

Northwestern College, Iowa

NWCommons

The Beacon, 2020-2021

The Beacon student newspaper

11-6-2020

The Beacon, November 6, 2020

The Beacon Staff

Follow this and additional works at: <https://nwcommons.nwciowa.edu/beacon2020>

Unsung Heroes: Kris Korver

INTENTIONAL IN ALL ASPECTS

CAMBER HERRIG
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Mondays have become a dreadful reality for most students. However, this doesn't apply to the Northwestern men's basketball team.

Kris Korver has been coaching the team since 2000, making this year his 21st season. Among the active coaches within the NAIA, Korver ranks fifth in total wins and second in winning percentage, a remarkable 71%.

It's no doubt that Korver can coach a team to success, but perhaps it's not entirely based on the time spent on the court. It's also the time spent on Monday mornings.

Monday's for Men is a weekly opportunity for the men on campus, both athletes and non-athletes, to gather together. It is led by Korver and head wrestling coach Rik Dahl.

For forward Craig Sterk, a senior criminal justice major, Monday's for Men is one of the ways Korver has

impacted his Christian journey while on campus.

"[It] has been a really good thing for the guys on this campus," Sterk said. "They have something to look forward to each week in which they can be supported and encouraged to seek and fulfill God's calling as men."

The same sentiment was echoed by forward Matt Onken, a sophomore chemistry major.

"It is a great place and way for a bunch of guys to learn things about our faith and our life and really connect and grow," Onken said.

Monday's for Men is part of his job, according to Korver, as he sees faith development as a portion of his responsibilities as a head coach. Other aspects include film and practice prep, radio interviews, scouting reports, recruiting, team meetings and leadership development on top of games themselves.

However, Korver's role at NWC goes beyond coaching, as he plays a key role in the kinesiology department. This semester, Korver teaches tennis, coaching methods and coaching topics for basketball.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM

Kris Korver has been a coach at Northwestern since 2000 and he is involved in many other ways on campus.

This creates a hectic lifestyle during basketball season, but one thing that

helps Korver out is his family, his wife Ann and three kids: Christian,

Elizabeth and Luke.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Busy life of an academic advisor

HELPING STUDENTS THROUGH COLLEGE

VANESSA STOKES
WRITING AND RHETORIC

Professors, though we often see them solely as teachers and homework-givers, have much broader roles in students' lives. As academic advisors, professors can help make or break a student's schedule based on how much a student chooses to use them.

In order to register for classes, everyone must meet with their advisor and get their approval. This creates an opportunity to personally get to know a professor in a student's major and for them to get to know the students in their department.

"The beneficial part of seeing students is the connection that I can create with them," said Donna Van Peurse, a social work professor.

In the fall, late October to early November is the busiest time of the semester for academic advisors. In the spring, late February to early March are when meeting times fill up.

Fall meetings tend to be a bit denser. They are not only planning for the next spring classes but also summer internships or Summer of Service opportunities.

Yet, academic advisors are not just for the fall and spring. Students are still able to talk with and ask advice from their academic advisor during the summer months or over winter break. The meeting just may look a bit different, likely taking place over email or Zoom.

However, this year there is more opportunity for advisors. Mathematics professor Kim Jongerius has used an Excel OneDrive file for all her advisees to let them know her schedule and for them to find a time that works best in their schedule. Students also have the opportunity to hold their meeting via Zoom.

To practice social distancing, one professor came up with a creative way to meet in person and still collaborate.

Sociology professor Scott Monsma meets with his advisees in person but maintains a safe distance using Zoom's share-screen



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM

Dr. Han-Yen Kao, assistant professor of business and economics, advises John Kaucher.

function. That way, he's able to best serve his students.

"A good advisor learns the various policies and rules so that students don't run into any complications on the road to

graduation," Monsma said.

Advisors often work with a lot of students and try to make each meeting feel personal.

During the busy fall and spring

busy seasons, Van Peurse talks with four students a day for 30 minutes each. Associate professor of theatre Drew Schmidt is currently advising 20 students.




CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

INSIDE

2 | Neither Wolf Nor...
3 | Jabberwocky

4 | VPH History
5 | Internships

7 | Nike Deal
8 | Human Trafficking

 beacon.nwciowa.edu
 Northwestern College - Beacon
 @NWC_Beacon

Movie expresses thoughts of cultural differences

TV SHOW REVIEW

CULTURAL COMPLEXITIES

MORIAH WITTENBERG
NURSING

Silence is a powerful tool.

A line in "Neither Wolf nor Dog" goes like this: "Be silent until they get nervous, then they will start talking. They will keep talking, and if you stay silent, they will say too much. Then you will be able to see into their hearts and know what they really mean."

This idea permeates throughout the film. Men are judged based off of what is both said and left unsaid.

"Neither Wolf nor Dog," adapted from a book by the same name, follows the adventures of a writer named Kent Nerburn, who is renowned for a compilation of stories from a group of Native American children.

In light of this publication, a Lakota elder named Dan contacts Nerburn and enlists him to arrange what he has learned over his many years living on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. The story follows Nerburn, Dan, and Dan's

good friend, Delvin, as they travel throughout the land and learn to understand each other's cultures.

The film centers around several important themes. First, it stresses hearing other people's stories before making assumptions about their words and actions. Additionally, it depicts what it looks like to truly care for your neighbor as if they were family and to sincerely mean what you say. Finally, it paints, in stark contrast, the business of contemporary American culture and the relaxed culture of traditional Native Americans.

In a subtle way, color is significant in this movie. Throughout the film, the colors of the movie emphasize the outdoors. There are no bright colors.

However, the film is filled with earthy, dusty, brown tones. In my mind, this emphasizes the value of nature, of Mother Earth in Native American culture.

Unlike many of its contemporaries, this film's plot seems to unravel slowly. A lot of time is spent with the characters pondering and traveling at

an unhurried pace.

While some viewers may struggle to enjoy this slower paced movie, I think the slow plot emphasizes a significant theme in this movie: the importance of living in the present.

In addition to a slower plot, this movie also contains a lack of music. In the dialogue and in the music (or lack thereof), the idea of silence is hammered into the viewers minds. In fact, to emphasize this idea, there is little music throughout the film.

A majority of what fills the audience's ears is the song of wild grasshoppers, wind and pelting rain. Soft music is only played in moments of transition where a piano gently paints a melody or drums beat out a purposeful rhythm.

This story depicts the process of setting aside preconceived notions and learning how to understand another culture. At the beginning of the film, Nerburn makes many assumptions about why his newfound Native American friends speak and act in the way they do.

However, as the story



PHOTO COURTESY OF VICTORIAADVOCATE.COM

progresses, he soon realizes how foolish his assumptions are because he knows little about this people's history, culture and traditions. In turn, he learns to have an open mind and to strive to learn about what is new to him.

Ultimately, "Neither Wolf nor Dog" challenges all viewers to analyze their own beliefs and prejudices and to seek to understand the beauty and complexities of other cultures. It challenges viewers to view the world through a well-rounded lens and to have

a curious approach. Finally, it challenges the audience to embrace silence and to understand the weight of words. As it's said, with silence, "then you will be able to see into their hearts and know what they really mean."

★★★★

Goo Goo Dolls impress with new Christmas album

MUSIC REVIEW

EARLY CHRISTMAS MUSIC? YES.

ALLISON WHEELER
GRAPHIC DESIGN

I have never listened to the Goo Goo Dolls' music before and I never thought I would, but when I heard they released a Christmas album, I was all in.

The rock band released their new album on Oct. 30, and it features a mixture of classic Christmas songs as well as some original, more contemporary Christmas songs. I was pleasantly surprised by how much I enjoyed listening to this unique Christmas album.

Out of the 10 songs featured, six songs stuck out to me and put me in a Christmas mood.

The first song on the album is titled "Christmas All Over Again," and right away, I felt nostalgic. It just sounds like a classic Christmas song.

A nice beat starts in the beginning and carries throughout the song. The drums and guitar are strong and give the song a good,

instrumental foundation. The chorus is catchy, which helps with learning the lyrics and being enticed to keep listening. There are both fast and slow parts incorporated, and they are blended throughout the song well.

Given that the Goo Goo Dolls are a rock band, there is an apparent rock 'n' roll feel to this song. I could definitely imagine this song playing at the beginning of a Christmas movie.

"This is Christmas" is a slower song which I wasn't expecting from a rock band, but it was a pleasant surprise and a nice change. It included humming in the already strong vocals, which was a unique element. The lyrics are heartfelt and have a good message. The song made me think about all of the reasons that Christmas is such an amazing holiday.

The most fun song on the album was "You Ain't Getting Nothing." The song tells a story from the perspective of a parent telling their child that they will not be getting any presents for Christmas because they have been misbehaving.

However, it is done in a funny and playful way. There is a jazz element and big band feel to this song, which I really enjoyed and appreciated. The featured brass section sounds cool and is complemented by the keyboard solo later on in the song. There is a choral echo effect incorporated, and I always enjoy a good choral moment.

The smooth and strong vocals featured in the Goo Goo Dolls' version of "Let It Snow" did the classic Christmas song justice. There is a cozy and comforting feeling that's evident when I listen to this song and listening to this version was no different. The groovy guitar solo added a cool element. I could never get tired of listening to this song year after year.

One of my favorite Christmas songs is "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and this version brought on nostalgia, too. The vocals were once again smooth, strong and clear. The individual instrumental parts fit well together and flowed nicely throughout the song.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGOODOLLS.COM

I will definitely be listening to this version of the song as Christmas gets closer.

The last song on the album is titled "The Christmas Party" and I quickly learned why it was named that while listening to it. The whole song is an instrumental medley of popular, classic Christmas songs. This is without a doubt

a song I would play at a Christmas party for some fun, background music. However, it still stands out on its own and is enjoyable to listen to, especially since a saxophone is featured throughout and I love listening to saxophones.

I usually don't listen to Christmas music this early, but I have decided that if it brings

me joy, why shouldn't I? Listening to the Goo Goo Doll's Christmas album brought me joy with feelings of both nostalgia and unfamiliarity. I definitely underestimated the rock band's musical abilities and I will be listening to their music this Christmas season.

★★★★

“Jabberwocky” tour set to take the “stage”

TECHNICAL INNOVATIONS

RACHEL SMART
ENGLISH TEACHING

This semester, the Northwestern College theatre department is producing a show unlike any the community has seen before: “Jabberwocky,” based on Lewis Carroll’s poem of the same name.

Directed by Ethan Koerner, this production will emphasize the technical and design elements of theater much like last fall’s production of “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime.”

Yet, as actor Kevin Griffiths explained, “It is unlike anything we’ve done at Northwestern before.”

With performances scheduled Nov. 19-21, “Jabberwocky” is a nonsense poem published in Carroll’s second novel “Alice Through the Looking Glass” and tells the story of a little boy tasked with destroying the infamous “Jabberwocky,” a fearsome creature, which has frequently been illustrated as a dragon in the

years after its publication.

The poem is only seven stanzas so, in adapting the piece, instead of delivering the lines, actors will be utilizing design and technology to perform beats of action.

With this goal in mind, “Jabberwocky’s” nonsensical and wonderous tone lends itself to a world of creative possibilities.

“We, as designers, have been given lots of room to be creative and imaginative as we worked to develop our designs,” said Sofia Schaeffer, assistant costume designer.

While Schaeffer has been creating body-inclusive, Victorian-inspired costumes, Professor Drew Schmidt and his team are working diligently on motion graphics, projections, sound, lighting and more.

The most unique design element of the show, however, is its use of puppetry.

Director Ethan Koerner is a masterful puppeteer and designer, having previously lent his talents to the NW theater in “Jonah and the Giant Fish” last fall. In “Jabberwocky,” the actors have the opportunity to operate puppets of many whimsical and silly animals

like “toves” and “jub-jub birds.”

Learning how to work these puppets and use movement to illustrate the story of “Jabberwocky” has been a huge part of the rehearsal process for the cast.

Actor Taylea Mills explained how difficult yet exciting this endeavor is.

“The hardest thing was learning how to function and position shadow puppets as a team,” Mills said. “I’m really excited to see how the whole thing turns out in the end.”

Fellow actor Paige Ginger agreed, saying that seeing the different forms of puppetry and watching the show come to life has been one of her favorite aspects of the show so far.

“Jabberwocky” is also different from traditional theatrical productions in the fact that it will not be performed on a stage.

“Our production will be a tour throughout the entire theater building with different stations for people to experience,” Rebekah Phifer stage manager said. “Audiences should expect a guided tour around the space and maybe even some opportunities

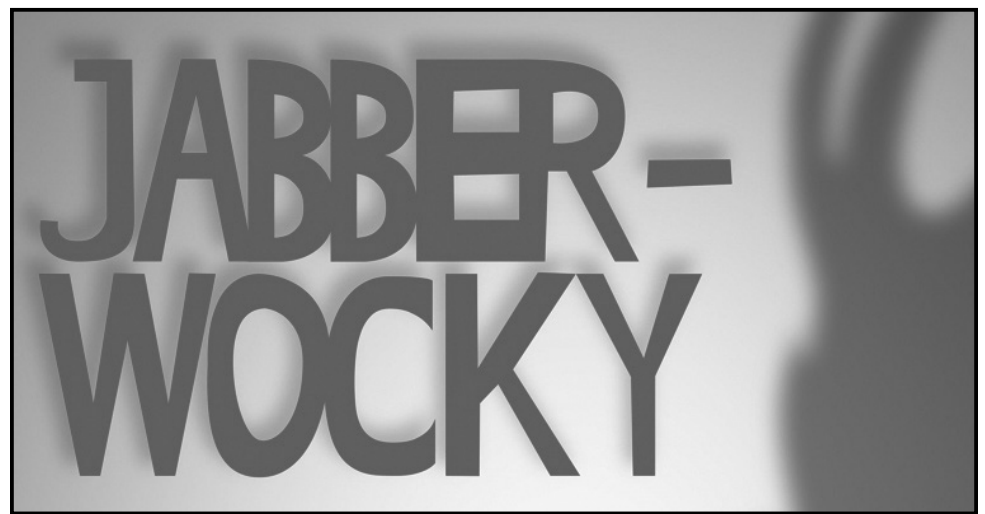


PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM

This performance is a unique tour through the building and play instead of a stage play.

to interact with the show itself.”

Koerner and assistant scenic designer Ryan Altman have been experimenting with all sorts of found spaces within the theater building to create this tour experience, such as the coat room and the many hidden hallways.

This specific performance setup was greatly inspired by a need for further safety precautions for audiences in light of COVID-19. The tour format allows for a great

measure of social distancing.

“There will be little to no close interaction between actors and audience members, and the puppeteers will all be wearing masks when backstage,” Griffiths said. “The only interactions that will happen will be with your tour guides and those you are seeing the show with.”

The technical elements of “Jabberwocky” also lend themselves well to touring off campus. Normally, every fall

the cast of the children’s show will perform for a period of about two months for over 3,000 students bused in from the area, but this year the theatre department decided to send out members of the cast in pairs or small groups to perform the show to individual classrooms next semester.

Showtimes and ticket information can be found at www.nwciowa.edu/theatre/current-season.

Symphonic Band to perform Christ’s return

SPREADING HOPE

HANNAH ROSS
WRITING AND RHETORIC

The trumpets will sound, the clouds will roll back and the gates of heaven will open. That’s the imagery of the opening song for Northwestern’s Symphonic Band concert, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 6, in Christ Chapel.

The concert will be the final in the Symphonic Band’s trilogy. The first, performed fall of 2019, focused on God’s creation and the second, performed as a Valentine’s Day concert this year, focused on Christ’s life, death and resurrection.

The concert will open with “Alleluia! Laudamus Te,” a favorite of senior Joel Van Peurse.

“The reason I love this piece so much is because of the brass parts and how joyous they are,” he said. “You can really hear the power of the piece when the organ joins in.”

The second piece, “One Life Beautiful,” is slower and lyrical. It reflects on and honors those who have passed on. It is a favorite of several band members. Senior Cassandra Koel enjoys the harmonization in the song, but also the message.

“It makes me think about Jesus. His one life was truly beautiful,” Koel said. “His death on the cross to redeem us is the most beautiful act of sacrifice the world has ever known. Not to mention His deep love that

surpasses all understanding.

“It made me think about the wonder and sanctity of life, and how precious it is. Life in and of itself is beautiful. And to think that God created each of us uniquely with our own personalities, strengths and talents is incredible.”

She added that the recent loss of a community member enhances the impact of the message and makes the song that much more beautiful for her.

“The concert is a time of praising God and of reflection upon our chaotic and sinful world,” said Dr. Angela Holt, director of instrumental studies and music education. “Our desire is to engage the audience in a way that helps them see our constant hope in Christ no matter what’s going on.”

The music is meant to provoke emotion and thought into what the coming of the Lord will look like. Senior Colin Jorde hopes that the audience experiences the glory as well as the gravity of the Lord’s return through their performance.

“For me, the coming of the Lord shows the capstone of God’s orchestrated plan to redeem and reconcile the world for God’s own glory and believers’ good,” Jorde said. “My hope is for the audience to walk away from the performance with their own sense of inspiration.”

Preparation for the concert has been different with the pandemic.

The band has gotten used to the spaced-out chairs and the mask requirements, but the constant quarantining of different members



PHOTO BY AMELIA HOLT

Students prepare for the culmination of a year and a half long trilogy.

has forced the band to also adapt to playing without different people on any given week.

Van Peurse said that the pieces are especially difficult, but he is still thrilled to perform.

“We have prepared well though and can’t wait to worship God through our music and show others some joy, connect to people that

need hope in their lives,” he said.

“We have the hope as Christians that Christ will be victorious and will conquer all of the brokenness and hurt,” said junior Abigail Van Peurse. “After listening to the concert, I hope the audience will be able to see the love and power of God through music and will be filled with comfort and hope.”

The concert is free and open to the public. In order to prioritize the safety of the musicians and the audience members, masks will be required for the event. Physical distancing will be encouraged as families will be seated together in groups no larger than three persons.

Nearly 100 years of VPH history

CHANGES FOR VAN PEURSEM HALL

SCHUYLER STERK ENGLISH TEACHING

For almost 100 years since it was built, Van Peursem Hall has been a hub of learning and student activity in a variety of ways.

VPH, as it's commonly known, has a complicated history, starting with its construction, which was completed in four separate sections at four different times.

The initial construction started in 1924. Later additions were made in 1947-1948, 1952-1953 and 1968.

The Van Peursem name comes from donor Martin Van Peursem, but when it was first named in 1957, the name only applied to the newest addition. It wasn't until the 1968 expansion that the entire building was christened with the Van Peursem name. Before then, it was known as the Science Hall, and as such, it was primarily home to the science department.

It wasn't until its later additions that the number of departments under its roof grew. In 1949, the available space on campus was greatly increased, and facilities added to the building included three well-lit classrooms, a music conservatory, a recording studio and modern

laboratories for biology and physics that contained the latest lab equipment.

Of special interest was the recording studio, which was built for broadcasting activity and had one commodious recording room and an attached control room with the latest recording equipment.

In the 1950s, another addition to the Science Hall further increased the available classroom space. This construction project extended eastward from the last one, making the building into an L shape.

One feature of this addition was a large new entrance on the southeast side of the building, which students still use today. The project also included inviting corridors and large classrooms on all three floors, an enlarged music department, conference rooms, faculty office spaces, lounges and a kitchen. New large chemistry labs were added to the biology and physics laboratory spaces.

With the 1968 addition to the building, VPH became the U-shaped building we all know today.

Over the years, VPH has filled the role of a variety of facilities and has housed almost every department on campus. In addition to being the Science Hall and home to all the sciences, VPH



Van Peursem Hall has gone through many renovations and additions in the almost 100 years since it was built.

PHOTO BY AMELIA HOLT

was also home to the music department, the gymnasium and many classrooms for all kinds of majors.

"The music department was on the third floor," said Nora Verburg, music department office assistant. "I had my senior recital in the old gym."

Beginning with its first construction in 1924 until the Christ Chapel was built in 1988, VPH even served as the chapel. Chapel services were held in the gym on

the second floor, in what is now the office area for the education department.

Students have often had to deal with construction noises in VPH during class time. Since the building's completion in 1968, various remodel and renovation projects have taken place to keep the building updated and add new facilities as the college has expanded.

In the 90s, for instance, windows were added to the third floor. This renovation

was also the one that brought about the suite-style faculty offices we have today, where faculty offices in many areas are grouped together. Other updates at this time included new lights, wall coverings, ceilings and floorings, as well as the sound-proofing of the classrooms that face Highway 10.

Even now, we've seen VPH go through its fair share of renovations. Most recently, the east side of the building was remodeled and updated,

and labs were created on the third floor for the college's new physician assistant graduate studies program. Also notable are the new, updated bathrooms on each floor.

Clearly, VPH's construction and renovation history is as long as the list of departments it has housed over the years. Who knows what programs, majors, departments, projects and people it might become home to in the future.

Unsung Heroes: Kris Korver

FROM PAGE 1

"Healthy and holy habits help to find balance. Having an understanding wife is pretty important," Korver said. "Teaching and coaching at Northwestern is a team effort - a family mission. Ann and our children have sacrificed a lot and they have been incredible teammates on this 21-year journey."

Men's basketball manager, Becca Nevin, a sophomore sports management major, is starting her second year of being the only manager. Nevin works with Korver daily, as she preps for practice. One word she would use to describe

Korver is intentional.

"From the way he creates relationships with his players and his students to the way he teaches our team the plays and how they will benefit the team in the end, Coach Korver is intentional," she said.

Broken down minute-by-minute, practice consists of drills that develop both offensive and defensive skills, as well as reviews of plays and going through them at game-speed.

Korver's thoughtfulness goes beyond basketball as he dives into building community.

"He makes the effort to get to know you personally,

and I appreciate that he is intentional with not only students but the fans in the stands," Nevin said. "He reminds the guys that they are playing for the guys before them and the alumni who continually support them by attending their home games."

Through all that he does, Korver knows the meaning behind being intentional and building NW men up.

"We get to invest in the next generation of husbands and fathers, and basketball is the platform," Korver said. "The beauty of Northwestern is that we are one big family."



Coach and professor Kris Korver encourages his athletes and students in every aspect.

PHOTO BY ELIZABETH KORVER

Opportunities in your career field

INTERNSHIPS OPEN DOORS

BAILEY BANWART SOCIAL WORK

One of the many opportunities Northwestern offers to help expand a student's academic experience is through an internship.

Whether with local or national organizations, internships allow students to gain hands-on experience in their field before they graduate. They can help students explore their interests, build a professional network and answer questions about the realities of the work. Many students choose to do an internship during their last semesters on campus to build their résumés and stand out to future employers.

Kendall Stanislav, director of experiential education, said that he sees internships as incredibly beneficial for students.

"I like to think of internships as a lab where students get to apply their knowledge in a new way," he said.

Internships offer a unique way for students to "try on

jobs in order to find the right fit before entering the workforce and heading down a career path. Internships are a time to take what a student has learned in class and apply it to real-world situations. They also look great on résumés and provide students with excellent talking points in job interviews.

These experiences provide students with knowledge that a classroom cannot.

"An internship allows you to be in an uncontrolled environment," Stanislav said, "where your actions affect more than your grade on an assignment like the sales of a company, the care that a patient receives, the service for a customer or a host of other real world scenarios."

Although education is an important piece of the college experience, internships answer the question every student asks at least one point in their college career, "When am I ever going to need to know this?"

There are a number of students interning around the Orange City area this fall.

Senior Samantha Ubben is currently interning at

the NW athletic office and said that she has enjoyed her internship and the knowledge she's gained.

"I have learned so much about social media and how to manage different pages. My experience has been amazing, hands-on learning and a great way to create my own work."

She is one of the many students that can attest to the value in an internship and learning what kind of career path a person wants to take.

"I have figured out the specific areas of public relations that I like and dislike," Ubben said. "I've realized that I love social media and the organization of content posting."

Senior Brittany Kuiper is currently interning at Behavior Care Specialists, Inc. in Rock Valley, Iowa. Kuiper says the internship has been a positive addition to her coursework.

"We can study it all we want in books and take lots of tests to prove that we know our stuff, but until you actually work the job, you won't know if you love it or not," she said.

Kuiper, like many other students, has found out what



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM
Bradley Laackmann ('20) interned with Sioux Falls Stampede, a junior ice hockey team, and appreciated the experience it gave him in his career field.

it is she truly wants to do from her intern experience.

"Now I have found my niche in the education world and am super excited to see where it takes me," she said.

Senior Kaylen Kuchel has seen God working through her during her internship at ProActive Physical Therapy

in Sheldon, Iowa.

"I knew that I didn't have to question my career path again after interning," Kuchel said. "God has given me a vocational calling where I can see Him working in me and my profession every day."

If you are interested in

real-life experiences in your career field as well as adding to your résumé, contact Kendall Stanislav in the Compass Center for Career and Calling about setting up an internship. You can either schedule an appointment on Handshake or stop by his office.

Academic advisor

FROM PAGE 1

"I get through on planning, coffee, reducing sleep to a minimum and pretending I have no family," Monsma said. "At least one of these things is true."

In order to make their lives a little bit easier to handle, the advisors do ask a bit from the students when they come to their meetings.

"You should look at your degree audit and at the registrar's class listings and have a tentative schedule ready to go. Also, note any specific questions you have for us," Jongerius said.

Once a student schedules a meeting with their academic advisor, it's quite simple. Most advisors will look at their advisee's degree audit ahead of time to see what classes they still need for their NW Core and for their major(s) or minor(s).

Some professors may already have a four-year plan laid out for their students. This varies by professor and department.

When they meet with the student, the advisor will relate what classes they would encourage a student to take or point out gaps in their current academic plan.

This would also be the time for a student to bring up if they plan to participate in any summers abroad or internships during or outside of the academic year.

Advisors know how the department may change or courses that may no longer be offered so students can maximize their learning opportunities.

"You don't know what you don't know," Schmidt said. "We understand the value of courses you might not see value in. We can help fill in the gaps of your growth. We can set you up for success."



PHOTO COURTESY OF NW MARCOMM
Professor Erica Vonk advises a student in their upcoming classes.

EXPIRES 05/31/21 **Pizza Ranch** CODE: 53802

ANY LARGE FOR \$10.00

Available online only

Valid at Orange City location only. Some restrictions may apply. Additional charge for extra cheese and \$2.00 charge for specialty crust. Prices subject to change without notice. Not valid with any other offer, gluten free crust or third-party delivery. Delivery where available and charges may apply.

EXPIRES 05/31/21 **Pizza Ranch** CODE: 53416

ANY SMALL FOR \$5.00

Valid at Orange City location only. Some restrictions may apply. Additional charge for extra cheese and \$2.00 charge for specialty crust. Prices subject to change without notice. Not valid with any other offer, gluten free crust or third-party delivery. Delivery where available and charges may apply.

ORANGE CITY • 712-737-3711 • 1505 8TH ST. SE

JOIN OUR TEAM!

pizzaranch.com/careers

Check out our Facebook page!

WOULD YOU RATHER?

(As voted on by you, the students)

Would you rather it be...

25 degrees and snow

85%

OR

-5 degrees and no snow

15%

Would you rather get...

Cheese curds at the Hub

47%

OR

Coffee at Common Grounds

53%

In the caf, would you rather eat at the...

Pizza Line

45%

OR

Taco Line

55%

The opinions expressed in these polls represent student preference and is no way intended to indicate superior qualities of one choice over another or endorse certain stereotypes

Corona and the new era



Gideon Fynaardt
Bio Health

Some odd month or two into quarantine, I stood with a leg bent and my foot up on the windowsill, heroic and awesome and the envy of all who might have seen me. I'd been prompted by my brother for further elaboration on the claim I'd just made – that this, 2020 and its associated facets is the new era of our nation.

I based this declaration on what I'd already known for most of my adult life about our country and its machinations.

At the time of this writing, the past 18 years, starting only months before my birth in January 2002, had been the post-9/11 era - a period characterized by American military involvement with sovereign nations deemed threatening and exploitation of their industries for our benefit under the guise that we were fighting "terror," which after 20 years has only festered, the combined efforts of their terrorism and our greed butchering the Middle East to a point almost irreversible, an example of neo-imperialism. War crimes were signed off by our presidents

and swept under the rug, all of it "justified" by what happened on a brisk September morning in 2001. (For more of that, look up Noam Chomsky describing the war crimes of all the recent U.S. presidents—fascinating and thoroughly depraved stuff.)

Until 2016, the election of a black man was possibly the greatest shock to the system, and as cynics and intelligent, mostly leftist critics of Obama (including Chomsky) have made clear, he didn't fall far from the tree in terms of sinister foreign relations and undercover operations.

However, Trump's 2016 election was a shock, and now with the crescendo of the COVID-19 pandemic and a bitter, divisive election of 2020, I am firm in my claim that this is the new era of the United States.

I write this on Nov. 3, election night, and while the results of tonight, however long they take to count, will determine the degree to which this period affects our history, one day this period will be called the era of Trump and COVID.

Directly, COVID-19 has now killed over 230,000 Americans: mothers, fathers, children, veterans, doctors, teachers, friends. So many have watched loved ones die of this illness because our hospitals were unprepared for the magnitude of patients.

Meanwhile, the nature of infectious disease makes being by their side

during their final days impossible and dangerous. The bitterness of distance and loss will linger with so many Americans long after the vaccine is developed.

Over 9.4 million have come down with the illness, the lasting damage done to their immune, respiratory and nervous systems still widely unknown.

A facet of the post-9/11 era was the seemingly annual revelation that some given thing, like smoke inhalation, the first responders were exposed to at ground zero was deadly in a newly discovered way. This further complicated the attitude Americans had toward 9/11, and I would not be surprised at all if years from now we continue to learn new ways Americans once infected with COVID-19 are entitled to compensation.

Less directly, millions of jobs have been lost, the magnitude and severity of mental illnesses have increased on average and victims of domestic abuse are now for the most part trapped at home with their oppressors.

Maybe I'm dwelling too much on the bummers. Call me a cynic if you will, but most of American history has been measured by bummers.

Even the moments of spirit and hope came at the detriment to someone else (i.e. imperialism, Manifest Destiny, etc.). It's 9 p.m. on election night, and like a lot of this country is, I'm stressed. But as my favorite books, however tragic, always end, I am hopeful for the sunrise.

Are you enough for God?



Adam Contreras
Worship Arts

The world tells us, quite constantly, that we are enough. Contemporary Christian culture tells us so just as often, frequently while asserting that the world tells us otherwise.

In general, both mainline Christianity and the world are generally in accord on that sentiment, whether we admit it or not.

So then, to whom are we enough? This seems to be a quite positive phrase in a worldly sense. Its intentions are to boost self-esteem and build each other up, which is noble, undoubtedly. To the world, generally, yes, we are enough. Culture is seldom going to tell us to our face otherwise, and to someone, there will always be someone else who says you are enough.

But who do we need to be enough

for? The world will all fall away, after all. It's all temporary, and people's opinions are always changing. I honestly find this definition and need for sufficiency to be quite shallow.

It seems to me that as we constantly seek this fleeting worldly affirmation, we are simply idolizing other people, and are living in a certain amount of pride, as that affirmation of our sufficiency is something that constantly needs reaffirmation.

We become people-pleasers in our search for the fulfillment of this desire—or rather, as Bob Kauflin of Sovereign Grace Music puts it, "people-worshippers." So, as Christians, our question ought to be, am I enough by God's standards?

His standard is true perfection, so the sober-minded answer, as unpopular as it may be, is no. We are not enough. And to God be the glory because we are not.

Looking at Romans 3:23, we know that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, thus meaning that not a single one of us could independently be enough. None of us can earn God's love, as "being enough" is a matter of sufficiency at its core, nor can we merit our own salvation.

He loves us not because we are enough but, rather, despite the fact that

we never will be. This is why we always praise him for his grace: because he has loved us despite us and has chosen to save us, despite our inability to ever meet his standards.

The truest form of love is that while we were still weak, Christ died for the ungodly. God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Rom. 5:6, 8). It is joyous and freeing to know this: that we are in fact not enough but that Christ is.

For all that believe, his righteousness is credited to us by grace through faith in Christ alone. There is no other way but to believe that Jesus, who lived a sinless life, is the Lord, that he bore the entirety of our sin—past, present and future—on the cross and that he rose again three days later, thus being sufficient for our forgiveness and salvation.

So when it comes to our own record, God looks at us and sees not our own insufficiency but rather his son's complete sufficiency.

Therefore, it no longer matters who we are to anyone but rather who Christ was, is and forever will be. He is God, he is savior, and our value is not in ourselves, nor in what those around us think of us, but rather our value is in him. He alone is enough.

Editor's Note

The opinions published both in print and online are the opinions of the authors only. Beacon staff members do not 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.

Respectfully,
the Beacon staff

Get wealthy
off your words...

...With the new Beacon pay scale

Write 1-4 stories = \$10 each | 5-8 stories = \$15 each | 9+ stories = \$20 each

NW signs a seven-year deal with Nike

NEW START WITH
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

CAROLINE VAN BERKUM
MATHEMATICS

Since joining the Red Raider athletic program, Vice President for Athletics, Micah Parker has been working non-stop. The first noticeable change was the athletic logo, a change many felt benefited the college. Parker's most recent accomplishment involves signing a seven-year contract with Nike for the athletic programs.

This is the fourth apparel agreement in the works since his arrival to Northwestern in July. It was well-timed with the rebranding of our athletic

logo, which was all part of his plan.

Parker said that the whole athletic department was informed of each step as they happened. In just under four months, the committee of coaches and administrators were able to listen to different bids and decide whether it was going to work for NW or not.

So, what does this Nike deal mean for the athletic department?

"Our programs will receive annual help from Nike/BSN, and that athletes will get a discount on apparel on shoes," Parker said.

One student athlete had hoped for just that—discounts on gear and shoes. She said that in

previous years, the full cost of shoes and other athletic apparel was on the athlete alone.

While this also limits the variety of gear available, Nike still has a wide range of athletic gear athletes will be able to purchase.

In terms of coaching, it is safe to say that coaches are enthusiastic about the deal.

"Everyone in our program is very excited, and so are recruits," softball coach Shane Bouma said.

Wrestling head coach Rik Dahl echoed that same idea.

Most coaches and athletes are excited about what this deal will do for the athletic community, especially

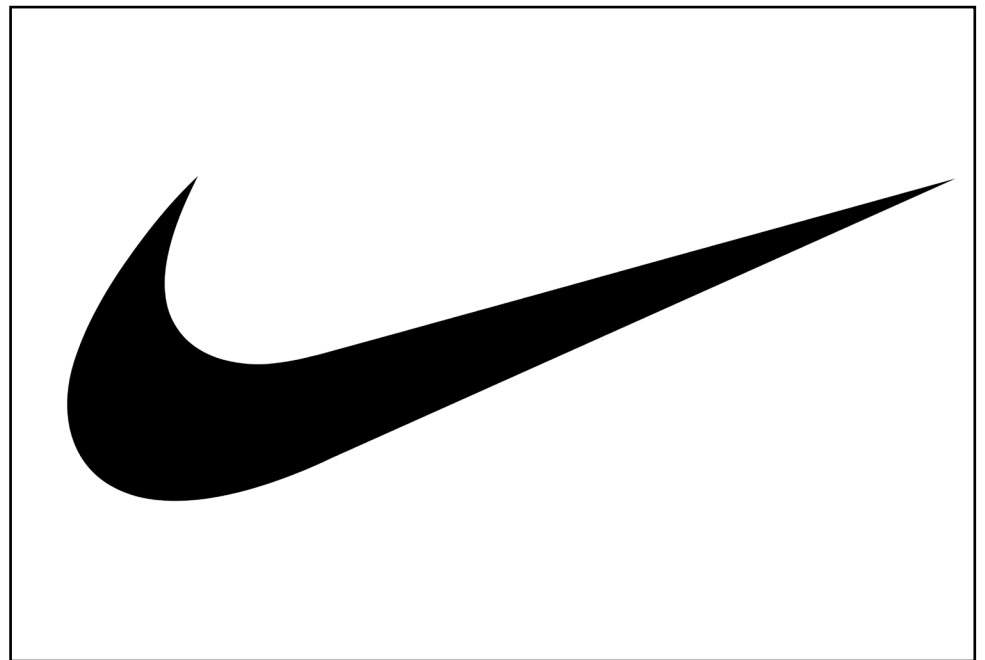


PHOTO COURTESY OF NIKE.COM

Athletes and coaches are excited about how this new Nike deal will impact recruitment.

for recruitment.

"When a recruit steps on campus and sees that visually, we are all on the

same page and wearing the same brand, it can be encouraging," Dahl said. This deal is another step in building the community aspect of our athletes and unifying them in a visual way.

Raiders take on Midland University Warriors

INTENSE CONFERENCE
VOLLEYBALL MATCHUP

BREANNA CARR
ENGLISH TEACHING

On Oct. 31, the Raiders took on the Midland University Warriors in a conference volleyball matchup. Before the varsity match, five Northwestern seniors, along with their parents and families, were recognized.

Going into the game, the Raiders were 10-2 in the conference (12-2 overall) while Midland was 6-5 in the conference (7-6 overall).

Midland proved to be tough during the first two sets, winning 25-23 and 25-19. This didn't stop the Raiders from obtaining the victory. Even being down in the first two sets, the Raiders went on to

win the final three sets 25-18, 27-25, and 15-10, giving them a win over the Warriors.

Leading the Raiders to this victory were Makenzie Fink with 17 kills, two aces and five blocks; Anna Wedel with 12 kills, two aces, three blocks, two assists and 11 digs; Emily Van Ginkel with 11 kills and five blocks; AJ Kacmarynski with seven kills and one block; Lacey Reitz with 45 assists and eight digs; Emily Strasser with two assists and 24 digs; Olivia Granstra with 10 digs; and Macey Van't Hul with seven blocks.

The Raiders comeback had its intense moments, which peaked during the fourth set when both teams were faced with two match-points, both of which were in favor of the Warriors.

The Warriors had the lead with the second match point at 25-24

until Reitz and Van Ginkel worked together to tie up the score. Taylor Meyer served for the Raiders to give them their 27-25 set-four win with help from Van Ginkel, Reitz and Wedel consecutively blocking any attempt by the Warriors to win the set.

Set five wasn't without drama with the beginning being tight. There were also seven tie points and three lead changes. Wedel provided back-to-back kills that gave the Raiders the lead for the rest of the set, pulling away from the tie. The set ended with six points being scored, five of which were scored by the Raiders.

With the 3-2 set win for NW, the Raiders moved to 11-2 in the conference and 13-2 overall while the Midland Warriors dropped to 6-6 in the conference and 7-7 overall.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NWCRAIDERS

Northwestern Raiders won 3-2 against the Midland University Warriors.

NW Raider soccer takes on Doane University Tigers

SWEEP HOME
GAMES WITH WIN

BEN HENKER
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

With the excitement of a tough game by both teams, the men's and women's soccer teams were able to sweep their matches against Doane University last Saturday, Oct. 31.

The first match was the women's team. They battled back and forth during the whole game. The possession and game were in favor for the Raiders as they had many scoring opportunities but did not complete them.

The first half ended with a 0-0 score. As they

kicked off the second half, Northwestern still didn't have any luck scoring until 88 minutes into the match. Keslie Paul won an aerial duel that went straight to Katie Jacob, who then placed right to Emily Hurley's foot, who chipped it passed the goalkeeper for her fourth goal of this year.

The Raiders were able to clock off the rest of the time by stalling the ball in the corner of the field for the match to end with a win of 1-0.

Kaelin Alons made three saves for the Raiders in the net getting her second shutout of the year.

The men's soccer game followed. The Raiders

started off strong by finding the back of the net only six minutes into the game.

NW held off Doane players on the dribble and fended off their counter-attack to earn a corner kick.

Matt Roll lifted the ball from the corner to Adam De Boer for a towering header that put them in the lead at the beginning 1-0. This was De Boer's first career goal and Roll's third assist of the year.

The men had a slight edge in total shots (7-6) and was 3-1 in shots on goal on Saturday. Ezekiel Foltz recorded one save and was also able to earn the shutout that night.

As the soccer season



PHOTO COURTESY OF NWCRAIDERS

Chris Ten Pas clears the ball away from the Raider's goal.

starts to come to an end, both teams have four more games left of their season.

The women currently are ranked ninth and the men are ranked sixth in the Great Plains Athletic Conference.

Beacon Staff

Bree Hodnefield
Co-Editor/Copy Editor

Jocelyn McCormick
Co-Editor

Hannah Ross
Arts & Culture Editor

Kaitlyn Van Peurse
Features Editor

Caleb Arnett
Opinions Editor

Katie Jacob
Sports Editor

Aaron Eckmann
News Editor

Abigail Moody
Photo Editor

Riley Rasmussen
Advertising Manager

The editorial staff reserves the right to edit submissions for style, clarity and length. For advertising rates and submissions, email Advertising Manager Riley Rasmussen at riley.rasmussen@nwciowa.edu.



Human trafficking awareness on campus

CAMPUS RALLIES TOGETHER ON TOPIC OF TRAFFICKING

MAYA HALL
POLITICAL SCIENCE

This past week Northwestern faculty were given many opportunities to learn about the harsh and sad reality of human trafficking.

Though it may sometimes feel like evil has no triumph in Orange City, the evasiveness of human trafficking has still unwelcomingly entered the city limits.

Human trafficking was discussed by Becky Rasmussen, executive director of Call to Freedom, Alyssa Currier Wheeler, associate legal counsel at the Human Trafficking Institute and Gina Dvoras, a human tracking survivor and director of Treasured Lives, in Chapel, an evening Q&A with Mark DeYoung and Wednesday evening a NED talk.

The topic of human trafficking is extremely convoluted, but each person was able to speak light, truth and even experiences into the issue in a way that students could grasp.

"At its core, human trafficking is coercing someone to exploit them in exchange of value," Wheeler said.

This definition was posed as it emphasized the fact that there are various kinds of trafficking. However, the two most frequent being sex trafficking and labor trafficking.

The speakers encouraged listeners the fight against human trafficking in many different forms. A few suggestions included to financially support an organization whose mission is to fight trafficking and to stay informed and educated about different events in our community and campus. However, they suggested that above all else we actively oppose this crime through prayer.

One way that students have taken the initiative to take a stand is through the campus' new chapter of International Justice Mission. IJM is an organization that fights human trafficking by working alongside different country's justice systems.

Northwestern, through the Justice and Service team in Campus Ministries, has established the college's first ever student-led chapter.

The chapter, meeting bi-weekly, is open for anyone to



PHOTO COURTESY OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION
International Justice Mission on campus gives students an opportunity to continue to fight for victims.

join and its purpose is to bring the mission of IJM to a local level here at school and in the community.

Through the campus chapter, the hope is to promote the fight against trafficking by hosting various events and opportunities for students to get involved. An information meeting about IJM was held on Oct. 12, when students were informed about the reason for the chapter as well as the hope for the future.

This past week, the chapter hosted their first event, the 24-hour Freedom Fast. This event encouraged students to give up something in return for consistent prayer for those enslaved.

Jessica Jimenez, a senior exercise science major, is the lead of this year's chapter.

"We are encouraged at the numbers we have already seen participate in the freedom fast and those who are wanting to be a part of our team," she said, adding that she

was excited to see how the campus and community could come together to get involved in the fight against human trafficking.

In the future, the chapter will be involved in advocacy and bringing awareness by calling legislatures and promoting something similar to Dressember, an event that encourages individuals to do something every day of December to raise awareness around human trafficking.

Human trafficking is not an easy topic to discuss. Though it is difficult, the guest speakers encouraged students to not merely dismiss it. In addition to acknowledgement, they expanded that it is just as important to find ways in our own day-to-day lives to be a part of the active opposition to it. There are 40 million individuals who are enslaved today.

Though NW dedicated a week to learning more about this injustice, it is important to continue to strive to seek justice in any way that we can beyond these few days.

Early snowfall covered Orange City

COLD WEATHER IS INBOUND

NOAH SMITH
RELIGION

Last week, students woke up only to look out their windows to find a freshly fallen snow covering the ground. This snowfall came earlier than usual.

Returning students to Northwestern College are no stranger to snow. However, new students may just now be getting accustomed to it.

One thing is for sure, not all students are ready for snow yet. Nobody wants to worry about traveling through icy roads or blizzards this early in the year. Thankfully, the first snow did not stick around for long.

Will Almendarez, a junior from Honduras, couldn't believe it's "already colder than a freezer outside."

"The early snow is terrible especially since it is only October," he said, adding that he hopes winter will not be terrible, but he would like a little snow in December to make it look pretty for the holidays.

However, some students enjoyed the change in scenery.

Alec Wojak, a freshman from San Antonio, Texas, finds it better than an alternative.

"I did not mind the snow," Wojak said. "It was a lot better than 100-degree weather."

Some students on campus might agree with this statement.

The first snow of the year is usually the most enjoyable compared to the rest. One couldn't miss the snowball fights and snow angels being made across campus. However, the first snow is not always an accurate

representation of what the rest of winter looks like.

Students, like Almendarez, might not have to worry about the coming winter. According to the *Old Farmers' Almanac*, winter temperatures will be well above normal this year with the heaviest snowfall being from the middle of November to the middle of December. The worst might come when students go home over holiday breaks.

With projected snowfall amounts being less than normal, students who enjoy the winter activities such as sledding, snowball fights and building a snowman may not have as many opportunities to participate in these activities.

It may also pose a threat to the snow shoveling business. Students hoping to shovel snow might find themselves out of work if

the temperatures like this week continue into the next few weeks.

The forecast for next week

from the Weather Channel shows that temperatures will drop back into the 30s after coming off of a rather

warm week. Continuing on through the rest of November, temperatures will float in the 30s and 40s.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNSPLASH.COM
Prediction of a less severe winter might affect winter jobs and activities.