5-6-2011

The Beacon plus Bacon [spoof], May 6, 2011

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Vehicle ignites, melts in Hell

BY TYLER LEHMANN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Smoke billowed in the sky as a roaring blaze swallowed sophomore Jordan Vermeer's car before his very eyes on Saturday, April 30, in the parking lot known to Northwestern College students as "Hell."

"Huge flames and black smoke were coming out of Hell," NW senior Blake Norris said, who witnessed the inferno with Vermeer. "There were spinning plumes."

When smoke first rose from under Vermeer's hood as he revved his engine to jump-start Norris's car, he was unalarmed, thinking the smoke was exhaust. "His car had something disconnected in the exhaust system, and sometimes exhaust came out the hood. So when he first saw smoke coming out the front of his car, it wasn't a big deal," Norris said.

When Vermeer opened his hood, the small fire in his engine took him by surprise. After making a joke, Vermeer realized he didn't know how to extinguish the flame.

"There was this moment when we looked at each other and looked at the fire. We didn't know what to do, but there was this sense of urgency," he said.

Norris tried to smother the flames with a winter coat taken from his car, and Vermeer got a fire extinguisher at a nearby house. Neither attempt to stifle the fire succeeded.

"After we tried to put it out with a fire extinguisher, we knew there was nothing we could do about it," said Norris. "So we decided we would just enjoy watching it burn."

Vermeer retrieved valuables inside his car and backed away with Norris, then called the police.

"First we stood about 20 feet away; then we backed up another 20 feet, and then another 20 feet," Vermeer said. "The fire was getting bigger and bigger and bigger."

Across Orange City, volunteer firefighters such as NW English professor Ann Lundberg received an alert on their pagers and rushed to the fire station. Aboard a fire engine, firefighters coordinated their plan of action and put on their full gear, procedures they usually wait to perform until their arrival so they can assess the situation. For vehicle fires, however, they complete all preparations en route because burning cars must be extinguished as quickly as possible.

"Cars burn really, really fast and really, really hot," Lundberg said. "We needed to get water on it quickly."

Police arrived within five minutes of Vermeer's call, and firefighters arrived shortly after.

See "Car" on pg. 12

Students to bike ‘Siouxperman’ style

BY KATE WALLIN
STAFF WRITER

As most Northwestern student-athletes are winding down for the season, others at NW are gearing up for their most daring feat of athletic prowess yet.

Seven NW students, including Janelle and Felipe Silva, are in the midst of training for this Saturday's fifth annual Siouxperman Triathlon in Sioux Center. The idea, according to the online Siouxperman community, which began as a self-proclaimed "Siouxperman" community, which began as a self-
Arts & Culture | 2
What’s the world like after the war?

BY JORDAN LANGER
A&C EDITOR

It might seem a little late to talk about the Great War, especially among Americans (our WWI was scant when compared to overseas). But in a lot of ways, its turn-of-the-century trenches made for a grisly intro into what has now been a hundred years of rash militarism and gritty aftermaths.

Upon return, the “lost generation” gave its due redress: a canon of wartime poets and post-war novelists. Other media like journalism, photojournalism and television have depicted more current wars in all of their hellishness. But for all of the public clamor of late—about wars we wished we weren’t in and their treads upon a world much too tread upon—music hasn’t reverberated the same dread, or even treated these subjects much.

PJ Harvey’s “Let England Shake,” then, is a seemly languaged affair with its 12 songs, each all have a folksy sound that rickets and shambles in the most moving ways, also carry a graphic lyricism that entwines the loathes of infantry with bleak agrarian ones. For instance: “How is our glorious county ploughed? Not by iron ploughs: our land is ploughed by tanks and feet marching…And what is the glorious fruit of our land? Its fruit is deformed children.” Throughout, the record details an unearthed, if earthy, landscape—specifically England (she’s British), though its images hold for other places.

Other times, her words just push with war-torn horrors.

“I’ve seen and done things I want to forget: soldiers fall like lumps of meat, blown and shot out beyond belief, arms and legs were in the trees.” Or: “Death was everywhere, in the air and in the sounds…When you rolled a smoke or told a story in the smoke and clung to 400 acres of useless beachfront: hopefully you’ll pick them up next year, too.”

Old guys still fighting for the right to party

BY AARON BAUER
STAFF WRITER

It’s been 25-five years since Def Jam produced “License to ILL,” the first full-length album from the rap trio Beastie Boys, but they are still fighting for their right to party. Coming from a background in hardcore punk (circa 1979), the three still hold close to their New York roots with an intense east coast rap flavor that has developed great depth in the last 30 years.

All the members of the Beastie Boys are in their mid-40s now, but they have yet to give up on the reputation they have made for themselves as peculiar, original and slightly annoying rappers. So in early 2009, Adam “MCA” Yauch announced they would be releasing an album that would give fans a taste of the group’s new direction, which would be made up of record sampling as they play and rap over the tracks. Like previous albums, the production of the new record, titled “Hot Sauce Committee” would span multiple years, and the release date was a giant joke even to the band. They planned to continue recording, but no news has come of it yet. On the bright side, Part II dropped on Tuesday, and with it came a creative, angst-ridden drum-loop-heavy frenzy for the ears.

Beastie Boys feature two great artists on “Hot Sauce Committee.” New York rapper Nas offers his skills on “Too Many Rappers” (one of my favorite tracks), and Santigold, who released her first record in 2008, is hear on “Don’t Play No Game That I Can’t Win.” As for the samples used on this album, I can’t pick out the specific songs that any of them are from, a lot of production work has been done over the last year and a half, and it definitely shows in tracks like “Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament” and another with a title that I can’t print.

“The Words That Maketh Murder” was earlier in her career, it’s still shrill and off-kilter to fit her subject matter. “England,” for instance, has a primal farrago of voices that mangles and teems—whoever’s joined in on this track yowls like a band of mourners. And “The Glorious Land” samples a very familiar battle-time horn melody that, paired with dismal guitar chords in “chumsy” timing, sounds utterly malformed. Powerfully so.

Others—for instance, “On Battleship Hill” or “The Colour of the Earth”—have a yearning tone that’s almost Celtic or mythic or pub song. Even though I don’t know firsthand what time-worn emotion is behind these, I feel it pretty deeply. And all of that’s without mentioning some of the melodies on tracks like “The Words That Maketh Murder” or “Written On the Forehead” or “The Last Living Rose,” which all have an unlikely catchiness—they’ll soon be burnt into your memory, and you’ll willingly take on their heaviness.

So where do things end up for PJ Harvey? While this isn’t an upfront protest record, the polemic does get placed once or twice. One of the record’s standout lines comes from “The Words That Maketh Murder”; in it, Harvey asks, “What if I take my problems to the United Nations?” It’s a boldly straightforward line that staves right into the diplomatic defects that have outlasted the Great War.

As I’ve been looking into the world I’ve come into, it’s looking more and more abysmal to me. PJ Harvey’s latest seems as dead-on as I can imagine, and for that I’d say it’s probably the most compelling record of the year thus far. For some, I’m sure it’ll be unpalatable. And, in a backhanded way, I agree with their take: like the world, “jutting out, cracked like teeth in a rotten mouth.”
Time for a new definition

BY GRETA FLODING
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

What is sexy? This philosophical debate has been going on for eons. Probably ever since Eve was unsure of how to arrange her fig leaves. The term is as elusive as trying to define what SPAM is. I think deep down we all want to be sexy—there is a certain power in it.

Unfortunately, sexy sometimes gets a bad rap. We can tend to think that being sexy means something dirty or promiscuous. I would disagree with this line of thought. Sexy is an attitude, an awareness of one’s self. To dress sexily doesn’t necessarily mean that we need to embrace corsets or badly-dyed animal prints. The new definition of sexy can be someone who is completely covered, or even (though I will always hate these) a shirt with a crew neck.

In middle school—that wonderful time when I realized that world revolved around me—I loved tight shirts. I couldn’t help but notice how my sister had an affinity for riding hats, but if you look it up you often even see her legs, but her sexiness blows me away. It might also be the fact that I have an affinity for riding hats, but if you look it up you can judge for yourself. I love the fact that being sexy can be manifested in how you dress, and the truest definition of sexy has nothing to do with being sex-full. We can all look in the mirror and redefine daily what being sexy means for us personally.

I’ve said this many times before, but don’t care; I’ll say it again: fit is important; but good fit doesn’t necessarily mean extremely form-fitting. The most warped sense of sexy is a person who wears things that are unflatteringly tight and revealing, which screams, “I’m desperate, unaware and have no self confidence.”

Grace is sexy. Boldness is sexy. A fit that flows over the body is sexy. Your wrists and collarbones and the outline of your waist is sexy. A flowy blouse that blows around your body can be 10 times sexier than one that is tight. I used to think that long skirts had no place in modern society, but then I saw one that draped lovingly around the woman’s legs and gave her a romantic, ethereal look. It was sexy. This also means that adding a little spice to your wardrobe is great. Showing off a little leg or your curves won’t make you lose your self-respect. Our bodies our beautiful things, and treating your body well doesn’t mean being so ashamed that you cover it all up.

If you want to see an example of someone who I feel redefines “sexy,” look up Janelle Monae. Amazing singer and fashion extraordinaire, Monae wears men’s tunics and riding outfits; and she does it with flair. I don’t think I have ever even seen her legs, but her sexiness blows me away.

You might be asking yourself, “What does this have to do with doing sex-full? The mechanics are simple enough—each level consists of a unique map, with caves, hills, or other probably pointy bits of terrain. There is one objective per map, explained briefly and clearly by the loading screen. As an aside, the loading screens themselves are lovely, and I spend far too much time sitting at each one, doing what most would describe as “basking.” They’re covered in a lovely plaster of art, presenting an alien world in bright and vivid colors, each befitting quite nicely the type of area you’re bounding around in, with bizarre creatures wandering around and generally paying you no heed. The exploration that the relative openness of the maps affords is only exalted further by the visual touches in little corners of the world.

Crashed bits of the starship you fled from, piles of debris, small alien villages and various other little tidbits that show you quite a bit about this strange place you’ve impacted upon. It is truly an alien place. However, this visual stylization does sometimes hamper the more physical parts of the experience. Often, where the ground technically is and where the ground seems to be is slightly discrepant, which can cause some trouble. One flaw that I could not escape was the brightness of a certain couple levels involving a mountain range that is made of buoyant, naturally occurring gas plants. Hooodness goodness that was shiny. There were a few points where I could not rightly tell what was going on, where I was, or what manner of vonacious beastie was devouring me. That last bit happens a lot. But seriously, Video Games, tone down on the bloom effects, please.

Don’t get me wrong, the game is pretty and the visual style stands out among the often-crowded independent game marketplace. Too many games have fallen back on a standard of retro-styled visuals, mainly for good reasons: nostalgia is a powerful force, and low-tech visuals are far easier for a small team to work with. But it comes alive when you can hear it. The music. I must re-emphasize how excellent it is. I don’t know much technically about music, so I’ll just stick to describing it as such: “My WORD that’s good music.” The game’s just really well put together, with guns going “zap” and “plonk” just the way they should, aliens launching arrows and threats at you with alarming gusto, and the little astronaut is highly responsive to the controls, even when combining fun with getting flung about by a grappling hook.

So, what am I slowly stumbling toward here? I’d say Cap-sized does a good job tasking a relatively outdated model of a game and touching it up enough that it’s enjoyable even without this pretentious talk of aesthetic experiences. They got enough of it right. It’s nothing that will change the face of video games as we know them, but by my word it is a good time.

Something’s gone terribly wrong on Whatever Spaceship You’re On. Heavens! Well, to the escape pods, then. No sense in staying aboard what amounts to a space viking funeral.

Unfortunately, you end up crashing on the planet below. This planet is big and nasty and full of crazy, mostly hungry, sometimes angry, alien life. There is an inexplicably hostile species of aliens that keep trying to murder you, something they’ve been successful about in regards to most of the rest of your crew. You, as a tiny astronaut, are armed, ready to search for any survivors, and attempt an escape from this insane world.

The mechanics are simple enough—each level consists of a unique map, with caves, hills, or other probably pointy bits of terrain. There is one objective per map, explained briefly and clearly by the loading screen. As an aside, the loading screens themselves are lovely, and I spend far too much time sitting at each one, doing what most would describe as “basking.” They’re covered in a lovely plaster of art, presenting an alien world in bright and vivid colors, each befitting quite nicely the type of area you’re bounding around in, with bizarre creatures wandering around and generally paying you no heed. The exploration that the relative openness of the maps affords is only exalted further by the visual touches in little corners of the world.

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**Features**

**Students unite love of unique sports with zeal to serve others**

**BY ANNA HENKE**

The green can seem pretty crowded in the spring, with disc golf and gennis being played simultaneously. Gennis, or golf with a tennis ball, “exploded in popularity about a year ago” on campus, said senior David Butler. For that reason, he and junior Steven Van Wyhe have organized a best-ball gennis tournament on Friday, May 6, with all proceeds going to the Bridge. The winning team will win “the coveted jacket.”

Senior Klarc Korver, an avid gennis player, said that he has “only good memories” of playing gennis on campus. Korver remembers people in his high school youth group playing gennis, but he didn’t start playing until he came to NW.

Korver and his friends play regularly, using a variety of planned and impromptu courses. The 18-hole course for the tournament is a par 78 and will be set up as a par 62 during the competition. Korver and his friends sometimes use the golf cart regularly driven by SGA president Justin Jansen for long drives. He and his friends sometimes use the golf cart as a substitute for the golf cart.

Korver said that he plays the highway as a water hazard with penalty strokes. The same rule applies for hitting anything you shouldn’t—like cars or people. When asked about the rules of gennis, Butler said they are the same as golf, and reminds players to replace your divot and watch out for pedestrians. Butler recalls his most memorable hole of gennis as “hitting out of the lake on the spot of the late Heemstra Hall in the early spring, barefoot with the mud seeping through my toes.” He jokingly refers to gennis as “poor man’s golf” because all you need is a golf club and a tennis ball.

The 18-hole course for the tournament is a par 78 and will take participants all across campus. Up to 18 four-person teams will take part in the tournament. See “Gennis” page 5

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**Purity, promise and that dang ring by spring**

**BY SHELBY VANDER Molen AND EMILY GOWING**

No, this is not another article about ring by spring. Freshman Andrea Ver Mulm has worn hers long before the snow melted.

It’s a purity ring, rather than an engagement ring, that Ver Mulm wears on her ring finger. While it may seem like “everybody’s engaged,” the majority of Northwestern students have ring stories like Ver Mulm’s and not of a 4-karat rock their boyfriend surprised them with.

Ver Mulm has worn her golden band on her ring finger since the summer she got it nearly seven years ago. While she said she remembers making up “little corny stories about my hubby and me,” she also takes the symbolism of a purity ring very seriously.

Freshman Jackson Nickoly’s ring shows how seriously he takes his love of the “Lord of the Rings” trilogy. It’s a replica of the ring worn by the character Barahir. The ring brings back memories of his mother reading “The Hobbit” aloud to him when he was younger.

Rings are also a familial reminder for junior Shelby Schoon, but in a more solemn way. As the oldest child, Schoon will one day receive her grandfather’s class ring and wedding band as a story-laden family heirloom.

Family connection is also the representation of junior Carolyn Dundas’s ring. Dundas and her sister “always joked about wearing rings to remind [us] of each other,” she said. So instead of traveling pants, these sisters wear rings, Carolyn’s being a gift that her sister purchased while in Scotland visiting the Dundas castle.

As a gift for her 16th birthday, freshman Kelly Burds received a silver Irish ring of a love knot and the Irish Claddagh. The Claddagh, a symbol surrounded by much folklore and no clear-cut origin, displays a hand representing friendship, a heart representing love, and a crown representing loyalty. For Burds, her ring is more than a symbol of relationship status; it is a purity ring and a tribute to her Irish heritage all wrapped up into one.

Whether gifts or heirlooms, rings across campus are symbolic and family-centered, holding meaning long before you meet your significant other and much long after you’ll be divorced.

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**REGRETS**

**BY ALYSSA CURRIER**

With graduation approaching, most seniors are able to reflect on their time at Northwestern and say, “I’d do it all over again.” That’s not to say there aren’t regrets.

Faculty and staff shared some of their biggest regrets from their college years and added with it their advice to graduating seniors.

Professor Mike Kugler’s example is pretty representative of typical college students from freshmen to seniors. Late-night studying and endless procrastination isn’t a good thing, let alone during finals week. Yet, we all do it.

“I had put off my biology homework until the very end of the course,” Kugler said. “It was a warm, sunny afternoon and my pals were about to start playing Frisbee on our green. The phone rang. It was my biology professor, the crazy Dr. Harris.” Dr. Harris asked Kugler where his biology homework was. “I stammered an excuse which she interrupted and then demanded that I immediately come over to the lab and finish the work.” Embarrassed and angry, he left his room, crossed the green through his friends playing and relaxing, then spent the next three hours completing his lab homework.

Professor Kugler’s story goes to show that, no matter how severe the senioritis, avoiding the inevitable homework always comes back to haunt the procrastinator.

Not all NW students procrastinate that badly, however, but a lack of social grace can be just as unforgettable as academic mistakes. Theatre professor Karen Barker has sound advice to NW students who may be under the ring-by-spring pressure. “My most regretted college memory is that I went out with my roommate’s boyfriend behind her back.” Dating a friend’s ex is one thing; doing so deceitfully is reason for remorse. And this is one mistake that has caused Barker plenty of guilty feelings. “It’s awful, isn’t it?” she said. “Truly, what can I say?” He was a jerk. I was a jerk and an idiot.”

No matter how cutthroat the senior scramble, respect your friends. As the saying goes, “sisters before misters and bros before…” you know the rest of it.

With just one week left of NW life for graduating seniors, it may be too late to learn these collegiate lessons. The lessons don’t stop once the tassel is turned, though. Professor Ron Juffer gladly shared a more recent memory that still turns his stomach.

“I was teaching a section of Foundations of Education and I told the class that they should remember three primary points from the day’s presentation.” After proceeding to identify the first two points, Juffer drew a blank on the third. In an effort to stall, and hopefully remember this third item, he repeated the first two points. “Unfortunately I still wasn’t able to recall the third one, so I told them that this point was extremely important and that we would begin the next class period reviewing it.” As his students left the classroom, Juffer noticed a few students snickering, and one even mentioned that “Juffer forgot the 3rd point.”

Making mistakes is inevitable in college and in life. Learn from your mistakes, learn from others and own up to your faults; you’ll surely grow from them.

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**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

Professor Kugler expects all of his students to be diligent and done with their homework before finals week.
Caf grows healthy

BY EMMA LUNDGREN

Evidenced by the addition of the lunch salad toss option, Sodexo, Northwestern’s food service provider, has pledged to improve the quality of the fruits and vegetables they offer, increasing their healthful options to a record high of 27 percent nutrition.

The cafe now features a double salad bar, fruit or vegetable water, and veggie burgers in the grill line on every other Wednesday. Under Sodexo’s new plan, vegetables will be offered more often, with the butter content reduced by a whopping, 30 percent. Fruit options will also be more frequent, delicious, and catered to perfection in syrup made from the fruits’ own juices and a generous helping of fructose.

Sodexo spokesperson Lyle Larsen said of the changes, “The added fruits and vegetables are in response to suggestions made by several students who wanted more options for their vegetarian diets. We hope our customers will find the extra healthy choices appealing and fitting for their needs. We believe that students’ dining experiences should be fun. Adventurous. Delectable. But most of all, customized.”

Junior Ruth Fredriksson, a vegetarian, is excited about the salad bars. “I love how many options we have now. Before, we only had one way to get a salad. But now I can quickly grab my favorite salad from Line 1 when I’m in a hurry, or I can feel self-sufficient and creative while carefully making my favorite salad on my own from the salad bar. It’s fantastic.”

As always, the chefs in the kitchen will be enthusiastically experimenting with their new supply of ingredients. Featured on the finals week menu are creamed corn pie, cauliflower-flavored water, and berry soup, a concoction of strawberries in juice with splashes of cherry- and blueberry-based syrups.

“Not everyone is thrilled with the different food. Senior Alfred Wheeler opined, “They keep changing everything in the cafe. First they took away our trays. Then they restricted our access to sandwich ingredients. Now they’re trying to force me to eat ‘healthy’ food? I thought this was a private school. I feel like I’m in high school again.”

Having received overall positive feedback from area schools, Sodexo has some plans in the works for next year, including providing a tofu bar and drinkable spinach salads. For more information on the nutritional goals of Sodexo, visit www.nwcdining.com/nutrition.

Terrorist Support Group approved

BY ANDREW LOVGREN

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In what many students view as a controversial decision, both SGA and the administration have approved the Terrorist Support Group (TSG) as a campus-endorsed organization.

The approval comes a week prior to a TSG-planned movie-viewing and discussion. Over the past few weeks leading up to the presentation of “Love the Person, Hate the Bomb,” the film has caused controversy for presenting a different opinion than that of most students.

People may not agree with their lifestyle,” said SGA president Justin Jansen, “but there isn’t anything against terrorism in the student handbook. As long as they aren’t acting on their personal values, we have no reason not to welcome them onto our campus.”

The founder of the group, enlightened sophomore Daniel Smithsonian, had been trying to get approval for the group for the past six months, but had run into issues when most of campus would rather ignore the terrorists’ very existence.

“Terrorists are people, too,” Smithson said, while handing out informative recycling in the cafeteria earlier this week. “It’s not about what they choose to do. It’s not even about who they are. It’s a chance for us to love everyone.”

This hippie lifestyle of treating everyone like human beings was supported in an e-mail by President Greg Christy announcing the official NW endorsement of the group.

“Consistent with the position of the Reformed Church in America, the college lifts up the Christian ideal of loving others and contends that terrorists deserve to be loved like everyone else.” Also, Christy stated that “the college

See “Love” on pg. 4

Student stumbles upon online news

BY EMILY GOWING

FEATURES EDITOR

What many students would see as an inconvenience, junior Heather Moore saw as an open door.

“Northwestern’s unreliable Internet can be a real pain for students during the final weeks of school. The server is swamped with requests from all over campus as students are scrambling to finish their research papers, find statistics for a presentation or procrastinate even longer on Facebook.”

While Facebook was experiencing technical difficulties last Tuesday afternoon, Moore took the opportunity to catch up on the latest news another way. “Usually when I’m stumped for words on a paper, I’ll just scroll through the News Feed on Facebook. Facebook was down, though, so I started stumbling, and ended up stumbling upon one of the greatest things I’ve ever seen.”

Before Tuesday afternoon, Moore knew of four useful sites on the Internet: Facebook, Stumble Upon, YouTube and her NW homepage.

“Here on campus, we don’t know about what’s going on, since there are not a lot of opportunities to find out about news,” Moore said. “But then I was utterly shocked when I came across this online news thing, I mean seriously, did you know there are websites that offer the news online? That’s

See “Excuses” on pg. 3
Unwed senior buys cats, knitting needles, and prepares for lifetime of loneliness

BY KATI HENG

As her peers who actually found love prepare to begin the next phase of their lives with guaranteed joy, senior Amanda Olson is preparing herself for life as a 20-something spinster.

Olson’s tragic story began in August of 2008. As the other incoming freshmen paired off and bravely faced the repercussions of pre-October love, Olson focused on getting to know her roommate and the other girls on her floor.

“The last time we spent time together, but I also worried about her future,” said Olson’s roommate, Natalie Moore Veery. “I didn’t need to know when we find out that there was some evil, we’d always be time to find someone my senior year.”

Olson did everything right this past year—she enrolled in classes she knew would be dominated by males, sat in chapel pews directly behind the cutest groups of men, attended sporting events she didn’t know a thing about and cheered louder than anyone’s girlfriend, prayed to find her soulmate during every meal, used closed dorm hours to Skype with potential lovers from her high school and even dropped her papers in the hallway because every class, hoping the one would stop to help, then immediately fall in love with her.

“It got to the point where I was breaking things in the computer lab so badly that they became a safety hazard, and then waited for the computing service work study guys to come so I could talk to them,” said Olson.

After $789 in fines and a tumult of electronic chemical gas fumes, Olson decided to call it quits and accept the life of an old maid.

“They’re just in the cards for me,” said Olson.

The senior spent last weekend driving to a farm outside of Sioux Center, where she adopted six newly weaned kittens.

“They’ll be my family now,” she said.

Olson stopped at Wal-Mart on the drive home and purchased several knitting needles and balls of yarn. Although she has not yet mastered the art of knitting, Olson believes she will have the rest of her life to learn.

“If it’s my own fault, really,” she said. “I didn’t listen to my friends and wanted too long to find love. I mean, who expects to find someone when they’re 22 and growing older every second? All that love I thought was saving for a husband will now be going to Mr. Whiskers and my other cats.”

Next year SAC will, blah, blah blah....

Cont. from pg. 1

Students’ excuses are now invalid

BY JORDAN LANGER

When it comes to pulling from. More than just my friends, “I love my more than just my friends,” Moore said. “I mean, I love my room!”

“I remember Natalie stopping by my room and asking me what was going on and how I had Obama on my computer,” Moore said.

“From there, it all spread so quickly.”

In just a matter of minutes, the news got out that there was news on campus. Students from every dorm were gathered around televisions and computers, watching the president address the nation about the killing of the terrorist.

“There’ve been so many times when I’ve walked by that TV and never knew what magic was inside of it,” Mathis said of the TV in Fern’s lounge.

Senior Devon Lawrence agreed. “There are so many incredible things going on right now,” he said as he watched the television news in West’s lobby. “First of all, we find out that there is a way for us to be informed; we don’t have to be ignorant college students anymore. Then, almost simultaneously, we find out that the face of evil has been wiped from the planet. I almost don’t know how to take it all in.”

It was an ember that sparked a fire: within 24 hours of Moore’s discovery of online news, students all over campus were informed about the world around them, had opinions about current issues and were raising their voices, proud to have seen the light.

The idea of the consolation bracket is to show the team that lost just how bad it is to lose, even if there seems like there’s promise in it.
Want turkey and lasagna? Rent a tux, buy a dress

BY LINDEN FIGGIE

Whether you’re eating brunch with your grandparents after church or making it just in time for lunch after a nap, Sunday best is now a mandatory requirement at the caf on Sunday mornings.

Taking the “no shirt, no shoes, no service” policy to the extreme, the caf stated in a recent press release that it will strictly abide to the revised mandate. “It is our job to keep our students well fed and fueled for the day,” said senior Bubba Tolson. “Why shouldn’t students have to look the part of a Christian when they are eating on the Sabbath? It just makes sense.”

Students had varied responses. “This is absurd.” said senior Bubba Tolson. “How I dress and present myself in my clothing does not dictate my faith.” Tolson, a Christian education major regularly attends First Reformed Church with his Colenbrander wingmates most Sunday mornings.

There is a group of us who carpool over there for breakfast.” Tolson said. “I like dressing up for Church, but to make it a requirement is to take away our freedom.”

On the opposite end, freshman Rita Knot recalls her visit to NW last year as a prospective student. “I remember looking around at everyone and seeing most people dressed up.” Knot said. “The girl I was staying with told me that she always dressed up on Sundays, even though she rarely went to church.”

Sophomore Kate Nyce feels the pressure of looking presentable on Sunday mornings.

“If there just happens to be a day that I miss church, I still dress up because I feel like everyone is judging me.” Nyce said. “I hate the feeling of everyone, even the cafeteria ladies, looking at me up and down and then turning their heads. It’s sickening, so I just suck it up and put on a skirt.”

While some students feel a loss of freedom, President Greg Christy believes that being required to dress up on Sunday mornings for brunch brings unity to the school.

“It’s like bringing back school uniforms. It unites the students and reminds them of the school’s religious affiliation.” Over said. “Perhaps the requirement to look polished and purposeful will give students more incentive to attend church in the community, something the school would like to see increase in number.”

Many responded negatively to the institution, yet some remained indifferent, almost pleased. “It gives me a reason to pull my shirt and tie out of the closet at least once,” said sophomore Dillon Rye. “My mom would be proud.”

As the administration and the caf seek to ensure students portray the faith they claim as both Christians and members of NW, discussions and opinions continue to circulate. Whatever your opinion, remember your stacks and dresses this Sunday if you want to enjoy lasagna and roast turkey.

SSP holdout’s life remains unchanged

BY EMILY GOWING

FEATURES EDITOR

Freshman Logan Herzberg recalls feeling bombarded with brightly colored signs shouting at him the benefits of participating in a Spring Service Project (SSP). “I didn’t really know what all the hype was about,” Herzberg said. “Everyone was telling me how great SSP’s are. But I’ve helped repair houses before, and it wasn’t that big of deal.”

Herzberg, who did not go on an SSP, spent his spring break at home working for his dad’s construction company. “My roommate and I basically did the same thing for three days. He paid $600 to fly to New York to build houses, go to church and spend time with people he didn’t know. I drove 45 minutes home to do the same thing.”

However, after coming back to Northwestern and hearing his roommate, freshman Jordan Pederson, talk about his life-changing experiences in New York, Herzberg now sees what he missed out on. “It’s not the work you do or the people you meet. Because like I said, I am and I did the same thing. But for some reason, his life was changed and I still feel like the same person I was before spring break.”

After three years at NW, junior Lauren Collins knows of the dramatic life transformations that come hand-in-hand with a weekend SSP. “For the past three years, my friends have all come back to school with their eyes open to the way God was working in other people’s lives and their hearts broken by the suffering they saw,” Collins said. “In all honesty, I chose not to go on an SSP. I like my life the way it is and didn’t want it changed.”

It wasn’t oblivious or stubbornness that kept sophomore Kate Middleton from going on an SSP; but rather her lack of financial surplus needed to pay for such a life-changing experience. “One of my friends went on her Utah SSP expecting to serve and love the people she met but ended up being the recipient of that love and blessing,” Middleton said. “The people she met had such strong faith and passion for God; my roommate seems way different after meeting those people. I wish I could’ve done that; I just couldn’t afford to have my life changed.”

Instead, Middleton spent her spring break in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, volunteering her time at the Union Gospel Mission. “It was good, it just wasn’t an SSP.” Middleton said.

“I had a lot of good conversations, but I don’t think my life is changed by the SSPers’ lives are changed.”

Herzberg, Collins and Middleton were just a small part of the 80 percent of NW students whose lives were not changed over spring break.

‘Love the Person. Hate the Bomb’

Cont. from pg. 1

welcomes dialogue about controversial social issues.

A majority of students have spoken out against the group, claiming that the approval will destroy the community that NW prides itself on. “First they wanted to marry. Then they want to be treated as more than second-class citizens. These terrorists are destroying my family and my Christian ideals with their very existence,” said outraged junior Cindy Enderson in a Twitter post last night, as to avoid actually talking about the issue.

Other students felt left out and unsupported without a group focused on them. “Where is the Middle-class Educated Straight White Christian Support Group? I wanna be loved too,” said junior John Doe.

Despite the explosive nature of the many students’ reactions, some have decided to embrace the group as a way to love those different from themselves. “I don’t see how people can outright hate these people,” said proudly progressive junior Rachel Arnet. “What they choose to do in the privacy of their own homes is up to them. Who are we to tell them what they should or shouldn’t do?”

Now that the group is officially campus endorsed, the movie screening can take place in Christ Chapel, proving that it is indeed endorsed by NW and by God. Students are encouraged to attend to learn more about the Lihad taking place for terrorist rights, even within the Sioux County Pleasantville, Orange City.

Just days before, terrorist rights activist Osama bin Laden unexpectedly canceled his chapel speaking engaged. The reason is yet unknown.
NW student admits
‘I’m never leaving’

BY ALENA SCHUESSLER
COPY EDITOR

Northwestern philosophy student Anna De Vanderstra is a senior. Most seniors at this point are looking forward to graduation next Saturday, but not De Vanderstra. She openly admits: “I’m not planning to leave here any time. It’s awesome here and, to be honest, the real world is just too scary.”

De Vanderstra has lived in Ferm Smith Hall for the four years she’s attended NW, living in the same room with the same roommate each year. According to De Vanderstra, once her life became comfy, she never wanted it to change. She later decided to “stay here forever” when spring semester of senior year rolled around.

“Seeing my future within reach—right there, before my eyes—scared the heck out of me. I knew the grace period on my student loans would only last so long before I wished I were back in college. So I made the decision I would never leave.”

Since she made this realization, she has quickly begun adding majors. Along with her philosophy major, she’s added a neuroscience major and a computer science minor. She figures it’s really the only way she’ll get by with not graduating, since she’s already fulfilled her chapel credits for the semester.

De Vanderstra described the decision as empowering, and she has begun to encourage others to do the same thing. This week she put up a plethora of signs around campus, persuading students to stay in college longer than they need to. The title of her campaign is “Valor,” referring to the courage it took her to make the decision. Unfortunately, her sign features a giant black V on a white sheet of paper, so most students just think it’s an ad for the improv group.

“We had a little trouble with promoting the campaign,” De Vanderstra said. “And by we, I mean me.”

Northwestern College raises the bar

BY KATI HENG
OPINION EDITOR

Students who can barely lift the bar, do girl push-ups or run slower than an average grandmother will no longer be allowed to attempt any form of exercise in the DeWitt Physical Fitness Center.

The new rule was created after several athletic individuals complained to Director of Athletics, Barry Brandt, that they were getting too distracted out to work by the unbelievable lack of physical fitness in some of their fellow students.

“It’s ridiculous,” said junior, super-ripped football jock Todd Benson. “I’ll be in the weight room, trying to work my quads, when I have to stop and mock some scrawny little twerp because his form is so awful. It totally ruins my workout when I have to stop and laugh at people.”

Brandt agreed with the complaints, saying, “It’s not fair to punish those who are doing well by keeping them in a room with students who are behind where they should be at their age.”

Just as many swimming pools require children to pass a test before being allowed to swim in deep water, the DeWitt Physical Center will now require students to pass “The Bar” before they are allowed to participate in exercise.

“The Bar” consists of 16 laps around the track, 2 miles on the elliptical machines at a level 14 incline, benching 10 reps of 65 pounds, beating head football coach Kyle Acherthood in a round of wallyball, and not being able to touch your toes due to all the extra muscle buildup. Students have 30 minutes to pass “The Bar” to prove themselves to be somewhat athletic.

Students who fail to pass “The Bar” will be immediately removed from the DeWitt Physical Center. The test may be attempted only once per school year.

WWJD: The app
With bracelets gone, tech teaches new gen. how to live correctly

BY WESTON CUTTER
BEACON ADVISOR

“Honestly, it started when Greg would e-mail, talking about how things were so different in Spain,” says Jordan Langer, senior and inventor of the WWJD App, available for both iPhones and smartphones running the Android operating system. “He told me one time he saw a priest out drinking at 2 in the morning, and he said that was the least strange thing he saw.”

Langer, a graduating senior, also mentioned that the app was developed with a moderately selfish motive. “So many of us, when we come to Northwestern, we don’t really know what to expect, how Christian it is compared to where we’ve come from. There’s stuff that a good Christian might do in Lincoln that’d never happen in Orange City, and I thought there should be some easy way to let people know what to expect, how to adjust.

The What Would Jesus Do? App tracks a user’s location and offers the user a sense of local manners and sensibilities. For instance, a user in Orange City would be advised against spitting, listening to rap music, or even thinking about having an alcoholic beverage, even if of age.

“I don’t even like computers or anything that much, but when that

last Kanye record came out, I’d find myself singing some of the lines from ‘Runaway’ under my breath, and I thought, huh, I bet there’s a way to let people know when that’s not okay to do.”

Langer, with IT help from several NW alumni who’ve chosen to remain nameless, created a database which tracks the relative conservatism of a place based on zip code. Langer says he was surprised every step of the way, all through the development.

“Did you know that in Chicago you can be gay and a Christian? It’s totally okay. In Minneapolis, you’re actually supposed to be nice if you’re a Christian—it’s this Minnesota thing. It’s okay to drink as a Christian basically everywhere except certain really small places. Also, in some places it’s okay to listen to rap, in others it’s okay to listen to harder rock, but only in a few places is it okay to listen to both and still be a Christian.”

The app, which was approved by Apple on April 16 and which sells for 99 cents, has so far made Langer and his associates “good money,” in his words. “And the best part of the app is that, now that I’ve got some money, I can just find out how much to tithe based on where I am. I’m sort of glad I’m moving to Omaha, actually: there’s a lower tithe rate there.”

WWJD

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PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

PHOTO COURTESY OF HIDEOUT.COM

PHOTO BY BOB LATCHAW

PHOTO COURTESY OF HIDEOUT.COM
Drawn by Christian atmosphere, Pauls joins Northwestern faculty

BY HOLLY STEWART
STAFF WRITER

Kenton Pauls, Dean of Enrollment Management, sees the value of diversity on college campuses and in life.

Growing up as a missionary kid in Papua New Guinea helped instill in Pauls a love for diversity and other cultures. “Being my ethnicity, but having grown up in a foreign country; you look at life differently while life looks at you the same.”

Hoping he’d bring a new perspective on admissions and retention, Northwestern hired Pauls in March 2011. In this position, Pauls oversees admissions, financial aid and public relations, and works with student retention. Pauls’ job description is to get and keep the right students here. “I need to advocate the things that matter as well as help students stay and be successful here,” he said.

Prior to coming to Northwestern, Pauls served as director of enrollment services at the University of North Dakota, and served as a senior admissions counselor at Trinity Western University in Langley, British Columbia, Canada. Pauls, a native of Canada, became an American citizen in July of 2009.

Making the move to Northwestern was a big one, but one that Pauls knew he was ready for. “I know that my life was positively impacted by a distinctly Christian undergrad education and that it prepared me well to go into the marketplace and not only be capable and competent but also make what I hope is a difference for Christ. So as opportunities came up for career advancement, this Christian atmosphere drew me” he said. Pauls has enjoyed working alongside the admissions counselors, financial aid and public relations staff, and has described his colleagues as “super” and “dedicated.”

“My entire professional life, I have been in admissions and recruitment. And this corner of the world is pretty fun. We laugh and work hard and connect with one another and the people that we serve. It’s a really great working environment,” Pauls said.

Pauls firmly believes that what really matters is that students find themselves in relationships that are authentic as soon as they get to campus. It is important for retention that those relationships are formed with their advisors and other faculty.

Pauls looks forward to establishing these authentic and professional relationships with students. “I really love that faculty talk about individual students, not just the idea of students. I think that is very special,” Pauls said.

Gennis
cont. from page 4

teams will compete in the tournament, and 11 teams had already registered when I spoke to Butler on Tuesday. The tournament is best-ball, which means all four players will hit, and the team will play from the best of the four balls.

Butler said that it was Van Wybe’s idea to use the tournament as a fundraiser for the Bridge. They are well on their way to their goal of $350, having already collected over $100 with many participants and sponsors having yet to pay.

The tournament has a $3 entrance fee per player. Holes can be sponsored for a fee of $5. The names of the sponsors will be listed on the marker for each hole. Current sponsors include President Christy, the missions department and a variety of other departments on campus.

The tournament starts at 4 p.m. on May 6. Entrants will be accepted until the starting time or until they reach the maximum number of teams.

Butler hopes that this tournament will become a tradition here at Northwestern.
Should Christians celebrate because of bin Laden’s death?

BY NICKI SCHUCKBERND

I could not believe that Osama bin Laden was dead. When I turned on the TV and saw the headlines on Sunday night, my stomach dropped and I had to ask myself if this was real.

At first, all I could think about was the families of the U.S. soldiers and how proud and relieved they must be. The longer I watched the TV and the more I heard shouts of joy, the more I asked myself, “Now what?”

I’m afraid the death of Osama bin Laden is just going to stir up more hatred toward our country. It’s not over.

I went to the Hub a little after 10 p.m., and there was a lot of commotion. People were proclaiming things like “AMERICA! YEA!” I wasn’t surprised by that reaction, but I wondered if that would be the response Christ would want from us.

Don’t get me wrong, I am so grateful and thankful for the troops that sacrificed everything so that the rest of us don’t have to. Still, it makes my heart ache that we rejoice over the death of a lost child of God. I wonder if a more somber response would have been more appropriate.

I feel that, as a follower of Christ, I should not rejoice over a death. Yes, Osama bin Laden was a cruel man, but Jesus still loved him and God forgave him.

Shortly after the news of Osama’s death, I read two verses from the Bible: Ezekiel 33:11, “As surely as I live,” declares the Sovereign Lord, “I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live.” and Proverbs 24:17, “Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when they stumble, do not let your heart rejoice.”

I know that I need to respond in love. I am not going to judge people for responding in a way that I believe is not pleasing to God. However, you won’t find me singing with a smile on my face, “Ding, dong! The witch is dead!”

I know that there are many people who hold the same thoughts as I do. I also know that there are going to be many people who are upset with those of us who are against rejoicing Bin Laden’s death, but that is something that we should be willing to tolerate for the sake of the love of Christ.

I hope that as the body of Christ, we can respond with a love that would be pleasing to God.

BY ANDREW LOVGREN

Let us not mistake impulse for perspective. This past Sunday, students paraded around the dorm, draped in American flags and screaming expletives of joy, at the death of someone who has been active in al-Qaeda longer than they’ve been alive.

Other people’s reactions to the news went all the way to the other end of the spectrum to utter judgment of those reveling in the victory, often misusing Scripture to condemn the actions of those next door.

Neither reaction was correct, because neither group stopped to think before throwing up their gut reaction on Facebook and Twitter and running around screaming. Many of these were part of a chain reaction by friends and neighbors, sharing in the revelry or sadness, without reading so much as a headline, let alone watching Obama deliver his speech.

Our generation has very little understanding of the situation surrounding Osama bin Laden. We were in roughly sixth grade on 9/11 and just learning the alphabet when he bombed the TradeCenters for the first time in ’93. A majority of students weren’t even born when bin Laden came into power.

Such a gap in our understanding would still be bearable, if students actually read the news and were informed. The context makes this event so much bigger than the loss of one man. The events in the Middle East make bin Laden’s death more impacting than we, especially I, can know.

Even if you are one of the atypical, globally aware students who reads the news every day, the perspective that we carry into the reading of news articles is skewed immensely by our lack of experiences and pre-conceived knowledge.

For this reason, it is imperative that students take the time to not only become aware of what is going on in the world, but also to think about, discuss and research what that means.

This is painfully evident in our generation’s rush to be the first to crack a joke or post a witty status update in response. What is perhaps even worse is the large portion that remain uninformed completely.

It’s not about having all the information or analyzing the surrounding context. It’s about having a desire to stop being ignorant and begin understanding the importance of events.
**Sports**

Golf teams finish year with strong efforts

**BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK**

The Northwestern men’s golf team finished up their season on Monday with the final round of the GPAC qualifier. The team shot a 316, which was good enough for sixth place overall.

Sophomore Michael Dykema finished in third place on the day after shooting a 75. Freshman Neil Malenke recovered on the back nine to tie for 13th with his 78.

Freshman Ryan Kiewiet tied for 30th after he brought an 81 into the clubhouse. Sophomore Michael Clark was within striking distance after carding an 84 to round out the Raider lineup.

Overall, Northwestern finished in fifth place after the 72-hole GPAC qualifier. This did not qualify them for the post season, but there is much to look forward to next fall. Malenke earned all-conference honors by finishing seventh overall, and Ryan Kiewiet just missed the honor by finishing 11th.

Malenke also was honored as GPAC Player of the Week to end the season.

On the women’s side, senior Maggie Rozenboom earned a runner-up medalist honor and led the women’s golf team one last time on Saturday in the final round of the GPAC qualifier.

The team finished third on the day, and led by Rozenboom and freshman Taylor Kline both placed 10th on the day after shooting a 95 each. Junior Andria Hinz carded a 97 (T17th). Senior Sara Horn also finished up her career as a Raider by tying for 29th after her 100. Sophomore Leigh Van Hove (T48th) brought in a 110.

Rozenboom earned all-conference honors for the third straight year while finishing in second place. The future looks bright as Kline also finished in the top 10, earning all-conference honors with a seventh place finish to end the year.

**Postseason play begins for track, tennis**

**BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK**

The Northwestern women’s tennis team and track and field squads will be in action this weekend as they try to extend their seasons.

The tennis women will start their run to the GPAC Women’s Tennis Championship day as they try to extend their seasons. The rest of the Raider singles will be in action this weekend. The Northwestern women’s Tennis Championship day as they try to extend their seasons.

**Baseball, softball drop both playoff games**

**BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK**

The spring seasons came to a close for both the softball and baseball teams as each team dropped their playoff games.

On Thursday night, the baseball team couldn’t repeat their magic from last year as they fell to Sioux Falls 5-2, and lost the elimination game to Mount Marty 13-8. The Raiders gave away runs in both games, with 11 of the 18 total runs scored against them being unearned.

The first game was a sloppy effort in the field as the Raiders committed four errors in the field. Junior Mike Zoeller picked up only his second loss of the entire season after he walked four batters. The Cougars took advantage of the unearned baserunners. Zoeller went distance after distance, but couldn’t find a way to drive enough of them in. Junior Steve Englund did well at the dish, going 2-for-3 and knocking in four RBI. Senior catcher Clint Gingerich drove in three runs in his final collegiate game.

The NW softball team couldn’t come up with the necessary victories and were bounced from the postseason Thursday night.

The first game saw NW fall to Concordia 7-1, and the elimination game saw Hastings make a late rally to win 8-4.

Stats were unavailable at the time of printing for the Concordia matchup.

In what turned out to be the final game of the season, freshman Keely Bracelin took the loss inside the circle after giving up 14 hits and eight runs in a full seven innings of work. The Raiders pounded out 10 hits, but couldn’t capitalize enough of them.

Freshman Alex Price went 2-for-5 as he drew one hit in the batter’s box and knocked in one run. Senior Rachel Harris went 1-for-4 in her final game.
Car sets fire in lot, firefighters step in

Cont. from page 1

“When they got there, there were six-foot-high flames coming out the sides,” Vermeer said. Lundberg and other firefighters carefully approached the car from a 45-degree angle, aware that shock absorbers can explode out the direct front and back of a burning vehicle.

“I recall them being pretty light-footed about it. They approached slowly,” Norris said.

After reducing the flames with water, firefighters used a tool to pry open the hood and expose the heart of the fire, the most effective target for their hoses.

“You whack it into the front corner of the hood and open it like a can,” Lundberg said.

Firefighters extinguished the blaze according to plan, and Lundberg said the incident was a routine vehicle fire. No injuries were sustained. Flames blown by strong winds melted the rear fender of another student’s vehicle, but it did not catch fire.

“A cop joked that this was probably the first time in 10 years that the fire department had come to NW and something was really happening,” said Vermeer.

A charred parking space was left behind when the car’s remnant was towed away.

“IT was just a shell. There was nothing left but metal, and even some of that had started to melt away. There was hardly anything left,” Norris said.

Vermeer and Norris believe the fire started because the vehicle’s fuel line ignited when abundant exhaust overheated the engine. Police did not determine the cause of the fire at the scene, but they agreed that Vermeer and Norris’ hypothesis was plausible.

Both Vermeer and Norris remain in good humor, amused by the experience.

“First, it was kind of nerve-wracking and stressful, but then it was kind of cool,” said Norris.

On average, the Orange City Fire Department puts out two or three vehicle fires annually, excluding car wrecks.

Lundberg said drivers can reduce the risk of vehicle fires by keeping their cars in good working order and getting regular tune-ups.

Vermeer does not plan on purchasing another car in the near future because he owns a motorcycle.

“huge flames and smoke were coming out of Hell.”

Jazz band concert features Grammy Award-winner

With a world-renowned jazz saxophonist, flutist and clarinetist to accompany them, the Northwestern Jazz Band plans to end the year with a bang.

A Grammy Award-winning musician, Justo Almario has much success of which to boast. Almario has performed with popular artists like Queen Latifah, Jennifer Lopez, Freddie Hubbard, Roy Ayers, Sergio Mendes, Billy Higgins, Tito Puente, Bebe Winans, Chaka Kahn and Herb Alpert.

Almario has contributed to many prestigious Oscar and Grammy Award-winning works throughout his career. Such productions include “Frenesi” by Linda Ronstadt, “Mi Alma Latina” by Placido Domingo and “Mercy” by Andrae Crouch. Many recognize the films “Happy Feet” and “Sideways,” of which Almario was an integral part.

Hailing from Colombia, Almario melds much of his cultural sounds with his Jazz emphasis.

The jazz band’s final production will solo feature Almario on a diverse repertoire of pieces including popular, jazz and Spanish works.

During a visit to NW in the fall of 2009, Almario performed with the Jazz group Open Hands in both a chapel and private concert. After making an appearance in Friday’s chapel, Almario will accompany the jazz band in their concert Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel. Admission is free and open to the public.

Professor’s coffee shop opens

Heemstra falls; new suites built

Mosque at Ground Zero stirs opinions

Devon Caldwell returns to campus

Japan suffers record tsunami

Women’s basketball wins nationals

U.S. begins to pull out of Iraq

GSG controversy promotes discussion

Future commons receives $2 million

Yoder announces retirement

Jazz band concert features Grammy Award-winner

Hands in both a chapel and private concert. After making an appearance in Friday’s chapel, Almario will accompany the jazz band in their concert Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel. Admission is free and open to the public.