Bahrain in unrest

BY LINDEN FIEGEE
NEWS EDITOR

After riotous outbursts and continuing violence, few would believe Bahrain to be a nation of previous peace and contentment.

While Northwestern watches the events with a foreign and disconnected eye, one of the college’s very own international students, junior Christine Roy, experiences heartfelt pain and distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitous distress as she can only hear over the phone or witness through the news of her home country’s precipitious turmoil.

Roy informed that Bahrain’s political dynamics present conflict as the monarchy’s leader is a practicing Sunni while 70 percent of Bahrainis are declared Shiites. Though disconnect is prevalent between the two religious groups, peace has been generally familiar to the Middle Eastern country.

“This outbreak is nothing like what I have seen in my 20 years of living there,” Roy confesses. “Bahrain has always been known for its peaceful and religious freedom.”

As recent protests in Egypt have resulted in apparent political progress with regards to government officiating, Bahrain hoped the same could be true for their own country.

However, the harrowing outcomes of Egypt’s short-lived disorder have not been exemplary of Bahrain’s attempts. After the beginnings of what appeared would be friendly discord, police rioted and attacked citizens, sending the country out whilst walking to class.

Junior Tanya Woodward, who is currently taking an online class from another community college in Iowa, is having a much more negative online experience. Woodward now knows the importance of having a good professor, even if one never meets the professor in person.

“My professor is unreasonable,” said Woodward. As an Elementary Education major taking an online Physics class in order to fulfill her general education requirement for science, she felt as though her professor was expecting her to know much more than is realistic for someone in her position.

“I have to design and implement my own labs, which I have never done before, and it just seems like so much to ask someone to do for a gen ed,” said Woodward. “I took this class online because I thought it would be an easier way to complete my science requirement, but the professor and the course’s setup made it harder than it should be.”

Junior Abby Korthals also expressed an interest in NW making more online courses available throughout the year as opposed to strictly in May. She took a Western Civilizations class online through Western Iowa Technical College last June, but would have preferred to have taken the class through NW’s online program. “The problem with taking Western Civilization from NW online was its starting time,” said Korthals.

Although she passed the online course easily, “I didn’t learn a thing,” said Korthals. “It was the easiest class ever.”

Online classes through NW will not have a goal of making their courses simpler or easier for students. According to Lesage, on or offline, NW plans to uphold, “the same quality in all of our classes.”

Online courses increase schedule, class flexibility

BY KATI HENG
OPINION EDITOR

There is good news for students who love their computers, or simply hate facing the negative wind chills while walking to class.

Northwestern is planning to expand its offering of online courses and allow students to take classes online during the regular school year.

It may seem odd to take online classes from a college while living on campus, but there are several advantages. “The online classes would give the students some more flexibility,” said NW Provost Jasper Lesage.

Students who have previously taken classes online from other colleges know how nice this can be. Senior Donna Keith, who took classes online from other community colleges and another local college, said flexibility was her favorite aspect of the online realm.

“I had deadlines that I had to turn assignments in by, but I could do them whenever I had the time,” said Keith.

“Another great thing about taking online classes from NW is the proximity as well as the quality of the professors. Keith’s biggest issue with her online classes was how difficult the online, impersonal format made it for her to ask questions.”

“If I had a question, I would have to e-mail the professor and wait for them to respond,” Keith said.

Crystal Hillenga, a junior, took an online class through North Iowa Area Community College and could also have benefited from having professors nearby.

When it came time for her to take tests, “I had to go to their campus, which was 30 minutes away, and take the test in their library with a proctor,” said Hillenga. “It was really inconvenient, especially in the summer with my job.”

Junior Tanya Woodward, who is currently taking an online class from another community college in Iowa, is having a much more negative online experience. Woodward now knows the importance of having a good professor, even if one never meets the professor in person.

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Submit Events

Submit your campus happenings and events to the Beacon for inclusion in this column. Submissions should be roughly 50 words or less and be e-mailed to beacon@nwciowa.edu.

NW ConServes once again

BY WES GARCIA
COORDINATING EDITOR

Beginning on Feb. 15 and ending on April 15, the campus’ consumption of water, heat and electricity will be recorded, respectively and compared to a three-year average that has been previously calculated.

Student Government will take the difference between the two numbers and render a monetary savings for the campus. On the more practical side, here’s what you can do:

Turn up the thermostat in your fridge.

Shorten your shower by one or two minutes. You will save up to 150 gallons a month.

Turn off the lights whenever you leave the room, even if it’s just to walk down the hall.

Turn off your computer at night and between classes.

Make sure any appliance with a clock or standby setting is unplugged during the day, like your CD player, cell phone charger or TV.

Unplug your gaming system during the day.

Across Campus

Speed Dating

SAC will host Speed Dating, Friday, Feb. 18 at 8:30 p.m. in the RSC mini-gym. Student ID required to enter. Come with your flirt on!

Piano Duo to Perform

Joshua Vogel, Orange City native and NW alumnus, and Fox River Academy of Music and Art colleague, Dr. Shiho Saito will perform a collection of piano duets Sunday, Feb. 20 at 3 p.m. in Christ Chapel.

Senior Art Exhibit

NW senior Breann Rozeboom will show her artwork in Te Paske Gallery, Feb. 25 through March 4.

He got it right!

The greenhouse must have seen his shadow because winter is officially passing its time. Bring out the rainboots, NW; the snow is melting, and it is time to go puddle jumping!

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Chapel

Monday

• Jack Voelkel, InterVarsity

Tuesday

• Chapel Music Team

Wednesday

• Rev. Harlan VanOort, Chaplain

Friday

• Philippines
NOT a poem about chick-flick love, Disney cartoons, or that expected-happenstances that you mistake for
a fluke

How **serendipitous**!
You reach for gum in your pocket and pull out
2 wrinkled $1 bills instead
**Hallelujah**, my friends
**Skittles** on me
How completely unexpected
When you find
The **soul** mate to your lonely sock
Tucked deep in the back of your drawer
**Gadzooks!**
Can this really be happening?
You woke up and realized that it was Saturday
**Yipee!**
Now get out of your bunny slippers and crawl back into bed
Because that’s what people do when they have
No **commitments**
An **A** on a test is not quite as pleasing
Because you knew it was coming, didn’t you?
**Surprise parties** can never measure up
The guest of honor knows that he’s special for some reason
**IT MUST BE THE simple THINGS**
That give you that **MILLION-DOLLAR** look, baby
What shall we do with our newfound fortune?
Ask Phineas
Ferb never speaks
But when he does
It is entirely
Serendipitous

---

**I might just shoot your eye out**

**Absolute terror with no understanding as to**
Where it is coming from. Kind of like the hiccups
**Coughing**
Or Sneezes that show up out of nowhere. I might bite
Your head off if you say something even remotely within my
**Danger zone**, so keep clear of “clever jokes,” urges to make me smile
Or “are you okay”’s?
**Frankly, No**

**I'm not okay, but thanks for being the millionth person to ask**
Maybe I should offer you some sort of prize for being the last being to
Get on my nerves.
I want to be left alone
To cry
To scream
To perish into my own little state of insanity.
Let me cope, you good-for-nothing robots of concern
I will not seek a gun, rope, or dagger to reach suicidal measures
I am not that far gone.
Let me be the pessimist for a moment, for an hour, a day
Just stay out of my path
Or I’ll have to pull your hair out
And mine as well.
I’m not ok, ok?

What is O.K.? Definitely not hunky dory as my mother might say
Perhaps it stands for “on Krack” (and yes, I know, Krack is usually spelled with a ‘c’)
Or “**overwhelmingly Kahooted**” — who knows?
But I am none of these, so I will not lie and say that I am “OK”
**BOOM, BOOM, POW** goes the bass
It urges me to shrivel up and then explode into miniscule pieces of light
Ok, go away. Ignore my antisocial retreats and I’ll ignore your existence
But just for now, or until this feeling subsides into the air and passes from
**My difficult personality to another soul.**
Pity, for them not me
Or I might have to kick you where it counts.

---

**Photos submitted by Katherine Wallin.**
So, Egypt fell this week...

Tunisia’s president was also ousted a few weeks ago, but there’s a universal consensus amongst prominent political theorists that no one cares about Tunisafisha. Nothing’s happened there since they filmed the Tatoine scenes of the first Star Wars movie 35 years ago.

I’ll bet half of you are reaching for an atlas right now to see if this country actually exists. Look at the part of North Africa that Italy looks like it’s ready to give a good swift kick to... No, not the island. That’s Sicily. A little farther south. I swear, it’s there.

But the real story’s in Egypt. For a while Pharaoh Mubarak (He’s actually a Prime Minister, but why confuse the issue?) reminded us all a little bit of Al Gore in 2000. He promised to get out, but then said he was back in. But everyone told him to get and he did...maybe. It’s all very confusing. Anyway, I think he’s officially deposition now.

So Egypt is completely without a government. Don’t worry though; the military graciously took control. And civil-unrest-sparked military coups in the Middle East have a spotless track record of resulting in stable and flourishing democracies.

Take my word for it.

Before the Bibles start thumping

In American society today, things are very seldom black and white. It can even be difficult to determine when something should either legal or not: for instance, the ban on marijuana.

Although it is a federal crime to sell or possess the substance, 15 states have blurred the line of its legality by instating laws that allow the distribution of medical marijuana.

I know what you are thinking: marijuana is evil, and no good Christian could consciously vote in favor of supporting something so vile as marijuana in any way, but before fists start shaking and Bibles start thumping, you should know a few facts.

Marijuana was used as the active ingredient in many pain medications for over 4,000 years, until America banned it in 1937. It is still very commonly legal for medical use in many countries today. There is not a single reported death or overdose in history caused directly and exclusively by marijuana.

More importantly, its most severe known side effects are feelings of unease, anxiety, or restlessness, which usually pass without outside intervention. This is a huge contrast to the hundreds of thousands that die from overdose of prescription medication every year. I am not proposing we all go light up and enjoy some pot today, or revert back to the nostalgia of Woodstock. I am simply fighting for a safer and more effective alternative of medication for those with pain from cancer, glaucoma and AIDS. For many suffering with those diseases, marijuana is the only chance of relief they can get from medication.

If helping the suffering and ultimately saving people’s lives aren’t enough good reasons, you might be interested in knowing that the federal court would approve taxation alone. 1.4 trillion dollars could be collected yearly, just from California. That amount is only from one state. Imagine if all 50 were involved. The economic state our nation is in would be turned upside down.

This law doesn’t help junkies get easier access, or give kids a better chance to light up. Instead, it gives having possession of marijuana a purpose.

And has anyone noticed that Ramaker Library—the repository of all information on campus—is closed at night, thus limiting our access? What kind of excuse is “hours of operation” to bar our right to the indemnifying archives hidden within that building?

And the college even controls our food supply. Sodexo has an exclusive contract for all food-distribution services on campus. This monopoly has a stranglehold on the life essentials.

Before the Bibles start thumping...
You’ve got to be kidding me; are you really wearing SHORTS?!

EMILY GOWING
FEATURES EDITOR

It was minus-31-degree wind chill last week. Wrap your mind around that one.

You all experienced it, so it’s not like you really have to try too hard to imagine the bitter winds whipping your face, your eyes stinging and weeping up with tears or your face tightening up so you found yourself making weird faces to stretch it out whenever you went inside a building.

But did you see those two Northwestern students who, even on one of the coldest days of the year, were wearing shorts around campus? Yes, shorts.

Some of you maybe even commented under your frosty breath or put forth the lung-contracting effort to yell at them and ask them, “Are you crazy?”

“Aren't you?" they’d say, “You're a Northwesterner! We're supposed to wear shorts around here, even if it's -30 degrees outside.”

Bolkema, who graduated at the beginning of the year, were wearing shorts around campus? Yes, shorts.

Some mornings, however, she looks at the thermometer and wonders if she’s brave enough to face the cold. "But did you see those two Northwestern students who, even on one of the coldest days of the year, were wearing shorts around campus? Yes, shorts."

Dr. Danie Bolkema, who graduated at the beginning of the year, were wearing shorts around campus? Yes, shorts."

“Don’t you know it’s cold outside?” he gets asked from time to time.

“Yes," he’ll say, “but it’s warm here."
Northwestern’s Student Activities Council is hosting the second Speed Dating event on Friday, Feb. 18 in the RSC’s mini-gym area.

1. Come with a lap full of tennis balls.

Not literal tennis balls, of course. The tennis balls represent questions that you can continue to throw out at your date when silence falls. Avoid typical questions like “What do you do for fun?” Instead, try reframing that question to say, “What is something you’re passionate about?” Come prepared, or you could find yourself discussing awkward topics such as, cats, her dead plant or everything you ate last night.

2. Keep it light; don’t interrogate your date.

Though there’s a good chance speed dating will lead to marriage, asking questions about wedding colors, middle names and desired number of grandchildren tends to scare off prospective spouses. This is not a litmus test to evaluate someone, but a conversation to get to know someone better.

3. Pay attention to your date.

It can be very tempting to continue to acknowledge the partner with whom you just had the best one-minute conversation of your life. Don’t. It’s disrespectful to the person sitting across from you and may look creepy to the one with whom you just conversed.


Intentionality is a good thing. But if you only ask the other person questions, you may come off looking like a creeper. A minute is not a lot of time, so allow them time to ask questions, too. Make the most of every second by revealing what makes you distinctive. You like sports and music; so does everybody else. Instead, talk about your unique ability to lick your elbow or impersonate monkeys.

BY ALYSSA CURRIER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Junior Glory Bensen, attended last year’s speed dating. She and a small group of friends dressed up and made a night out of this annual NW tradition. “We wanted to look cute,” Bensen said. “Some of the guys dressed up in suits and it was funny.”

Last year, the event was held in the Hub, which caused crowding issues. “It was super packed,” Bensen said. Another problem that came up was the lack of male participation. “There were more girls than guys, which made it hard to rotate. There was a line of girls just waiting to sit down with a guy. It took a really long time,” said Bensen.

Bensen reports that “the funniest moments were when guys weren’t taking it seriously, when they were trying to act suave, charming or just goofy.”

Though it may come as a surprise, not everyone who goes speed dating is single. “It’s always a little awkward when you find out a guy has a girlfriend,” Bensen said. However, she stressed the importance of not taking the event too seriously. “It’s all about having fun, meeting new faces and maybe finding a common interest in the minute you have.”

Senior Jeff Lanser also attended last year’s speed dating. “I went with my friends for something to do on a Friday night,” Lanser said. However, he admitted it wasn’t exactly what he expected. “I thought it was going to be serious with people trying to find their spouses.”

Lanser, who has had a girlfriend for three years, said he was “just there for fun, but some people go all out.”

According to Lanser, speed dating comes with its fair share of awkward moments. “Many times I would have to do all the talking and then I’d get one word answers in return. I’d be looking at the clock every few seconds.”

To help ease some of the tension, SAC provided games and questions. “They made it fast . . . for people who were there to be serious,” said Lanser. Lanser’s strategy for avoiding awkwardness? “Go with your friends and sit next to them. They can bail you out.”

This seasoned speed dater also offered some other advice. “Try to remember people’s names. Go with questions planned, and watch out for the desperate, single seniors. They’re on the prowl.”

PHOTO COURTESY OF SPEED DATING LOS ANGELES
Northwestern’s Student Activities Council is hosting the second Speed Dating event on Friday, Feb. 18 in the RSC’s mini-gym area.

STORIES? TALES? POETRY? PROSE?

What is Spectrum? Spectrum is your campus literary arts magazine. We publish your creative fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Your voice. Our ink, literary magic.

Caution: double exposure may result.

Email all submissions in Word. JPG formats to katharine.waller@nwciowa.edu by FEB. 23, 2011
Give your opinion and get over it

SHELBY VANDER MOLEN  STAFF WRITER

As a student, do you get peeved when your professors require you to make insightful comments as a part of your participation grade?

Does it annoy you when they make you cite your sources instead of just pulling claims out of thin air?

Life as a student is rough with homework, balancing schedules and paying tuition, not to mention enduring our wizened professors. But what about the profs? Don’t kid yourself into thinking students can’t be freakishly annoying, too.

For mathematics professor Dr. Kim Jongerius, her biggest annoyance is sloppy homework. She said that since mathematical symbols take a lot of time to insert on a computer, she allows students to turn in written homework. Unfortunately “some students don’t seem to mind making me take a lot of extra time to decipher their work.” She said it’s such a hassle that “one messy paper in a stack of 20 or 30 can put me in a bad frame of mind for the whole time I’m grading that stack.”

Though she, too, understands that procrastination is bound to happen at times, in her time as a student she made a point never to let her own procrastination “lead to a messy result that added to someone else’s workload.”

Now as a professional, she has reaped the benefits of establishing the habit. To all you messy math students, Jongerius advised, “If it’s worth doing, it’s worth rewriting so that the result looks good.”

For professor Karen Bohm Barker of the theatre department, students who show up consistently late are most irksome. Like Jongerius, she can sympathize at times. She acknowledged that “everyone is late occasionally.” While she can understand it occurring once or twice, overall she sees tardiness as rather disrespectful to the whole by the age of technology. “Today, texting and e-mail have turned mechanical writing informal, and that has driven an informality in student writing,” he said. About a decade ago, apostrophes began “vanishing from places they should be and surfacing in places they should not. Over the last few years, question marks have followed the apostrophe and the dodo on the road to extinction,” said Kensak.

He said that while he can swallow the misuse of the apostrophe only because it was invented in the 16th century based on a mistaken interpretation of Old English, he cannot so easily accept having to constantly insert question marks in interrogatory sentences.

In the history department, Dr. Michael Kugler is most irritated by students who go to a liberal arts college like Northwestern and don’t expect to have to read a fair amount for his classes. Besides also being annoyed at students because he can’t teach from a bumbling pool, he puzzles over how students will come to class only to do homework for another class.

He said, “Do they think that even when I notice that they are not paying attention—and I do—that I’ll still give them credit for their physical presence?” So to students all over campus, don’t whine about reading and don’t do other homework in class. Professors don’t like it. And if you should happen to do so, consider bringing your pet to class and they may not get so annoyed. At least in Dr. Kugler’s classroom, that is.

What did you really do on Wednesday?

HOLLY STEWART  STAFF WRITER

Students took advantage of Wednesday’s Day of Learning in Community (DLC) – even if it wasn’t in the manner Northwestern was hoping.

There are many reasons to look forward to the annual event, whether it’s for extra chapel credits given at each keynote address, attending the sessions to learn more about balancing our faith in the world or even catching a few extra “zzzs.”

Some students chose to attend one or two of the day’s activities and spent the rest of the day catching up on other pressing issues. While NU faculty firmly encourage students to attend sessions and some professors assign written activities based on sessions most students have the option to use the day as a learning experience or a resting experience – both of which are valuable to students.

“Since I knew I didn’t have any scheduled classes on Wednesday, and neither did any of my friends, I decided that staying up until 4:30 a.m. sounded fun,” said senior Ashley Larson. Tuesday night she were being offered, but this year the Day of Learning snuck up on me, and I didn’t get the chance to plan very well.” Larson has been attending Day of Learning activities since her freshman year and, along with many other students on campus, thinks that it is beneficial for students.

Some students in West Hall deemed it Day Off Learning and spent the day playing video games, catching up on sleep or spending quality time in with their friends. “I didn’t think there were enough controversial topics to make it interesting,” junior Joel Koster claimed. “Plus, I’m a computer science major and there were not any sessions geared toward us.” Because of this, Koster used his free time to get ahead on – or catch up on – his homework assignments.

Some students were thankful for the opportunities for which DLC was intended. “I got so many chapel credits,” beamed sophomore Becca Reints.

“I enjoyed all the sessions I went to. It’s fun to learn about things you’re not going to be tested over,” sophomore Elisa Banninga stated. “The media fast in Steggy encouraged me to find different ways to spend my free time, too.” After admitting to attending the keynote sessions solely for the chapel credit, sophomore Nathan Mastbergen said, “I went to seminars that I felt would help me learn things that are applicable to what I am trying to learn here at Northwestern. I feel like some of these seminars are great opportunities to learn something you maybe wouldn’t in your regular classes.”

Sophomore Bibeck Karki held a seminar about the effect culture has on our motivation.

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Grammys don’t got Bieber Fever

BY KATI HENG
OPINION EDITOR

Hell hath no fury like a Bieber fan scorned. Nor does hell know how to pout and throw an online hissy fit so well.

In case you missed the results of this year’s Grammy awards, jazz artist Esperanza Spalding won the award for Best New Artist, beating out Justin Bieber, Drake, Florence & The Machine and Mumford & Sons.

Many students at NW may have cocked their heads to the side and asked “Esperanza who?” I had to stop and wonder: when did she become famous?

I first heard of Spalding a couple of summers ago when I went to the Twin Cities Jazz Festival and saw her perform live. I have to admit, her music is undoubtedly audience recognition and fame only about as good as it gets at an admission fee.

I saw her perform live. I have to admit, her music is undoubtedly

Was she about to make it big? I thought of long-haired 50-year-old men and
dezels towards a crowd mainly composed of college-agers.

Spalding gave her concert on a stage set up in a park somewhere in the Twin Cities. She played an hours long concert, 式 encouraging her audience to hum along, or even follow the song too closely.

Spalding gave her concert on a stage set up in a park somewhere in the Twin Cities. She played an hours long concert, 式 encouraging her audience to hum along, or even follow the song too closely.

The promotional brochures on her website hint that Spalding and Bieber were being nominated for the same. We might as well have a contest choosing a winner between Skittles and watches.

The Grammys should give their viewers a clearer explanation of the qualifications for Best New Artist. Are they basing their choice on who gets the biggest bag of cash at the end of the day or the most prestigious shows? On who has the most willing-to-kill-their-bff-just-to-get-a-date-with-him fans or supporters in the White House?

On who is newly respected in the world of jazz or newly born into the world of fame?

Spalding is a better artist than Justin Bieber in the same way that “The King’s Speech” is a better movie than “The Machine and Mumford & Sons. Are they basing their choice on who is newly respected in the world of jazz or newly born into the world of fame?

On who is newly respected in the world of jazz or newly born into the world of fame?

Perhaps the Grammys have reached the point where Esperanza Spalding is a better artist than Justin Bieber in the same way that “The King’s Speech” is a better movie than “The King’s Speech” was not to silence but to a fundamental opacity of human being, which likes to show the truth by allowing it to be seen hiding.” With this, Carson brings Herodotus’s ancient definitions of a historian to life by beautifully telling the lack of a story in her brother’s personal life.

Carson tells us of her brother in simple terms, never going into much detail (a couple pages at best) on their lives together prior to 1978. What is most interesting is the fact that he never described as an especially wonderful man. Carson writes of how he was madly in love with a girl and heartbroken when she died, but this is about the most redeeming quality she gives of him.

Even their conversation after the death of their mother lacked depth and substance.

Out of curiosity, I carefully spread this entire book out on the floor when I read it through the second time. It felt like something that should be on display in a museum, something that you would pass on to your grandchildren, or something that should have only been one original copy. Reading through the story was a comfortable invasion into the lack of relationship between Anne and her brother; at times I felt like I should back away and stop asking questions, but in a bizarre way it was as if I was the one person who needed to hear this story in order for Anne to finally be at peace.

Carson states in the beginning of the book, “I wanted to fill my elegy with light of all kinds. But death makes us stingy.” This statement makes sense of the hue-colored cover, aged letters, fragmented photos and ripped pages inside. An elegy does not need to be light to be redemptive, freeing and beautiful; it needs only to truly encompass the life of the deceased, and Anne Carson brings the life of her brother to the page perfectly.

.unique presentation brings life to unbound pages

BY AARON BAUER
STAFF WRITER

Michael Carson had been on the run for 22 years, venturing through Europe and India in an effort to avoid prison. His sister, author Anne Carson, hardly heard from him in all those years, save for various postcards, a handful of phone calls, and a single letter. It should come as no surprise that it took two weeks for Michael’s widow to find a phone number for Anne, at which time she finally learned of her brother’s death.

Anne headed to Copenhagen to meet Michael’s widow, gather some of his things, and collect her thoughts. Carson then reproduced her journal: mourning his death, it compiled a book of nearly 200 pages containing photographs, typographical scraps, and letters as a sort of elegy for Michael, titling it “Nox,” the Latin word for “night.”

Opening the ash-colored box that holds the “book,” you soon realize it is made up of a single accented page, causing a brilliant flow in the story.

The story begins with the Latin poem “Catullus 101” which was, by no coincidence, written as an elegy to his brother. On most left-side pages, Carson defines each word from the poem. It is incredible how many different ways Catullus’s work can be interpreted, but it ends with arguably his most famous words, “Ave atque vale,” or “Hello and farewell.”

Carson gives a full translation near the end of the book, and it is a fantastic heartfelt prayer to a brother so far gone.

One of the most impressive characteristics of “Nox” is Carson’s incorporation of history as discussed by the Greek writer Herodotus, who believes history is “by far the strangest thing that humans do…For often it produces no clear or helpful account.” Carson expounds on this by explaining our satisfaction with unclear answers to our questions, including silence. On this topic, she writes her favorite line in the book, “Note that the word ‘mute’ is regarded by linguists as an onomatopoeic formation referring to
Civil Wars release record made to help coffee go down smooth

BY LISA WALTERS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Jan. 31 was just as exciting as Christmas Eve for any fans of the folk acoustic band, The Civil Wars. It marked the day before the release of their first full-length album, “Barton Hollow.” It was a year ago that I was first exposed to the music of The Civil Wars, an intriguing blend of passionate acoustic sound and soothing harmonies. Shortly after having their signature song, “Poison & Wine” featured on Grey’s Anatomy, The Civil Wars began receiving recognition. They were selected as an iTunes “Best of 2010” singer/songwriter album and were also named Paste Magazine’s “Best of What’s Next.”

This past fall, I was able to see The Civil Wars perform twice (first in Atlanta, then a month later in Nashville). It isn’t very often that a band can claim they are “better live,” but that is completely the case with The Civil Wars. I was blown away by their stage presence and lively sound, which was nothing like their “Live at Eddie’s Attic” album. Perhaps that is because “Eddie’s Attic,” which has been downloaded by over 100,000 people, was only their second performance together, ever.

I also had the opportunity to meet the duo when I was down in Atlanta. Joy Williams, once a contemporary Christian artist, and John Paul White, once a solo indie artist, created an all-together amazing musical experience. They are fun to be around, and they create a great environment at their shows. The duo has just as much chemistry off stage as they do on stage, and that definitely shines through their music.

The duo’s first full-length album “Barton Hollow” was released on the first of February, and within the first day became the No. 1 album on iTunes and Amazon.com. “Barton Hollow” has a simple, beautiful aesthetic. In general, its sound is reminiscent of Robert Plant and Alison Krauss’ collaborative album, “Raising Sand.” Even so, each song offers something unique to the album as a whole—for instance, a cover of the Jackson 5 song, “I Want You Back.”

This is one musical duo you definitely want to keep your eye on. “Barton Hollow” is still on the top 20 album list on iTunes, and also debuted at No. 12 on the Billboard charts, a place its held relatively close to since its early February release.

I was one of the many who were counting down, and waiting with excitement on the 31st of January, and I must say that I definitely was not disappointed. I had such high hopes for this album, and they managed to exceed even my highest expectations.

I would highly recommend purchasing “Barton Hollow,” and their EP “Poison & Wine,” as well. If you just want to get your feet wet, however, they still have their “Live at Eddie’s Attic” album available for free on their website, as well as a free download of their new single, “Barton Hollow,” the title track of the album.
The basics of your wardrobe

BY GRETA FLOODING

Someone once said that an outfit needs to be constructed. I don't remember who said that but I know whatever, that's not important. What matters is that they were right. Putting together an outfit is like a project. You begin with the basics. I realized just how important those basics were when I was standing with my mother in her room trying to help her find an outfit for New Year's. It was going to be a casual affair, hor d'oeuvres, dinner and some sort of adult entertainment (and I mean that in a Uno or Scene It kind of way).

So what to wear? My mom was, until recently, under the impression that jeans were so casual one could wear them while exercising. They certainly weren't something you go to a party in, which brings me to my first basic: dress jeans. Denim jeans of the darker variety (dark is slimmer and versatile) without whiskers, stone washing or too much embroidery on the pockets.

Just as important is the fit. And with jeans, it's all about the lines. Lagenh legs with a good inseam, make sure that your waist and butt are cradled, not pinched, and find a good length. Don't settle. These are worth it. Don't settle. These are cradled, not pinched, and find a good length. Don't settle. These are worth it.

In my mom's case she pulled out a pair of riding boots from the '70s, and they were brilliant. A few don't: hooker boots from the '90s — never okay. Shiny pleather? Nuh huh, and heels that are above three inches on boots usually aren't a good idea. We are going for sexy, not prostitute.

My only qualm with that is that with this availability comes cheapness. My father will spend money on two things: coats and shoes. He has a point. A cheap coat means two things: it won't last and you can tell it's cheap. A coat should have quality fabric and a good lining.

We end at the bottom with the feet. Just because it's the bottom doesn't mean it's any less important. The shoes are the foundation on which the outfit stands. I will say this: nothing does a woman good like a pair of boots. Again, quality and versatility is what we are aiming for.

In my mom's case she pulled out a pair of riding boots from the '70s, and they were brilliant. A few don't: hooker boots from the '90s — never okay. Shiny pleather? Nuh huh, and heels that are above three inches on boots usually aren't a good idea. We are going for sexy, not prostitute. There is a fine line people — don't be the one to cross it.

Good clothes make you feel good. This isn't about getting the newest or trendiest, but about feeling and looking confident. So go out and actually like your clothing and yourselves.

What would happen if...

BY MICHAEL GUTSCHE

Sleep is Death is only sort of a game. It's as much a game as a conversation, a "what would happen if" taken to the extreme. Two people play. One of them controls a single, lonely, pixelated avatar. Well, maybe he's not lonely. Maybe he has a family, or a close group of friends, or a squad of criminals, or some horrible reality-bending dog that controls all things. Dog controls your destiny. You never know. The reason you never know is that the other person playing controls everything else. Literally everything else.

Here's how it works: the player controlling Everything Else sets up a scene. This guy's name from now on is Nick. The game's simple graphics and tile-based construction allow you to quickly react and rebuid the setting as necessary, as the player's interaction with it will, no doubt, mess everything up. Nick's got a story in mind that he wants to tell, and he sets things up accordingly. It'll be a crime drama that starts in an office building, but that one is built. Now it's the One Person player's turn, henceforth to be referred to as Douglas. Douglas sees everything that Nick has put together, and has thirty seconds to take in his surroundings, move his avatar around, and either say something (presumably to another character) or to make a verb. That's a weird sentence.

The way verbing works is that it's simply a speech bubble with an arrow attached, to indicate what it is you want to verb. Pick up, inspect, punch, lick... whatever. Any action you can manage to get from brain to keyboard, you can "do." So Douglas does a thing, and then it's back to Nick. Now, Nick is back in control of everything, but it's his job to make sure that whatever Douglas tried to do actually happens. Douglas points "Pick up" at a flashlight or a mug of coffee or something, then Nick can simply attach that to his avatar, and then pass the turn to Douglas again.

Douglas now exits the office and goes to make small talk with some poor confused soul in the middle of the street. Now, Nick's job gets tricky and far more interesting when Douglas decides to do something a little more, well, extreme. Like leaving his office building and going to the zoo. Now Nick has to build an entirely new set for the zoo. In 30 seconds.

Perhaps Douglas, instead of picking up a coffee cup, instead tries to pick up the moon. One would reasonably expect this to fail, but hey, it's up to Nick.

Anything Douglas does could start a chain of events that drastically alters the story — from talking to one character instead of another to burning down his workplace or inspiring a group of revolutionaries to take over a small, inexplicably explosive South Pacific island — as long as Nick makes it so.

This goes back and forth, with Douglas doing things and Nick responding, the 30 second time limit for turns begins to seem shorter and shorter. And then it's gone from attaching objects to Douglas's character to how do I even build a burning library staffed entirely by alligators.

The panic that comes with the turn length forces both players to act quickly and decisively, not letting either hen or haw about any decision. They've gotta work, now. For the sake of the story.

This now is a pretty important idea, but it's one that's been around for Forever-and-a-Half. Having one person act and the other one react is a simple improvisation exercise, as well as the premise for countless board games.

However, it's the purity of the implementation here that makes Sleep is Death really shine. It's no-frills creativity. A conversation between two people working together to tell a story, even if they're trying to do completely separate things within that story.

Douglas and Nick can tell whatever story they want. Heck, they probably will end up doing something that neither of them really expected, given the back-and-forth nature of the game.

Whatever the outcome, any new objects or scenes can be uploaded to an online database so that in case anyone else ever needs quick access to a burning alligator library, the in-game search function might be able to provide them with one. This means that as time goes on, it becomes easier and easier to tell more elaborate and affecting stories about anything the players can imagine.

This two-person narrative is an incredible experience, often hilarious and absurd, but equally often something real and profound. Because with a practiced manager like Nick, literally anything can happen. It's a wonderful thing, and made entirely by one person with an impressive-as-ducks creative streak.

Between all the half-hearted cash-ins on Call of Duty's success and all the miserably meaningless games out there, it's reassuring to find something like Sleep is Death. It's an inspiring experiment, bursting with hope for the medium. It's this sort of thing that makes games worth it.
### Track closes indoor season, looks to GPAC Championship next

**BY NATASHA FERNANDO**

Looking back at the indoor season, head coach Nate Wolf could not help but reflect on the dedication of his athletes.

Wolf noted that the “hallmark of this team is effort and consistency. The team has recognized that they are physically capable of competing with some of the best athletes in the conference and even nationally.” With the physical and mental demands of track, one often wonders where the drive to keep pressing on comes.

“I like to remind them of all the work they have put in,” says Wolf, “and I think they provide most of the motivation themselves. The end of the season is where the athletes get to enjoy their hard work the most.”

This season the freshman class contributed some noteworthy results to the team. When asked how the freshman athletes adapted, Wolf said they had to “accept the ups and downs that come with their first collegiate season. We relied heavily on the underclassmen this season and they have responded well.”

As the regular indoor season comes to a close, the Raiders are looking ahead to their next endeavor: the GPAC Indoor Championships. Expectations are high, and Coach Wolf’s hopes are that the team will “compete fearlessly and with effort.”

For some, the qualifying mark is just within reach and hopefully will be attained this weekend.

“Some of us, it’s our last hooraah before Nationals,” says sophomore pole-vaulter Jana Olson. “The conference meet is where we represent ourselves and all of Northwestern track by bringing it all when we compete.”

Freshman Jeriah Dunk also realizes the expectations of the conference meet. “The stakes are higher,” he says, “and it’s all go-hard-or-go-home, but in the end it’s just another track meet.”

### Raiders break records at Dordt

**BY NATASHA FERNANDO**

The Raiders brought home five first-place finishes and three records at the last regular indoor meet held at Dordt last Saturday. The Northwestern men were led by freshman Jeriah Dunk, sophomore Brandon Hammack and sophomore Matt Huseman, who all finished first in their respective events.

With a time of 6.49 seconds, Dunk won the 55-meter. Following that effort, he placed second in the 400-meter after crossing the line in 51.24 seconds. Hammack, who placed third in the 55 (6.54 seconds), won the 200-meter and set a new school record at a blazing 22.44 seconds.

At high jump, Huseman placed first and won the event (6-04.75), and senior Mark Mineart tied for second with a jump of 6-02.75. Huseman, who joined the track squad after switching from the basketball team during Christmas break, will be fighting the clock to break the NW indoor high jump record this year.

“Once I get my form down, I’m really hoping to get the record.” Huseman said. “Because I know I can get that high.”

Senior Charity Miles and junior Danielle Fry led the women’s team at Dordt, with their first-place finishes in the 3000-meter and shot put, respectively. Miles set a new meet record with a time of 10:12.44, which was nearly 13 seconds ahead of the second-place runner.

In the shot put, Fry had a toss of 42-10.25, winning the event. Both women have already automatically qualified for the national meet in March.

Senior Kara Den Herder finished second in the weight throw and set a school record with a toss of 51-08.5. She reached the NAIA qualifying standard with her efforts.

Junior Stacey Dietrich also met the NAIA qualifying standard in the 55-meter hurdles, crossing the line in 8.59 seconds. Also in the 55-meter hurdles, senior Andrea Larson finished fourth (8.72) and met the provisional qualifying standard.

In the 1000-meter, freshman Dawn Gildersleeve finished second with a time of 3:02. In total this week, 23 Raiders had top five finishes.

### Hard work pays off for Red Raider wrestlers

**BY NATASHA FERNANDO**

It was another successful weekend for the Red Raider wrestlers as they competed at Briar Cliff on Saturday, Feb. 5. The screening, repetitions and 6 a.m. workouts have been paying off, especially for two Raiders in particular.

Two notable successes were delivered by freshman Dan Rodriguez and sophomore Aaron Ruskell, who won their first matches of the season.

“These two guys put in the work and have done something that most young men in college wrestling cannot do,” said Coach Rik Dahl. “They persevered.”

Rodriguez exhibited his hard work in the consolation match with his Minnesota West opponent, whom he defeated in a 6-4 decision. For Ruskell, the win came in a tight match against Wayne State. Joining Rodriguez and Ruskell in the winner’s column were freshman J.J. Mayo, freshman Ariel Bosque, sophomore Pedro Ruiz and senior Brad Hughes.

Feb. 11 was the final GPAC dual for the Raiders. Though the men fought hard, they fell to host Midland-Lutheran 35-12.

Two Raiders picked up wins on the day by pinning their opponents. Sophomore Jerod Flores won his 149-pound match by pinning his foe in an impressive one minute, 31 seconds. Flores improved to 30-10 on the year.

Senior Luke Evjen walked away with his win in 3:23. The 184-pounder picked up his 22nd win of the season on the match.

The Raiders are looking forward to the National Qualifier on Feb. 19, held here at Northwesterns.

### Scoreboard

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<th>Sport</th>
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*Note: GPAC Indoor begins Feb. 24 for both Men’s and Women’s Basketball. NAIA Nationals on Mar. 3 for Track & Field.*
Men's basketball fall on last-second shot

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK  
SPORTS EDITOR

The No. 10 Northwestern men's basketball team lost 90-87 to No. 23 Dakota Wesleyan on Wednesday night. Chase Walder of the Tigers drained a 30-foot-three pointer with 3.9 seconds left in regulation to pick up the win, which dropped the Raiders to 21-6 overall, and 14-3 in the conference. The benefactors of a late game trey only three weeks ago against Dordt, the Raiders were on the other side this time, mounting a late comeback that just wasn’t enough.

With 1:14 left to play, the Raiders were down 84-78. Key buckets by sophomore Ben Miller, junior Walker Seim and senior Ryan Hoogveen got the Raiders within striking distance, down 87-85. With four seconds left, senior Brent Dunkelberger capitalized on a Tiger turnover and made a floater to tie it at 87. Head Coach Kris Korver said, “[Dunkelberger] came off the bench and played really well, especially in the second half.”

Despite the Raiders’ best efforts, DWU inbounded the ball to Walder, who hit the game-winner.

Many stats indicate just how close of a battle the contest was.

Senior Night approaches

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK  
SPORTS EDITOR

As the regular season comes to a close, the Northwestern Red Raider basketball team (11-16, 12-12 Mid-State) will host the Cougars of Sioux Falls Wednesday Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. on the women’s Senior Night.

The Cougars just don’t have the perimeter defense it takes to stop the outside threats of Hurley, junior Val Kleinjan and junior Kami Kuhlmann. Though the Raiders may not shoot lights out like last game, expect a Raider win thanks to a lot of scoring and easy baskets created by defensive pressure from their press trap.

On the men’s side, No. 10 NW will be looking for revenge of their 87-80 loss earlier in the year. The Raiders have been playing very well in the second half of the season, and have slowly climbed up the polls. USI, on the other hand, has had to deal with the loss of their top two scorers, seniors Eric Tisby and Matt Malloy, due to a suspension they received from breaking team rules.

The Cougars stumble into town at an unfortunate time, with the team still trying to figure out its identity after losing four-year starter Malloy. They will also miss the 37 points Tisby dropped on the Raiders last time out.

Once again, NW has hit its stride right before tourney time, and the combination of a balanced offensive attack and tough rebounding will be good enough for a Raider win on Senior Night.

Lady Raiders cruise again

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern Lady Raiders dominated in Wednesday night’s game by dismissing host Dakota Wesleyan with a score 108-56. The Raiders had already clinched the conference before the start of the game, but that did not seem to stop them from coming out to quick and unselfish start. NW led for the entirety of the contest, and the team as whole recorded 32 assists.

“Thirty-two assists in the game was outstanding; I think the school record is 35. Our women are so unselfish, and the ball was really moving at different times in the head coach Earl Woudstra commented.”

Senior Becca Hurley was once again the leading scorer with 27 points. She went 11-15 from the field and also dished out six assists. Junior Kami Kuhlmann contributed 16 points of her own while tying a career-high with seven assists. Freshman Mackenzie Small scored her career high of 10 points coming off the bench.

NW shot an impressive 56 percent from the field on the game. Woudstra credited the efficiency to smart play from the ladies.

“We shot extremely well, but I thought that was largely the result of excellent ball movement and very good shot selection.” Woudstra said.

It was not just the offense that was on a roll for the Raiders. The defense was intense throughout the game and forced 30 turnovers. Forty-two of the Raiders’ points came off those mistakes. Everyone in a Raider uniform saw at least five minutes of playing time in the bench.

Woudstra added, “What was especially impressive was the way the women came in and played off the bench in the last eight minutes.”

Senior night will be tomorrow, Feb. 19, at the Bolman Center. The game will start at 6:30 p.m.

Tom’s picks for your NBA viewing pleasure

BY TOM WESTERHOLM  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

These are my picks for the best upcoming NBA games:

1. L. All Star Weekend, Feb. 18-20 on TNT

Why You Should Watch: I’m not that big on All Star Weekend. The Dunk Contest (Saturday, Feb. 19) is probably going to be more interesting (and competitive) than the actual game. YouTube junkies are dying to see what rookie phenom Blake Griffin can do, as the contest essentially pits Griffin against assorted players whose only real basketball ability is jumping really freaking high. The actual game itself never fails to be disappointing, as every player coasts through without really trying. I thought that was largely the result of scoring and easy baskets created by defensive pressure from their press trap.

On the men’s side, No. 10 NW will be looking for revenge of their 87-80 loss earlier in the year. The Raiders have been playing very well in the second half of the season, and have slowly climbed up the polls. USI, on the other hand, has had to deal with the loss of their top two scorers, seniors Eric Tisby and Matt Malloy, due to a suspension they received from breaking team rules.

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2. Oklahoma City Thunder (34-19) vs. San Antonio Spurs (46-9), Wednesday Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. on ESPN

Why You Should Watch: The Spurs play a fascinating style of basketball, all about ball movement, teamwork, and offense. Russell Westbrook, the Thunder’s star point guard, plays like a bull in a china shop, powering his way into the lane, acting more than thinking. Oklahoma City’s other superstar, Kevin Durant, has one of the prettiest (and most unguardable) jumpshots in the league. And yet, the Spurs have dominated the Thunder so far this season. Count me in.

My pick: San Antonio defeats Oklahoma City 103-94.

3. Miami Heat (39-15) vs. Chicago Bulls (36-16), Thursday Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. on TNT

Why You Should Watch: Whoa baby. This one is juicy. Not only does this game matter for both teams in the overall standings. Not only is Chicago one of the best teams at home this season (23-4 at the time of printing). Not only does this game feature three of the most exciting stars in the league in Derrick Rose, LeBron James and Dwyane Wade. Not only will Bulls center Joakim Noah be back from his toe injury, meaning the Bulls will be at full strength for one of the first times this season. Not only are these teams a budding rivalry in the East. Not only do Chicago fans resent Dwyane Wade for passing on them in free agency this summer. Not only... well, maybe only that stuff. But if that isn't enough to make you want to watch this game, I don't think you care enough about sports.


4. New Orleans Hornets (33-23) vs. Minnesota Timberwolves (13-42), Friday Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. on Fox Sports North

Why You Should Watch: Minnesota is the closest thing Iowa has to a hometown team, so they should be supported. But don’t watch them for that reason. Watch them because Kevin Love has the longest streak of consecutive double doubles since the 82-83 NBA season.

And watch this game because of the Timberwolves’ 13 wins this season, two of them have been against the playoff-bound Hornets. But I don’t think it’ll continue...

My pick: New Orleans defeats Minnesota 95-79.

5. Los Angeles Clippers (20-35) vs. Los Angeles Lakers (38-15) Feb. 25 at 9:30 p.m. on NBA League Pass

Why You Should Watch: For starters, there’s Blake Griffin. And then there’s also Blake Griffin, who is Blake Griffin. So there’s that. There’s also the hard-fought games these cross town rivals have played already this season. And there’s the awkward “bigbrother” relationship the Lakers seem to have over the Clippers. But did I mention Blake Griffin? Just trust me on this one.

My pick: Los Angeles defeats Los Angeles. One way or the other.
BPF spill study

A federal report has concluded that the cause of the BP oil spill stretches back further than the past few months. The study shows that BP was aware of issues with Halliburton employees as far back as 2007, but failed to act in response to the misconduct.

Mubarak actually steps down

EGYPT - Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak stepped down Friday after 30 years of ruling the country. The decision comes after a meeting with military officials. The military has taken over until a new, democratic government can be formed.

Obama makes cuts

WASHINGTON D.C. - President Barack Obama has submitted his proposed budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. Overall, the budget was cut 14 percent in an attempt to lower the national debt by 1.1 trillion over the next year.

Belgium ties world record

BELGIUM - After being in a political stand off for the last weeks, King Albert II has instructed his political negotiator to wrap up the national debt by 1.1 trillion and services that promote wellness, and mobility and autonomy to the aging generation. The worldwide treatment of dementia and other aging ailments and impairments costs billions of dollars annually.

January topped cakes with candles and marked a momentous birthday celebration, as the first of about 76 million baby boomers turned 65.

According to Brent Green, an expert in generational marketing, "Around 10,000 will reach the milestone daily for the next 19 years." This Post-World-War-II generation is looking toward a future life expectancy that is higher than that of any previous generation. This places concerns on the U.S., most of them being monetary, as the nation has never had to deal with this phenomenon at this degree. The U.S. estimates that worldwide there will be about 1.5 billion people 65 and older by the year 2050. This is more than doubles the current number of 73 million. For the first time ever, people 65 and older will soon outnumber children under the age of five.

As a consequence, many people may have to delay their retirement or never fully retire in order to maintain sustainable incomes. Many industries have shied away from the older demographic and focused on reaching the younger spenders.

With 76 million baby boomers on the road to retirement over the next two decades, a new business opportunity and target market is being unveled, and according to the founder of the AgeLab, may "make gray the new green" for companies.

What's the “major” deal? Workshop, gov’t job tool dispell career fears

BY JEBIDAH RACH CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Whether it is nursing, education or political science, it is a humble portion of students who actually follow through with their intended career pursuits.

At Northwestern College, about 80 percent of students change their major at least once. It should come as no surprise, then, that the Career Development Center is trying to help students narrow down in on potential major focuses.

The How To Choose Your Major Workshop will be held in the FrankenCenter, next Thursday, Feb. 24, from 11 p.m. to 12 p.m.

Topics to be discussed include student major, career options and to view the majors affected by those currently in the workplace, along with a crafty new government job search tool.

Students at NW, as many of us know, have a wide range of majors from which to choose and further pursue. Some, like freshman elementary education major, Kiersten Van Wyhe, plan to go to graduate school at some point, whether it is immediately following college or a few years later.

Many are piggybacking off this idea and mimicking junior computer science major Joel Koster: "I'm planning on going into the workforce at an organization that will pay for me to get my master's while I work."

Others are planning on going directly into the workforce, like sophomore, Christa Curl, an actuarial science major. However, she plans to take the actuarial science test while in college, which is necessary in order to go into the field.

For those studying actuarial science, the degree itself, is not everything. Jim Tincher, a senior sociology major, finds that his communication and political science double major helps him in varying ways, even if not directly.

For example, although Tincher did not delve into the typical political science realm, his degree showed him that "the systems and processes selected [for making a decision or performing a task] have a strong impact on the outcome," which is extremely important for business.

Professors find that their majors are more directly related to their field than business people may generally discover.

Wayne Westenberg, a mathematics professor at NW, stated that his major in math and elementary education directly applied to his career as a math teacher.

Brandon Woudstra, an adjunct professor in the business department, found much of the same with his major in Business Administration/Business Education. Woudstra contends that he chose such a field to "give myself opportunities down slightly different avenues."

Ray Gibler, an accounting professor, having been practiced in both teaching and in the marketplace, found that although he took every class he is teaching now as an undergrad, his work experience has helped him fill in the gaps from his classes.

Baby Boomers seek jobs, not retirement

BY JULIA LANDT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

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Another valuable tool for students as they consider graduation is an online program created by the United States Labor Department to help workers find jobs. The tool surveys a career-seeker’s interests in an attempt to match his or her skills to an available job.

Koster perceives the online outlet as a very strong tool that he may consider using in the future to find jobs and internships. However, Curf urges fellow students to not focus solely on this one tool.

Both Gibler and Tincher remind us that the average person has between five and seven careers, not to be confused with the “job” label.

Gibler notes, “While choosing a major is important and something everyone should carefully and prayerfully consider, it also needn’t limit or even define your potential and opportunities.” He further encourages, “A major should be viewed as a starting point, a way to find your first job. After that, all that remains is to hang on and enjoy the ride that God leads you on.”

A recent survey created by Dr. Ken Dychtwald, called ‘The New Retirement,’ offers a screening of the different lifestyles of work and recreation that baby boomers forecast in their future.

In the survey, baby boomers were asked about their ideal work arrangement in retirement. About 83 percent replied with answers saying they would like to continue to work at varying levels, ranging from full time to part time to starting up their own businesses.

The large percentage of baby boomers who anticipate on continuing work express that it is not about the all money. While 37 percent indicate that continued earnings is a very important part of the reason they intend to keep working, 67 percent claim that continued mental stimulation and challenge is what will motivate them to stay in the game.

The marketplace is looking at the shifting of the median age in the U.S. optimistically. The new business field again is not the competitive niche for companies. Industry analysts say that products and services that promote wellness, mobility and autonomy to the aging generation create a multibillion-dollar market. Such innovations prove to promote health and independence; postponing entry into long-term care, the potential savings to the health care system could be even greater.

According to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, an understanding of the target market is the key to being successful. Recently the AgeLab at M.I.T. created an Age Gain Now Empathy System. The age-gaining suit called Anges impairs vision, mobility and autonomy to the aging generation. The worldwide treatment of dementia and other aging ailments and impairments costs billions of dollars annually.

Baby Boomers seek jobs, not retirement

BY JULIA LANDT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

January topped cakes with candles and marked a momentous birthday celebration, as the first of about 76 million baby boomers turned 65.

According to Brent Green, an expert in generational marketing, “Around 10,000 will reach the milestone daily for the next 19 years.” This Post-World-War-II generation is looking toward a future life expectancy that is higher than that of any previous generation. This places concerns on the U.S., most of them being monetary, as the nation has never had to deal with this phenomenon at this degree. The U.S. estimates that worldwide there will be about 1.5 billion people 65 and older by the year 2050. This is more than doubles the current number of 73 million. For the first time ever, people 65 and older will soon outnumber children under the age of five.

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