

## RAIDER SOFTBALL PLAYER EARNS LEAGUE HONOR

ORANGE CITY – Gwen Mikkelsen of Casa Grande, Ariz., won National Association of Intercollegiate Athletic honors after helping Northwestern College keep an unbeaten streak going the weekend of Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24 and 25.

Mikkelsen was named NAIA Player of the Week after the Great Plains Athletic Conference honored the junior for hitting prowess. The NAIA notice is first since April of 2008.

Northwestern shut out three of the four teams in the Dordt Dome Tournament, including a 6-0 defeat of Bellevue, a team receiving votes from NAIA coaches.

Mikkelsen hit at .667 and delivered first two home runs of the season in a 10-15 at bat. The junior drove in seven RBIs in the four wins, leading the team on the weekend. She was responsible for more than one fourth of the teams hits on the weekend.

In the field, Mikkelsen was a perfect 7-7 in fielding chances and holds a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage on the season through the first 16 games of the season.

Through the 16 games played, Mikkelsen had a team-best .413 batting average and a 1.125 on-base-plus-slugging average, while also leading the team with a .652 slugging percentage. Mikkelsen has 12 RBIs this season, while pacing the team with five doubles.

The Red Raiders bumped their early-season record to 16-0 with the Sioux Center victories, the best start in program history, one of nine teams in the NAIA to be undefeated, and just one of three to reach the double digit wins mark without a loss.



Photo courtesy of Northwestern Athletic Communications

## SCOREBOARD

### Baseball

Red Raiders 8, Roosevelt of Illinois 4  
Red Raiders 7, Roosevelt of Illinois 8  
Red Raiders 6, Cornerstone of Michigan 0  
Red Raiders 1, Cornerstone of Michigan 2

### Basketball

Red Raider men 82, Southwestern of Kansas 87  
Red Raider women 64, Freed-Hardeman of Tennessee 74

### E-Sports

Overwatch  
Red Raiders 3, Lakeland University 1

### Softball

Red Raiders 5, Ottawa of Arizona 6  
Red Raiders 5, Indiana Wesleyan 4  
Red Raiders 11, Siena Heights 0  
Red Raiders 1, St. Francis of Illinois 6

### Track and Field

NAIA Indoor Track and Field National Championships  
Braden Kalvelage, long jump, fifth, 7.32 meters  
Red Raider men's 4x400-meter relay, 12th, 3:17.84  
Red Raider women's 4x400-meter relay, 17th, 3:57.47  
Jacie Vander Waal, high jump, 19th, 1.59 meters  
Erin Hulberg, pole vault, 21st, 3.42 meters

### Wrestling

NAIA Wrestling Championships  
Luke Jenness, 184, 1-2  
Kaleb Lind, 197, 1-2



## BOTH NWC TEAMS EARNED NAIA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT BERTHS

ORANGE CITY — Northwestern College men's and women's basketball teams earned at-large berths to their respective 2023 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics basketball national tournament.

### Men in Oklahoma

The Red Raider men, 20-9 in overall play and 13-7 in the Great Plains Athletic Conference opened play on Tuesday, March 7, as the 10th seed in the Duer quadrant. The NWC men traveled to Langston, Okla., to face seventh seed Southwestern of Kansas, ranked 22nd in the NAIA. They will face off at 8 p.m. in the opening round hosted by Langston University at C.F. Gayles Field House.

The Moundbuilders of Southwestern came into the game with a record of 25-6, 16-6 in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference. They swept the KCAC tournament, winning the postseason title

after finishing in a tie for third in regular-season standings.

The Raider men finished fourth in GPAC standings this season, one of four teams in the conference to reach 20 wins on the season. Northwestern finished 11-2 at home, 6-7 on the road, and 3-0 in neutral-site contests.

Winner of the Tuesday game faced the winner of the Wednesday, March 8, contest between Langston and Southern Oregon on Wednesday, March 8, in the same venue.

This is the 25th NAIA-tournament berth for Northwestern and the fourth in a row. The Raiders hold an all-time NAIA tournament record of 31-22 with two national titles.

### Women in Dubuque

The Red Raider women, 19-10 in overall play and 14-8 in the GPAC also opened play on Tuesday, March 7, as the 10th seed

in the Duer quadrant. The NWC women traveled to Dubuque to face seventh seed Freed-Hardeman University of Tennessee. The teams will open play in the Robert and Ruth Kohl Center in that opening round, hosted by Clarke University, slated for a 5:30 start.

The Lions came into the game with a record of 23-9 in overall play, 13-9 in the Mid-South) hails from of the Mid-South Conference tournament. They won the berth by virtue of winning that conference's post-season tournament.

The Raider women finished fifth in GPAC standings, picking up a win over NAIA fourth-ranked Dordt late in the season.

Winner of that Tuesday game faced the winner of number-two seed Clarke University and No. 15-seed Indiana University Northwest on Wednesday, March 8 at the same venue.



Photos courtesy of Northwestern Athletic Communications

Have you checked your  
Sump Pump lately?

122 CENTRAL AVE SW • ORANGE CITY • 712.737.6000 • VEINSURANCE.COM



We do **one** thing. Insurance.  
YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENCY