Art brings prof closer to family

BY ISAIAH CUSTER

Art professor Yun Shin has opened her second year at Northwestern with an exhibit inspired by her family in South Korea.

Her exhibit, Reconstructive-Memory Process, is about “containment and preservation and my relationship with my family,” Shin said.

Her work features raw materials, which she says are very important and allude to places and relationships. The exhibit’s untitled pieces show a broad range of ability and creativity through the use of multiple media.

The minimalistic show includes pieces both old and new.

An older piece, which currently consists of a stack 189 blocks of handmade soap, began as 390 blocks. Shin donated the remaining 201 blocks to shelters and churches in need.

“I’ve given away many of the soap blocks, so this piece is only a representation of the original blocks,” Shin said.

A wall hanging designed specifically for this exhibit hangs above the soap blocks. It is constructed of plastic squares that are tinted to match the coloring of the soap. According to Shin, the installation of this piece was difficult because double-sided tape was not strong enough to keep the squares attached to the wall. She remedied this problem by purchasing a clear sheet of plastic to cover the squares.

Another piece was created by Shin during her time at the University of Texas, Austin. She spent four hours a day throughout a period of six months hand-stitching gold thread on top of a white jacket that she received from her father.

Northwestern senior Ann Calsbeek, who attended the exhibit opening, said she was impressed by the thought behind the pieces.

Campus welcomes new dean of students

BY PRIYANKA FERNANDO

Many students are familiar with the news of the departure of John Brogan, who held the title dean of students until this spring. The new arrival to the position is a Northwestern alumna Julie Vermeer Elliott.

To both newcomers and returning students, the new dean of students is a fresh face to the start of the college year. Some already heard part of her story in last week’s chapel, but there’s more to Elliott’s story.

Elliott graduated in 1997 with a major in political science. From there, she took a year to do administrative work for the regional offices of the Reformed Church of America and then attended Duke Divinity School in Durham, N.C.

“As I was finishing college, I wasn’t quite sure what to do,” Elliott said. “During that year (out of college), I realized that the part of political science that was most interesting to me was the intersection of politics and faith issues, and the best place to study that intersection would be in a program in Christian ethics.”

Her studies in Christian ethics led her to work for a program in theology and medicine as a research associate, and a year and a half later, she earned her position at Eastern University in St. Davids, Pa., as the director of advising in first-year programs. She also eventually taught Christian ethics and the first-year seminar at Eastern.

After 10 years at Eastern, Elliott has now returned to the city she grew up in and graduated from. Her family life started close to NW, too. While a student at NW, she met her husband, Greg, and they married after college. They now have three children, Victoria, Annalise and Micah, who are both under the age of 5.

Elliott’s story of her homecoming, though filled with loss, is one students may find inspiration from. “My mother passed away in December,” Elliott said. “And when we were (here) visiting for her funeral, my dad had said, ‘I’d sure like it if you’d think about coming back to Orange City.’ And I said to him, ‘That would be great, Dad, but what would we do? I couldn’t even envision what we would do job-wise.’

Around the same time, Elliott felt a need for a change in her career.

“I loved my position at Eastern, but I had been doing it for 10 years,” Elliott said. “I felt it was time to take on a new challenge and to think about ways that I could grow and use my gifts in other directions.”

Still thinking about both her father’s words and her own feelings, Elliott then received news of her father’s sickness in February. From there, she and her husband started looking for jobs in northwest Iowa in order to take care of her father.

“The first person I called was John Brogan, who I had known while I was a student,” Elliott said. “I asked him, ‘So, do you know anything that’s going to be opening up at NW?’ And he was like, ‘Well...’”

See “Vermeer” on Page 5

Julie Vermeer Elliott is the new dean of students at Northwestern. Her office is located in the Student Development Office in the RSC.
FROM PAGE 1

“I slowly realized there was a lot of work that went into it,” Calsbeek said.

Shin’s favorite piece began as a present from her parents.

“I studied the blanket everyday, but didn’t know what to do with it,” Shin said.

After frequenting art and history museums and taking many pictures, Shin came across an exhibit of British paper jackets originally used as protection against the elements, much the same as the blanket that Shin’s parents used in South Korea.

Not only has Shin constructed three jackets from her parent’s blanket, but she has also taken the lining of the blanket and placed it in a small plexiglass box in front of the jackets. The fabric within the box is 100% percent un-dyed cotton, which Shin says is a rarity in the United States.

“I added the cotton lining to show its color and rawness, and it’s still a part of the jackets,” Shin stated.

The exhibit was a product of Shin’s summer break and time spent planning during the school year.

“I want students to see the process,” Shin said. “The work is taxing, but by spending more time on the process you will get a better result.”

Calsbeek said: “It’s exciting, to have the professors teach, give advice and finally get to see their side of things. Once you learn what she did to create everything, it takes on a whole new level of meaning.”

Also included among Shin’s pieces are pencil sketches of a previous workplace of her father’s and paintings which she coated in resin.

And as for her next exhibit, Shin said, “I’m always thinking.”

Reconstructive – Memory Process will be in the Te Paske Gallery on campus until Sept. 13.

DOCUMENTARY SETS THE STAGE FOR ONE DIRECTION

By Jana Latchaw

“1-D” fanatics and the parents who are forced to come along. “One Direction: This Is Us” allows the audience to see and understand a popular boy band as real people and not just cardboard cutouts.

“1-D” fanatics and the parents who are forced to come along. “One Direction: This Is Us” allows the audience to see and understand a popular boy band as real people and not just cardboard cutouts.

All in all, the film is able to entertain both pre-teen “1-D” fanatics and the parents who are forced to come along. “One Direction: This Is Us” allows the audience to see and understand a popular boy band as real people and not just cardboard cutouts.

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JANA LATCHAW

“When I’m sad, I know they’re here for me.”

“I know they love me, even though they don’t know me!”

The two crazed 14-year-old One Direction fans quoted above are shown with tears streaming down their faces during the new 3-D documentary about the band, “One Direction: This Is Us.” Unfortunately, 14-year-old girls are not their only fans. Shown in the crowds of nearly 65,000 screaming fans is enough to make Screaming girls aside, this documentary is admittedly quite astounding. This Is Us tells a story of five average teenage boys. After their loss on the show in 2010, Cowell made it his personal goal to see that this was not the end of One Direction.

One Direction approaches the music industry differently than most bands—they don’t write their own music. They’re great singers, but more like manufactured entertainers than traditional artists. Although most bands need to please their audience while simultaneously putting their heart and soul into their music, One Direction simply has to show up to the recording studio. Which is not necessarily bad, just different.

When it comes to spectacle, the 3-D is surprisingly impressive. However, the only portions of the movie filmed in 3-D are the concerts; the majority was turned into 3-D in post-production. Directed by Morgan Spurlock of “Super Size Me,” the 3-D allows this film to present more than simple concert footage.

Going from working in a bakery to singing in an arena filled with 65,000 screaming fans is enough to make anyone self-indulgent, yet the boys of One Direction seem to have their heads on straight. For most of the movie, they are shown goofing around and being an average group of teenage boys.

“I am their dad on the road,” says Paul Higgins, the band’s tour manager.

Interviews with the families of each of the five boys are sprinkled throughout the movie.

“This is the fifth day he’s been home since leaving for “The X-Factor,”” says Anne Cox, mother of Harry Styles.

These interviews were a unique peek into the struggles that accompany the glamour of fame. Granted, it would be a more interesting documentary if they touched more on the inner turmoil that fame puts on a family, but it’s a pleasant surprise they touched on it at all.

All in all, the film is able to entertain both pre-teen “1-D” fanatics and the parents who are forced to come along. “One Direction: This Is Us” allows the audience to see and understand a popular boy band as real people and not just cardboard cutouts.

Rating: ★★★
The Mortal Instruments is next installment in teen-romance craze

BY THERESA LARRABEE
August 21st marks the day that the youngest new adult novel-turned-movie released. It, of course, has all the workings of a great teen fantasy movie: werewolves, vampires, demons and unique outfits. Placed in modern day New York, The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones follows Clary Fray, played by Lily Collins (Mirror Mirror), on her journey to realizing that there is more to the world than what we can see.

Some would liken it to the Twilight Saga, but although its cast also includes Jamie Campbell Bower (Twilight, Sweeney Todd), it is definitely in a whole other category. With Harry Potter and Twilight being over and the young adult world anxiously awaiting the next Hunger Games installment, City of Bones came just in time to break up the monotony. It is a combination of the paranormal from Twilight, fighting of The Hunger Games and magic of Harry Potter with a few twists of its own. However, it one-ups these other series when it comes to love, Love triangles? Please, that is so last year. Try a love pentagon.

Imagine going to a club and witnessing a murder in the middle of the dance floor. A murder that no one, not even those dancing around it could see – because you are the only one who can see the murders. Clary thinks she is going insane.

However, when Jace, the very attractive demon- killing Shadowhunter, tells her that there are all sorts of paranormal species living right under her nose, she's pretty sure that he is the crazy one.

With the disappearance of her mother, though, she has no choice but to believe him. They team up with a group of friends and set out to save her. They soon find that Clary's mother was taken by Valentine, an ex-Shadowhunter who wants to "purify" his race. A personal twist is added when Claire realizes that she is Valentine’s daughter.

If you haven’t read the books, written by Cassandra Clare, you can still enjoy the movie. If you have read the books, the movie sticks to them fairly well, but you may find yourself a bit disappointed at times. Like all adaptations, they skip things and change the story to fit their budget, but the casting was excellent. Even the actors who didn’t meet my vision of the characters managed to make the part their own.

They managed to cast people who are not only good actors, but also look the part. Admittedly, the acting was a bit shaky in spots, like when Clary begs Magnus to help her, it just sounded like she was reading off her script, not interpreting the words. The fight scenes, although fun to watch, were not exactly realistic. For example, you can’t keep fighting when you are being yanked down a banquet table by one of your arms and hiding behind a refrigerator door probably would not protect you from an explosion. Luckily, the directors made up for it with some impressive animation and gruesome demons.

Overall, City of Bones has room for improvement, but fits in well with today’s paranormal romance craze. It keeps you interested all the way through and, although you may not want to preorder tickets for the next installment, you will probably rent or buy the DVD when it comes out.

Rating: ★★★

Anime-inspired Skullgirls disappoints

BY JOSHUA DOUGLASS
I am not very good at fighters. That is not to say I don’t like them. A bit of video game violence never hurt anyone, and the genre sure has plenty to offer. I just find myself unable to wrap my head around them. Skullgirls, a cartoonish slugfest from Lab Zero Games, is no exception. Frankly, the roster is disappointing in an age where rosters numbering in the 20s are standard. The aforementioned DLC promises to help this, increasing the number to 13.

As I said before, I am not very good at fighters, yet the game is simple enough at entrance. It helps that there are extensive tutorials, something that is a welcome inclusion missing from most fighters. You have punches and kicks in light, medium and heavy flavors. These are combined to form different special moves. Combos are formed, and barrages are finished with capstone attacks used by sacrificing attacks in light, medium and heavy flavors. These are combined to form different special moves. Combos are formed, and barrages are finished with capstone attacks used by sacrificing

“Northwestern tells you to try everything; I think I’ll try staff infection.”
- Freshman Michael Johnson

“Come on, picket fences are weird. Nobody really wants that.”
- Senior Micheal Simmelink on the American dream
Features

Summer of Service students share stories

Junior Betsy Wallin spent her summer in Bolivia working with International Teams. "There was never really one moment where I can look and say that I was comfortable," Wallin said. "As soon as it was comfortable, God made sure it was uncomfortable really fast."

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Senior Rachel Nysetvold lived in Albania with Rainbows of Hope where she learned to enjoy their way of life. "I like the spontaneity of the culture, and the time we had to build relationships because you didn't have any other responsibilities," she said.

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Senior Kelsey Doornenbal lived in Bengalor, India working with Rahab's Rope.

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Junior Valor Gorans served in Bolivia with International Teams.

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Kelsey Martinez and Andrea Anderson lived in Haiti working with Children of the Promise.

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Senior Darci Jansen lived in Bengalor, India working with Rahab’s Rope, a group that ministers to women rescued from sex-trafficking. "I saw how much hurt and brokenness there is, but also God’s unconditional love for everyone," Jansen said.

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Senior Bradley Smith ministered in Nice, France. These are some young men who worked at a ministry run by the church he attended in France. On what he learned, he said, "Don’t be cynical. I was very cynical and skeptical about a lot of things regarding my faith and evangelism. There were a lot of instances where I saw God at work."

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Senior Kiersten Van Whye worked at a Greek Bible College in Athens, Greece. In this photo, she is pictured scanning books into the library’s system. "I would go again in a heartbeat if it presented itself," Van Whye said.

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Senior Audrey Hagge and junior Emma Wynja served in a hospital with the Luke Society in Ghana. "I learned a lot about finding joy this summer," Wynja said. "To be grateful for the things I have in my life."

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Kelsey Martinez and Andrea Anderson lived in Haiti working with Children of the Promise.
Features

The 411 on the Red411

BY LIZ KOTICH

Technology has changed at a rapid pace in the past decades. Some professors on campus would be able to tell thrilling stories about brick-sized cell phones, VHS tapes and possibly even record players. Students nowadays quickly lose interest in outdated equipment such as PowerPoint once used for presentations everywhere.

Student Activities Council intern senior Becca Wicks, along with Director of Student Programs Aaron Beadner, have created the RED411, an original video series played every Monday. The RED411 is a new and engaging way to engage students and make sure they know about what is happening on campus.

Wicks, who is currently one of the few people working on the RED411 videos, describes the videos as “awesome and engaging.”

If a student should miss Monday chapel, the RED411 videos can be accessed by students on the Student Activities Council’s page on MyNorthwestern. The videos can also be found on the RED411 YouTube page.

“I think the videos are a really cool way to engage students and make sure they know about what is happening on campus,” said Wicks. “We would love for people to tell us about any games or events so that we can make sure the students know about them.”

The RED411 is a different approach of students telling other students about campus events in a fun and creative way. The Student Activities Council is excited to be able to get information to students in time for them to participate. It also encourages students who want to help to talk to a Council member.

“We would love for more people to help make the videos and make them a better source of information for all students,” said Wicks.

Fresh advice from seniors

BY ELLIOTT JOHNSON

Ah, freshman year! Where the future is so bright and parents carry on about how much their son or daughter has grown up. Upperclassmen are reconnecting with friends they have not seen in months and sharing stories that produce gut-wrenching laughter. College seems like such a wonderful and joyous place. Well, it’s usually all unicorns and chocolate milk until the first week of classes rolls around. Then, the campus becomes a maze of buildings and classrooms, where the reward for finding your way around is a nice hour-long lecture. Not to mention that the information might not fly right over your head. The big, bad college monster can really mess with a freshman’s first year, but not this year. Never fear: The senior class is here! Seniors are filled with information on how to survive classes and even some advice on how to live a little after they are over.

“I would say to a freshman not to freak out if they don’t have their life in order or planned out. Just enjoy your freshman year. Make new friends, experience new things, learn new subjects, find what you really enjoy, and pursue that. Basically, don’t take your life too seriously, and don’t be stupid.”

- Josh Horstman

“Enter with the mind-set that you want to leave NWC a better place than it was when you came. Invest yourself in your classes, dorms, friendships and spiritual life. You will reap the rewards for the time you devote.”

- Zach Wittenberg

“One thing that I didn’t do a lot of, that I wasn’t very good at, was getting involved. Take advantage of wing activities and spend time with the people that you’ll live with, even if you hate them. You never know when you might need them or when they might need you.”

- Jeriah Dunk

“Don’t feel like you have to meet everybody on campus in your first couple weeks. That will come. First, invest deeply in the people that are closest around you.”

- Adam Potter

Vermeer Elliott comes home

FROM PAGE 1

Although her father passed away before they moved, things still fell into place; her husband received a job offer two days before she did, and she and her family then moved back to Orange City. For Elliott, being back in Orange City is literally being back at home; she and her family moved into the house Elliott grew up in. Now her role as the dean of students at NW has her overseeing most aspects of student life that are outside the classroom. As a former student, Elliott loves seeing what makes the faculty, staff and administration work alongside the role of educating students.

“I’ve been really impressed at how capable people are here and how committed they are to the mission and to the students,” Elliott said. “I really see the heart that they have for this place.”

Elliott hopes students experience a “seamless learning experience” in which collaboration between academic life and life outside the classroom becomes a reality. Her personal experience at NW and her love for the institution is apparent in her advice for students.

“I hope that they understand how important the four years here are in shaping them for the rest of their lives,” Elliott said. “I think sometimes students just coast through college and don’t really seize that opportunity, and I think if you walk in as a freshman and you leave as essentially the same person, then you haven’t gotten the most out of your experience. I want them to embrace the opportunity that they have and be open to the growth and change they will experience.”
BY MEGAN HUTSON
So there’s this group on campus called Campus Ministry. I thought they were the people who stood on the stage in chapel singing and playing instruments. I thought they were the ones in charge of leading the D-Group Bible studies and that I could just watch from a distance, appreciate their talents and clap for them from my comfortable seat after they concluded their speeches and songs.

Then, this past spring I found out there’s a branch of Campus Ministry in saying that we want you to get involved in some way with a D-Group, an SSP/SOS, the Worship Team or our Justice & Service Ministry.

Obviously, I am biased that you should participate in some part of Campus Ministry, but I would also mention there are many other organizations on campus. They all have great intentions, and you have the opportunity to be a part of an enriching program here at Northwestern.

Go to the Northwestern home page, and click on “Campus Life.” Under the slideshow of photos on the right (under “Get Involved”), you can click on any of those items and learn ways to become more involved.

Now that you have no excuses left about not knowing what there is to do on campus, you may be asking why to get involved. For this answer, we go to God’s Word. In Matthew 22, Jesus is asked by a Pharisee, “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and foremost commandment. The second commandment is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”

Campus Ministry provides opportunities to do both. So why not get involved?

Have an opinion and want to share it with campus? Contact Kaitlin Floerchinger at kaitlin.floerchinger@nwciowa.edu

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Opinion

BY JENN VANDER VEEN

After three years, I am finally a senior in college. Every time I think about it, I cannot believe it is real. I feel as if it was just yesterday that I came in as a scared little freshman who did not have a clue what was going on, loved college life and never wanted to leave this place. Now I am on the other side of the spectrum. I am only here for the fall semester, and then I am off to go student teach in Denver. Although I have loved almost every minute of my college career here at Northwestern, I am without a doubt ready to leave and begin the next journey that God has in store for me.

The word “senioritis” is thrown around a lot throughout the senior class. What does it mean? Is it even a real thing?

In my opinion, it is a very real thing. After a certain amount of time and studying, enough is enough, and you just get sick of doing it all the time. I think I speak for the majority of seniors when I say that homework becomes less of a priority as time goes on and graduation approaches. It’s not that I don’t care about school and the work anymore; it’s just that I am tired of doing it all the time, and I am ready for a change.

I live in the Bolks Apartments with five awesome roommates and couldn’t be more excited to live with them all for a semester. I lived in the apartments my sophomore year and absolutely loved it. I unfortunately had to move back to the dorms last year as a junior. At first I wasn’t thrilled about the idea of having to go back to the dorms after living in an apartment and having more freedom and space.

There are things that I love about both living situations. There are always people around in the dorms, and that can be great at times, and other times you just need some quiet and alone time. Personally, I would much rather live in the apartments. I love cooking and baking, so I obviously enjoy the fact that there is a full kitchen in my apartment to cook my own food whenever I want to have a break from eating at the cafe. Let’s be honest; after three years of eating the same food every day, it’s nice to have the option not to.

Once you become a senior, your perspective on a lot of things changes. The “real world” becomes more of a reality with the filling out of applications and searches of jobs. The pressures of dating and getting married are stronger for some, and there is always the question of whether or not you want to be the person who lives at home after college.

My senioritis is kicking in hard-core right now; I am ready for the next part of my college career in Denver and the next chapter in life. It’s scary and exciting.

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Volleyball squad aims to add to program's history

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
SPORTS EDITOR

Coming into the 2013 campaign, the Northwestern volleyball squad must shake off a dip in performance from 2012. Although the squad finished fifth in the GPAC and compiled a 21-10 record, its first-round loss to Midland University left the team two years removed from its last trip to the national tournament.

Senior Claire Roenser said the team’s high expectations include taking home the GPAC Championship.

“We are also hoping to go undefeated through all conference games,” Roenser said. “We expect commitment and confidence from our teammates, which allows us to trust one another on and off the court.”

Roenser, senior Nicole Jacobs, freshman Jillian Estes and freshman Bria Sweeney will all see time in the back row anchored by junior libero Alexis Bart. Bart received first team all-conference honors last season after leading the GPAC with 4.7 digs per set. Following a win against Buena Vista University on Wednesday night, the Raiders sit at 8-1 this season. They will travel to Hastings, Neb., this weekend.

Junior Kaitlin Floerchinger swings away on Wednesday night against Buena Vista. Floerchinger led NW in kills in 2012.

NW motivated by disappointment on pitch

BY ISAIAH TAYLOR

The Northwestern Red Raider men’s soccer team finished last season disappointed and highly motivated. According to many of the players, their loss in the first round of last season’s GPAC Tournament burned a memory into the players’ minds.

“Last season was pretty successful,” senior defender Matt Dowie said. “We finished third in the conference, and overall we thought we had a successful season. It didn’t end up how we wanted it to. We definitely held on to that in the off season and it pushed us in our workouts, and now we are looking at this season as a new one and improving on that finish.”

The Raiders finished the season 11-5-2 (6-3-1 in conference). The current record is 1-3.

Despite losing some valuable players to graduation, the Raiders return 13 seniors and 21 juniors, which gives them plenty of depth and experience to build on last season’s playoff appearance.

“We are all one body; everyone is equal,” Twitty said. “From seniors on down, we are all one unit, and nobody is superior to anyone else, from the captains on down.”

The Raiders open their season on a long road trip to Muskogee, Okla., to play Bacone College on Saturday night. The game begins at 6 p.m.

Raiders must fill voids to repeat success

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA

Last season, the Red Raider football team reached the playoffs for the first time since 2006 and finished with an impressive 9-3 record.

“We want to get back to the playoffs,” said senior linebacker Isaiah Twitty. “To do that, we have to push it to that next level in practices and not only get back to the playoffs, but advance further.”

Northwestern dropped its first round playoff game to Marion University of Marion, Ind. Marion went on to defeat Morningside College in the national championship game.

For the first time in four years, the Raiders will be without Brandon Smith in the offensive backfield. The 2013 graduate finished his career third on NW’s all-time rushing list with 4,207 yards. Returning for NW is senior running back Theo Bartman, who ran for 1,287 yards last season and is expected to carry an even bigger load. Senior quarterback Davis Bloemendaal also returns to the quarterback position that he has held for the past two seasons.

On defense, the Raiders will be without standout defensive tackle Jordan Carlson, who won last season’s GPAC Defensive Player of the Year award. However, returning notables such as Twitty and senior cornerback Jerel Kyles will fill the void. Twitty recorded a team high 64 tackles and four sacks last season. Kyles, a four-year starter, was an All-GPAC pick last season.

“Guys like (Carlson) and (Smith) will definitely be missed, but at the same time, we have guys that have practiced against and learned from them the last few seasons that are ready to step in,” Twitty said. “Their time has come, and we expect them to play very well.”

Monthly viewing of some valuable players to graduation, the Raiders return 13 seniors and 21 juniors, which gives them plenty of depth and experience to build on last season’s playoff appearance.

“We are all one body; everyone is equal,” Twitty said. “From seniors on down, we are all one unit, and nobody is superior to anyone else, from the captains on down.”

The Raiders open their season on a long road trip to Muskogee, Okla., to play Bacone College on Saturday night. The game begins at 6 p.m.

Junior Kaitlin Floerchinger swings away on Wednesday night against Buena Vista. Floerchinger led NW in kills in 2012.

Full Red Raider coverage at:
Beacon.nciowa.edu

• Women’s soccer
• Cross country
looks to continue last season’s success
fills gaps left by graduation

Sophomore Ryan Johnson pokes the ball past Davenport’s keeper on Saturday. Johnson’s goal brought the game even at 1-1, but the Raiders fell 3-1 in the end.

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Remaking Ramaker (and other renovations)

BY ERIN VAN HORN

The sound of the coffee machine at the new DeWitt Learning Commons was almost strangely sputtered out the next order. Around a table, students engaged in a conversation about their week while others walked by in search of a new place to study.

Already, students have voiced concern that, in comparison to Ramaker, the Learning Commons is too loud.

“We’re working actively now to designate areas to have conversations and others for studying,” Provost Jasper Lesage said. “We knew we couldn’t solve the problem until we knew the patterns. We have a pretty good idea of how that will be solved.”

Despite complaints about the noise level, Common Grounds barista Taylor Johnston said he thinks Common Grounds is a good thing to have and that most people are excited about it.

“Coffee addicts would definitely say it’s a good thing,” Johnston said. “My favorite drink is a blended caramel latte.”

So how does the Learning Commons measure up to Ramaker Library in the eyes of Northwestern students?

“I thought it was going to be exactly like Ramaker, except a bigger space,” said sophomore Emily Culver. “The atmosphere is very calm and very modern, not old or stuffy. It makes me want to get down and study.”

Now that the Learning Commons is finished, plans are being made for the old Ramaker Library.

“Ramaker will be office and student space,” Lesage said. “It will house student life, campus ministry, international and intercultural development, career development, global education, service learning and student activities.”

Ramaker will also have conference rooms, lounging space and a much bigger red room, which won’t actually be red.

The Mini Gym

Squeaky sneakers, students huddled together in the Rowenhorst Student Center to work on a project and waves of sound coming and going as the Hub doors open and close; these are a few RSC quirks that students have come to know.

However, many haven’t gotten used to this gym. Once the remodel is complete, NW students can expect to see several distinct changes.

“The racquetball courts will be totally redone,” Lesage said. “One of the key things is the separation of the weight room and exercise room from the general public.”

The Mini Gym remodel has been highly anticipated by many students.

“I’m excited for it,” Gildersleeve said. “It looks like there will be a lot of additions for the students to use weight machines and aerobic machines.”

Although the Mini Gym isn’t projected to be completely finished by its opening on Sept. 27, the administration does not seem too concerned.

“People won’t even notice it,” Lesage said.

The Mini Gym remodel is just one step in the process of renovating NW’s physical activity facilities. The new athletics practice and training area is in the very beginning stages and is currently projected to be finished by January 2015.

“It’ll be flexible space,” Lesage said. “It will include a weight room and conditioning space for athletes, a putting green and hitting nets for golf, batting and pitching cages for baseball and softball and a multipurpose area in which to practice.”

Students are already establishing their favorite study spots in the new Learning Commons.

PHOTO BY EMILEE BERRY

By Erin Van Horn

Around Campus

Hope Haven

Hope Haven, an organization that works with adults and children with disabilities, will be on campus to recruit part-time workers on Tuesday, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Blood Drive

There will be a blood drive on Tuesday, Sept. 10 and Wednesday, Sept. 11 from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Bultman Center.

Shootout

The deadline to register for the Wild West Shootout Challenge is Monday, Sept. 9. The Challenge will begin on Thursday, Sept. 11 at 8 a.m. For more information visit http://nsurvey.nwciowa.edu/n/zzzfc.aspx.

The Wild West Hoedown will begin with supper on Wednesday, Sept. 11 at 5 p.m. on the green outside West Hall. Square dancing is to follow and will go until 8 p.m.

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Soccer

Northwestern women’s and men’s soccer teams will take on Jamestown on Saturday, Sept. 7 at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Chapel

Monday

• Brianna and Nathan Martin, Cambodia

Tuesday

• Brianna and Nathan Martin, Cambodia

Wednesday

• Advancement staff
• Spanish chapel

Friday

• Rev. Carl Boersma, Brookings, SD

PHOTO BY EMILEE BERRY

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