not as advantageous as that look. Winter gives you the freedom to express yourself in ways that summer never could.

So, I know it's cold and everything sucks, and it won't stop snowing, but hey, at least it's not summer.

The problem with football

KI TRICK FYNAARDT
MATHEMATICS

I'm not the biggest fan of sports. I enjoy watching a game here or there, but I've never been committed to one team or really cared who won a game. However, I did (along with others in the U.S.) watch the Super Bowl. Eagles vs. Patriots, a series of "trick plays" and the most yards ever thrown in an NFL game to date. I regurgitated all those facts from Kyle Johnson as they don't mean anything to me. I did have a blast watching the game and wanted to share my thoughts on just what football has come to mean in the U.S.

First and foremost, the advertising during the Super Bowl is one of the main attractions. Companies pay millions of dollars for a simple fifteen seconds of airtime, trying to show off their funniest or best ideas for why people should buy their product. In my books, Tide was the winner this year, having David Harbour highjack other cliche advertisements and claim it's a "Tide ad." Most of the time, I find advertising to be stupid and unnecessary. Why would I let someone tell me what I need?

However, this is not the goal that I think Tide and other assorted companies were going for. I think they weren't buying the space on the air, they were buying the space in your brain.

When you go to buy laundry detergent, you'll think "baba that funny Tide ad," and then you're more inclined to buy it. It's laundry detergent: who cares? That's how they get you. That's where those millions really went to.

During the game itself, there were several plays reviewed because they were "scoring plays." Those are the plays when you score. You know, when you put the football in the big rectangle? Anyway, there were moments when a player had caught the ball and fallen into the end zone, but it was unclear if they "had control" of the ball or not, a condition that must be fulfilled in order for the play to count.

I think that's a freakin' stupid rule. I don't know who wrote down what defines "controlling a ball," but if it's in both of your hands and you're holding it against your chest, I'd call that a controlled ball.

The refs called most of these plays in a logical manner, but I still don't see why there was any argument at all. The big football man caught the big football in his hands. What else do you want him to do?

After the game was over, Alexander Lowry, a Philadelphia native, immediately turned on the police scanner from Philadelphia and watched several livestreams of the streets outside City Hall. There were more people celebrating the Super Bowl win out in the streets of Philadelphia than there are living in Orange City right now. People were climbing lampposts and screaming at the top of their lungs, "Fly Eagles! Fly!" At one point, the stream moved to City Hall itself, and a totally nude man was climbing up the side of the building. He was nearly 20 feet in the air.

Absolute chaos. I don't understand what makes people be in such a state of getting the Super Bowl is hype, but can we all settle down for a moment?

There were fireworks going off in the middle of the city. That's dangerous! When it comes to sports, I think moderation should be key. The mob mentality of Philadelphia could've gotten some people hurt, and frankly, a bunch of buff dudes throwing a pigeon into a grassy rectangle isn't that big of a deal. Let's not get too excited.

Editor's Note
The opinions published both in print and online are the opinions of the authors only. Beacon staff members donot necessarily support the opinions expressed in this section. Research and editing (other than formatting of articles) is the responsibility of the authors rather than the editors.
SPORTS

Win over Lancers

OFFENSE BRINGS BIG NW WIN

KENDRA MCGINNIS
PUBLIC RELATIONS

It was an easy victory for the Red Raider women's basketball team Wednesday night in the Bulman Center over the Mount Marty Lancers. NW won the GPAC matchup 90-61. The game was one of NW's best offensive outings, shooting 49% overall with a season high of 57% from behind the three-point line.

Mount Marty started the scoring action of the game, but NW would gain control of the scoreboard with a three-pointer from junior Kassidy De Jong. NW would go on a seven-point run over the Lancers, bringing the score to 10-2 before Mount Marty could manage another basket. The lead would only continue to grow for NW as they ended the first quarter with a 19-point lead (22-12).

The second quarter brought a more competitive scoring matchup. Mount Marty took the opportunity in the quarter to go head-to-head with NW at the basket. Each NW basket was followed by another from Mount Marty. A strategic pass by senior Renee Maneman to De Jong for a jumper at the block was followed by a Lancer basket. Mount Marty would end the quarter outscoring the Raiders 22-21. The first half would end with NW still holding a substantial lead, 43-34 over Mount Marty.

Third quarter once again showed the dominance of the Red Raiders' offense taking back control of the game with a three-pointer by senior Paige Danner. Scoring would continue with several good jumpers by junior Darbi Gustafson. NW would end the third with a commanding lead of 69-49.

The fourth quarter would start with a jumper in the paint by junior Haley Birk off a pass from Maneman. The final score of the game came from a three-pointer by sophomore Rachel Mercer.

The victory over Mount Marty was an important win for the Raiders after a Saturday loss to Concordia. NW is now 14-3 in the GPAC (19-6 overall), tied for second place with Dakota Wesleyan with three games left to play in the regular season. NW will be back in action at 2 p.m. on Saturday at home versus Midland. The final two games of the regular season are to be played away against Dakota Wesleyan and Doane next week.

RAIDERS PLACE 49 IN TOP TEN OVER THE WEEKEND

CONNER UBBEN
ADVERTISING EDITOR

The Northwestern Track team traveled to Mitchell, South Dakota, last weekend to compete in the Dakota Wesleyan Alumni Open Meet.

For the women's team, sophomore Bré Harthoorn and senior Katie Bosch finished first and second, respectively, in the 100m, crossing the finish line in 0:00.45 and 0:00.7, Harthoorn met the auto mark and is currently ranked fourth in the NAIA and second in the GPAC. Bosch had already hit the auto mark in her previous meet. Junior Rebekah Moilenburg won the 400m and met the auto mark with a time of 1:36.74. Moilenburg ran the fastest time in the GPAC and has the sixth best time in the NAIA.

NW athletes won four events and posted 16 top-five and 27 top-ten finishes. Sophomore Anna Heusinkveld posted three top-five finishes in the sprint races, winning the 100m and placing second in the 400m and third in the 200m. Sophomore Caley Vink recorded her first win of the season, taking first in the shot put with a toss of 41.06, her second best throw of the season. Senior Sarah Lunn placed second in the mile (5:23) and then anchored a 4x400 relay that placed third with a time of 4:12. The relay included Mullenberg, Bosch and Harthoorn.

For the men, junior Peter Hollinger punched his ticket to next month’s NAIA Indoor Championships in the 100m, taking first with a time of 23.1, which is third fastest in the GPAC and 14th best in the NAIA.

The Red Raider men's team recorded 14 top-five finishes and 22 in the top ten on the weekend. Senior Cody Bauman was one of three entries to take home a runner-up finish, placing second in the shot put and bettering his NAIA provisional mark with a toss of 51-06. The men's 4x800 team of sophomore Sean Crowell, junior Caleb Benzing, freshman Josh Van Duseldorp and senior Bryce Nitschke took first with a time of 8:06. Sophomore Calvin Kerver finished second in the pole vault (12-01.5) and fifth in the 60m hurdles. Tim Rose placed second in the 3K, with a time of 8:45.

NW will compete in the SDSU Indoor Classic on Feb. 16 and 17 in Brookings, South Dakota, in the final meet before the GPAC Championship.

Colossal win for Raiders

NW TAKES DOWN THE JIMMIES 43-6

BRIAN FOLLETT
SPORTS EDITOR

The NW wrestling team had a few competitions in the past week. They had their last GPAC dual last Friday, Feb. 2 in the Bulman Center. The Raiders rebounded from their close loss at Concordia to beat Jamestown University 43-6.

The night started at the 285 pound weight class. Out of the first four matches three of them were forfeits and the last one was a decision win from senior Jake Herrold. After those four, the Raiders went up 21-0 and did not look back. NW was open at the 149 weight class and gave up the six point forfeit at that weight.

However, the Raiders would win the last five matches to secure the win. Sophomore Andrew Null and senior Brandon Shuler earned back-to-back technical falls for the Raiders. Senior Nick Null ended the night with a bang as he pinned his foe in just 32 seconds. NW is currently in second place in the GPAC overall.

Then on Saturday, Feb. 3, seven wrestlers traveled south to compete in the Sioux City Open. This was the last regular season tournament of the year. Three of the seven Raiders went 2-2. Leading that group was senior Brock Brenneman, who earned a pin in the first round. After dropping a close next match Brenneman rebounded and got a quick fall.

Freshmen Reid Seelhammer and Marcus Tucker were the other two wrestlers to notch two wins on the day. Tucker was able to earn a pin and a tech fall. Seelhammer dropped his first match but was able to get a major decision in the next match. Senior Isaac Ruiz and freshman Andrew Posmiele were both able to get a win on the day.

The Raiders have the weekend off and then will start preparing for the NAIA North Qualifier on Feb. 17 in Hastings, Nebraska. Twelve wrestlers will be heading down, all trying to punch their ticket to Nationals.
NW to offer PA studies program

In 2020, Northwestern College will implement a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies program. The program will offer a two-year graduate track as well as a three plus two-year track to the incoming freshman class that fall.

The three plus two-year track will feature three years of undergraduate study combined with two years of graduate work. This is an excellent option for future physician assistant students because it will save time and money and eliminate the stress caused by applying for graduate programs.

In 2016, professor of biology Sara Toloma presented the program as an area of opportunity for NW. There are few other schools that offer this program in the area, and the addition of the new science building allows for an expansion in the college’s healthcare programs.

A letter of intent was submitted to the Academic Affairs Committee and was approved in October 2016. The committee commenced the development of materials for formal submission of the program.

Dean of Graduate and Adult Learning Rebecca Hoey and Dean of Natural and Applied Sciences Dean Calbied played integral roles in the establishment of the undergraduate and graduate programs. The two toured and spoke with a program director of a physician assistant school in Nebraska. When researching the possibility more, it became obvious that this program would be a good addition to NW.

This graduate degree is not new to private liberal arts colleges. Many schools have successful programs, such as Union College (Lincoln, Nebraska), St. Ambrose (Davenport, Iowa), Des Moines University (Des Moines, Iowa), and others. The College of Saint Mary’s (Omaha, Nebraska) is the only other school in close proximity offering the three plus two-year track. The school has been successful in running this program.

The incoming freshmen students in 2020 can apply to enter the program while in high school. Once accepted, the student will maintain a spot as long as he or she retains a certain GPA and receives a determined letter grade in specific courses. This will save students the hassle of applying to graduate school, as graduate school acceptance is becoming more competitive.

Des Moines University reported that the PA class of 2019 had 376 applicants. Of those applicants, only 36 were given a spot. The three plus two-year program helps ensure the undergraduate students a spot in a master’s program as long as they maintain good standing.

The process to become accredited for this program is long and rigorous. The Accreditation Standards for Physician Assistant Education (ARC-PA) require at least four faculty plus a medical director. The medical director can be either a physician assistant or medical doctor and will be the head of the program as well as a potential mentor. NW is currently in the process of hiring a director.

There are many questions still in the process of being answered. The exact size of the classes has not been determined, but NW is considering around 30 students. The number may vary due to clinical placements. The exact course work, prerequisites, required standardized tests for admission and possibility of waivers have not been determined.

Once a medical director is hired and the program reaches its final steps, these questions will be answered.

The establishment for this program has gotten positive feedback. There is an increasing demand for physician assistants in rural communities.

“Once a selected group is rolled out, this is a great fit for NW because our mission is to prepare to do God’s work in the world, and this is clearly an area of need,” Hoey said.

Many counties in Iowa are currently medically under-staffed. When analyzing all these factors, it becomes obvious that this program will be a great academic as well as mission fit for NW.

Dress up bingo night planned for weekend

EVENT OFFERS SEVERAL EXTRAVAGANT PRIZES

BLAKE MULDER
THEATRE

Northwestern’s Student Activities Council is hosting the annual Dress Up Bingo Night on Saturday, Feb. 10 in the four-court area of the Rowenhorst Student Center.

The theme of the night plays off the idea of how one might typically imagine a bingo hall. "Generally, speaking, most bingo halls are filled with elderly people, so we like to have fun with that," said Resident Director of Hoopers Hall Michael Stinson. "Lots of socks and sandals. Lots of big glasses. Lots of grey hair. As long as students aren’t mockingly the elderly and it’s done in good taste."

In his dual role as ID and Assistant Director of Student Activities, Stinson feels it’s his charge of helping plan the event.

Not only does dressing up add to the fun, but it also earns students extra bingo cards.

Director of Student Programs Aaron Beadle noted the history of the event.

"Historically, people have borrowed clothes from their grandparents or picked up some clothes from a thrift store to dress up as a senior citizen," Beadle said.

As typical with most bingo games, numerous prizes are at stake. Some of the prizes have been donated by local businesses and organizations.

"Beadle offered a tease of what these prizes will look like. "One prize I’ll mention is that Pizza Ranch is donating two gifts of one free buffet per week for the rest of the semester," Beadle said."

Senior nursing major Elizabeth Glover revealed a few of the other prizes that are planned. "We’re offering your own parking spot (on campus), a镇square pack, flex money, a dinosaur costume and so much more," Glover said.

"This entails contacting various local organizations about the possibility of them donating a prize for our bingo winners and shopping for other things college students would use or want," Glover said.

Additionally, SAC has to move around all the tables and chairs that are set up for the Scholarship Auction earlier in the day.

"Despite all the work, junior Samuel Callahan, only has positive things to say about the event. "It’s well worth it when so many people come out to enjoy the night."

PHOTO COURTESY OF NWC PUBLIC RELATIONS

Students are encouraged to dress up for the event.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

PHOTO COURTESY OF NWC PUBLIC RELATIONS