

The Talon Journal

Vol. 2, Ed. 5

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<http://eagle.ncag.edu/talon/>

Supreme Court Rules Against Graduate

In a 7-2 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against Joshua Davey, a 2003 honor graduate of Northwest College. The case, *Locke v. Davey*, challenged Washington State's right to deny Davey a scholarship based on his pursuit of theological study.

"Clearly, we are disappointed," states Dr. Don Argue, President of Northwest College. "We have supported Josh throughout this process and were confident that the Supreme Court would uphold last fall's ruling by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court."

"This ruling could have dramatic ramifications as it seems to now allow discrimination based on religion," Argue continued. "It appears that the Supreme Court is now saying to states that it is permissible to limit access to government programs based solely on a student's choice of a major that could prepare that student to serve a local community in ministry."

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in Davey's favor. The ruling required the Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) now to provide financial aid to qualified students who choose to study theology. The court said the state statute prohibiting the payment of state financial aid to students pursuing degrees in theology violated the First Amendment's religious-freedom provision.

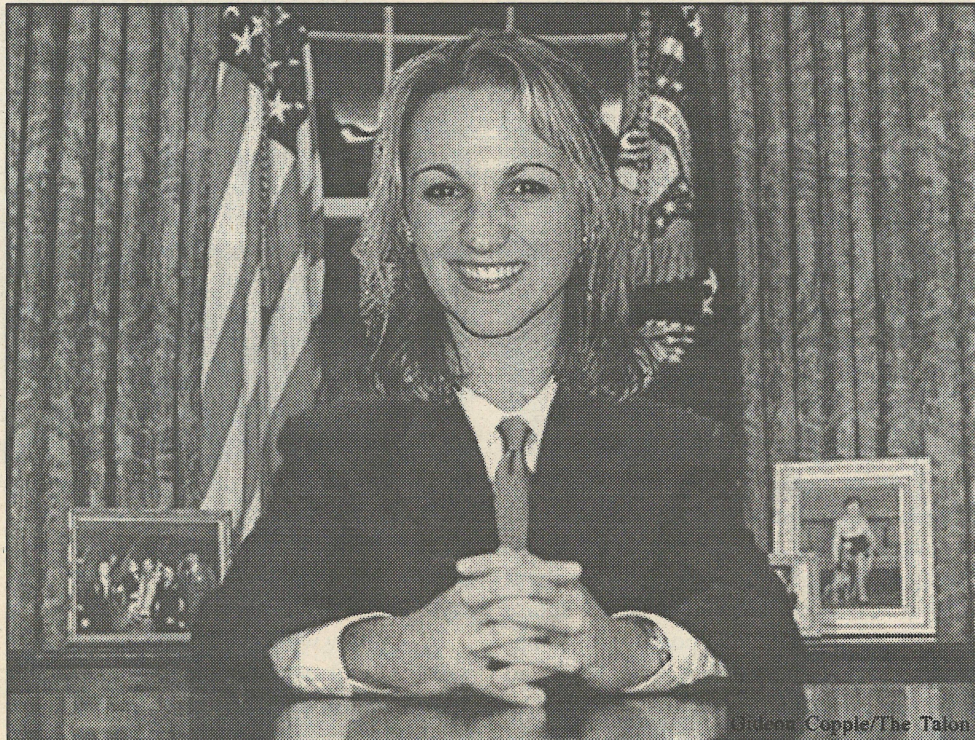
The case arose after Joshua Davey of Spokane, Wash., was declared ineligible for a Washington Promise Scholarship. The HECB has relied on state law that prohibits financial aid awards to students who pursue a degree in theology. Davey enrolled in both business administration and pastoral ministries at Northwest College.

"This decision by the Supreme Court contradicts what has been the historical position on this matter; financial aid issues are directly between the student and the corresponding governmental entity, whether state or federal. After receiving an award, the student is free to use it to invest in an educational future at any accredited institution," Argue said.

"In fact, since the Promise Scholarship program was inaugurated by Governor Gary Locke in the late 1990s, we have averaged more than two dozen recipients in our student body each year," Argue said.

Davey graduated from Northwest College on May 10, 2003. He is now in his first year of studies in pursuit of a law degree at Harvard Law School.

This release was written by Dan Neary, Vice President for College Advancement, and used with his permission.



Lindsay Fosner is the 2004/2005 Associated Student Body President-elect.

We have a winner!

BY GIDEON COPPLE
Reporter

KIRKLAND, Wash. - It is nearly midnight on a frigid Tuesday. I'm sitting on what must be earth's most comfortable couch in a deserted Crowder Lounge. Sitting across from me is the woman of the week. A sizeable silver letter 'F' dangles from her neck. The woman is Lindsay and the 'F' stands for Fosner. Ladies and gentlemen - it is an honor to present your next Associated Student Body President.

As the dust settles from what was arguably our school's closest race ever for ASB presidency (not one, mind you, but *two* run-offs!), Fosner has emerged triumphant. Little over 24 hours before she received a phone call informing her of her victory over opponent Trevor Millar.

She has plans. She has dreams. She is ready to take the initiative. But for the time being, she has graciously agreed to make room in her ever-so-busy schedule for a brief chat with the *Talon* - hopefully you will get to know the future President a bit better.

Who is Lindsay Fosner? You've seen her around, I'll bet. With her gorgeous features and even more gorgeous personality, it's actually quite hard to miss her.

She enjoys people. She's involved. She cares. Plus, she's got enough energy to light a small country.

June 16 is a special day. In 1963, Cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman to travel into space. In 1978, John Travolta's "Grease" premiered in New York, and in 1981 the *Chicago Tribune* purchased

the Chicago Cubs for \$20.5 million from the Wrigley Chewing Gum Company.

But June 16, 1983 heralded another noteworthy event: the birth of Lindsay Fosner.

With a childhood that brought her through Oregon, California and finally Washington, Fosner rates her family experience a big 11 on the one-to-ten scale. The daughter of a pastor, she has two siblings. Her sister Courtney, a freshman, was an integral player in Fosner's election campaign.

You may remember the Fosner campaign as finding a somewhat middle ground between the very visible Millar and the extremely hushed Mark Dunning campaigns. Aside from a few flyers, the odd poster here and there, and her Chapel nomination speech, Fosner preferred to keep it quiet. "I didn't want to portray an image to the school that was contradictory to who I am. I just don't like to promote myself - that's just not me." She has no regrets of not putting together a more elaborate campaign. She does, however, wish to extend her sincere thanks to everyone that helped support her along the way.

And just how long, you ask, has she been planning this? According to her, it definitely wasn't spur-of-the-moment. "It was something the Lord laid on my heart a year ago". In 2003, she was nominated for President but decided to run for Secretary of Outreach instead. And she won. Hopefully she'll channel the enthusiasm and effort from her successful '03-'04 Secretary of Outreach

see FOSNER, page 2

Reflections on Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ"

BY BLAINE CHARETTE, PH.D.
Contributing Writer

One can only admire Mel Gibson for risking so much in producing this prodigious testament to his devotion to Christ. Not only was he willing to give up much of his material wealth for the sake of this project, but he was even willing to expend considerable 'personal capital', inasmuch as the film could quite easily alienate much of his fan base and many of his professional peers. I would see this as a contemporary act of genuine discipleship. Gibson has shown all of us what true commitment to Christ means. It is possible that the personal statement expressed in the making of the film could prove to be a greater witness to Christian faith than the film itself.

The film is excellent cinema. This owes much, of course, to Gibson's stature in the filmmaking community. He was able to put in the service of his vision many of the most talented artists working in films today. The temptation scene in the garden is nothing less than poetic, the visual depiction of Judas hanging over the maggot infested carcass of an ass is stunning, the heavenly teardrop that punctuates the death of Jesus and precipitates the earthquake is a master-stroke, and the film's treatment of the resurrection surpasses all previous attempts in conveying both the enigmatic and world-turning character of the event. My hope is that the film will inspire a new generation of Christian filmmakers to reflect more fully on the aesthetic properties of film.

Much criticism has been directed against the violence and gore of the film. Since the subject matter of the film is the passion of Jesus such elements are unavoidable and we should be thankful to Gibson that, unlike earlier filmic depictions of the passion that tend to be fairly free of blood and pain (thereby giving rise to that wonderful parody in "Monty Python's Life of Brian," wherein Brian and those crucified with him are full of cheer and song), he displays before us the full horror of Jesus' scourging and crucifixion. In view of the fact that for many people, including Christians, the suffering of Jesus remains an abstraction that is not truly real until it is seen, it is perhaps necessary and fitting that Gibson should offer us this unsparing visual record.

The film is unquestionably a remarkable achievement and probably the best film that could be made reflecting the spiritual interests of Mel Gibson. However, for those who do not share Gibson's

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On tour with Choralons
Tina Reasner at Seafair

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Entertainment

Whose "Passion" is it?: Brandon Clark examines Gibson's movie and the Christian response

Regular Features

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Upcoming campus events
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No more Summer Ministry Teams?

BY NOELLE BONDS
Editor

The Summer Ministry Team program has undergone many changes under the direction of Phil Rasmussen, Dean of the Chapel, and Thuy Rider, Ministry Team Coordinator, of the Campus Ministries office that are intended to make Northwest College ministry more effective to what churches and pastors need.

Now called "Ministry Teams," the focus is no longer a ministry tour during the summer break. Previously, students on ministry teams received a scholarship for their summer work. Now, students will be hired as student workers in the Campus Ministry office year round. In the past, seniors on a team worked for free, unable to receive their schol-

arship after graduation. Also, once a student's tuition bill was paid, he or she did not receive the rest of the scholarship monies. Now students will receive payment for their work year round, not only to help pay tuition but to help with other expenses as they choose.

In the past, teams were created independently and tried out before a panel of judges and the student body. Now, instead of team tryouts, there are individual tryouts. Also, year-to-year there were different teams and different names. There were been long-running teams such as ACTS and Peanut Butter 'n' Jesus.

"The bottom line? Who is [this program] for? This ministry is for the churches."

-Phil Rasmussen, Dean of Chapel

Now, there are five established teams that will not change: ACTS, a drama team; ACTS Production, a film team; Crossing, a worship band; and Inside Out, a children's team.

This summer, Poorman's Offering will also be traveling. Rasmussen says, "Poorman's Offering went through the screening process like every other team. However, it was obvious that we needed to use them this year because they present a powerful ministry and they are one of our most asked for teams."

The tryout process to be on a Ministry Team begins in the fall. If you are interested in trying out, here is what you can expect:

First, applicants interview in front of a panel consisting of a professional in field,

such as Lisa Peretti, and the Campus Ministries office. In this interview they want to know the student's view of ministry, desires and goals, abilities, how he or she will represent the school, GPA, and financial bill satisfaction.

Next, applicants complete a personality test developed by the Campus Ministries office and the Psychology department. This test is to help predict conflict that might arise between team members.

Eventually, the tryout process will also include getting other students' opinions. "The bottom line? Who is [this program] for? This ministry is for the churches. Public Relations will flow out of powerful ministry. Teams that understand ministry and can minister effectively in a variety of different contexts are the kind of teams that we are looking for," says Rasmussen.

FOSNER, from page 1

Just then a security guard saunters in and gives me an awkward stare. I get the impression that the no-males-past-midnight-or-else rule is about to apply, so I decide to start wrapping up. I ask Fosner a series of random two-choice questions, just for the heck of it: "The Matrix" or "The Sound of Music"? Matrix. Kerry or Bush? Bush. Spears or Aguilera? (pause) Aguilera. Benny Hinn or Dr. Phil? Dr. Phil. Veggitales or Dan & Louie? Dan & Louie! Kermit or Piggy? Kermit.

To relax, I learn, Fosner is a fan of kicking back in front of a good movie, going home to sit in her hot-tub, getting manicures or shopping. Typical stuff, I guess. But she wasn't elected because she favors Kermit

the Frog or because she gets manicures: Fosner has a legitimate plan for holding the reigns of the ASB and, more importantly, bettering its service to students. I ask her about her blueprints for the future ASB. She ponders this, cupping her face in her hands and staring down at what must be the planet's most adorable red pair of shoes.



Lindsay Fosner

"My heart's greatest desire for the school is that we become a community of people, a family that challenges and inspires one another to reach for our highest dreams and goals." Well said.

"That we push each other in all areas of our lives in excellence, in having fun, in working hard and primarily in seeking after the call of God on our lives." Well said

again. And when we leave here? "When we leave here we are prepared and equipped to go forth to be men and women of God who inspire and challenge other people", she says. This is her goal.

How will she achieve this? Fosner wants to kick-start optional accountability groups and upperclassmen/lowerclassmen mentorship programs that are available to all. Including commuter students is important. "As a team, we (the ASB) are the ones to set an example. As president, I am going to challenge the team and insist they reach out beyond themselves more than they have before." She wants the ASB office open more than it is closed.

Fosner officially takes office in the fall. She has big plans of preparation for between now and then. Meetings with Northwest President Dr. Don Argue, Vice President for Student Development Christian Lindbeck

and Dean of the Chapel Phil Rasmussen are priorities on her agenda. "I want to come into alignment with their vision for the school," she adds.

Any final thoughts, I ask her? She'd like to thank, again, the masses of people that supported her. She's thankful to Millar and Dunning for being very competent opponents. "Mark and Trevor would've done an amazing job".

So now, hopefully you know Fosner a bit better. You know where she stands on some of the major issues. Who knows? ASB office today, Oval Office tomorrow, eh?

Harry S. Truman once commented that "Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better." Northwest College, meet your latest seizer-of-opportunity. Congratulations, President Lindsay.



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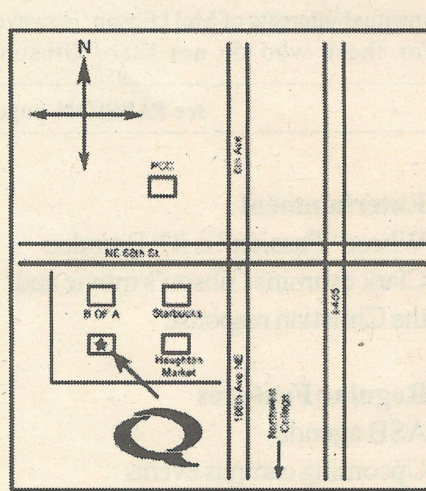
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New Ministry Team Transforms Kids from the 'Inside Out'



Tiffany Zulkosky/Talon

Name: Whitney Huntley, 19
Year: Junior
Hometown: Lake Stevens, Wash.
Most childlike characteristic: Tendency to laugh at things that aren't necessarily funny.
Children's ministry and drama involvements: Taught Sunday school, participated in Vacation Bible School dramas.



Tiffany Zulkosky/Talon

Name: Brenda Tesdal, 18
Year: Freshman
Hometown: Medford, Ore.
Most childlike characteristic: Attention span (in class).
Children's ministry and drama involvements: Various aspects of children's ministry since 4th grade. My life is drama.



Tiffany Zulkosky/Talon

Name: Michelle Sundberg, 20
Year: Junior
Hometown: Kent, Wash.
Most childlike characteristic: Pure enjoyment of Disney flicks.
Children's ministry and drama involvements: Served as a Jr. Bible Quiz coach, planned camps, taught VBS. Currently teaching Children's Church.

BY KATE ELLIOTT
 Reporter

KIRKLAND, Wash. - The children's ministry team, Inside Out, is starting the year with all new members and fresh ideas for expanding the ways they can reach kids. I spoke with Inside Out and advisor, Chris Corbett, in order to get to know the members and their mission.

Q: What does the children's ministry team do?

Chris: We will do evangelistic crusades, camps, etc., using illustrative methods.
 All: We are planning on doing more than drama and becoming an activities ministry using things that interest kids such as puppets, magic, and ballooning.
 Shelly and Chris: We will use any means possible to get these kids saved.
 Shelly: If I had to get slimed, I would.

Q: What sort of preparations for the summer are you working on during your meetings?

Shelly: We're taking the existing curriculum and adding as much as we can.
 Brenda: Lots of prayer, puppets, and fasting.

Q: Where are some possible destinations for your team this summer?

All: We've been told that we could possibly visit Nebraska, California, and Oregon, but basically in the greater Northwest area. We will be involved in some aspect of Powersurge, which is a kids' convention in Yakima, Wash. expected to have 800 attend.

Q: What motivated you to join the team?

Shelly: When I was in 5th grade, PB 'n' J came to my kids' camp. I thought that they

were the coolest and I wanted to be one of them, which later became one reason to go to Northwest. That was nine years ago; ever since then I've wanted to be on this team.

Brenda: I love children and being crazy—it's a great way to put my two loves

together.
 Whitney: I just thought that PB 'n' J's outreach in the past was cool. I thought it would be fun to be on.

Q: What do you think will be the most challenging aspect of this ministry?

Whitney: To figure out our mission in a sense of knowing how we will interact with and impact the kids. Our goal is to be effective.



Tiffany Zulkosky/Talon

campus on the hill

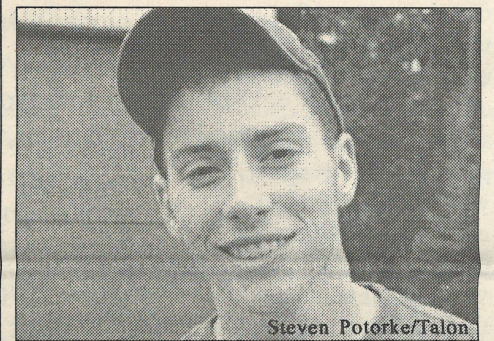
BY STEVEN POTORKE
 Reporter

It is that time of year again folks...the trees start to get a little greener, the days get a little longer, the animals begin to perk up, love abounds, and this humble writer's sinuses face a daily battle against some invisible malady. Yes, it is Spring—and with this coming season rests the first solace since Christmas that we as tired college students can enjoy. So...**WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR SPRING BREAK?**



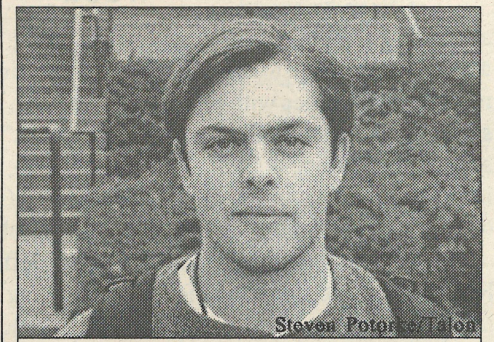
Steven Potorke/Talon

Elisa Bolling: "I'm going to France to spend vacation with my family."
Charity Reasner: "My sister might come down (from Alaska) and I want to ride elephants across the country..."



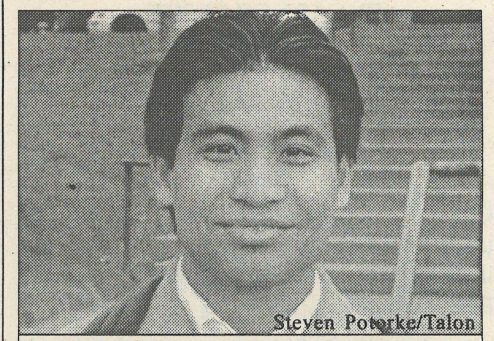
Steven Potorke/Talon

Caleb Bryant: "I think I'm going on a camping trip with my floor (400)."



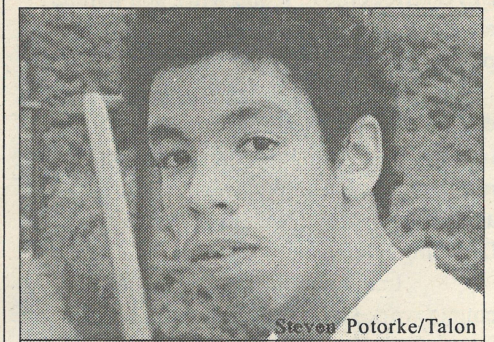
Steven Potorke/Talon

Matt Watson: "I'm not sure yet. Going home..."



Steven Potorke/Talon

Mihn Le: "I'm just going to relax and enjoy God's creation."



Steven Potorke/Talon

Mike Franklin: "Skating."

campus calendar

March 8-12
 Spring Break

March 20
 All College Picnic

March 23
 Student Council Meeting

March 26
 Improv Night
 Butterfield Chapel @ 8:00 p.m.

March 29-31
 Early registration for Fall semester 2004

After that?
 38 days until graduation!

asb agenda

New ASB Officers for the 2004-2005 school year:

President: Lindsay Fosner
Secretary: Jennilee LeFors
VP of Outreach: Justin Winterhalter
Secretary of Outreach: Melissa Steinert
VP of Activities: Jesse Bryan
Secretary of Activities: Kristin Hingtgen
Treasurer: Kylie Brady
Intermurals: Caleb Gerig

Let's Talk about TnT

BY SARAH TACY
 Reporter

What is TnT? When this reporter sat down with Casey Hamar, I found out that TnT, or Tuesday Night Topics, is more than just another club or college group.

After pooling ideas and resources, Casey Hamar, Resident Dean of Women; Nathan Moser, Resident Dean of Men; Amy Jones, Director of Student Success; and Teresa Regan, Director of the Counseling Center; came up with a plan to hit areas of need right where students need it most.

Before the birth of TnT, the group began to notice, when they worked with students, that many of the students shared some of the same concerns. They were able to pull together contacts and fun ways to inform students that would otherwise never ask for help. By creating a group setting, the volunteers and staff were able to share their knowledge with students in an unobtrusive way.

Hamar said of when she was most satisfied with her work, "I think the epitome of the perfect TnT is when the students stay way after to discuss certain issues." The staff and volunteers are eager to share their time and wisdom with all who need a little help along the little path called "life." While fighting off a guy trying to

strangle me during the self-defense session, I realized how much work really goes into the planning process—for these people to take an interest in our concerns and find people willing to talk to us. The staff and volunteers try hard to provide effective programming that relates to the students' concerns.

The most popular topic thus far?

The He Said, She Said Series. Last Semester, the turnout was overwhelming. Students spilled over and into the street outside of Perks Lounge. This semester, the attendance was not as impressive, but the meeting was certainly a success as students gathered to talk about that one taboo subject: sex.

Why go? Well, what's more important than talking about sex, love and other important issues in a safe, Christian environment? It is a great way to find out about topics plaguing your life without putting on a fake mustache and calling yourself "Bob."

Future sessions are scheduled to take place Tuesdays at 9:30 p.m. in the Aerie. Some of the topics will include: *Honoring our Women*, March 9; *No Faith Allowed: Hostile Work Environments*, March 16; *Career Focus*, April 6; and *Professional Etiquette Class*, April 20.



Casey Hamar

Impacting The Industry

BY TIFFANY ZULKOSKY
Assistant Editor

KIRKLAND, Wash. - Two actresses from Northwest College made it to Hollywood. During fall semester of 2003, Lauren Gardner and Katie Valnes spent four months in Los Angeles, Calif., making films, interning at well-known production companies and working parties for some of the leading figures in Hollywood.

"The purpose of the Los Angeles Film Studies Center is to allow a student to get a feel for Hollywood," said Valnes, a senior from Prosser, Wash., majoring in communications and drama. "Our internships, mine was with a casting director on one of the CBS lots, put us in the real world of this industry. I suppose the purpose of it all was so we could experience reality (as far as Hollywood goes) and find out if film was something we truly wanted to pursue."

Spending about 21-24 hours a week making one to eight minute long movies with other students, Valnes and Gardner also spent time working at their internships, going to see movies or plays and attending classes.

"I worked at Thunder Road Productions on the WB

lot," said Gardner, a junior from Thornton, Colo., also majoring in communications and drama. "Getting coffee, filing, copying scripts. On the weekends for fun, we went and saw movies, went out to eat or went shopping. My favorite times were when we'd go to the beach."

Experiences for the two included working at events as celebrity escorts and becoming familiar with the inner workings of Hollywood. Gardner said of one of these jobs, "My roommates and I worked as celebrity escorts.

So when people arrived at the door, we would have a picture of them, what they did (movies, television, sports, any involvement in the media), and what they would be presenting. Took them to their seats and sat them down. Told them how the evening would run, and what award they would be

presenting. That took about a half an hour, then we did whatever we wanted."

When working at such events, Gardner also met numerous celebrities. "I started talking with Jeff and George Shultz about growing up in Colorado. George is

Lucy's husband on '7th Heaven'. Then I went at the same party and interrupted Andrew Keegan as he was talking with Joanna Garcia to get her autograph - she's a teen mother on 'Reba'."

One of Gardner's favorite experiences was intercepting the arrival party for the premiere of the movie 'Elf'. "We ended up seeing everyone in the movie and meeting Chris Kattan, Christina Applegate, and Nia Vardalos. [A friend's] brother got in with Will Farrell's entourage. He just acted like he knew what he was doing. He was sitting behind Will Farrell and saw the premiere of 'Elf'. We had to kill two hours in the mall while he watched the movie."

One of Valnes' most memorable experiences? "Being on the 'Price is Right' and hearing 'Ms. Katie Valnes come on down!!!' was very surreal! I didn't win anything except consolation prizes but it's a memory I will never forget!"

"More than anything I realized that it truly is all about who you know!" Valnes explained. "If you want a career in Hollywood, you better make friends in Hollywood."

"You're absolutely stranded," Gardner said about the atmosphere in Hollywood. "No one knows you and so nobody really cares who you are. You have to be strong in God when you get there. They're very materialistic, very money-driven, and profit-focused basically. I think living there is quite a



Lauren Gardner and Katie Valnes take time during their busy schedules in Los Angeles to take a picture with the well-known Hollywood sign behind them.

challenge, mostly because it's got a heavy feeling. You feel a lot of tension or all you want to do is have fun. It's hard to find a balance with it."

With the hardships aside, Valnes said of what she walked away from the program with, "I gained more than I could have ever hoped for! I gained the basics on movies and I truly had an amazing experience while I was there. I also gained friendships and contacts that will be so important to me in the future, but I think the most important gain from the semester was the realization that I can handle Hollywood. It's big, it's scary, it is so intimidating and it just seems impossible to make it there. But after being there I really feel as if

God has a place for me there. With Him the impossible isn't impossible anymore."

"When I got there, I did not know what I was doing there. But I knew I was in the right place," Gardner said of her own growth through the experiences. "Throughout the semester I was able to share my testimony and my struggles with people in the program. Through that, I grew to know and see God's hand in my life at different points when I didn't before. And so now looking back at it, the entire experience leading up to L.A. and through all of L.A. was a test and a growing experience that I was meant to have. And I appreciate the person that it's made me."

Trained at Oxford, Mentored in DC, Kirkland Student Crowned Miss Seafair Finalist

BY GARY GILLESPIE
Contributing Writer

KIRKLAND, Wash. - Last year Christina Reasner was one of 25 top American college students, the only one from a non-Ivy League school, accepted into the Oxford University Honors Program in England — which is similar to the Rhodes Scholar program but for undergraduate students.

Last week, she was crowned the Miss Seattle representative for the Miss SEAFAIR contest. If she wins, she will be awarded a very large scholarship to help pay for law school after graduation.

Reasner is a senior organizational communication major at Northwest College. In addition to finishing her studies and interning at a Kirkland law firm, she serves as president of the Northwest College Debating Society.

Immediately after her Oxford course work last May, she was accepted into the WINS Emerging Leaders internship program in Washington, DC. For four

months, she worked as a Legislative Director for the Planning and Evaluation sector of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The program is sponsored by the US government and American University, which jointly provides funding to inspire future leaders to pursue public service. Reasner worked full time, attended night classes, and socialized with VIPs — including opportunities to attend Alan Iverson's birthday party and meet Ashanti, Wyclef Jean and other celebrities.

Reasner had the opportunity to

meet politicians such as Condi Rice, Hillary Clinton, and John McCain. She even had a private lunch with Hillary.

Reasner also met Alaskan dignitaries

and enjoyed dinner with the Alaskan Congressman Don Young and his executive staff. She was offered employment with Mr. Young as well as with Senator Murkowski.

Alaska is her home state, where she is an enrolled member of the Sitnasuak Native Corporation.

At the end of the summer internship, Reasner was offered full time employment at HHS. However, she turned

"Northwest has allowed me to hone my intellect in the classroom, glean wisdom from outstanding leadership, acquire analytical and public speaking skills in debate, and also develop leadership skills through student council and other leadership positions. However, Northwest has most importantly been a place where I have been fortunate to attain a deeper understanding of my relationship with Christ."

-- Christina Reasner

it down to finish her studies at Northwest Colleg. She plans to attend law school following her graduation where she will pursue a J.D. as well as an M.B.A. in a dual enrollment program.

Her experience in the WINS program also allowed her to network with many professionals and as a result of one of these meetings, she was recruited to be groomed by one of the top law firms in the country.

The education she gleaned will propel her to further success.

She praises her experience at Northwest: "Northwest has allowed me to hone my intellect in the classroom, glean wisdom from outstanding leadership, acquire analytical and public speaking skills in debate, and also develop leadership skills through student council and other leadership positions. However, Northwest has most importantly been a place where I have been fortunate to attain a deeper understanding of my relationship with Christ."

CHORALONS:

BRINGING HOPE BUILDING FAITH BELIEVING GOD

BY TIFFANY ZULKOSKY
Assistant Editor

KIRKLAND, Wash. – “We are active participants in a vehicle of ministry that requires our hearts, heads and hands as we practice for excellence and minister with passion that communicates the hope of Jesus,” said Brent Jamieson, a senior Youth Ministries major and President of the Northwest Choralons of how students learn to Carry the Call.

Audiences see a choir that sings with great intensity and enthusiasm, a rhythm section that plays better than a recording, but do we really have a clue as to what it takes to be good – really good? When you look behind the scenes of what makes this contemporary choir tick, you find a group of students ready to work hard and minister with compassion.

I arrived at the chapel parking lot shortly after 7 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 18, ready to see what a travel day with the Northwest Choralons was like. As I waited for our departure, I watched students make their way up the infamous hill, clad in Sunday morning apparel, with choir outfits in hand. Within a half an hour, the Choralons were on their way to Westminster Community Church in Shoreline, one of many churches on the travel itinerary for second semester.

An eighty-eight voice choir that travels throughout the Northwest, the Choralons offers churches a blend of modern worship, a touch of gospel and fresh hymn arrangements.

“I came here two and a half years ago and began the Northwest Choralons,” said Brenda Rasmussen, Director of Choralons and a music professor here at Northwest. “I really wanted to develop a choir and rhythm section – a choir that could travel to different churches and schools, developing music skills and ministry skills. We’ve worked as hard with the choir as we have with the rhythm section. We want a rhythm section that will be top notch and will draw students that maybe do not sing, but play instruments.”

As the buses pulled into Westminster’s parking lot shortly after 8 a.m., students unloaded quickly and began to prepare for their first concert of the day. I walked into the sanctuary and was greeted by seventeen young men from the choir that had left early in order to set up the risers, sound system and other necessities for the concert.

“I contact churches about 2 months ahead of our visit to begin preparing for a concert,” said Brad Murphy, Director of Media Services, of the preparations that go into a concert. “The Friday before we travel all of our equipment is packed up from the Chapel and loaded for transport. I communicate with the churches about sound, video and lighting the choir needs and coordinate what we will provide and what the church can provide. I train the choir how to set up and tear down all of our equipment and oversee that it is done correctly.”

After a quick sound check with both the rhythm section and the choir that lasted from 8:30 to 9 a.m., students congregated in one of the dressing rooms to have a student-led devotional by the Vice President of Choralons, Brian Friske, to help prepare for what the day would hold.

“We’re leaders at this college,” Friske said. “And we need to set the standard. We can’t compromise, we can’t settle for second best.”

With a few moments before the concert began, students mingled with arriving individuals and waited for their cue. Following a quick welcome from the pastor, the lights dimmed, the music began and the Choralons lined the rows of the auditorium. The opening song encompassed the

vision of what they want to express this year – we serve the God sovereign over all the nations.

“Seeing the development of the program that I sat with last summer, creating it in my head, seeing how it’s being played out in concerts,” Rasmussen,



Jana Detrick leads the choir in a powerful conclusion to the Choralons’ performance, a song penned by Northwest Alumni Natalie Grant, “Breathe on Me.”

said of what she is looking forward to for this year. “I believe in choirs. I believe in mass groups of students or people sharing the message and hope of Jesus Christ through music. Many people will never be a solo artist or performer, but they can use their gifts and talents, in and through a choir.”

Phil Rasmussen, Dean of the Chapel who plays an organizational and public relations role for the choir, said, “This is my favorite thing I do. I love seeing students in ministry. There’s nothing more exhilarating for me personally. Their passion that is displayed in a ministry like this is extremely encouraging for my own walk with Christ.”

“It’s all about people,” said Brandon Richardson, 19, a freshman music major from Paisley, Ore. “And seeing other’s lives changed by the Holy Spirit every time we get up there. Just being able to be a part of that [is the most enjoyable part of being in Choralons.]”

The difficulties? “I think it can be draining sometimes,” Richardson continued. “Just getting up in the early mornings.

After you’re out of bed and on the bus, you’re ready to go. It’s by far worth it to get up early and having the Holy Spirit fall in the service.”

Getting back to the college shortly before 3 p.m., this was considered a half travel day for the choir. Usually performing in the evening as well, students often do not return to campus until around 10 p.m. or shortly thereafter.

With a vision to travel past the 60-mile radius of the college and advance in technology used during the concert, the main

hope of the choir is to reach the lost.

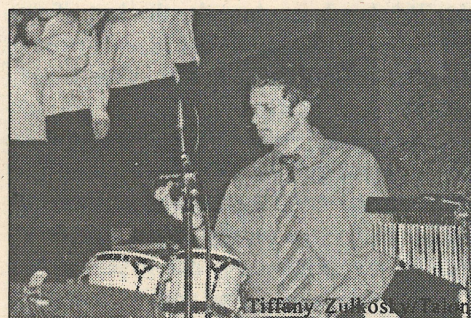
“Ministering as a part of Choralons has helped to teach me the value of others’ gifts as well as inspired me to live my life in such a way that my heart for God on stage is only a reflection of my worship away from the stage,” Jamieson concluded. “We practice hard, pray hard and play hard so that we can carry the hope of Jesus in a manner of truth which expresses our heartfelt devotion and passion for ministering the Gospel through music.”



Brent Jamieson shares his testimony before the final song of the Choralon’s performance. Here he is remembering a suicidal moment he had while living in Alaska as a pastor’s son.

“The greatest and most effective form of ministry comes from people who are being poured into as they are pouring out. The heartbeat of our director Brenda Rasmussen and the evident work of God thus far within the choir is proof that the Lord has just as much of an eternal purpose for those within the choir as he does for those to whom we minister.”

--Brent Jamieson



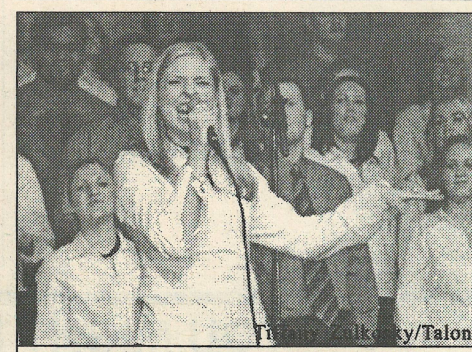
Josh Jamison plays percussion instruments and worships along with the choir during a concert.



Jarron Born, Erin Anderson, Warren Kinser, Beth Strandwitz and Andrew Pearson at lunch following a concert.



Clayton Visker, keyboard



Stephanie Fuller sings of the Way Maker.

The Talon Journal

editorial brandon clark

The Talon encourages letters to the editor. However, we reserve the right to not publish anonymous or vulgar submissions.

The Talon is a student newspaper and therefore the views and opinions presented here do not necessarily reflect those of the institution of Northwest College.

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A VOICE IN THE CROWD

There's a famous quote that says, "We may be through with the past, but the past isn't through with us." The past makes us who we are. Whether we have led a good life so far, or if things have been one long nightmare, as Christians we have to know that nothing we have experienced is a waste. By trusting the inspired words of Paul in Romans 8:28, "we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

My past has been a colorful one. I have shed tears of pain and tears of joy. God blessed me with a fairly stable, Christian upbringing and I have traveled to Europe twice. Some of my best friends have given birth too young; others died too young. I have had three significant moves throughout my life. Each move brought a fresh start, entirely new friends and surroundings; each time, I rewrote a portion of my "self." All of it has gone into making me who I am today. Even though I had to fight to survive some of the lower points of my life, I wouldn't trade it for anything.

Last semester, one of the *Talon's* editors approached me and asked if I would consider writing a regular contribution to the

paper. My first question was, "What do I have to contribute that would be of any value? I'm just a voice in the crowd." Later that week was the Ethics Panel discussion in Chapel, and therein I found my inspiration. Professor Jack Wisemore concluded the Chapel saying, "Our purpose was to get you to start thinking... in fact, if we've done what we wanted to do this morning you might walk out of here with more questions than you had when you walked in."

Walking out of that Chapel, I asked myself, "When did I stop thinking? Why have I struggled in my faith here, but soared while I was at the University of Washington? How can I stay most true to Christ as I pursue His calling on my life?" The sad truth is that most of my "thinking" trickled off about the time that I came to Northwest. Do not misunderstand, I am excited by the relationships I have that are developing here. God called me here and He is blessing me, but too often when we find ourselves not being challenged, our growth is retarded and we are at risk of coming to a standstill. This is not ok. Case in point, during the Age of Martyrs, Christianity was *real!* It was a hardcore life-and-death decision. The choice to be a Christian did not make life a happy-

go-lucky boat ride across calm waters, but it did inspire, give hope and bring joy.

One thing you should know about me is that I tend to be a "think outside the box" kind of guy. My past developed that in me. I've had blue hair. I work on a Mac, not a PC. I do not want to live as a cynic, but I also cannot overlook when something is wrong with the "system", and no human system is perfect. That is to be my contribution of value. In the months to come, I want to start thinking again and I would like to inspire the same in you, my readers, as this relationship develops. We can choose to remain isolated from the world around us, but I fear that would make me an irrelevant Christian. We have a purpose and a calling regardless of our vocation, to live as salt and light — to be a voice in the crowd that must be heard. I take this responsibility very seriously and I only pray it will enrich our lives and time here at Northwest so that we can leave this place fully equipped for everything the world will throw our way.

Questions, comments or ideas for this column, please send them to Brandon at: christianus_bellator@hotmail.com or send a letter to the editor.



faculty corner professor connie rice

The Gospel According to Tolkien

At the end of the 20th century, J. R. R. Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings" was voted the best book of the century. During the 76th Academy Awards, the last of the three films based on the books and directed by Peter Jackson, "The Return of the King", won eleven academy awards, tying "Titanic" and "Ben Hur." Peter Jackson won for Best Director, and the film won Best Picture. The success and continued popularity of the books and films testify to the power of Tolkien's writing and is due in part to the Christian elements found within the story.

Although Tolkien did not set out to write a Christian narrative, his faith is clearly woven into the tapestry of the tale, and Tolkien's world is rich with religious and moral themes. Primarily, it is a story of the battle between good and evil and the triumph of good, both in people's hearts and the world, rooted in Tolkien's love of myth and the power of storytelling. Tolkien's world is pagan—a pre-Christian world, set thousands of years before the incarnation, but within it he unveils Christian elements

throughout the tale.

One of the most powerful themes is of that of providence, self-determination, and free will. It becomes clear in both the books and films that Frodo's participation in the destruction of the ring is not by chance, but in some way foreordained. Gandalf in the first book tells Frodo that it was not by accident that Bilbo found the ring or that now it has passed to Frodo.

Gollum also plays an important role in the destruction of the ring. Again Gandalf tells Frodo that it was pity that caused Bilbo to choose not to kill Gollum, and that Gollum is somehow "bound up with the fate of the ring," and that he "has some part to play yet, for good or ill, before the end." Upon this advice Frodo too decides not to kill Gollum when the opportunity presents itself and as Sam advises. At that moment Frodo hears far-off voices out of the past:

"What pity Bilbo did not stab the vile creature, when he had a chance! Pity? It was Pity that stayed his hand. Pity, and Mercy: not to strike without need. I do not

feel any pity for Gollum. He deserves death. Deserves death! And some die that deserve life. Can you give that to them? Then be not too eager to deal out death in the name of justice, fearing for your own safety. Even the wise cannot see all ends."

In the end of the story it is Gollum who finally falls in to the heart of Mount Doom bearing the ring when Frodo is finally overcome by the corrupting power of the ring.

It is also by a divine design that a mere gardener, but true friend, Sam, is there to help Frodo to finish the climb up the mountain when Frodo is physically too weak to finish the quest.

Behind this divine design each character is always given the choice to accept or reject the task given, and at many points there are opportunities to turn back. Because of each character's self-determination and free will, each is able to complete their part in the quest. The end of the tale is not determined, but also depends on the faithfulness of Frodo and his companions to succeed.

Great lessons of faith can be drawn from this one example, and one can easily find many more with Tolkien's story.

YOU MIGHT END WITH MORE QUESTIONS THEN WHEN YOU BEGAN

Whose "Passion" is it? With all the fanfare, will the real Jesus be missed?



BY BRANDON CLARK
Columnist

Mel Gibson's film, "The Passion of the Christ," has been in the works for more than 13 years. This is the first big budget, Bible-based "Jesus" film to be made in nearly 40 years. Even before principle photography was completed, the film was surrounded with controversy, controversy that continues to be discussed on evening and late night television as well as a host of radio talk shows. Because of the uproar surrounding this film beginning a year before its release, "The Passion of the Christ" has become one of the most publicized films in history.

Claims of anti-Semitism, historical inaccuracies, the degree of violence and the literally interpretation of the Gospels are only some of the many points of contention amongst Mel Gibson's "detractors."

However, Jesus Christ and the Gospel message have always been controversial and Gibson knows this. He told Diane Sawyer, "Critics who have a problem with me, don't really have a problem with me and this film, they have a problem with the four Gospels - that's where their problem is."

But in spite of the controversy, many Christians and churches are flocking to the theaters to see Gibson's portrayal of the Passion (from the Latin *passio*, meaning "suffering") of Jesus Christ.

But what was it that caused Oscar-winning director Gibson to risk everything on a powder-keg film about the Son of God? Nothing short of genuine, heartfelt devotion to Christ as his personal Lord and Savior.

In a recent onslaught of interviews, Gibson has openly shared not only his

intentions behind making this film, but also the darker times in his life that formed the ashes from which this phoenix has sprung. Everything was at his fingertips: money, power, alcohol, drugs and more. But he was at the lowest point in his life.

Confessing on national television, "I've done a lot of things I'm not proud of," he reached what he calls "the height of spiritual bankruptcy."

Gibson told *Michnews.com*, "A couple years back, I was looking out of a window wondering why I shouldn't jump. Life had no meaning for me...I just hit my knees and said [looking upward] 'Help!' That's where my relationship with Christ really starting growing."

Out of that relationship came a desire to capture the essence of Christ's sacrifice in a film experience, an aspect of his devotion that struck a particular chord in Gibson's faith. Spending an estimated \$30 million of his money on "The Passion," Gibson set out to make that film a reality.

First, he researched aspects of the Gospels he wanted to include in the film. Then, he searched for an actor willing to take on the potentially career-killing role of Jesus. At the top of his list was actor Jim Caviezel.

Caviezel, a Mt. Vernon, Wash. native, was best known for his leading role in "The Count of Monte Cristo." He is now known as the actor who plays Jesus in Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ." For Caviezel, who is himself a devout Christian, this was a difficult role he knew he had to take.

When faced with the reality that taking on the controversial role of Christ

could, in fact, end his career, Caviezel replied that, "each one of us has our own cross to carry — we either pick it up and carry it or we get crushed under the weight of it... Mel and I are just administrators of God's work, and that's all that we continually ask for."

Throughout production of "The Passion," Caviezel "really did suffer" says Gibson. While filming the scourging scene, Caviezel was struck accidentally, leaving a 14 inch scar on his back. He also suffered from hypothermia, a dislocated shoulder, and was struck by lightning while filming the crucifixion scene. "I considered all of it worth it to play this role; it's important to me," Caviezel said.

Through it all, he found that he could not approach this like any other role. "This prayer that came from me was, 'I don't want people to see me. I just want them to see Jesus. And through that conversions will happen.'"

After attending a pre-release screening of the film, I spoke with Pastor Craig Gorc, Senior Associate Pastor at Cedar Park Church. He was one of the thousands of pastors and church leaders that were invited to screen an early cut of the film. Upon its release, he took the initiative to promote the film through Cedar Park. Regarding the film's artistry and Scriptural significance he said, "It's the best treatment of the material we've ever seen or experienced and I think the message is impeccable. Even though Gibson takes some license, I don't think that he detracts from the message at all. It tells the story in a way that it's never been told and I think we need to see the horrors."

"The Passion" is without a doubt the closest glimpse of the last hours of Christ's life to have appeared on the screen. While Gibson's source text for this film was very clearly the four Gospels, his portrayal of the Passion of Christ is just that — his portrayal. It is not the Bible, but as Gibson has also said, I believe the Holy Ghost was working through him and helping him on this project. It is very graphic; the scourging and crucifixion scenes are almost unbearable even after having seen the film three times in the course of a week. But they are supposed to be unbearable. Christ's sacrifice was great and, until this film, there has not been a reverent production to honor how much Christ suffered because of our sin.

That being said, I think Gibson's film is a work of art. As much as is possible for any re-creation, he shows the suffering of Christ for what it really was: terrible beauty. Jesus' humanity is very real throughout the film. While not losing the divine identity of Jesus as the Son of God, Jesus is a character who we can relate to and see as a human being enduring great pain.

Given the enormity of the project, Gibson's vision and intention for this film, I

do not think it could have been done any better.

The real suffering of Jesus Christ is something we, as American Protestant Christians, might tend to glaze over and could be well served by meditating on what the Gospels and Gibson's film present us with. "I'm no expert, you know, you can only put your own experience into your work," Gibson said. "I've shown it in a way that I think is kind of original...It's very violent and if you don't like it, don't go...I wanted it to push the viewer over the edge. And it does that. I think it pushes one over the edge so that they see the enormity of that sacrifice."

It was seeing the completeness of Christ's sacrifice that initially struck Gibson in his return to the faith. "I just had to do what was true to me, and what was true to the Gospels." He continues, "The Gospels are for everybody, from the smallest child to the wisest sage, and I fall somewhere in the middle." Gibson wanted this film to draw people and get them to start asking questions. It is important that we Christians are not only there to help those seeking the Truth, but we too should be asking questions: checking what in "The Passion" was scriptural and where Gibson took artistic license.

Will it be a success? Will interest die down once most of the Christian audience has seen the film? Only time will tell whether or not this film will have real staying power. It's not exactly a feel good film that people will want to watch over and over. By leaving many viewers physically drained and emotionally exhausted, the film may limit its run in theaters.

However, in the first four days of its release, "The Passion of the Christ" earned \$96.3 Million, a benchmark that comes close to the first four days of the release of "Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King," which earned \$100.4 Million.

Many interviewers are taking various spins on the title and the subject matter of "The Passion of the Christ", calling the film "Gibson's Passion" and speaking of movie promoters as Gibson's "disciples." However, through the fanfare, Gibson and lead actor, Caviezel, have a tremendous opportunity to share their testimonies and the Gospel message. Time and time again on secular and Christian programs, they have continued to rise to the occasion with God's help.

As fellow Christians, it is part of our responsibility to pray for them as well. I believe this film will be best suited for mature viewers, Christian and non-Christian alike, who are at the very least open to the Truth of the Gospel.

Grade: A

'the film's treatment of the resurrection surpasses all previous attempts'

PASSION, from page 1

particular understanding of Christian spirituality, the film raises certain concerns. The relentless attention to the blood and wounds of Christ transforms the film into a useful instrument for the popular Catholic devotion to the sufferings of Christ (it is noteworthy that thirteen of the fourteen 'Stations of the Cross' are depicted in the film). The Gospel writers, by contrast, make only passing reference to the abuse and killing of Jesus. This is because their interest is not so much in the fact that Jesus suffered (after all, there is nothing extraordinary about the execution of Jesus; thousands of Jewish men in the first century suffered deaths every bit as excruciating) as in the fact that the One who suffered is God himself. It is at the level

of christological elucidation that the film is most weak and unsatisfying. One can and should expect more from a treatment of the passion.

The Catholic spirituality of the film is also reflected in the powerful presence of Mary who nobly and unflinchingly bears witness to the torments of her son. This device of granting the viewer access to the sufferings of Jesus through the anguish of his mother (and thereby supporting devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows) results in some of the more poignant moments of the film. Taken as a whole the film offers a weighty meditation on Simeon's prophecy over Mary: 'a sword will pierce through your own soul' (Luke 2:35). Far too often those outside of the Catholic

tradition fail to give Mary her due and this film serves as an effective reminder of the agony experienced by those closest to Jesus. Nevertheless, this emphasis on Mary, which takes us far beyond the minor role she plays in the Gospel accounts, has the effect of significantly limiting the scope of Jesus' death. In Gibson's film far too little attention is directed to the new covenant community created through Jesus' death. The brief flashbacks to the last supper are inadequate to place this death in a meaningful covenantal or communal context. The lasting impression of the film, underscored by the very eloquent closing scene of a weary but enduring Mary looking slightly off camera as she holds the lifeless body of her son, is one of a mother's

profound loss.

Despite these criticisms, I am very pleased that the evangelical community is enthusiastically supporting the film. It says something about the maturity of evangelical Christianity, as well as something about the present state of the dominant culture, that a film so redolent of Catholic sensibilities, which might well have been censured by conservative Protestants of a generation ago, has been so readily embraced by them today. Let us pray that the film continues to stimulate serious discussion within the Church and within the culture about what is truly important and let us hope that its success encourages future productions of equal quality and strength.

A Season of Seasons

BYASHLEYABERLE
 Reporter

It has been a season of seasons. It has been an amazing season for the Northwest College Women's Basketball team, led by head coach Lori Napier. And these ladies aren't finished yet—their hard work, dedication, long hours, and team-playing have paid off, and it shows.

Not only have they established a strong record of wins, leading 11-5 in Conference, but individually, these dedicated ladies have excelled beyond what most expected. Jenny DeYoung, a starting freshman, leads the NAIA in scoring at an impressive 18.46 points per game as well as in free throw percentage at 82.7 percent. She also holds her own at 2nd in total rebounds and 4th in field goals.

Kristin Boyd leads the Conference in steals at an average of a little over 3 per game, and she made top-ten in scoring. Brianna Duerr also has had an incredible individual season at 3rd in free throw percentage with 81.3 percent and 7th in 3-point shots made. And the list goes on. And on. And on.

Our women have made top-twenty in each area where individual stats are recorded, and that is an accomplishment to be proud of.

Individually, the women excelled, but more importantly, as a team they truly

came together to show the power in unity. The Northwest women lead Conference in free throw percentage at 75.9 percent, and are 2nd in offensive scoring. They have proven themselves strong all across the board.

They have proven strong, not only on the court but off the court as well, as Kaeley Triller shares, "The best part of it all, and I know it sounds cliché, is the girls. Everybody fits perfectly."

Triller pointed out that the close bonds they have formed were a highlight to the entire game. Also, the boost they received from fan support was amazing, "There's nothing like coming out of the locker room at half-time and having a tunnel of fans," she said.

Fan support grew as the women's season progressed and Triller emphasized that this support really drove them on. Their season is one to be remembered. They played with passion, with drive, and with unity.

However, with good news, some sad always seems to follow. The women will also lose 5 seniors this year. Tarah Troutman, Kristin Boyd, Chrissy Erickson, Briana Duerr, and Ellie Scilley will all be graduating. As their coach pointed out, they will be greatly missed. But they leave a great legacy behind.

The Northwest College Women's team can truly walk with their heads held high after this season.

Step Aside: Women's Track on the Move

BYCRYSTALRIDDLER
 Reporter

The track and field athletes here at Northwest College are preparing themselves for the upcoming season by pushing themselves to their personal bursting points. The all-female squad is expected to succeed mightily throughout their twelve meets of the 2004 season.

Coming off of a 2nd place finish at the most recent NAIA cross country national championships, the Lady Eagles are literally off to a fast pace with their preseason workouts.

"I believe our off-season training is harder than most people are used to when they first come to the program," says Bill Taylor, who coaches both cross country and track and field at Northwest. "But they really have served to make each individual better."

Junior Tiffany Stillwater, a captain of the team, said, "I don't know about everyone else, but I really enjoy our workouts! They're gearing us to run some pretty exciting races."

Indeed, exciting races should abound this season as Northwest College is returning a national steeplechase champion, Kristina Proticova. The Slovakian transfer student will attempt to defend her title when the team travels to national competition in Louisville, Ky. on May 27-29. Additionally, they return national-caliber athletes Stillwater, senior captain Danyel Longmire, and Celia Maclean.

According to Taylor, the event to most look forward to is the 5,000 meter race.

"In theory," he said, "We could qualify eight or nine ladies for nationals from that event. Most colleges of this size could only field two or three."

The success of the program can be attributed to the quality of the runners, Taylor said. "We really have a family environment here, and we recruit not based on talent alone, but also on character and personality. We're a team of good runners and good people."

Stillwater says, "We point the finger at God. One of the big focuses of the program is reaching people for God through running."

Although Northwest College is primarily a distance-running program, they will have one track and field athlete—freshman Teona Perkins—compete in the heptathlon, which consists of the high jump, long jump, shot put, javelin, 100-meter hurdles, 200-, and 800-meter races.

"I'm really looking forward to seeing how much I can improve," said Perkins. "I have the opportunity to run with an awesome team and run for a very hilarious and supportive coach."

Proticova, who also runs the 400-, 3,000-, and 5,000-meter races, agrees.

"I really like running with our team and for our coach. They are the reasons why I am a good runner," she says.

Freshman Alisha Baldwin, who is in her first college track season, runs the 400-, 800- and 4X400-meter races. "I'm excited about my first year and gaining new experiences," she said. "We had a really good cross country season, and I'm looking forward to seeing how that progresses into the track season."

However, the team cannot reach its full potential without strong support from Northwest College students and faculty.

"We would love the support!" Perkins says. "You won't be disappointed. It will be awesome to come and watch all of our nationally-ranked runners."

The team's first meet is March 13 at Pacific Lutheran University.

The Northwest College women's track and field team consists of Kjerstein Bailey, Alisha Baldwin, Amye Ellingson, Jenny Jensen, Danyel Longmire, Celia Maclean, Ellen Murray, Teona Perkins, Ashley Polakavic, Kristina Proticova, Tiffany Stillwater, and Renee Wageman.

"This season," Taylor concludes, "I would like to see every single one of these girls push themselves and set a personal record. They definitely have the talent for it.

6-game winning streak ends; men qualify for nationals

KIRKLAND, Wash. — On Feb. 20, the Northwest College men's basketball team defeated Cascade College 59-55. Morgan Axton sealed the win with 26 seconds on the clock with a layup. Axton, along with Andrew Gard, Aaron Sawyer, and Tyson Dodd all led the Eagles in scoring with 10 points a piece.

They continued their winning streak with a 78-72 victory over Warner Pacific College on Saturday, Feb. 21 in Portland, Ore. After going into halftime with a 31-31 tie, the Eagles came back and shot 60.7% in the second half to secure their conference best 6th straight victory to end the regular season. Sawyer led the Eagles with 20 points and seven rebounds on the night.

Northwest College headed into the playoffs when they traveled to Caldwell, Idaho for their first round match up with the #5 nationally ranked Albertson College Coyotes. The last time Northwest visited Albertson it took a last second shot for Albertson to prevail 77-76 in overtime.

However, they came up short, falling 77-60. The Eagles had a strong first half, with Albertson only leading by 4 heading to the break. Albertson's defensive pressure to start the second half set the Eagles back 47-32, and from that point the Eagles were never closer than 12. E.J. Costello led Albertson with 17 points. Sawyer again led Northwest with 23 points and 10 rebounds. The loss ended a season-long six game winning streak for the Eagles.

At the time of publication, the men had qualified for the NCCAA Nationals, but it was undecided whether or not the men would go.

This article was compiled with permission from press releases written by Shaun Kupferberg, Sports Information Director.

STATS

WOMENSBASKETBALL

Date	Opponent	Results
1/2	S. Oregon	W: 85-64
1/3	Oregon IT	L: 62-73
1/9	Concordia	W: 61-55
1/10	Western Baptist	W: 86-76
1/13	Cascade College	W: 83-61
1/16	Evergreen State	L: 65-71
1/20	Warner Pacific	W: 76-67
1/23	Eastern Oregon	L: 55-61
1/24	Albertson	W: 94-84
1/30	Oregon IT	L: 65-94
1/31	S. Oregon	L: 80-
2/6	Western Baptist	W: 83-78
2/7	Concordia	W: 81-58
2/13	Evergreen State	W: 84-72
2/14	Walla Walla	W: 77-43
2/20	Cascade College	W: 72-71
2/21	Warner Pacific	W: 85-72
2/24	S. Oregon	W: 122-88
2/27	Warner Pacific	L: 71-84

MENSBASKETBALL

Date	Opponent	Results
1/2	S. Oregon	L: 58-59
1/3	Oregon IT	L: 55-80
1/9	Concordia	L: 71-76 (OT)
1/10	Western Baptist	L: 76-86
1/13	Cascade College	W: 80-77
1/16	Evergreen State	L: 71-76
1/20	Warner Pacific	W: 66-53
1/23	E. Oregon	L: 61-64
1/24	Albertson College	L: 65-80
1/30	Oregon IT	L: 56-76
1/31	S. Oregon	L: 66-69
2/6	Western Baptist	W: 74-64
2/7	Concordia	W: 80-75
2/13	Evergreen State	W: 87-80
2/14	Walla Walla	W: 85-47
2/20	Cascade College	W: 59-55
2/21	Warner Pacific	W: 78-72
2/25	Albertson College	L: 77-60

TRACK&FIELD

Date	Opponent
3/13	PLU Salzman Invite
3.20	Oregon Preview
3/26-27	Stanford Invite
3/27	Spring Break Open
4/2-3	WWU Vernachia Invite

INTRAMURALS

BYKAELEYTRILLER
 Reporter

KIRKLAND, Wash. - If you frequently find yourself discouraged by the few extra pounds gained from the infamous chicken fried steak and a few too many trips to the ice cream bar....

If your closest encounter with exercise is the tedious daily battle with "the hill" en route to class...

If you are searching for an outlet for the pent-up aggression resulting from yet another 3 a.m. study session and the missing sweater your roommate swears she returned, then it is definitely time to get involved. Put down your books, break out your running shoes, and participate in intramural sports.

Intramurals are in full-swing at Northwest College under the capable leadership of coordinator Caleb Gerig. Every Tuesday and Thursday night, an average of 100-125 people pack into the Pavilion to play basketball. About 25 of these people are girls, a significant improvement from the 7 or 8 who showed up last year. According to Gerig, the previous lack of participation almost resulted in the elimination of intramurals entirely, but the administration decided to give it another chance. So far, the investment has proved worthwhile.

"[Intramurals] are a great way to get exercise," says Melonie Denny. "It's fun to

be aggressive and to be part of a team."

If basketball is not for you, plenty of other sports are offered this spring including wiffleball, girls' volleyball, mens' flag football, and possibly soccer. There is something for everyone. And if you are entirely void of any sense of athletic ability and the thought of coming near a ball strikes terror in your heart, you can still be involved. "We are always looking for people willing to run the clock and scoreboard," says Gerig. "The more help we get, the smoother things run."

Gerig welcomes suggestions and input. He encourages students to familiarize themselves with the intramural information board located in the Pecota Center. Any comments or questions may be directed to Caleb in the ASB office at ext. 5280. "The best part is just seeing people have fun."

So, if that cafeteria food has you looking a little less than your best, if you look like you have completed a marathon by the time you've made your weary ascent to the classroom or if you are just looking for a quality good time and to score floor points, drop your studies for a few minutes and get involved with intramurals. You will find it difficult not to enjoy yourself.