2-16-2018

The Beacon, February 16, 2018

Beacon Staff

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Validation through vulnerability

FORMER RESIDENT DIRECTOR RETURNING TO CAMPUS FOR NGAGE

VICTORIA HORN
LITERATURE & WRITING AND RHETORIC

When asked whether it was difficult discussing such a taboo topic as sexual assault with college faculty and students, Hannah McBride exhibited her characteristic courage and vulnerability, replying, “What is impolite to discuss at dinner parties? Sex, money, politics, religion? That’s exactly what I want to talk about.”

As the Violence Prevention and Education Coordinator at Messiah College in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, McBride organizes and directs a comprehensive, college-wide program that includes communication development, campus education, employee training, student programming, crisis intervention and victim advocacy. McBride will be bringing her passion and expertise to Northwestern students at the upcoming Ngage session, “Victimized Bodies: Sexual Assault Prevention and Education.”

McBride graduated from NW in 2009 with degrees in theatre and English. Many NW upperclassmen and faculty will fondly remember McBride from her days as resident director of Stenger Hall from 2012 to 2016. Friend and former colleague Kendall Stanislav, current RD of the apartments, encouraged McBride to apply for her current position at Messiah, for which McBride very grateful.

“When Kendall says jump, I usually say ‘no way’, but this time I am glad I took his advice,” McBride said.

In keeping with the vulnerability she cultivated as RD of Steggy, McBride hopes to normalize the taboo subject of sexual assault and will focus her Ngage session on the intricacies of consent, social media in our environment and dynamics that perpetuate sexual assault. Throughout her talk, she will cover myths and facts surrounding both survivors and perpetrators of sexual assault, the spectrum of environments, behaviors and responses in which assault can occur; and effective ways of approaching prevention.

When asked why sexual assault remains a taboo subject, especially in many faith-based communities, McBride acknowledged society’s resistance to establish the relevance and importance of difficult conversations.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

NW dining: Sodexo vs. Creative Dining

STUDENTS VOICE OPINIONS ON FOOD SERVICES

ANNA PERNENOUX
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Northwestern faces a tough choice in the coming months: renew their contract with Sodexo, the current food service provider, or bring in Creative Dining, a second food service provider being considered for the campus. After serving the campus for decades, Sodexo’s most recent contract is up following the 2017-2018 school year.

The choice requires a long decision-making process that includes many steps and meetings. The process began by requesting proposals from food service companies; NW decided to only request bids from Sodexo and Creative Dining as they were the top choices in years prior.

After obtaining the bids, both companies presented their proposals for what they could offer the campus if they were to be chosen. The companies will also meet with groups on campus who often work with NW’s food service provider for events, including Student Activities Council and the president’s executive assistant.

The President’s Cabinet is in the group that will be making the decision, which includes Doug Beikelman, Vice President for Financial Affairs, and Julie Elliot, Vice President for Student Life.

Elliot has expressed her desire to make sure everyone’s diet is in consideration when choosing a food service provider.

“I’ve reached out to all parts of campus to make sure we can get a good representation of students because I understand that what a male athlete wants from a food service is different from what a female vegetarian would want,” Elliot said. “It’s also very important that students with food allergies are included in the process.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8
ARTS & CULTURE

P.T. Barnum film misses the point

MOVIE REVIEW

RATED PG
139 MINUTES

BRANT VERMEER
POLITICAL SCIENCE

"The Greatest Showman" was released last December and wowed audiences. Many spectators raved about the performances, spectacle and music. Unfortunately, the film is riddled with problems, such as the misrepresentation of P.T. Barnum, a trite message and underwhelming music. The film has a few shining moments but ultimately was an opportunity to investigate the character of P.T. Barnum.

The film contains a few shining moments and is entertaining, if nothing else. Hugh Jackman's performance stands out as he captures the essence of a man of the circus. This performance was the only one that stood out as anything more than ordinary. A few scenes also provided highlights, especially the opening scenes and the other circus performances.

The key issue with this film is its misrepresentation of the character of P.T. Barnum. The film portrays him as a deeply caring man who put his family first and was a champion of the down-and-outs of society. Sadly, this was not the case. While the real P.T. Barnum may have seen himself as portrayed in the film, it is more realistic to say that he used people society deemed "different" as attractions to make profit off them.

The film also paints Barnum as a conflicted family man attempting to provide for those he loves. Again, this may have been how Barnum saw things, but it is evident that the choices he made in his life were driven largely by his deep desire for fame and significance. A better film would have highlighted the nuance of Barnum's character: an undeniably great and significant man that was in no way perfect, torn between a questionable pursuit of success and a desire to be a good father.

An additional disappointing piece of the film was its music. Many viewers raved about the music, but it felt cheap. It came off as trite and overproduced. The subject matter of the music is uninspired and does not move beyond the simplest themes. Typically, one of the high points of any musical is the music; however, throughout this film I found myself dreading the next time they were about to sing.

When a musical is done well, it presents the voices of the actors and actresses as they are, with little to no production. "La La Land" does this beautifully; most songs for that film were actually recorded as they were shot, whereas in "The Greatest Showman," tracks were clearly recorded in a studio and brought into the film. This leads to an unnatural transition whenever they break into song. "The Greatest Showman" is ultimately a film that aimed to please crowds and, while it accomplished that, it passed up on an opportunity to take a critical look at the life of P.T. Barnum, played it safe musically and delivered an underwhelming experience with too few high points and not enough in between to hold the attention of critical viewers.

BROCKHAMPTON breaks the mold

MUSIC REVIEW

THE BEST BOY BAND UNDER THE RADAR

BRANT VERMEER
POLITICAL SCIENCE

BROCKHAMPTON is the most interesting thing to happen to music in recent memory. The group is first and foremost a boy band and would have you call them as such. However, their music does not sound like N-Sync or One Direction. The group doesn't make radio pop — they make rap music, and last year they released three of the best albums of the year.

BROCKHAMPTON has an origin story worth noting. They consist of 14 rappers, producers, sound engineers and other types of artists that met on a Kanye West fan forum. Groups within the larger BROCKHAMPTON collective knew one another from high school, but these smaller groups were introduced through the site. After a friendship developed, they made the choice to travel to Los Angeles together, buy a house to live in and make music together.

All of the tracks by BROCKHAMPTON are made in-house. As mentioned above, the group has many members with many talents, and they leave nothing up to producers outside themselves. This allows them to make music that is very precisely what they want to make without any outside influences.

What is almost unprecedented about this is the quality of all three releases. Each record is unique, yet tied to BROCKHAMPTON's branding and style. There isn't a point where quality dips off — it seems the group has the ability to consistently put out huge volumes of high quality music. The names of their last three albums were SATURATION I, II and III.

Some have hypothesized that this is tied to the group attempting to saturate the hip-hop market with a large quantity of music to cause a splash. If that is the case, it worked.

The group also writes and directs their own music videos, all of which can be seen on YouTube. Members of the band have described how they want to be a group that handles every part of their product. They have complete control over the creative process, meaning they can do exactly what they want. This allows BROCKHAMPTON to create unique content that would never be approved by a conventional producer or director.

What's perhaps most endearing about the group is how they all come from different backgrounds but come together to make something beautiful. The group is made up of people of all different races and identities. When contrasting this with the typical white, straight boyband, BROCKHAMPTON becomes atypical. The group has set out to redefine what a boyband is, and in the process challenges socio-cultural norms.

BROCKHAMPTON's latest three albums are a must-listen for anyone who considers themselves a fan. The group is making some of the most interesting music of our time, and doing so in a completely fresh way.

CAMPUS QUOTES

"Oh yeah, I love crises. I live for a good crisis." - Ann Minnick
— Jamie Prescott

"My breath smells like a petting zoo." - Isaac Clausen
— Kyle Swart

"I'm gonna have 12 obnoxious peacocks at my wedding." - Sam Callahan
— Aubrey Jorde
STOVER BRINGS RAP TO LIFE

ALYSON EVERSMAN BIOLOGY ECO. SCIENCE

A 10 Northwestern alumnus, Lee Stover, recently released his first album: Work in Progress—a record that took him five years to create.

"Work in Progress is a Christian rap album with the basic idea that no matter who you are and what you have accomplished in life, there is always more that can be done," Stover said. "I don’t just mean spiritually, but also physically, career-wise, you name it—you’re always a work in progress."

As the title of the album suggests, the main theme of Stover’s new release is that God is constantly working within and through everyone. Stover said that God knows we are not perfect but loves us and wants to use us anywhere. He also adds that every single character within the Bible, except one, is a perfect example of a "work in progress."

"Progress, failure, draw closer to God, repair," Stover said. "I have a line in my intro on the album, which is partly spoken word, that says, 'Who I am is not who I was. And who I am is not who I will become.' It’s pretty simple but I think that’s kind of part of what life is about. That profound journey of self-discovery."

Along with Stover, two other NW alumni have assisted with the making of this new album.

"Jethia Dunk produced all the tracks for the album and did the artwork," Stover said. "My sister, Leslie, helped layout the design work for my physical CD copies."

Even though this is his first official album release, Stover has had a love of music since an early age.

"My parents always either had an oldies station on the radio or Life 96.5 out of Sioux Falls. So, early on I had influences of rock and roll, bubblegum pop and Motown from those eras combined with music that praised Jesus," Stover also participated in many different music programs, such as band, choir, jazz band, marching band and show choir throughout high school. While at NW, Stover participated in RUSH, NC/DC, co-ed dance teams and talent shows, which helped his desire and love for music grow stronger.

Since graduating from NW, Stover has only grown his passion for music.

"I’ve been creating music on a DIY scale pretty much since graduation and that led me to taking this project [Work in Progress] to a higher, professionally done level. I also own a DJ company so for the last eight years that’s been part of my music career as well." We’ve actually done Northwestern’s homecomings and winter formals for the last five years or so."

Stover hopes to leave a lasting lesson to listeners from his album.

"It’s just my exploration of different things I’ve learned in life, especially after graduating. When you’re a student, there’s this pressure to know what you’re going to do for the rest of your life and for you to be a finished product. And some people do know that and that’s great. But the fact is, you’re simply not. No one is," Stover said. "We’re all a work in progress so just be OK with that. Enjoy life wherever you are and keep working on the little things in life in all aspects that will get you where you want to go."

Check out Stover’s social media accounts on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram for more information.

E-sports battles take over Hospers

VIDEO GAME TOURNAMENT BRINGS FRIENDLY COMPETITION

KITRICK Fynaardt MATHEMATICS

The lights dim. A spotlight shines down on two competitors going head-to-head, each clutching an Xbox controller in their hands. An enormous screen hangs above a sold-out crowd, eagerly cheering on their champion. A booming announcer’s voice rings across the arena, signaling the beginning of the match. What’s on the line? Glory.

This is not exactly what the Hospers Video Game tournament might look like, but it certainly feels that way when you hear Hospers native Lucas Heiberger talk about it. As the RA of Hospers Hall’s second floor, Heiberger takes his responsibilities very seriously and one of those is the mediator and commentator of the Annual Hospers Video Game Tournament (HVG).

This impressive display of electronic sports skill takes place in the Hospers lobby over the course of the second semester and is all played on Heiberger’s own Xbox. The game chosen? A hidden gem called Sega Soccer Slam.

"The main point of the HVG is to pick a game that no one is skilled at," Heiberger said. "A game that very few have ever played but has significant depth and enjoyment for a wide variety of players."

Heiberger’s goal for the tournament is a competition of adaptation and quick learning, not one of practiced skill.

Heiberger, when asked to describe the game, rattled off a ridiculous combination of high adrenaline staples: "It’s kind of a mix between WWE, soccer, stereotypes and superheroes. It’s loosely based around a sport, but it’s such a unique arcade-y feel that anyone can pick it up and be decent at it."

The game itself is old-school, high-octane sports action with strong team elements mixed in. So far, 40 Hospers men and alumni have joined the tournament and over 68 of the round robin preliminaries have been played already. There are many with a perfect record including third floor resident Jossha Fischer, who currently has his sights set on the first seed spot in the bracket.

When asked for tips from his gameplay, Fischer said, "It’s all about passing. Whoever can get the most passes will win the game for sure."

The top spot is not secure however, as many other players have managed to attain perfect records in the preliminaries as well, keeping competitors like Fischer on their toes. When asked where the idea for the HVG came from, Heiberger had a short story to tell.

"I guess it started the Christmas break of 2014," Heiberger said. "I had a group of friends over, and we threw in the old Sega Soccer Slam on the Xbox around 2 a.m. and then played a tournament together. Six of us across the rest of the night. We had a blast, and I realized how much fun it could be to have guys play the game as a tournament game."

So, upon his return to campus, Heiberger began the first of the tournaments with one every year since.

Competitors and Hospers residents alike are anxious about who might play next and who might make it all the way to the top of the Sega Soccer Slam standings. The tournament is not played for money or for pride, but for glory and fun.

If you would like to follow along, you can watch every match live on Facebook on the Hospers Video Game Tournament page.
Computing a creative future

TECHNOLOGY AS A LIFESTYLE

BLAKE MULDER
THEATRE

As the technology industry expands with each passing year, having an understanding of smartphones and computers is quickly becoming an essential life skill. For Isaac Clausen, technology is more than a life skill: it's a lifestyle. Clausen's passion for technology started at a young age and has been a key interest throughout his life.

Clausen first became interested in technology and computers because of his grandfather, who was big into Apple computers. In fact, one of Clausen's favorite pastimes growing up was experimenting with computers.

"When I was in elementary school, we had some old computers lying around," Clausen said. "I loved to tinker with them to get something to show up on the screen. I remember getting Windows 95 running on an old computer with a trackball and being so proud that I had my 'own computer,' even though all it could really do was play solitaire."

Clausen loves that he can use technology to serve God and other people. He frequently offers his technology expertise to retirees and the elderly, a task which he finds extremely rewarding.

"One time, I was helping an octogenarian gentleman with his iPad," Clausen said. "When I told him it was possible to listen to most of the world's music online, he became so enthused about it we immediately set up Spotify together. He was able to listen to a song that he played in high school band that he hadn't heard in over 50 years. The joy it brought him was very rewarding."

Once Clausen came to Northwestern, he became actively involved with the AV department, working with computers and other technology on campus. He also made his own major in order to pursue technology as a career. He started as a computer information systems major, but it wasn't quite what he was looking for.

"I wanted a major that would provide useful tools in the creation and management of projects that depend heavily upon a knowledge of technology," Clausen said. "I decided to switch majors, but I couldn't find the right one to switch to. Eventually, after a lot of prayer and research, I heard about something called a student initiated major and looked into that."

Clausen has used the computer information systems major as a basis for his student initiated major, replacing some classes and taking directed studies to cover what NW didn't have courses for.

"I have taken every creative technology course, such as video production and graphic design, along with some foundational computer science courses," Clausen said. "It has been a perfect fit as a major where I get to pursue one of my passions."

Clausen hopes to continue to follow his passion after college, creating his own technology projects and providing technical support to others.

"I would love to continue to help those who are advanced in years and show them the possibilities of the gizmos that they see on TV," Clausen said. "I also will continue to make things that make life more fun for people. I would love to continue to serve God with my passion for technology by serving others."

McBride speaks about sexual abuse

FROM PAGE 1

"We have significant numbers of abuse," McBride said. "Some of the greatest barriers to getting help are due to layers of shame and stigma and minimal resources dedicated to education and training. This is only one conversation that leads us into God's call for restorative work, and it happens to be one of the most personal and uncomfortable."

Despite many factors preventing communities from addressing sexual assault issues, McBride believes individuals are responsible for educating themselves and their neighbors on this essential topic.

"Ignorance to this issue in our communities is not bliss, in my opinion," McBride said. "Ignorance is setting us up to fail our own friends and colleagues."

That being said, McBride is under no impression that such preventative conversations will be easy to have in one's personal life.

"Sometimes it is a struggle to discuss sexual experiences and opinions before a violation has occurred or before a long-term commitment has been made," McBride said.

In the end, McBride stands firm in her resolve to encourage the pursuit of change through conversations about sexual assault.

"I am convinced," McBride said, "that we will be better neighbors and friends and partners if we can become more open in how we validate bodies and issues of intimate justice."

McBride will present her Ngage session at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 22 in the Vogel Community Room. She will also be speaking at 10:05 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 23 in Christ Chapel.

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FEATURES

Going for the Fernylympic gold

DORM CREATES THEIR OWN OLYMPICS

HAANNAH WAMHOFF
THEATRE

With the opening ceremonies on Friday, Feb. 9, the 2018 Winter Olympics are in full swing in Pyeongchang, South Korea, leaving many students across campus longing for their own Olympic gold. The U.S. has already won six medals: three gold, one silver and two bronze. Athletes and spectators alike are missing out on the dazzling spectacles of the Olympic games as they go about their busy lives as students.

Fortunately, Fern Smith Hall is offering a cure for the sadness of missing the Olympics in a new event, affectionately entitled "Fernlympics." The resident director of Fern Hubbell and the resident assistants of Fern have been organizing Northwestern's take on this year's Winter Olympics. The event will feature Fernlympians from the eight wings of Fern, each of which has been assigned a color to represent their "country." Each wing will also design a unique Fernlympic torch to bring with them to the games and show off their wing pride.

"The whole purpose of the Fernlympics is to celebrate the Olympic games, but because most of us will never be in the Olympics, it is just going to be a fun afternoon filled with our ideas of Olympic games," event organizer senior Alisen Boldin said.

The first event held will be cross country skiing, where Fern girls will race around the Rowenhorst Student Center track on cardboard skis. Inspired by speed skating, dog-sled racing will be a partner event involving two athletes from each wing. One Fernlympian will pull their partner on a scooter of some sort in a race around the track.

The polar plunge event will feature Fernlympians with the greatest pain tolerance as they plunge their arms into ice cold water buckets. The goal is to outlast the other wings.

The fourth event is igloo building, a timed event which requires each wing to construct an igloo out of marshmallows and toothpicks in under four minutes. The goal is to replicate an igloo that has already been constructed.

The last event is ribbon dancing, Fern's take on figure skating. Each participant will draw three random dance moves before performing an original dance incorporating ribbons and their three assigned dance moves.

The creativity, endurance, strength, precision and team spirit of Fern will be challenged this week through the five events Hubbell and the RA's have organized. It will be an event designed to awe and inspire spectators who have Olympic dreams of their own.

At the end of the afternoon, a small medal ceremony will take place, commemorating the wings who attain gold, silver and bronze. Each wing which takes home a medal will also take home a prize which the event organizers will not reveal until the ceremony.

Only students who live in Fern are permitted to compete, but Boldin has a solution for those who do not.

"We want people there cheering groups on because it will be more fun," Boldin said. "I hope people would come and get to enjoy our little version of the Olympics."

The first-ever Fernlympics will be taking place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 18 in the Rowenhorst Student Center 4-court area. Students who are not Fern residents or are not participating are encouraged to come enjoy the event and cheer on their favorite teams as the eight wings compete for gold.

Concert features music from movies

BAND WORKS
WITH FILM SONGS

LUZZY JOHNSTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS

"Star Wars," "Jurassic Park," "Saving Private Ryan," "Phantom of the Opera" - it's all happening in Northwestern's Symphonic Band concert on Friday. Since the start of the spring semester the band has been preparing a medley of music scores for concert performance, and this week they are ready to perform the entertaining and exciting mix of pieces on which they have been working.

The concert this month is made up of film scores and musical pieces due to student and band member interest in this type of music. The band wanted to incorporate a variety of specific interest and quality," Director of Bands Angela Holt said. "I think the audience will be able to relate to the variety of selections programmed on this concert. I believe there is something for everyone in this concert."

This performance will showcase some of famous composer John Williams' well-known pieces and is especially relevant with the recent release of the new "Star Wars" movie.

With preparing film scores and musical pieces for concerts, the band has faced multiple challenges. "This concert involves a lot of different styles of music with a plethora of musical transitions, which can be tricky to coordinate at times as musicians," Holt said.

However, according to Holt, the band has been working hard since the end of Christmas break and has learned the music in a fast and professional way. Even with the challenges of preparing this medley, many band members have said that they had a fun time preparing the music and are excited to share it with others.

Senior flutist Amber Gilpin is looking forward to this performance, especially as her band career at NW comes to a close. Gilpin is particularly excited to perform "Godzilla Eats Las Vegas," a piece by Eric Whitacre.

"I heard this piece in high school from my band director, and it's been my bucket list piece ever since then," Gilpin said. "It takes you through Las Vegas to different clubs and other places, and Godzilla is pretty much stomping on all the places you visit."

This piece will involve some unique entertainment from the musicians and is an interesting performance to listen to and watch.

After this concert, the Symphonic Band will stay busy for the rest of the semester. The band members have a couple more spring performances to finish out the semester as well as their Symphonic Band tour happening in April. The Symphonic Band concert is open to everyone, including students, faculty, staff and community members - all are welcome to attend this free event. This will especially be a fun concert for movie lovers, who can enjoy hearing scores from some of their favorite films.

"The musicians have infused such great character and enthusiasm in this selection," Holt said. "We will be interested to see how the audience responds to certain familiar pieces, plus the unique sounds, and shall we say 'happenings' in the concert."

The Symphonic Band concert will take place tonight, Friday, Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel.
Northwestern’s maintenance department and the NW student snow crew have been doing a fine job of keeping up with all the snow removal these past weeks. It’s not an easy task to wake up at 4 a.m. to come to campus and make sure all students can get to class. Let’s just hope this upkeep continues as the snow melts and hazardous ice forms on the walkways.

Shout out to Julie Elliot and those involved in determining if we will be switching food providers. The student involvement gives a voice to the people most affected by this decision and allows the students to share the real problems with our current campus dining situation. Hopefully these discussions will lead to a positive outcome for both NW students and faculty/staff alike.

NW’s theatre department is opening the musical Next to Normal this week and it should be a fantastic show. Grab some friends and snag tickets to support your Raiders who have put incredible amount of work to make this fabulous show happen. Performances will be this week and next week only, so see it while you can!

The dirt on laundry

MATT SCOTT
ACTUARIAL SCIENCE

College students love good deals and often shrink away from rising prices. Unfortunately, sometimes we have no choice when it comes to paying for the necessities. This seems to be the case with laundry at Northwestern.

Joe’s Appliance, NW’s laundry provider, raised the price from $2.50 to $3.00 this year. Fifty cents may not seem like a big deal, but over a college career, that could easily add up to over $70. However, even if $70 does not seem like a significant amount, paying more than you feel is necessary is a frustrating experience. It feels as if we are being nicked—and dined—when there is no viable second option. There is a laundromat near Johnny’s Place where you can save 50 cents each time you do your laundry, but most students are not even aware of this option.

Students who are mindful of this opportunity might find it to be vastly inconvenient, especially for those who do not own a car. Considering the limited alternative options, Joe’s Appliance basically has a monopoly on student laundry.

Those who have taken a course in microeconomics could tell you a thing or two about the effect of a monopoly. The biggest impact of monopolies is on what economists call “total surplus.” Total surplus is the sum of the buyer’s and seller’s gains resulting from a transaction.

When a seller has a monopoly, they have no competition forcing them to lower prices. As a result, the transactions will benefit the seller more than usual. Monopolies are considered to be a negative situation, because the buyer’s loss is always more significant than the seller’s gain. Thus, total surplus is decreased.

On a corporate scale, the government steps in when it sees a potential monopoly. For instance, when AT&T attempted to buy T-Mobile in 2011, the move was blocked by the Department of Justice. On a small college campus, the federal government is not about to step in to protect the students, but maybe the college could.

NW could request that Joe’s Appliance lower the cost of laundry to a more reasonable price. At The School-That-Must-Not-Be-Named it costs 75 cents to wash and 90 cents to dry. It would be nice if we could settle on a price where Joe’s could maintain a profit while students could also enjoy lower laundry costs.

If NW were to ask Joe’s to decrease prices, they may also lose some money. Joe’s pays NW 30% of the revenue it makes from the machines. This is to cover the utilities of running the machines. However, it would seem utility costs are already more than covered in students’ room and board. Also, I believe the amount students will save would mean a lot more to them than the college stands to lose.

I hope it is clear that I do not believe Joe’s Appliance should be to blame at all for the rising prices. They are a company set up in order to make a profit. On the other hand, it would be nice if NW would consider doing its students a favor by encouraging lower laundry prices.

Give metal a chance

BRIAN FOLLETT
SPORTS EDITOR

Whenever anyone asks me what kind of music I listen to, I think to myself, “Here we go again.” I think this because the same conversation happens every time. I tell them my honest answer: Christian heavy metal. The reaction is usually the same: surprised, followed by, “Yeah I can’t handle that kind of music.”

Now, I am not talking about Christian rock such as Red, Skillet or Three Days Grace. No, I am talking about head-banging, screaming vocal bands such as August Burns Red, Bullet for My Valentine or Fit for a King. The kind of music that when it is played people make that cringing face, similar to the face I make when country music is played.

I was introduced to this music in early high school, and it gradually grew from a “kind of like” to a love. I love the talent that goes into this music, from the incredible guitar licks to the insanely fast drumming found on many albums. Many people tell me they do not mind the music but it is the “screaming” that they just can’t handle. For me the screaming is icing on the cake. It is not an easy thing to do, at least as there is a “right” way to do it; if done wrong, you can do serious throat damage.

I’m sure many of you are thinking this is ridiculous. How can screaming sound good to somebody? It’s something I cannot easily explain, but I look at it this way. There are many “normal” bands out there, and some really enjoy the singing vocals while others don’t like that particular sound. I apply the same to screaming. There are some metal musicians that I don’t care for, and each “screamer” has their own unique sound. The technicality of screaming is also very impressive to me. It’s important that they know the proper way to scream, otherwise the vocalist could permanently damage their voice.

“Christian heavy metal” might sound like an oxymoron, but that very phrase is another reason why I love the genre even more. Metal is very unique, as there is not much of a gap between secular and Christian metal quality-wise. They are often lumped together and tour together all the time.

There are no doubt some very vulgar metal bands, similar to any other genre, but the fans of those bands cannot help but love August Burns Red (a Christian band). Metal shows then become a platform for Christian bands to share the stage with other bands whose message is quite the opposite of Christianity. Many bands who love the Lord take advantage of this and do not shy away from taking time and sharing their Gospel at their shows.

Perhaps by no means telling anyone they need to like metal. Certain genres are not meant for everyone, as there is a good amount of music I don’t care for—country being one of those, which seems to be quite popular around here. However, I hope I can at least speak on Christian metal’s behalf and shed a positive light on a genre that seems to be passed by and misunderstood quite often.

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Raiders run well at SDSU Invite

RAIDERS HIT SIX AUTO MARKS OVER THE WEEKEND
BRIAN FOLLETT
SPORTS EDITOR

The Red Raider track team traveled to Brookings, South Dakota, last weekend and competed in the SDSU Indoor Classic. It was a tough meet with many good teams competing. Overall, the men placed 16th out of 25 teams and the women placed 14th out of 21.

Three male Raiders met the auto mark and one met the provisional mark. The men’s distance medley ran extremely well, placing second out of eight and was only a 2.8 seconds behind the University of Idaho. They finished with a time of 10:04.7 which met the auto mark and is currently the fastest time in the NAIA. That medley consists of seniors Aaron Lemon, Hans Epp, Tim Rose and junior Peter Hollinger.

Lemon set another auto mark in the 600m. He placed sixth out of 54 athletes with a time of 1:20.69. Along with Lemon, Hollinger met the auto mark in his respective event, the 800m. He placed 14th out of 110 athletes in that event with a time of 1:54.2.

Senior Cody Bausman met the NAIA provisional mark in the shot put as he finished 20th out of 53 with a throw of 50.06. Overall the Raiders posted 10 top 25 finishes at one of the largest and toughest meets this season.

The Raider women also had a good day at a hard-hitting meet. The distance medley team had a phenomenal race as they won the event by almost six seconds over the next fastest team. They ran the event in a time of 11:57.1, which is a school record. That team consists of seniors Katie Bosch, Katie Landais, junior Rebekah Mullenburg and sophomore Bre Harthoorn. The race met the auto mark and is currently the fastest time in the NAIA. The same group of four holds the fastest time in the 4x800 relay as well.

Bosch and Landais both had good showings in the 800m as they hit the auto mark in that event as well. Bosch finished sixth with a time of 2:14.01 and Landais finished 13th with a time of 2:15.36. The NW women earned seven top 25 finishes on the day. The track team will next travel to Crete, Nebraska, to compete in the two-day GPAC Indoor Championship.

Tough loss at Corn Palace

RAIDERS HAVE TOUGH SHOOTING GAME
CONNER UBBEN
ADVERTISING EDITOR

The Northwestern men’s basketball team had its five-game winning streak snapped at the hands of the Dakota Wesleyan University Tigers this past Wednesday, Feb. 14, with an 85-69 loss on the road in Mitchell.

The loss makes NW’s record 12-3 in GPAC play and 22-5 overall. With one game remaining before the GPAC tournament, NW has locked up the 3-seed for the tournament and will host at least one home GPAC game.

The Tigers came out firing in the first half and never looked back as they led for all 40 minutes of the contest. DWU built up a 14-point lead in the first half (29-15) and ended up going into the locker room holding a 42-32 advantage. NW’s biggest run of the half came by outscoring the Tigers 15-6 with seniors Colton Koosma and Nathan Wiedl combining for 13 points during that stretch.

The second half started with a lot of back-and-forth buckets by each team. NW got the game to a four-point margin (64-60), but DWU scored the next four points and did not stop as they eventually went on a 15-4 run during the final five minutes to secure the win. The Raiders shot 43% for the game, 25% (5/20) from three-point land. Wiedl and Koosma led NW with 18 points each, and senior Derek Buyse scored 11. For the first time in seven games and only the sixth time this season, NW was outrebounded. DWU had the advantage in that area, 44-32. Senior Riley Francis led NW with eight rebounds, and senior Parker Mulder tallied in seven of his own. DWU shot 47% for the game and 30% (8/27) from three.

The Raiders take on the Doane Tigers at 5 p.m. this Saturday in Crete, Nebraska. This is the last regular season game for NW as they look to end the season on a high note. Next Wednesday, Feb. 21, will be the first GPAC tournament game and will take place in the Hultman Center.

Women in ranked matchup

NW FALLS IN MITCHEL TO TOUGH OPPONENT
EVAN SCHULER
FINANCE

Last Wednesday night, on Feb. 14, Northwestern and Dakota Wesleyan met up in Mitchell, South Dakota, in an NAIA top 15 matchup. The two teams were ranked 9th and 10th, respectively. Dakota Wesleyan defense, combined with the Raiders’ poor shooting, led the Tigers to an 81-60 victory. NW shot just 37% from the field for the game and was 1-18 from the three-point line, while the Tigers shot 53% from the field and 50% (12-24) from the three-point line. Junior Darbi Gustafson and senior Renee Manzer were the leading scorers for the Raiders, netting 18 and 14 points.

At halftime, NW trailed the Tigers by 11 largely due to their 27% field goal percentage in the first half. After a quick run by NW to start the second half and pull within eight, the Tigers responded with a run of their own and held a comfortable lead for the remainder of the game. NW outrebounded DWU, one of the NAIA's top rebounding teams, by a 30-21 margin and were led by Kassidy De Vong with 10 rebounds. The Tiger “Big Three” (Bray, Cheseem and Osthus) contributed 55 of the teams 81 points.

The loss dropped the Raiders to 20-7 overall and to third place in the conference (15-0). NW will finish the regular season play this weekend on Saturday, Feb. 17, when they will travel to Doane College as they attempt to finish the season strong.

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Theatre prof publishes book

BOOK TELLS THE STORY OF SIOUX CENTER NURSE

EMILY RAPER
UNDECIDED

Jeff Barker, chair of Northwestern’s theatre department and director of NW’s touring theatre company, recently published the book “Sioux Center Sudan: A Missionary Nurse’s Journey.”

The book will be released on March 1 and is currently available for pre-order on Amazon, Christianbook.com and on the publisher’s website, Hendrickson.com. It is also available in the theatre office for $10.

The book tells the story of Arlene Schulterman, a Sioux Center, Iowa, woman who answered God’s call in her life. She trained for nursing, knowing that she was called to medical missions. Her career in medicine spanned 34 years on the African continent in the countries of South Sudan, Ethiopia and Zambia.

“This first book is about her time in the South Sudan,” Barker said, “and I’m planning to write two more books about each of the other two countries.”

Barker and Schulterman met in 2005 as Barker was gathering information about another missionary who had been a pioneer among female missionary pilots.

“I was praying for a woman in ministry to write about, and Arlene was praying for someone to write her story,” Barker said. “We both believe this journey has been an answer to prayer.”

Barker originally set out to write a play about Arlene’s life in 2005 and ended up completing three plays about her life. He wrote the play “Sioux Center Sudan” about her first assignment in Africa, and then two more plays about her years spent serving in Ethiopia and Zambia.

“I eventually realized that there were many more stories to tell,” Barker said, “and a few years ago, I started writing the books.”

Barker began to write the first book in 2013 and spent three years completing it.

“I contracted with Hendrickson to publish it at the beginning of 2017,” Barker said, “and it has taken a year to work with them through the editing and publishing process.”

Much of the inspiration and content for the plays and books came from Arlene’s journals, in which she recorded much of her time and experiences as a missionary nurse.

These journals helped Barker to expand the first play into a biography about Arlene, and he was able to document her career during her time in Nadir, South Sudan, from 1955 until she was expelled by the Muslim government in 1963.

“Arlene is a careful and somewhat shy person,” Barker said. “It took time for her to trust me. But now she has turned her papers, 70 years of journals and letters, over to me. When I finish with the books, I will turn her papers over to an archive for other researchers.”

Barker has also written several other plays and works including “The Storytelling Church” about reclaiming the role of biblical story in worship, “Kim: The Trial of Carrie Buck” about civil rights and “Unspoken for Time” about sexual assault.

Potential Dining Change

FROM PAGE 1

Along with the President’s Cabinet, the Student Government Association has been involved in the decision-making process. Members of SGA visited Dordt – which is served by Creative Dining – last week to see if they could tell a difference in the overall food experience.

Jimmy Tidmore, the vice president of SGA, explained that the food was “seemingly a bit better than Sodexo” in the one visit the group made. Tidmore also noted that Sodexo has had issues with student employees over the years, and Creative Dining seems to be able to hire and retain employees better.

If Creative Dining’s bid were to be chosen, they would be able to hire much of the staff currently working in the Caf and Hub, with the exception of Ned Price, the general manager who would have to continue working for Sodexo.

The company that is chosen will sign a three-year contract with the school, which is the standard contract. Sodexo’s most recent contract was seven years because the company offered to make renovations on the cafeteria.

This choice will be made within the coming weeks as the Cabinet continues to meet with various groups and decides the best provider for NW.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NWC PUBLIC RELATIONS

Jeff Barker’s book is about Arlene Schulterman’s first medical missions assignment in Africa.

PHOTO BY: MEGAN OSTROWSKI

NW is taking student opinion into consideration in selecting a food service provider.

A NEW MENU IS COMING TO TOWN SQUARE

TUESDAY, FEB 27