



WSC student accused of sexual voyeurism in Bowen

Article of the Week

KAITLYNN BREEDEN
Staff Writer

A Wayne State male freshman was accused of allegedly filming a female student showering in the women's bathroom on the seventh floor of Bowen Hall on Saturday, Jan. 26 at 10:20 a.m. The incident was immediately reported to WSC Campus Security. At least four other students shared similar stories with the alleged victim and subsequently emailed the Assistant Dean of Students and Title IX Coordinator, David McMahan.

As a result of the allegations, the male student was banned from entering Bowen Hall. The Wayne Police Department is actively investigating the incident. The male student remains free to reside on campus and attend classes.

All of the alleged victims have similar stories, but only the victim on Jan. 26 caught the male student in action filming her over the top of her shower stall.

"I had only been showering for about three minutes before I heard the shower next to me turn on, which of course I thought another woman had started taking a shower next to me," the alleged victim

said. "At this point there was also a hair dryer being used in the bathroom. As I was showering I could see shadows passing by, which was odd because the door was closed and there should not have been shadows passing by."

At that point, the victim felt uneasy and began to check her surroundings.

"After two times of the shadows passing by I became a little worried and felt as if there was a presence watching me," the victim said. "I turned around in my shower and saw a black thing in the air, I quickly opened the shower curtain and revealed that there

was a man standing in the shower next to me. He was standing up on the bench in the other shower, had both of his arms over the stall recording me, or taking pictures of me, and was not wearing a shirt while I was completely bare in the shower."

The victim has reason to believe the male student had filmed other female students earlier in the week due to similar allegations made by those same students.

"My friend and I have been turning off the showers on the seventh floor of Bowen for the past two weeks," the victim said. "Someone was turning them on and then

leaving the door open and not turning them off, which immediately made me think, 'Wow he is doing this to other girls as well.'"

After reporting her story to authorities, the victim began sharing her story on Snapchat and Facebook, warning women in Bowen to be careful.

According to Campus Security Manager Jason Mrsny, the Wayne police officer in charge of looking into the matter indicated he is close to completing his investigation.

The Wayne Police Department refused to comment on the incident due to the open investigation.

Wayne State looking at possibility of adding more women's sports

BY AUSTIN SVEHLAS, Staff Writer

The Wayne State Athletic Department has seen an increased interest surrounding the possibility of adding multiple women's sports in coordination with Title IX policies. Of the sports WSC has considered, the likeliest possibilities are women's golf and sand volleyball.

The reason for potential athletic additions is to improve WSC's current compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX has a three-prong system, which ensures that the institution provides athletic participation opportunities that are substantially proportionate to the student enrollment, demonstrates a continual expansion of athletic opportunities for the underrepresented sex and installs full and effective accommodation of the interest and ability of underrepresented sex.

"We've been implementing a Title IX equity plan with the Office of Civil Rights," Mike Powicki, Wayne State College Director of

Athletics said. "There are a lot of things that are a part of that plan but one of the main components of that plan is potentially expanding opportunities for the underrepresented sex, which is the females among the Wayne State College population."

According to Powicki the goal over time is to add a variety of women's programs but there is a process which must take place before these additions can occur. Approval must be given by the Nebraska State College System Board Office any time there is a plan in place to add programs to men's or women's sports.

"What we do in our planning process for looking at which sports we may be able to add, is look at current sports that are sponsored at the Northern Sun and NCAA level, so we can have some viable competition," Powicki said. "Then we pick the sports based off which one we think makes sense or what things we can be supportive of and successful at."

Golf was suspended years ago due to a lack of funding and sup-

port. However, Powicki sees it as a viable possibility because most of the schools in the NSIC fund golf as a college sport, allowing for viable competition. Golf is also a very popular sport in Nebraska girl's high school sports, which is criteria looked at when deciding on which sports to add.

"We have an 18-hole course that's very nice, very adequate," Powicki said. "It's funny actually. Our golf course, even though we haven't had women's golf the last few years, because we're the southernmost school, they actually still put on Northern Sun Conference Tournaments here because it gives teams a place to come and play, so we're definitely good there."

Sand volleyball is the other program at the top of the list for WSC, which would be represented by the same student athletes who represent the volleyball team in the fall. Sand volleyball would not have a huge cost and would provide viable competition across the greater Midwest region, as no schools in the NSIC offer the

sport. "We do have outdoor courts for training here on campus," Powicki said. "There's a restaurant in town that has some as well, so there are definitely some viable practice opportunities, but it's also very important that we can provide some indoor training opportunities as well."

There is not an absolute timetable for when the program additions could get done, but Powicki believes it would take at least a year or two for any program to be officially implanted. Not only must each program be granted approval, but time must also be allotted to find the necessary coaching support along with time to recruit student athletes who would like to compete in those sports. It also takes approximately a year's time to develop a schedule that coordinates with the potential competition.

There are many factors that determine whether program additions will be successful, and one of those is the backing of faculty, students and fans that come out to

support Wayne State Athletics. "I think they [faculty, students] understand the merits of trying to expand opportunities for females to compete in intercollegiate sports," Powicki said. "I think almost everybody is very supportive of that and gets the importance that we are providing equitable opportunities for our female students."

Currently, WSC has six women's sports and five men's sports. Students' interests and abilities in intramurals were evaluated through surveys offered by the college, which help determine the potential success of additional programs.

"Every time you add a program, there comes additional oversight for student athletes, coaches, budget oversight and managing facilities," Powicki said. "From an administration workload, any time you add programs, you add staff needs and support, but when we have our plans together, we talk that through with our entire team, and I think everybody is on the same page."



Student-made petition gets over 1,900 signatures

BY MORGAN CARDENAS
STAFF WRITER

On Monday, Jan. 28, students spoke out against having classes Jan. 29 through Jan. 31 due to harsh weather by signing a petition started by sophomore Nicole Smith. Classes were only canceled on Wednesday, Jan 30.

Smith started a petition because she was worried about how dangerous the weather was supposed to be and how the campus was still going to have classes. The petition gained a little over 1,900 signatures.

"I was surprised by the number of signatures that I got," Smith

said. "I think it helped them pay more attention, and played some part in canceling class."

Jay Collier, director of college relations, also saw the petition Monday night. He explained how it is common for some students to email him about the weather in hopes of cancelation but not like this.

"This is the first time I've seen a petition and I heard some students at UNL also did one," Collier said. "I thought it was very clever. However, it probably won't change our decision when it comes to weather with school cancelation, but will certainly call our attention to it."

Monday night, Collier sent out

an email informing the campus that classes would still be in session on Tuesday, Jan. 29. The email contained information on how students should use their best judgement when traveling and to dress in warm clothing.

"We have a system in place for determining what we need to do in terms of weather," Collier said. "We made the decision Monday night after sending the email that we would meet Tuesday with the idea of looking at Wednesday because we knew it was supposed to be the worst of the two days."

Collier sent out another email on Tuesday around 2:30 p.m. announc-

ing that classes from 6 p.m. that night to 5 a.m. Thursday would be canceled. He explained how they came to that decision Tuesday.

"We saw that the temperature was going to be below zero without the added wind-chill throughout the whole day and that the conditions were life threatening," Collier said. "There are a lot of people involved in making these decisions about weather."

Student affairs, facilities, the president, academic affairs and human resources meet to talk about how well their department can manage with the weather and what the side effects of closing

campus will be. They then spread the word through multiple different platforms.

"We use the Rave Alert System that everyone can sign up for on eCampus that I believe everyone should get," Collier said. "Then we have your official email that we use and the website shows the weather alert at the top of the page in red and tells you everything that is going on with it."

Collier also stressed students should always use their best judgement with the weather and to talk to their professors about what to do in case they are unable to make their classes due to the weather.

Campus Happenings

By Brianna Parsons

Graduation

Undergraduate Graduation for the Fall or Summer of 2019. For Fall Grads applications are due March 1.

Apply starting on Feb. 15 on Wildcats Online.

Casino Night

In the Frey Conference Suite, participate in Casino Night. Come over on Tuesday, Feb. 26, doors open at 7 p.m.

Career Fair

Want more options for future careers? Come to the Career Fair on Feb. 20 in the Student Center from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Bible Study

A public bible study is open to all every Thursday at 5:00 p.m. in the Conn Library by the magazines.

Women's Basketball

Cheer on the Wildcats on Friday February 8 at 5:30 p.m. vs. SCSU and Saturday February 9 at 3:30 p.m. vs. UMD

Blood Drive

Donate blood in the Student Center today and Tuesday, Feb. 19 from 11a.m. - 5 p.m.

Senior Prize!

Seniors: apply for the Dr. Ron Holt Civic Engagement Award! It provides a \$500 gift to a graduating senior in 2018-2019. Contact Lisa Nelson, WSC Service-Learning director.

American Migrations

America's Black Freedom Movement presented by Dr. Fredrick Douglass Dixon, on Wednesday Feb. 6. The times vary from 10-10:50 a.m., 11-11:50 a.m., 2-3 p.m., 3:30-4:30 pm all in Gardner Auditorium and 6-7 p.m. in Bowen Hall Lobby.

Men's Basketball

Cheer on the Wildcats on Friday February 8 at 7:30 p.m. vs. SCSU and Saturday February 9 at 5:30 p.m. vs. UMD

Week of Welcome apps due soon Seeking ambassadorship? Apply soon

BY ALEX RETZLAFF
STAFF WRITER

Students at Wayne State College can apply to be Week of Welcome (WOW) Ambassadors and team leaders until the application closes on Feb. 14.

WOW Ambassadors and team leaders help orientate new freshmen to WSC. Ambassadors walk incoming freshmen and transfer students through their first few days by giving tours, helping students find classrooms, promoting WOW activities and answering any questions the students may have. Similarly, team leaders help coordinate the activities and train the ambassadors. The ambassadors train one week before classes begin each semester.

So far, a handful of students applied for the positions. Junior London Bercey, the new student orientation coordinator, believes the number of applications will only increase.

"We've gotten quite a bit [of applications] so far," Bercey said. "I know we've had a lot of obligations being taken, because we've had to reprint. Usually we have about 60 ambassadors and 16 leaders, so it kind of just depends on how many have applied and how many we'll have altogether at the end of it."

Senior Joel Johnson, a current student ambassador, felt the experience was worth the effort.

"It's a great experience just

because you get to be in [the freshmen's] footsteps again when you were a freshman," Johnson said. "So, you just want to help them out because you remember when you were a freshman, you were just kind of lost, and you didn't know what the ropes were like. I really just love doing that. I think everyone should try it and just do it, just so you know the experience."

Freshman Casey Brentlinger appreciated the service WOW Ambassadors provided during Fall 2018 semester.

"Everybody was very kind," Brentlinger said. "I wasn't quite prepared [to move in], I didn't bring everything with me, so having people there to say, 'Hey, you might need this later on,' or having people just give you advice along the way was very helpful."



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Student senate election voting available March 25

Winners of the election will have power to choose student funding

BY JULIA BAXTER
STAFF WRITER

Wayne State College students will be given the opportunity to influence the members of student senate March 25 through the 29 on eCampus, and in doing so, they will choose who makes decisions on the allocations of a \$300,000 trust fund used for services to the students including Intramural Programs, Student Activity Board events and Wildcat Wheels.

“The student senate provides an official voice for the student body, decides how Student Activity fees are spent and works to improve the college policies, programs and facilities for the benefits of students,” Jeff Carstens, Director of TRiO Student Support Services, said.

So why would a student want to become a part of student senate? What roles can the senate

take part in on campus? According to the president and the vice president, there are plenty of opportunities for change.

“Student Senate is the voice of the student body,” Student Senate President Kody Wageman said. “We have the power to change policy, approve organizations or clubs, and work with professionals on campus to solve issues. In the past year, Student Senate has listened to a student with safety concerns and has proposed recommendations to solve the concern to the WSC President. We have approved a multitude of new student organizations, including the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, the Martial Arts Club and the Political Science Club to name a few.”

Wageman also stated that the student senate has been responsible for the creation of a new representative in the name of the students.

“This past fall, we were able to create the Student Inclusion Representative,” Wageman said. “This is an individual chosen by Student Inclusion Committee to represent the interest of all of the multicultural organizations on campus. Its purpose is to promote inclusion among students, organizations, and the Wayne State College community as a whole.”

Vice President Ashley VanMeeteren was very pleased and proud of the senate’s accomplishment in creating this representative. In addition she enjoyed learning the ins and outs of the college and its operating system.

“Some of the most important parts of being on student senate are the decisions you get to make for the student body,” VanMeeteren said. “In order to make those decisions we ask that our senators get to know the students they are representing and understand their

needs. I would like to challenge each and every person to think about their role on campus. If you see yourself as a leader and someone who wants a chance to be a part of something bigger than yourself, I encourage you to apply.”

Any student who would like to apply to be a student senator candidate must be enrolled for at least 12 hours, have completed 12 hours at WSC at the beginning of your term of office, have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above, not be on disciplinary probation and be pursuing a senator position for the academic school in which the student is a declared major. Petitions of application are available from ssenate@wsc.edu and are due on March 15, to the office of Student Activities by 5 p.m.

“Student senators take their responsibilities seriously, genuinely seek the input and opinions of

the students they represent and take pride in improving WSC,” Carstens said.

With the large amount of responsibilities placed on the shoulders of the president and the vice president in the decisions they make, they receive leadership scholarships in the form of a tuition waiver of up to \$500 for President and up to \$375 for VP per semester.

The WSC Student Senate Constitution states that the goal of student senate is to, “(...) provide a forum of the expression of student rights; to improve student cultural and social welfare; to develop better educational standards, facilities and teaching methods, and to foster recognition of the rights and responsibilities of students to school and community(...)” because of this, students are given power to apply, to vote and to influence.

Club Spotlight: Comedy Club

This club is sure to tickle your funny bone

BY KADRA SOMMERSTED
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

As it has been said, “Laughter is the best medicine.” There’s no better way than to get into the goofy mood like Comedy Club, a new club that is being brought to campus.

Comedy Club had their first meeting held last night in the Blackbox Theatre in Ramsey.

Junior Julia Baxter and senior Caleb Green are co-founders of the new Comedy Club.

“Starting a club isn’t too difficult,” Baxter said. “As long as you are excited, and are able to find other people that share your excitement.”

Baxter said they needed 10 signatures from people who are interested in joining the club, a sponsor, and club basics. These basics include a constitution and leaders.

The sponsor for the club will be Brian Begley.

“We started the club for lots of reasons,” Baxter said. “We really wanted to give students interested in comedy, but not

necessarily theatre, an outlet for their talents and a place of their own in the comedy club.”

Green said they wanted a club that wasn’t all about being professional.

“This is a club about the appreciation of comedy, so we don’t really plan to structure the club based off of office or stature,” Green said.

Green said the leadership will be easy because all members will be seen as equals with equal say.

“We thought a comedy club would be a great place for like minded individuals to gather, and for people to just have fun,” Baxter said.

Baxter said the club is open to anyone interested and anyone can go to the meeting. She said it’s an open club for anyone to have fun and have their hand at comedy.

“We hope to expand to find people with an interest for all things funny, and maybe performing at other events on campus,” Green said.

Baxter said that everyone in the club will have a voice, everyone

has a chance to contribute to the club, and can help shape the club in their own ways.

“We hope to be a different club,” Green said. “A club not ruled by position or pomp and circumstance.”

Green said he is sure they will get people who are passionate about comedy, and they will find a home within the comedy club.

For more information, contact Julia Baxter or Caleb Green.

POLICE REPORT

By Brianna Parsons

-A disturbance of loud noise from a party was reported on W 13th St. on Jan. 30.

-At Brookdale Wayne on Vintage Hill Dr., a 911 call was received but hung up abruptly on Jan. 31.

-A two vehicle traffic accident occurred on Lincoln St. on Jan. 31.

-A fire call was called in on Thorman St. on Feb. 4.

-A theft; misdemeanor was reported to the Wayne Police Department on Pearl St. on Feb. 1.

-A disturbance-fight verbal/physical was reported at Wayne East Prime Stop on E 7th St. on Feb. 2.

-On W 1st St. a caller called in a hit and run with damage on Feb. 2.

-A possible dead body was reported at Brookdale Wayne on Vintage Hill Dr. on Feb. 3.

-On Memory Ln. an animal complaint about a large dog was notified to the police department on Feb. 1.

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Join Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow Club (ACT)

Focusing on agricultural communication while providing growth in academics and promoting agriculture through communication.

Adviser: Justin Bergh jubergh1@wsc.edu

President: Brenna Vovos brvovos01@wsc.edu



Upper cafeteria clapping tradition quietly waning

Winners of the election will have power to choose student funding

BY ALEX RETZLAFF
STAFF WRITER

Students and staff expressed mixed feelings upon hearing that a long-standing tradition in the Kanter Student Center at Wayne State College is slowly dying out this semester.

The tradition takes place in the Student Center's upper cafeteria. Whenever one student drops a plate, glass or any other dish, every other student in the cafeteria begins clapping. In recent semesters, however, students didn't handle the tradition well. Students and staff seem to understand this, as evidenced by fewer instances of the tradition in action.

Students such as senior Ashton Lindsay and freshman Mason Wright felt relieved once the tradition started to die down, with Wright believing the decrease in the tradition shows "growth and maturity." "I don't like it," Lindsay said. "I think it embarrasses people, and it's just a silly mistake, and we don't need to make it a big, public deal."

Members of the upper cafeteria's staff, like Joyce Diediker, agree with Lindsay.

"They probably think it's really fun when they're doing it, like 'Oh, this is funny,'"

Diediker said. "But the person that it happens to, I'm sure, is probably very embarrassed. We all are human, and sometimes, everybody's going to drop something or do something embarrassing in their life, and they don't need to have people pointing their fingers at them."

Despite the animosity toward the tradition, some students, like Kelsey Anderson, felt sad to see the tradition go.

"I personally think it is really funny," Anderson said. "Whenever it happens, I always think it kind of brings people together, and we have a good time. I do think it can embarrass people a little bit, but, you know, we can all have thick skin and it's mostly fun in the end."

Even longtime students of WSC, like Kyle Eskens, shared mixed views on the tradition.

"I don't think it's necessarily the best tradition we have, or anything like that," Eskens said. "When I was the person clapping, it really didn't bother me because everyone else was doing it, which obviously isn't the best thing. When I was on the receiving end, I didn't think it was too embarrassing. It was just another part of Wayne."

While the clapping tradition faded, its effect on students and staff still stands.



PHOTO BY LLOLANDA HERNANDEZ

Two Chartwell cafeteria workers conversing. The staff that work behind the grill and in front of customers have also taken notice of the change in cafeteria culture.

Coming February 17, 2019 – WildcatsOnline Sign-On Will Be Improved

NATS is excited to announce that we are upgrading the sign-on process in WildcatsOnline. This means that once you're signed in to Sakai or Office365 or WildcatsOnline, you'll be signed in to all the other systems as well.

This change will be followed this fall by a refreshed, mobile friendly replacement to eCampus. In the short term, logins to WildcatsOnline through eCampus may get asked for a username and password again if it's the first system you're logging into that session.

If you have any difficulties or questions call the **Service Center at 402-375-7107** or stop by and see us in the Library!

Wayne State College



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The many benefits of achieving bilinguality

Editorial

Vogt for Pedro



Rachel Vogt

When I came to Wayne State in the fall of 2016, I had a declared major, but wasn't sure if it would be for me or not. One thing I was sure I wanted to learn more of was Spanish, which was and is still my minor. I have a lot of people come up to me and ask why I would want to learn a foreign language, especially if they're going to build a wall to keep "all those Spanish speakers out" (I work in a bar, so that's a phrase I hear quite often). But in my opinion, there are many reasons to want to learn a new language.

First off, being able to say that you are bilingual (which I am not at this point, but I would like to be someday soon) greatly improves your competitiveness in the job market. The ability to speak multiple languages makes you a much better candidate for positions, especially with companies that are becoming increasingly diverse and serving multilingual populations at home and abroad.

Secondly, knowing a second language can open up many new career opportunities that you may not have qualified for if you cannot speak another language. Jobs as translators and interpreters are in the top 15 fastest-growing occupations in the United States. Fields such as travel and tourism, healthcare and national security need employees with bilingual language skills and the ability to work across cultures. Fields such as journalism, education and international development are always in search of bilingual employees. And knowing a second language can give you an edge if you want to apply for the Peace Corps or become a Foreign Service Officer.

Third, bilinguals can earn significantly more money than their peers who cannot speak multiple languages. Jobs with pay differentials based on bilingualism generally pay 5 to 20 percent more per hour for bilingual employees. College graduates who speak two languages make an average of 2 percent more than those who do not, which means by the point of retirement, an additional \$67,000 could be in your bank account.

These are just the ways that being bilingual can help someone in the workplace, but there are also life improvements that can arise by being bilingual, such as different social and cultural opportunities.

Speaking another language lets you interact with different people and understand other cultures,

meaning more opportunities to make friends, explore different hobbies and better understand foreign music, film and literature. Travel can also be cheaper and more rewarding when you speak the language of the country you are visiting. You won't be limited to staying in expensive foreigner hotels, eating at restaurants where the staff speaks English or traveling with a tour group. Instead, you can find your own way and experience the country the way a local would. You might enjoy cheaper access to museums because you don't have to pay for a foreign-language guide, and you will certainly have more opportunities to meet people, engage in conversation and learn about the culture.

Another advantage of knowing another language is the new perspective that it gives you. Many people who speak more than one language report feeling "like a different person" when they speak the other language. Research by a professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has found that bilinguals emphasize different character traits depending on which language they are speaking. Another study found significant levels of "frame-shifting," or changes in self-perception, among bilingual participants. Researchers interviewed Hispanic women who were fluent in both Spanish and English and found that many classified themselves as more assertive when they spoke Spanish. The women

also had different perceptions of the same advertisements when they saw them in English and in Spanish.

There are also health and well-being advantages to being bilingual. Multiple studies have shown that bilingualism can improve problem-solving, multitasking and decision making. The ability to focus attention and perform mental tasks are two key brain functions that are improved in bilingual speakers.

There have also been studies that show that bilingualism can slow the effects of old age. Cognitive flexibility, or the ability to adapt to unfamiliar or unexpected circumstances, tends to decline as people age, but speaking a second language can block that decline or at least significantly delay it. And while bilingualism cannot prevent Alzheimer's disease, it can delay the onset of symptoms as many as five years. A recent study found that the brains of people who suffered from Alzheimer's show the same physical deterioration whether they were monolingual or bilingual. But the people who could speak two languages do not exhibit the typical symptoms of Alzheimer's, such as memory loss, confusion and difficulties with problem-solving and planning, until much later than those who only speak one language.

So as you can see, there are many benefits to knowing and utilizing a second, or even a third language, so that is why I suggest studying either online or taking classes in other languages.

The Pentagon announced on Sunday it plans to send an additional 3,750 United States troops to the country's Mexican border. These additional troops will bring the total number to 4,350.

President Donald Trump originally sent troops to the border on the heels of the midterm elections late last year. Trump used our soldiers as a political ploy to make it look like there was a crisis going on at the border and the only solution was his proposed border wall. Now, just weeks before the deadline for Congress to approve a spending bill, Trump is sending more troops to the border.

For a man who paraded his love for the military at every campaign rally, Trump did nothing in his personal or business life prior to his election to back this up (including dodging the draft during the Vietnam War), and he continues to make decisions that contradict his campaign jingoism. Since his election, he put the Department of Veteran Affairs in the hands of an incompetent leader incapable of delivering our veterans quality, consistent health care. And now Trump is using our troops—again—as a political tool. He doesn't care about the well-being of U.S. troops or running an effective military—he only cares about exploiting the troops can help him politically.

In a tweet defending the decision to send additional troops to the border, Trump said he will build a human wall if necessary. We are sending unnecessary resources to create a racist symbol for Trump instead of taking care of real problems. Flint still doesn't have clean water. A prison in New York City went without heat for days during the polar vortex. How about reforming our prison system? Wasn't one of Trump's slogans "America First"?

Everything he does is purely for the benefit of himself (and Russia) like ending a nuclear treaty with Russia that was made between the two countries at the height of the cold war. Many experts fear this will only lead to another arms race between the two countries. Our president is making decisions that clearly do not put "America First." It is our responsibility to hold him accountable.

THE WAYNE STATER

Editor in Chief..... Emmalee Scheibe Faculty Advisor.....Justin Bergh

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The Wayne Stater can be reached by telephone at 375-7501 or via electronic mail at wstater@wsc.edu.

The Wayne Stater's Advertising department can be reached at 375-7489 or wsc_ads@hotmail.com.

The Wayne Stater welcomes letters of 250 words or less, columns, news and club briefs.

The deadline for submissions is Monday at 12:00 p.m.

Submissions must include the author's name, address, telephone number and signature.

No anonymous letters or pen names will be accepted.

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Dead in the Water



Jacob Stewart

Icy winds are making it difficult to do much of anything, readers. Cabin fever thoughts are beginning to take hold, and I don't know how much longer I can keep the madness at bay. Soon enough I'll have started writing on the walls, the language making sense to no one but myself, and seeing as how I rent this place, I'm sure the landlord won't appreciate my bizarre activities. Yet this is the least of my concerns as I sit here and attempt to somehow use the approaching madness as a benefit, a tool to try to figure out the ugliness of the world beyond the physical.

We're lost in a metaphoric winter, weeks are shifting into months, and our government is still only temporarily open. The shutdown was a record breaker, but that's nothing to celebrate, not for those of us who wish to see the republic continue onward. Of course, it's difficult to keep that dream alive when we still find ourselves in the complete mental breakdown that is the Trump Presidency.

For a man who vehemently claims he has no connection to the Kremlin, Donald Trump is doing everything to prove himself wrong. He's left us divided and without a working government, and with news of the Supreme Court's decision to allow his ban on transgender troops, he's weakened

our military strength. Surely, these are the actions of someone working for a hostile power.

Perhaps it's not the Kremlin, he could be striving to help build the American Reich. After all, he has shown little to no defiance toward the neo-Nazi movement, and each time he opens his mouth to spew more racial division, he simply adds fuel to the fire. Take for example the actions of the smug and entitled youth who verbally assaulted Nathan Phillips, an elder in the Omaha Nation as well as Vietnam veteran. Phillips and other Native Americans were surrounded by the youth section of the White Power movement who began to shout one of Trump's most iconic sayings, "Build the Wall!"

I'm sure I don't have to explain the irony here to any of you, folks....

Plenty of people have come out to defend the Covington Catholic school students. Parents as well other do-gooders all across social media have tried to say that the group were actually accosted by the Native Americans, another excuse was that "black Muslims" were somehow at fault. Whatever claims may arise, they are all serving the same purpose of attempting to deflect the racism that was shown toward Phillips and those who were with him. I'm just surprised that Trump hasn't come out with his "both groups are to blame" bit that worked so well after the violence seen at Charlottesville back in 2017.

Until America rids itself of the cancerous type of people that have come about during Trump's disastrous reign, we'll forever be in danger of another presidency such as this. The Unite the Right Movement at Charlottesville and the Covington Catholic students prove just how backwards we've gone, the cold winds rising, keeping us from moving forward.

Valentine's cockroach revenge

Prankin' with Kaitlynn



Kaitlynn Breeden

Many of our lives are haunted by the memories of our shitty ex boyfriends or girlfriends. In the spirit of Valentine's Day, the Hemsley Conservation Centre in Fairseat, England, is having a fundraiser involving their cockroaches. As a way to raise

money for the zoo, the conservation center is allowing people to name a cockroach after their ex, or a friend's ex.

My New Year's resolution was to get over my ex-boyfriend. So now that I have, it felt like my civic duty to help my friend realize her ex wasn't worth it either. Since we're both brutally single, this felt like a way to make the most out of Valentine's Day.

To help out the zoo and exploit my friend's ex, I paid the \$2.70 to gift my friend a beautiful certificate of her new cockroach that is roaming around the zoo. The certificate includes a big cockroach and says, "Congratulations! I've named a cockroach at the Hemsley Conversation Centre in the not so loving memory of your worthless ex!"

The zoo plans to post a photo

of all the cockroaches with their new names on Feb. 14. So for her Valentine's gift, my friend will be able to see her ex where he truly belongs: rolling around in some dirt and locked up in an exhibit.

In my opinion, I think this is probably the best Valentine's Day gift. It's even better than candy, because it's cheaper than the fancy boxes of chocolates and you don't have to feel guilty about eating poorly.

Naming a cockroach after someone is nicer than revenge, but is still equally petty.

If you want to help by donating to the zoo, or know someone whose personality is disgusting and similar to a cockroach, you can name your own roach at www.hemsleyconservationcentre.com/valentinescockroach.

Trust me, I'm a fiction writer

Guest Column

Alex Retzlaff

My Editing and Publishing class with Professor Chad Christensen is interesting, to say the least. As a guy with dreams of becoming a published author, I found one particular class with him extremely useful. See, I signed up for Editing and Publishing because I felt it would give me some tips on publishing my first novel, which I am still in the process of editing and rewriting.

Basically, the lecture, which I honestly paid a tiny sliver of attention to, boiled down to one fine point: if you're going to write, whether it be for leisure or profit, make sure you put your whole heart into your work.

Christensen went into detail on vanity publishing. Vanity publishing is when a writer submits a half-assed book to a half-assed

publisher. Vanity publishers promise to get a writer's book out there quickly and painlessly. More often than not, vanity publishers barely know the basics of editing and proofreading, and it's not difficult to imagine them looking up funny cat videos when they're supposed to be editing the novel that you, the writer, worked tirelessly on for God-knows-how-long.

Here are some friendly tips from a fellow writer. Rule number one of publishing cheaply-made crap: do not, under any circumstances, publish cheaply-made crap. It will come back to bite you in the buttocks if you do. When you publish a book and you think it's hot garbage, chances are your readers will think it's hot garbage too. Even worse is the damage to your reputation as a future writer. Vanity publishing will put your name out there for all the wrong reasons. Professional publishing companies take notice of this and consider it when you finally write that masterpiece that's worth reading. You get to keep the rights to your work, but that's about the only silver lining to vanity publishing,

and it's not worth it. Don't get me wrong: I would like to keep the rights to my novel if possible, simply because I don't want it made into a crappy movie later on, but I didn't write the laws. Oh well.

If you're like me, then you probably don't want people to burn your crappy novel in a campfire when the apocalypse hits town. The answer is simple: for starters, take your time with your novel, whether it be your first draft or your last. I once found myself on the receiving end of this same advice from a fanfiction writer, and I never take it for granted. This leads to my second point: put your heart into your work. When you look forward to letting the creativity flow onto the page, you will end up reaping the rewards of great reviews and greater sales. It took me four years to write the first draft of my first novel, and I'm still willing to commit a sliver of time each week to fixing the hiccups because I want to publish a book I know I'll be proud of. If you follow this simple advice, chances are you'll produce novels you're proud of, too.

Your Grandma might be shocked...



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Hell visits Nebraska in newly released "DUSK"

BY SEAN DUNN
REPORTER

Something's hidden in the cornfields. It ain't no dog. It ain't no farmhand. It ain't no drunk high schooler running from the cops. It's a scarecrow. No big deal, right? Except it's moving and carrying a shotgun. Behind the scarecrow, a horde of chainsaw-wielding gunny-sack hooded maniacs, robed cultists, demonic goats and sickly looking rats are making their way forward, ready to unleash hell on Earth. This is a common scene in the 2018-released first-person shooter "DUSK."

"DUSK" features a dark and harrowing opening. The main character (colloquially known as Dusk Dude) is surrounded by psychos in a dingy, dirty basement. A disembodied voice commands the chainsaw-wielding maniacs: "Kill the intruder."

As the mysterious Dusk Dude, your main goal is to survive the onslaught of demonic entities and monsters and find the source of their invasion. You start the game off hacking away enemies with corn sickles that were previously dug into your back by religious fanatics.

As you go through more missions, you can find various new weapons such as pistols, shotguns, crossbows, and hunting rifles. Along with guns, you can also throw heavy objects and explosives to make your way through the various hordes of enemies you will be fighting.

Along with regular enemies, you will also face bosses that will force you to rethink how you take on enemies. Some are fast-paced and require you to match their speed, while others are slower but more powerful.

The game uses pixelated graphics

to create a simple but eerie atmosphere for the world that "DUSK" takes place in. A lot of the colors you will see in the game ranges from ominous dark red to medium earthy brown to pitch black. There's minimalistic gore; you get in close to an enemy with your super shotgun, you can expect them to turn into small giblets.

One of the main draws of this game is that it is heavily inspired by famous '90s first-person shooters "Quake" and "DOOM." Both "Quake" and "DOOM" set the standard for the genre, and along with contributions from the revolutionary "Half-Life," are considered the grandfathers of shooters. "DUSK" takes elements from all three games and puts its own spin on them. The main feel of these games is very simplistic. Move forward, collect guns, shoot your enemies, and reach the end.

The simplicity, however, leaves a lot of room for the imagination, good atmosphere building, and enemy design, to which "DUSK" stays true. Along with that, "DUSK" has a killer metal soundtrack, which really kicks in when you are in a room full of enemies swarming you all at once.

One more really fun thing that "DUSK" takes from the older games is the secrets. There are so many different ways for you to find weapons, ammo, and power-ups earlier on than you usually would when you become a little investigative in the environment. Sometimes it's just a little switch on the wall and a crack or hole in the ground. Other times, it's looking for a specific point in the level that requires a specific item. Honestly, the secret room hunting is as much part of the game as fighting

the enemies and completing the levels is.

Of course, if we compare "DUSK" and its spiritual predecessors to more modern shooters like "Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six Siege" or "Counter-Strike: Global Offensive," you might find that it lacks a sense of depth.

First of all, "DUSK" features no huge customization features (save for the multiplayer avatar). I haven't played the multiplayer addition to the game because the server population is pretty low. The single-player mode, while fun, could get repetitive to some degree. It did get that way for me towards the ending portion of the game. The enemies added a lot of flavor to the experience, but by some of the last missions I knew that it was just a matter of killing enemies to reach the end. Despite this, I had a lot of fun with the game.

For those who had seen the game and haven't bought it yet or people who just aren't sure whether they should buy the game just yet after reading this, I'll give you all a small rundown: if you enjoy high-action and high adrenaline games, old-school first-person shooters, metal soundtracks, somewhat over-the-top horror elements, or have played "DOOM" or "Quake" and enjoyed them, I would say that "DUSK" is worth your \$20.

However, if you don't enjoy fast-paced games, somewhat repetitive gameplay, gory atmospheres, or occult themes, then you could probably find a better use for your cash.

If you're looking to go on a rampage against some hellbeasts and occult worshippers, "DUSK" is the way to go. As the wise "Doom Guy" once said: "Rip and tear."



PHOTO BY KORI SIEBERT

The Stater's food critic Kori Siebert gave her verdict after trying four different kinds of Oreos.

Kori's Food Reviews: Oreos Unite

BY KORI SIEBERT
REPORTER

The Oreo will forever be America's favorite cookie. They come in so many different colors, shapes, sizes and flavors. They're good for dunking, twisting and chomping, what more could us Americans want?? More flavors, duh Kori. Well this week I went to the holy grail, Wal-Mart, and got four packages of Oreos that are out of the ordinary.

The only cookie I tried that is available year-round was the Red Velvet Oreo. It was made with real cocoa, was a red cookie, and had cream cheese flavored filling. This one was alright. I set my standards pretty high, but some of these cookies were giving me a bad vibe, so I cut this one a little slack. Some Oreo flavors just should not have been made. This one was seriously sweet though, I could only have two before taking a break; and that says a lot because I can eat ten Oreos in one sitting. It had as much filling as a regular Oreo, so thank gosh it didn't have any more or I would have gone into sugar shock. I didn't try this baby with milk, but it maybe could

have diluted the sweetness, who knows. Someone test it out and tell me what you think.

For the Valentine's Day lovers, this one is for you. Nabisco created a limited edition for Valentines Day. "Love, Oreo," has a sweet and tangy crème filling and has heart imprinted on the top cookie as well as the saying "Dunk in love." So as the romantic that I am, I obviously had to try this sweetie in time for love day. Sadly, these cookies reflected my romantic life: stale and unsavory. Just kidding Connor, you're the real MVP.

But in all honesty these cookies were not good AT ALL. Sure, the crème was pink so it might be cute for a kid's party, but they tasted like a mixture of barf and more barf, I don't even know, I'm just not a fan. The only upside to this cookie is that it's limited edition, so it will go away eventually . . . eventually.

Another limited-edition Oreo is peppermint bark flavored. On the outside it looks like a regular Oreo, just all sweet and innocent, but when you bite inside there are crunchy sugar crystals that destroy your

Continued on page 8 . . .

Campus Chatter:

What do you think about the government shutdown and the issues related to it?



"My concern is that regular government operation is being held hostage by the President. Regardless of who is in power, this sets a dangerous precedent. If the president doesn't get what they want we simply stall operation until they do? It's contrary to the intent of the democratic process. It's all very ugly partisan politics."

Mike White
Assistant Professor



"It's hard to boil it down to one point, but the effects of the shutdown have rippled through our country from compromising our sense of security to pushing hard working people to use food pantries."

Monica Snowden
Professor



"I think the government shutdown is a tragic example of what happens when all parties refuse to sit at the negotiating table together and reach an agreement."

Allyn Leuders
Associate Professor

A Capella group Blue Jupiter returns to WSC



PHOTOS BY AMELIA IVESTER

The 18-year-old a capella group Blue Jupiter performed in Ramsey Theatre at Wayne State College on Jan. 25.

BY ANA MATA
REPORTER

The creative a capella group Blue Jupiter performed in Ramsey Theatre on Jan. 25 with their own twists on well-known songs and charmed the audience with their upbeat attitude.

Blue Jupiter first formed in 2001 and the group has been through a few changes since the beginning of their careers. They have also worked with many big-name companies such as Nickelodeon, CBS, Food Network and even ABC.

“What we do is, we take songs and we turn them on their heads,” said Diana Preisler, lead female singer of Blue Jupiter. “Every sound that you’re hearing on stage from Blue Jupiter is made using

the human voice.”

During their show, they performed songs such as “Dynamite” by Taio Cruz, “Life is a Highway” by Rascal Flatts, “Dj got us fallin’ in love again” by Usher and other mashups with one having over 20 songs incorporated into it.

“I always admire their ability to sing the way they do,” said Marty Gasper, Blue Jupiter’s beat bass. “I don’t have that control over my voice . . . but to that end, they can’t do what I do, so it’s a good pairing for us.”

Blue Jupiter has done over 200 shows all over the U.S., Canada, China, and Japan; they made a stop in Wayne before they begin their next tour in Costa Rica.

“Blue Jupiter was super cool, they had a super fun and relaxed

mood to them,” education major Michelle Mass said. “I especially enjoyed their mashup of songs. It had such smooth transitions and it was so cool.”

After the show ended Blue Jupiter stayed and had a Q & A session with the audience, answering any questions and talking about some of their shows in Hong Kong and Costa Rica from previous years.

“I liked how funny they were and how they had a lot of energy,” elementary education major Frances Hoffman said. “I thought it was nice how they stayed after to talk to everyone and how they were willing to answer questions.”

Blue Jupiter left the audience feeling energized and happy, despite the late hour the show had begun and ended.

Continued from pg. 7 . . .

teeth. Just kidding. I’m just so used to the filling being smooth, but the peppermint bits were just an unusual twist. This Oreo wasn’t bad, like it was average, but if you hate eating food that has a strong taste of toothpaste, you’re definitely not going to like this one.

Last but not least, “The Most Stuf” Oreo. Yeah, you read that right. You have your thins, regular, double stuf, mega stuf, and now there is the most stuf. It legit says on the package “MOST. CRÈME. EVER.” Sad thing is, is that it’s LIMITED EDITION.

I saw an ad on Facebook about it, but obviously thought it was fake until I saw it in the Oreo section with my own eyes. Let me first start off by saying, this is the MOST glorious cookie you will ever lay eyes on. It is perfect in all of its form, it has

curves that none can compare to, its crème is perfectly smooth. And not gonna brag, but every twist test I did, none of the crème was left on the inside cookie!

There is so much crème, that when you bite into it, it gets a little too excited and crème spills out the sides. The only downfall to this cookie is that it’s so mammoth in size that I could only have three in a sitting before I was satisfied, and it’s only available for a limited time so that’s sad too.

In the end, I’m happy all Oreos were created just for my taste buds. Even though I love some and really dislike the others I’m glad there is more to be tasted. The blue tab will soon be lifted, the red solo cup will be filled to the brim with milk and a dunking party will take place on my lumpy futon. Oreos unite.

OVERHEARD ON CAMPUS

OVERHEARD IN MOREY
“I wish I was an actual ghost demon.”

OVERHEARD IN ANDERSON
“Please don’t try to spank the RAs.”

OVERHEARD IN THE REC
“Dude, you just gotta pop that Emergen-C like it’s Molly.”

OVERHEARD IN WAYNE
“Which Mormon broke your heart?”

ALBUM RELEASE



Artist: Better Oblivion Community Center
Album Title: Better Oblivion Community Center
Length: 37:18
Release Date: Jan. 24 (Digital) and Feb. 22 (CD and

Libby’s Take: Omaha native and popular singer-songwriter Connor Oberst teamed up with Los Angeles’ Phoebe Bridgers to create the record “Better Oblivion Community Center.” Using the theme of their band name and debut album title, the duo sings to their community center “members” in a way that makes listeners long to become the person they were meant to be, despite difficulties.

Word Search

NATIONAL PARKS

A	L	A	K	A	E	L	A	H	A	D	C
I	B	S	D	E	N	A	L	I	K	B	O
D	F	E	W	G	L	C	A	C	S	S	L
N	V	V	I	A	H	J	E	X	D	W	Y
E	O	E	N	R	I	V	X	Y	N	G	M
B	Y	R	D	C	M	L	Z	M	A	L	P
G	A	G	C	H	J	Q	N	A	L	A	I
I	G	L	A	E	Y	Z	C	L	D	C	C
B	E	A	V	S	I	A	T	N	A	I	D
A	U	D	E	O	D	Y	R	N	B	E	O
T	R	E	N	I	P	A	P	Z	X	R	X
X	S	S	A	A	I	O	U	Q	E	S	J

ACADIA	DENALI	OLYMPIC
ARCHES	EVERGLADES	SEQUOIA
BADLANDS	GLACIER	VOYAGEURS
BIG BEND	HALEAKALA	WIND CAVE

Freshman breaks 15-year-old pole vault record



Photo courtesy of WSC Athletics
Freshman Mikayla Marvin

Hunter Kiburz
Staff Writer

Two weeks ago Wayne State Track and Field had an athlete break a record that hasn't been broken in 15 years. Mikayla Marvin changed that when she set a new record in pole vault

for Wayne State at 10' 8 ¾".

Ever since Marvin was a little kid, she always knew that pole vaulting could be her best field event in track.

"I first thought pole vault was going to be my best field event when my dad, brother, and my sister started doing it and I was watching at a very young age," Marvin said.

Marvin began pole vaulting as a child and has worked on refining her skills ever since, leading her to where she is at today.

"My coach gave me the same reason everytime and that was I was too short for another event," Marvin said.

When Marvin first visited, she went straight to the record book to see what the record for pole vault was, and she knew that whatever it was, that it was going to be her goal to beat it by the end of her college ca-

reer. She broke that just five meets into her college career.

She pays her respect to her teammates and her coaches for pushing her and helping her improve everyday in practice and at meets.

"Coach Kamm and the other pole vaulters have helped me so much improve my vault skills and I could have not have done it without them," Marvin said.

Don't think that just because the record is broken that Marvin is going to stop pursuing more records.

"That's the good thing about pole vaulting, your goal continues to get higher so you always have something to shoot for," Marvin said.

She officially kicked off her pole vaulting career in the sixth grade.

"I have been in the pole atmosphere since I

could walk," Marvin said.

Marvin has envisioned herself being coached by Coach Brink and being able to break the record here. To do it so early in her college career was also special.

"The moment I broke my PR my junior year at districts I knew I had a chance, but I knew I would be vaulting in college when I saw Coach Brink," Marvin said.

This isn't the first time Marvin has been competing at a very high level, as she placed at the Nebraska Class B State Track Meet with a vault of 11' 5" and notched a third place finish.

Her coach knew it was just a matter of time before she finally broke the record for pole vault.

"She is adjusting to a new coach (assistant coach Travis Kamm), which sometimes takes a little time to make the transition as well," Marlon Brink said.

Her coach notices that she is getting comfortable on the runway, as there were times where she would push off the hardest at the end of her steps and still get good height. They can tell she has been pushing hard all the way down the runway and bursting off when she finally sticks the last foot in the ground and the pole into the ground.

Even this past weekend she was able to tie her school record in Mankato, Minnesota with a score of 3.27 meters, 10' 8 ¾". Coaches want her to keep working hard and improving so they can score important points for the team in the NSIC Championships.

"We are very excited to see just how high Mikayla can go, I think she is technically very good vaulter, and a very good competitor," Brink said.

Men's basketball secure first place spot in NSIC South

Evelyn Knox
Staff Writer

The Wayne State men's basketball team traveled 12 hours north to Minot State and University of Mary, completing the weekend sweep finishing 2-0. With both wins this weekend, Wayne State now has control over the first place spot in the NSIC South Division with an overall record of 17-5 and a record of 12-4 in conference play.

In the first game of the weekend sweep, WSC dominated a tough University of Mary team winning the contest 67-48. The first half of the game was a battle with back-and-forth lead changes before Wayne State went on a 10-2 run. WSC scored the final six points of the first half to take a 29-25 lead going into halftime.

"We were able to meet a lot of our defensive goals last Friday night over Mary," said senior guard Kendall Jacks. "We were able to force

turnovers and execute down the stretch to pull away. We dug ourselves a hole that we were fortunate enough to get out of to pull away for a tough road win."

The Wildcats took control in the second half, scoring 16 straight points to take a 58-36 lead over The Marauders. WSC shot 23 of 55 from the field and 9 for 22 from three-point range. WSC also shot 92.3% from the free point line on the game (12-13).

Freshman forward Jordan Janssen had his third straight double-double and seventh of the season scoring 11 points and recording 12 rebounds. Senior guard Trevin Joseph led Wayne State in scoring again with 20 points, including shooting 4-6 from behind the arc. This was Joseph's eighth game of the season where he has totaled 20 or more points.

In the second game of the weekend sweep, Wayne State rallied back from an 18-point deficit to beat Minot State 85-79. WSC began their comeback with the help from Freshman Nick Ferrarini who scored

15 of his 17 points in the contest in the second half.

Jacks led WSC in scoring with 23 points, which moved him from the eighth spot to seventh place on the all-time scoring list at WSC with 1,474 points. Jacks shot 9-13 from the field on the adding four of six from the free throw line.

On the game Wayne State shot 52.2% from the field on 31 of 59 shooting. WSC also shot nine of 17 from behind the arc and 14 of 17 from the free-throw line on the game.

"This weekend we have another pair of tough teams from the north (St. Cloud State and University of Minnesota Duluth)," said Jacks. "We look forward to the opportunity to continue what we have started and it should be another fun and exciting atmosphere playing back at home in Rice."

Wayne State will be back in action this weekend at home and will compete against NSIC opponents. The Wildcats will face St. Cloud on Friday at 7:30 and Minnesota Duluth on Saturday at 5:30 in Rice Auditorium.



Photo by Tarik Urvina

Senior guard Kendall Jacks posts up against MSU defender in the high post.

Wrestling team finds leaders as season continues

Hunter Kiburz
Staff Writer

The Wayne State wrestling team competed last week in Sioux City, Iowa at the Sioux City Open Tournament. NCAA, NAIA and DII schools all competed in the tournament but Wayne State and other smaller schools made sure to bring the competition. The Wildcats will be competing in the Winona NCWA Invite, in Winona, Minnesota on February 16. Wayne State wrestlers are selling \$5 Godfather's coupons to help out the wrestlers and give students or faculty deals on pizza while supporting the wrestling program.

Wrestlers on the team are freshmen Angel Rojo and Julio Sanchez. The lone sophomore on the team is Evan French. The junior class includes Tommy Nelson, Ethan Fitzler, Gerald Kenkel, Hunter Weiss, Melvyn Carreto and Tyson Cisneros. The Wildcats only have one senior, Matthew Reeves.

"We competed well in our open tournament after we had our national duals against our club competition, so we were facing some varsity programs like Grand View and Morningside," Weiss said.

Weiss went 3-2 over the weekend and ended his two-week stretch with a record of 8-3. Weiss competes in the 149-pound weight class and has been a consistent wrestler throughout this year.

Wrestling against the NCAA and NAIA have kept this team strong and has helped them improve in club wrestling. Club wrestling presents challenges for the team, but competing against higher level schools in DI and DII helps each wrestler improve at a faster rate.

"Little bit more competitive, like NCAA and NAIA divisions, we did pretty good we wrestled all three periods in most of them, we thought we did good," Reeves said.

Since the beginning of the season Weiss, Reeves and Cisneros have stepped up and become leaders of the team and have shown their teammates that they can lead for this team.

Most of the Wayne State wrestlers competition has been from Grand-

view and Morningside, two of those schools are like Wayne that are small but are competing with the DI schools.

WSC wrestling will compete next Saturday in Winona, Minnesota, then will travel down to Dallas for their first qualifier.

On February 28, the Wildcats will travel down to Dallas, Texas for the Southwest Conference National Qualifier. Three years ago, WSC sent seven Wildcats to the National Tournament in Allen, Texas.

Kenkel, Weiss and Fitzler all have been selected in the top 20 of the NCWA National rank selected by the coaches in DII.

WSC looks to finish at the top of the standings and again take more

than seven when they did that three years ago. Nationals will be on March 14-16 in Allen, Texas.

Wayne State will finally finish up their season with a banquet on April 14, at noon.

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Women go winless in North Dakota road trip

Austin Svehla
Assistant Sports Editor

Close contests in both Friday and Saturday's games did not provide fruitful outcomes for the Wayne State women's basketball team. The Wildcats lost to U-Mary on Friday in Bismarck and Minot State on Saturday in Minot. The defeats brought the Wildcats' record to 13-9 (8-8 NSIC) on the season, putting WSC in fifth place in the NSIC South.

In a contest in which WSC never had the lead, the Wildcats dug themselves in an early hole, allowing the Marauders to score the first seven points of the game. The 'Cats got on the board after three-plus minutes of play on a three-pointer from sophomore Halley Busse and a jumper from sophomore Erin Norling to bring WSC within two early on. From there, U-Mary found a rhythm offensively, bolting to a 24-13 advantage at the end of the first quarter courtesy of Cassidy Askvig and Coral Gillette, who combined for 18 points in the first period.

"It felt like we didn't come out really mentally focused," head coach Brent Pollari said. "We got down early and that made it a tough game for us."

WSC trailed by as many as 14 (35-21) in the second quarter, but a mini run to end the half kept the Wildcats in the contest. A pair of Busse free throws and a jumper and a one for two trip to the line from freshman Kylie Hammer cut the Wildcats' deficit to 35-26 with less than a minute remaining in the half. That score held for the final minute of the period, sending WSC into the locker room with a nine-point deficit.

U-Mary managed to extend the lead back to double-digits early in the third quarter courtesy of a 9-4 run through the first four-plus minutes of the period. WSC again faced a 14-point deficit at the 5:42 mark of the third quarter, but the Wildcats again refused to let that deficit grow any larger. Four free throws from senior Andrea Larson, a Busse layup and free throw, and a three-pointer from senior Maggie Lowe fueled a 10-0 Wildcat run to bring WSC within 44-40 with 3:06 left in the third quarter. After the Marauders extended their lead to eight, WSC put together an 8-2 run to end the quarter and cut the score to 50-48.

U-Mary scored the first four points of the fourth quarter, but a jumper from sophomore Haley Vesey followed by three straight points from sophomore Brittany Bongartz brought the Wildcats within a point with 5:21 remaining. One point was as close as the Wildcats drew within, as U-Mary notched a 10-3 run to gain a 64-56 lead. WSC got within as close as 64-60 in the last minute of the game, but time ran out before the 'Cats could draw any closer, ending in a 65-60 final.

"We were coming off a short week, playing on Saturday and Sunday," Pollari said. "We had to give them Monday off, practice here Tuesday and Wednesday and then we had to get on the bus on Thursday."

WSC shot 20 of 66 (30.3%) from the field and 17-27 (63%) from the free throw line. Norling led the Wildcats in scoring with 14 points followed by Bongartz, who had 11. The loss dropped the 'Cats to 13-8.

Saturday's game started with a back-and-forth theme, as WSC got a jumper and a free throw from Norling, three-pointers from Busse and

Lowe, and a layup from Larson in the first quarter to give the Wildcats an 11-10 advantage after a quarter of play.

The Wildcats led 13-12 with 8:26 left in the second quarter when an 8-1 scoring run gave WSC a 21-13 lead. After Norling converted a layup, Busse answered an MSU free throw with a three-point play to give the 'Cats an 18-13 advantage with just over six minutes left in the half. Two minutes later, Busse converted on another three-point play with 4:03 remaining in the half to give WSC a 21-13 lead. The Wildcats outscored the Beavers 10-8 the remainder of the second quarter to take a 31-21 lead into halftime.

A potent attack from Minot State through the first three minutes of the third quarter enabled a 12-2 Beaver run to tie the game at 33-33. A jumper from Vesey at the 6:23 mark put the Wildcats back in front and another jumper, this one from senior Taylor Reiner, gave WSC a 37-33 lead. MSU again managed to tie the game in the third quarter, knotting the game at 42 apiece at the 2:06 point. A three ball from Hammer and a layup from Bongartz helped the 'Cats to a 48-46 lead into the fourth quarter.

"Minot made some plays," Pollari said. "They had people hitting shots that you don't typically hit."

MSU took the lead on their first possession of the fourth quarter on a three-pointer from Kari Clements, but Lowe answered with a three of her own to give WSC a 51-49 lead with 9:06 remaining in the game. Over the next 4:05 of game time, both teams traded buckets, with WSC holding a 60-57 lead at the 5:00 mark of the fourth. A Vesey free throw extended the WSC lead to 61-57 with under four minutes to play. The Beavers drew within a

point on a three-pointer, but Larson was fouled on a three-point shot and ensued to make all three attempts from the charity stripe to give the Wildcats a 64-60 lead with 1:35 remaining. After the Larson free throws, MSU put together an improbable 9-0 run on a three-pointer and layup from Mariah Payne, a pair of free throws from Cali Delsman, and a pair from Payne. The 69-64 lead stood as the final buzzer sounded and dropped the Wildcats to 13-9 on the season.

"We made plays most of the game and then at the end there, we didn't make plays when they counted," Pollari said. "We needed to rebound better."

WSC saw improved shooting on Saturday (23 of 54, 42.6%), including 8-25 (32%) from three-point range. Norling led the Wildcats with 18 points and Larson had 11 for WSC.

"You've just got to move on to the next game," Pollari said. "We always talk about what's your next best action and that's moving on and getting ready and looking forward to what's ahead of us and what we're doing now."

The Wildcats are back at Rice Auditorium this weekend as WSC hosts St. Cloud State on Friday at 5:30 and Minnesota Duluth on Saturday at 3:30.

"We've just got to get tough defensively and rebounding," Pollari said. "Offensively, I think things will come to us with our actions that we



Photo by Brianna Parsons

Senior Maggie Lowe dribbles by her defender in the win over Concordia St. Paul.

run. They (SCSU, Duluth) are big, they're long, and we've got to not let them get second chances."

WSC currently sits one game behind Winona State in the NSIC South standings with six regular season games left to play before the start of the conference tournament.

"We don't talk about it a lot," Pollari said. "We have goals and things that we want to do, but everything boils down to doing the little things. I'm sure everybody's aware where we are and what could've happened this weekend and if we won those two, we would have been right at the top. It's a difficult league, but we knew that getting into it."

WSC baseball through the Broken Antler

Vito Cole
Staff Writer

The smell of fresh cut grass. The ping of peppered balls off of aluminum bats. Sunflower seeds and bubble gum wrappers that line the steps of the dugouts. These are the first thoughts that come to me when I hear the most beautiful two words in sport, "Opening day."

This morning I woke up to negative temperatures, snow on the ground and wind that solidified my feeling that I should gain weight. While the weather has brought the campus community to a standstill, I am snug in my off-campus apartment with my wife and our two-and-a-half-year-old daughter, who is recovering from a particularly nasty case of influenza A.

"All work and no baseball, make Vito a dull boy"

I am sorry, what was that?

"All work and no baseball, make Vito a dull boy"

This might not be good.

The only saving grace, is while my daughter naps, I am able to walk to the bar which used to be called

Mikey's but now is called the Broken Antler. It's half a block from my apartment, where I hope to meet with the former owner of Mikey's, Mikey Meyer, who just happens to be a highly decorated alumni of the Wayne State baseball team. If the weather is going to throw me snow, then I will make snow balls, or something. If you don't think that Mikey is highly decorated or that he is a legend, just give him ten minutes and he would be happy to inform you that he is, unprovoked.

I was hoping when Mikey would walk in to the bar, I wouldn't recognize him. That retirement had treated him so well, his beard would have grown down to the middle of his barreled chest, barely covering the grin that always covered his face. Every patron in the bar would want his ear. Just a simple hello, a memory from years ago and you would have his attention.

After greeting everyone in the bar, I imagine, he would take the stool next to me, still smiling. He wouldn't talk right away, he'd just smile, staring at me, waiting for something. These moments always make me nervous. So, I would start with the small talk and make sure to

ask him personal questions. He loves talking about himself. This interview could be really easy. I like that.

"So, you want to interview me about my career playing ball at WSC, huh? Man, them were the days." Mikey would say, looking down into his Pendleton and water.

I wonder how anyone can drink that crap, but I keep it to myself, there's no need to start an unwanted argument about whiskey. Certainly, not at ten o'clock in the morning, and certainly not at a fine drinking establishment like The Broken Antler.

Mikey likes to tell everyone that those days are long gone. Although, when he owned the bar, one TV was always tuned in to the MLB network.

Most of Mikey's stories begin with, "Did I ever tell you about the time..."

I imagine all these beautiful baseball conversations as I swipe through the Wayne State baseball web page, waiting for Mikey to arrive. It's been a good two hours and I am starting to wonder if the weather has gotten the best of him.

My phone wiggles and I notice that Mikey has texted me.

"You could come out to the

farm if you want. I could send you home with some stew." He said.

Really, I think to myself, in this weather? Realizing that this interview may not happen in person, I start firing off questions in one giant text message back to him.

"So... when did you play ball for WSC? Can you list some of the accolades you earned? Do you still follow WSC baseball? They are picked to finish sixth in the NSIC this year, any thoughts? How does WSC get to be a perennial power in the NSIC? Coaching/development? Facilities? Recruiting? Or just winning?" I asked.

I thought for sure if we couldn't meet face to face that he would be down with this kind of questioning. I imagined him getting my long-winded question on his flip phone, and realized maybe this was a futile effort.

So now I have been waiting at the bar for the last four hours, I could have gone home earlier, it was obvious this might not work out. But I lingered. My daughter has influenza A, and this was a legitimate excuse to, at least, have an adult, manly conversation about baseball and stay away from the sickness.

Needless to say, Mikey

never answered.

WSC baseball is predicted to finish sixth this year in the NSIC. They have two players on the preseason all-conference team, a second baseman and a pitcher (he's not left-handed, probably not going to the majors). Nobody at the bar had any knowledge of the WSC baseball team. I am not sure if that means the baseball team is irrelevant, or the majority of my sources were too drunk to care.

"I don't know anything about WSC baseball," Bud Light said.

"WSC has a baseball team?" Windsor and Coke.

"Could you buy me one? I am a little short," Vodka and Red Bull.

So, there it is. It's as clear as mud, and it covers the ground. WSC has a baseball team this year. Hopefully, they will turn some double plays and hit some home runs. A player will get hurt, hopefully it won't end his career, and the WSC baseball team will play baseball.

E v e n t u a l l y .

When the world gets thawed out enough to turn again.

Track stars hit NCAA provisional marks

Evelyn Knox
Staff Writer

The Wayne State men's and women's track and field teams traveled to Mankato, Minnesota on Jan. 25 and 26 competing in the Mark Schick Indoor Track and Field Open at the Myers Fieldhouse. The men finished third overall with a team score of 81, while the women placed sixth with an overall score of 45.

On the men's side, the Wildcats had three first-place finishes. The three first place finishes included senior Robert Sullivan, freshman Mikhall Sands, and the distance medley relay team (Bryce Holcomb, Brock Hegarty, Kyle Lowe, and Nathan Pearson.)

Sullivan finished first overall

in the heptathlon, scoring 5,153 points. Sullivan's mark posted in the heptathlon was an NCAA provisional qualifying mark in the event, ranking eighth in NCAA Division II. Sullivan is also a two-time NCAA indoor national qualifier.

"I am really pleased with the outcome of things," Sullivan said. "It is important to be patient when competing in these events and to grab a ton of points, the multi is about statistics and points."

The other NCAA provisional marks came from senior Cade Kalkowski and junior Dylan Kaup in the weight throw. Kaup finished with a top mark of 60' 3 1/4". Kalkowski placed second at 64' 7 1/4". Kalkowski is now ninth in NCAA Division II and Kaup is listed at 21st.

Sixth place finishers included

Aaron English in the high jump clearing 6' 2 1/4" and Noah Lilly in the heptathlon with 4,242 points. Holcomb finished second in the 600-meter dash with a time of 1:25.30. Hegarty finished second overall in the 1,000-meter run with a time of 2:39.11.

On the women's side, the Wildcats placed sixth overall led by freshman Jordyn Pester with a first place finish in the 400-meter dash. Sophomore Jadin Wagner took second in the shot put with an NCAA provisional qualifying mark also contributing to WSC's sixth place finish overall at the Mark Schuck Open.

"Now, it is a matter of being patient and letting all the hard work pay off," junior Riana Noelle said. "All in all, I am just grateful to have such a great coach and an amazing support system. Big jumps coming soon."

Freshman Mikayla Marvin matched her own school record in the pole vault placing third, clearing 10' 8 3/4". The 4x400 team, (Pester, Joan Jelimo, Marin Jetensky, and Molli Vasa) finished third in the event with a time of 4:05.03. Senior Morgan Shearer took fifth place in the pentathlon scoring 2,635 points. Noelle re-

corded 10th place finishes in both the long jump and the triple jump. Senior Tia Jones finished eighth in shot put with a throw of 42' 8".

Both the men's and wom-

en's track and field teams will be back in action this Friday, Feb. 8 in Seward, Nebraska for the Concordia Classic.

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Students make new friends and memories while attending zoo trip

By BRIANNA PARSONS, Staff Writer

As a part of an Student Activities Board trip, Wayne State students endured a 1 hour 44 minute drive down to the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo on Feb. 2 to enjoy a fun trip with fellow students.

The mission of going to the zoo was to inspire, educate and engage people to serve as lifelong stewards for animals, their habitats and their conservation, according to guest service attendant Deb Breeding.

“The purpose of taking a trip to the zoo was to give students an opportunity to have fun and learn something in a different setting,” Student Activities Coordinator Sarah Gunion said.

Students involved in SAB have had many wonderful experiences at the Omaha Zoo. They recommended the trip to other students, with the intent to share the same positive experience and insight with animals they experienced.

“The zoo was chosen as the first trip because it was simple to plan and would be a good indicator of student responses to trips,” Gunion said. “It was also very cost-effective, so we weren’t going to have to pay a large fee per student to attend.”

Gunion said trips like this are something that students will remember for years to come.

“We believe that student trips are important because they enhance the overall college student experience by helping students with experiences outside of their everyday activities,” Director of student activities and student center, Tiffany Dearstone said.

The trips, according to Dearstone, are meant to be a way for students to explore new things that are not where they live, as well as give them a way to create memories that are fun and unique. She also said it is a way for the students to make new friends with other students and form bonds with staff.

Dearstone felt the first Student Activities trip was a success.

“Originally, we were going to have space for 50 students to attend, but instead we were able to have almost 80 students participate in this trip,” Dearstone said. “[All the students] were probably the most thrilling part for the staff, they kept commenting that they were having a wonderful time and were happy that we scheduled it.”

Dearstone hopes to give students the same experience with the upcoming trips they have scheduled such as the trip to Snow Cone Park in Sioux City, Iowa to go snow tubing. With another trip for students to go to the Mall of America in March.

“[The] trips give students a new experience outside of their everyday routine and explore the area with us,” Dearstone said. “We had several international and some out of state students who also attended the trip. So, this was their first time visiting one of the best zoos in the world and they seemed to enjoy their experience.”

Dearstone held hopes that students continue to enjoy the experiences that they have to offer and encourage all students to come and talk with SAB if they have ideas on what their next trips should be.

Both Gunion and Dearstone agreed that despite the cold temperatures and fog, the students enjoyed themselves at the zoo.

“I do believe the zoo trip benefited students,” Gunion said. “It got them out of Wayne, hopefully they could learn something, and if not, it was a great way to let off some steam and get outside.”

Freshman Allyson Ray spoke about her experience at the zoo excitedly. She believed that it really helped her mental health.

“It helped me relax, hang out with friends and I wasn’t stressed or flustered about school for a brief time,” Ray said.



Photo by Brianna Parsons
Students enjoy a day at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha at a WSC event sponsored by SAB



Photo by Emmalee Scheibe



Photo by Elijah Herrington

Students and Wayne community members attended the Theta Phi Alpha annual pancake feed held in the Newman Center at WSC. They sold tickets prior to the event for three dollars and tickets at the door were five dollars. They also had items they were raffling off.