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Beacon Staff

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Behind the mic: An inside peek at NC/DC singers

BY KATI HENG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

NC/DC returns to campus tomorrow night with the Extreme Finals Round. The top two contestants from Dordt and Northwestern who received the most online votes will compete to win the show and bragging rights for his or her college.

Participants in this final round are required to choose at least one of their songs from a list of the top 100 songs from the last four years, forcing some of the singers to perform songs outside their regular genre.

In preparation for tomorrow night, here's a peek at who some of the contestants are, how they're feeling and what they love about NC/DC.

The Beginning Stages
Michelle Kistler, a contestant from Dordt College, has been a part of NC/DC for each of her four years at college. She has made it into the semi-finals for three of those years, but never into the last round.

Ana Lucía Demestri, another Dordt student, has been in the semi-finals of NC/DC as well. Ana Lucía's singing career started at a very young age. She remembers winning her first contest at the age of eight.

Northwestern's own Nicole Northquest has been singing for years as well. She was involved in her high school choir, church choir and school pop concerts. In fact, she had sung "Love That Will Last" as a junior in high school, before she had ever heard of NC/DC.

NW couple Zachary Borchardt and Kirsten Menchaca, both singers and musicians, thought NC/DC would be a fun challenge to do together. "We're both Christians and I think we're pretty cute," said Borchardt as to why the duo decided to participate.

Kistler, a senior, wanted to leave college knowing that she had done NC/DC and getting that sense of accomplishment. She loves singing and the opportunity NC/DC gives her to practice and perfect her passion.

Favorite NC/DC Experience
Contestants Nicole Northquest, Ana Lucía Demestri and Michelle Kistler all love the backstage experience. Although the Dordt and NW crowds may not mingle much, the contestants from both schools have enjoyed getting to know each other.

David Puruloite, a Dordt contestant who won second place in last year's competition, has a full band and loves it. Sharing the musical experience has been a major plus for him.

Zachary Borchardt and Kristen Menchaca said their favorite part was picking out their costumes for the final song. Students will have to come to the show to find out what these two have up their sleeves.

Nerves and Excitement: Feelings about Tomorrow Night
Almost all of the contestants had a bit tougher time choosing a song for Saturday's performance from the Top 100 list. David Puruloite, who normally sings Christian contemporary, is a little nervous about switching up his genre and singing a pop song. Ana Lucía Demestri agrees that she would like to pick her own song, but also enjoys the official feeling of competition that having song limits gives her.

Apart from the competitive spirit, students see multiple benefits. As Michelle Kistler wisely said: "If I make it, that's great. If I don't make it, that's okay too. It's been fun." Zachary Borchardt and Kirsten Menchaca are simply excited for their families and friends to come watch them perform.

"It's gonna be a party pretty much," said Menchaca.

In order to find out who gets in and whose voice steals the night, come to tomorrow night's free show at 10 p.m. in the Bullman Center.

Education goes the distance to make a difference

BY ANNA HENKE
STAFF WRITER

"Get more mileage out of your education" is the slogan of Northwestern's Global Education Center for 2010-2011. Studying abroad is a unique opportunity to experience another culture and see a bit of the world. Summer Study Abroad programs allow students with full semesters to have this experience. The Northwestern study abroad programs were officially announced on Tuesday, Nov. 16. This summer features some new programs as well as some programs that have been offered in the past.

Please note that dates for the programs are still tentative. Prices include credits (discounted at ¾ off tuition) and all direct costs (airfare, food, lodging, entrance fees). All SSAs have pre-departure meetings to prepare for the experience.

Several programs also require participation in a program-specific cross-cultural preparation course, GEN316, which is a one-credit course offered the 2nd half of spring semester 2011.

Dr. Paul Bartlett will be co-leading "Chinese Physical Culture" with Professor Vonda Post, which was last offered in 2009. The Czech Republic program (May 20-June 12) substitutes for KIN360, and is for any students interested in Czech culture, physical activity, sports and active leisure pursuits. Program Cost: $4,100-4,500.

Dr. Michael Kensak and Glenda De Vries will be leading "Germany: Topics in German Cross-Cultural Studies" (May 16-June 8). Students interested in learning the German language, the rise of Nazism or modern art should look into this program. Prior instruction in the German language is not required; students will study German at their own level. Program Cost: $3,900-4,300.

Dr. Laurie Furlong will be leading "France: Culture and Environment" (June 30-July 31). Students interested in biology and learning French should consider this program. Encounter French culture and discover its link with the sea in the coastal city of La Rochelle. GEN316 required. Program Cost: $4,600-4,800.

Dr. Heather Jesselyn-Cranson will be leading "Russian Language, Music and Culture." Prior instruction in the Russian language is not required. Students interested in learning Russian and studying Russian culture through exploration of the folk, church art and contemporary musical traditions of Russia should look into this program. Program Cost: $4,200-4,500.

Dr. Doug Carlson will be leading a new program, "Japan: From Traditional to Modern." Students interested in history, WWII, Samurai culture, contemporary youth culture and business culture should consider this program. GEN316 Required. Program Cost: $4,600-4,800.

Another new program this year is "Faith and Justice in Israel/Palestine," co-led by Professor See 'SSA' on Pg. 2.

Students on a summer study abroad in the Czech Republic show cultural experiences can be educational—and fun.
Adventurous duo Bella Ruse comes to town

BY LINDEN FIGGIE

For Kay Gillette, it's another exciting show. For Joseph Barker, however, it's back to humble beginnings as he returns to his hometown of Orange City. The two musicians, who together comprise the group Bella Ruse, will be putting on a concert Friday, Dec. 3, at 8 p.m. at The Old Factory Coffee Shop.

With the debut release of their new album, "Kuhzoo," Joseph Barker and Kay Gillette are hoping for a bit of a different feel from their previous works.

The duo strived to bring the fun and innocent nuance of the kazoo's sound throughout the entire album theme. "We wanted to communicate a less than serious tone," Gillette said, as they decided to incorporate the unique noise maker into most of their selections.

The two gained much inspiration for their recent album's theme from favorite groups such as Feist, Sigur Ros, Regina Spektor, Over the Rhine and Edith Piaf, whom Gillette labels as one of the "old, fresh singers."

Working at a restaurant together and playing small ensembles on the side, Gillette and Barker's musical career together began with jazz love songs for a special Valentine's Day show.

"We liked playing together," Barker said, and from there, they coupled their musical ambitions. Bella Ruse came about from its Eastern European connotations, as the two wanted to express what the image evokes rather than what it actually means. Barker and Gillette express the indie, artistic feel of their music genre, yet have also brought an ethereal, authentic tone that is wholly their own.

This dynamic dual is all about style; their eccenric tour van is powered solely on vegetable fishes. "It's been an adventure," Barker said. Through his music career, he's "learned more about car mechanics than anything else."

Both began their musical ambitions at young ages, developing their individual talents on a number of instruments. While Gillette pursued her musical talents by way of a degree, Barker found a love for philosophy, choosing to switch from an initial music major to a philosophy degree, keeping music as a significant hobby on the side.

Barker and Gillette both agree that one of the most memorable moments in their career was in the opportunity to play with Sarah McLachlan. "That was awesome," Gillette said, "in the true sense of the word."

SSAs: Worth the cost cont. from pg. 1

Kim Van Es and her husband, Jerry (May 17-June 5). Students interested in religion, English, history or nursing should consider this program. REL 110 and GEN 316 required. Program Cost: $4,500-4,800.

Dr. Laird Edman and Clinical Psychologist, Sally Edman are co-leading a new program this summer, "Turkey: Culture, Faith and Mental Health" (May 16-June 6). Students interested in religion, mental health and Middle Eastern culture should look into studying in Turkey. GEN316 Required. Program Cost: $4,800-5,000.

Summer Study Abroad Programs fulfill NW's cross-cultural general education requirement. Although programs focus on a specific topic, students do not have to be majoring in that discipline to participate. Summer study programs are four credits, with the exception of France, which is a six credit course.

Studying abroad is a financial commitment, but the experience is well worth the cost. Not only do students earn college credit, they also have the added benefit of having someone plan the experience. You will never have a better opportunity to go abroad.

All applications for summer study abroad programs are due February 1. Visit the Global Education office in the Franken Center or talk to the faculty leader supporting a large portion of the project; however, they did not approve full funding of the project. Also discussed was having

Barlett's reflections inspire junior solo flute recital

BY JULIA LANTZ

Years of musical ambition and diligent study culminated for Anna Bartlett this Sunday, Nov. 21, at 3 p.m. in Christ Chapel. Bartlett will be playing the flute for a junior recital performance on campus.

Bartlett enlightened me with her musical background and love of music in a recent interview:

L: How long have you been playing music and what inspired you to start? Bartlett: I was in kindermusik, and I have been playing the flute since fifth grade. My mom wanted her kids to be musical, so my whole family plays music. It was something we were expected to do.

L: Are you going to make music a career or will it be just for fun? Bartlett: I do want a career in music. I am currently an intern in the Symphonic Band, and I occasionally play in church. I also gave a couple of lessons this summer.

L: What inspires you to continue to play music? Bartlett: A: My reflections inspire me the most. I see my music as an outpouring of my reflections and my life. B: My most memorable moment would have to be from my freshman year. I got to do a piccolo solo in the Symphonic Band. For the solo I had to sound like a wooden flute.

L: Who is your favorite musician and what is your favorite kind of music? Bartlett: I really like the American indie rock band called Bishop Allen. I like music that emphasizes the musicianship of those in the band.

L: What are your plans after NW? Bartlett: I plan on going to graduate school, but I don't know where. Someday I would like to become a professor, but that is open to change.

L: Bartlett is looking forward to her performance on Sunday at which Bartlett chose to do a junior recital to challenge herself and to bless others.

A glimpse around the world

BY TYLER LEHMANN

HAITI CHOLERA OUTBREAK

A cholera epidemic in Haiti confirmed Oct. 22 has claimed more than 900 lives. Experts predict it will infect at least 200,000 more.

Medical authorities in Haiti decided Tuesday to focus on treating victims rather than finding the origin of the outbreak.

"We are focused on treating people, getting a handle on this and saving lives," said Daniel B. Epstein, a spokesperson for a branch of the World Health Organization functioning in Haiti.

Scientists found a cholera strain in South Asia that matches the one in Haiti. They suggest the disease could have traveled between the two locations through contaminated food or water.

Many blame UN peacekeepers from Nepal who arrived in Haiti in 2004 to end political conflict. Protestors started riots Monday throughout Haiti.

The UN denies the accusation, but the World Health Organization said the possibility of a link between UN troops and Haiti's cholera epidemic cannot be ruled out.

U.S. AFGHAN OPERATIONS

President Hamid Karzai has called on the U.S. to decrease its military operations in the country.

"The time has come to reduce the presence of, you know, boots in Afghanistan...to reduce the intrusiveness into the daily Afghan life," Karzai said.

In response, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton defended U.S. military operations, saying they are in the best interest of the Afghan people and their government. Clinton also pointed out that the U.S. has conducted its operations in full partnership with the government of Afghanistan.

NATO leaders will begin a two-day summit in Lisbon on Friday to discuss replacing foreign troops with Afghan forces.

ConServe again this year to help support more green initiatives throughout campus, probably over Lent. Current steps to bring this project to implementation include finding out the three-month average for energy this school year.

SGA also moved forward with the process of placing a viewing television in the cafeteria. With the student population in favor of a TV (359 of the 593 respondents), SGA has written a formal proposal requesting a television in the cafeteria, to be presented to administration. A $900 cap has been placed for the TV, if it is approved.

Finally, reports were given on committees meeting outside of SGA. One of these included the Campus Life Committee, which discussed the Internet filter on campus. Currently four categories of websites are blocked per campus policy. Peer-to-peer sites such as Limewire are also blocked due to a federal mandate.

Students reach for the sun

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OPINION

Megachurches can be a megasuccess

BY JANNELLE AGUIRRE

My home church is Southern California's Saddleback with Pastor Rick Warren. Going to a church that averages 20,000 attendees in a typical weekend service sounds intimidating to some people. But I would not have it any other way.

A common misconception of megachurches is that they have so many members, they would not have it any other way. But I would not have it any other way. A common misconception of megachurches is that since they belong within its mega church's ministry consists of the growing attention and service, people do not belong to. Rick strongly emphasizes the importance of being in a small group. It is a way to connect with other churchgoers from your area, share in fellowship in other areas and grow spiritually together.

Small groups are so largely adopted by the church body that it is rare to find a member who is not part of a small group. My household's personal experience is that your group becomes like family. We do most things with our small group, from going out to dinner together to taking trips up the coast.

Another misunderstanding is that megachurches are only megachurch-minded when it comes down to service work. Although Saddleback's church is a place that exposes you to different cultures, styles of worship and people. They are not a "one-size-fits-all" kind of place; instead, they have a wide array of styles to choose from. For example, Saddleback has worship tents varying from traditional, gospel, rock 'n roll and my personal favorite, Hawaiian praise.

Throughout my life, I have been exposed to many different church venues—from newly originating churches in rented-out rooms to over-styled structures, and even from the moderate to extreme church venues. What I find unprecedented about my home megachurch is that no matter what your church style preference is, you can find it there and be fully welcomed and accepted for it.

It is not a place filled with standoffish people. Rick sets a great example of this. After the service, he stands on the patio and asks those who are leaving, "Have you hugged your pastor today?" That is how a church should be—always ready to act out Christ's love, even in the smallest means.

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WE WANT 'EM

Campus entertainment
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FEATURES

There is still hope for Haiti

The worst earthquake in over 200 years hit the country of Haiti on January 12, 2010. The devastation was incredible and countless lives were damaged by the effects. Orange City and Northwestern communities immediately took action.

Sophomore Lindsey Geels and Senior Drew Nonnemacher rose to the challenge, designing and selling the ‘Hope for Haiti’ shirts that NW students are still wearing proudly. Three hundred shirts were printed and sold through the Education office. Almost all of the shirts were sold after just a day or two and NW raised a total of $3,826.75.

"We adopted the verses Romans 12:12-13 for this fundraiser," says."Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." I thought it was a perfect vision statement for Northwestern's campus in light of the earthquake," stated Geels. Nonnemacher spearheaded the black-out for Haiti at one of NW's basketball games, asking students to wear their shirts in support. Local businesses donated money at half-time of the game which was then sent to Sunnybrook Church in Sioux City who donated it to Promise for Haiti. The money went to buy medical supplies, fuel for generators, food, clothing and shelter.

Kelsey Leonard, a junior at Northwestern, has had Haiti on her heart even before the earthquake. She has been there twice, once in May of 2009 and again in August of 2010. While there, she worked in a small orphanage in Petite Riviere, a small mountain village. Leonard is passionate about ministering in Haiti. Touching by the stories of the people she worked with and inspired by their genuine faith, Leonard said that although many have forgotten about the earthquake in Haiti, the country is still struggling.

"In reality, so little has changed since January. You can still see tents in the median of roads the minute you step into Port-au-Prince," she said.

Sarah Earleywine, a 2010 graduate of NW, has been to Haiti seven times. She has seen the devastation firsthand, but also the hope that the Christian Haitians have because of their trust in Jesus. She offers advice to NW students to keep the country in their prayers daily, especially remembering the recent cholera outbreak and the flooding due to the recent hurricane. "It's easy to see something on the news, feel bad, then go on with your day," she said. "Pray, give and communicate with other people about what is going on."

At Northwestern's I-Club Coffee House, Sophomore Claude Gillot, a Haitian student attending Dordt, sang an original song dedicated to his country, first in English, then in the native language of Creole.

"I wrote and recorded the song about eight months ago after getting back from Haiti and seeing all the devastation." Claude is currently working on a CD in dedication to Haiti that will be out sometime next year.

Haiti is not a country to be forgotten. Their struggles and hardships are experiences they have to survive daily. As students, it is easy to get so caught up in our lives at school that we cut ourselves off from the pain and the suffering in the world around us. We can be a small part of that hope that Haiti needs.

Hundreds of years ago to just the other day, it's this week in history

EMILY GOWING
FEATURES EDITOR

It was 147 years ago to this day when our 16th president delivered one of the most influential and memorable speeches in our nation's history. In less than two minutes and with just 10 sentences, President Abraham Lincoln defined America's ideals and the significance of the Civil War that had been tearing the nation apart for nearly two years.

At the dedication of Soldier's National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Penn., Lincoln reminded his audience that this nation had been founded on the proposition that "all men were created equal." It was a speech he said "the world will little note nor long remember" but, of course, he was wrong. Whether or not people remember, the entirety of the speech, the beginning phrase, "Four score and seven years ago," has now become iconic.

Fast-forwarding the clock just 65 years, we now bring you to Nuremberg, Germany on November 20, 1945. Just months after the Second World War had come to an end, 24 high-ranking officials went on trial for the atrocities they had committed during their time in Nazi Germany. The Trial of Major War Criminals was the first trial of its kind in history. The defendants faced charges ranging from crimes against peace, to crimes of war, to crimes against humanity. The proceedings lasted for 10 months and consisted of 216 separate hearings.

It was the perfect day for a parade in Dallas, Texas, 47 years ago on November 22. The eyes of the nation were on one of the biggest cities in the Lone Star State while President John F. Kennedy, accompanied by his wife, rode through the city in a presidential motorcade. It was 12:30 p.m. as Kennedy's open-top convertible drove past the Texas School Book Depository building where Lee Harvey Oswald was hiding out on the sixth floor. Oswald allegedly fired three gun shots, one of which fatally injured President Kennedy. After being rushed to the Dallas' Parkland Hospital, Kennedy was pronounced dead 30 minutes later.

Many would say this event is the 9/11 of our parents' generation. Those who witnessed it, whether live or via television, most likely will forever remember where they were, for it tore our country apart just momentarily to bring it closer together.

One of the most influential photographic magazines in America's history published its first issue on November 23, 1936. LIFE Magazine boasts print photos by the world's top photographers - the Great Depression, American publisher Henry Luce launched LIFE magazine as a counter to his supremely successful Time magazine. While Luce's Time had the mission of publishing the news through word, his new idea for LIFE magazine was to publish the news through pictures. Although it's had many ups and downs in the past 74 years, at its peak LIFE had a circulation of over eight million and is now being used as a photographic supplement to U.S. newspapers.

With the big turkey day right around the corner, it's time to think back to when the feast officially became a holiday. President Lincoln had declared the last Thursday of November to be a national day of thanksgiving.

Of course, the idea originated from the three-day festival held in 1621 when Plymouth governor William Bradford invited the local Native Americans to join the English settlers for a celebration of the bountiful season.

When President Franklin Roosevelt came into office, however, he announced that Thanksgiving would now be held on the third Thursday of November. With the refusal of so many Americans to honor his unpopular proclamation, it was November 26, 1941, when FDR did sign the bill and helped to establish the fourth Thursday of November as Thanksgiving.

As President Lincoln said in his Gettysburg Address, may we never forget what they did.

Quiz in the Corner

Which President was born on November 19, 1831?
A) Rutherford B. Hayes
B) James A. Garfield
C) Chester Arthur
D) Grover Cleveland

This picture of President John F. Kennedy and his wife, Jackie, was taken in the Dallas, Texas, parade just before the president was assassinated.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLANDERHISTORICAL.COM
The unbelievable success of Harry

EMILY GOWING
FEATURES EDITOR

Delays are the worst. Whether it’s an airport, a train station or a school bus, there are probably a hundred other places people would rather be sitting and waiting for transportation. When 25-year-old Joanne Rowling was waiting for four hours for her delayed train to move from Manchester to London, her thoughts drifted toward the life of a fictional little boy—a boy she came to name Harry Potter.

She took her time constructing the first story of Harry’s life—six years to be exact. When she was out of money to pay the gas bills, Rowling decided it was “back-against-the-wall time” and she needed to finish the manuscript. Rowling pitched her story of the young wizard to nine different publishers before London’s Bloomsbury Publishing agreed to sign her as a client but told her she was most likely not to make any money selling these children’s books. “Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone” was published on June 30, 1997 in London. It remained in the UK for a year until Scholastic Corporation published it in the United States under the name

started working on her second book, “Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets.” A third and fourth were soon to follow. “Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire” was the top-selling book of 2000 with over seven million hardcover books sold. Warner Brothers caught on to the rise to fame and asked for the rights to adapt Rowling’s story into a series of films. By November 2002, when the second Harry Potter movie had been released, Rowling’s franchise of books sold over 175 million copies and had been printed in over 200 languages. They are the fastest-selling novels of all time.

Her fifth book was published on June 21, 2003. Sitting close to 900 pages, “Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix” was her longest book. The first order of printing in the United States was 8.5 million copies—a record in American publishing.

Needless to say, what started with a little story about a young wizard has grown into a huge success with crazed fans and followers all over the world. Harry has given Rowling the privilege of being the first author to become a billionaire with a net worth of $817 million.

The next time you’re delayed in an airport or train station, you might not want to fall asleep.

Sixty-plus years after graduation and Scorza’s still in the classroom

ALYSIA CURRIER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Sylvio Scorza is not your typical college guy. Of course, he used to be—a about seventy years ago! That’s right. Scorza turned 87 in March, safely securing his status as Northwestern College’s oldest student. That’s not the only nontraditional thing about him, though.

He was born in Switzerland but raised in Italy until the age of six. He then moved with his family to the United States where his father pastored a predominately Italian church in Chicago.

Scorza’s passion for education was evident even at a young age. As a child, he could often be found in the library. Other favorite pastimes of his included handball, tennis and picking on his three sisters.

After graduating from Chicago Christian High, Scorza attended Woodrow Wilson Junior College in Chicago and Hope College in Holland, Mich. One of his favorite college memories happened while he and some other students were serving dinner to a children’s unit. They came out of the kitchen and sang in their aprons to the soldiers. “That’s how we got here,” Scorza said.

In 1944, Scorza injured his spine in a traffic accident which left him paralyzed and bound to a wheelchair for life. However, he didn’t let this setback stop him from pursuing his goals. Just six years later he was back in school at Western Seminary in Holland, Mich. where he studied the Old Testament.

Scorza married his wife Phyllis in 1952. “We go by Syl and Phyl,” he said. “We’ve had a good life.”

The couple has one daughter and two sons as well as five grandkids and one great-grandchild.

After receiving his doctorate degree from Princeton Seminary, Scorza taught Hebrew at a seminary before moving to Orange City in 1959. As a professor at Northwestern College, Scorza taught religion and Greek. He also furthered the world of theology in numerous ways. One of his major contributions was being an editor of the Amplified Bible translation.

Scorza has looked up to many people throughout his life, but took special note of his former colleague Ralph Mouw, who was a math and physics professor at NW and passed away last August.

It turns out that, in some ways, going to college at age 87 isn’t much different than going at 25. For example, Scorza is still required to get chapel credits and can often be found sitting in the back pews. When asked why he continues to go to college after 87 years, Scorza responded, “I just love to learn.”

His advice for more novice college students: “Work hard. It’ll pay even if you don’t find a job.”

The mind of color

TINA MCGOVERN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Our moods are affected by a variety of different things every day. Most students attribute their moods to certain circumstances they can put their finger on, like homework load, interactions with friends or the tests that may be looming over them for the coming week. Some never pause to think about the more miniscule components of everyday life that no doubt affect our mood, like color.

It’s something you rarely ever think about unless you’re looking at a famous painting in a museum or picking out an outfit. However, color is important. It has been psychologically proven that different colors affect our moods in different ways.

For example, painting the walls of a room a warm color, such as sunset orange, can make a person feel happy, content and more at home. Painting the walls blue makes the space seem cold and unwelcoming, and many people report feeling sad in a room like this. If you want to make your home or even dorm room more inviting and comfortable, choose colors because of their aesthetic qualities, not just because they look complementary, neat and put together.

The media has had an incredible influence on people while using color and color schemes to attract or detract attention. Color is influential on every level of the marketplace, from brand logo, image, signage, display, packaging—where the color has to entice at the point of sale—to the product itself,” said Leatice Eiseman, director of the Eiseman Center for Color Information and Training. This organization markets their knowledge of color to big corporations to boost their performance.

Eiseman is often referred to as a color genius. He knows what almost every color in nature does to our moods and how much a person will buy or not buy when influenced by color. In other words, Eiseman’s theories are probably mighty dangerous to shopaholics.

Eiseman boldly stated the use for the color red as, “An appetite stimulant! It’s the ultimate enticing and dramatic color. It’s great for attracting the eye.” Maybe that’s why many fast food chains and other restaurants heavily decorate with bold colors and post red blinking signs that consumers can see for miles out—even before they decide if they’re hungry or not.

What does your favorite color say to you? “My favorite color is green,” freshman Jess VanderBaan said. “It reminds me of nature and the outdoors. Whenever I walk outside, seeing the grass and trees just makes me happy. I guess attribute that happy feeling I get when I’m outdoors to every time I see the color green.”

Whether your favorite color is aqua (the most popular girl’s color on campus) or red (the most popular guy’s color) or somewhere in between, think about how that color makes you feel. The colors you choose to paint your life with can ultimately influence your moods, so choose wisely!
Harry Potter is back, dear readers, and better than ever

BY T.J. NOBLE
MUGGLE WRITER

It is safe to say that a person would be better off searching for a needle under an invisibility cloak than trying to find someone who has not heard of Harry Potter. With all the hype built by people protesting Latin, I mean witchcraft, and their popularity among all ages, it is very difficult to not be aware of this literary phenomenon/ obsession.

With such a popular series, movie adaptations were inevitable. Thankfully, most of the movies were enjoyable and a couple were even good films. As of this morning, I can proudly proclaim that a wonderfully created film both cinematically and as an adaptation, raises the quality of the film franchise.

Past films have removed parts of the books and a few subplots, to the frustrations of many fans. Eventually, those viewers with red faces either looked up the word adaptation (in relation to film) or they grumble through each installment. Evidently, after all these years, they realize book-to-movie adaptation is not synonymous with "book on film."

However, the desire for a movie that resembles the book is finally satisfied. Harry, Ron and Hermione set out to defeat Voldemort, parden my language, by destroying his Horcruxes (Muggle Translation: MT: magical items which keep Voldemort from dying). In doing so, they will make Voldemort mortal once more. The trio is constantly traveling while searching for clues as to what the Horcruxes are and how to destroy them. This film leaves viewers hanging, eager for part 2, when the heroes escape from Malfoy Manor to Shell Cottage (MT: they escape from the bird guys and go to a beach) and Voldemort finds one of the deathly hallows (MT: bad guy is one step closer to immortality, again).

The movie is very dark and something is going on with scenes blood, a few that make you jump and some that were just disturbing - in other words, wonderful. There is also one scene with near nudity, which evoked a varied reaction from the crowd. Along with intense action, the entire movie sends you from one emotion to the next as if your heart was addicted to apparition.

At the very start of the film, the emotions are leaking from your eye holes. You see Hermione at home and Harry at the Dursley's before they both set off for their adventure. Then there's Voldemort feeding his snake at Malfoy Manor (MT: someone is tortured before they both set off for their adventure). Initially; however, the director did an amazing job, and the acting was brilliant as always to relieve the tension. Ron, being related and all, is enduring in his endless efforts to please Hermione. Harry plays with fire, Moody is himself and there's added humor due to cinematic brilliance of the director.

One scene that has been talked about in articles online was an added scene where Harry and Hermione dance while Ron is lost. Initially, the idea of Harry and Hermione dancing seemed odd; however, the director did an amazing job, and the acting between Daniel Raddcliff and Emma Watson portrayed their characters' relief at being able to relax a little despite all of their struggles.

If you are a Harry Potter fan, I am sure you are anxious to see this if you haven't already. I know you will enjoy this installment, almost as much as I did. Almost.

If you are not a fan of Harry Potter, read the books, watch the other films and then buy your ticket for this one. As this is an intertwined, complex series, watching with no previous knowledge would not be so spectacular.

Also, the last book has been turned into two parts. As such, you will feel deprived of a Time-Turner despite the difficulty in obtaining one so you can skip ahead these next six months and watch Part 2.

Diamond Thai adds a little spice to the Sioux area

BY GREG WHITE
STAFF WRITER

A pan of fresh hot pad Thai or a spicy curry goat soup? If these dishes make your mouth water or at least get you intrigued, head on down to Diamond Thai. The restaurant is a diamond in the rough, cozily tucked away in Sioux City's industrial ghetto. Getting there can be scary, but a happy little Buddha statue will greet you with a smile and salute you with good luck if you leave him something.

To call it "an authentic Thai food experience" would be an understatement. When we opened the door, a 4-foot 4-inch tall woman greeted us with a cheery smile and a "Herro! How many?" That was the extent of her English because through a series of complex gestures we understood that to order our food we were to point at the menu while she corrected our American Thai pronunciation. "Pad Krapowers please," said my friend. "Oh! Pad Krapow Spicy Hot? Or no spicy?" she said. She made sure to ask each of us how hot we preferred our dishes: they were distinguished by categories No, SEMI, MEDIUM or Really, Really Spicy. I ordered the spicy Wok Noodle really spicy and boy, were they hot. I had tears in my eyes and mucus flowing from my nostrils. I drank five glasses of water. Luckily, the owner kept filling them up.

The food is high quality and tastes homemade. Diamond Thai is owned by a Sioux City man who takes great care in keeping his customers happy. The dining environment is comfortable. It is decorated like a fancy restaurant on a dollar store budget. While it might not be a place to go on that hot date with the freshmam girl from your sister wing, it does have a charm that your closer friends will appreciate.

The prices are reasonable, too. Most dishes fall between seven and 10 dollars. The drinks are killer, especially their Thai iced tea: a strong red tea with cream. There are vegetarian options and even a small but interesting dessert menu: Thai Pumpkin Custard, Fried Banana n Ice Cream and Coconut sweet rice with Thai's Egg Custard.

Here are a few other helpful tips: Don't order a can of coconut milk: it's not what you're hoping for. If you want to breathe fire, go with the Really Spicy. And if you're a weenie, go with some or medium spice. There are also some stipulations you should be aware of: If you're using a credit or debit card, you have to spend at least 15 dollars. It's open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and Saturday, its hours are from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. It is closed on Mondays.

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"National Geographic" more than just good photography

BY JORDAN LANGER
A&E EDITOR

"National Geographic" is, for many of us, a magazine that is full of nostalgia. It makes us think back to times in grade school: orange safety scissors in our fingers, we try to cut out Koalas or volcanos or a number of other gorgeous photographs in the yellow-blocked booklet. Or else we remember going to Goodwill and seeing them stacked in a milk crate. Or we remember the aunt who had the entire collection shelved in her basement.

Yet for being displayed and collected, "National Geographic" might be a publication to which you still haven't given enough of your time. Why does it deserve your attention? To start, I'll note that "climate change" was the top phrase of the last decade according to Global Language Monitor. Also featured in the top five was "evacuee/refugee," as in those facing the aftermath of Katrina. In such wakes, "National Geographic" is a lead in humane photo-documentation—that much you should already know.

But the journal's writing also has the scientific foresight and insight to show how these things affect ecosystems, culture and even economics. Take, for example, the articles that have been published following the recent Gulf oil spill. One article discusses the less-noticed but very fragile Louisiana coastal marshes, which 98 percent of the region's oysters and shrimp depend on for life and reproduction. The article goes on to talk about the implications this has on Cajun culture—what and how things are eaten. Another article from that same issue stresses that the oceans are being over-fished. If you've been following, that much isn't breaking news. But the article excels in showing what compounds the ecological footprint: catching the larger fish at the top of the food chain.

Why's that? These already-scarce specimens (ex. tuna) will consume four times its weight in smaller (but still big) fish within a single year. The same thing is true of its prey. So, in applying this same series of multiplications down to the smallest oceanic specimens (like plankton), fishing for larger, less energy efficient aquatic life means we get about a thousand times less tonnage than if we had fished for smaller, more efficient fish. This is just one example of how the magazine's informed journalists are able to give a more accurate sense of the details than you would from the average report.

Another great thing about "National Geographic" is that it is a well-developed multimedia experience. For a long time, the magazine has included inserts like maps or diagrams, which are usually very intricate. By now you've also noticed that "National Geographic" has its own television channel. While it contains good programs, it also corresponds with the magazine's writing, rarely overlapping. So you can read about "Great Migrations" in the latest issue and then watch the mini-series documentary if you have cable.

Lastly, if you're still only interested in the photographs, you'll be happy to know that you're a large part of the magazine's perceived demographic. Each issue features not only spreads from its commissioned photographers, but also by more-than-capable freelancers.

If you go through their website, a subscription to "National Geographic" only costs $15 a year. In an increasingly globalized world prone to exploiting its ecosystems and cultures, it's a good investment.

Should you care about video games?

BY MICHAEL GUTSCH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Play is a universal human instinct. It is stronger in some than in others, but nonetheless every person retains a need to enjoy oneself. To be entertained. To have fun. Games (not just the kind that you play on your TV) are the result of this embedded urge to play—whether it's tag, hopscotch, football or Settlers of Catan.

Even though video games are a few decades old, they're a recent hatching when compared toother mediums or platforms. Film, for instance, is still considered a young medium despite being around for more than 100 years. Board games, which are less technologically dependent, may have been around as early as 3500 B.C. Video games are growing and still figuring out what they are going to become.

Why would they grow up? Because video games are becoming increasingly popular. Yes, there are still some who spout things along the lines of "Oh, I don't play video games." Even so, they are spread out over a wide variety of groups and becoming more of a family activity with the release of the Wii and other motion sensor gaming. There are huge marketing campaigns that announce the presence of extravagantly produced games. But there is still a presence financial backing to move forward. They represent a multi-million dollar industry, churning out game after game.

Most don't rise above amusement or diversions. However, gaming is no longer only done by nerds. It's become universal. Mario is as iconic as Michael Jackson. The point is, in fact, that video games are all "squirm[ing] through the metaphoric bowels of our culture," growing fat and happy off our leisure time. Video games are important economically as well as for our entertainment.

"National Geographic" presents a well-rounded look at how our world is being changed.

While some games have been criticized as mindless, others—like "Shadow of the Colossus"—come close to what might be considered art.

Aside from all of these reasons, video games have managed to create a new form of art. No, seriously, think about that for a second. Not only is there now an entirely new method of creating and engaging with art, but it's interactive.

Art more often than not requires someone to view it, read it or partake of it in some way. With video games, it's not passive any more. The player takes an active role in the process, whether it's by decision making or just by playing. Granted, most games, as products of an aptly self-described game industry, are too businesslike, too focused on what will sell rather than what is interesting or affecting.

Even so, there are quite a few good "art games" out there; it just takes a bit of looking. "Shadow of the Colossus" or "Heavy Rain" are examples of a step in the right direction.

So, we've got a culturally and economically important medium of art that is not only capable of interacting with its recipient, but also depends on them. Games get some bad press, but given the right creators, video games could be the medium to tell some of the greatest stories.

They're just a bit adolescent.
Football downs Midland, falls short of playoffs

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT
SPORTS EDITOR

Northwestern knew they needed to win big against 19th-ranked Midland Lutheran to keep their playoff hopes alive. The Raiders went 24-6, but it was not enough to move the team up from 15th in the ratings or to earn a spot in the NAIA National Championship Series. They finished the year with an 8-2 record, with losses only to first-ranked USF and seventh-ranked Morningside.

Sophomore James Rodriguez kicked a 40-yard field goal in the second quarter to lead off the scoring. The Warriors responded with a touchdown but failed to convert the extra point, bringing the score to 3-0. Just before the half, senior Brad Payne found the end zone after returning a punt 49 yards to put the Raiders up 10-6 at the half.

The score came in the fourth quarter when sophomore Brandon Smith ran 11 yards for a touchdown. Senior Kevin Vander Schaaf iced the win with an eight-yard touchdown.

The Raiders rushed for 295 yards against a defense that has only allowed 91.5 yards per game. For the fifth time this season, both senior Taylor Malm and Smith ran for over 100 yards.

Malm rushed for 121 yards on 17 carries before an injury in the third quarter forced him to leave the game. Malm finished the season with 1,147 rushing yards and rushed for over 100 yards in six games.

Smith gained over 100 yards for the seventh time, rushing for 106 yards in 23 carries. He totaled 1,166 rushing yards this season.

Vander Schaaf carried the ball five times to gain 31 yards. Junior Jayme Rozeboom completed four of seven passes for 65 yards.

Volleyball wins GPAC tournament

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Northwestern Red Raiders improved to 35-0 and won the conference championship over Doane on Saturday night, Nov. 13, 3-1 (21-25, 25-21, 25-21, 25-18). The Raiders were led by senior Hillary Hanno with 16 kills. Sophomore Kate Buyert hit .421 and added nine kills. Senior Kaitlin Beaver had a well-rounded game and put up 42 assists, seven digs, five blocks and an ace serve.

Senior Bobbie Jean Rich was the leader of the defensive front with seven blocks. Sophomore Jact Moret and junior Kylee Hulstien combined to lead the back row with 15 digs.

To get to the championship game, the Raiders first had to get past Hastings on Thursday night, which they did despite losing the first two games. NW rallied to win 3-2 (23-25, 23-25, 25-22, 25-14, 15-11).

Hanno led NW with 23 kills and hit .396 plus 14 digs. Rich and sophomore Jennie Jansen provided balance on the front line with a combined 16 kills and 15 blocks. Their efforts helped limit the Broncos to .099 hitting on the match.

Beaver loosed up 47 assists to go with seven digs. Hulstien’s 15 digs led the Raiders.

The Raiders will receive a first round bye at the National Tournament and will play their first game on November 30th at the Tyson Events Center in Sioux City.

Men’s basketball wins both games in tune-up

BY MICHAEL SIMMELINK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Raiders improved to 4-2 on the season after last weekend’s Pizza Ranch Classic held at the Bultman Center.

Northwestern knocked off Johnson & Wales (Col.) on Saturday, Nov. 13, 90-39.

Sophomore Daniel Van Kalsbeek led the Raiders with 19 points. Senior Ryan Hoogeveen shot 75 percent from beyond the arc and finished with 18 points. Junior Walker Seim put in 17 points and sophomore Stu Goslinga chipped in 11 along with a team-high eight boards.

The Raiders shot 48 percent from the floor and 32 percent from the three-point range. NW’s defense held the visitors to 47 percent, 21 percent behind the arc.

The 95-39 destruction of Grace College on Friday, Nov. 12, saw all of the Red Raiders get at least six minutes of playing time and every player but one scored.

Sophomore Matt Huseman was the head of the pack in both points and rebounds with 12 and nine respectively. Seim, sophomore Jacey Hoegg and senior Brent Dunkelberger contributed nine points each. Sophomore Mike Vorwald added a team-high six assists.

As a team, NW had a field goal percentage of 59 percent and a 47 percent three-point percentage. Grace was held to under 30 percent on the night.

The Raiders will open the conference season tomorrow at Doane in Crete, Neb.

Women’s basketball remains undefeated

BY HEIDI HILDEBRANDT
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern women’s basketball team improved to 5-0 in all non-conference games with wins last week over Dakota State and Briar Cliff.

On Saturday, Nov. 13, the Red Raiders breezed by Dakota State, 113-53. The Trojans set off the scoring with a three-pointer, but the Raiders then went on a 26-3 run and never looked back. NW shot 60 percent in the game, including a phenomenal 77 percent in the second half, while holding DSU to 31 percent in the game.

Sophomore Kendra Dejong scored 21 points as five Raiders found their way into double figures. Senior Becca Hurley had 21 points and junior Val Kleinjanz added 18. Freshman Samantha Kleinjanz scored 13 points and senior Allison Hulst scored 11, both players coming off the bench. Dejong and Hulst pulled down eight boards.

Women’s basketball remains undefeated down eight and seven rebounds respectively to lead NW’s 45-28 advantage on the glass. Hurley also added nine assists and four steals for the Raiders.

Kami Kuhlman became the 25th Raider to score 1,000 career points in the game against Briar Cliff on Tuesday, Nov. 16. The junior scored 18 points and added five assists in the 86-59 win. Hurley led the scoring with 20 points and also added 11 rebounds for her second double-double of the season. She also nabbed seven steals and dished out eight assists.

NW shot 48 percent and held the Chargers to 37 percent. Kleinjanz added five three-pointers to total 15 points and Kleinjanz had 13 points. Dejong pulled down 10 rebounds and scored eight points. The Raiders kick off their conference schedule on Saturday, Nov. 20, as they take on Doane College in Crete, Neb.