

The Advantage Of An e-Book
Reporter Kristi Henderson with details inside (p. 10)

Photo Credit: Doug Harkness



Eagle Women's Basketball Play For Gold
Updates and schedule (p. 8)

Photo Credit: Shannon Kestner



Hydrate Yourself To A Healthier You
New health columnist, Brett Koga informs us (p. 10)

Photo Credit: Doug Harkness

THE TALON

January 31, 2010

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Northwest University

VOLUME 3. ISSUE 7

Financial Pressure Lightened For Spring Enrollment

Anuheia Akamine
Senior Staff Writer

Northwest University saw an increase in enrollment this spring, as generous financial aid allotments attracted new students.

"We increased the amount of financial aid that students received to be competitive with other schools, removed road blocks for transfer students so they could receive academic scholarships; and the large financial donation that the university received in the fall allowed our financial aid office to give an additional boost to each financial aid package that went to incoming Spring 2011 students," said Jessica Velasco, director for traditional admissions.

NU is not alone as universities across the nation are struggling. According to Financial Newsline, private schools are at a disadvantage when community colleges and public universities offer already lower tuitions and more financial aid made available through the state. Enrollment numbers at NU increased 20 percent since the fall of 2010, bringing 54 new faces to campus.

The individual needs of students are being targeted as NU addresses the financial needs of prospective students and increased the enrollment staff.

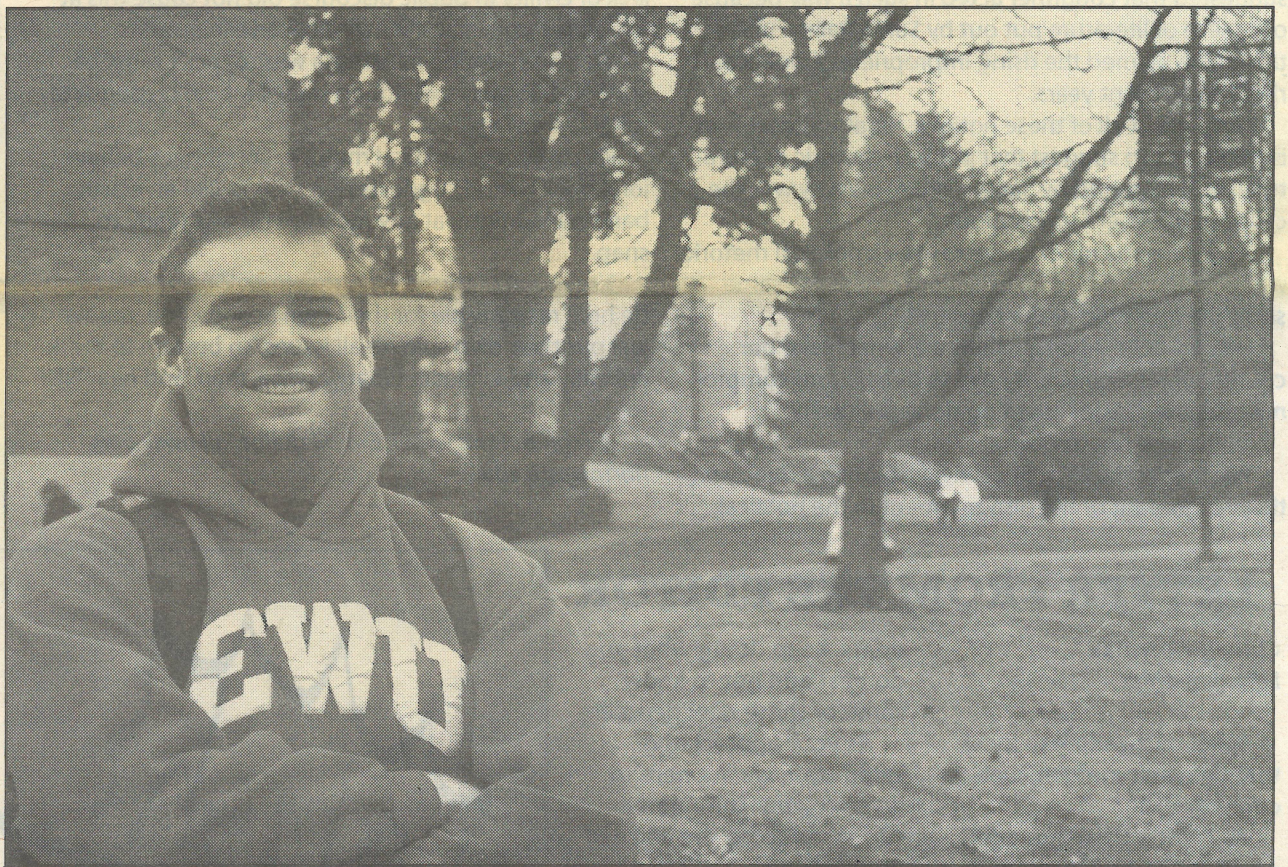
"What we have found and what research shows, giving students personal attention is the best marketing tool," said Velasco. "We made all of our prospective students know that we were there to help them in the Admissions process however we could; even when they weren't asking for help," she continued.

According to Velasco, giving prospective students personal attention made a huge difference as the enrollment office received more applications for the Spring 2011 semester than any other NU spring semester.

According to Manny Garza, transfer counselor, NU markets the same way for the spring as for the fall.

"We found that our biggest issues that our incoming students were facing was financial aid."

Jessica Velasco



Drew Baddeley, music major, transferred from Eastern Washington University for the Christian community NU provides

Photo Credit: Doug Harkness

"We attend a massive amount of college fairs, conventions, conferences, church services and pretty much any gathering that will get Northwest University's name out there... We try to hit as many as we can," he said.

However, despite Enrollment's assurance that marketing is not an issue, many students, wish that NU would do a little more 'showing off'.

"I think they should advertise the programs that they have here that are really good, like nursing," said Bri Mathisen, sophomore

nursing major and UW transfer.

"They aren't very well known. I mean in high school, I didn't hear anything about Northwest. It wasn't until later that I found out that they had a really good teaching program, so that's what brought me here," agreed Sam Weldin, secondary education major and spring transfer.

Spring 2009 transfer and California native, Kalie Messick, first heard about NU during a regular recruiting trip at a Christian college fair held at nearby high school.

"Scott Brown, who was the recruiter did a great job of selling the school to my non-Christian mother," said Messick, "being from California and new to Assemblies of God, I hadn't heard of Northwest University [until October]."

According to Garza, 70-90 percent of students that enter during the spring are in-state transfers. And for the spring 2011 entry, in-state transfer students were the target audience.

Though NU lacked the necessary enrollment numbers entering the 2010-2011 school year,

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Opinion

Shelbe's Soapbox: Politics not to blame for Arizona shooting

Shelbe Kukowski
Political Columnist

January 8, 2011 started like any other morning for U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords as she prepared for a meet-and-greet in front of an Arizona Safeway.

The day took a deadly turn when Jared Loughner, a man in the crowd, began firing shots.

Rep. Giffords was the first one hit - shot in the forehead from two feet away. Loughner then turned on the bystanders and continued firing.

He was eventually subdued by the spectators, but not before he slayed 6, including a federal court judge, congressional aid, and 9-year-old girl. Before he was wrestled to the ground, 13 people were injured.

The question on everybody's mind: how could this have happened?

Investigators began to reveal that Loughner had a troubled past that frequently returned in his life while enrolled in a local community college. There, he had a history of disruptive in-class behavior that caused both teachers and students to feel uncomfortable.

In the days following the shooting, commentators suggested that Loughner acted in such a way because of a piece of literature put out by Sarah Palin. Further, the media blamed the rising impropriety of political rhetoric in recent years.

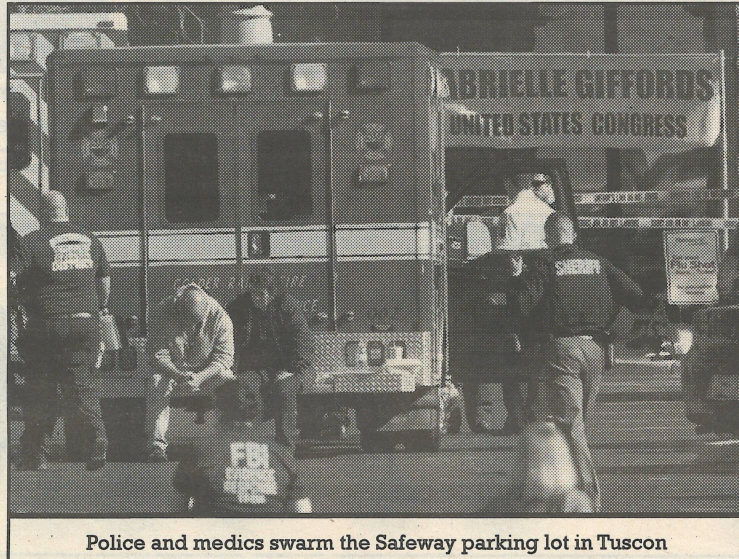
I fully reject all of these notions. What has occurred is tragic, but to suggest that political rhetoric or literature passed around by Sarah Palin somehow was the cause of this event is ridiculous.

Why does the media have to attack political rhetoric when politics have remained more or less the same since the founding of our country?

Heated political discussions are what make our country great. Politicians have to debate and compromise in order to get anything done politically.

Politics are not to blame.

The media wants political rivals to be in a duel, yet they're ignorant of the disagreement in the political



Police and medics swarm the Safeway parking lot in Tuscon
Photo Credit: Christian Liberty

system.

If they wanted the rivals to be in a duel, wouldn't they know that they disagreed?

In fact, elected officials have banded together since the days of the shooting, showing a unity amongst officials that has not been seen since the 9/11 attacks.

Even more so, I appreciate President Obama's remarks during the Memorial service for the Arizona shooting victims on January 12, when he said that a lack of civility in public discourse did not cause this attack, which once and for all silenced the pundits.

Yes, the shooting in Arizona was tragic; it must be condemned, and individuals must be held responsible for their own actions.

Regardless of political rhetoric, Loughner's behavioral track record suggests that he was like an elastic band pulled tight; at any moment he was ready to snap.

The moral of this story is that individuals need to be held responsible for their own actions. The media will put their own spin on all issues, so beware to think critically and evaluate what you see, read, and hear NU!

To contact this writer, E-mail shelbe.kukowski08@northwestu.edu

Drawing Attention



"Financial aid couldn't have come at a better time."

Tailgate Party

Hosted by the new Northwest University alumni group, 'The NUX'.

Both students and alums young and old are welcome to come tailgate before the Eagles beat the College of Idaho.

The NUX will be giving away NU gear and other prizes!

February 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Northwest Pavilion. Free burgers and drinks!

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Christy Wolyniak
Editor-in-chief

To all of those fresh faces that I haven't met yet, welcome to NU!

As I write, there are dedicated students sitting up in the tree outside of the Pecota Center, clinging onto their one belonging in the name of team spirit.

Of the three and a half years I've been at NU, I must say that everyone this year displayed the highest degree of Eagle pride I've ever seen.

It makes me proud to go to a school where everyone is connected and excited about supporting our sports teams and even brothers and sisters in intramurals.

If you're new to Northwest, this is going to be the best semester of your life. Or at least it could be. Take the extra effort to get involved in a crew, student activity, or campus event.

I can only imagine the conversations and memories the Treevivor contestants shared tonight.

Now that you're here, have some fun and study hard. For the majority of returning stu-

dents, keep doing what you do best and get to know some of these new people!

As your appreciative Talon staff, we are here to listen to you. The Talon is supposed to be the voice of the students.

E-mail us what you would like to read in upcoming issues, or if you hear something down the grapevine that might have some actual news attached to it, let us know.

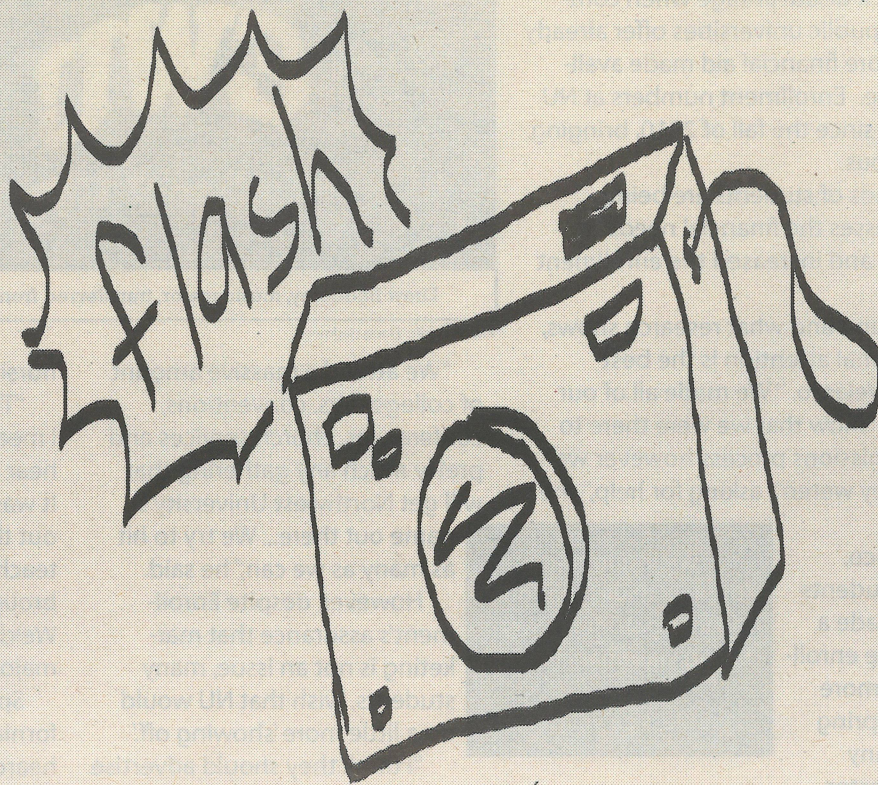
Thank you for reading this issue of The Talon. You'll find we rearranged some things and added a few surprises along the way.

Find out what Professor Kowalski thinks about technology in the Faculty Voice or read about up-and-coming new artists and restaurants in The Scene.

We love you, NU. It's our desire to provide you with relevant, interesting news that matters to you. Let us know if we're doing our job.

Can't find what you like to read? Why not write for us?

E-mail taloneditor@northwestu.edu



If you became a photographer for the Talon, your pretty picture would be here instead of this ad.

E-mail talon@northwestu.edu to join our staff!

NU restructures financial aid plan *continued from page 1*

according to Velasco, advertising or marketing of the school has never been the issue.

"Over the past three years, we received more applications than each term before. We found that our biggest issues that our incoming students were facing was financial aid," she said.

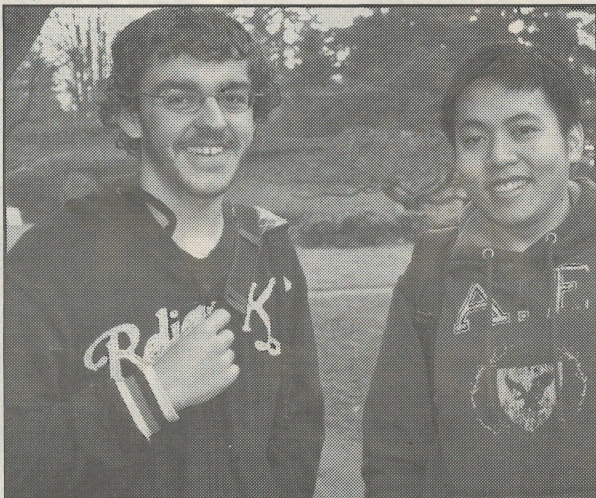
As such, a change in NU's marketing was not the focus for spring recruitment.

"With the downturn in the economy, many of our competitor universities changed the amount of financial aid that incoming students received," said Velasco. "However, NU stayed steady in the amount of financial aid that we gave to incoming students. After our smaller than expected incoming class this past fall, we looked at our financial Aid and made changes," she said.

This past October, Hobby Lobby donated \$1.5 million to NU, building hopes of reversal of August's financial fiasco.

"The gift included \$1.3 million for our general fund and \$200,000 for student scholarship to help us to increase enrollment for this Spring," said President Joseph Castleberry in an episode of Northwest Vision in the fall.

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Darin Skaggs and Pavath Phommachanh are happy to be at NU

Photo Credit: Doug Harkness

NU is proud to host David Brody

Danielle Mercier
Staff Reporter

Emmy-award winner and White House correspondent David Brody came to NU to kick-off the university's Faith In The Humanities Conference.

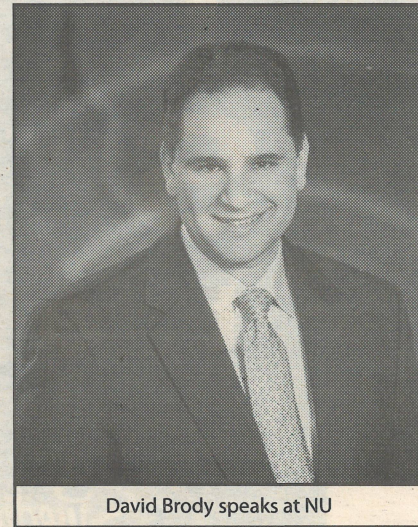
Brody, who offered the keynote speech for the conference, is a veteran journalist for the Christian Broadcast Network (CBN).

He has done work for Fox News, CNN, NPR, and MSNBC, according to Sarah Karnes, the President of the Alpha Lambda Kappa.

Karnes said the English Department teamed with Professor Kevin Cooney and the Political Science Department to host Brody. She said his speech brought a whole new level of prestige to the conference with his visit.

Brody has a wide range of experiences to share including his account of interviews with President Barack Obama, Sarah Palin and Secretary of State Hilary Clinton. He has traveled with the President on Air Force One and has many stories to share about his work as a chief political correspondent for CBN.

He brought an amazing learning experience to the conference for all who attended,



David Brody speaks at NU

Photo Credit: DavidBrody.org

according to the planners of this year's conference.

"Today, CBN is a multifaceted nonprofit organization that provides programming by cable, broadcast and satellite to approximately 200 countries, with a 24-hour telephone prayer line," states www.CBN.com.

With topics surrounding major political figures and the backing of a Christian organization, Brody has been put under a lot of heat for the topics he has covered in his blog, 'The Brody Files.'

"His recent one-on-one interviews have crossed the ideological spectrum," said www.CBN.com.

This year's Faith In The Humanities Conference brought students and faculty together to present work that is important to them and their field of research. The scholarly work of presenters reflected not only, "their interests but also their disciplines and how they relate to the broader discipline of faith," said Karnes.

Brody related to the students and staff with his insight from the perspective of intense field work and gave them a wide range of ideas about what to expect after college.

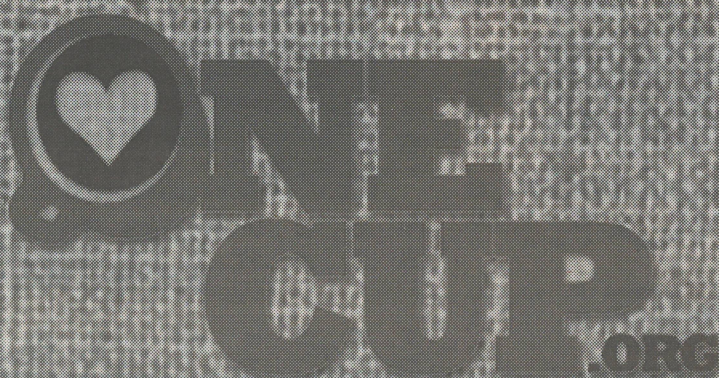
The conference took place on Monday, January 31st and Tuesday, February 1st from 3-9pm in HSC 233/231.



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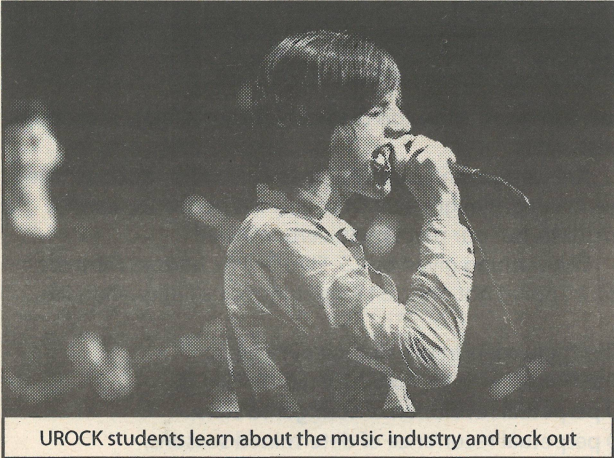
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For those about to rock, we salute you



UROCK students learn about the music industry and rock out

Photo Credit: www.urocknow.com

Marisa Pacchiarotti
Staff Reporter

Creatio's new music school, UROCK, is the school that every teenager wishes they went to, the real-world version of Mr. Schneebly's academy from "School of Rock" run by legitimate faculty, rather than Jack Black.

A rock music school that caters to instrumentalists, singers and songwriters from 12-18 years old, UROCK currently has 13 students rocking out in the stellar studios of the 6710 building.

These students make up three bands, take private lessons with talented worship musicians, and record original work.

However, UROCK is

about more than training the newest cool cats of the music scene. According to operations manager, Joyce Culpepper-Smith, it is a place where kids can learn to rock life.

Executive Director Steve Smith elaborates that the values of being in a band such as, teamwork, accountability, and social interaction, are all built into the music at UROCK.

"When the kids are in one of these groups in UROCK," Smith explains, "they're just having a really good time."

As UROCK continues to grow, its demographic grows.

"Ultimately, we want to grow it for a younger and older people," said Culpepper-Smith, "a place where dad's garage band could come and jam...to reach soccer moms and families...to make community; an all-encompassing experience."

NU students in the Creatio program record with the UROCK students and help with management and advertising.

This unique rock school works towards creative and achievable ways to enact change; those involved with UROCK never forget that.

"God's hand has been on so many aspects of it," said Smith, "and God gave us exactly the right people."

The executives, the instructors, and the students exude a passion for rock music, a desire to make it a positive experience and to live intentionally through the creativity of music. "It's innovative and groundbreaking and we love being on the forefront of that," said Culpepper-Smith.

According to Executive Director Smith, watching the students play together is the most rewarding part about his involvement.

They are preparing for a culminating concert at the Hard Rock Café in Seattle on March 6. It is possible there will be crowd surfing.

Planetarium show inspires students

Jessie Fast
Staff Reporter

Recently, NU students had the opportunity to experience the stars firsthand at the University of Washington's planetarium.

Dan Tomandl, NU astronomy professor, provided his students, their families, and others who wished to join, the opportunity to utilize UW's facility as an extension of the NU classroom.

Tomandl notes some of the benefits of the planetarium visit as "being able to see the sky when it is cloudy and point out stars and constellations, [and] more importantly, I could show them how the sky moves by showing the motion in high speed."

According to Whitney Moreno, junior general studies major, the planetarium trip offered an exceptional, unique chance for understanding the vastness and glory of the universe.

"Visiting the planetarium not only was helpful to come to the understanding of how the galaxy works, the importance of stars, planets, and the overall beauty God himself created, but also visually being able to witness it in a fun and creative way," said Moreno.

She also appreciated the ability of Tomandl and of NU to take advantage of local resources for the enrichment of her education.

"It's a nice change to get outside of the 'Northwest circle' and become familiar with other areas around us, and to appreciate what they have to offer and take advantage of it," she said.

Jodie Castleberry, junior elementary

education major, advocates NU's initiative in going beyond its campus to enrich its students' experience.

"We basically live in Seattle and it would be foolish not to take advantage of the wonders big cities offer. Not every town has a planetarium of that caliber just a 20 minute bus ride away. Using resources like this allows students to have an enriched learning experience," she said.

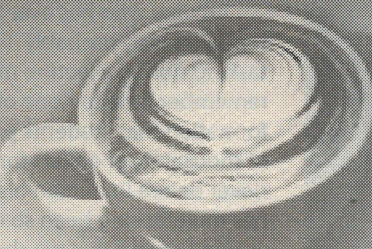
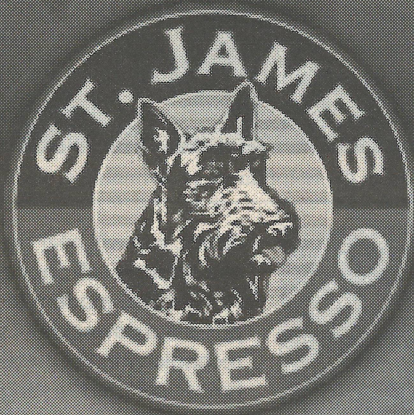
According to Tomandl, the astronomy class also takes advantage of opportunities such as visiting the shore of Lake Washington to observe the curvature of the Earth and Rattlesnake Lake to observe the sky from a much darker location.

As far as the new planet is concerned, according to USA Today, "Dubbed Kepler-10b, the newly announced planet orbits a sun-like star 560 light-years away (a light-year is about 5.9 trillion miles). It is 1.4 times as wide as Earth and is 4.6 times as heavy, making it about as dense as iron. Orbiting only 1.8 million miles from the surface of its star, the planet suffers blast-furnace temperatures of 2,500 degrees or more on its daytime face."

This rocky planet has some conditions similar to earth, so it may support life. It has been confirmed as the smallest planet found outside of our solar system, so it is unlikely to suffer the same unfortunate fate as Pluto.

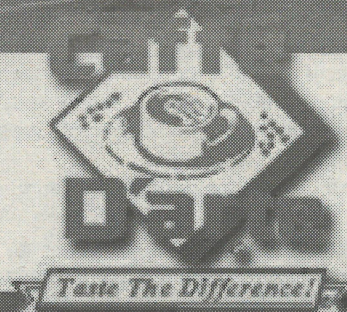
With new discoveries emerging in the field of astrology, the opportunity for NU students to experience the stars at the planetarium proves the importance of utilizing resources to render students' education more complete.

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Theology and Technology: Oil and Water? Faculty Voice with Professor Kowalski

Waldemar Kowalski
Guest Writer

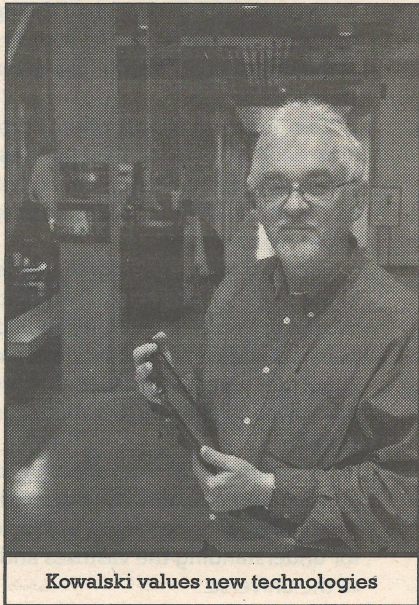
I'm often asked about combining technology and theology, as if they were incompatible or at war with each other.

I should no longer be surprised when this comes up, but I still am: they have nothing and everything to do with each other.

25 years ago I was hired at NU as the computer department and Church History prof. Right from the start I had this exciting portfolio of interesting and diverse topics. At that time, technology in the classroom consisted of something called an "overhead projector", and Prof. Johnson had these really cool maps you could pull down, mounted on the wall. We've come a long way, baby!

As we use our God-given skills, whether art, music, invention, or other talents, we reflect and honor our Creator. His creativity enables my creativity. Technology is simply a tool to be used in worship of God in all aspects of life. Yes, it can be abused, as with pornography. Yes, it can distract, as was highlighted in the recent debate regarding Facebook.

But it can also enable growth and healing. Recent news articles highlight a blind man who found new abilities



Kowalski values new technologies

Photo Credit: Doug Harkness

and freedoms through his iPhone, and how autistic children are overcoming challenges with the help of an iPad. (Not to beat the Apple fanboi drum too loudly!) I've been privileged to be a part of equipping the community with computers.

Panopto is just one example of how technology can serve theology. Panopto enables students with illness or other schedule disruptions to keep up and assists with review.

I hear from former students who have archived their podcasts from Systematic Theology and refer to them periodically. My mom, at almost 80, stays in touch with friends via Facebook and has become quite a computer user, never having used a computer before the iPad.

In the end, it's using resources to serve the kingdom that matters, or perhaps, more precisely, to serve the King. We

strive to be effective (do the best job) and efficient (do it the best way).

Are we allowing God's name to be seen as glorious? Are we making Him greater? Of course His perfection cannot increase, but our perception certainly can!

The warning given by T.S. Eliot in his *Choruses From the Rock* applies not only to technology but all of modern life:

The Eagle soars in the summit of Heaven,
The Hunter with his dogs pursues his circuit.
O perpetual revolution of configured stars,
O perpetual recurrence of determined seasons,
O world of spring and autumn, birth and dying!
The endless cycle of idea and action,
Endless invention, endless experiment,
Brings knowledge of motion, but not of stillness;
Knowledge of speech, but not of silence;
Knowledge of words, and ignorance of the Word.
All our knowledge brings us nearer to death,
But nearness to death no nearer to God.
Where is the Life we have lost in living?
Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge?
Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?
The cycles of heaven in twenty centuries
Brings us farther from God and nearer to the Dust.

THE NEST DIVIDED :

Does our modern technology help or hurt us?

The iLife: Life made simple

Doug Harkness
Staff Reporter

Laptops, cell phones iPods, iPads, Kindles, and e-Readers. They're all around us, becoming part of our lives.

A skeptic would say these technological resources hinder productivity or distract people from real life. I propose that they enrich our everyday lives and better equip us to make a difference in the world.

Though it may be hard to imagine in today's culture, once upon a time, people actually wrote papers by hand. They had the opportunity to practice good handwriting and grammar, although it was extremely time-consuming and often created stress for the writer.

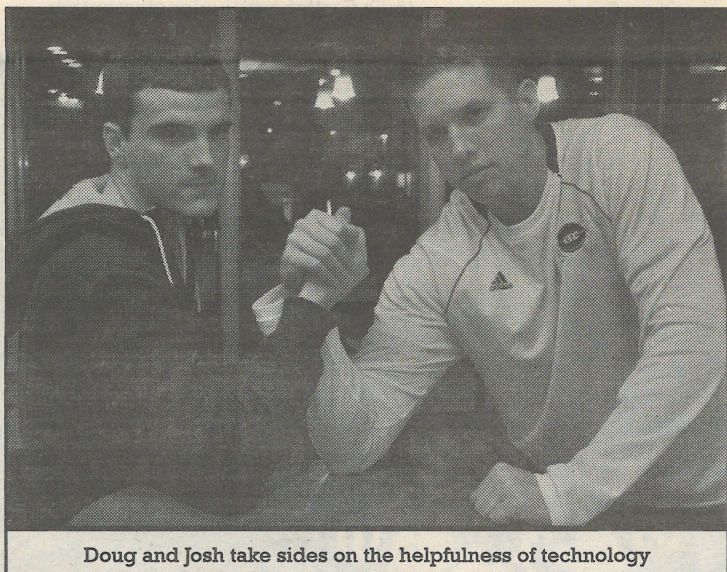
With the invention of the laptop and more recently, the iPad, we are now able to bust out papers in much shorter amounts of time.

These handy inventions also provide us with the ability to submit papers online, thus saving paper and creating a more sustainable environment.

Mandatory online submission is becoming more and more common. It has almost become a requirement for a college student to possess some sort of technological device that can create and submit papers over the internet, such as a laptop or an iPad.

Another useful tool in today's culture is the cell phone. My first interaction with a cell phone was my father's car phone. The corded phone was stored in a bag and received its power through a cigarette lighter plug-in.

Thankfully, cell phones have developed much more in recent years. I currently own an iPhone, where not only can I call and text, I can also check and compose emails, access the Web, manage my calendar, keep track of assignments and due dates, check grades, and network socially through outlets such as Facebook and Twitter.



Doug and Josh take sides on the helpfulness of technology

Photo Credit: Mason Wheeler

Some would argue cell phones produce more negative effects than positive, from creating distractions in quiet settings such as libraries or classrooms to enabling dangerous drivers on our roads.

These negative effects are minimal in light of the positive uses and helpful tools that they provide. If one is considerate of others and remains in control of his or her vehicle while driving, the so-called 'negative effects' begin to disappear as the major advantages of having a cell phone prevail.

Taking advantage of today's technology saves time, money, and paper; it promotes good health and success. While it is possible to let technology control your life, it is simply another aspect of our culture with which we need to practice self-control.

If we practice good techno-etiquette and maintain friendships through real-life social networks, I believe technology can be what it was truly created to be: a useful tool to enhance and improve our daily lives.

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Modern technology proves to be a distraction

Josh Bollinger
Staff Reporter

Sit in on university lecture halls or classrooms in America and you will be confronted with students surfing Facebook like it's the Hawaiian pipeline. Either that, or certainly you will see a few Bubble Shooters; perhaps a digital motorcyclist or two.

Without a doubt, you will hear the incessant vibrations of a silenced cell phone.

Do these modern technological devices possess a downside? I say yes. Let's face it, technology in the classroom, although at times useful, is bursting with the overwhelming potential for distraction.

Anyone who has ever had a communications class has probably heard that multitasking during a lecture means that you will remember little to none of the valuable information that students pay tens of thousands of dollars for -- and never before in human history has multitasking been so easy.

Am I saying that we should all assimilate into the nearest Amish community while simultaneously planning the war against these machines? Certainly not. What I am saying is that we are allowing our technology to get the best of us in a lot of ways when we should be engaged in our learning environments.

The dean of Southern Methodist University is doing something about it. Dean José Bowen challenged his colleagues to teach without the use of any technology at all in the classroom, i.e. powerpoint presentations.

Mr. Bowen's philosophy is that the classrooms should be more of a place for dis-

cussion and debate, rather than a professor showing a video or a powerpoint to a lecture. After all, the students have the Internet - the key to the wealth of human knowledge, to look up further information on the subject matter.

Southern Methodist University has received extremely positive feedback from both students and professors - on top of turning the national head.

A study conducted in the April issue of *British Educational Research Journal* discovered that over 59 percent of students find "seminars, practical sessions, group discussions, and debate to be the 'least boring.'"

According to students, tech-free classrooms are the most engaging. But what about the students' personal technological devices? Are we to be trusted to not tap into the overwhelming temptation of distraction when it comes to our class work? Probably not, but in the end technology is just a tool, like any other.

A hammer can be used to build an orphanage and it can be used to rip one down. It all depends on the individual who wields it. Our technology is taking us places we never imagined, and some of those places appear better to us at the time than the current place we reside.

To exercise discipline with this power remains a difficult task for most of us, and that is exactly why technology should be handled like fire, with respect for the damage it can do.

Under the apparent auspices of our devices, we are deceived into believing that they are bringing us closer together, when they merely enable us to Facebook stalk our friends.

The challenge remains: try taking notes with paper and leave the iPhone in the car and after two weeks if you do not feel more involved in school and enriched with the material, then you will always have Bubble-shooter waiting for you.

To contact this writer, E-mail josh.bollinger08@northwesetu.edu

"Technology should be handled like fire, with respect for the damage it can do."

Josh Bollinger

Embargo teams up with Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Kelsey Horn
Staff Reporter

New leadership and partnership propels NU's fight against human trafficking into 2011.

Brittany Smith, leader of Embargo, unites education and outreach to create a ripple effect in the greater Seattle area.

"The primary message that I want students to have this semester is that slavery is not history, it's happening right now," said Smith.

The goal is to have the Embargo team and the entire campus inform surrounding communities without demanding support, according to Smith.

"I don't think that fighting human trafficking is for everyone. If it was, nobody would fight other causes," she said.

Nevertheless, child slavery is happening in our backyard. Seattle is the third largest place for slavery in the United States, she said.

"Human slavery is happening in our front yard," said Nikolay Borisov, a Northwest University student.

Embargo is partnering with Immigration and Customs Enforcement

(ICE) this semester, giving students a way to report suspicious activity.

"If there is ever a massage parlor, or a nail salon, or chiropractor's office open 24-hours or even past 9 p.m., that is 99.99 percent a place of human trafficking," said Smith.

All across Kent, Renton, Bellevue, and Kirkland right now, there are unnamed businesses being investigated, according to Smith.

"I am a part of an investigation that is going on in Kirkland right now," she said.

Borisov joined Embargo after he grasped the reality of human slavery.

"I've been so blessed to be able to do something about it, to have a voice that these people don't," said Borisov.

It is his hope that other guys at NU



Embargo working harder than ever to fight human trafficking.

Photo Credit: Doug Harkness

that's not okay' to other men out there," said Borisov.

It is Borisov's aim to share support with other organizations through different methods and strategies that give back to the community.

After raising over \$200 last semester, a second Heaps of Handbags fundraiser will be hosted on February 24, from 7-9 p.m. The location is to be determined.

A spring Freeze project is in the works along with a car wash, according to Smith.

"We have no budget. It's all out of pocket," said Smith.

Embargo hopes to make a documentary this coming year to build public awareness of the reality and devastation of human trafficking, according to Smith.

"This is a tangible way to get involved," said Borisov.

For more information contact: embargo@northwestu.edu

will take a stand.

"I have a passion for more guys to get involved. Instead of guys buying girls, guys standing up and saying, 'No,

To contact this writer, E-mail kelsey.horn07@northwestu.edu

Love Mischief, Rigorously Applied

Ryan Gregg
Alum Guest Writer

I have a friend this Christmas who was excited to share with me a YouTube video called "Jihad bells."

It goes "Jihad bells, Jihad bells, Jihad all the way!" She is Christian, and blindly anti-everything else. I replied, sarcastically, "Oh yeah? I've got one for you too. It goes 'Inquisition bells, Holocaust bells, pogroms all the way! Oh what fun, nine crusades, 30 Years War, European colonialism, hey!'"

She was not amused. But I am. The track record of my Christian tradition is far less than meticulous, leading the way oftentimes in Religion's historic trend to theologies that demand hatred.

We are inheritors of a world both august and deeply flawed. Every generation has felt this way. And every generation faces the question: will we in our time complete another circuit around the merry-go-round of destructive religion? Certainly every generation, with good intention, has answered "no." But they have lived "yes." History, let's be honest, is not a light and happy read.

One wonders if in our day there is not a way to misapply a little less com-



NU alum, Ryan Gregg with an Israeli child named Sara

Photo Credit: Laura Waris

pletely the principle of Love.

One wonders if there is a point where Sermon on the Mount forgiveness actually and practically impinges on a complex, globalized modernity.

One wonders if our chapter of the book could be any different, or if we're still stuck on the merry-go-round.

Expression: open heart surgery for Gaza Strip children, in Israeli hospitals, in the name of Jesus. *Concept:* receive rockets, return assistance; receive slogans, reply with silent love for the children of your enemies. This is the work of a Christian non-profit in Jerusalem named Shevet Achim.

On Wednesday, February 9, at 5 p.m. in the cafeteria back room, Ryan Gregg, '09 NU grad, will be visiting from Jerusalem and sharing along these lines. You are invited to attend. Held during the dinner hour, it will be a creative dialogue about the potential

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of grace and forgiveness, rigorously applied, to provide a new way forward into our next chapter.

This is an NU Focus stewardship

series event. The question is: what does stewardship of the Gospel look like? The answer: love mischief.

Sports



Junior Jessalyn Jackson was honored again as Red Lion Women's Basketball Player of the week on January 17 for her play against Concordia and Warner.

Photo Credit: Shannon Kestner



Spirited fans and the NU Eagle cheer on the men's and women's bball at home game.

Photo Credit: Shannon Kestner



Senior Tyson Christie (shooting) currently in ranked 32 in the nation for steals per game.

Photo Credit: Shannon Kestner

Michael Greene: A Force to be Reckoned With

Marielle Mckean
Guest Writer

Michael Greene, NU men's basketball team's newest addition, has proven that he has the skills, the confidence and the aspirations to accomplish greatness on the basketball court and in the classroom.

"Michael will be the cornerstone of our program over the next three years. He is everything NU wants in a student athlete," according to John Van Dyke, head coach for NU men's basketball.

Greene is a freshman from Squalicum High School in Bellingham, WA, where he maintained a 3.9 GPA.

His high school team placed first in the 2A state championship both his junior and senior years. Greene's team was named All-Northwest Conference first team, 2A All-State Tournament first team, Associated Press All-State first team and played in the WBCA All-State game his senior year.

Greene attributes his basketball success to "making my lay-ins and free-throws."

"Mike is very competitive and a great team player," said Jason Waltman, Greene's teammate and roommate.

Greene has set high goals for himself at NU and has planned steps to achieve them. He wants to win a National Championship and, in order to do that, "I need to work on my perimeter skills, ball

handling, and shooting...I have to adjust to the faster pace of college ball," said Greene.

He recognizes that before games, he needs to relax, contemplate the game plan and what he needs to do to be productive.

While attending NU, Greene also plans to make the honor roll all four years. He intends to graduate in three years with his BA in business and get his MBA his fourth year while playing basketball. After graduation, Greene plans on entering the business world and becoming a CFO of a major company.

Greene said he has thoroughly enjoyed his first year at NU. He has found the people welcoming and, although NU is a small community, he can still visit his friends that attend UW or SPU.

Van Dyke was one of the first coaches to recruit Greene during his junior year of high school. Greene chose to sign the letter of intent, because it is relatively close to his home, he connected with the team on his visit, and he wanted to be in a Christian learning atmosphere.

Greene has a bright future ahead of him at NU. He achieves excellence in the classroom, on the court, and is a friendly, outgoing guy. Whether you follow his basketball career, have him in a class, or meet him randomly on campus, he will greet you with a warm smile and befriend you. He's just that kind of guy.

Men's basketball off to good start

Tyson Christie
Guest Writer

The Men's Basketball squad is 7-4 in CCC play and 15-5 overall. We recently traveled to OIT and Southern Oregon where we played two tough games but came up empty. OIT was ranked #13 in the country at the time. We also did not have center Greg George who had Army obligations. We just finished a sweep of Corban and Northwest Christian to start up the second half of CCC (league) play.

The next home games are this weekend February 4 and 5, and 5 of our remaining 7 games are home. We are hoping to keep winning, clinch a home game or two in the conference playoffs, and make it to the national tournament this spring.

We have had a few injuries: Stedman Richardson with a sprained ankle, Rich Skillman with a broken nose, and Tyson Christie with a cracked rib, but we are getting healthy coming down the home stretch of our season.

Lady Eagles fly to the top of the conference

Marielle Mckean
Guest Writer

Northwest Women's Basketball team has positioned itself for a trip to Nationals this year. Their 86-71 win last Saturday against #18 Concordia placed them in a tie for first place in the CCC and bumping them up to #20 the NAIA Division II national rankings. In that game, Jessalyn Jackson earned Player of the Week for the second time with 32 points and 10 rebounds. Jackson was also

named Player of the Week for the Eagles 70-47 victory over #3 NAIA Division 1 Lewis-Clark State on Dec. 17, and Kia Gibson was named Player of the Week for her 23 points and 9 rebounds against Northwest Christian on Dec. 10.

The Lady Eagles are currently 7-2 in conference with a .778 field goal percentage and a 7-0 record at home. The Lady Eagles worked hard over Christmas break to overcome their pre-season 8 conference ranking and are making waves in conference as a result.

Eagle Sports Highlights

WINS AND LOSSES

- 1/07 Men's Basketball vs. OIT; 78-63, L
- 1/07 Women's Basketball vs. OIT; 69-65, W
- 1/08 Men's Basketball vs. Southern Oregon; 78-74, L
- 1/08 Women's Basketball vs. Southern Oregon; 63-59, L
- 1/14 Men's Basketball vs. Warner Pacific; 74-71, L
- 1/14 Women's Basketball vs. Warner Pacific; 81-73, W
- 1/15 Men's Basketball vs. Concordia; 90-79, W
- 1/15 Women's Basketball vs. Concordia; 86-71, W
- 1/21 Men's Basketball vs. Corban; 70-68, W
- 1/21 Women's Basketball vs. Corban; 81-71, W
- 1/22 Men's Basketball vs. NCU; 68-52, W
- 1/22 Women's Basketball vs. NCU; 67-64, W
- 1/28 Men's Basketball vs. Evergreen; 84-83 (OT), W
- 1/28 Women's Basketball vs. Evergreen; 72-58, W

RECORDS AND STANDINGS

Men's Basketball (15-5; 7-4)

Conference: #4

National: #16

Women's Basketball (15-5; 9-2)

Conference: #1

National: #18

UPCOMING GAMES

- Men's Basketball:
2/04 vs. Southern Oregon University 7:30 pm
(Kirkland, WA)
- 2/05 vs. Oregon Institute of Technology 7:30 pm
(Kirkland, WA)
- 2/11 vs. Concordia University 7:30 pm
(Portland, OR)
- 2/12 vs. Warner Pacific College 7:30 pm
(Portland, OR)
- Women's Basketball:
2/04 vs. Southern Oregon University 5:30 pm
(Kirkland, WA)
- 2/05 vs. Oregon Institute of Technology 5:30 pm
(Kirkland, WA)
- 2/11 vs. Concordia University 5:30 pm
(Portland, OR)
- 2/12 vs. Warner Pacific College 5:30 pm
(Portland, OR)
- Track & Field:
1/28 UW Invitational (Indoor) 3:00 pm
(Seattle, WA)
- 2/13 UW Open (Indoor) TBA
(Seattle, WA)

Don't have a Roomies date? Buy one for a good cause

Timothy Edward Smith
Senior Staff Writer

NU students are expressing mixed feelings about a brand new Roomies concept; a male auction to help raise awareness and funds for Embargo in the battle against human trafficking.

"It's like a funny beauty pageant for men," said NUSG treasurer and auction participant, Taylor Martin.

"We'll have a talent [show], and we'll be doing some different sort of goofy stuff, like a fashion show, that will entice some bidding and what not, and then the proceeds will go to Embargo and it's just kind of a way to increase awareness about human trafficking and also for Roomies," he continued.

According to Andy Hall, Director of Student Programs, students planning the event know that the event has to meet NU standards.

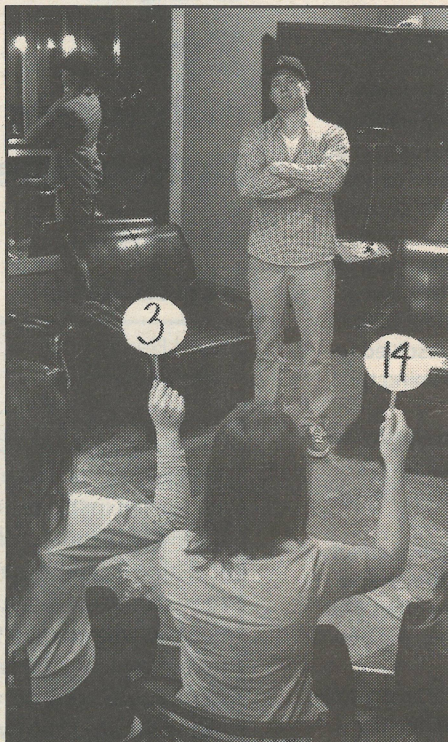
"For the portion highlighting the guys' date, possibilities might include humorous biographies, talents, and even a 'beach wear' segment, but participants have been told that shirts must be worn and their outfit pre-approved," said Hall.

Both men and women helped plan this event, and according to Hall, the intention of this event is not about buying and selling a person, but rather auctioning the services of these individuals to cook a spaghetti dinner for the ladies that bid on the them.

"I think their heart is in the right place, as far as trying to earn money for the Embargo; I think that what they're doing is wrong though," said Campus Ministries intern, Jon Maxwell.

"By singling out people in the community, as far as guys, and then trying to exploit them by auctioning them off, doesn't sound a whole lot different then exploiting women, and auctioning them off to the highest bidder," he continued.

Coordinators for this event are members from Embargo, NUSG, and others who want to raise awareness



Roomies dates available via auction this year

Photo Credit: Jennifer Jensen

about human trafficking, "[We] as Embargo [are] just people receiving the funds," said spokesperson for Embargo, Nikolay Borisov.

NUSG announced in Chapel on January 26 that Carl Erickson, Matthew Moroni, Cody Callaghan, Brandon Duffy and Brandon Simmons are a few of the males that will be auctioned off as dates.

"A certain amount of irony exists in the auction," said Hall.

Senior Brittney Marshall does not see this irony as being something that is right.

"Obviously we're not throwing money here at the school to have sex with the people, but still, it's like we're raising awareness for sex trafficking, yet we're throwing money at these individuals," she said.

The NU men that agreed to be auctioned were asked to be a part of the event, and other male students were not asked to participate, according to NUSG.

"The men chosen are all student leaders with admirable character qualities, fully capable of treating women with honor and respect," said NUSG president and auction participant, Carl Erickson.

Only men will be auctioned, and the ladies will be doing the bidding, according to Martin.

"I think that everybody thinks that it's funny because the guys are up there strutting their stuff when they don't normally do that, but as soon as you put a girl up there and the guys start bidding, then that just gives them more ammo to look at us like males are animals," said NU student Tyson Christie.

NU student Shannon Kestner thinks this event is all in good fun, and she won't be taking it too seriously.

"I can kind of see it flopping, but I really hope that it doesn't," said Kestner.

The Roomies auction will be held in the Butterfield Chapel on Thursday, February 10, at 7 p.m.

Contact this writer at tim.smith08@northwestu.edu

Dear Samantha,

Dear Samantha,
My roommate never cleans up her side of our dorm. I am constantly tripping over personal items, books, and trash and it's getting to the point where I might do something terrible to her if things don't change. How do I tell her nicely to clean up and be a little more considerate?

Sincerely,
About to Break

Dear About to Break,
The best thing you can do with a messy, inconsiderate roommate is to be upfront with her. Find a good time to talk to her, and let her know what's on your mind and why what she's doing bothers you. Then if she refuses to change her ways, you could always apply for a roommate change. Or you could hide all of her belongings and tell her you couldn't figure out what was trash and what was valuable in the aftermath of the most recent dorm-quake.

Dear Samantha,
I can't seem to stay awake in any of my classes. I'm not sure if it's the lecture, the room temperature, the time of day, my lack of sleep, or all of the above. The seats aren't even all that comfortable and the guy next to me is usually always talking. Regardless, I am not getting anything out of my classes and we're only two weeks into the semester. Help!

Sincerely,
Struggling Snoozer

Dear Struggling Snoozer,
Are you sitting in the back of class? Maybe if you sat in the very front you'd be too embarrassed to sleep. Also, make sure you're getting plenty of rest. Your body is determined to take care of you, even if that means catching you up on your sleep during Old Testament. Try drinking a lot of water during your classes and take notes on your computer. If anything, you'll be rushing to the bathroom enough times to keep you from snoozing.

Samantha is a senior at Northwest University. In her free time, she enjoys drinking coffee at Zoka and contemplating life's great complexities.

Do you have a question for Samantha? E-mail talon@northwestu.edu.

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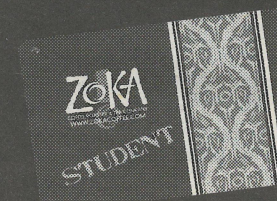
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Brett Koga
Staff Reporter

Did you know that inability to focus, tiredness, and weight management are all problems easily solved by hydrating yourself?

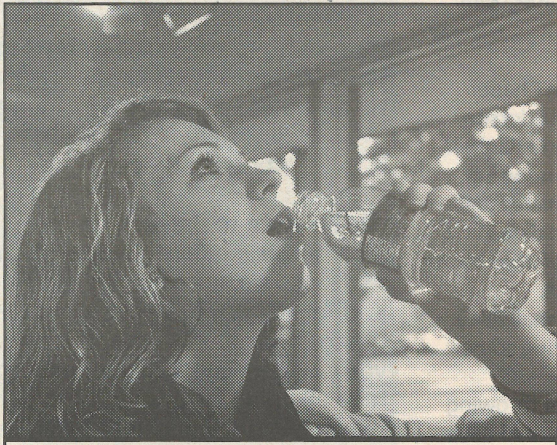
As you may know, water is the necessary liquid and commodity that helps us better manage our health and combat dehydration. The weight of the human body primarily consists of about two-thirds water.

A mere 2 percent drop in our body's water supply can trigger symptoms of dehydration such as fuzzy short-term memory, grogginess, and difficulties focusing on texts in books or computer screens.

The next time you feel tired or you are unable to focus, there is a great possibility that you are dehydrated, and it has an immediate effect on your academic outcome.

According to track team member Seth Bridges, if we do not hydrate ourselves adequately, everything (such as our heart and lungs) will start shutting down because exercising uses up stored water.

"When you're living an active lifestyle, it's extremely important [to keep yourself hydrated]," he said.



Drinking water will give your body the boost it needs

Photo Credit: Doug Harkness

Seth learned from an anecdote about a college-bound high school student in Virginia who died of dehydration combined with excessive exercise. Especially during physically demanding activities, hydration could mean the difference between life and death.

One common myth about hydration is that drinks such as sports drinks, juices, and sodas provide an adequate amount of hydration.

The truth is that most of these drinks almost never give you the sufficient amount of hydration that you need. Sugar is a common ingredient in most sodas and juices and is the main problem because it turns into fat if not burned off. In addition to the

sugar, most sodas have caffeine that only assists the dehydration process. Most college students do not think of the potential health effects when excessively consuming such drinks.

Professor Eric Steinkamp, a life sciences professor at Northwest University, made what he calls a 'lifestyle change' and resolved to stop excessively consuming too much soda.

Steinkamp advised Northwest students to follow his example and to embrace the many benefits of consuming water.

"Eliminate the negative effects of sugary, dehydrating drinks and choose to drink water more often. The earlier you break the craving, the better," he said.

There are many practical and simple ways to keep hydrated and healthy. Keep a water bottle in your backpack or purse. Make sure to hydrate before, during, and after physically demanding activities.

Order water instead of lemonade the next time you eat at a restaurant. If you want to take a small step in living a healthier and better life, start by learning how to hydrate yourself responsibly.

Contact this writer at brett.koga09@northwestu.edu

Eagle Eye: e-Readers lighten the load for students

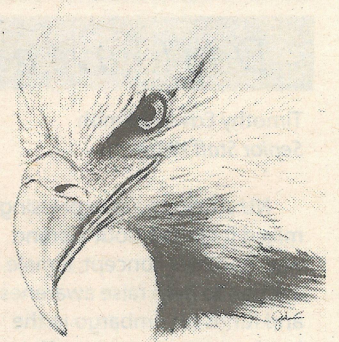


Photo Credit: www.eagle-clipart.com

Kristi Henderson
Staff Reporter

Electronic textbooks known as 'e-Books' are sweeping the nation and there are many higher education institutions that are jumping on the bandwagon and embracing this digital age.

This e-Book sensation is becoming more common closer to home. Bellevue Community College has transferred over their collection of hardcopy text to almost exclusively electronic texts. Here is what Eagle bookstore staff, Tabitha Williams says about where Northwest University fits into this mix.

"At this time we have no electronic textbooks. The closest thing we have is Web access for homework assignments. For the first time ever, I had a potential student ask if we had e-Books available. We are researching what is available as an e-Book and how we provide that."

Tabitha comments on the cost-effectiveness of e-Books.

"Depends on how you look at it. If the person doesn't care about keeping the book then it is cost-effective, most subscriptions will expire. Most of the time it is only cost-effective if it is not a textbook but rather a book you would read for pleasure. Publishers treat textbooks differently," she said.

There can be drawbacks to renting or owning online textbooks. When a student rents a textbook, if that book proves valuable for their career or future education that student must pay to obtain the book again after the renting period ends.

Therefore, if the student is planning on entering the career field of the subject of that text, he or she might want to spend the extra dough to purchase it. If a student buys an e-Book, he or she might experience other setbacks.

What if the computer gets stolen, the battery runs out, or it crashes? The list goes on and on. There are some e-Book stores that allow the customer to access that book on other computers with a password, but that access is limited.

Some students would say that the reason they don't buy e-Books is because they can't write in them, it's hard to make notes and they can't flip through quickly, they have to wait for the next page to load.

Senior business major, Jackie Prince, remarked on the technological problems she encountered when an online textbook was required for the Non-Profit Management class.

"It was hard to take notes. The whole class hated it and the professor vowed never to use the online format again," she said.

On the contrary, some would say that those setbacks aren't really all that bad. In fact, the students that buy those e-Books say that savings outweigh any setbacks.

"I can't overstate how helpful it is to have my textbooks available online. I never have to worry about forgetting my books, and I don't have to haul them around. Once you get used to reading on a screen, it becomes easier and faster than reading print," said media communication major, Jonathan Kowalski.

The interaction complaint is not a factor for some technology. Most e-Readers allow the reader to make notes, highlight and even see where other readers have highlighted and bookmarked.

What do you think? Are e-Readers better than textbooks? Place your vote online at thetalon.squarespace.com

Talon Trivia:

This professor was placed for the second time in the University of Washington's Hall of Fame for rowing.

- A) Kari Brodin
- B) Peg Achterman
- C) Gary Gillespie
- D) Brad Embry

See middle of page 11 for answer



NU Says Goodbye to Carol Blundell

Timothy Edward Smith
Senior Staff Writer

Aerie cook Carol Blundell will no longer be working at NU due to a decrease in profits.

"It's really tough when you have to make that kind of decision when it's somebody who's a vital part of the success of a place, but it's like a double-edged sword when you can't afford to keep them," said Aerie manager Dawn Williams.

According to Williams, the recent down turn in the economy is a reason why students aren't spending as much as they once were, and that had to be factored into the decision to let Blundell go.

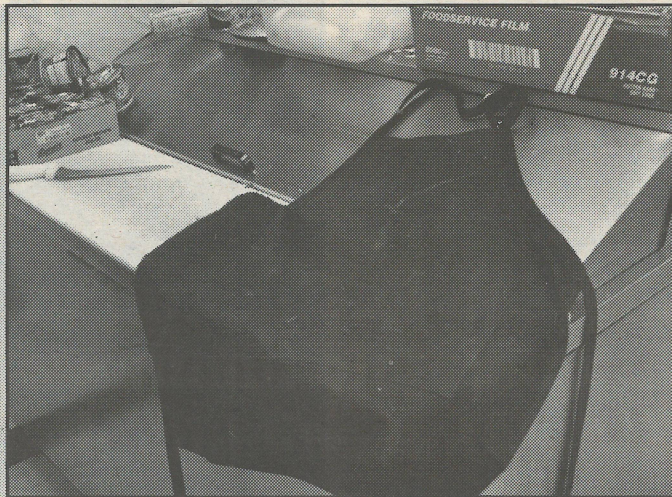
"This came down from the top. It was a decision that the Aerie wasn't making money, and someone had to get their hour's cut, and that was me," said Blundell.

In 2000, Blundell started working in the cafeteria, and after her hours were cut last spring, Williams hired her to work in the Aerie preparing hot lunches and dessert items.

While saddened when she was told the news, Blundell wasn't hurt by the decision. She feels God has given her a peace that there is something else great out in the world for her to do. She hopes that every NU student will continue to work hard, remember that God is in complete control and to keep faith in that.

"I love the kids, and the kids knew it," said Blundell.

Aerie coordinator Jadon Haynes considers his fondest memory of Blundell to be how much she



The beloved Aerie chef will be greatly missed

Photo Credit: Doug Harkness

loved to serve the students and how everyday it was always

about what the students wanted.

Williams hopes business will turn around and maybe then the Aerie could bring her back on as cook.

"She was always about making kids happy and making students feel like they were at home," said Aerie employee Mason Wheeler.

Currently unemployed, Blundell is looking for a new job and she feels God is calling her to help as a cook for people with assisted living needs.

"To walk with God is to love and care for other people," said Blundell.

Her fondest memory about NU was getting to know the students and going to the basketball games. She plans to still attend games in the future.

Shoreline Artist Launches Into Budding Career

Jennifer Jensen
Staff Reporter

After dedicating six years to singing and songwriting, 22-year-old, Matt Bekker, of Shoreline, Washington may have finally caught his break, with help from artists such as Elton John and Teddy Geiger.

Inspired by his love of the English language and encouraged by a supportive youth pastor at his church, Westgate Chapel, Bekker jumped into songwriting.

Though he had no formal education in music, other than his participation in various youth choirs, he started out on the guitar one chord at a time, confident that one day his rhythm and melodies would accompany his lyrics.

In 2006, Bekker released his first single, "All Tied Up," and after playing his single for a group of friends, he grew in the confidence that he had what it would take.

"Everyone was so supportive," recalled Bekker, which in turn compelled him to further develop his talent for music. In October 2009, Bekker released his first full-length album entitled, "First of Things to Come," and began touring smaller venues along the West Coast.



Singer, songwriter Matt Bekker makes his cut into some serious music

Photo Credit: Allison Nesis

In late 2010, after years of college tours and small acoustic sets, Bekker went to London to meet with fellow musicians and songwriters.

While in London, he caught a rather unexpected break. "I ended up running into Elton John...he asked me to play some of my music for him...and he enjoyed it!" said Bekker.

This surprise encounter with a famous musician led Bekker to feel like he had finally entered into the music scene.

"After he left, I almost started crying because I felt like I had done this for so long...I felt like I [was] finally catching a break," said Bekker.

This growing musician suddenly found himself donning a Gucci suit, flying on a private jet, and brush-

ing shoulders with big names in the music industry.

"We spent a good amount of time together...it was kind of surreal," stated Bekker.

Since that experience, Bekker has traveled throughout other parts of Europe and Los Angeles, and is currently preparing for a two-week trip to New York City to meet with record companies and representatives.

In future weeks, Bekker will begin fine-tuning his songwriting skills with Elton John, as well as working with recording artist Teddy Geiger, and hopes to secure a record label and publishing deal.

However, in the midst of his recent experiences, Bekker remains hopeful and levelheaded.

"I am doing the stuff I really enjoy," he said. From the small coffee houses of greater Seattle to the streets of Europe, Bekker has found his voice.

With his passionate heart, humble demeanor, and captivating lyrics, it is only a matter of time before 'Matt Bekker' is a household name.

For more information on Matt Bekker or his upcoming shows, follow him on twitter, @bekkermusic, look for him at facebook.com/bekkermusic, or check out his album on iTunes.

Milagro Surprises You

Danielle Mercier
Staff Reporter

Located on Lake Street in Kirkland, Milagro Cantina is anything but your ordinary Mexican restaurant. The experience will give you an authentic taste of Mexico that will challenge and tantalize your taste buds.

Beautiful décor with ambient fire places all around make for a comfortable, cozy dining experience. Colorful lanterns cover the ceiling and a gorgeous metal tree lines the wall of the bar.

"The atmosphere is truly fabulous; creative beyond belief with textures, colors, and accents that reap coolness. I love decor, so that coupled with great food and super service just rocks my dining-out world," said Yelp blogger Dawn T.

The unique menu will surprise you as it is nothing a regular Azteca or Tres Hermanos-goer will recognize.

Milagro chef, Chris Peterson, sought to use the ingredients native to the Northwest, while including foods from all over the Mexican map, which he calls, 'street foods.'

While you may recognize names like 'taco' and 'enchilada,' don't be fooled-the dishes are not what you expect.

'Lengua,' is a dish topping the taco list, which consists of a braised beef tongue taco topped with Serrano salsa. This meal is not for the weak or unadventurous diner.

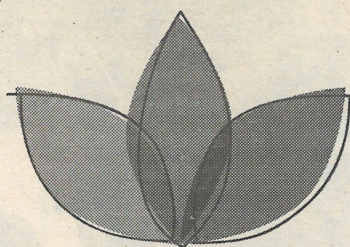
Don't be scared off yet, because not all of Milagro's dishes are that outlandish. There are dishes that befriend your taste buds in a more familiar way with just a hint of a Milagro spin.

The Enchiladas De Pollo is a typical chicken enchilada, topped with a tasty key lime cream sauce.

The meals, while semi-decent in price, add up fast. Two appetizers, one meal and drinks totaled \$40.00 with tax.

If you're eager for something different and classy, take a trip down to Kirkland's waterfront and give Milagro a try.

Answer: B) Peg Achterman



BLOOM

indie music conference

ENCOURAGEMENT, EDUCATION, & RESOURCING FOR THE INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN ARTIST

Bloom will equip, encourage, and resource indie artists at all levels to go further and faster through a variety of discussions.

- Sit down one-on-one with A&R and marketing leaders who have signed and promoted artists like Matt Kearney, Shane and Shane, Decyfer Down, Flyleaf, Skillet, Downhere, and Jason Gray.
- Hear from Seth Mosley, the producer & co-writer on the Newsboys latest album including the #1 song "Born Again", at the Song Writer Bootcamp
- Get advice from a publisher who has placed songs on TV shows such as *One Tree Hill* and *The Hills*.

www.bloommusicconference.com

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APRIL 8 - 9, 2011 NORTHWEST UNIVERSITY SEATTLE, WA

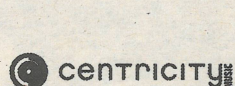


Photo Journal

SCREAMING EAGLE WEEK 2011

Photography by Doug Harkness

And so it began.
Rubber balls flying through the air,
dislocated pinkies,
and pure competition.
Dodgeball at its finest!

