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The Talon Journal

February 2006

A student publication of Northwest University

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Chart-topping Christian artist holds benefit concert

Northwest University's famed alumni and vocal artist speaks out against human trafficking and brings *The Awaken Tour* to Northwest; all proceeds going to the Home Foundation

By Becca Mar
Staff Reporter



Northwest University hosted alumnus Natalie Grant's Awaken Tour on January 28. Grant, the top-selling female Christian vocalist in 2005, performed two concerts with Overflow and Nate Sallie. She put her heart into her music and message, and spoke about the issues of human trafficking, being real, and overcoming difficult times with God's help. "She shared her heart," says Erin Nathan, a Northwest student. "We don't often get to hear from artists in that way."

When Grant became aware of the awful reality of human trafficking, she prayed, "God, what do you want me to do about this?" Then she decided to use her platform to take a stand against it. Grant's sister, Bethene Engelsvold, also spoke. Both have visited India and witnessed the suffering, imprisonment, and brokenness inflicted by human trafficking. They have also witnessed restoration; in Engelsvold's words, "I saw the miracles—one by one—of lives that have been rescued." 95% of the children in the Village of Hope (a place of restoration) have accepted Jesus Christ as Savior, according to Grant. Rescued children wear school uniforms instead of tattered clothes, and have the opportunity to hear the Gospel message. "God is able," Grant concluded, "to take any amount of brokenness, turn it around for good and make something beautiful out of it."

Rani Hong, a survivor of human trafficking, attended the concert with her husband, Trong, and the couple was introduced to the audience. Rani lived with her family in Kerala, India until her mother placed her in a boarding school, where she was secretly sold to a child trafficker at age seven and was luckily freed a year later. Remembering the photos taken of her after she was adopted, Rani says she looked physically ill and battered. "I don't remember what I did over that year. It was so traumatic that I just shut down and so I got my freedom. They wanted to make one last profit off me, so I was adopted into the US."

Rani later returned to the village of her child broker, but says "these are criminals. There is no record of what they do to us," and no criminal charges were able made.

Rani has since reunited with her biological mother and currently runs a homebuilding business with her husband. On the side, Rani works with all forms of media to inform people about human

trafficking. She also works with the Seattle Chief of Police to fight human trafficking here in Seattle—one of the largest ports of human trafficking in the United States. To learn more about Rani and her husband Trong, visit www.troniehomes.com/rani.

A portion of the concert money will apply toward the University's goal of raising \$100,000. According to Pastor Phil, after paying the bills for the KCMS radio advertisement and the opening bands Northwest will send the remaining money to the Home Foundation.

Grant recently established *Home* to "fight the horrors of human trafficking and the sex trade, raise awareness, and to assist in the rescue and restoration of human beings in crisis, both in the United States and around the world." National Geographic estimates 17 million people are trafficked internationally each year. *Home* works with organizations such as Teen Challenge and the International Justice Mission (IJM) to help the victims.

Teen Challenge, Bombay plans to establish a health clinic in Bombay, India for women and children who need medical treatment and rescue from the brothels and the streets. Founded in 1997 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., IJM "stands in the gap for victims when they are left without an advocate," rescuing them from "violence, sexual exploitation, slavery, and oppression" worldwide. IJM is also working to shut down brothels.

During the fall semester of 2005, the university raised \$32,041 for victims' aid



Photo By Kortney Thoma

"Awaken my heart, awaken my soul/Awaken your power and take control/Awaken the passion to live for You, Lord awaken me." These are the chorus lyrics to Natalie Grant's tital track, "Awaken." Grant says the songs is about a spiritual rebirth of passion that she experienced.

Middle East tension rises:

Hostile Iran seeks nuclear technology

By Kortney Thoma
Editor in Chief

While the United States is busy fighting terrorism at home and abroad, a new face of terror emerges: a nuclear Iran.

Britain recently voiced its suspicion that Iran was seeking technology in order to build a nuclear bomb, and has since caused uproar amongst the international community. Over the past two years, Germany, Britain and France have relentlessly negotiated with Iran over their use of nuclear energy, but as of late, Iran has become more hostile. While many leaders are calling for the UN Security Council to review Iran's nuclear program, Iran remains unwilling to cooperate and is threatening to remove all International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors if the Security Council does indeed discuss the issue.

The US is evaluating all possibilities right now before making any conclusions about the nuclear capabilities of Iran. "To



quote the White House, 'Iran is not Iraq'," said British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw to the British Broadcasting Corporation.

While Iran maintains that their nuclear program is

strictly for energy purposes, many would be at ease if they would partner with Russia and enrich their uranium there. Though Britain, Germany and France would like to see Iran abandon nuclear energy all together, the country refuses to do so. Until then, the only compromise being offered is a program to enrich uranium in Russia. If Iran doesn't bite, sanctions may be the only alternative outside of the Security Council, but no agreement has yet been made.

With the hostile nature of Iran against Israel and Israel's allies, further conflict is likely.

...Continued on page 4

Confessions of NU an Opium eater

By Joe McQueen
Opinion Editor



Richard Foster, in *Celebration of Discipline*, wrote, what is for me, the first step down the road of recovery from my opium addiction. "Holy obedience saves worship from becoming an opiate, an escape from the pressing needs of modern life." I am an opium addict; we, Evangelical Christians, are opium addicts. We are not opium addicts in the same sense as Thomas DeQuincey, a Romantic writer who published his *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* in 1821. For him, opium was a dangerous narcotic. For us, it is an emotional high produced when obedient actions are separated from corporate worship.

"Holy obedience" sounds a little less enticing than "an opiate." After all, we are second to none when it comes to singing loud and lifting our hands. We are very familiar with the experiences and emotions produced when we worship together. But, do these feelings translate into actions? At what point will the sum of our worship experiences add up to holy obedience?

Similar questions pester me as I consider the classes we attend, for I believe

that the Holy Spirit is just as present in the words of our professors as in our songs of praise. How often are we as students inspired by the lectures we hear, books we read and

films we watch? How many times do these instruments expand our worldviews only for us to chop them back down to our own trivialities five minutes after we leave the classroom? It is much easier to enjoy the intoxication of inspiration for a short time than the sobering view of a continually needy world.

We must question ourselves. Are we, as the faculty and students of Northwest University content to limit the results of corporate worship and classroom learning to an emotional experience? No—I look around campus and my heart overflows with thanksgiving as I realize that the body of Christ at Northwest University is becoming more conscious of the hurting world. I am encouraged that Campus Ministries provides a platform in chapel for speakers to address issues concerning social justice. I am grateful for Phil

Rasmussen and his willingness to challenge campus small groups to pray for the AIDS crisis every time they meet. I know that we are what James calls "doers of the word" when I see our effort to fight human trafficking. I am challenged as I hear nursing majors speak with dedication of their plans to serve in missions. I am filled with joy as I watch our worship turn into action. I believe we are beginning to grasp something larger than ourselves.

After Foster writes on the need for holy obedience, he goes on to declare that "worship will impel us to join the Lamb's war against demonic powers everywhere—on the personal level, on the social level, on the institutional level." The formation of this war is taking place even now on our campus. We sense it in the chapel and in the classroom. We hear the voice of our Lord calling us to bind up brokenness and usher in His Kingdom. We must remain attentive to this voice. We must not become weary in doing good. For if we continue in this way we will never allow our worship and our learning to feed a destructive addiction to an emotional experience. Instead, our worship and our learning will engender holy lives of holy action.

Letter from the editor:

Hello, faithful *Talon* readers. I am sad to announce that last semester's Editor in Chief Meghan Young, Assistant Editor Michelle Miller, and Opinion Editor Amanda Winterhalter, have resigned from their *Talon* positions in pursuit of academic excellence. Their fine writing and leadership skills will be missed.

I, Kortney Thoma, was an Assistant Editor last semester with Miller and have resumed the position of Editor in Chief by appointment of Glenn Settle and Paul Banas. I assure you that I will continue to uphold the high standards of Young and will maintain *The Talon's* dedication to representing the student body of Northwest University. Two other staffing positions were filled at semester: our new Opinion Editor is Joe McQueen and our Sports Editor is Rocky Davis. They too are dedicated to serving you and this paper.

Thank you for your dedication to *The Talon Journal* and we wish you a great semester and happy reading.

-Kortney

Caucasian-mutt reflects on the meaning of family

By Kate Dartnall
Staff Reporter



It's inevitable—I'm a Caucasian mutt. I am proud to say I'm a little bit of Scottish, English, Pennsylvanian Dutch and more than likely, some other blood unbeknownst to moi. I've accepted all this, but realize that it's not that hard to talk about. It's not really that difficult for any Caucasian mutt to talk about.

This month is Black History Month, and as I was researching writers that have contributed to the plight of racial intolerance, a pesky-like tick bothered me. If one's race doesn't fall into the category of Caucasian mutt, why is it still SO controversial to talk about?

Why do we add "oh yeah, and he's black," to the ends of our descriptions? Why do we whisper this as if the person isn't aware of their skin tone?

Luckily, after agonizing over these questions, I took a break this weekend to watch a section of video from Kristin Coppersmith's trip to Africa this past summer. Words that only took 15 seconds to say provided an understanding that we can delight in for a lifetime.

In a small bush town in Embu, Kenya, Coppersmith's team visited a church to work with the area's pastors. There, people asked Coppersmith to

share a few words with the entire group. She began explaining how people always ask her, "How does it feel to be an only child?" To grow up without any sisters or brothers, to be alone as the child, how does that feel? Looking out onto the group, Kristin weaved these lunch table like questions into something deeper.

She then said, "If I were to tell someone in the world, that this is my brother or this is my sister (pointing out African people in the crowd) they would laugh, because we are so different. (Her translator uses elaborate, but humorous gestures, to point out cultural differences.) But we all have the same father. We all serve the same God. Our hearts are all the same. (She paused and placed her hand to her chest in adoration.) So, thank you, for welcoming me into your family."

Smiling from ear to ear, Kristin later reminisced over her greetings with those that heard her that day. They'd approach her with "sister," with such warmth behind the word, it was impossible to forget.

"Brothers and sisters" is a cliché in America, but in other parts of the world, it's not," she adds. Instead, it's a warm exchange of care for one another. These terms express intimacy and are not simply empty filler words as they so often are in American greetings.

She also mentioned that her leader, whom she continues to quote daily, challenged her group to look at another person, without thinking that you're entitled. To see them exactly the same as you are, to treat them just as though they are a member of the family.

This ideal of family is challenged by what we do not do. If we see people—people close and people far away—all as family, then why do we treat them like strangers?

At Christmas, I always get an awkward gift. The kind where you open it up, and realize that the person doesn't even know you, never has and never will, but

decided to be consistent and get you something. And you think, "Gee, thanks." I even go as far as wish they didn't get me anything at all.

In the same light, we get awfully comfortable giving our money to people we don't even know. Why not reach out, and treat family as family. Give a sincere gift of time, of listening, of understanding. There is more than building a home, or giving money to a particular need. Not to say these aren't helpful to a culture or family, but I wish I had the courage to give my life to the family I haven't met yet.

Obviously, these are just words. This was her experience. Regardless, we are surrounded by those who call themselves Christians. Are we not a family? All corniness aside, I ask again, why is race so controversial? Yes, each race has a remarkable history of its own, but what do we not have, that really matters, in common? Maybe when it comes to hair care and family traditions we see other differences, but a familiar song comes to mind.

Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight, Jesus loves... you know it. Do it.

The Talon Journal

Editorial Staff:

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Northwest University
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Office Hours: 8 AM - 5 PM
425-889-5357
talon@northwestu.edu
http://eagle.northwestu.edu/talon

The Talon Journal is a student publication. We are a publication dedicated as a student voice and any views or opinions expressed therein do not necessarily reflect those of Northwest University.

We encourage letters to the editor, though we do reserve the right to refuse publication of any anonymous or vulgar submissions. Letters can be sent to us at talon@northwestu.edu or delivered to our office in the Pecota Student Center.

A cure for the terminally-single

By Kortney Thoma
Editor in Chief

The last time I received a Valentine from the opposite sex was in fifth grade. Yes, I know, sad. More than that, the last time I had a boyfriend was in ninth grade. Yes, I know, even sadder. But the last time I fell in love was this morning when I curled up in bed and fellowshipped with my Father.

Sometimes I ponder how in the world someone can live a celibate life, but then I look at all of my Northwest peers and see them engage in this weird “ring by spring” mating-ritual, and I begin feeling like I’m getting pretty close to being a life-long celibate myself. The American Heritage Dictionary defines celibate as “one who abstains from sexual intercourse” or “one who is unmarried,” but this year I am taking celibacy to a new level—it’s no longer just copulation and contracts—for me, it is a lifestyle of abstinence from emotional promiscuity.

Last year I noticed something about my gender: we feed off each other’s emotional highs. When one girl comes in the room and tells a group of girls that she thinks some guy likes her, the rest of her posse joins in to affirm her infatuation. For instance: I remember the first month of my college experience. I was about to attend church with some guy I met in the Aerie. I went to my friend’s room to tell her that he



was pretty cool and the next thing I know she is making bets on our engagement and forcing me to put a post-it note above my desk with the date of our destiny. I was

reluctant at first to indulge in this dream, but it was the encouragement of my friends that made me one of the love-sick freshmen I now joke about.

The year passed by and so did my prophetic engagement. I began to realize that my friends couldn’t always be trusted with my heart, so I took it off display and hid it for a while. During that time I saw countless others fall victim to this emotional feeding-frenzy.

When I turned from my fantastical friends and finally sought my Father with all of my heart, I found the love that I was looking for the entire time. I realized that I had emotionally wedded myself to these mirages of love, cheating on God with my wandering heart and mind. You could say that I engaged myself in some form of idolatry.

I found guidance in Jeremiah 17: “Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength and whose heart turns away from the Lord. . . He will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives. But

blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. . . The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? ‘I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to renew a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve.’”

Today there are many women on this campus trusting in men to fulfill their empty hearts and I want to encourage them that God’s love is no substitute—it’s the real thing.

God’s love is not merely satisfying—it is overwhelming. He shows us who we are created to be, equips our hearts for the enemy’s attacks, and brings joy to our momentary singleness. But more than all of this, He prepares us for a lifetime of commitment and worship through marriage.

When Paul commands husbands in Ephesians to “love your wives, just as Christ loves the church,” he is not only talking about the sacrificial love of Christ. I believe he is talking about all of God’s attributes: “love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices in truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

Next, Paul commands wives to “submit to your husbands as to the Lord.” Paul is not only instructing us to serve our spouses, but I believe he is also commanding us to fashion our love after the love

Jesus teaches. “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

Am I saying that we should love our husbands as much or even more than God? Absolutely not, but I am saying that we should have a pure love of submission and service, and this love must be modeled after our love for God.

To know what type of love a healthy marriage should operate on, I believe that we should first experience it within our relationship with God. We must first experience the love of 1 Corinthians 13 before we can expect some man to give it to us, and we must first submit ourselves fully to Christ before any other submission is made.

If we first experience love with God—not just the love of salvation but the love of a father, a mate, and a friend—then we won’t fall victim to this feeding-frenzy of emotion; we won’t be the prey of our lovesick peers. On the contrary, we will be prepared for God’s holy union, for the human love we long for, and for that glorious moment when we can cast celibacy aside.

So I encourage my spinster sisters not to worry if Roomies didn’t go your way, if your Valentine card was once again ‘lost in the mail,’ or if you’re just tired of being lonely, for I have found a cure for the terminally-single: the love of a Father.

Unnecessary restriction

By Rebekah Proctor
Staff Reporter

Rules: they’re carefully laid out like nets along the coasts of our busy lives to protect us from the vicious sharks lurking in the deeper waters of the world. Without them, we would helplessly drift out to sea like meat platters atop surf boards, pulled and pushed by currents and waves, right? Ok, maybe that description is a little dramatic. While some rules clearly serve to protect people, others seem to be unnecessary measures to control. I would argue that the rule prohibiting watching “R” rated movies in the dorms controls students more than protects them.

Let me explain. If a child is raised only to do whatever an adult says, they begin to believe that control only comes from outside authority figures and that they

cannot make responsible decisions on their own. Children aside, we’re talking about young adults who should be able to govern themselves and display self control and self discipline. Yet, without providing the opportunity to demonstrate such self control, what do students do? They rebel against the rule. Although this rule probably was set with good intentions, it still sends a message that higher authorities might not trust students to make the right decision regarding movies.

Any culture based on control yields fear of failure or punishment and a people



governed by outside forces. A culture based on freedom yields love, extends grace, and teaches one to govern from within. For example, drivers

exercising self-control on the roads wouldn’t want to speed because they might cause an accident, while people requiring control from outside sources wouldn’t want to speed because they might get a ticket. As believers, we should be the best at self governing because of who lives inside of us: the Holy Spirit. He empowers us to walk in the fruits of the Spirit, one of which is self-control.

I would argue that the rule **prohibiting** watching “R” rated *movies* in the dorms controls students **more** than it protects.

could be rated PG-13. We cannot draw a clear line between the two, but we can be careful, especially regarding the issue of morality. Even though some movies contain redeeming qualities and themes that outweigh the violence or language, we still need to be discerning and wise.

The rule that doesn’t permit rated R movies in the dorms may not change. Yet, we as students can honor the rules that we don’t agree with, and in turn honor the leadership. Who knows, maybe a genuine display of self-governing and respect could turn the tide?

So, do I think all rated R movies are fine? No, we should probably avoid many rated R movies, but the fact of the matter is that some PG-13 movies should be rated R while some rated R movies

Letter to the editor:

Dear Editor,

In light of Black History Month and the celebration and remembrance of efforts across the world to eradicate discrimination among our fellow human beings, it has come to my attention that as students of Northwest University we have often set aside matters of race and ethnicity. While disregarding issues of race might seem commendable, I would like to argue that a complete disregard for the richness of cultures in our community is actually somewhat degenerative. With a quick look at current events throughout the world as well as an analysis of our community, I hope that I can convince yourself and the student body that it is necessary to discuss the issue of race amongst each other.

In light of the recent riots throughout France, it is necessary to understand the cause of the unrest in many of the nation’s cities. Vikki Valentine, in her article for National Public Radio “Economic

Despair, Racism Drives French Riots,” agrees with many other analysts of this situation that the riots were the cause of “decades of a deliberate government urban policy to concentrate immigrants and their families in well-defined districts away from city centers.” While as students of Northwest, we obviously don’t take the same action as Valentine claims that the French government has taken, the principle

is just the same. The French government has set aside the issues of race without positively and directly with them. Within our community, while we are often very accepting of all those who walk through the doors of our institution, there is a difference between acceptance and integration. The French government failed to integrate the immigrants into their society. I would argue that we have failed as well. We have failed to integrate various peoples throughout our community: the socially disinclined, the minority, the foreign exchange student, the Goth – whatever the group may be, we have failed to integrate those individuals who are immediately different from our social standards. I won’t make further implications on the spiritual necessity of this integration – hopefully we have a grasp on that by now.

Within our community, while we are often very *accepting* of all those who walk through the doors of our *institution*, there is a difference between *acceptance* and *integration*.

With these ideas in mind, I hope to encourage all of us that assimilation and integration is necessary for the unity of our community. Whatever analogy you hold to – the melting pot, salad bowl, or

alphabet soup, I entreat you to begin grasping the richness of the various cultures present throughout our university. With deepest sincerity,
Tania Fleming

Fundraising underway for new science building

Fall 2007 set as tentative date for grand opening of Health & Sciences Center

Rebekah Proctor

Staff Reporter

Plans for the new Health and Sciences Center move forward as Northwest University continues to raise funds for the project. The much needed facility will be located on campus between Hurst library and the Ness Academic Center and will enhance not only science programs, but also the entire institution.

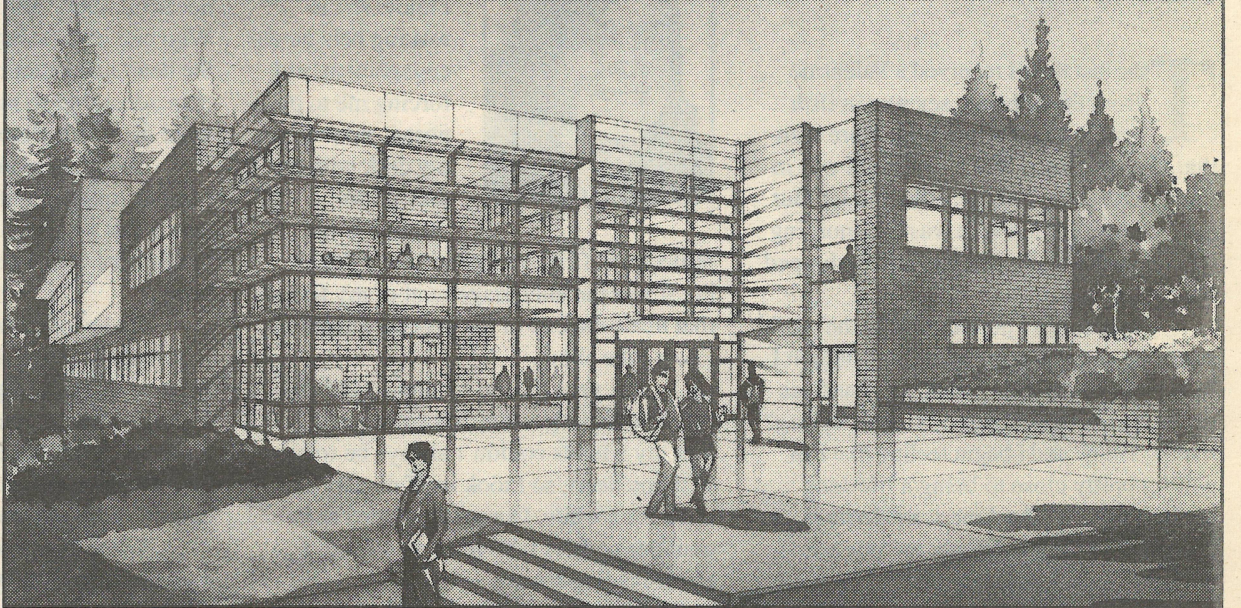
The center could not come at a better time as the university is in need of new chemistry, biology, environmental sciences and physics labs to replace old labs built forty years ago. The new center will be two stories tall, 45,000 square feet including a grand entry, and will provide classrooms, lab space, offices, as well as a whole floor dedicated to The School of Nursing. This will benefit not only the science department but everyone at Northwest by making more space available for faculty and classes. Additionally, the building will prepare Northwest University for expansion and make graduate nursing and pre-med programs possible in the future.

The fundraising goal for this project exceeds anything that Northwest has ever undertaken in the school's history. Total



costs stand at \$18.1 million. Currently \$3.3 million has been given or pledged toward the project, and \$1.6 million has come in from other sources. Some of this money comes from resources like the government, foundations, private donors and the Seahawks' facility lease. The school's administration continues to work hard to raise the remaining \$13.2 million needed for the project without increasing tuition for students.

In their last meeting, the board of directors approved to submit the drawing plans to the city of Kirkland in order to obtain the necessary building permits. As



Northwest's new health and science center is close to breaking ground as money is continually coming in on this \$18.1 million project with \$3.3 million already raised.

Executive Vice President Dan Neary stated, "The goal is to have the building paid for when the construction is finished." The board of directors will meet again in the near future to review the fundraising progress. "We're prepared, if the fundraising goes well, to get the building permits by June and have the building

completed in one year," Neary explained. If plans develop as he proposes, the new Health and Sciences Center will be ready for use by fall 2007.

Natalie Grant concert

Continued from front...

and the fight against human trafficking. Grant acknowledged the contribution, saying, "On behalf of abused and abandoned children around the world, I thank you." Pastor Phil set the new semester goal at \$100,000 when the student forum suggested that amount and joined him in praying for direction. Later that day, a student contributed a \$10,000 check to the effort and four days later another student contributed \$5,000. Pastor Phil remained hesitant because \$100,000 is such a large amount to pursue, but decided, "What have we got to lose? Absolutely nothing." He urges students to remember that "it's not about the University or the money we give - it's about a little girl locked in a basement, about a dirty man who sells her for profit, who beats her and then kicks her out on the street when she's near death. I want

students to keep that in mind. We need to." And it's about the freedom we can bring to that little girl and others like her. Money is one way to help, but not the only way.

The Assemblies of God Missions director of Eurasia, David Grant, offers internships on the field - positions which are open to students. To contact him, call 417-833-5564. IJM also has positions available, located in Washington, D.C., to give college students the opportunity to work with government and law officials; for more details, contact Bethene Engelsvold at 425-889-6397. To learn more information about human trafficking, visit <http://thehomefoundation.org> and <http://www.ijm.org>.

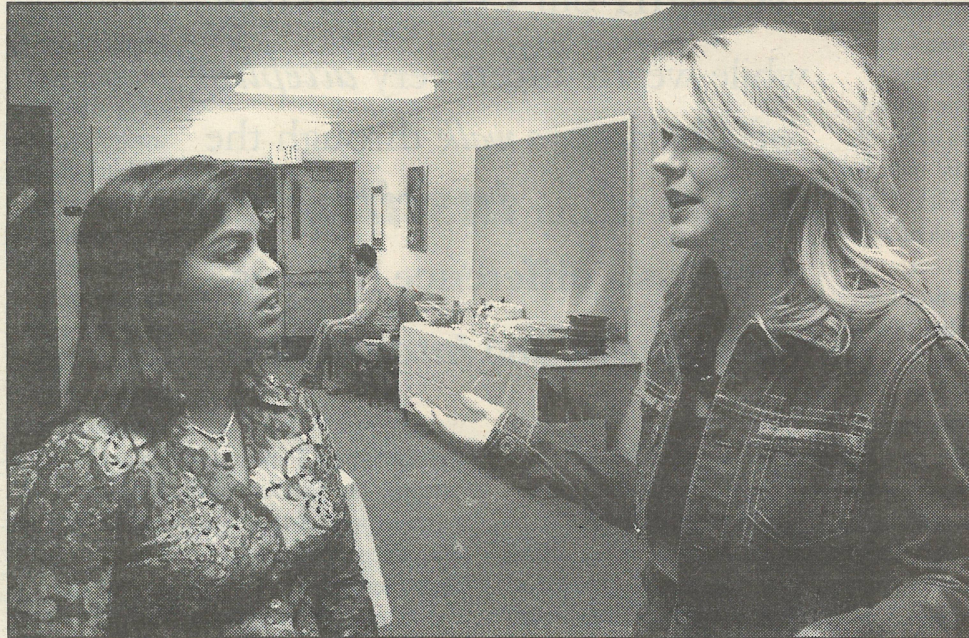


Photo By Kortney Thoma

Backstage with Rani Hong and Natalie Grant, the two women discuss their hearts for Indian girls sold into prostitution. Rani herself was a victim of human trafficking and escaped her enslavement through adoption at age 8.

Bush defends domestic spying

Congressional hearings will examine

'Terrorist surveillance program' this month.

Gideon Cople

News Editor

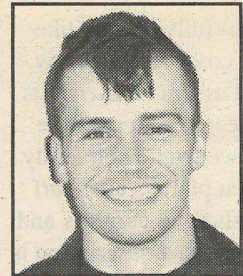
Since hitting the news in early December, the political debate over the government's controversial eavesdropping program shows no signs of slowing anytime soon. While critics continue to challenge the legality of the National Security Agency's (NSA) top-secret domestic spying program, the Bush Administration persists in unapologetically defending both the legal status and necessity of the program.

Under the domestic spying program, the NSA has been monitoring electronic communication (including phone calls and email) without obtaining warrants.

After coming under harsh criticism from several Senators, Congressmen, and privacy rights groups in January, President Bush began referring to the program as 'terrorist surveillance' rather than 'domestic spying'.

He said he "had all kinds of lawyers review the process" to ensure it didn't violate civil liberties or the law.

The 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) specifically forbids such domestic surveillance without a warrant, though some exceptions do exist; the NSA can exercise surveillance without a warrant for up to 72 hours if immediate action is required, but a warrant must be obtained to eavesdrop longer. According to FISA, federal officials must convince a panel of 11 secret members that 'probable cause' exists that an individual may be associated with terrorism. According to the Justice Department, since 1979 18,724 wire



taps have been approved and only three denied.

The program authorized by Bush allegedly violates FISA in that it allows the NSA to conduct surveillance if

there is a 'reason to believe' communication may involve terrorist networks.

During a January 25 visit to NSA headquarters, the President praised the eavesdropping program. "This information has helped prevent attacks and save American lives," he said. "This terrorist surveillance program includes multiple safeguards to protect civil liberties and it is fully consistent with our nation's laws and Constitution."

Gen. Michael Hayden, the former head of the NSA, said had the president's domestic spying program been in place when the Sept. 11 attacks occurred, some of the hijackers would have been "detected."

Four prominent Democratic senators sent the President a letter on January 25 asking for more legal analysis of the issue. Senators Harry Reid of Nevada, Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, Richard Durbin of Illinois and Russ Feingold of Wisconsin each signed the letter.

"If you or officials in your administration believe that FISA, or any law, does not give you enough authority to combat terrorism, you should propose changes in the law to Congress," they wrote. "You may not simply disregard the law."

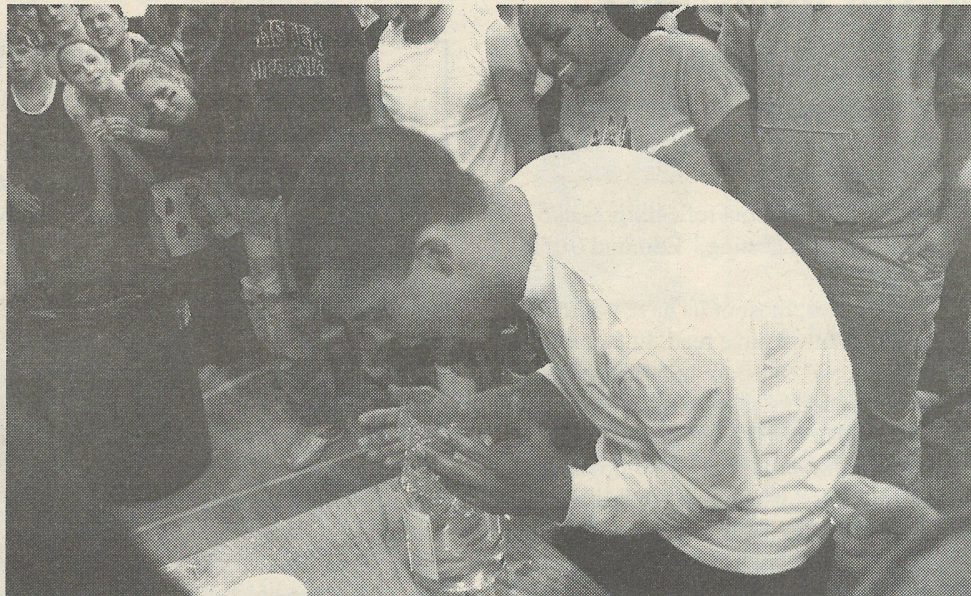
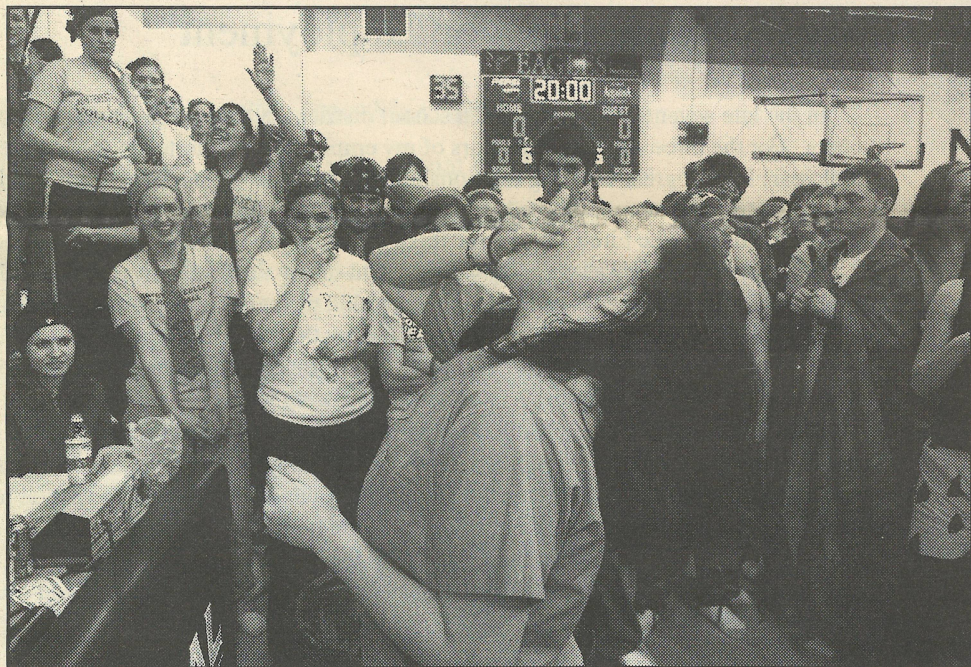
A series of Congressional hearings to discuss the issue are set to begin on February 6.

Homecoming Highlights from Floor Olympics

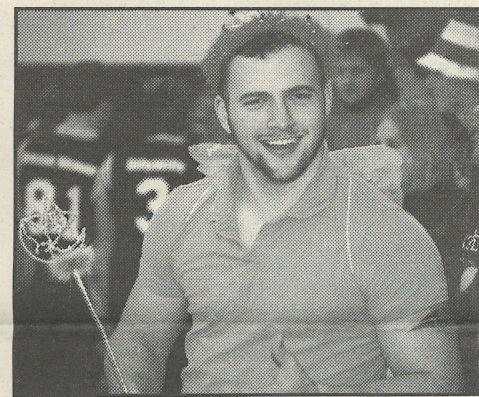
Photos by Austin Bennecker



Above: Representing the apartments, Beth Strandwitz faces her fears and gears up to eat a live goldfish, only to discover that the fish is actually pregnant. Strandwitz passed on sushi this time. **Below:** Robin Demoski took her turn on the Fear Factor challenge, eating 5 crickets.



Above: David Marvin leaned over the fish container and took a good look at his next meal: he ate 2 goldfish--and not the cracker kind. **Below left:** Sean Loomis helped lead his floor in their anthem for the judges. **Below right:** Britton August dons his wings, tiara, and wand for a little fairy magic! August managed crowd control at the annual event.



SPU hosts author Jim Wallis

Gideon Cople
News Editor

Seattle Pacific University is set to host acclaimed Christian author and social-activist Jim Wallis on February 6th and 7th. Wallis will be lecturing in Seattle as part of his *Call to Renewal* tour.

Wallis' most recent book is *God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It*. He speaks at more than 200 events a year and regularly contributes his columns to the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *The Washington Post*. He also teaches a course at Harvard University titled "Faith, Politics, and Society."

Wallis co-founded *Sojourners*—a magazine and community with a Christian commitment to social justice—with several friends while they were students at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Illinois. *Sojourners'* combined print and electronic media now have a readership of more than 100,000 people.

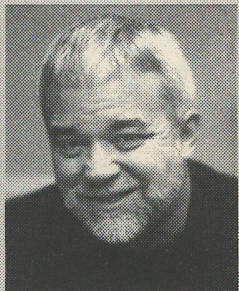
Following his visit to SPU, Wallis will travel to Azusa, CA, to speak at Azusa Pacific University.

Wallis' Seattle lecture schedule is as follows:

Monday, Feb 6
7:00pm in First Free Methodist Church
3200 3rd Ave. W Seattle, WA 98119
Tel: 206-281-2966

Jim Wallis lectures on "God's Politics" – 90 minutes, including Q&A

Tuesday, Feb 7
9:30am in First Free Methodist Church
Jim Wallis speaks for 30 minutes at SPU's weekly Chapel service
Title: "What Does the Bible Have to Say about Poverty?"



SPU officials have said the lectures will be free and open to the public, but they expect large numbers of people and suggest Northwest students arrive 30 minutes early. For more information on *Call to Renewal*, please visit www.calltorenewal.com

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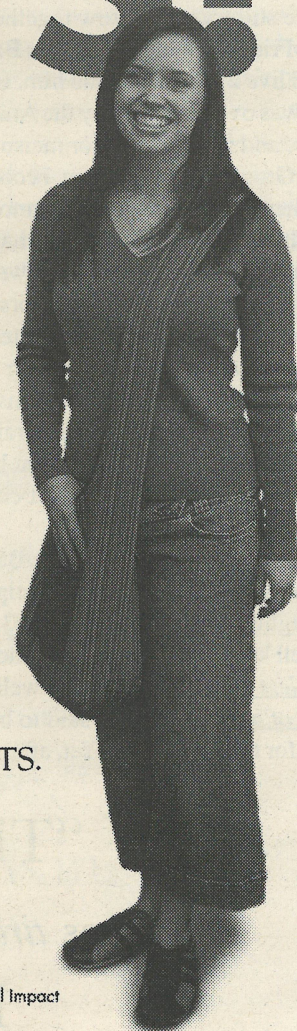
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Yesterday and today: Writers who contribute in the fight against racial intolerance

By Kate Dartnall
Staff Reporter

"To read without reflecting, is like eating without digesting," Edmund Burke once said.

At times, most of us have not fully digested what we have read. In fact more so than often, we chose to "get through" the book to say we've read it. It's a tragedy that so many wise words, harsh truths and cultural inquiries have been skimmed over. This month is a wonderful opportunity to digest our country's own works, particularly those who have contributed to an effective and controversial depiction of our culture.

Richard Wright, James Baldwin and Toni Morrison have painted an awareness, to be appreciated, understood and remembered by all Americans. Today we can simply read their words, but through tomorrow's reflection, we can begin to understand their picture of racial intolerance.

Richard Wright is well known for his dark and controversial illustrations, regarding the effects of racism, segregation and slavery in America. He was first recognized for his short story, *Uncle Tom's Children*, published in 1937. Three years later one of the most violent depictions of racism was published in *Native Son*, his story about a murderer named Bigger Thomas. Soon, in 1945 he published his autobiography, *Black Boy*, which addresses his childhood in the south and the black and white truth of growing up in the American culture.

"Native Son remains a major literary landmark in the racial history of the United States, and Black Boy one of the most compelling documents about the struggle of an artistic individual for identity and achievement on the American scene," states Arnold Rampersad, in the 1991 edition of the Reader's Companion To American History.

Even though Wright passed away in 1960, he left his voice speaking words of racial truths, racial pasts and of a diverse culture still trying to grow together today.

Friend of Wright's, James Baldwin, would live 27 years beyond him. Baldwin as well, was overwhelmed by the American culture and its tolerance for racism.

Growing up in Harlem, becoming a preacher in his teens and then moving to Paris in his young adulthood, shaped a new perspective on this well known writer, speaker and activist. Karen Thorsen, the director of PBS's American Masters program on James Baldwin recalls, "Being abroad gave Baldwin a perspective on his life and a solitary freedom to pursue his craft. In a sense, Baldwin's travels brought him even closer to the social concerns of contemporary America."

Just after Wright's death, Baldwin moved back to America to participate in the civil rights movement and in 1963, published the well known book (and now movie) *The Fire Next Time*. This story, as well as his *Notes of a Native Son*, is said to be an early voice for the movement. Yet, after the



assassinations of his good friends, Medgar Evers, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., and Malcolm X, Baldwin left for France again. There he worked on a book, *If Beale Street Could Talk*,

criticized for bitterness of his friend's deaths (Thorsen).

In her Director's notes, Thorsen writes of Baldwin as a brotherhood advocate and warmly quotes his description of racial intolerance yesterday and today.

While Baldwin and Wright painted some of the first pictures of racism in America, Toni Morrison is an artist of today's culture.

Morrison, an educator and a writer, is decorated with "The American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Award", "The National Book Critics Circle Award" and "The Robert F. Kennedy Award". She was also named the Robert F. Goheen Professor in the Council of Humanities at Princeton University in 1987 (becoming the first black woman writer to hold a named chair at an Ivy League University) and the very first black woman to win the Nobel Prize For Literature, in 1993. She is most known for her novels, *Sula*, *Song of Solomon*, *Beloved* and *The Bluest Eye*.

Abdellatif Khayati, of the African American Review, writes: "Morrison's cultural politics of narrative proposes a rewriting of black experience that can truly represent African Americans - not as the invisible presence of American Africanist texts, but as an active presence that has shaped the choices, the language, and the culture of America."

Khayati's review suggests Morrison's writing is much more than just words of a black female writer, but words that show how one group has contributed and continues to contribute to the American pie.

"I'm just trying to look at something without blinking, to see what it is like, or it could have been like, and how that had something to do with the way we live now. Novels are always inquiries for me," Toni Morrison once said in Salon Magazine.

Questioning the past, exploring idealistic possibilities, walking in different shoes and raising brows of consciousness, illustrates Morrison's own reflection of our culture today.

Thoughts for digestion: If you have been stirred by the mighty speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr., or the courageous story of Rosa Parks, you will be changed by the realistic plate these authors have set out for you. Chew on it well, swallow carefully and don't hesitate to reach for a second helping.

Richard Wright, James Baldwin and Toni Morrison have all contributed to the fight against racism, and through their words, will always fight. America is still so young in her history; we must treasure those that paint it well.

Read the
nation has
said it be
position
which he

Black

Excerpts from *My Dad: My Hero* By Dr. Moses Harris

"Nigger Application for Employment"

In the late seventies I worked for a school district that had no black students or teachers. For the three and one-half years of my employment (I started in the middle of the school year) I had a great working relationship with most of the students, staff, and faculty. In this small town of about 5,000 inhabitants, I understood that they were very conservative (the superintendent who hired me told me this). I did my job faithfully and professionally.

You can imagine my surprise, however, when on my desk I discovered that a "Nigger Application for Employment" had been placed within the pages of my Bible. I had never heard of such a document. Some of the questions on the "Application" included the following: How many words do you give per minute? Besides sleeping with a white woman what is your greatest desire in life? Other questions were worse.

Being somewhat irritated and feeling sarcastic, I took the application to the principal, informing him that I wanted to apply for a job. When my principal read this document, he turned many shades of red. He then called the superintendent who made a special trip to the school. They informed me that they would get to the bottom of this incident. After doing a brief investigation, I was told that many people in their small conservative town had come from areas outside of Washington and that they had brought those attitudes and "Applications" with them.

My Dad: My Hero & Reflections Of The Soul can be found in the bookstore of the Pecota

Love: a powerful weapon

By Joe McQueen
Opinion Editor

Mrs. Rosa Parks, on Thursday, December 1, 1955, seated herself on a Montgomery, Alabama bus. When asked to relinquish her place to a white patron, Parks politely refused and was arrested. This incident launched Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the movement he led, into a struggle for racial equality that would forever change America. The city of Montgomery, where only a century earlier hordes of proud Confederates hailed their new president, Jefferson Davis, appeared an unlikely location for the most influential figure in American civil rights to make his public debut. Yet, Dr. King and his associates refused to back down.

The stage was set for the first of many non-violent demonstrations. King and other black leaders issued a leaflet appealing to



Montgomery's residents not to ride the bus the following Monday in protest to Parks' arrest. King watched "a miracle" from his doorstep Monday morning as one empty bus after

another passed. In amazement he hurried to his car. He rejoiced as he drove through the city observing vacant busses everywhere.

That afternoon, King and the other leaders of the demonstration convened to prepare for the rally that was to take place a few hours later for those who participated in the boycott. The group decided that the bus protest ought to continue. They also formed an impromptu organization called the Montgomery Improvement Association, of which King was unanimously elected president. That night a boisterous crowd packed into the Holt Street Baptist Church to

"The only tired I was,
was tired of giving in."
Rosa Parks

the articles and take time to reflect on the steps our
s taken toward freedom. Booker T. Washington
st: "Success is to be measured not so much by the
hat one has reached in life as by the obstacles
has overcome while trying to succeed."

History

Month

Pro & Reflections of the Soul.

"11:41"

Of course Mars is important.

I did not say that it wasn't

The school levy has just failed.

Unemployment for my people is twice that

Of yours.

Prices are escalating nationally at a

Tremendous rate.

So is the harm being done to my brothers

Over there.

Little Johnny Ghetto was bitten by a rat last

Night.

The food banks are very much depleted.

Of course Mars is important!

I never said that it wasn't.

hear King give what he would later call "the
most decisive speech of my life". He
addressed the congregation, "Love must be
our regulating ideal. Once again we must
hear the words of Jesus echoing across the
centuries: 'Love your enemies, bless them
that curse you, and pray for them that
despitefully use you.' ...In spite of the
mistreatment we have confronted we must
not become bitter, and end up hating our
white brothers. As Booker T. Washington
said, 'Let no man pull you so low as to make
you hate him.'" The crowd rose in thunder-
ous applause and brought a compelling
closure to a glorious day.

However, King would soon be tested
against his own words. Only two months
after this speech, a bomb exploded on King's
front porch, shattering windows and hurling
glass into his living room. King rushed home
to find his wife and child unharmed, as well
as a mob of over one thousand angry blacks
primed for retaliation. He urged the crowd
not to panic. He told them not to get their

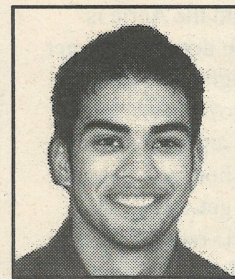
weapons, for if they lived by the sword they
would die by it too. Again he reinforced the
idea that they would only gain victory
through love. The crowd dispersed, and
King showed himself as a man who stood by
his words, even in the face of the most
terrible hatred. King later wrote of his
experience in Montgomery, "It was Jesus of
Nazareth that stirred the Negroes to protest
with the creative weapon of love".

King would go on to head a cultural
revolution that brought the disease of racism
before the eyes of America. In 1963 he led the
historic march on Washington and *Time*
magazine honored him as *Man of the Year*. In
1964 he became the youngest recipient ever
granted the Nobel Peace Prize. Yet, beyond
awards and titles, Dr. King's legacy still
speaks of the transformative power found in
Christ's love. King changed the world not
with hateful words or violent actions, but
with the only weapon potent enough to
batter down the very gates of Hell: love.

A student's story:

Northwest student Barbara Nunn shares her experience with prejudice

By Peter Dacanay
Staff Reporter



apprehensive" prior
to her arrival to an
area with a rather
large Caucasian
population. Unfor-
tunately, the fear
reinforced during a
visit to the nearby
Houghton Market.
The following is her

The United States Constitution's
Fourteenth Amendment reads: "No
State shall make or enforce any law
which shall abridge the privileges or
immunities of citizens of the United States;
nor shall any State deprive any person of life,
liberty, or property, without due process of
law; nor deny to any person within its
jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

Throughout our nation's history we
have endured a long and difficult road to
equality, and courageous figures such the
Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and
Abraham Lincoln, as well as numerous
untold others with the same amount of
courage, have helped pave the way for where
we are today: a nation proud of its freedom.

Whether we choose to believe it or
not, however, prejudice among the American
people still exists today. It is true that
slavery has now been illegalized for nearly
one-hundred and fifty years, and both
federal and state laws have been passed to
prevent employers' discrimination on the
basis of gender, ethnicity, age, religion, and
physical disability. Yet somehow, prejudice
is as real an issue today as it has ever been
in our world's history—and the United
States is no exception. Sadly, neither are the
life experiences of some of our very own
Northwest University students.

In honor of February as Black History
Month, the following story is the experience
of one African-American Northwest Univer-
sity student who has experienced racial
intolerance over the course of her life. The
purpose of sharing her stories, however, is
not merely for shock value, or to perhaps
create new awareness of an issue that many
believe to have been long resolved. While
the latter two reasons are significant in their
respective ways, the intent of sharing her
story is to emphasize the need for our
society to arrive at a shared understanding
of our commonality as imperfect human
beings. It is, above all, an article about the
redemptive and freeing capacity of God's
love for all His children.

Barbara Nunn, who considers herself
an "older, non-traditional student", is a
senior here at Northwest University, and,
having never before been to the area prior to
her acceptance to the school, was "a bit

account:

"Some of my classmates were horrified
when I spoke of a time that I went to the
Houghton market to purchase lunch and the
store manager followed me around until I
went to the check-out counter to pay for my
items. This has happened several times..."
Nunn continues by stating: "The stares you
get from people in this region simply because
of the color of your skin are absolutely tragic
and unspeakable. This encounter hurt
because my money is no different than
anyone else's but yet the way I was treated
was noticeably different."

Despite an event such as this, she is
glad to be here in Kirkland, at our school,
and credits the love of her peers and
professors as a large part of her positive
experience arriving in the Pacific Northwest.
She has allowed God to "process her" the
"way He [desires]", and believes "Christians
are the one's who will make a difference in
society by loving people as Jesus instructs
us to do". Once that is achieved, Nunn says
the "world will know us by our fruits and
follow this perfect example of love." It is
through God's love, and God's love manifest
in others around her, that Nunn has experi-
enced true acceptance and peace.

Another student shares a rather
different, but nonetheless important,
perspective on racial intolerance.

Tania Fleming, another of Northwest's
African American students, has never
experienced racial intolerance to the degree
of Barbara Nunn, yet Flemming still notes the
ignorant bliss of her peers. Flemming, having
grown up in a demographically "homog-
enous" Utah city, is concerned about racial
intolerance and notes last December's
French riots, where a considerable factor was
the issue of racism and the media's portrayal
of racial diversity, as an example of present
day civil unrest due to this pressing issue.

With these stories and perspectives in
mind and heart, perhaps we as a Christian
community, as a nation, and as a people, may
learn to better love one another—for we are
all of one, loving Creator.

"Man must *evolve* for **all** human
conflict a method which rejects
revenge, aggression and
retaliation. The FOUNDATION of such
a *method* is **love.**"

Martin Luther King Jr.

Around the town with Amy: featuring coffee shops

Amy Weber
Campus Life Editor

It is Friday night and the Aerie is closed. You know you are not going to get any homework done tonight, so what can you do; where can you go? Many Northwest University students are unaware of the vast amount of local hot spots, engaging activities, and secret get-aways that surround the infamous NU bubble. This is where your trusty Talon Journal comes in. Here in this column, you will find your fellow students' favorite hangouts as well as little known local treasures.

This month's focus: Cafés and Coffeehouses. "Why not wait until midterms or finals week to feature such a caffeinated setting?" you may be asking. Well the way we see it, you'd probably rather find your new favorite hangout before the stress sets in too deeply. The cafés we feature this month are as follows: Triple J Café, Victor's Coffee Company, Sassy Teahouse & Boutique, The Lyon's Den, B & O Espresso, and the University Village Starbucks.

In our very own city of Kirkland, we have the downtown favorite, The Triple J Café. It featuring excellent coffee (and my personal favorite: chai tea), a luscious breakfast, lunch, and dinner menu, paintings by local artists, and an excellent set-up for studying or visiting with any size group of friends. Thanks to its convenient location, Triple J's provides an excellent escape from the hustle and bustle of college



life. Business Hours: Mon-Thu 6am-11pm, Fri-Sat 6am-12am, Sun 6am-10pm. More information is available at <http://www.triplejcafe.com/>
Just a short drive east to

Redmond, lies the inventively inspiring Victor's Coffeehouse. For those of you who take your coffee seriously or appreciate a more classic artistic coffeehouse, Victor's is your new favorite hangout. Located only a few blocks from the Redmond Towne Center mall, Victor's is a coffee-lover's haven. Business Hours: Sun-Mon 6am-6pm, Tue-Thu 6am-8pm, Fri-Sat 6am-11pm. For reviews and more, try: [http://seattle.citysearch.com/review/10758567/editorial/](http://seattle.citysearch.com/review/10758567/editorial/?cslink=cs_profile_standalone_review)

Should you be in the mood for tea time (I know I said our feature is coffeehouses, but this place is too sweet to pass up), Sassy Teahouse and Boutique is a rare treat tucked away in the heart of Redmond. Their menu boasts of succulent salads, scones, quiches, and a variety of scrumptious teas. Their quaint décor and picturesque tea trays provide a great backdrop for those ladies (and very secure gentlemen) who appreciate the British cure-all cup of tea. Business Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 11am-4pm. To get tea-time information visit: <http://www.sassyhouse.com/>

Further north, hides the best kept secret of the Eastside: The Lyon's Den. A creative and comfortable setting complete with couches, a fireplace, gaming room (for those X-box fanatics), foosball table, board games, books, wireless internet, and so much more, the Lyon's Den caters to all ages. They serve delicious coffee, the ever popular bubble tea, and a dessert menu to make your mouth water. In addition, they also serve lunch and soups for you to enjoy as you relax with your friends or even catch up on all that reading you've been meaning to do. Owned and operated by local Christians, the Lyon's Den hosts a stage for budding musicians to display their talents as well.

Business Hours: Mon-Thu 6am-10:30pm, Fri 6am-12am, Sat 7am-12am, Sunday closed. Check them out at <http://www.the-lyonsden.com/index.htm>

Across the 520 Bridge and over to Capitol Hill resides one of Seattle most cherished prizes, B & O Espresso. A haven for the taste buds, B & O features an extensive selection of delectable desserts, a brunch, lunch, and dinner menu to meet the most demanding stomachs, and one of the best cups of coffee in Seattle. If you are looking for a great place for a late night excursion or an afternoon escape, look no

further. This popular café provides both a relaxed and classy atmosphere, so you can come dressed casual or in your party best. Business Hours: Mon-Thu 7am-12am, Fri 8am-1am, Sat 7am-1am, Sun 8am-12am. See reviews and more at <http://seattle.citysearch.com/profile/10772928/>

You may wonder why we are featuring a Starbucks, but as a multitude of college student around the Sound know, this particular location does something few others do: they stay open 24 hours a day. Come to one of the most popular Starbucks in the entire Seattle area and fraternize with students from the University of Washington, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle University, and many other schools. When it is

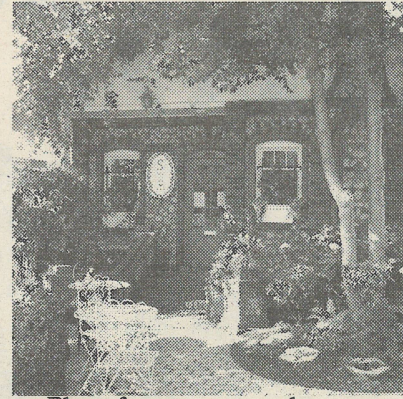


Photo from www.sassyhouse.com

three in the morning and you need that extra latte or Frappuccino to get you through your Christian Thought study guide or that paper due at 8am, the University Village Starbucks is there for you. Business Hours: open 24 hours!

If you have a favorite hangout or activity you would like to share with your fellow students, email Campus Life editor Amy Weber at amy.weber@northwestu.edu.

Northwest students return from semester in China

Princess DeCicco
Staff Reporter

They're back! Absent from the Northwest University campus last semester, two of NU's finest, Alisha Hopkins and Melissa Steinert, spent the last five months studying abroad in Xaimen, China. A major trade port in eastern China, Xaimen is just across the water from Taiwan. The Talon had the privilege and opportunity to interview Alisha Hopkins about her experience studying abroad.

Talon: What challenges or difficulties did you face and how did you overcome them?

Alisha: "Some of the challenges I faced were learning to understand how the Chinese view God and spirituality. Many of them do know God, but there are more who don't, and as foreigners we were not allowed to preach to the Chinese. If we were asked questions about our faith we could answer [them] and God blessed those opportunities. This was difficult sometimes because at various places in China the government is very lenient and other places it is stricter. Where we lived the government is more lenient but it was still weird to have to think about not being able to talk about our faith openly. Other challenges include missing my family a whole stinkin lot!"

Talon: What was the most valuable lesson you learned?

Alisha: "I learned two extremely valuable lessons. For much of the trip I felt dry and far from God. Not that I was going to deny my faith, but just really not sure if He was close by. I would sit outside under a tree and just think and try to pray. Sometimes it was so hard. But after awhile I began to hear God say to just "believe I'm here and trust me." This was nothing



extremely profound but it was what I needed to hear. Even when life is lonely and feels like crap, God asks me to trust in Him because He is there and I can rest in that.

The other really cool thing that was constantly at the forefront of my mind and would bring me to tears sometimes was how beautiful the Chinese are. There, I was, on the other side of the world, living with people that are so different from me. Still God created them and He loves them even if they don't know Him. I am really not that different from them. We were all made by the same person. That blew me away when I would just watch the Chinese ride their bikes or when fishermen would come on to the beach in the early morning to sell their catch. God made these people and He cares about them just as much as Americans. I remind myself of that here too and it really changes your perspective on creation."

Talon: What was your favorite part about studying abroad?

Alisha: "My favorite thing about living in China was learning and speaking the language. Growing up in the United States, I always had a stereotype about the Chinese, that they were rude and harsh, and I think that I thought this because of the way their language sounds. In China I had the opportunity to learn some Mandarin Chinese and once you start to learn some of the language it sounds so beautiful, almost like a song. This is because Mandarin is a tonal language. Also, I realized how wrong my judgment was about the Chinese. They are extremely polite and friendly and so welcoming. Living there and learning the



Photo compliments of Alisha Hopkins

Part of Hopkins' cultural experience was visiting many historical attractions such as the Terra-cotta Warriors in Xi'an, China.

language has changed my idea of a people group that God created and that is amazing."

Talon: Rate and describe the study abroad program as a whole. What would you tell a student who was interested in studying abroad through NU?

Alisha: "On a scale of 1-10 the program itself was about a 7-8. In this number I am solely rating the program and not the country or entire experience of living in China. Going there to study was the best thing I have ever done. Living in a new country and culture for five months really opened my eyes to other people of the world. Some things about the program that I did not like were the massive amount of homework we were assigned the first month. I was expecting to go there and

really immerse myself in the culture, instead I felt like I was in my room studying all the time (that was the first month). Still, looking back I am glad we learned and studied what we did because it challenged me. I just wish it hadn't been so rigorous at the beginning and more evenly dispersed throughout the semester. What I would tell a student who is interested in studying abroad is to go for it! You won't regret seeing another part of the world and learning about another culture, I think that that is something God wants people to do. China studies program specifically was awesome because we got to see the GREAT WALL of CHINA!"

If you are interested in studying abroad, please contact your advisor for more information.



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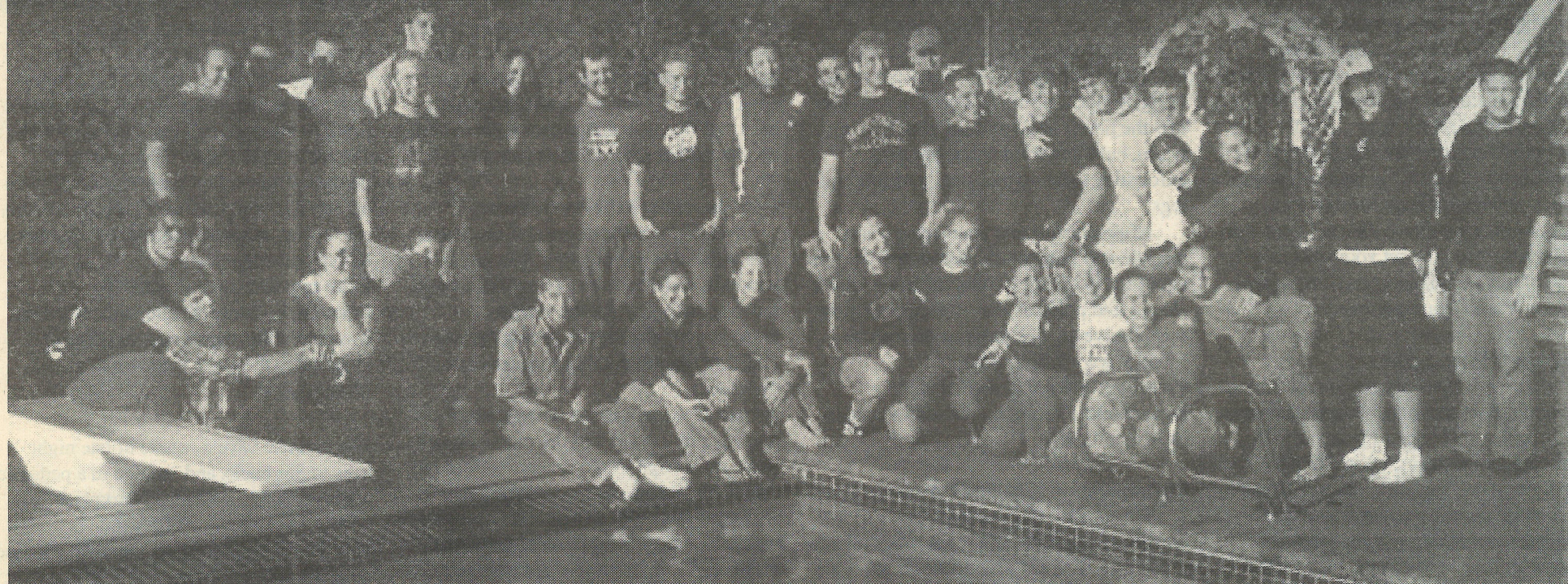
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Narnia: more than just a magical wardrobe

Amy Weber

Campus Life Editor

For anyone who hasn't heard the buzz, C.S. Lewis is officially in style. After dominating the box-office and claiming the role of "number one movie in America" this December, the blockbuster adaptation of Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* continues as a box-office staple and America has returned to the bookstore to learn more about Lewis and his magical kingdom. However, for many at Northwest University, the impressive and numerous works are quite familiar. With a course on the literature of Lewis, as well as NU's own C.S. Lewis

society, students have access to all things Lewis.

In order to create some clarity of all the excitement over the author, *The Talon* quizzed Lewis aficionado

and member of NU's Lewis society, Derrick Schumacher, for a few of his thoughts and further insights.

Talon: What do you think are the most important facts people should know about C.S. Lewis?

Derrick: I think that his life's journey is very important. His mother's death when he was a boy had a deep impact on him. Eventually it contributed to his decision to become an atheist. In time he decided to drop atheism and went through many different beliefs becoming disillusioned with all of them. In the end he found that



only Christianity held the truth. This was no average man who believed this, but one of the most respected thinkers of the last century.

In regard to *The Chronicles of Narnia*, these books served as a chance for Lewis to "steal past those watchful dragons." In other words, the books contain the most essential elements of the Gospel in a way in which only those who have "eyes to see and ears to hear" will understand.

Talon: From your perspective, what were Lewis's most common themes?

Derrick: I really think that there are probably more than one person can remember and it really depends on the work that you are looking at. I do think the one that comes out often is exemplified in the words of Aslan, "I am telling you your story." God does not mean for us to

walk around comparing others to ourselves, that's for Pharisees, we must each walk with God as our own story of faith unfolds.

God's all-powerful, all-knowing character is often manifest as well. God isn't just "there" hovering around us like a ghost, but is orchestrating all the events of our lives as they unfold to bring us exactly where He desires. While we are never told what could have been, we can always see what has been and appreciate the beauty in that.

Lewis also shows us that what we seek in our sin is not only met and satisfied,

but superseded by what is good. We try everything but God to satisfy our longings, but when we do turn to God, we become, for the first time, truly satisfied.

Talon: What do you feel are the most undervalued aspects of Lewis's life and/or faith?

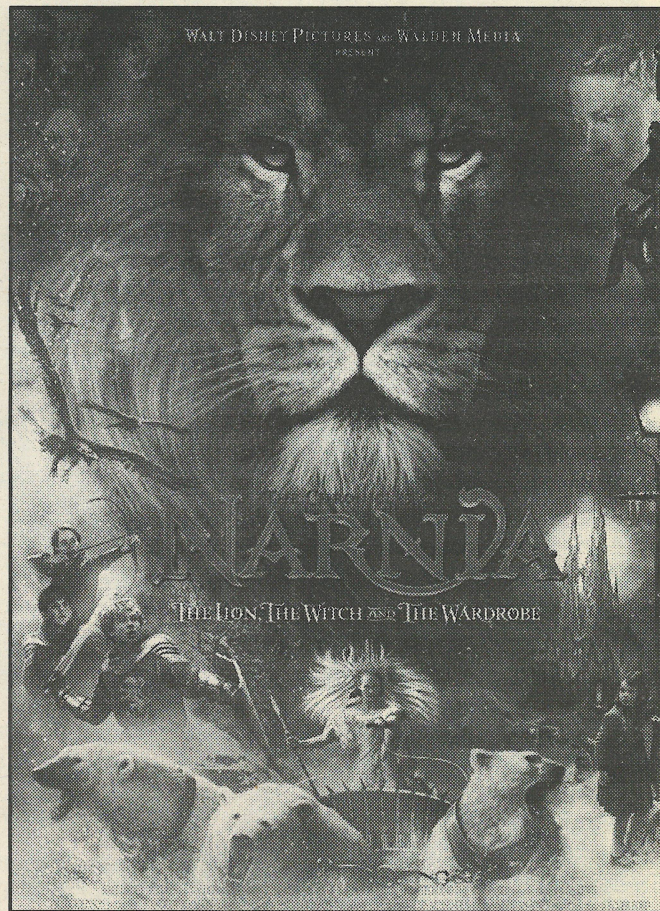
Derrick: "In the Trinity Term of 1929 I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most dejected and reluctant convert in all England" (*Surprised by Joy*, 228).

I believe that people too often forget to remember (if I may use that awkward phrase) that Lewis was once an atheist and chose Christianity after having seriously considered all other beliefs and decided they weren't fulfilling.

The friendships that Lewis had were also very important to him. One of the greatest examples of this friendship is seen in the letters he wrote to an Italian priest by the surname Calabria. They wrote back and forth (in Latin mind you) for years. When the father died Lewis wrote to his replacement. When Lewis died the father's successor even wrote to Lewis' brother Warren for a time.

Talon: What Lewis works would you recommend most to readers?

Derrick: To me, *Surprised by Joy* tells more about Lewis than any other book as it traces his path in life from childhood to his conversion to Christianity in great detail. For those wishing to have a look at his fiction, I suggest *The Screwtape Letters* and *The Chronicles of Narnia* (of which *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* is my



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favorite). In regards to books about Lewis, I have enjoyed *The Most Reluctant Convert* by David Downing the most. These are, of course, only a few and there are so many to choose from, these however, I would consider essentials.

Talon: How do you feel about the new Narnia movie? Good, bad, decent?

Derrick: The struggle that any true Lewis' fan has is accepting differing visions from what each of you read. While I imagined many things different than did Adamson (director) and I felt that a few major undertones were left out (while the family emphasis was overstated) I do believe he did a great job. The movie definitely makes an impression on you, and that is the point.

Need to relax? Pamper yourself at a local spa

Tiffany Zulkosky

Guest Writer

I am a spa junkie. Starbucks is not my lifeline and I don't often do the movie thing. So, I believe in the fine art of being pampered. From a young age, my mom taught me the importance of "lounging," an activity that is often not practiced in a college setting. For one reason, because homework, projects, exams and work often take precedence to any of the finer things in life. And secondly, because it's an expensive habit, right? Well, here's a guide to where to pamper yourself without doing too much harm to your pocketbook. Don't have time to look for an inexpensive place to get your nails done? Read on and let this serve as a mini-guide to your nearest spa experience.

InSpa in Bellevue Square –

This small spa is located on the bottom level near Nordstrom and boasts not only a wide variety of services, but has free 15 minute chair massages, when available. The "no tipping" policy allows the spa service price to stand "as is" and gives you the option of paying before your service. The people are very friendly and it's not



too difficult to walk in if you do not have an appointment. My pedicure appetite for the day was the InSpa Signature Pedicure. The nail services are not the typical

manicure, pedicure set-up. The chairs used are simple rolling chairs and the esthetician brings a black rolling footstool to you. She lifts the lid off and you soak your feet in warm, bubbling water while she uses exfoliating scrub to massage your feet and legs.

After moisturizing your feet, a warm masque and foot cozies soothe your feet for about 15-20 minutes. Then she buffs, trims, shapes and polishes your toes. Other more inexpensive service descriptions can be found at www.inspa.com.

Price tag: \$46 (all costs included)

Drawback: The chairs aren't always the most comfortable.

Fingerpaints in Kirkland Parkplace –

This one room salon provides various waxing services as well as pedicures and manicures. The walk-ins atmosphere allows

for ease of receiving the service you like. After choosing your nail color, you sit in one of three nice large massage chairs while soaking your feet in warm, bubbling water. The esthetician uses a cooling foot scrub to cleanse your feet, followed by a sweet smelling lotion and a mini-foot massage. She buffs, trims, and shapes your toes, followed by the polish.

Price tag: \$15 (cash only, tip not included)

Drawback: Be careful, each service may appear inexpensive (such as choosing to get a French pedicure, paraffin treatment, etc.), but the little things can begin to add up. And who carries cash anymore??

Gene Juarez in Bellevue Galleria –

Walking into the doors of Gene Juarez was somewhat intimidating. The glass windows and doors were more like a vault into a secret world for the wealthy. However, my experience getting the Express Pedicure was welcoming to my weary and tired feet.

As part of a four-person party, the spa hostess led us back into the manicure and pedicure portion of the spa. She offered us a choice of iced lemon water or hot tea.

Once we decided what color of toes we would like to have for the next couple of weeks, we were led into a pedicure suite

where the four of us could enjoy each other's company while we were pampered. The music was soft and relaxing as was the beautiful ornately decorated rooms. The chairs weren't massage (bummer I know), and the foot soak wasn't in a bubbling jet basin attached to the bottom of a chair. Rather, it was a simple mixing bowl. The big, mechanical, and doctor like chair moved up and down depending on what the esthetician was going to do.

After a relaxing, bubble bath of a foot soak, the esthetician used a citrus scented scrub to massage into my feet followed by a similar scented lotion. Then she used a pumice scrubber, upon my request, to take off any dry skin. Like every other pedicure, she buffed, trimmed and shaped my nails before polishing them.

Price tag: \$35 (tip not included)

Drawback: While the ambiance of the spa was incredible, the service was almost identical to the one I received at Fingerpaints.

The verdict: Save a couple of late night trips to Starbucks and indulge in a pedicure at Fingerpaints in Kirkland Parkplace. You will be surprised how a little time to yourself, being pampered, can help with the wild amounts of stress.

Nickle Creek is pure gold

Rebekah Proctor
Staff Reporter

Nickle Creek's new CD, "Why Should the Fire Die?" pumps with greater intensity and improved musicianship and song-writing. Droning harmonies weave in and out of the mandolin's rhythmic strokes, the fiddling dance of the violin, and the guitar's tasteful foundation. Lyrics scream the honest condition of the human heart that battles through life, yet pose behind the poetic prose of Chris Thile and siblings Sean and Sara Watkins. Their instrumental genius captivates listeners with its unique sound and creativity.

Michael McCall from the *Nashville Scene* writes, "From the beautiful rendering of the title song to the thunderous way they weave and stomp through rockers like 'When in Rome' to the layered textures of 'Jealous of the Moon,' they show their strengths as a cohesive unit rather than as talented individualists."

Sprinkled throughout the landscape of original songs on their new CD, are some more traditional bluegrass songs. Indeed, all three band members grew up playing and hearing "old-timey" bluegrass music and recognize this style as home base. These southern California musicians started playing



bluegrass together in 1989 at various festivals and concerts.

In the collaboration of ideas and with a pure desire to challenge themselves, Nickel

Creek steps outside those traditional bounds to experiment with mixing styles in "Why Should the Fire Die?" Chris Thile explains, "If we're going to blend genres, we'd like it to be genre soup, where you can't see what's in it— as opposed to genre stew, where everything is very defined."

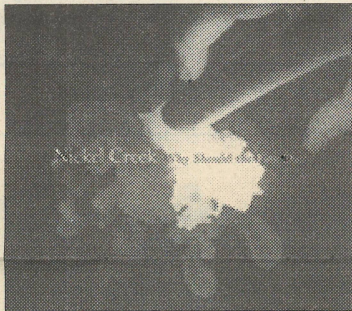
This creativity and courage has revived the appeal of bluegrass for young and old alike. *Time Magazine* wrote, "To hear Nickel Creek is to hear the vibrant reinvention of a classic form." Their first two projects "Nickel Creek" from 2000 and "This Side" from 2002 both went gold in sales.

"Why Should the Fire Die?" combines Celtic, rock, jazz, blues, bluegrass and eclectic styles that span fourteen songs, producing an unforgettable sound that moves the soul. Arguably, one of their most popular songs on the album, "When in Rome," also has a dynamic music video

that airs on the Country Music Television channel. Although released in mid August, this CD continues to sell and will make a great gift for any music lover.



www.nicklecreek.com



www.nicklecreek.com

End of the Spear is piercing

Kortney Thoma
Editor in Chief

Christian and secular critics alike are all talking about *The End of the Spear*: a movie based on the true story of five missionaries in Ecuador who are murdered by the violent Waodani tribe. After their deaths, their wives and children find themselves face to face with two Waodani women and manage to work their way into the Waodani tribe. As the missionary wives begin to minister through medicine to the natives, they begin gaining ground from their non-violent platform.

But *End of the Spear* does much more than just tell the story of five missionary families—it raises some important questions about missions work. As Nate Saint, the leading missionary to the native tribe, prepares to leave home and venture into the jungle, his son, Steve, asks his father, if in danger, would he shoot the Waodani. Nate replies, "Son, we can't shoot the Waodani. They're not ready for heaven, but we are." This is perhaps the most controversial moment in the film because it forces the viewer to consider the act of martyrdom and the effects it has on those left behind. Should missionaries use force if in danger?

End of the Spear isn't preachy though. In fact, Jesus isn't mentioned once,



though he is implied and God is mentioned in Waodani tribal terms. Though this is one of the most highly commended aspects of the film, it is also another highly contested.

Many critics are arguing that because the film does not go in depth with the life changes of the Waodani tribe, there is consequently little character development and not enough connection to the purpose of why these missionaries were there: the love of God.

I agree with the character development arguments and I feel that the change in beliefs was not adequately portrayed, but it was still a movie worth seeing. Even if you don't like the characters or feel like the ending was rushed, you will still leave with a smile on your face after seeing the original documentary clips during the credits. Mincayani, the main Waodani character, leaves the jungle and visits an American grocery store—I promise you will laugh.

But no matter where you fall—on the hate, love it, or mildly interested side—this movie will undoubtedly leave you thinking about Christ's sacrifice and why we are called to tell the nations about His love.

The Half-Blood Prince:

J.K. Rowling's latest installment of Harry Potter leaves readers anticipating the next

Amber Coxen
Staff Reporter

The darkest Harry Potter book yet, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* brings many changes to the world J.K. Rowling has created. The opening of the book makes clear that things are not going well in the battle against Voldemort when it is announced to the Prime Minister that Fudge is no longer the Minister of Magic. Though Fudge was incompetent, the new minister of magic may be too controlling. Things look grim in the magical world, and even the muggles are worried.

But even in the midst of the darkness Rowling inserts humor. Dumbledore comes to pick Harry up from the Durselys', and let's just say that it will be quite some time before Harry's relatives forget his visit. Perhaps they will even learn some manners. Harry and Dumbledore then leave to pick up a new teacher. However, he does not come to fill the cursed Defense Against the Dark Arts post. Instead, he takes on the role of Potions Master and creates a club for his "best" or favorite students. Of course Harry falls into this category.

Meanwhile Snape finally realizes his dream of being Defense Against the Dark Arts master. Harry thus has a chance of passing Potions, especially after he enlists the help of the mysterious Half-Blood Prince.

The Half-Blood Prince used to own Harry's Potions book, and was clearly very accomplished at the subject. Harry uses his notes to excel in this class. Hermione, however, doubts the Prince's intentions. The Half-Blood Prince, while lending his name to the title of the book, is really only a minor part of the plot as Christy Risser-Milne of Nimble Spirit points out. But if he is as insignificant as he seems, why did Rowling name the book after him? I think it is likely that this will prove significant in book seven.

The identity of the Half-Blood Prince is not the only mystery at Hogwarts this year. Harry begins meeting with Dumbledore and learns that there is more to the prophecy about his life than he first thought. Also, a sinister plot involving Draco Malfoy and perhaps even Snape leads to the shocking climax of this



novel. Someone close to Harry dies. Harry's world will never be the same again after this year. However, Rowling leaves room for hope in the end.

Despite all of the sinister developments in his life, Harry and his friends also continue to lead their lives. Ron becomes involved with Lavender Brown (mostly to get back at Hermione, it seems). Harry acquires a female stalker who uses a love potion to try and make Harry love her. However, Ron takes it by mistake—hilarity ensues—and Harry eventually finds real love at the end. Rowling does an excellent job of projecting Harry and his friends as real teenagers, dealing with the same

problems that everyone else deals with at that age, such as love, school, and even the magical equivalent of driver's E.D. (apparition lessons). Her detail and insight into the teenage condition makes her characters more real than before.

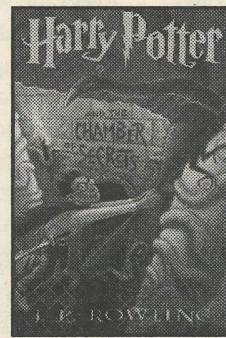
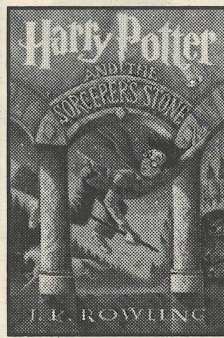
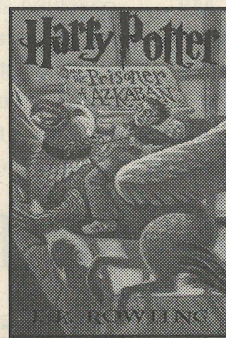
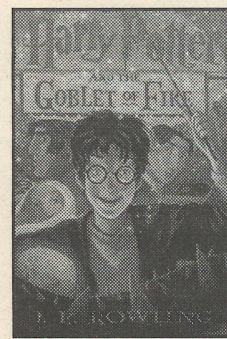
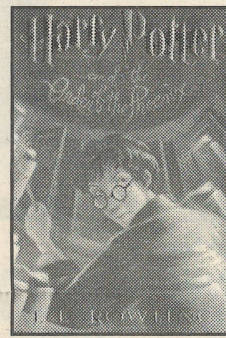
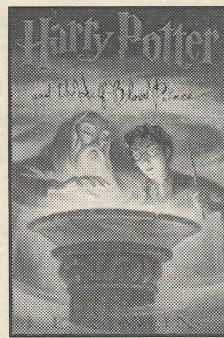
This novel has led to much speculation as to

Rowling's ultimate goal. The ending leaves many possibilities for the overall message of the series. Many have doubts as to whether Rowling's books are appropriate reading for

Christians. After this book, readers begin to see more clearly some of her possible intentions, and at least one theory is that Rowling is going for a Christian allegory. Risser-Milne agrees that despite Rowling's protestations that the book is not spiritual, a belief-system begins to emerge. In

any case, judgement as to the religious content, or lack thereof, of her novels should be reserved until the series has ended.

Rowling's amazing attention to detail and incredible writing style is present as always. Her plot development shows how talented she really is. While little has been resolved in this book, and the ambiguities abound, one thing is clear: book seven cannot come soon enough. Once again Rowling has outdone herself.



Seahawks head to Detroit for their first Super Bowl

Rocky Davis
Sports Editor

On Sunday January 22, the Seattle Seahawks had an unlikely victory against the Carolina Panthers with a final score of 34-13. Shaun Alexander rushed for 132 yards and made two touchdowns without showing any symptoms from the concussion he gained in their previous game. On top of that, Matt Hasselbeck contributed a pair of touchdowns by way of streamline passes.

The Panthers fought hard with Steve Smith, who in the beginning of the game hindered the Seahawks; however, Smith was neutralized in the 2nd quarter by the Seahawk's defense which most likely contributed to their victory.

This win gave the Hawks a key to the Super Bowl gates in Detroit, Michigan.



They will be playing the Pittsburgh Steelers on February 5, with tickets averaging \$2528.75.

Looking back at their previous game on

January 14th against the Washington Redskins, the Hawks unfortunately lost some of their players due to injuries. At the end of the first quarter, Alexander was tackled and acquired a concussion. Andre Dyson had a right ankle injury, and Darrell Jackson injured his back. Even still, the Seahawks managed to win with a final score of 20-10 despite the absences of a few key players.

This season is surely a season of records: it is the second time the Seahawks have played in a title game and their first

time ever at the Super Bowl. The last time the Hawks played for a title was against the LA Raiders in the 1984 AFC Championship game, yet they there were sadly disappointed by a 30-14 loss. But today, fans line the gates of the Seahawks' facility with anticipation of another record: a Super Bowl win. This is undoubtedly the Seahawks' most successful season with a regular season record of 13-3 and a post-season record of 3-0 (one game being a bye).

The Seahawks were created in 1976, yet were unable to play their first game when the team's owner, Lloyd W. Nordstrom, died from a heart attack on January 20th. Nordstrom had laid out a brand new NFL team that he didn't even get to see play on the field. The Hawks, led by Coach Jack Patera, moved on to their first game later that year in September.

Now, 30 years later, Mike Holmgren is leading the Hawks to the Super Bowl after coaching the Hawks for seven years. The

big question, however, is if Mike Holmgren can lead the Hawks to victory. He did it with the Green Bay Packers in 1996 and 1997 and became the fifth head coach in league history to take two teams to the big game. So is the third time really a charm?

Experts say that the victory could go either way, yet all agree that this will be a close game.

The Steelers, coached by Bill Cowher, have gone to the Super Bowl a total of five times and won four of the five. They won this season's AFC title against the Denver Broncos with a final score of 34-17.

The Seahawks seem to be a worthy opponent, but can they compete with the Steelers' Super Bowl experience? And can the Steelers stare down the Hawks' dogged defensive line? Tune in Sunday at 3:00 pm and join the rest of Seattle in Seahawk history.

Men's basketball is a winning team on and off the court

Dave Hall
Features Editor

"Northwest University can be proud of the way it is represented by the basketball team," says the men's head coach, John Van Dyke. Van Dyke is talking about the image that the players and personnel put forth at every game and every play. Where many teams wouldn't take the time to tidy up a locker room, Van Dyke and the Eagles do so knowing that the opposing team notices. "We're a Christian team," Van Dyke says. "Opponents see our faces first and our character second." This is seen both on and off the court such as when traveling on the road, the Eagles clean up their locker room, throwing away trash and leaving it in a presentable manner.

When it comes to recruiting for the team, Van Dyke looks for certain players that will be able to contribute to the team and to the school. "God calls people here to play basketball," Van Dyke says. "My job is to find those players." Grant Enloe and Aaron Sawyer, team captains, exhibit the character that Van Dyke talks about. "These two lead the team," says Van Dyke.

The Eagles, thus far in their season,



are 14-5, having only lost three conference games, a record that Van Dyke is proud of. "We work hard, and we play harder," says Van Dyke. With

practices Monday through Thursday and games on Friday and Saturday, the Eagles do work hard and the games prove that. Being a self-proclaimed "positive-demanding" coach, Van Dyke demands good execution of plays, a character that is willing to work and learn, and attitude of humility. When asked if winning is the most important aspect, Van Dyke replies adamantly, "No. I tell my players that success is reaching your own potential." With that in mind, Northwest can be proud of the Eagles and the hard work that they put forth.

An essential part of the Eagles is the coaching staff. "We have a lot of great people in our program," Van Dyke says. With assistant coaches Al Kawashima and Adam Swinyard, Van Dyke has a staff that motivates the players and challenges them. But let's not forget a crucial element to the

Eagles: the fans.

"Our gym isn't that big," Van Dyke says. "But when we have the students fill the stands and cheer, it definitely helps." The fans for any sport are an important aspect and Northwest's students are a large

factor in the Eagle's play. To this Van Dyke says, "We truly appreciate all the support we get from the fans."

From the fans to the character of the players, Northwest University has a team to be proud of.

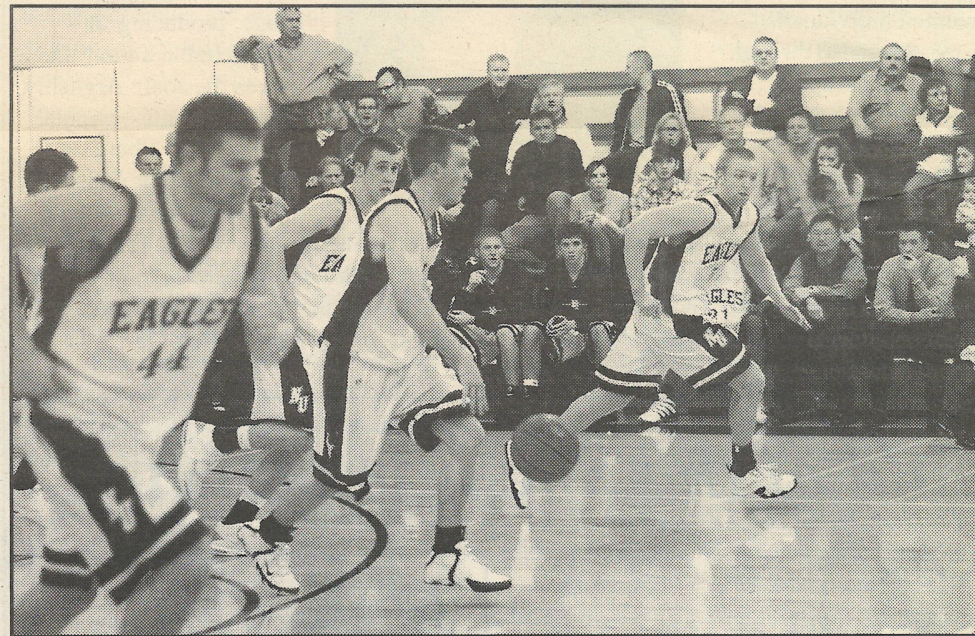


Photo By Austin Benneker

The Eagles get ready for another great play as they move up the court with Chris Burnett in possession of the ball. The Eagles beat the Oregon Institute of Technology 79-65.

New intramurals for spring

Rocky Davis
Sports Editor

Calling all Northwest University Students short and tall, the Intramurals Coordinator, Bethany Strandwitz, needs your skills. Northwest University's spring intramurals are coming up fast.

The new intramurals for this semester are: Women's Basketball, Dorm League Basketball, Dodge Ball, and of course co-ed Volleyball. Unfortunately, Dodge ball and co-ed Volleyball dates are to be announced, but don't get disappointed yet: let Strandwitz know you're interested and prepare yourself for some sweaty fun!

Basketball, however, is in full swing. Basketball intramurals will occur on Tuesday and Thursday nights at different times. For the ladies it is at 8:30 pm and for the guys at 9:30 pm.

According to Bethany Strandwitz and Tatiana Troutman, there are also a few



bonuses for participating. Strandwitz said, "It's where a lot of friendships are made," and Troutman concurred, saying, "It's fun and a good way to sweat

and be healthy!"

Strandwitz encourages men to come cheer the women on or run the clock or scoreboard. Doing this won't get your floor any special points, but it will give the women encouragement. Likewise, ladies are encouraged to cheer their hearts out for their brother floors.

Strandwitz assures students that playing intramurals has its perks and a special surprise for this season's champs, so get out, make some friends, and play some ball in this springs intramurals.

Do you have a favorite sport?
A favorite team?
Then *The Talon* needs you!

If you are interested in writing for the sports section, please contact us at:
talon@northwestu.edu