New RSC welcomes back students

BY RENEE NYHOF
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A pillared entrance welcomes students into a new addition to campus this semester. Through its doors eyes are met with light bouncing from skylights at the top of vaulted ceilings and some may ask themselves, “Is this really the RSC?”

The answer is, Absolutely. The Rowenhorst Student Center (RSC) is back after its face-lift, hoping students will swing by and not be too confused about its “airport” style.

“It may look like an airport to some,” said Dale Thompson, the assistant vice president for student development, “but we simply designed the new place to be the opposite of the old building, which was dark from its low ceilings and limited light. Plus, many students didn’t know what services were located there and we wanted to change that.”

Due to the addition of glass walls, all services available are now easily visible for those who wander through the RSC.

Those services include the new Wellness Center and offices for Student Development, International and Intercultural Affairs, Student Government, Student Programs, Campus Safety and Security, NW bookstore, the mailroom, the Hub, plus a few classrooms and conference rooms.

“It’s great, there’s light and I can see,” said Darla Hettinga, the secretary of student affairs. “I have windows now and can see the student activity. This place is such a friendly atmosphere and a great information hub for students.”

Although the major renovation is complete, Thompson said a few details have yet to be added. One of those details includes creating signs more permanent than paper. The art department has also been contacted about placing art around the inside.

Another detail includes architectural glass to place in the dividers to create “sections” within the center of the building. “I hope those sections become a great place for student to either study individually or in groups or just to talk with friends,” said Thompson. “Some may say it seems you have to whisper in this place but that’s ok. It helps create a more reserved and quiet atmosphere for those sections to possibly be used more.”

For now, Thompson hopes for all of the NW community to visit the RSC and check out all that it contains.

“For the upperclassmen,” said Thompson, “everything is out from behind the maze of block walls, and for all students it’s a new place to enter to celebrate student life.”

President candidate to visit NW

BY KIM EASON
NEWS EDITOR

Gregory E. Christy, a Northwestern presidential candidate, will be visiting campus from Sept. 9 to 11.

The purpose of Christy’s visit is to better acquaint him with the campus, as well as to let the NW community interact with him and get to know him better.

While on campus, Christy will be meeting with various faculty, students, and community members, as well as the board of trustees, and Bruce and Di Murphy. These meetings will provide a time for discussion with him.

After the visit there will be an opportunity for feedback online. The search committee values the input of the campus and will review the opinions before making their referral to the board of trustees.

Christy served the past 12 years as the Vice President for Advancement at Dakota Wesleyan University. Christy has a master’s in physical education from Western Illinois University. Christy and his wife, Michelle, have three children: Ryan, Madalyn and Kyle.

While there are concerns among faculty about Christy’s qualifications, the search committee agreed that he was the best person for the position. They emphasized his proven capabilities and his understanding of a college like NW and his strong desire to serve such a college.

“The greatest passion and purpose for us has been obedience to God’s call on our lives,” said Christy. “Michelle and I are honored and humbled by the prospect of providing leadership for a special community like Northwestern.”

Northwestern once again ranked among the best colleges

BY CHANTELLE STEGGERDA
STAFF WRITER


In the 2008 guidebook, America’s Best Colleges, U.S News & World Report placed NW eighth among the Midwest’s best baccalaureate colleges. The Midwest has to offer, up from its tie last year for the 20th spot.

The rankings are based on the schools’ academic reputation, freshmen retention, faculty resources, percent of faculty with top academic degrees, student to faculty ratio, faculty compensation, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving.

“This high ranking is another indication of the quality of a NW College education,” said President Bruce Murphy, “and it reflects positively on the work of many people in all areas of the campus.”

NW is one of 47 private colleges that compose the Midwestern list, joined by two public colleges in South Dakota. Dordt College tied Cedarville University (Ohio) for third place, and Taylor University (Indiana) took first.

In a poll that involves the same criteria, peer colleges rated NW at a tie for sixth. Peer ranking also influences the colleges’ final placements.

The Princeton Review also included NW in its list, the New 2008 “Best 366 Colleges.” NW is in the Midwestern category that names 161 colleges in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

The colleges are selected by review of anonymous student survey and on account of academic excellence. The Princeton Review does not specifically rank the colleges apart from including them in the list.

In addition to academic recognition, the Princeton Review’s academic profile gives NW professors high marks. Students said that the professors care about students’ lives as well as their academic growth. Surveys also showed students’ high opinion of their peers at NW.

“We always appreciate external recognition of our high-quality education experience,” said Murphy, “and the Princeton Review’s honor is especially meaningful because it’s based on what students say.”
OPINION

How long, O Lord?

BY CHRIS BARKER

“How long, O Lord! Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?” The Psalmist wrote that. Apparently even giants of the faith, be they pre-Christian or not, have to deal with spiritual aridity from time to time. At no point was this more reinforced to me than in reading an excerpt from a recent book about Mother Theresa.

It is hard for me to imagine a person who better incarnated the whole Christian ethic. And as someone who, apparently, was giving lepers on the streets of Calcutta a glimpse into the Kingdom of God, my assumption had always been that this kind woman had somehow sort of hotline to Jesus. Apparently not.

“If there be God – please forgive me. When I try to raise my thoughts to Heaven, there is such convincing emptiness that those very thoughts return like sharp knives and hurt my very soul… How painful is this unknown pain – I have no Faith.”

Whoa.

Mother Theresa dealt with these feelings of doubt from as early as 1953 until her death. That’s 45 years for those of us who aren’t fans of math. I’m on year four.

In all honesty this actually gives me comfort. While it’d be nice if God would make himself a little more evident from time to time, and while I certainly don’t want to go through 45 years of silence, I figure that one person has already made it through, and she was pretty amazing. So often I feel as though my doubt is some sort of weakness, and that God’s silence is somehow my own fault. As though if I just jumped through some hoop that God hasn’t seen fit to tell me about that suddenly I’d have a roaring connection with God and know intuitively what He wanted at any given time.

That is a trap.

Eugene Peterson articulates the point well in the book “Christ Plays in Ten Thousand Places,” saying, among other things, that “any understanding of God that you can do about it. Let it even take you outside of this bubble that we can sometimes get caught up in to see what is happening in the rest of the country and world.

NW has always been highly praised for its community. But because we, as students, value community, we know it can always be better. Let the Beacon help with that as well. Let it introduce you to new people and discover the experiences students different from yourselves are having here.

Part of the NW experience is wrestling with the tough issues in your mind and faith. Often we are left still grappling with these questions long after chapel dismisses or the class period ends. Let the Beacon be your outlet for discussion. Let it unite you with your peers who are considering the same problems and force you to consider an opinion opposite your own.

Most of all, let the Beacon be yours. Take ownership of it; it’s here for you. If you have something to share, tell us. If you have suggestions, make them. And if you like what you see, you can let us know that, too. This is your newspaper: read it, discuss it, enjoy it.

Living with doubt, learning to love

BY KELSEY CARROLL

Doubt. For Christians this word can be the source of nightmares, waning confidence, judgment towards others, and homesickness for a place of security and peace. Doubt enters all of our lives, though, whether through a discussion with our roommate, a book we’re reading, or something our professor said in class. Doubt can lead us wrestling with some pretty tough issues, and come uncomfortably close to the core of who we are as Christians.

Doubt is an integral part of life. It is something I believe God not only allows, but intentionally created. Doubt keeps us in our place; it works to keep us humble in God’s service. And while this does not mean we should no longer seek knowledge, we are certainly not called to know everything. Yet this should never undermine our commitment to and our faith in a God who is infinitely bigger than our tiny, often too proud and too confident minds.

After sitting through a class discussion in theology or literature, I often stumbled across doubt. I realized that certainty is not a gift that God has chosen to give his creatures. Our perceived knowledge of any “absolute” is in reality incomplete; it’s distorted because we as humans are distorted. T.S. Eliot sees doubt as inevitable when it comes to faith. He says, “Every man who thinks and lives by thought must have his own skepticism… that which exists in denial, or that which leads to faith and which is somehow integrated into the faith which transcends it.” Maybe we should start viewing doubt as something that can be made to serve faith, rather than something to be crushed.

I believe doubt also allows us to love others in the way Jesus hoped we would. When we stop trying to convince those around us of our theology, we are able to begin real conversations—conversations that will be flavored with love, honesty, and openness. Our interactions with others will stop exhausting us and start teaching us. Our open attitudes toward our own doubt and the doubt of others will bring us nearer to the Kingdom of God.

I am constantly reminding myself that my doubts do not make me less of a follower of Christ. Instead, they allow me to possess humility, an essential ingredient in my pursuit of loving others and becoming more Christ-like. We must remind ourselves that our attitudes toward doubt are more significant than our actual doubts! So next time you’re having a conversation, or listening to a speaker during chapel or praise and worship, don’t stop listening because doubts begin to arise. Don’t judge the speaker, or ask, “Is this guy even a Christian?” Although you don’t have to agree with everything he or she says, you can glean from it—take what others tell you and use it. As Christians, we do well to freely admit the possibility of being wrong. Don’t isolate yourself because of your doubts and disagreements.

We must come alongside others, whether we agree or disagree with them, in love and fellowship—there may be periods in our doubt where the body must believe for us.

Seek more fervently the shortcomings in your own view of things than in those around you, be humbled by your disagreements with others, be humbled by your doubt, and hold onto the promise that even when it is more than all. I think we will find that our faith in God is not merely a belief system to defend but a lifestyle to live. God does not give us certainty in a system but a certainty in himself.

“I do believe, help me overcome my unbelief!”

(Mark 9:24)
Countdown: The top 10 best-looking dorm rooms

BY KATIE VAN ETten
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Walls bare? Couches lack coordination? Wish you had the inspiration to turn your dorm into a harmonious oasis for study and entertainment? These top ten dorm rooms were chosen from across campus because of their unique ability to balance creativity and functionality. Check them out and you may be inspired. (And you could make some new friends!)

have turned their front room into an inviting living space with unique decorations throughout. The most noticeable (and comfortable) part of their room is a bright orange armchair near the entrance.

38. Heemstra 1 houses Chris Barkert, Brandon Garner and Eugene Huc. Their room boasts an impressive entertainment center, a crystal wind chime and an “coffee table. It is also brought to life by various plants.

37. Steggy 148 is where Kristi Korver and Katllyn Emory lay their heads at night. But by dividing the room with a hanging sheet, they can do more than sleep. They have a study area and a living room area—both coordinated warmly, much like a room from a Martha Stewart magazine.

36. Heemstra 315 inhabits Tiny Peters, Renny Zwaagastra and Chris White. The best part of their room is their view of the green, but this is followed closely by the hanging flags, giant stuffed dog, U.S. map-embroidered doily and an old school pencil sharpener attached to the north wall.

35. Coly 116 is home to Derek Ball and Aron Pall and is the most home-like room in the male dorms. They have sequential photos of a truck, accessible shelves and curtains. Their futon is graced by matching throw pillows and their coffee table has the latest issues of OQ.

34. Hospers 210 is occupied by Emma Roetman for the year. With lofted bunk beds there is extra room for her couches, TV and a stylish 70s lamp. But the most comfortable place to study? A hammock that hangs between the bunk beds in the middle of the room.

33. Heemstra 3 is where Nate Tagg and Mark Alsum live. A couch inhabits their closet, their coffee-table has been turned into a lego-building station, their ceiling suspends a crystal ball lamp and massive unique art pieces abound.

32. Steggy 247 houses Becca Bruns and Jessica Pomerene. Their room boasts sweet decorations including an oblong lamp, classic posters, records and pictures. They have turned a far corner into an entertainment center with the use of a triangular shelving unit. And the capstone piece of their room? A bright blue toilet with friends’ signatures.

31. And the best-looking room on campus is Heemstra 9, the home of Bob and Tim Johnson and Steve Mahr. The lofting system, guitar and skateboard racks, coffee table and various other room necessities were all built by Bob. When they watch a movie their room is fit for the task: they have stadium seating, a projector with roll-down screen and a couch on wheels that is easily turned around. And not to forget those finishing touches: they have two unique lamps, a clock with a secret history and a rainbow on the east wall.

The following rooms did not capture the full essence of “paradise in a box,” but had some very special touches deserving honorable mention: West 106 has a couch hanging on their wall; Heemstra 6 has a dummy hanging from their ceiling; Heemstra 205 has the best smelling tootsie roll; Fern 122 has a giant paper umbrella hanging in a corner; Fern 128 has a three-story glow-in-the-dark neon-colored fan; Coly 107 has their dresser in their shower; Coly 319 has the biggest inflatable chair I have ever seen; Steggy 112 hangs a single picture the most innovatively and Steggy 142 houses the biggest baseball fans on campus.

I miss my “Friends” TV’s new lineup for fall

BY AMANDA WRIGHT
STAFF-WRITER

Since “Friends” went off the air in 2004, finding a new must-see TV show has been an adventure. The appearance of top-rated comedy “Scrubs” has captivated many of you have seen GEICO’s caveman commercials, but did you know that they inspired a TV show? That’s right folks, “Cavemen” will be making their way onto your television screens Oct. 2 at 7:00 p.m. Three world-wise cavemen find their way to Atlanta, Ga., and struggle with their oddities as a minority in modern society. This concept is intriguing because of who we will be laughing at. Cavemen are not even a minority, they are completely extinct! It doesn’t matter if cavemen are made fun of; who will be offended? Nobody. They’re cavemen they don’t even exist anymore!

I’ll tell you who does exist: the staff of Seattle Grace Hospital. Mark your calendars for Thursday, Sept. 27 because the fourth season of “Grey’s Anatomy” gets started at 8:00 p.m. Three world-wise cavemen find their way to Atlanta, Ga., and struggle with their oddities as a minority in modern society. This concept is intriguing because of who we will be laughing at. Cavemen are not even a minority, they are completely extinct! It doesn’t matter if cavemen are made fun of; who will be offended? Nobody. They’re cavemen they don’t even exist anymore!

“Friends” reunion? Who knows, maybe a couple of “science geeks” or a group of cavemen will become your new must-see.
Ann Minnick: Communicating with a smile

BY KILEY SELIGMAN

Loving her public relations job for Orange City Area Health System, Ann Minnick had no desire to teach. However, after teaching as an adjunct professor last year, she was persuaded to go for an interview at Northwestern College and felt God “slugging her in the arm to try something new and different” by teaching full-time.

Minnick is an Orange City “lifer,” first moving here when she was three years old. Now she, her husband (the director of NW’s Career Development Center) and their two boys have a ball living the small town life.

Presently, Minnick is teaching mass media and society, principles of public relations, and communications practicum. In the future, she will be teaching many other classes in the communications department.

She hopes to someday reach her goal of becoming accredited by the Public Relations Society of America, but right now she is putting all her effort into her students.

“My goal is to give our society well-rounded, well-educated Christian public relations practitioners who can make positive contributions in the world. Through them I’d have tremendous impact on my profession. Nothing would be more rewarding than to see them succeed!”

Minnick loves family, her students, news, history and her profession. Her enthusiasm is a great addition to NW’s growing communications department.

Physics professor plans to continue research

BY KEVIN WALLACE

“Don’t obsess with grades and getting out. Getting out is important, but the things you learn here are going to be more important than your diploma,” says new physics professor, Thomas Bogue.

Bogue says he’s glad he came to Northwestern because it’s a “small school” and has a “friendly atmosphere.”

Bogue began his post-secondary education at the University of Connecticut where he earned his Bachelor of Physics. He then moved onto New Mexico State University where he earned his master’s and Ph.D. in physics.

Interestingly enough, his degree reads “Doctor of Philosophy” not “Doctor of Physics.” When questioned about it, Bogue replied that this is because physics and all sciences fall under the category of philosophy.

For the past year, Bogue has been at Seattle Pacific University where he completed some research and teaching for his post-doctorate. Bogue would like to continue in the same vein of research while at NW.

Van Wyhe: Nurse and teacher at heart

BY KILEY SELIGMAN

After graduating in May with a masters from SDSU, Michelle Van Wyhe was inspired to come to Northwestern because of her previous teacher, Ruth Daumer, professor of nursing. All three of the new nursing staff took classes under Daumer at Briar Cliff, and now they have been reunited with her as faculty in NW’s nursing program.

Van Wyhe is serving as student health services coordinator and as a nursing professor. When Van Wyhe accepted the position, she, her husband and their two children were able to move to Ireton. They were thankful for the opportunity to be able to live closer to family.

While studying for her B.A. at Augustana College, she knew she wanted to obtain a master’s degree and become a family nurse practitioner. Now that she has reached her goal, Van Wyhe feels that teaching is the icing on the cake.

At NW, Van Wyhe is working to get the wellness center up and running for students and to create a successful nursing program.

Though she has only taught for a couple weeks, she is motivated by the energy her students bring to her classroom. In the future, Van Wyhe is looking forward to teaching a class in obstetrics, her favorite part about being a nurse.
Christ-like nurse

BY KEVIN WALLACE
STAFF WRITER

At last, longtime resident Linda Ver Steeg is now Professor Linda Ver Steeg. This year she joins the nursing staff at Northwestern.

Located in a rather spacious office within Wiersma Cottage, Ver Steeg has a presence more commonly found with well-established professors. She quickly tosses that assumption out the window as she jokes with a co-worker about how she’d been hoping she would be the only one of the three new nursing professors over-looked for an interview.

Ver Steeg had known very early during her childhood in New York that she wanted to be a nurse. She started working toward that goal as an undergraduate attending the Albany School of Nursing. She then moved to our own NW for her B.S.N.

Of course, only until recently have we had a full nursing program so she finished the degree at Briar Cliff. Wanting to be as good as she could be, Ver Steeg went on to earn her M.S.N. from Nebraska Methodist.

“I’ve always thought there’s a better way to educate nurses,” Ver Steeg says as she explains her desire to teach. “We need good nurses to care for people in a Christ-like manner.”

Carlson strives to integrate art and faith

BY KILEY SELIGMAN
STAFF WRITER

Though he had never been on campus, Arnold Carlson, the new assistant professor of art, felt called to Northwestern to fulfill his “desire to see the artistic discipline dovetail with faith.” After teaching at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan for eight years, he, his wife and their four children were happy to move to Orange City to be near family.

At NW, Carlson hopes to help the art department grow, as well as helping his students see art as a field for their lives and faith. He wants to inspire his students to understand the link between faith and art by getting involved in churches using their artistic talents.

Right now Carlson is teaching ceramics and introduction to studio. In the future, he will also teach art history and sculpture. In his classes Carlson enjoys taking one-on-one time with his students. “I like to discuss and analyze ideas so my students can see different ways of approaching an idea that they didn’t think of.”

Carlson is settling into life at NW and looking forward to once again teaching his favorite classes in sculpture, where he has the liberty to play with materials, tools, processes and approaches.

A lifetime in labs

BY KRISTI KORVER
STAFF WRITER

Karissa Carlson is teaching college chemistry labs while she finishes graduate work at the University of Iowa. Next semester she will begin teaching chemistry and biochemistry courses, much to her excitement.

Carlson became passionate about science in high school, thanks to a science teacher who “challenged me to work hard and appreciate all forms of science.”

Indeed, she has worked hard. She roamed the halls of VHPI with chemistry problems on the brain and graduated with the class of 2003.

Northwestern’s unique learning environment is attractive to Carlson. “I love that students get a chance to explore their chosen area of study from a Christian perspective.”

Her exploring has been fruitful. In 2006 Carlson was awarded a predoctoral fellowship from the American Heart Association.

She does have a life outside of science. Carlson enjoys gardening, playing with her dog Edgar and remodeling with her husband, Andy.

Music doctor: Following his desires

BY KEVIN WALLACE
STAFF WRITER

Professor Luke Dahn says he had “friends who graduated from Northwestern College and couldn’t speak highly enough” of it. Besides the obvious reason of a job opening, that’s why he applied to be the new music theory professor.

Although he wasn’t sure he met all the requirements NW held for the position, he nevertheless applied for the job he’s been working toward for the past decade.

Dahn first attended the Houston Baptist University with the intention of majoring in Christianity and minor in music. However, thanks to the intervention of one of his professors, he changed his major to music composition and has stayed the course.

Dahn took a year off after graduating and then went to Western Michigan in Kalamazoo to obtain his master’s in music composition. It was during his time there and while being a teaching assistant that his desire to teach was confirmed.

He then moved on to the University of Iowa, where he earned his doctorate in music composition, met his wife and began to hear so much about NW from his friends.

Dahn concludes, “It’s satisfying to be able to help students.”

A lifetime in labs

BY KRISTI KORVER
STAFF WRITER

Karissa Carlson is teaching college chemistry labs while she finishes graduate work at the University of Iowa. Next semester she will begin teaching chemistry and biochemistry courses, much to her excitement.

Carlson became passionate about science in high school, thanks to a science teacher who “challenged me to work hard and appreciate all forms of science.”

Indeed, she has worked hard. She roamed the halls of VHPI with chemistry problems on the brain and graduated with the class of 2003.

Northwestern’s unique learning environment is attractive to Carlson. “I love that students get a chance to explore their chosen area of study from a Christian perspective.”

Her exploring has been fruitful. In 2006 Carlson was awarded a predoctoral fellowship from the American Heart Association.

She does have a life outside of science. Carlson enjoys gardening, playing with her dog Edgar and remodeling with her husband, Andy.

Sweet ride

BY KRISTI KORVER
STAFF WRITER

Have you seen the yellow mustang convertible parked outside the nursing house? It belongs to Deb Bomgaars, the new nursing professor.

Bomgaars graduated with a B.S.N. from Briar Cliff University and the car is a graduation present from her husband Jerry.

They have two boys at home, Justin and James, while their third, Jon, lives with his wife Leianna in Burnsville, Minn.

Bomgaars is familiar with health care in this area. She spent 17 years as a R.N. at Orange City Area Health System and five years as a community health nurse with Community Health Partners in Orange City.

Bomgaars never intended to teach. However, being a R.N. is about teaching patients and teaching other nurses, so it was natural step for her to teach students.

Twenty-five years ago NW wasn’t even considering a nursing program and now it is a reality. Professor Bomgaars finds that exciting. “I like being able to make nursing a Christian profession.”
Raider defense brings down NWU

BY BETHANY KROEZE

SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern football team kicked off their season last Saturday, defeating Nebraska Wesleyan, 13-12.

After a scoreless first quarter, the seventh ranked Red Raiders struck with a 13-play, 68-yard scoring drive. Sophomore Reed Van Hulzen grabbed a seven yard pass, over his shoulder as he was falling down, from senior quarterback Craig Hector for his first collegiate touchdown. Sophomore kicker Grant Mosier’s extra point was good, putting the Raiders on the scoreboard, 7-0.

The Prairie Wolves came out for only one play on their following drive. NWU quarterback Zac Rabe’s first down pass was picked off by senior safety Kadrian Hardersen, who returned the interception 54 yards for the touchdown. Mosier’s kick failed, leaving the Raiders with a 13-0 lead.

Head Coach Orv Otten said, “Hardersen’s interception was a definite highlight. A couple of great blocks by defensive linemen [sprung] Kadrian into the end zone.”

The Prairie Wolves answered on the next drive. NWU drove 67 yards in 13 plays, ending with a touchdown. A failed extra point decreased the Raiders’ lead to 13-6.

At the end of the half, NWU put their final points on the board, with a one-yard touchdown run with 36 seconds remaining. A failed two-point attempt left the Prairie Wolves with a one-point deficit going into the locker room.

Stopping the two-point conversion “ultimately was the difference in the game,” said Otten.

The Red Raider defense came out in full force during the second half, determined to keep the lead and keep NWU off the board. Forcing four three-and-outs, the defense had four sacks and two fourth-and-one stops during the second half.

“When our defense kept NWU off the scoreboard time and time again, I believe that NWU’s team lost some confidence,” said Otten.

Van Hulzen said, “Our defense bent but didn’t break, and they held us off when we were struggling at times during the game.”

Leading the defense were junior linebacker Nathan Jansen, with a game-high seven solo tackles plus two assists, Hardersen, with 9.5 total tackles and an interception, and junior linebacker Joel Dykstra, with 7.5 total tackles.

“We certainly found out that we can do some very special things when we need to,” said Otten. “Our fourth down defense was nearly flawless Saturday night.”

Offensively, the Raiders had 136 yards and 10 first downs on the night. Passing 13-23, Hector had one touchdown and two interceptions.

Junior wide receiver Seth Moen caught a game-high six passes for 44 yards. Junior running back Kyle Ochsner led NW with 38 yards on seven carries. Freshman Taylor Malm contributed 27 yards on 12 carries.

Tomorrow, the Red Raiders host Dakota Wesleyan in their home opener. Last weekend, DWU defeated Midland Lutheran, 47-7.

“DWU has a very talented team with good team speed and most likely a lot of confidence right now,” said Otten.

Dykstra agreed, “They put up a lot of points on Midland and rushed for about 300 yards, so stopping the run game is key.”

Van Hulzen said, “Everyone has to step it up this week.”

Saturday’s kick-off is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Korver Field.

Women win first cross country meet of season, men take second

BY LAURA JACOBSON

EDITOR

The Red Raider women’s cross country team dominated its competition last Friday, Aug. 30, to win its first meet of the season.

The women scored 27 points in the Dordt College Invitational, considerably defeating second place Morningside College, which tallied 64 points. Six teams competed in the meet.

Leading the Raiders were freshmen Olivia Johnson and Charity Miles, who finished first and second, respectively, in the field of 72 runners. Johnson completed the 4,000 meter course in 15:09, with a time of 15:21.

Johnson earned GPAC Runner-of-the-Week honors for her first-place performance.

The women’s effort was rounded out by the performance of an impressive pack. “We are starting to learn about the synergy of running with a pack and that is helping with the score,” said Head Coach Dale Thompson.

Freshmen Sarah Hess, Stephanie Powell, and Akacia Wentworth, sophomore Stephanie Korfe, and senior Lori Wolf finished within five seconds of each other to complete the women’s top seven. Hess ran the course in 16:25, Powell in 16:26, Wentworth in 16:27, Korfe in 16:29, and Wolf in 16:30.

The five women placed seventh, eighth, ninth, eleventh, and twelfth, respectively.

The men’s team edged out Dakota Wesleyan to earn second place in the competition, scoring 61 to the Tigers’ 65. Morningside was the leading men’s team at the meet, with a team score of 29.

“We are starting to learn about the synergy of running with a pack and that is helping with the score.”

— Dale Thompson

The Raiders were fronted by senior Jon Woehl, who finished the four-mile course in 22:28 for sixth place. Woehl was followed by freshman Tyler Peekenschneider, who ran 22:48 for ninth place.

Sophomore Kyle Gerhard and freshman Danny Owens were 12th and 15th, respectively, with Gerhard running the race in 23:01 and Owens in 23:12. Junior Jack Peterson and sophomores Lee Stover and Andy Norris rounded out the men’s top seven, placing 20th, 21st and 22nd, respectively. Peterson finished in 23:31, closely followed by Stover, in 23:32, and Norris in 23:33.

The Raider cross country teams are of record size this season, with 25 women and 14 men competing in the Dordt Invitational, and several others yet to compete.

“We are missing a few key runners on both teams that we are hoping will be able to join us soon and strengthen the pack,” said Thompson.

The teams’ next meet will be Saturday, Sept. 15, at the SDSU Invitational in Brookings, S.D. The women’s race begins at 9:20 a.m. with the men’s race to follow.

SPORTS SHORTS

Women’s golf takes fourth at Northwestern Invite

Last Friday, Aug. 31, the women’s golf team hosted the Northwestern Invite at Landsmeer Golf Course.

With a score of 332, Sioux Falls shot the lowest of the afternoon. Dakota Wesleyan took second and Morningside took third, with scores of 337 and 350, respectively. NW tied with Briar Cliff for fourth, both shooting 352. Thirteen teams from ten schools competed in the tournament.

Low scorers for Northwestern included Melissa Hesel with an 85, Mary Kleinswaterink, Anne Eberline and Emily Jansen each with 87, and Rachael Koennigsburg with an 89.

Hardersen is GPAC Defensive Player-of-the-Week

Senior safety Kadrian Hardersen was honored as the Great Plains Athletic Conference’s Defensive Player-of-the-Week for his performance in the Raiders’ 13-12 victory over Nebraska Wesleyan last Saturday.

Hardersen scored the Raiders’ first defensive touchdown of the season on a 54-yard interception during the second quarter. The senior also recorded seven solo tackles, with a total of 8.5 tackles and broke up a pass to shut down the Prairie Wolves’ offense in the second half.

Women’s soccer drops two in home tournament

The Northwestern women’s soccer team started their season hosting the Northwestern Bank Soccer Classic on August 24 and 25.

In their first game, the Raiders fell 3-1 to 14th ranked Trinity International (III). The Raiders took an early lead when junior forward Allise Vugteveen scored on an assist from senior midfielder Marcy Wies, who also recorded an assist.

Sophomore goalkeeper Kelly Salem had ten saves in the loss.

In the second game, the Raiders were defeated by Jamestown College (N.D.). The Lady Jimmies scored three first-half goals to take the win.

Junior defender Tara Blutt had three shots on goal for the Raiders. Senior forward Jamise Retzlaff and Rozeboom each had one shot. Salem recorded seven saves.

This weekend, the women travel to Spring Arbor, Mich., to play in the Spring Arbor Classic.
Volleyball falls to Morningside in nail-biter

BY BETHANY KROEZE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Red Raider volleyball team fell to Morningside in a five-game thriller Wednesday night. Northwestern fell to 6-4 overall and 1-1 in the GPAC, while Morningside improved 10-0 overall and 2-0 in the conference.

Unfortunately, the momentum dipped and the Mustangs took the third game, 30-22. Firing back again that—so we wanted to jump out on them quickly and execute well.”

When time ran out, Midland had an opportunity to tie the game, but there were times when things just didn’t seem to go our way,” said Gosselink. “We played hard the entire night, but we made some big plays when we needed them—unfortunately it just wasn’t enough.”

She continued, “We also can’t let any team affect the way we play. We want to be in control of the game, rather than playing timidly.”

Leading the Raiders with kills were freshmen outside hitter Kaitlin Beaver and middle hitter Hillary Hanno, with 19 and 12 kills respectively. Senior outside hitter Megan Meyer and freshman outside hitter Bobbie Jean Rich added 10 kills each.

Sophomore middle hitter Randa Hulstein led the team with six blocks, in addition to her nine kills. Gosselink saw her third highest total career assists, with 61. She also added three aces to the night.

Defensively, senior outside hitter Karissa Davelaar recorded a team-high 21 digs. Gosselink contributed 16 while Meyer and Bloemendaal added 12 digs each.

“Some of our players made some outstanding digs that brought a lot of enthusiasm to the team,” said Gosselink. “The front row also did an amazing job of shutting down some of their big hitters at key points of the game.”

“If we have more moments like that, then it’s going to be a great season,” she said.

Tomorrow night, the Raiders host 17th-ranked Bellevue, at 5 p.m. in the Bultman Center.

“They are a very good team and, just like always, we have to come ready to play,” said Gosselink. “We have to keep in mind that success is a journey and not a destination. We can’t ever be satisfied with where we’re at.”

“We need to be aware of the abilities we have and play like we believe in ourselves and our teammates,” said Gosselink.

Men’s soccer faces giants in California, falls to Midland

BY MARU MULDER
STAFF WRITER

The men’s soccer team has faced some huge challenges of late, including a cross-country road trip to Southern California to play two high ranking schools in the Heritage Club Classic and returned to play a home game with only a day recovery.

Last Friday in Santa Barbara, Calif., the Raiders first took on Asuza Pacific University. APU was the proverbial giant, ranked in the top 10 the past three years by the NAIAcoaches’ poll and advancing to the national playoffs the past two seasons.

Despite a valiant effort on the Raiders’ part, the much taller Cougars shut out the men with a final score of 6-0.

On the second day of the tournament, the Raiders faced the home team, Westmont College, another nationally ranked team.

The men didn’t go down without inflicting some damage. Twenty-three minutes into the game, Aaron O’Brien scored an assist from Bradlee White to put the Raiders in the lead, 1-0.

But Westmont answered back six seconds later with their first strike. The Raiders couldn’t get another goal in regulation.

Senior defender Brian Springer makes a long pass against the Midland Lutheran Warriors Wednesday night on Korver Field.

Senior Janna Bloemendaal digs up a hit from the Morningside Mustangs Wednesday night. Bloemendaal had 12 digs on the night.

The lead didn’t last long. Midland answered just under two minutes later with their first strike. The Raiders had an opportunity to tie the game with a penalty shot, but the Midland goalkeeper knocked the ball away.

When time ran out, Midland Lutheran walked away with a 2-1 win, improving their record to 3-0 and leaving the Raiders with a 2-3 record on the season.

The Raider men will be in action again this Saturday when they face the University of Sioux Falls at the Cougar’s home field. Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m.

The lead didn’t last long, Midland answered just under two minutes later with their first strike. The Raiders had an opportunity to tie the game with a penalty shot, but the Midland goalkeeper knocked the ball away.

When time ran out, Midland Lutheran walked away with a 2-1 win, improving their record to 3-0 and leaving the Raiders with a 2-3 record on the season.

The Raider men will be in action again this Saturday when they face the University of Sioux Falls at the Cougar’s home field. Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m.
“Stick ‘em up” at the Northwestern Western

BY JANICE SWIER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“Stick ‘em up outlaw” may be heard frequently next week as Northwestern’s annual Western Week kicks off. The week’s events comprise of the Wild West Shootout, country dance lessons and the Saturday night Northwestern Western festivities.

The Wild West Shootout is a week where students become better acquainted with the faces and names of fellow students as each student tries to track down their “outlaw” and catch them off guard.

“The great thing about the Wild West Shootout is it is a week that all the participants live in complete paranoia,” said senior Elayna Rice. The student who is able to eliminate the most “outlaws” during the course of the week will be rewarded with $50. Students who are interested in testing their cunning tracking and quick draw skills can fill out a contract and return it to the student activities drop box by 9 p.m. this evening.

During the week of the Western students are also encouraged to participate in free dance lessons; on Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. and on Wednesday from 8 to 10 p.m. students can learn and practice the art of country swing. At the Northwestern Western, which is from 5:30 to 9 p.m. on the green, students will be able to demonstrate their new country swing and line dancing skills at the Western dance.

The country-style dance is not the only thing the Western has to offer, as many other activities will also be happening simultaneously. The Student Activities Council (SAC) will once again have a mechanical bull for students to attempt to ride. Also new this year, the Western will have the Rodeo Roper and the Tumbleweed. The Rodeo Roper will challenge students’ roping skills as they try to rope the mechanical cow that dashes out beside them, and the Tumbleweed is a self-propelled ride that will have students spinning all over the West.

While students are waiting for their chance to ride the bull, get caught in a tumbleweed, or rope a cow, they are able to enjoy free hay rides, they can pay a dollar to get a Western-style photo of them and their friends, or they can sit back with their glass of 1919 root beer.

“The Western is always one of my favorite SAC events because of the variety of things it offers,” said senior Emily Lichter.

Senior art shows to begin at TePaske Gallery

BY SARA JANZEN
STAFF WRITER

As the semester begins, so do senior art shows. Three seniors’ artwork will be showcased throughout the month of September in the TePaske Gallery.

Crystal Woodford’s artwork will be on display from Sept. 10 to 14. She will be holding an open house on Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. for all who wish to hear her talk about her art. Woodford’s show, entitled “Aftermath” will include a wide variety of media such as sculpture, drawing, photography, ceramics, print making, and paintings. Most of the pieces are a reflection of what Woodford was going through at the time she created them.

“My work is based on what is going on inside me, around me.” Woodford said, “I try to capture issues that surround my life.” Her art is the “aftermath” of analyzing these issues.

“Organic Studies 628,” the title of Brienne Caldwell’s art show, runs from Sept. 17 to 21. The title “Organic Studies 628” has two-fold meaning. “Organic Studies” speaks to what the pieces are, studies and observations of plant life. “628” is taken from the verse Matthew 6:28, which says, “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.”

This represents what art means to Caldwell, a chance to escape from worry much like the lilies of the field.

“Through doing my art,” Caldwell said, “I can hear God telling me ‘Don’t worry Bri, just don’t worry. Let me take care of it.’” She went on to say, “I don’t have any worries, I’m enguised in it [my art].”

There will be acrylic and watercolor paintings among Caldwell’s pieces as well as some ceramic and sculpture pieces. Caldwell will be at the TePaske Gallery on the opening day of her show at 7 p.m. for a reception and to elaborate on her theme and answer questions.

Continuing in the natural theme, Carrie (Lokker) Mathison’s art show, entitled “Of Earth” will be showing from Sept. 23 to 28. Mathison’s show will feature pottery and ceramics as well as a few paintings.

The title, “Of Earth” expresses Mathison’s desire to reveal God in nature. “I want to be able to capture that,” Mathison said, “I’ve tried out a lot of different things, and I think it’s something I connect with.”

Mathison’s reception will be Sept. 23 at 4 p.m. in the TePaske Gallery during which time she will comment on her art.