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Pursuit and Chapel  
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Northwest's own  
Lenae Nofziger

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NU seniors:  
the Talon asks for  
your submissions

# The Talon Journal

April 4, 2007

A student publication of Northwest University

Vol. 5, Ed. 6

## NU hosts Japanese tradition: Theatre Nohgaku

By Rebekah Proctor  
Staff Reporter

Northwest University's Drama Department and the Pacific Rim Center for Cross-Cultural Studies join together to host Theatre Nohgaku, an international performance troupe dedicated to presenting the traditional Japanese dramatic art form, Noh.

Theatre Nohgaku's performance will be at Northwest's Millard Hall at 7 o'clock tonight.

This ancient art form dates back to the 14th century and is the oldest continuously performed stage art in the world. The Japanese stage art of Noh involves unique masks, stylized dance, chant, poetic text, music, elaborate costumes, a chorus and instrumental ensemble.

Theatre Nohgaku's performance at Northwest will consist of part lecture and part demonstration.

Dr. Darrell Hobson and Professor Lisa Peretti have been collaborating and are excited about hosting such a cultural event and educational outreach at Northwest University.

"It will be the first time that we have hosted a purely cross-cultural artistic event on the NU campus," said Peretti.

This cooperative effort between the Drama department and the Pacific Rim Center for Cross-Cultural Studies comes at an opportune time as seemingly more



international students attend Northwest University.

Based out of Northwest University, the Pacific Rim Center for Cross-Cultural Studies organizes and promotes the ESL program, sponsors study trips to Asia and hosts groups of students from Japan here on campus.

Theatre Nohgaku will expose students to a new art form, perhaps a step toward giving what many students want: an expanded arts program at Northwest.

According to Hobson, Northwest University began offering classes like painting, drawing and photography only within the last two years. Bringing in diverse art forms may even help in the pursuit of developing larger art department.

Hobson added that hosting Theatre Nohgaku will be "a good opportunity for students to see art forms and theatre as a way of telling stories connected to a larger

Japanese tradition."

Theatre Nohgaku, founded by Richard Emmert, consists of professional Japanese and North American actors, dedicated to "bringing the theater of Noh to Western audiences."

This non-profit organization desires to educate and demonstrate a beautiful and powerful art form so that people may appreciate the creativity and the tradition of Noh along with Japanese culture.

Their workshops and public lecture-demonstrations provide interactive training in the basic stance of Noh, the sliding foot walk and the danced sections of Noh plays.

They also offer music workshops for learning the Noh chant, and the Noh orchestra of shoulder drum, hip drum, taiko and flute.

Additionally, during their tour, three  
... Noh continued on page 2

### Campus news

- April 6  
University Closed (Good Friday)
- April 8  
Easter
- April 9-13  
Spring Art Week
- April 10  
Music Recital 7 p.m.
- April 12  
Spring Drama Production  
7 p.m.
- April 13  
Spring Drama Production  
7 p.m.
- Jazz Concert 7:30 p.m.
- April 14  
Spring Drama Production  
7 p.m.
- April 18  
Honors and Awards Chapel
- April 27  
Baccalaureate Chapel  
10:30 a.m.
- April 30- May 4 Final Exams

### NU Track Schedule

- April 7  
Vernacchia Team Classic  
Bellingham (all day)
- April 14  
Spike Art. Invitational (men)  
Ellensburg (all day)
- April 20-21  
Oregon Invitational  
Eugene, Ore. (all day)
- April 21  
Warner Pacific Mini (women)  
Portland, Ore. (all day)
- April 27  
WWU Twilight Open  
Bellingham (all day)
- May 11-12  
Cascade Conf. Championships  
LaGrande, Ore. (all day)
- May 23  
NAIA Nationals  
Fresno, Calif. (all day)

## Track team asks for more student support

By Rebekah Proctor  
Staff Reporter

Even with a relatively new program and three different coaches in four years, Northwest University's track team continues to improve and build as a team.

Currently, track athletes are working hard through the middle of their season, specifically towards the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) nationals on May 23.

In his first year as head coach, Preston Brashers says that he's excited about where the team is at.

"This is a good group of people that are fun to work with," said Brashers.

There are only six more track meets before conference playoffs in April and the team believes that more student support would help them push through.

"Just like any other sport, when people cheer you on, it helps," said senior Casey Bostock. Bostock runs the 100, 200, 4x100 and 4x4.

Unfortunately, without a home track and field, fans must drive to the University of Washington or as far north as Edmonds and Bellingham. The team also must go off



Photo courtesy of Kjerstein Bailey  
Alisha Baldwin and Katie Campbell in the 4x4.

campus daily to practice at Kirkland's Lake Washington High School.

However, students can show their support in other ways.

"Simply keeping track of what's going on lets the team know that you care," shared Brashers.

Track involves much more than running in circles, throwing a ball or jumping. It challenges the whole person: spiritually, mentally and physically.

"If people tried running as much as we do, maybe they would appreciate it more," said runner Amy Simon.

"when people cheer,  
it helps"

Members of the team, like Simon, have learned the importance of support.

"Track, like life, isn't about you, about breaking goals, it's about being there for the team," said sophomore Alex Croutworst.

Croutworst, a long distance runner, competes in the 1,500, 3,000 and 5k. He added that track has taught him that he "can't base dedication off of feelings, results don't come quickly and a person must work for things."

Track athletes also appreciate their

...Track continued on page 2

## Check out these campus announcements

**NU seniors:  
We want to hear from you!**

*The Talon Journal asks for your reflections, comments and quotes:*

*-Your time spent at Northwest*

*University*

**What professor did you get to know the most?**

**What is your favorite memory here?**

**What was the hardest lesson you had to learn?**

*-Plans after graduation*

**Are you going to Grad school?**

**Are you going to travel?**

**Do you already have a job lined up?**

**Don't forget:**

**Spring Art Week begins April 9**  
*If you really enjoy a particular photo or art piece, please contact the Talon so that we may get in touch with the artist!*

*~We want to publish Eagle talent~*

### ... Noh continued

professional Japanese Noh musicians will accompany the group to play at their performances and demonstrations.

University of Puget Sound will host Theatre Nohgaku March 29 through April 6 while the group briefly tours the area to perform and offer workshops at various universities, community colleges and other venues.

"Japanese Noh theater is part of the drama department's instruction in theatre history and world theatre studies. We want to continue our good relationship with Japan, Japanese culture and language, and mostly our Japanese students. The drama department has found a special way to encourage this," said Perretti.

*Japanese Noh performance at Millard Hall at 7 p.m. admission \$2.00*

### ...Track continued

coach's support, experience and work ethic.

"Our coach will actually run with us at times. He's really supportive. And he pushes us," shared Bostock.

Before Brashers became head coach of the track program, he was the assistant coach last year and a 2005 UW graduate, who ran long-distance events while he attended school.

"Hard work goes a long way, it's not just the person with the most talent that will do well. It's the person who works the hardest," said Brashers.

Kjerstein Bailey, a senior and long distance runner, competes in the 5k, 10k and marathon. Recently, she qualified for the women's marathon in the upcoming NAIA nationals held in Fresno, Calif.

"It's exciting to see what people are made of. You never know what's going to happen until the end," said Bailey.

## Opinion

### Circulating thoughts beyond the bubble

**By Kate Dartnall**  
*Editor in Chief*

Like a good little Northwest girl, I go to chapel.

My method? Walking. In fact, it's my post Sociology walk from Fee Hall.

As I reach the parking lot "T", I often consider this thought: if I get hit by a car, would I be exempt from chapel?

Monday, Wednesday and Friday I am challenged by the hour that awaits me.

I always sit in right column, four rows from the back, closest to the middle aisle. There, I receive a full play by play of the audiences' quirks, a lovely glare on the speaker's forehead and overpriced tickets to musical performance.

In those 60 minutes, I ask, "What is God trying to teach us here, through this person, by this message, from these words, in these songs?"

Hi my name is Kate, and I'm a skeptic. Yes, I evaluate the lyrics of our worship, I

consider the words of whomever that's speaking and I have little chat with God about it.

I can't turn it off. My challenge is inevitably, my own heart.

When Pastor Phil spoke about taming the tongue, I realized that instead of whipping the taste buds that carry our words, it's the heart that needs training.

I feel so deeply that we, as a community, simply don't "get it".

How can I sing worship songs like "I Surrender All", when I know very well, I'm not surrendering anything? How can we dig deep, when I can barely pay my tuition and rent? We aren't suffering in Kirkland: in our cars, in our clothes, in our shelter or in our meals, are we?

Our tongue just regurgitates what our heart is pumping.

What do we circulate? Is it cynicism? Is it pride? Bitterness? Is it love, really?

I am so passionately displeased with the people that have abused Christ's name with religion and America's agenda. In fact, my hands want to leave my body just to go

fix injustices, illuminate the misconceptions of who God is and join the hands of others working for the kingdom.

Has my skepticism and passion clogged my ability to learn? Will I miss it?

Just because I'm here, at this point in my faith and in my life, it doesn't mean everyone else is.

"Everyone is trying to get it," my friend Kristin Coppersmith said. She added that if we're all trying to figure it out, then judging the intention behind people's actions is a waste of time.

We're together in our questions. So, what does "getting it" entail?

We need to adapt to a life of obedience. Instead of gold-starring ourselves when we do something that appears Christ-like, we need to be humble and recognize that our little "deeds" aren't enough.

We should adapt to saying "yes" to God so much, that we're thankful for yet, another opportunity to serve for the kingdom's sake.

Getting it, is participating in God's agenda.

There is a whole world out there that needs to really know God, not a religion. And yet, there is a whole campus that needs to really know God, not a religion.

Our hearts need take a little road trip, beyond ourselves.

Chapel happens. And so does God. He can work in any situation. Even in scheduled reflection times, in sappy lyrics, in a misunderstood speaker and especially, in a misguided heart.

I don't really want to get run over. I don't even like the taste of skepticism. I just want to understand God's character, so that, I may someday be worthy of the gospel.

I'm simply trying to get it.

*\*Student opinion submissions do not necessarily reflect the views of the Talon Journal*  
**Want to share your opinion?**  
Please email: talon@northwestu.edu

What do  
**you think**  
about  
**chapel?**

*Next month: a deeper look into chapel policy and procedures...*

### Editorial Staff



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## The Talon Journal

The Talon Journal is a student publication. We are a vehicle for student voices, 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 outside the Pecota Student Center. <http://eagle.northwestu.edu/talon>

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## Pursuit: Students attend for credit, prayer and worship

By Daren Fickel  
Staff Reporter

It is a typical Monday evening at Northwest University.

From 9 to 9:30 p.m. the Northwest prayer team meets and begins to pray for the students on campus. Students of every major, ethnicity and age begin to assemble in Butterfield Chapel.

The worship team ascends the stage, picks up their instruments and begins to play. The excitement begins to grow. It's Pursuit time.

What makes Pursuit so popular for students?

If students attend a Pursuit service, they can receive one chapel attendance credit. Students will "fail" chapel if they miss more than six chapel services.

This is very important for students who miss at least one chapel service during the week and need to receive a "passing" mark.

Others, however, come simply for their enjoyment of Pursuit.

Whitney Guckert, 18, a psychology major, stated that worship during Pursuit gave an atmosphere of coming together.

This can be seen by many students praying together. Tears falling and arms raised, many students "get lost" in the words and music.

Pursuit is certainly different from the required Monday-Wednesday-Friday chapels.

Guckert states that she prefers Pursuit over the required chapels and likes

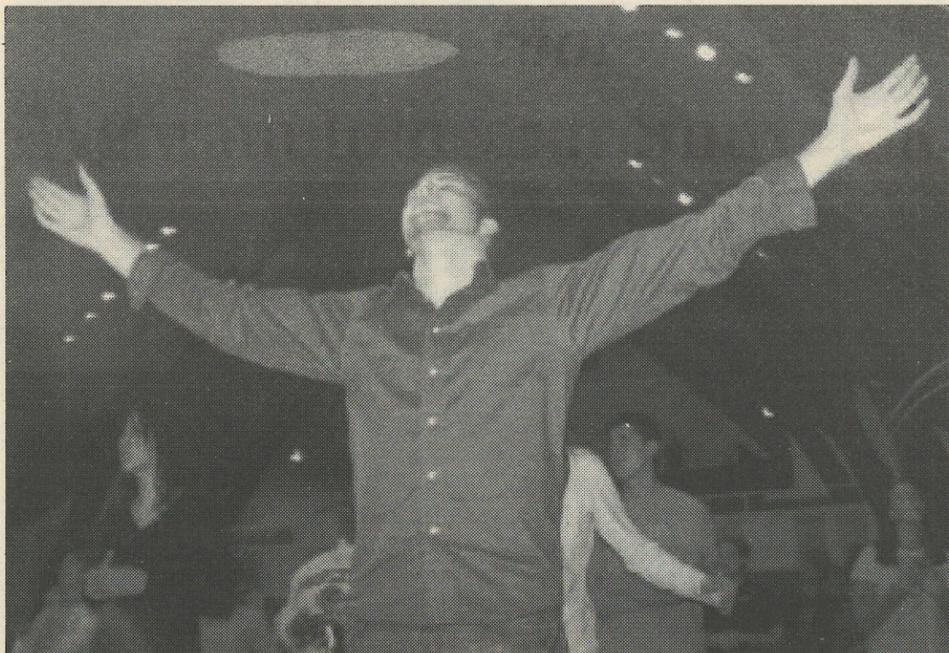


Photo by Daren Fickel

Student worships at a recent Monday night Pursuit service.

that Pursuit is a choice. Also, Guckert points out that the speakers during regular chapel services are not always "entertaining". She enjoys the messages during Pursuit for "how real they are."

Rocky Davis, 20, a children's ministry major, noted that Pursuit is his favorite place to meet with God.

Davis arrives at Pursuit at 8:30 every Monday evening. As a prayer leader on campus, he meets with other prayer-team members to get ready for the service. Davis said that he usually stays about half an hour after official dismissal to pray with

students.

"I like to pray for people. They [need] someone to confide with," Davis added.

Brad Hall, a 25-year-old business major, enjoys Pursuit because it gives him an opportunity to get away from the daily life of textbooks, work and deadlines.

It's an opportunity to "start the week off right: to focus on the right."

Hall added that he enjoys the messages during Pursuit. He likes that students can relate to what the speakers are saying because "they are shared experiences."

Often, the entire service is worship. The meeting starts with faster worship songs and slides into a few reflection, instrumental segments.

After about half an hour, the designated speaker begins to share a message. The messages, if they are present at all, are short and concise. Then, there's more worship.

Aaron Denn has been leading Pursuit since the start of the academic year.

He said he has a "heart to lead students, especially to lead them into worship."

Students apply to lead Pursuit services as an internship through the campus ministries office. Each year, the campus ministries office selects a new candidate to lead Pursuit for one full academic year.

As the leader, Denn is in charge of scheduling speakers for each service. He said the speakers are based "on the call of God", as well as individuals expressing "a desire to speak to the student body."

### Pursuit speaker schedule

April 11: *tba*  
Northwest senior  
April 16: *Mary Ashley*  
April 20: *tba*  
Northwest senior  
April 23: *Aaron Denn*

## 2007 graduate: Austin Bennecker pictures his future

By Kate Dartnall  
Editor in Chief

Austin Bennecker often rides his bicycle from the apartments, down through the middle of campus and stops in front of Perks Lounge. He'll park his bike and stroll inside to sit at the big black piano. There, his fingertips casually tease the white keys, playing Counting Crow's ballad "Color-blind".

Yet Bennecker isn't melancholy and he isn't there for attention, like other Northwest lads. He's patiently waiting, for his friend and his future, junior Kristin Coppersmith to come down the stairs.

Bennecker, a 2007 graduate, pictures life after college through a lens of passion and purpose.

Last summer, Bennecker was the designated photographer for the missions trip that he and Coppersmith interned on, to Jamaica, Guatemala, the Philippines and Hong Kong. While on the trip, he developed a deeper passion for photography by having the freedom to

step out and be more aggressive.

"I discovered how a photograph can capture the intensity of human emotion—that a picture truly can say a thousand words," said Bennecker, an organizational communications major.

Bennecker, originally from Snohomish, Wash., came to Northwest University in 2004 after attending Everett Community College and Western Washington University.

He soon met Coppersmith, an eclectic-Californian and missions major, who is, according to Bennecker, the biggest

**"a photograph can capture the intensity of human emotion"**

supporter of his photography.

"She puts up with me taking her picture all the time," he adds.

With the help of his San Francisco based brother, Luke, Bennecker was able to publish many of his photographs in a book titled "Connexions". He gave the book to Coppersmith's parents and his family members as Christmas gifts.

Long before Bennecker captured photos of Coppersmith, he was an intro level photography student at community college. There he grew an appreciation for good cameras. He ended up neglecting photography for a while, until he rediscovered his passion in the form of digital photography.

"Digital gave me the flexibility I needed to find my style of shooting," said Bennecker.

In Bennecker's work, you'll notice the

simplistic approach to capture honest human expression. His latest work is displayed in the Spring Art show, beginning April 9, located in Rice Hall.

One photograph in particular illuminates the ultimate student during finals week: a college guy pulling the strings of his red sweatshirt so tight, that he can barely see out of the hole in the hood. This style has gained him some attention.

Bennecker has been hired for three Northwest weddings this summer, senior portraits and local real estate.

According to Bennecker, he charges about half the price of other wedding photographers, as low as \$500. He also offers affordable rates for engagement photos, portraits and sports teams.

After graduation, Bennecker will continue to do side photography jobs and work full time.

Besides his never ending photography side jobs, Bennecker looks forward to getting married next summer and moving to Nashville to attend a missionary training school with Coppersmith.

"I will be learning what it means to give my life in the service of these who have nothing to offer in return."

Bennecker's passion for photography and the bigger picture, truly captures the heart of a God-loving artist.

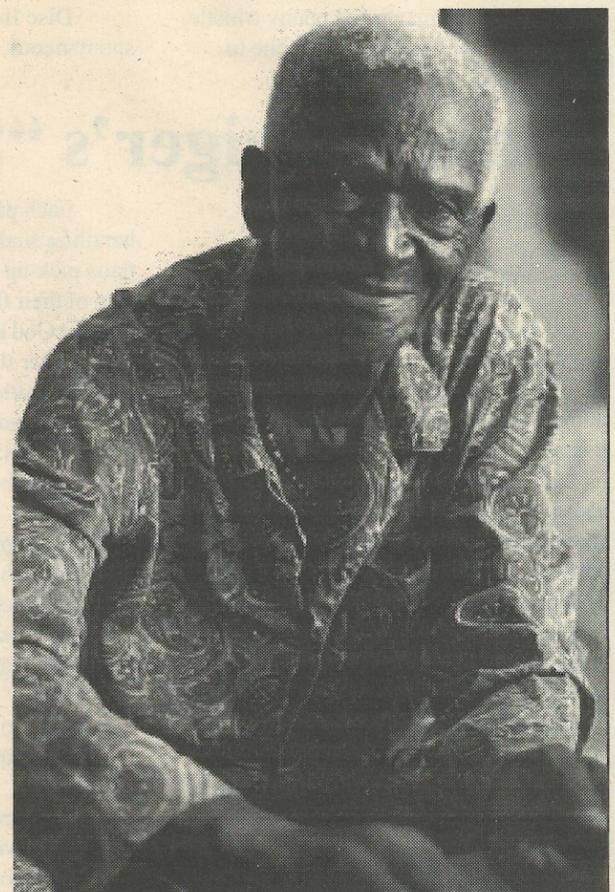


Photo courtesy of Austin Bennecker  
Man at an A.I.D.S. hospital in Jamaica.

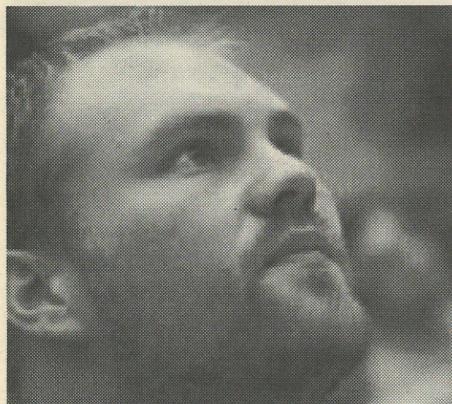
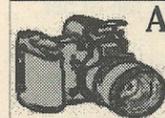


Photo courtesy of Austin Bennecker  
Austin in Hong Kong



Austin Bennecker's photography

[www.pbase.com/abennecker](http://www.pbase.com/abennecker)

"Connexions" can be viewed at:  
<http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/34653>



## Elisha's Request: worship music from the Proctor family

By Becca Mar

Staff Reporter

A passion for God's presence fills the sanctuary as Hannah Proctor draws the bow across a violin's strings, Rebekah Proctor plays a piano keyboard and Jesse Proctor sets the rhythm with drums.

Michael Proctor has a red and white electric guitar slung over his shoulder with his wife Penny standing beside him, who sings into a microphone.

Worship has started at the Proctor family's church in Port Orchard, Wash.

Leading worship in various settings since 1995 has taught the Proctors how to improvise and flow together as the band Elisha's Request.

"The key is playing sparsely and being tasteful about the timing," said Hannah.

As Elisha's Request, the Proctors released their fourth CD, "Glory to Glory," in November 2006.

Elisha's Request takes its name from the prophet Elisha, who asked to "inherit a double portion" of Elijah's spirit before the Lord lifted Elijah to heaven in a chariot of fire (2 Kings 2:9).

The family band presents a kingdom message: "Creation waits, heaven is longing/For a kingdom invasion, for a people with passion."

The Proctors arrange compositions and write their own lyrics.

"We all collaborate on our ideas for songwriting, so it's not just one person with the ideas," said Hannah. "We work as a team."

"Glory to Glory," a two-disc set, showcases thundering acoustics, Celtic-style fiddle, flowing piano and passionate vocals that proclaim God's kingdom and love. Guitars and mandolin, penny whistle, organ and Irish bouzouki intertwine to



Photo courtesy of Elisha's Request  
Jesse, left, Hannah, Rebekah, Michael and right, Penny Proctor

produce a mix of acoustic rock, Celtic, folk, bluegrass, jazz and classical influences.

"Let the mighty flow of heaven capture me" opens Disc I's first song, a high-energy Celtic rock instrumental titled "Take the Land."

"Engaging You" joins equally bold lyrics: "Let Your love consume me. I won't hold back . . . My life I lay here at Your feet."

The title track captures a heavenly vision: "Beholding Your face, seeing Your beauty, I am changed in this place, from glory to glory."

Soothing percussion, gently strummed guitar and angelic vocals in "Come With Me" prompt a peaceful, reflective journey towards an honest revelation of glory.

Disc II contains live recordings and spontaneous, prophetic worship from the

Proctors' church, which met in their Olalla, Wash., home. The Proctors' living room served as the monthly meeting place for their church until last summer.

Remnants of worship remain: a white banner with an azure-blue border and the words "His Presence" on one wall and a slate displaying "Jesus, I love You" on the silver-plated stove.

The living room windows overlook the placid waters of Olalla Bay and Colvos Passage, which separates the Kitsap Peninsula from Vashon Island.

Two flights of teal-carpeted stairs lead to the attic, where Elisha's Request recorded "Glory to Glory"—a two-year project.

In the attic, electric guitars and sound equipment surround a drum set in one corner. Tall baffles—carpeted wood panels used as sound barriers—are scattered

around the room. A xylophone and golden chimes stand alone by the wall.

The attic's silent stillness contains the peaceful rest which follows the completion of a project; here, the completion of "Glory to Glory."

Michael, in his early 50s, oversaw the production of "Glory to Glory" while working full-time as a fire lieutenant. Hannah, 24, Rebekah, 23, and Jesse, 20, balanced the project while taking classes at Northwest University. Rebekah is a staff reporter for the Talon Journal.

The process involved constant tension between the desire for perfection and having satisfaction with the best attempt, according to Rebekah. "There were times when it was really stressful," she said.

The band's other CDs include "Return to the Passion" (1999), "A Double Portion" (2002) and "This Day Leads" (2003).

Elisha's Request is a member of Indieheaven, which promotes the music of independent Christian artists through [www.indieheaven.com](http://www.indieheaven.com) and Indieheaven Radio.

Indieheaven ranks Elisha's Request in the top 20 out of more than 700 musicians.

The Proctors have ministered in the Midwest, along the West Coast and overseas. They visited Australia to participate in a music conference and led worship in Mongolian prisons.

"Worship changes the atmosphere," said Rebekah. "Darkness flees when God is present."

Elisha's Request's worship provides a glimpse into a glorious realm beyond this world.

For more information about Elisha's Request, visit [www.elishasrequest.com](http://www.elishasrequest.com) and [www.indieheaven.com](http://www.indieheaven.com).

## Lenae Nofziger's "Signs Following"

By Daren Fickel

Staff Reporter

Many students at Northwest University would be surprised to know that in fact, the professors they see every day on campus actually have lives outside of the classroom.

Professors have families, homes and activities that they devote much of their time to. Some of these professors even have other careers.

One such professor is Lenae Nofziger.

Most students encounter Nofziger as she reads a book while walking to class or having fun with her young son, Sam, 5. Others meet Nofziger during her creative writing class.

She's known for telling funny stories about Sam or about some crazy thing that happened to her that week. Like the time she was driving on 520 and she lost the dinosaur that was glued to the top of her car.

Nofziger is also a published writer. She has been featured in many journals and won several awards as well. One of her largest accomplishments as a writer: publishing a book of poems titled "Signs Following."

The collection of poems is based on a family of snake handlers that Nofziger heard about while listening to National Public Radio (NPR).



Each parent died, separately, from handling snakes in church. There, Christians pick up live, poisonous snakes as a sign of their faith, based off of Mark 16:15-18, that God keeps his promise.

After the death of the parents, a custody battle for the two orphaned children began between two sets of grandparents: one set were also snake handlers; the others were not.

This gave Nofziger the plot for her poems. She put herself into the shoes of each character wondering what it would be like to do what they did, to experience their faith.

Nofziger begins each poem by asking an internal question.

Like many stories based on actual experiences, "Signs Following" does not have a happy ending. These poems do, however, ask each reader to question his or her own faith.

What would I do? Do I have that kind of faith? Is it rational or irrational to think that God would ask us to do this?

"There must have been a part of me that knows that there is more to God and God's work in the world that what I can understand intellectually," said Nofziger.

Soon, the Northwest University bookstore will carry the book. Until then, students and faculty can purchase "Signs Following" directly from Nofziger. She can be reached by e-mail at [lenae.nofziger@northwestu.edu](mailto:lenae.nofziger@northwestu.edu).

### Instinct

Allen, age 13

Down at the creek, the waterstriders balance, legs played, on the surface. Sprawled on my belly admiring them, I hear Dad holler, and I don't move. He's got the snakes packed in the truck. He'll come find me soon. And he'll grab my arm and his face'll turn red but I won't be listening and he'll know it. Out on Highway 2, we'll pass an armadillo lying in its own blood. They're stupid; they get scared and jump, cracking their own skulls on the cars. It's some instinct that couldn't predict this new danger. Emily always says to do what he wants, be ready, but that's as hard as walking on water. I toss a stone into the creek and watch it sink. That's me. Heavy, armored, Dropping.

\*excerpt poem from "Signs Following"

## Concert Calender

4/15 Modest Mouse  
The Paramount @ 8 p.m.  
\$32.50

4/16 Relient K  
The Showbox @ 7 p.m.  
\$17 advance/\$20 at the door

5/01 Tooth & Nail Tour  
the Showbox @ 6:30 p.m.  
\$18

5/04 The Decemberists  
The Paramount Theater  
@ 8 p.m.  
\$27.50

5/20 The Killers  
WaMu Theater @ 8 p.m.  
\$33

5/24 Joss Stone  
The Paramount Theater  
@ 8:30 p.m.  
\$28.50-31.50

5/26-27 Sasquatch Festival  
The Gorge Amphitheater  
see [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)