10 years of RUSH to be celebrated

BY EMILY WALLACE

The upcoming performances of RUSH will mark the 10-year anniversary of what has become one of Northwestern’s most popular rituals.

RUSH was originally founded by Corinne (Mings) Christian, Becky Fanning Donahue and Heather Sidney—three NW alumni from ‘03.

“The founders wanted to create a space for those with experience and those without to have fun with dance,” said junior Rowan Sullivan, RUSH stage manager.

Rumors have been circulating around campus that the founders will possibly perform at this year’s RUSH to celebrate the anniversary.

“I don’t want to kill all the surprises, but the founders will be attending the performances,” Sullivan said. “They are coming back to see what the show has become because when they started it was nothing.”

The founders created RUSH because they were all involved in the theater program at NW.

“The theater department pushes students to sponsor programs,” Sullivan said. “They wanted an outlet for dance.”

Only 15 students signed up to participate the first year of RUSH. By its second year, the program had become so popular that auditions had to be held. Now in its 10th year, RUSH has evolved into an elaborate production involving more than 100 students.

The planning process is broken up into three branches: producer, stage manager and choreography director. According to Sullivan, planning is taxing on the students involved.

“I will probably spend three to five hours a day the week before RUSH working on it and around two hours a day two weeks beforehand,” Sullivan said. “The week of RUSH is just crazy.”

Even those who did not participate in the planning have spent many hours working on RUSH to put on an impressive show for their audience.

See “Founders” on Page 8

“Life” is a show for all ages

BY JACKSON NICKOLAY

The Northwestern College Theatre department will open the season this weekend with its first main stage show of the children’s play “Still Life with Iris.”

The play follows the story of a little girl named Iris who lives in a magical world called Nocturno. The people of this strange world work all night to make the things that the world uses during the day. The memories and personalities of each of the citizens of Nocturno are stitched into the coats they wear. If any part of a coat is damaged or hurt, its wearer could lose a part of his or her memory.

Throughout the course of the play, Iris loses her coat and is forced to go on a journey of discovery in an attempt to find herself again and remember who she truly is.

Jonathan Sabo, Professor of Theatre and Speech at NW and the scenic designer for the show says, “Probably the biggest theme is ‘Who am I without my past or my memories?’ Because without those, [Iris] is nothing.” Iris faces this crisis of identity with very little to depend on and, at first, no one to share her journey with.

See “Children’s” on Page 2

Famous jazz musician to perform

BY DELANEY DUGGER

Northwestern College will be hosting the famous clarinetist Doreen Ketchens and her jazz band, Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans, at Raider Days homecoming this Friday, Sept. 27. The band will perform at 8:30 p.m. on the campus green and will also have a jazz workshop for music students at 4:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel.

Members in Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans band include herself on clarinet; her husband, Lawrence, on tuba; Dwayne Nelson on drums; Paul Kmnitz on guitar; and Pete Hittle on the trumpet.

Ketchens’ band has quite the reputation following them. It has produced 21 CDs and 3 DVDs. Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans has performed throughout the United States and in Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and Russia. The group has also had the privilege of performing for four U.S. presidents, including Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush Sr. and Bill Clinton. Along with these prestigious performances, the band also plays at many schools to educate students of all languages on the culture and music of New Orleans.

Ketchens is connected to Orange City through Gary Bouma. Bouma grew up in Orange City and graduated from Northwestern. He taught at Unity Christian High School from 1964 through 1968 and at Dordt College from 1969 through 1985.

“I met Doreen in 2001, on the streets of New Orleans,” Bouma said. “I was there judging a music contest and happened to hear her band playing in the French Quarter while I was on break.”

See “Jazz” on Page 5

Page 2: Review of “Insidious Chapter 2”

Page 4: Thrive Workshops aim to help students thrive

Page 7: Volleyball beats Dordt

Page 3: Margo Vanderhill art show

Page 5: Ramaker renovations

Page 8: Get the dish on the new taco stand in town
Second *Insidious* film falls short of scary

**MOVIE REVIEW**

BY THERESA LARRABEE

Two years have gone by since the first “Insidious” movie was released, yet as “Insidious Chapter 2” opens, it has been mere days since the Lambert family got their son back from a demonically induced coma. Unfortunately, the nightmare is not over for this family. When Josh Lambert, played by Patrick Wilson (“The Conjuring,” “The A-Team”), went into The Further, the spiritual realm where these demons reside, he brought something back with him. Something that needs him and his family to die in order to live again.

The highlight of the film is that the ghosts and other special effects, both in The Further and in the real world, were well done and convincing.

The movie as a whole, however, fell short of being scary. There were many times when the movie was building, and viewers were prepared to be spooked but were disappointed.

Everything was too convenient, even for a scary movie. When characters got in trouble, they just happened to know what to do or had met a conveniently helpful person twenty years ago. Predictable scenes such as creepy basements, tooth-pulling sessions and “something” in the closet were too unrealistic to actually be scary.

In the end, “Insidious Chapter 2” is your average scary movie. You’ll jump a few times, probably cover your face for a bit, and constantly ask the characters “Why would you do that?!”

Rating: ★★

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**FROM PAGE 1**

However, Iris is not alone for long. In her search for her past, she meets a variety of characters, including a lost Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, an imprisoned pirate and Great Goods, the infamous ruler of Nocturno itself.

Gerrit Wilford, a sophomore, plays the role of Grotto Good, the self-proclaimed king of Nocturno.

“Grotto is just crazy,” Wilford said. “It’s like Nocturno. The children will love this show,” said sophomore Brianne Hassman, the stage manager for the play. “There are magical moments in the show, and kids will just love this kind of magical theatrical experience. Then older people will enjoy that but also get the deeper themes of the play. So I think it’s a great show for all ages.”

Senior Rachel Hanson and freshman Amanda Hays prepare for this week’s opening of Still Life of Iris.

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**Children’s show offers playful fun, honest poignancy**

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Rating: ★★

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**This week in music**

**A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

**BY IAN CARD**

**CHER: CLOSER TO THE TRUTH**

Cher released her 24th studio album this week. *Closer to the Truth* features incredibly synthesized tracks that are reminiscent of the disco dance ball anthems she has relied on for much of her career. The music itself is less than impressive; the vocals have been heavily patched up with autotune and corrective post-production touch-ups. That being said, credit has to be given to someone who is 67 years old and still producing studio albums and going on tour.

Rating: ★★

**ELTON JOHN: THE DIVING BOARD**

Elton John, one of the most recognizable names in music, released his 30th studio album *The Diving Board* this week. The album takes an unplugged, stripped-down approach, and most of the songs are led and fueled by Elton’s piano and vocals. Upon release, it didn’t receive a lot of positive review, but honestly, at this stage in his career, he has absolutely nothing left to prove to anyone.

Rating: ★★★

**KINGS OF LEON: MECHANICAL BULL**

Kings of Leon, well-known for their raw, unpolished, Southern boogie-rock sound released their sixth studio album, *Mechanical Bull*, this week. The sound of the album is signature Kings of Leon and combines garage-band rock and Southern rock with touches of influence from gospel and blues. In comparison to previous efforts, the band sounds more polished, more energetic and presents a fresh sense of authenticity. The band’s recent two-year hiatus seems to have been exponentially beneficial.

Rating: ★★★★

**DRAKE: NOTHING WAS THE SAME**

Drake, the rapper responsible for producing anthem-like yet migraine-inducing singles such as “The Motto,” has dropped his third studio album *Nothing Was The Same*. One of Drake’s distinctions from other rappers of his time has always been his deep emotion. He has established himself as a self-aware, introspective artist. The songs are about loneliness, regret; yet Drake presents an undeniable sense of pride that borders on arrogance. He runs the gambit between R&B and hip-hop and does a rather successful job of blending the two.

Rating: ★★★★
Vanderhill highlights local beauty with new art exhibit

Vanderhill's oil pastel drawings feature realistic landscape settings from right here in rural Iowa.

**MOVIE REVIEW**

*Prisoners* delivers heartbreak and horror

**BY MEGAN VIPOND**

It’s Thanksgiving dinner. Two families are gathered to share the day as they joke and play together. Two young girls decide to go grab something from a second house but don’t return. Suddenly Thanksgiving has turned from the ideal get together to a nightmare.

Viewers of the new film *Prisoners* follow Keller Dover (Hugh Jackman) as he does whatever it takes to get his daughter back — whether it’s legal or not. Detective Loki (Jake Gyllenhaal) has been assigned to the case, and his record says that he always gets the job done and the case solved. This time, however, Loki has his work cut out for him. Dover demands results and then seeks them out on his own. But will their efforts be in vain? Will they be able to find the two girls before it’s too late?

This new fast-paced crime thriller is not for the faint of heart. The twists and turns are sure to make the audience ask the question: “How far would I go if this situation affected my family?”

A few small quirks prove to be distracting from the main plot: a stray artistic shot that didn’t quite fit or acting choices that surely helped to build character but were never explained or justified. Though noticeable, these distractions were few and far between.

The movie delivered what it promised (maybe even a bit too much). It is more graphic than expected, with scenes involving torture and injuries that are unarguably disturbing. However, these scenes help tell a realistic story of a man desperate to keep his family united and a kidnapper who sees the world through a skewed lens.

*Prisoners* is sure to quiet a room, and is well worth the cost of a movie ticket.

**Rating:** 🍊🍊🍊🍊

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**Campus Quotes**

"I'm an Asian, speaking Spanish, with a Dutch last name, making American food. Diversity at its finest."

- Self-reflection from junior Jill Kleinhesselink.

"It's like an apple, but it's a pear."

- Senior Kaitlein Floerchinger. Submitted via Twitter by @brookefes5

"Please don't put anything in the Beacon about my obsession with girlbands. It's not true."

- Professor Mike Kugler in Historical Perspectives

"If CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) becomes established on campus, will that overstep our own campus ministries?"

- Thought-provoking words from senior Aaron DeBoer.

"Katy Perry will love us."

- Professor Jonathan Sabo in reference to the cotton candy-colored floor for the upcoming play. Submitted via Twitter by @emeganagal
DeWitt family passionate about Northwestern

BY JORDAN DUKSTRA

Even before donating large sums of money for Learning Commons, the DeWitt family has been a household name on campus. The chapel, music hall and theater building were some of the more recent projects completed with large DeWitt contributions. Surprisingly, not a single member of the DeWitt family has ever attended Northwestern.

For Jack and Mary DeWitt, for whom the Learning Commons is named, Northwestern is a special place.

“Whenever we visit this campus, you can really see the difference in the students and staff,” Mary DeWitt said. “You can see it in their eyes, actions, the respect they show and their love for Jesus. It really sets it apart from other colleges and universities.”

Although none of the DeWitt’s ever attended Northwestern, Jack recalled a time when he visited Northwestern with his father in the 1980s.

“I was working at our Storm Lake turkey plant at the time, and my dad took me with him on a drive to Orange City to see what Northwestern was all about,” Jack said. “We fell in love with the college and with the president, faculty and students. From then on, my parents, four siblings and I have contributed to Northwestern.”

Since their discovery, Jack and Mary have eagerly found ways to send students from the Western Michigan area to Northwestern.

“We enjoy providing scholarships to students that are striving for a Christ-centered education, and we feel that Northwestern is a tremendous opportunity for them to grow,” Mary said.

However, the recruitment within the family is a challenge the couple has taken on.

“We are still working very hard to get a DeWitt to attend Northwestern,” Jack said. “We sent one of our grandsons and five of his friends down last fall for a visit, and although they loved it, they didn’t want to be that far away from home.”

In his youth, Jack took a lot of pride in working at his father’s company, Bill Mar Foods. Bill Mar Foods was a turkey, cow, pig and chicken slaughtering operation that was started in 1938. By 1987, the company was top-three in the nation in turkey production and was sold to Sara Lee Corp.

Jack graduated from Zeeland High School in Zeeland, MI, in 1960 and chose to bypass college to continue working for his father. Although he took away a lot from his education, he said his biggest reward was Mary, his high school sweetheart. Jack and Mary married in 1964 and had five children and have 18 grandchildren.

Currently, Jack is the CEO of Request Foods out of Holland, MI. Request Foods is a division from his father’s business that produces frozen entrees and foods, which Jack purchased back from Sara Lee in 1990. The company employs more than 600 people and produces more than one million pounds of food each day. In 2010, Jack celebrated 50 years of service in the food industry.

“We’ve truly been so blessed over the years, and we feel that Northwestern is a great place to give some of that back to,” Jack said.

Jack and Mary will be in attendance during the dedication of the Learning Commons at 4 p.m. on Friday.

Students learn to thrive at college workshops

BY LIZ KOTTICH

For most incoming freshmen, faculty and staff give short, standard pieces of advice: “get plenty of sleep” or “choosing a major,” “proper financial management” and “having a healthy community in the dorms.” The workshops are a partner of the First Year Seminar classes; students in those classes are required to attend at least two of the workshops.

The workshops are put on by organizations on campus such as the Wellness Center, the Peer Learning Center, Resident Life and the Career Development Center. The various heads of these organizations present the information at the workshops. The workshops take place at 7 p.m. on Mondays and at 11:05 a.m. on Thursdays in the Vogel Community Room in the Learning Commons. Workshops will continue until Fall Break.

“I’m really happy with the subjects we chose for this year’s workshops and once they are done, we will run an assessment of the different subjects to see if we need to remove some or add some,” director of student programs Aaron Beadner said.

Although freshmen orientation weekend provides incoming students with valuable knowledge and resources for their upcoming college careers, there is simply not enough time and space to cover such a large volume of topics and material.

“We feel that the Thrive Workshops are a merger between the First Year Seminar classes and Orientation, offering information to students and a way to build community with classmates,” Beadner said.

The Thrive Workshops are open to students in all classes — not just freshmen — and run for approximately 50 minutes. Upcoming workshops are “Journeying With Jesus” on Sept. 30 and Oct. 3 and the final Workshop “Can We Be Different Together?” on Oct. 7 and Oct. 10.

“We really enjoyed going to the Thrive Workshops, especially the ‘Fostering Healthy Community’ one put on by the Resident Directors,” freshman Lindsey Schaap said. “They actually gave us reasonable answers to why community is important and how to resolve conflict instead of overused quotes and cliches.”

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Old Ramaker library undergoing renovations

BY SARAH WEDEL

This summer thousands of books were transported out of the campus’ old Ramaker Library and into the new DeWitt Learning Commons. Ramaker now stands empty in the middle of campus and has likely caused many students to wonder what will become of the old but still functional building.

A few weeks ago, a chain link fence went up around the west side of the building, and further raised curiosities about what is going to happen to Ramaker. Provost Jasper Lesage is excited to reveal the plans for the fate of the building.

When the Learning Commons was completed this summer, everything was moved out of Ramaker. Although Ramaker is older, it is still in relatively good condition, so tearing it down was not an option. With its central location on campus, administration also did not want the building to stand empty.

A strategic planning committee was formed to decide what the new use of Ramaker would be and also what remodeling would have to be done in order for the building to fulfill its new purpose. On behalf of President Christy, Lesage is the chairman of this committee.

With the approval of the board of directors, the committee has decided Ramaker will be used for the student and academic life offices. This means all of the offices in the Franken Center will be moving into Ramaker along with all of the offices located in the RSC with the exception of the education and counseling services.

“Student Life and Academic Life ought to be complementary,” Lesage said. “Putting them in the same building helps them interact better. Right now they are split, which makes it hard for them to interact.”

The current hallway through the middle of Ramaker will be widened and will lead to a new entrance on the north side of the building. The new entrance will open to a sidewalk that leads straight to the Learning Commons.

“We want to encourage students to walk through the building instead of around it,” Lesage said.

The committee, Lesage said, wants students to be able to do this, so they will see the different offices in the building. The concern right now is the office in the Franken Center will not be noticed by students. The new location in Ramaker would highlight their presence on campus.

Although many of the remodeling plans aren’t finalized, it is expected there will be spaces providing a place for students to interact. The floor plans include several student lounges. One lounge area will even feature a gas fireplace.

The student activity council, multicultural and international student affairs and the student government offices will all be moved into Ramaker. With these organizations being placed side-by-side, the students involved will cross paths more often.

If all goes according to plan, the renovations in Ramaker should be finished by next summer, and the faculty will move into their new offices by the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year. The cost of the remodeling project has not been made public yet, but Lesage said a budget has been determined.

Athletic coaches and the Kinesiology Department will use the vacated offices in the Rowenhorst Student Center. The Franken Center will be repurposed; however, what it will be used for has yet to be determined.

FROM PAGE 1

In 2004, he hired her band to play at the Morningside Jazz Festival. They then began to talk about the possibility of Bouma’s Morningside Jazz Band going to New Orleans for a week and working with her.

Hurricane Katrina hit in the fall of 2005. It took Bouma a week after the hurricane to get in contact with Ketchens. Ketchens said her band had lost pretty much everything, and it really needed work.

Morningside, the Sioux City Public Schools, NW, Dordt and the University of South Dakota all agreed to host Doreen’s Jazz for concerts. An airline agreed to fly them to Sioux City, free of charge, and the media made an effort to let everyone know about them. The band stayed in Northwest Iowa for 10 days.

The whole experience was incredible. The communities overwhelmed Doreen with their kindness and Doreen’s band overwhelmed us with their music,” Bouma said.

Ketchens’ group has since returned a few times to Orange City and has been a popular attraction each time. Doreen’s Jazz concert this weekend is being sponsored by the Orange City Arts Council, NW, Diamond Vogel Paint and Lee Ann Roetman.

“We brought (Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans) to Orange City because one of my board members, Cheryl Kugler, absolutely loved Doreen’s Jazz when they were here after Hurricane Katrina,” Janine Calsbeek, a member of the Orange City Arts Board, said.

“The music department, Aaron Beadner, Mark Bloemendaal and all of NW loved the idea of Doreen being here for homecoming weekend.”

Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans concert will take place on the green in front of Christ Chapel or inside Christ Chapel if there is rain. Admission to the event is free and open to all faculty, staff, students and family members, but the suggested donation is $5.

Jazz band performing

PHOTO BY MAWULI MACDONALD

The remodeling in Ramaker should be completed for the 2014-15 school year.
Learning Commons Response

BY KIERSTEN VAN WYHE

Last week’s Opinion article on the Learning Commons voiced a few of the complaints students have mentioned in passing lately regarding the new facility. Therefore, I thought it was time to clarify some facts regarding this “conundrum.”

“Learning Commons conundrum” decreed the huge size of the Learning Commons compared to Ramaker library. Yes, it is large. But it is more than just the library!

And did you know that the original plans were more than 15,000 square feet larger, totaling $20 million instead of the $13.4 million that it became? Northwestern sought to be good stewards of their resources and realized that the smaller redesign was sufficient.

Yes, this amount of money could have done a lot of good in other settings. But it was all funded through donations, and so those who donated chose to give their money to this cause. Who are we to say that the money could have been better spent focusing on enrollment rates in order to help salaries and other bills?

Northwestern prayerfully and strategically invested in the Learning Commons to encourage more students to enroll. Again, this money isn’t just for a building. It is an investment in the college which has a waterfall effect that benefits professors, staff and students.

In regard to all the comments about problems with the design of the building and not including students’ input, let’s clarify a few things. First, it sometimes is hard to find a seat in the Learning Commons (even with three times the seating of Ramaker). I think this is because people like it so much they go there and fill it up!

Second, there are few quiet, individual study spaces. I’ve heard this said many times, and I agree. However, the “commons” was designed to be focused more on peer collaboration in learning than individual studying.

The decision to create a gathering place for students was made by the Learning Commons task force (which included a student representative) and library staff after they solicited more than 300 student responses during the early planning stages of the facility. Students voiced a general desire for a place to comfortably study and socialize — a need the RSC wasn’t completely meeting.

Students were a vital part of the decision making process, which we as a student body then complain about. I’m simply asking for us to be thankful for the blessing that the Learning Commons is and to recognize that a lot of thoughtful planning went into this place.

BY DANI MAURER

On Mondays, I wander the Old City.

On Tuesdays, I go to the market and learn Italian.

On Wednesday, I have two courses: Italian Cooking and Everything Chocolate.

On Thursdays, I have three courses: Italian Vegetarian Cooking, Daily Life in Pompeii and Italian Language.

On Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, I travel.

Everyday, I eat gelato, of course (cheesecake, wildberry tiramisu, yogurt and nutella, cookies, almond, fig, mango, dark chocolate hazelnut).

It’s a fairly loose schedule, which leaves me many hours to fill with an assortment of activities.

I live in Florence, Italy, in an area called the Oltrarno, which is translated to “the other side of the Arno.”

The Arno is the river dividing the Old City, crowded with throngs of tourists visiting the Duomo and the Uffizi Gallery, from the area where most of the locals live.

Amidst all the different things to do, there are people to meet. This is what is currently occupying my time. I’ve come to the conclusion that Northwestern is completely justified in mentioning “community” as much as it does because establishing a community in a foreign country, with classes you have just once a week, is quite a bit more challenging.

Being intentional about making plans with potential friends is essential because visiting friends involves a 25-minute walk down shady side streets sometimes not listed on Google Maps. I’ve developed a social schedule in addition to my class schedule:

On Mondays, I have a roommate date at Dante’s (which provides free wine, t-shirts, and tiramisu to students).

On Tuesdays, I make dinner with a friend. (This week’s menu is pumpkin-filled ravioli with brown butter sage sauce.)

On Wednesdays, I Zumba with friends, then sit on the bridge and eat gelato.

On Thursdays, I have yoga with a friend and then pack my bags for traveling for the weekend.

On Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, I make new friends for the weekend. I am learning the value of close friendships, of intimate conversations and of maintaining friendships.

It is wonderful to have the opportunity to travel to all of these places (Pisa, Cinque Terre, Mammera, Isola del Giglo, Monaco and the French Riviera so far!), but it is more wonderful when you can share these moments and adventures with other people, especially friends.

I miss my friendships at Northwestern, and I wish that I could sit on benches in Monaco overlooking the sea and have conversations with them. However, it is interesting to meet people from across the country and learn about different worldviews.

Northwestern, value the friendships you have with all of the delightful, respectful people that you have around you.

This experience has made me understand the paramount importance of true friendship, and I encourage you all to seek out friends and be absolutely vulnerable with them because it is people who shape your experiences more than the location that they occur in. (Also, if you get the chance, you really should visit the French Riviera because it is the most beautiful place I have ever been.)

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Men's soccer blows out Briar Cliff 6-2 on home turf

BY JORDAN DYSKTRA
FEATURES EDITOR

On Wednesday, the Red Raider Men's Soccer team came out on top 6-2 against conference rival Briar Cliff. The Raiders improved their record to 6-2 and 1-0-1 in conference play. NW outshot the Chargers by a wide margin of 36-6.

Sophomore forward Kory Korakas lit up the scoreboard with three goals on five shots. Senior defender Harri Edwards and senior midfielder Travis Systma each scored a goal. Freshman forward Wesley Lockwood tallied up six shots with two on goal.

On Saturday, the Raiders traveled to Fremont, Neb. and tied Midland 4-4. The match marked the first conference opponent for NW.

After a 1-0 shutout in the first half, NW got on the scoreboard in the 48th minute of the second half by a goal from sophomore forward Ryan Johnson. When down 2-1 in the second half, the Raiders scored again on a goal from sophomore forward Koray Korakas.

NW then went on top 3-2 a few minutes later on a goal from junior midfielder Gabriel Goncalves. After Midland tied the game up 4-4 and send the game into overtime. Although Midland was limited to only 10 men after a send off in overtime, NW did not take advantage of its numbers, and the game resulted in a draw.

“It was disappointing to get a tie after working so hard, but we faced a really good team on the road and played a solid all-around game,” said sophomore forward Ryan Johnson. Johnson led the team with nine shots with five on goal and also scored a goal.

“Any forward would be lucky to play with the midfielders that we have on this team because they provide the forwards with chances through their hard work,” Johnson said.

Senior midfielder Nick Hengst, Edwards and Korakas each tallied three shots. Korakas also scored a goal. Huyser scored his second goal of the season. Goncalves scored a goal and had two assists.

NW will take on Doane for homecoming weekend.

Volleyball squad wins tough five sets at Dordt

By Isiah Taylor

After an impressive weekend of GPAC play, the Red Raiders volleyball team faced off against a tough opponent in rival Dordt on Tuesday night.

Northwestern headed to Sioux Center on Tuesday to battle against rival Dordt while riding an 18-game winning streak.

Led in the first two sets by the upperclassmen, NW took an early 2-0 set advantage. After falling in sets three and four, a fifth and deciding set was needed. The Raiders were able to secure an early lead and maintain their advantage. They proceeded to capitalize on their opponents errors down the stretch.

Junior Kaitlein Florchinger finished the game with a career and game-high 23 kills, Schut tallied 17 kills of her own. As a team, NW was solid defensively.

They scored on five block attempts and gathered 60 digs as a team; junior Alexis Bart came up with 22 digs of her own. Sophomore setter Brooke Fessler finished the contest with 52 assists on the night.

“It was really cool seeing everyone get involved like that,” said sophomore Caitlyn Van El. “Playing Dordt is always fun, especially when we are beating them. It was great being a part of this.”

NW played a road contest against Morningside College last Friday and won the game in four sets (23-25, 25-21, 25-10, 28-26). The women were led offensively by sophomore Karlie Schut, Florchinger and sophomore Haley Chambers, who tallied 18, 15 and 11 kills, respectively.

“We are riding pretty high,” Florchinger said. “We are in a really good place right now.”

The very next night the Raider women players were a home game against Doane College. The women started strong and won the first two sets but dropped the next two forcing a deciding fifth game, which they managed to win.

NW came out strong and limited their opponents to negative kill efficiency while running streaks of 17-8 in the first set and 15-4 in the second to secure both wins.

The Raiders took an early 8-2 lead in the fifth before switching sides and closing the game on a 7-4 run.

“We are starting to see some really good things from everyone,” said Florchinger, who had a game-high 17 kills in the contest. “We have more improvements to make, but we are definitely moving in the right direction.”

The Raiders improved to 20-1 (3-0) on the season and extended their regular season win streak to 19. The win also helped improve the team’s national standing. NW moved up four spots, from No. 11 to No. 7.

The Raiders travel to Concordia today.

The men's cross country team won its 8K race on Sept. 14 at the Herb Blakely Invitational. It was the first team win for the men's squad in over 20 years.

As a squad, Northwestern scored a miniscule 22 points, just seven off a perfect 15.

Skyler Giddings won the conference's runner of the week award for medaling at the race.

- 1st - Junior Skyler Giddings - 26:34.11
- 2nd - Freshman Will Norris - 26:34.73
- 3rd - Junior Logan Hovlan - 26:34
- 8th - Sophomore Kyle Anderson - 27:09
- 10th - Sophomore Elliot Stoltz - 27:17
- 16th - Senior Zach Wittenberg - 27:30
- 18th - Senior Taylor Bodin - 27:35

Check out a recap of both women’s soccer games at beacon.nwc.edu

Sports

Men’s soccer blows out Briar Cliff 6-2 on home turf

Volleyball squad wins tough five sets at Dordt

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**A new taco’s in town**

**BY DAVID LI**

In true Orange City fashion, a taco stand has opened complete with Dutch architecture. Taco Vallarto fills a void in students’ local dining options that has existed since the closing of Cinco de Mayo in 2012.

“The taco stand is really good and has great prices,” senior Lauren Van’t Hof said. “It’s nice to have a Mexican food option in town again.”

The stand, which opened last August, is owned and operated by the family of senior Ed Sánchez-Perry, junior Leo Sánchez-Perry and freshman Rafael Sánchez-Perry. It’s named after their hometown of Puerto Vallarto, Mexico.

Their father, Gumaro Sánchez, decided to open a taco stand last year. The family looked for a location in Sheldon and Le Mars, but all the available places were too large and expensive. So when Sno Shack moved out of the small building next to the Dutch Mart gas station on Albany Avenue, it turned out to be the perfect place for Gumaro’s taco stand.

“This is technically the dream job for him,” Leo said. “He said he was going open one up no matter what, whether it was going to be here or back home in Mexico.”

During Taco Vallarto’s first weeks, Leo worked there every day. Since school has started, other people, such as their mother, María Sánchez, have been filling in.

Eventually, Gumaro would like to acquire a larger property, open a restaurant and possibly even expand to multiple locations. Currently, he’s testing the waters to see if it’s a feasible option for the future.

The stand serves tacos for $1 and burritos for $4. Customers who want meat have their choice of steak, chicken and pork. Burritos come with a variety of toppings, including Pico de Gallo, sour cream and hot or mild sauce. According to the Sánchez family, more menu items are coming soon.

Except for Sunday, Taco Vallarto is open every day from noon to approximately 8 p.m., depending on the flow of business.

**Founders of RUSH to return for 10-year anniversary**

FROM PAGE 1

“With as lighting designer, I try to make the dancers look the best that they can,” sophomore Abby McCubbin said.

“For dance lighting it usually needs to be simpler because it needs to show the form of the dancer. For me, it will take a few days to first get all of the lighting cues written in, and then it takes another day to see how it looks on the dancers and to edit it.”

The dancers themselves put a lot of their free time into the program.

“I’d say I spend eight hours a week simply practicing my dance routine,” freshman Cayla Slattery said. “That’s dedication.”

Planning for RUSH began last spring; choreographers applied and then auditioned for the three branches of the planning committee.

“We definitely put more time in it than we should have, but we wanted our dance to be the best that it could be,” junior choreographer Frankie Eszes said. “In the end, we are really proud of our dancers.”

This year, 145 students are participating in RUSH, and there are 11 dances.

“We try to get as much variety as we can in the dances,” Sullivan said.

According to sophomore Miles Fletcher, everyone should try RUSH at least once.

“I love to dance,” Fletcher said. “It’s also pretty cool at the beginning thinking, ‘Holy cow, we have a lot to learn,’ and then at the end seeing how far we have come.”

Many students choose to be a part of RUSH for more than just the dancing.

“My favorite part of RUSH, because I am a freshman, is the friendships I get to create and share with the upperclassmen,” Slattery said.

“Not to mention all the sweet dance moves I get to learn.”

Although sources won’t reveal the surprise, Sullivan said those who attend will definitely know it’s the 10-year anniversary. RUSH will take place at 7 and 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3; 7 and 9:30 p.m. on Friday; Oct. 4; and 7 and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5. For more information, contact the box office at boxoffice@nwciowa.edu.