



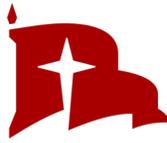
RED RAIDER BASEBALL

2026 GAME NOTES



NWC Athletic Communications • bradley.laackmann@nwciowa.edu • 712-707-7268 (O)

NORTHWESTERN RED RAIDERS



17-8 (5-3 GPAC)

HC: Brian Wede (20th season)

Home: 0-0 | Neutral: 9-4 | Streak: W3

GAMES 26-30

Date(s): March 27-28, 2026
March 31, 2026

Location: Orange City, Iowa
Fort Dodge, Iowa

Venue: NWC Baseball Diamond
Harlan Rogers Sports Complex

Watch: GPAC Network

Live Stats: nwcraiders.com/baseballstats

HASTINGS BRONCOS



14-11 (3-5 GPAC)

HC: Victor Rojas (2nd season)

Series: HC leads 50-41

Last Meeting: W 18-5 (3/29/2025)

MOUNT MERCY MUSTANGS



17-9 (7-0 Heart)

HC: Jack Dahm (12th Season)

Series: MMU leads 6-5

Last Meeting: L 5-6 (4/19/2016)

FIRST PITCH

- Northwestern will play on its home diamond for the first time in 2026, hosting Hastings for a four-game set.
- They will then head to Fort Dodge on Tuesday for a neutral-site game against Mount Mercy.
- The Raiders went 3-1 against Hastings last year, winning by scores of 6-0, 13-6, and 18-5.
- Tuesday's matchup will see Brian Wede coach against his alma mater in Mount Mercy.
- The Mustangs won the last meeting, 6-5 in 2016.

LAST TIME OUT

- The Raiders gained ground in the GPAC standings with a 3-1 weekend against Briar Cliff and Dordt.
- On the weekend, the Raiders outscored their opponents 39-21.
- Devin Dirx was a two-way star, hitting .400 with two home runs and five driven in and throwing a complete game with just one earned run allowed.
- Nikolai Wede sent nine runs across the plate, hitting two home runs and doubling twice.
- Peyton Montecinos threw three innings of relief, giving up two hits and no runs.

HOMETOWN HERO

- Nikolai Wede has been stellar in his first season with his hometown school.
- Wede has reached base in 22 consecutive games and holds an eight-game hitting streak.
- The transfer from Minnesota State Mankato leads the team in home runs (8), slugging (.750), OPS (1.218), and total bases (54).

BREAKOUT START

- Ranier Castillo is having the best offensive season of his career thus far.
- Castillo is hitting .360, which leads the team and is 11th in the GPAC.
- He is hitting well above his career average, which was .250 coming into his junior season.

SAVING THE DAY

- Brody Ayers has blossomed into the closing role after breaking out as a closer last season.
- Ayers currently leads the GPAC in saves (5).
- His 14 career saves ranks fifth in program history, and is eight away from breaking the program record.
- Ayers holds a 2-1 record, a 2.03 ERA, 16 strikeouts, and has only given up four runs in 2026.

NATIONAL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

- Grant Guidry was named NAIA Player of the Week for his performance at McPherson.
- The sophomore became Northwestern's first national player of the week since Colton Harold in 2021.
- Guidry hit .818 on the weekend, driving in nine runs and hitting three home runs.
- His seven RBIs in the second game of the series tied the

single-game program record.

SETTING THE LINEUP

- The Raiders bring experience to the table, with seven everyday starters returning to the lineup.
- Sophomores Grant Guidry and Grant Rychnovsky are back after hitting .331 and .344, respectively, last season.
- Devin Dirx is back for his senior year after leading the team in home runs (9) and RBIs (45) in 2025.

TAKING THE MOUND

- Two All-GPAC relievers return to the 'pen in Brody Ayers and Peyton Montecinos.
- Ayers took on the closing role, collecting nine saves in 12 appearances.
- Montecinos went 4-1, striking out 19 batters in relief.
- Jakeb Swallow is back from injury this season after making only three appearances in 2025.
- Swallow was a Second Team All-GPAC performer in 2024, striking out 38 batters with a 3.76 ERA in 26.1 innings.
- Leading the starting rotation will be two-way player Devin Dirx, who went 6-3 in 11 starts.
- Dirx threw 52.2 innings last year, which was second among all Northwestern pitchers.

THE 500 CLUB

- Head coach Brian Wede reached 500 career wins during Northwestern's spring break trip to Florida.
- Entering the year, Wede compiled a record of 490-427 (.534) in 19 seasons and is the program's all-time coaching wins leader.
- He also leads the GPAC in all-time career and conference wins.
- Wede is heavily involved in Raider athletics beyond his coaching gig, serving as Northwestern's event staff manager, a commentator for Red Raider football, and a co-host for Northwestern's annual N-Dubs Awards Show.

NWC HALL OF FAMER

- Former Red Raider pitcher Mihai Burlea (2007-08) was recently inducted into the Northwestern College Hall of Fame.
- Burlea was the 2007 GPAC Pitcher of the Year, an NAIA All-American Honorable Mention, and an ABCA First Team All-Region selection.
- He holds single-season records for wins (12), winning percentage (.923), innings pitched (97.0), and strikeouts (113).
- In his two-year NWC career, Burlea etched his name in the top 10 of Raider records in wins (21), ERA (3.06), WHIP (1.29), and K/9 (9.54).
- Following his collegiate career, Burlea played professionally in Europe, competing in the Dutch Major League and Italian Baseball League for six seasons.

2026 SCHEDULE

RECORD	17-8
GPAC	5-3
HOME	0-0
AWAY	8-4
TOP-25	0-0
STREAK	W3

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
2.6	McPherson (Kan.)	W 18-10
2.7	McPherson (Kan.)	W 19-6
2.7	McPherson (Kan.)	L 8-5
2.13	Mission (Mo.)	W 8-5
2.13	Graceland (Iowa)	W 8-6
2.14	College of the Ozarks (Mo.)	L 8-5
2.14	Graceland (Iowa)	W 7-1
2.19	William Woods (Mo.)	W 2-1
2.19	Columbia (Mo.)	L 5-10
3.2	Cornerstone (Mich.)	L 2-3
3.2	Cornerstone (Mich.)	W 5-2
3.3	Valley City State (N.D.)	W 11-10
3.3	Calumet (Ind.)	W 13-2
3.5	Lawrence Tech (Mich.)	L 2-6
3.7	Trinity Christian (Ill.)	W 10-5
3.9	Aquinas (Mich.)	W 1-0
3.9	Aquinas (Mich.)	W 3-0
3.13	Morningside*	W 3-1
3.13	Morningside*	L 8-9
3.14	Dakota Wesleyan*	L 6-7
3.14	Dakota Wesleyan*	W 10-4
3.20	Briar Cliff*	L 1-3
3.20	Briar Cliff*	W 10-7
3.21	Dordt*	W 13-2
3.21	Dordt*	W 15-9
3.27	Hastings*	3:00 PM
3.27	Hastings*	5:30 PM
3.28	Hastings*	1:00 PM
3.28	Hastings*	3:30 PM
3.31	Mount Mercy (Iowa)	4:00 PM
4.3	Doane*	1:00 PM
4.3	Doane*	3:30 PM
4.4	Doane*	1:00 PM
4.4	Doane*	3:30 PM
4.10	Mount Marty*	3:00 PM
4.10	Mount Marty*	5:30 PM
4.11	Concordia (Neb.)*	3:00 PM
4.11	Concordia (Neb.)*	5:30 PM
4.17	Midland*	3:00 PM
4.17	Midland*	5:30 PM
4.18	Midland*	3:00 PM
4.18	Midland*	5:30 PM
4.21	Dakota State (S.D.)	4:00 PM
4.24	Waldorf*	4:00 PM
4.24	Waldorf*	6:30 PM
4.25	Waldorf*	1:00 PM
4.25	Waldorf*	3:30 PM
4.29	GPAC Tournament%	TBA

All home games in BOLD // *GPAC game // %GPAC tournament // \$NAIA tournament

NWC LEADERS

STAT	NAME	NO.
AVG	Ranier Castillo	.360
RBI	Devin Dirx	25
2B	Nikolai Wede	6
HR	Nikolai Wede	8
SB	Bryce Click	10
ERA*	Devin Dirx	3.60
K	Micah De Haan	30

GPAC STANDINGS

Team	GPAC	OVR
Morningside Mustangs	5-1	17-10
Briar Cliff Chargers	6-2	13-14
Midland Warriors	6-2	11-15
Concordia Bulldogs	5-3	17-11
Doane Tigers	5-3	18-7
Northwestern Red Raiders	5-3	17-8
Hastings Broncos	3-5	14-11
Mount Marty Lancers	3-5	12-16
Dakota Wesleyan Tigers	2-4	11-11
Dordt Defenders	1-7	11-17
Waldorf Warriors	1-7	8-20



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QUICK FACTS

THE COLLEGE

Location (Founded).... Orange City, Iowa (1882)
Enrollment1,712
PresidentGreg Christy
Faculty Representative..... Dr. Ross Bouma

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Vice President for Athletics..... Tony Hoops
Senior Woman Admin.....Dr. Erica Vonk
Nickname..... Red Raiders
Colors..... Raider Red (#A80000) & White
Affiliation..... NAIA
Conference..... GPAC
Athletic Trainer..... Seth Wolles
Athletic Performance.....Carter Aguilera

FACILITY INFORMATION

FacilityNWC Baseball Diamond
Surface..... FieldTurf (Infield)/
.....Grass (Outfield)

BASEBALL HISTORY

First Year of Baseball 1961
Season of Baseball 65th
All-Time Record1,117-1,125 (.498)
GPAC Titles..... 10
NAIA Tournament Appearances..... 6
NAIA Tournament Record15-13
All-Americans 13

Northwestern College athletics is proud to partner with SIDEARM Sports as the official provider of the athletics website (nwcraiders.com) and live stats.



TEAM RUNDOWN



VS.



185	RUNS	168	206
44	2B	41	44
1	3B	11	6
26	HR	14	24
165	RBI	143	181
32-39	SB-ATT	45-61	59-77
.277	AVG.	.285	.299
.276	OPP AVG.	.277	.273
5.39	ERA	6.52	5.62
155	K	163	94

TEAM TRENDS

MULTI-HIT GAMES

Castillo (10), Guidry (8), Short (3), Dirx (7), Short (3), Wede (5), Craig (3), Rychnovsky (2), Caciari (3), Schroeder (2), Rubio (3), Ayers (4), Click (2)

ACTIVE HITTING STREAKS

Wede (8), Dirx (7), Rychnovsky (5), Guidry (4), Craig (4), Castillo (3), Beelner (2)

MULTI-RBI GAMES

Dirx (9), Click (7), Short (3), Castillo (3), Wede (6), Schroeder (2), Rychnovsky (3), Craig (2), Caciari (2), Guidry (2), Rubio (2), Mills (1), Ayers (1)

ACTIVE REACHED BASE STREAK

Wede (22), Dirx (16), Ayers (8), Rychnovsky (6), Beelner (4), Guidry (4), Caciari (4), Craig (4), Rubio (4), Castillo (3), Rubio (2), Click (2)

COMPLETE GAMES (PITCHING)

Dirx (2), De Haan (1)

**last updated March 24, 2026*

OUR RECORD WHEN...

Category	Record
Overall	17-8
Home	0-0
Away	8-4
Neutral	9-4
Day games	16-8
Evening (5PM or later) games	1-0
In February	6-3
In March	11-5
In April	0-0
In May	0-0
One-run games	3-3
Two-run games	2-1
5+ run games	8-1
In extra innings	2-0
Scored first	9-3
Scored in 1st inning	3-3
Scored 0-2 runs	2-7
Scored 3-5 runs	5-4
Scored 6-9 runs	3-2
Scored 10+ runs	9-0

GAME HIGHS

TEAM - most recent occurrence noted

At bats 44, at Dordt (3/21/26)
Runs scored 19, at McPherson (2/7/26)
Hits 15, at Dordt (3/21/26)
Doubles 6, at Dordt (3/21/26)
Triples 1, at McPherson (2/7/26)
Strikeouts (Batting) 16, at McPherson (2/6/26)
Walks drawn 17, at McPherson (2/6/26)
Stolen bases 4, at McPherson (2/6/26)
Hit by pitch 5, at McPherson (2/6/26)
Home runs 4, at Dakota Wesleyan (3/14/26)
Errors 3, at McPherson (2/6/26)
Double plays 3, vs. Trinity Jacksonville (3/7/26)
Strikeouts (Pitching) 15, at Graceland (2/14/26)

INDIVIDUAL - most recent occurrence noted

At bats 7, Devin Dirx (at McPherson, 2/6/26)
Runs scored 4, Brody Ayers (at McPherson, 2/7/26)
Hits 4, Grant Guidry (at McPherson, 2/7/26)
RBIs 7, Grant Guidry (at McPherson, 2/7/26)
Doubles 2, Bryce Click (at Dordt, 3/21/26)
Triples 1, Nikolai Wede (at McPherson, 2/7/26)
Walks drawn 4, Nikolai Wede (vs. VCSU, 3/3/26)
Stolen bases 3, Bryce Click (at Graceland, 2/14/26)
Hit by pitch 2, Nikolai Wede (at McPherson, 2/6/26)
Home runs 2, Nikolai Wede (at Columbia, 2/19/26)
Strikeouts (Pitching) 12, Grant Kelderman (at GU, 2/14/26)
Innings Pitched 7.0, Devin Dirx (vs. Calumet/DWU/Dordt)



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2026 Northwestern College Baseball Overall Statistics (as of Mar 21, 2026)

Overall Record: 17-8 Conf: 5-3 Home: 0-0 Away: 8-4 Neutral: 9-4

All games Sorted by Batting Avg

#	Player	AVG	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
27	Castillo, Ranier	.360	25-25	89	20	32	3	0	1	14	38	.427	13	4	13	0	.454	2	2	4-5	52	51	3	.972
23	Dirkx, Devin	.313	25-25	80	16	25	4	0	5	25	44	.550	21	1	21	1	.456	1	0	1-1	79	22	3	.971
24	Guidry, Grant	.312	24-22	77	18	24	2	0	4	15	38	.494	15	1	14	1	.417	3	0	0-0	30	2	1	.970
6	Wede, Nikolai	.306	22-22	72	19	22	6	1	8	22	54	.750	15	7	22	0	.468	0	1	2-3	24	2	1	.963
26	Ayers, Brody	.273	24-23	66	15	18	5	0	0	7	23	.348	9	1	19	0	.368	0	0	1-1	25	66	3	.968
7	Caciari, Calab	.244	19-13	45	12	11	3	0	1	9	17	.378	9	1	6	2	.382	0	1	1-1	4	18	1	.957
35	Click, Bryce	.209	25-23	67	22	14	5	0	1	18	22	.328	20	6	16	0	.426	1	2	10-11	55	3	1	.983
4	Rychnovsky, Grant	.205	25-24	73	14	15	5	0	3	14	29	.397	15	3	29	0	.359	1	0	2-2	68	4	2	.973
20	Schroeder, Tyler	.196	22-12	46	11	9	2	0	1	6	14	.304	8	1	17	0	.327	0	0	3-4	21	2	0	1.000
8	Cizek, Cody	1.000	6-0	1	5	1	0	0	0	1	1	1.000	0	0	0	0	1.000	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
10	Craig, Jack	.370	13-7	27	7	10	2	0	0	9	12	.444	5	1	7	1	.471	1	0	3-4	16	1	0	1.000
14	Mathsen, Karsten	.333	11-1	12	1	4	0	0	0	1	4	.333	0	0	6	0	.333	0	0	1-1	1	2	0	1.000
25	Rubio, Kevin	.276	11-11	29	1	8	2	0	0	7	10	.345	4	0	4	0	.353	1	0	0-0	59	6	0	1.000
2	Short, Isaac	.267	15-14	45	3	12	5	0	2	14	23	.511	5	2	14	0	.365	0	2	0-0	102	12	1	.991
3	Mills, Levi	.200	11-1	10	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	.200	1	1	6	0	.333	0	0	0-0	0	1	0	1.000
1	Silliman, TJ	.200	19-1	5	15	1	0	0	0	0	1	.200	1	0	1	0	.333	0	0	4-6	2	5	2	.778
15	Beelner, Braydon	.167	5-3	6	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	.167	3	1	4	0	.500	0	0	0-0	2	1	0	1.000
5	Garbers, Dalton	.000	8-1	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	4	0	.167	0	0	0-0	12	0	0	1.000
Totals		.277	25-25	755	185	209	44	1	26	165	333	.441	144	31	203	5	.409	10	8	32-39	556	212	25	.968
Opponents		.276	25-25	711	121	196	36	4	13	108	279	.392	91	37	155	12	.383	8	8	28-40	559	161	36	.952

LOB: Team (201), Opp (172) DPs Turned: Team (15), Opp (5) IBB: Team (0), Opp (0) Picked Off: Schroeder (1), Silliman (1)

All games Sorted by Earned Run Avg

#	Player	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	B/AVG	WP	HP	BK	SFA	SHA
30	Swallow, Jakeb	1.29	1-0	5	0	0	0-0	0	7.0	5	1	1	2	5	1	0	0	.200	0	2	0	0	0
26	Ayers, Brody	2.03	2-1	11	0	0	0-0	5	13.1	9	4	3	3	16	1	0	1	.191	2	1	0	0	2
19	Kelderman, Grant	2.70	2-1	3	3	0	0-0	0	10.0	8	4	3	10	16	2	0	0	.216	1	3	0	0	0
18	Montecinos, Peyton	2.76	3-1	9	0	0	0-0	1	16.1	14	7	5	7	17	1	0	2	.226	0	4	0	1	0
23	Dirkx, Devin	3.60	4-2	6	5	2	0-0	0	35.0	37	15	14	5	17	7	1	4	.270	1	2	0	2	1
31	Dixson, Chase	5.63	0-0	6	0	0	0-0	0	8.0	4	5	5	4	5	0	0	1	.148	0	0	0	1	1
13	Stark, Zain	5.75	1-0	6	4	0	0-0	0	20.1	18	13	13	19	20	2	1	1	.250	4	3	0	1	0
9	Lewis, Jacob	5.79	0-0	5	0	0	0-0	0	4.2	5	3	3	4	7	1	1	0	.294	0	2	0	0	0
17	De Haan, Micah	5.97	1-2	7	7	1	0-0	0	34.2	44	26	23	15	30	11	1	2	.324	5	10	0	1	2
34	Greth, Luke	8.10	1-0	8	0	0	0-0	0	16.2	22	16	15	12	8	3	0	0	.328	1	4	0	1	2
4	Rychnovsky, Grant	10.90	1-1	5	4	0	0-0	0	17.1	26	21	21	8	12	6	0	2	.351	3	6	0	1	0
21	Vold, Quintyn	22.50	1-0	3	0	0	0-0	0	2.0	5	6	5	2	2	1	0	0	.455	0	0	0	0	0
Totals		5.39	17-8	74	23	3	2	6	185.1	197	121	111	91	155	36	4	13	.277	17	37	0	8	8
Opponents		7.97	8-17	84	24	2	1	3	186.1	209	185	165	144	203	44	1	26	.277	30	31	7	10	8

PB: Team (4), Totals (4), Rubio (2), Short (2), Opp (15) Pickoffs: Team (8), Stark 5, De Haan 1, Greth 1, Vold 1, Totals , Opp (2)
SBA/ATT: Totals (56-80), Short (18-27), Rubio (10-13), Stark (8-8), De Haan (3-8), Greth (3-4), Montecinos (3-3), Vold (3-3), Dirkx (2-2), Lewis (2-4), Rychnovsky (2-3), Dixson (1-1), Swallow (1-1)