The Beacon, April 13, 2018

Beacon Staff

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Exhibit explores culture through art

CLOSING RECEPTION
TONIGHT AT 7 P.M.

VICTORIA HORN
LITERATURE

Senior art and psychology double major Oris Ordez has dedicated the last four years of her time at Northwestern to creating and perfecting her senior art exhibit, entitled "Unbalanced." As of Monday, April 9, the result of Ordez's many late nights and early mornings is up for viewing in the Te Paske Gallery.

When asked how she got her start in the art world, Ordez said it was a love affair that began at a young age. She started off making little crafts or working with Play-Doh, and soon after, she was painting as well.

Many years later, Ordez's finger painting days have led to an entire gallery full of artwork that expresses who she is, where she has been and where she hopes to go. Ordez wanted to use her artwork as a way to explore the tether she rides every day between her Mexican culture and her American culture.

"I've always been too American for my Mexican friends and too Mexican for my American friends," Ordez said. "I know way more food words in Spanish than in English, and I know way more medical terms in English than in Spanish. Sometimes when I’m angry, I'll be talking in English and Spanish will come out. So it's taken me a long time to realize I'm both Mexican and American, but one side often outweighs the other, and that's okay."

Ordez spent a good amount of time working on the main feature piece in her show - a coffee table dinner spread featuring ceramic plates and bowls glazed by ceramic Mexican sweet breads. Each sweet bread represents a different member of Ordez's family, as each bread was crafted with each member's favorite sweet bread in mind.

"This piece was inspired by the late light suppers called "Cena" my family would share around our coffee table," Ordez said.

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Oasis Ordez spent a considerable amount of time making miniature ceramic pieces, including vases, jars and bowls. All were individually glazed as well.

Symphonic Band tours for biennial weekend

STUDENTS SPREAD GOD'S LOVE THROUGH MUSIC

EMILY RAPER
UNDECIDED

On Thursday, April 12, the Northwestern College Symphonic Band left campus for their biennial weekend band tour and will return Sunday, April 15. The band will be traveling to and performing at various schools, retirement homes, churches and mission locations in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Lincoln, Nebraska, and Omaha, Nebraska.

"I am excited to watch the interaction between the students and the audiences," said Director of Bands Angela Holt. "There is a variety of different venues that we will be playing at, and I hope that we can express the NW mission and God’s mission through our music."

While on tour, the students will stay with host families and take part in local activities, such as visiting the Omaha Zoo and the Old Market.

In addition to the joy of sharing music with various audiences, Holt appreciates that the trip provides an opportunity for students to connect.

"I am looking forward to the opportunities we will have to bond as a band," Holt said. "The tour allows [students] time to get to know other band members as friends and as more than the person who sits two or three chairs away from [them]."

Ben Grev, a junior music education major and a member of the band council, is excited about the tour.

"I love touring because it's a time that we all get to spend time with each other outside of the band room and with no other obligations to pull us away from having some fun," Grev said.

Grev has taken part in four previous NW tours with the band and choir. His favorite memories from past tours involve spending time with friends and getting to know and bond with host families.

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ARTS & CULTURE

Video game movie fails to impress

MOVIE REVIEW

RATED PG-13, 139 MINUTES

KITRICK FYNNAARDT

"Ready Player One" is a testament to the mainstream power of video games and their newly discovered universal appeal. Much like its inspiration, "Ready Player One" is impressive and fun to watch but contains little intellectually stimulating material as the plot and character development fall quite flat.

The most obvious draw for the film is the myriad references to pop culture, and these do not disappoint. Every scene contains some sort of homage. Keep your eyes peeled for characters from Blizzard's Overwatch, Spartans from the Halo series, the Spheres of Annihilation from Dungeons and Dragons and the much-advertised Iron Giant from the classic animated movie of the same name. Catching these references for yourself is quite frankly more enjoyable than watching the film itself, as the plot is an excuse to wander through a virtual reality universe and see all this pop culture.

The plot itself is nothing special and contains lots of convenient devices to keep the main characters safe while the thousands of other players in the game die in droves. The story follows a player named Wade Watts as he tries to find three keys scattered throughout "the Oasis" a virtual reality video game worth around 500 trillion dollars. Whoever finds the keys takes control of the game, and by extension, the world. The storyline is a forgettable series of riddles and traps wherein our heroes must defeat "big business" in the name of "fun gaming." Just take your eyes off the bureaucratic, big money villain and keep looking for video game references.

The characters in the story begin as classic teens just trying to make their way in a harsh world where video games are more comforting than real life. Sound familiar? If it does, it's probably because you've read or watched some Relatable Teen FictionTM in the past, and this film follows the same formula. None of the characters really change by the end of the film, and they are really just walking tropes.

That being said, Tye Sheridan and Olivia Cooke portrayed their characters well and did the best they could with what the scriptwriters gave them. In a film where movement-point tracking is used for the characters in "the Oasis," clear and emotional acting is crucial to keep the characters from feeling robotic. Sheridan and Cooke did this well along with the rest of the cast. Mark Rydereg's performance is one of special note. He plays Mark Halliday, creator of the video game the entire movie is based around. His character is a classic '90s nerd in every sense of the word, and his depiction of the character really ties the film back to its roots in the gaming ages of old.

"Ready Player One" is a movie that captures the term "fun." It's exciting and full of explosions, video game characters and easily overlooked plot holes. If you want to turn your brain off for a crisp 140 minutes, I could not recommend this movie more. For anyone wanting a more deep and engaging experience, move on.

The Weeknd doesn't meet expectations

MUSIC REVIEW

NEW ALBUM FALLS FLAT

BRANT VERMEER

POLITICAL SCIENCE

I'll be honest: I don't have much to say about this album. However, what we get from The Weeknd on My Dear Melancholy is an excellent example of the disappointment that comes from untapped potential.

The brief EP has a few high moments, and some of Tesfaye's, AKA the Weeknd's, least memorable material. This record would be an average release from many artists, but from The Weeknd it feels more like a failure and a missed opportunity.

Weeknd fans will immediately recognize the sound of the EP. For hardcore fans, this will be positive, but it is disappointing to see that he is not experimenting with any new sounds. When Tesfaye came onto the scene, what was most impressive was how he immediately innovated with his sound. The record contains his trademark vocals and instrumentals. However, most of what we hear on the EP we have heard him do better on previous tracks in his discography.

Along with the sound, the subject matter of the EP is less than spectacular. A good portion of the songs deal with his recent relationship with Selena Gomez. The musical highlight on the EP, "Call Out My Name," offers lyrics describing the overall course of the relationship. The lyrical content succeeds in being entertaining for a first listen, but fails to deliver on much deeper than that.

Overall, this EP is an easy three stars. It has parts that are enjoyable and parts that are forgettable. For some artists, a project of this quality would be a success. However, for an artist with the pedigree of The Weeknd, it is a disappointment.

The album is passable, but when you are The Weeknd, passable is not good enough. It leaves a bad taste in the mouth of music fans who were expecting more innovation. He has shown the potential to electrify the contemporary R&B genre, so when he comes out with what is nothing more than an average record, it is disappointing.

This latest EP is like going to a basketball game where LeBron James only scores 15 points. For most players in the NBA, 15 points would be a very successful night. However, James has the potential to score 40 points or more, so a 15 point night is deeply disappointing.

The Weeknd's latest project is worth a listen, but it is not Tesfaye's best music. The hard fans will likely find something to enjoy here, and there are some quality tracks that can be enjoyed. But ultimately, My Dear Melancholy is an average release from an artist that we have come to expect better from.
Student combines culture and art

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In addition to this tribute to her favorite family meals, Ordaz's show features an entire wall of tiny hand-painted, kiln-fired ceramics—what Osiris terms "Mexi Minis." These include painted ceramic models of her favorite "Loteria" cards, and prints of each of her family member's portraits against hand-painted patterned backgrounds, as well as a painting of Lady Liberty wearing a Mexican poncho and holding a chili pepper.

"I named her 'Dona Liberty,'" Ordaz said of her take on the famous New York landmark. "It's Spanish—'dona' signifies respect, and I think this image of an American icon proudly participating in Mexican culture is a beautiful image of hope for what this country could be."

Thinking about the privilege she has to share this powerful piece and others like it, Ordaz marvels at what a unique opportunity it is to be able to have an entire gallery to herself to showcase her artwork—to be treated as a real artist.

"Other college don't give opportunities for their students to have a solo show, so it's a huge honor for me," Ordaz said.

A closing reception will be held in Ordaz's honor at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 13 in the Te Peake Gallery and will include a presentation from the artist, receptions and a chance to get one last glimpse of the beautiful melding of cultures that is "Unbalanced."

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Twitter culture takes over the web

MEMES ARE UNIVERSAL

ETHAN HUSBANDS

PSYCHOLOGY

The majority of Northwestern students likely have a Twitter account and use it regularly. Explaining why the social media app is so popular to someone who doesn't have it or is not familiar with it can be difficult. Since 2010, Twitter has grown from 30 million monthly users to 330 million users.

If you turn on the news it is no longer uncommon to see a panel of pundits discussing what the president of the United States has just tweeted. Most recently, you not only could follow what was happening with Hurricane Harvey and Irma, but people in the area were receiving help through the app from those with boats and jet skis.

If you see something happen on the Facebook, Instagram, or Snapchat, odds are it happened on Twitter first.

Most recently, however, Twitter has been taken over by memes. These range from a kid yodeling in Walmart to famous musicians Drake and Travis Scott playing Fortnite with videogame streamers.

On NW's campus, memes are recycled at the pace of the Twitter sphere.

"For a while, the 'what in tarnation' one was popular, where people would just rhyme different words with tarnation then put cowboy hats on the picture," Darby Skurrlem, junior and meme expert said. "Or SpongeBob memes have been really popular all over Twitter this year."

News and memes, however, are not always battling for people's attention. Social media teams, journalists and businesses alike have recognized that what gets people's attention is the type of funny, original content that usually comes in memes.

This has led to occurrences like the city council of Toronto tweeting Drake lyrics and starting his own merchandise line. Journalists like Ben Shapiro, Seth Mandel and Jesse Singal all using memes to bring attention to their political discourse. Even corporate accounts like Moon Pie and Denny's have hundreds of thousands of followers, because they understand what gets attention, like Fortnite memes and starting Twitter beefs with other accounts.

This inside joke culture is why Twitter is both wildly entertaining and, in some ways, necessary for news and culture. It's fast, loose and unpredictable.
FEATURES

Stage manager facilitates show

TOUGHEST ROLE IS BACKSTAGE

VICTORIA HORN
LITERATURE & WRITING AND RHETORIC

Just outside of the Northwestern College theatre lobby, towering trees and a speed through green stoplights, and ride by on bicycles. Bass heavy Broadway music pounds the thin walls of the lobby as students rehearse for an upcoming cabaret night.

But a few steps away, inside the dimly lit Allen Black Box Theatre, theatre director Jeff Barker and junior theatre major Becky Ochoa are safely secluded in their own created universe.

It is the last week of rehearsal for NW’s production of "The Glass Menagerie," and although the audience may not realize it, Ochoa’s work as stage manager has been instrumental in bringing this show to life.

According to Jeff, the stage manager’s attitude and approach determines the success of the production, as he or she is responsible for making the environment one that’s a great environment in which to do art.

Serving as stage manager for two NW productions prior to "The Glass Menagerie," Ochoa is well versed in the nuances of what makes a successful stage manager.

"It’s kind of like this: if you’re in a train station, I view stage management as the rails because you keep everything in line and you keep everything on track," Ochoa says. "You’re moving things from place to place, but you’re the central hub of communication and it all goes from there.

"The director himself does not claim to have a more crucial or difficult job than Ochoa’s.

"A stage manager really is the toughest and most selfless task in the whole company," Jeff says. "Actors have to be selfish. They have to worry about their job, and Becky is able to be a multitasker who is worried about everybody’s job."

Acting alongside three students in the show, theatre professor Karen Bohm Barker expresses her delight to be collaborating with Ochoa.

"The relationship between the cast and a stage manager, especially in a small cast like this, has to be one of trust, and Becky is on top of things," Karen says.

Ochoa plans to intern at a theater company in Chicago during the fall 2018 semester and graduate in December. Ochoa is interested in pursuing careers in stage managing, directing, playwriting and costume design.

"If I can get a job in any of those four areas, I will be over the moon," Ochoa says.

"The Glass Menagerie" will be performed at 2 p.m. on April 21 and at 7:30 p.m. on April 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28 in the Allen Black Box Theatre.

Looking ahead to opening night, Karen expresses her utmost faith that the show will succeed in performance — a faith that comes from knowing Ochoa can be trusted to keep everything on track.

"I think that the trust that needs to happen to make the show work is there, and I don’t think I can overstate the importance of that or the fact that that’s not a given," Karen says. "We’re dealing with students. They’re not always on top of it — but Becky is."

Karen pauses as if searching for a better way to describe why Ochoa is so good at her job, but in the end, merely shrugs and repeats, "She just is."

Writing festival celebrates faith

STUDENTS HEAR FROM AUTHORS

EMELE SWONGER
CO-FEATURES EDITOR

It was a brisk April morning in 2016 when senior English major Victoria Horn first fell in love. Surrounded by towering trees and a wide expanse of blue-gray sky, Horn relished every moment traversing across the Calvin College campus in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Wandering through what she described as a "Narnia-like" realm, Horn’s thoughts turned from this fleeting affair with nature to a more pressing romance: the prospect of a weekend at Calvin's Festival of Faith and Writing.

A biennial celebration of words, religious beliefs and the intersection of the two, the Festival of Faith and Writing offers three days of creative writing workshops, engaging literary discussions and lectures by experts in the writing field. Hosted by Calvin College, this year’s festival takes place April 12-14 and will feature esteemed writers Kwame Alexander, Edwidge Danticat and Jen Harnaker, among others.

The English Department has actively participated in the festival since 2012 and this year, 11 students and four faculty members are eagerly anticipating their involvement in the event.

NW English professor Samuel Martin appreciates the festival’s inclusion of diverse religious and cultural perspectives.

"For students, the festival is a way to introduce them to a broader world of people who are engaged with questions of art and faith," Martin said.

"The exciting thing about the festival is, even though traditional names keep recurring, I am always being introduced to new and young writers with different faith and ethnic backgrounds. It gets a little more diverse and richer each year.

Horn spoke of how the festival speakers impacted her personal writing style, particularly when it came to writing about her faith.

"I realized that writing from a Christian perspective doesn’t necessarily equate the types of books you would pick up in a drug store," Horn said. "Many of the Christian authors from the festival are so subtle when they write about their faith, they don’t show their beliefs in your face but make you think about how faith intersects with your everyday life. There were so many authors there that changed my perspective on whether or not I could write more faith-based literature."

Another one of the festival’s most distinguishing features is the opportunity to participate in a Festival Circle. Each circle is comprised of 12-15 attendees and meets at least two times to discuss a common topic of interest. Past topics have included poetry as prayer, film criticism and even children’s picture books.

At this year’s festival, Martin will be co-leading a Festival Circle with Dordt College English professor Luke Howdy. Entitled "Genre-Bending Fiction for Mista Writers," Martin’s circle will focus on fiction writing that "seeks to transcend" genre and will offer writers guidance on how to effectively market their work for publication.

Martin also reflected on how the festival empowers students to read deeply and engage ideas that are both challenging and provocative.

"The festival is broad enough and ecumenical enough that you will probably end up hearing someone say something that is radically new," Martin said. "You’ll need to use the tools of engagement that you’ve learned at college to engage with others intellectually and creatively."

NW English students departed for the festival Thursday, April 12 and will return to campus Sunday, April 15.

ALLNDAY

Thank you to everyone who participated in AllNDay! There is still time today to show your Raider love through a gift on allnday.nwciowa.edu #RaidersAllN
"The Glass Menagerie" is rich with history

THEATRE PARTICIPANTS
FIND THE LOVE

CORRIE HAYES
THEATRE

The Theatre Department is excited to present the classic Tennessee Williams play, "The Glass Menagerie," at 2:00 p.m. on April 21 and at 7:30 p.m. on April 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28 in the Allen Black Box Theatre. "The Glass Menagerie" is a play surrounding the memory of Tom Wingfield who struggles with accepting the reality of his family and current life situation. This drama also features light-hearted moments while presenting the message of hope and love.

Theatre professor Jeff Barker is directing this production and is often heard repeating the phrase, "Find the love in it." While the four-person cast wrestles with what love looks like in their onstage family, love is also found offstage between Jeff and his wife Karen Johnn Barker who plays the role of the headstrong mother, Amanda Wingfield.

"The Glass Menagerie" is not only a huge part of the Barkers' lives now but was also the play that brought them together over 40 years ago. During Jeff’s sophomore year at Greenville College in Greenville, Illinois, director Margo Volf posted auditions for the play "The Glass Menagerie." Jeff auditioned for the show along with a redheaded senior, Karen. It turned out that they both got a part: Karen in the role of Amanda Wingfield, and Jeff in the role of her son, Tom.

Now they are embarking on the adventure of "The Glass Menagerie" together once again. At every rehearsal, the love between Jeff and Karen is seen. While they can often have blunt exchanges back and forth, it is this stubborn love that remains admirable. "[Karen] likes the arts and affirms my interest in the arts," Jeff said.

One of the many ways they do this is by working on projects together like "The Glass Menagerie." Jeff has directed this show once before and seen it many times. "I am happy to go on this adventure and see what happens," Jeff said. Jeff acknowledges the many challenges the play presents, such as its odd structure and a few peculiar lines.

The minimal set allows for the freedom to explore the relationships between characters, which is what Karen loves to do. Jeff explained Karen’s favorite part of the rehearsal process is the listening, responding and simply living in the space with her partner. In this production, finding the love between the characters is what sets the show apart from others.

"The Glass Menagerie" is also a play open with possibilities, and Jeff enjoys that immensely. "It’s fun to just kind of show up at rehearsal and say, ‘What should we try and discover today?’" Jeff said.

"Find the love in it" will be a constant reminder as the rehearsal process for "The Glass Menagerie" continues. Both on and offstage, all who observe the Barkers individually and together will be given a clear example of what finding the love truly looks like.

The NW Theatre Department welcomes all to witness the adventure and love of the Wingfield family in "The Glass Menagerie," opening at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 20. Tickets can be purchased online at nwciowa.edu/tickets and by emailing boxoffice@nwciowa.edu.

School brings in new food service provider

CREATIVE DINING TAKES ITS TURN

LIZZY JOHNSTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS

A big change is coming soon to Northwestern: Creative Dining Services will begin serving as NW’s food service provider in the summer of 2018. As a result of past mergers and buying out other food services that have provided for the college, Sodexo has been the college’s food service provider for 30 years. Sodexo’s current six-year contract with NW came to an end this academic year, leading to a reevaluation of the provider.

"Typically, when your contract is coming up you start to consider other companies," Vice President for Student Life Julie Elliott said. "We thought it was a good time to do that to see what else is out there, just to make sure we are getting the best value for our investment and serving students as best we can."

The last time the contract was up for a renewal, Sodexo and Creative Dining were the providers that stood out.

This year, instead of looking at several other companies as in the previous contract renewal, NW decided to exclusively consider Sodexo and Creative Dining as possible food providers.

The ultimate decision to switch providers from Sodexo to Creative Dining was based on student feedback. Students were allowed to attend the two companies’ proposals and give detailed feedback after each presentation.

"We had about 25 students present at each presentation, and then they all completed surveys," Elliott said. "I feel like we had really good representative voices. We really tried to pick students of various ages and needs; we tried to diversify who we invited."

While student feedback was important for the decision, the college was also impressed with other aspects of Creative Dining.

"They have a very strong vision of dining as a central part of student development," Elliott said. "Just like we are intentional with the way we are involved in the residence halls, we were attracted to a company that was very intentional about how you can use the dining experience to create bonds between students to help them have a fun experience."

Creative Dining also has experience working in atmospheres similar to that of NW.

"We could partner with them because they really understand us - most of their accounts are colleges like us," Elliott said. Students have a few exciting changes to look forward to with the food service switch. In addition to a new menu and new foods in the cafeteria, Creative Dining has big plans for special events throughout the year. The events will vary by size but will take place nearly every week of the school year. As for the Hub, the grill, barista and sandwich lines will stay, but new items will be added to those menus.

Something that is not changing with the switch is the structure of the meal plans and flex money. Students will also be happy to know that the price for food service will not be increased with the switch to Creative Dining. As Sodexo’s final weeks with Sodexo come to a close, be sure to thank Sodexo general manager Ned Price and the other Sodexo employees for the hard work they have put in preparing food at NW.

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OPINIONS

Being unique

There is only one month until graduation which means the year is winding down and summer is almost upon us, even if the weather does not seem like it. So, hang in there Raiders. Don’t procrastinate too much, and make sure you enjoy yourselves during these last weeks.

Dear snow,

Could you please just stop? For the sake of the earth and everything that is good in this world, just stop. I would gladly sell my left kidney if it meant you would go away. I promise you can come back next year, but please just go away for now. You’re great. Honestly, it’s us not you, but please just go away.

With much love,
The Red Raiders

The Celebration of Research was this week which was quite incredible. Multiple students presented a diverse array of research projects to inquisitive minds. It was a beautiful display of the unique interests that different students have and the gumption to do intense research about subjects they love.

For example, if you want to “be yourself” and so refuse to engage in conversation about an opposing opinion, you’ve just shut yourself off from a possibly enlightening discussion and, if taken far enough, maybe a friend. “Being yourself” is a great thing, so long as you’re willing to talk about things that aren’t “you.” By shutting yourself off from everything you disagree with, you are actually living in a false reality and lying to yourself, which is silly.

The same can happen on the other side. If you love every piece of music on the radio, every movie you ever watch, or every meal you ever eat just for fear of being different, then you might lose the unique personality that God blessed you with altogether.

I’m not trying to scare anyone. If you love everything all the time, go on loving. If you disagree with everyone (respectfully) go on disagreeing (respectfully). Simply remember that you don’t have to be unique in every opinion, nor do you have to enjoy something just because someone else does. Now go eat some cheesecake. That stuff’s good.

A properly rated show

Yes, the show gets crazy and, yes, it’s often absurd... but there’s reality to it that draws you in and makes you want to continue being a part of it, even if that means starting over from the beginning.

Like I said earlier, I’ve watched “The Office” four times. I know almost every joke, and I can hear the beginning of an episode and likely be able to tell you what’s about to happen. And while I’ve seen every episode many times, I’ve also watched a lot of other shows and movies, I’ve read books, I listen to music, I like to be entertained. Not to toot my own horn, but I’ve watched all of “The Office” this school year, as well as many seasons, if not all of “New Girl,” “The Good Place,” “America’s Next Top Model,” “Grey’s Anatomy” and a few other shows.

Now, this is not just to say that I’ve watched way too much TV (which is probably super true), because I still have time to do my homework, read books, spend time with friends, watch documentaries, talk about social issues, read news articles, take stupid Buzzfeed quizzes... you name it. But it’s about the fact that it’s so incredibly possible for someone to re-watch a comedy like “The Office” while still enjoying a vast array of different genres of shows. These two ideas aren’t mutually exclusive. While yes, it takes creativity to find time to do all these different things, it’s not that unrealistic.

One of the drawbacks of re-watching a show is that you pick up on things you hadn’t noticed the first or third time around. You catch funny one-liners you didn’t catch before, you see hidden jokes. And while some may not think it’s the greatest TV show, others would firmly disagree. Matthew Shukin, a well-known fan of “The Office,” believes wholeheartedly that “it is by far the best television series that has ever graced the screen,” and I can’t help but agree with him. I haven’t watched anything that has made me laugh, cry, cringe or smile more than “The Office.”

I watch “The Office” because watching it hasn’t gotten old, yet. If it ever does, I’ll stop... But until then, I’m going to re-watch it over and over and over again. And I’m going to laugh at every “That’s what she said” joke, even when I know they’re coming.

Editor’s Note

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SPORTS

Softball sweep
NW SWEEPS DORDT IN DOUBLETHEADER
KENDRA MCGINNIS
PUBLIC RELATIONS

On Wednesday, April 11, Northwestern traveled to Sioux Center to take on Dordt College in a Sioux County matchup between the two GPAC teams. NW would go on to sweep Dordt in the doubleheader with scores of 6-4 and 4-3.

In the first game of the doubleheader, NW was first to score. Junior Madison Beaver started off the Raiders with a line drive to right-center field for a triple. Beaver was brought in by senior Amanda Everhart with a hit to the shortstop-third base gap. The Raiders would end the first inning with a 1-0 lead.

Solid defense for the Raiders limited scoring chances for the Defenders. The game would go scoreless until the bottom of the fourth when Dordt was able to bring a runner home with a sacrifice fly. Batting at the top of the fifth, senior Chey Wilcke drove a pitch over the centerfield fence, which gave the Raiders back the lead, 2-1.

The top of the sixth inning showed that NW’s bats were still hot. Senior Kayla Tindall made solid contact with the ball sending it into left-center field to bring in two runs.

The top of the seventh also brought in two more runs complimentary of Everhart. The powerful scoring innings brought the NW lead to 6-1. In the bottom of the seventh, Dordt managed to score three, but it was not enough to close the gap.

Going into extra innings, the second game of the night was a fierce competition between the two teams as they battled at the plate. Going scoreless until the second inning, Dordt was the first to get a run across home plate. The Raiders responded with a fourthinning home run by Tindall to tie the game up. However, in the bottom of the fourth, Dordt managed to get two runners in, regaining the lead 3-1.

The fifth inning brought freshman Emma Schnell to the plate. Schnell made contact with the ball sending it up the middle and senior Katie Hiltz placed a hit to the left-center fence, allowing Schnell to easily cross the plate closing the gap, 2-3.

Scoring was at a standstill for several innings. NW pitcher Schnell struck out two batters in the sixth, her fifth and sixth strikeout of the night.

Senior Jess Sandbulte tied up the game with a drive down the middle to go into the bottom of the seventh. Dordt was unable to keep anyone on base, which forced the game into extra innings.

Top of the eighth, NW sealed the victory with a hit by Schnell into right-center field. The hit allowed the game-winning run to score. In the bottom of the eighth Schnell struck out the last batter, securing the sweep.

The victory over Dordt brings NW to a nine-game win streak and puts them at 22-5 (7-1 in GPAC play). NW will host Dakota Wesleyan for a doubleheader on Tuesday, April 17 at 5 and 7 p.m.

RAIDS ROLL OVER WEEKEND
RAIDERS BEAT CHAR- GERS IN TWO GAMES
CONNIE UBBEN
ADVERTISING EDITOR

The season so far for the Red Raider Baseball team has been a hectic one, as they are battling both tough opponents and the weather. Many games have been postponed and delayed due to the abnormal spring weather.

Last Saturday, NW had a home doubleheader against Briar Cliff University. The first game went completely in the favor of the Raiders, as they won 12-1. Senior Mitchell Kresnik pitched the entire game as he allowed only five hits and struck out three. Senior Christian Stahl and sophomore Zachary Rosson both went 3-3 in the game. Rosson hit his first career home run as a Raider.

The second game also went NW’s way as they won 13-8. Senior Raphael Koch-Hoyt got the win as he pitched a little over five innings giving up only five hits and striking out four. Rosson kept up the fantastic day as he notched four more hits and smashed his second career home run. Senior Michael Callahan also hit a home run, which brought in three runs.

Last Wednesday night, Peru State College came to town to take on the Raiders. In a very high scoring game, Peru State was able to get the win 15-12. Peru State took an early 3-0 lead in the first inning, but the Raiders rallied in the third and fourth innings, getting four runs in each. After scoring two more in the sixth inning, NW had a 10-3 lead going into the last three innings.

The Raiders then struggled on the mound, giving up eight runs in two innings. The game was tied up going into the final inning, but Peru State had momentum as they put up four more runs in the ninth. NW found one run in the bottom half of that inning, but it was not enough to earn the win. Senior Reed Smith had an excellent outing in the game, as he went 2-4 with three RBIs in the game.

NW is now 15-15 overall. The next four games are against Mount Marty College. Two Friday, April 13 and two on Monday, April 16.

Raiders earn GPAC win
NW EARNS FIRST GPAC WIN OVER MUSTANGS
BRIAN FOLLIEFF
SPORTS EDITOR

The NW Women’s Tennis team had a home GPAC matchup last Tuesday as they hosted Morningside College. Overall they won 6-3, which was their first GPAC win of the Season. They are now 4-10 overall and 1-1 in GPAC play.

In singles play, the team went 4-3. Sophomore Zoe Holscher only needed two games as she beat her opponent 6-2, 6-2. Junior Kendra McGinnis lost a tough bout in two games as she lost the first by only one. Freshman Joque Ingram won in two games 6-4, 7-6. Sophomore Kelly Shortenhauz also got a win Tuesday as she won 7-6, 6-1.

Doubles play also went well for the Raiders as they went 2-1 overall. The team of Holscher and Ingram lost a tough game 8-6. But McGinnis and sophomore Emma Van Drie earned a great victory 8-6. The third doubles team of Shortenhauz and sophomore Liz Foster earned a forfeit.

On the victory McGinnis said, “It was nice to get outside to play. This next coming week we have a lot of things to work with to be successful in our upcoming matches.” NW goes into action again next Tuesday, April 17 against Mount Marty College. After that, the team still has four more matches to play before the GPAC Championships which are in Fremont, Neb. The Raiders are hoping to pick up some momentum from this victory when as they continue in GPAC play.

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Science Mike to speak on campus

FOCUS ON FAITH AND SCIENCE
BLAKE MULDER THEARE

Mike McHargue, also known as Science Mike, will be on campus next week. His first appearance will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 18 in the Vogel Community Room. This event, hosted by Northwestern’s Living Tour Faith, is for area middle school and high school students.

McHargue will then speak on Thursday, April 19 at 11:05 a.m. in the same location. During this time, he will deliver a TED Talk that explores the intersection between science and faith. His last campus appearance for the week is on Friday, April 20 during chapel.

McHargue’s website describes him as “an author, podcaster and speaker who travels the world helping people understand the science of life’s most profound experiences”. He has written a book titled “Finding God in the Waves”, and hosts Ask Science Mike, a weekly podcast where he answers questions from listeners. He also cohosts The Liturgists Podcast with his friend Michael Gunger, which is “reshaping how the spiritually homeless and frustrated relate to God”. He frequently visits churches, colleges and conferences to “explore the intersection of science and faith.”

According to dean of Christian formation Mark DeYounge, McHargue plans to share the viewpoint that faith and science shouldn’t be in competition with one another. “He [will provide] a more robust, integrated understanding of how faith and science are not mutually exclusive or competitive with one another,” said DeYounge. “Rather, they are meant to be in harmony with one another as all truth—both in scripture and throughout creation.”

Lecturer in religion Daniel Den Boer notes that McHargue’s life story has played a key role in what he believes today. “This is an important area for McHargue because his faith journey intersects with questions of doubt and science,” said Den Boer.

“He grew up Southern Baptist, but through different life trials, began to see in science a direct challenge to Christian faith. Eventually he became an atheist. In his recent book, ‘Finding God in the Waves’, he also details how he began to have faith again through a mystical encounter with Jesus Christ,” said Den Boer. McHargue’s visit to campus is made possible by a ministry called BioLogos. “NW has many connections with a ministry called BioLogos that has many ties to Calvin College in Michigan,” said DeYounge.

“Science Mike has been a partner, voice, and co-laborer alongside the efforts of BioLogos to better inform and integrate our understanding of scripture and science.” Associate professor of religion Jason Lief is the NW connection that is responsible for McHargue’s visit. Lief received a grant to help youth ministry students engage scientific questions. Lief recognizes a key indicator in why young individuals leave the church, and that’s why he invited Science Mike to Northwest Iowa. “Young people end up leaving the church when they are not allowed to engage scientific questions,” said Lief. “Part of the course grant went to bringing in a speaker so I invited Science Mike to come.”

In addition to his time on campus, McHargue will also visit American Reformed Church on Thursday night at 7 p.m.

“This event,” said Lief, “will focus on how these issues are connected with young people leaving the church.”

Band touring in SD, NE

FROM PAGE 1

"Host families are almost always the highlight of every day on tours," Greve said. "They are always so welcoming and hospitable. And then, when we get back on the bus the next morning, we get to share the cool experiences that we had the night before.”

In order to make the tour a success, several weeks of planning have gone into the trip. Those in charge of planning for the trip, including band members, have put in a lot of effort to prepare for the four-day tour.

"There is a lot of stamping and sorting when it comes to handing out music," said Holts assistant, sophomore Erica Kitchenmaster. "There is also a lot of communication between Dr. Holt, the band council, and the band as a whole."

Despite the months of preparation and practice, Kitchenmaster feels that the work has been rewarding. "I love the process of rehearsal. It’s amazing to look back on the progress we’ve made once we make it to a concert."

After a total of seven performances, the Symphonic Band tour will conclude on Sunday, April 15. The band will share their music and tour experiences at their final performance at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 27 in Christ Chapel.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE

Mike McHargue seeks to help others see the connection between faith and science.