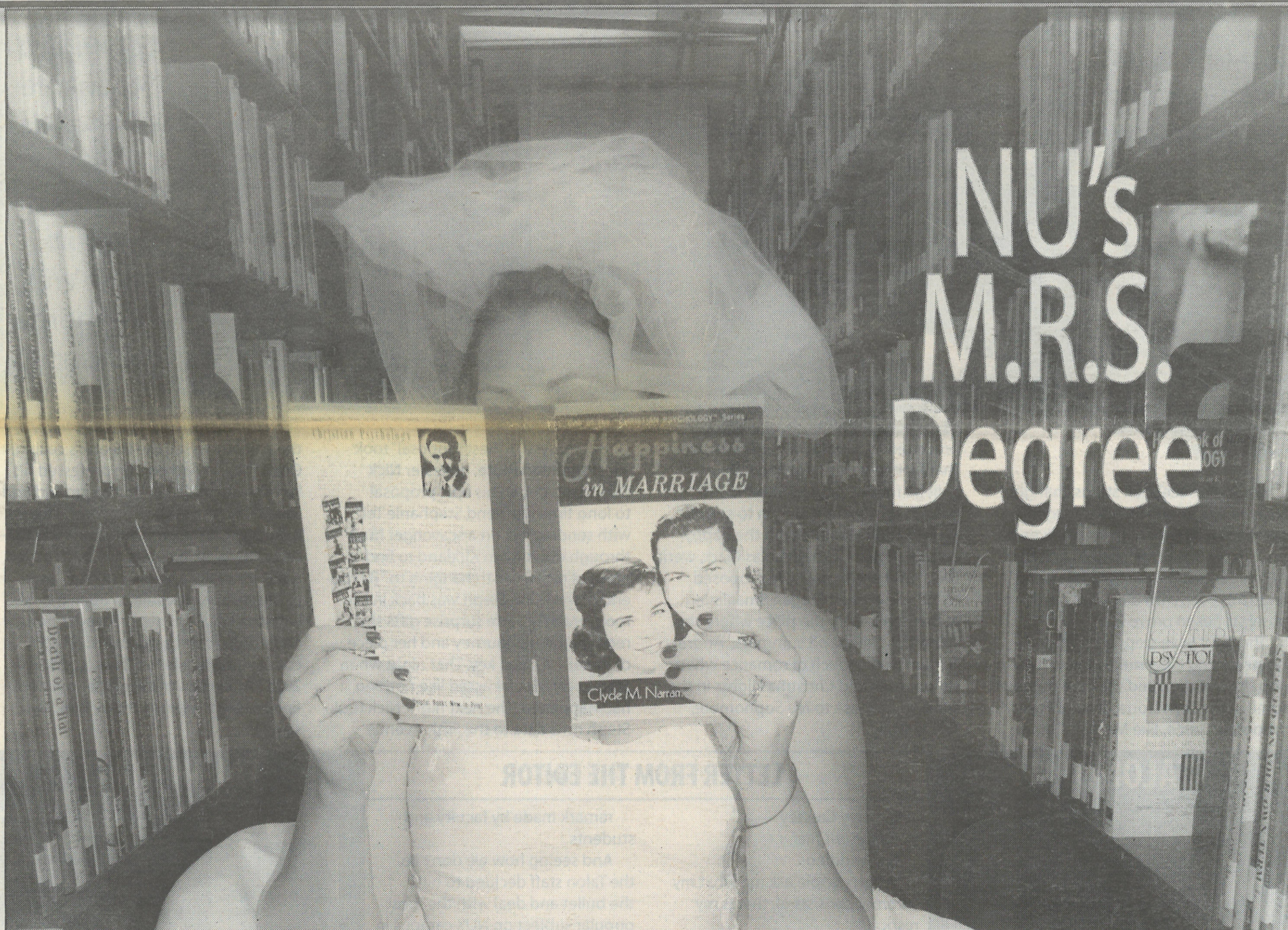


# THE TALON

March 2009

A NORTHWEST PUBLICATION WRITTEN BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS

Volume 1. Issue 6



## Wedding Bells are Ringing on the Northwest Campus

Michelle Meade  
Senior Writer

Christian colleges have acquired the reputation of being "bridal colleges," a pun on "Bible college." The title implies that people attend such schools in order to find a Christian spouse.

The stereotype has become a joke at Northwest. Students speak of expecting a "ring by spring" and living in the "FIRS by fall."

Northwest University does have a much higher percentage of married students than average. Nationally, about 7 percent of college students are married while getting their degree, according to the 2003 U.S. Census Bureau. Northwest University, on the other hand, has had between 20 percent and 25 percent married students since 1995. This year's, 22 percent of students are married, which is three times higher than the national average.

Jan Hicks, Student Development Coordinator, does not see the school itself as encouraging a focus on finding a mate.

"From what I see here, it's more geared toward education and the social aspect than the idea of the 'bridal college' of the 70s," she said. Dr. Sarah Drivdahl, professor of psychology at NU, agrees that her students are "here to get their degree."

Drivdahl acknowledged some basis for the "ring by spring" stereotype. "(Students) don't come to the school to get married, but they may come hoping for a certain kind of spouse. Christians who are going to Christian schools are usually committed to their faith and want a mate who shares that commitment," said Drivdahl.

However, the desire to marry is not exclusive to Christian communities. Drivdahl mentioned psychologist Erik Erikson's well-known theory of the eight stages of development.

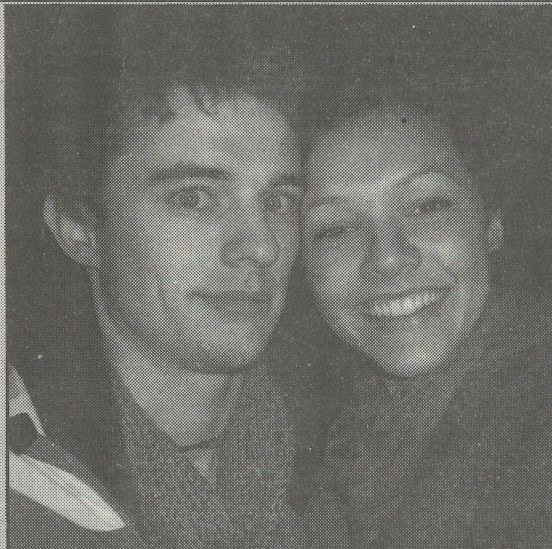
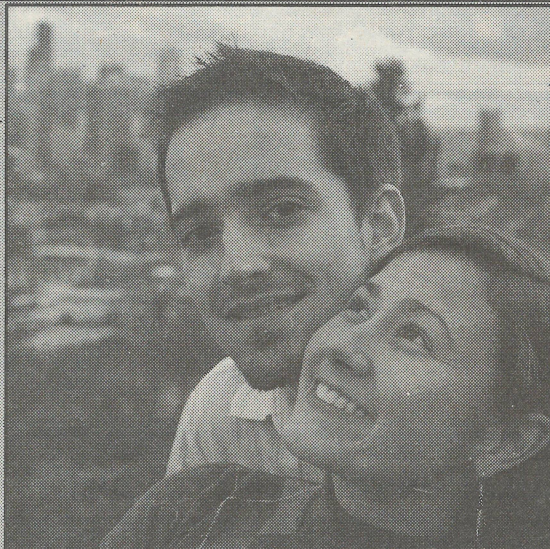
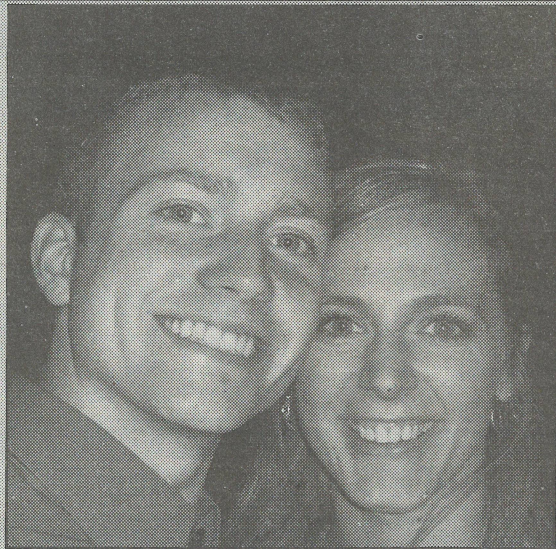
According to this theory, people in their early twenties seek intimacy. In other words, college-aged people want to form lasting relationships that may include marriage and family.

Continued on Page 3



# NU News

## A Glimpse at NU Proposals in Spring 2009

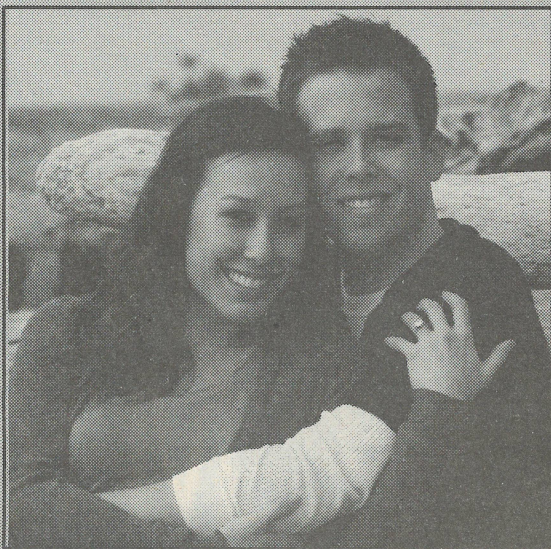


**Top Left:** Laura Vantreas and Jared Burrow

**Top Center:** Krista Fosse And Tyler Cronk

**Top Right:** Stephanie Tell and Nick Dickenson

**Bottom Left:** Olivia Moormeier and Micah



**Bottom Right:** Jackie Welk and Andrew Tolson

By: Olivia Moormeier  
Staff Writer

Once the Facebook status changes from "in a relationship" to "engaged" people just cannot help themselves but pry... "how did he propose?" Dozens of NU students have the "ring by spring" fever this year, with diamonds and proposal stories to prove it.

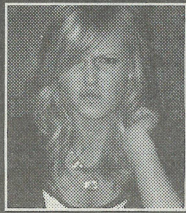
The guys have stepped up the creativity and cleverness in how they pop the question and we have gathered some of the best stories from this year's proposals. Some, like Morgan Chinn,

used the sensitive approach. Morgan proposed to Sandra Richards in a poem that he had written for her. A flood of college friends poured into the restaurant they were sitting in to surprise Sandra and celebrate with the happy couple. Others, like Nicholas Clark, went the sentimental route. He proposed to NU sweetheart Megan Smaaladen at Cannon beach, the place where she spent her childhood summers. Andrew Tolson used a touch of romance when set up roses and Christmas lights in the snow to propose to NU Sophomore, Jackie Welk.

But this year's "Best Proposal" took a less tradition route. Jokester Nick Dickenson began his epic proposal to long time girlfriend Stephanie Tell with sending her on a scavenger hunt through downtown Kirkland to find "a piece of metal worth hanging to." By the end of the hunt, Steph was back in her room with the little surprise gifts she received on her journey and her piece of metal... a small key. That night when Steph saw Nick he acted like nothing had happened. The next night Nick took Steph on a date to the Fifth Avenue

Theater and insisted on taking her to the balcony to see the theater's ceiling. Once they were there, he professed his love for her and knelt to the ground and asked, "Wanna grab some food? I found a quarter on the ground." Steph was furious. On a walk the next day, Nick pulled a box out of the snow and handed it to Steph. She was able to open the box with the key from her scavenger hunt and inside found a picture of an old couple kissing labeled "Nick and Steph 2071." After days of faking her out, Nick finally asked Steph to marry him. She said YES!

### TALON STAFF



**Lindsey Cressey:**  
Editor-in-Chief



**Rachael Harris:**  
Senior Staff Writer



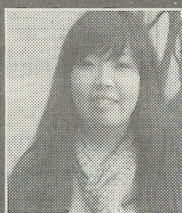
**Michelle Meade:**  
Senior Staff Writer



**Peter Vertefeuille:**  
Staff Writer



**Stephanie Tell:**  
Publisher/Ads



**Satomi Ito:**  
Advertising Assistant

### LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Lindsey Cressey  
Editor-in-Chief

Six weddings.  
When people ask me what my summer consists of, that is my response.

I am in three and attending six... so far. And I know I am not the only person on this campus that is constantly being reminded of the "Bridal College" jokes and the intense truth that lies within them.

I, being no where near ready for marriage, respect these couples as they embark on a journey together and they can inhale a unified sigh of relief in finding, "The One."

But for the rest of us, the "Ring By Spring" myth seems to bring with it many truths, as numerous couples on this campus are preparing to make one of the biggest commitments of their lives.

It would be a lie to deny the truth and humor behind each lingering

remark made by faculty and students.

And seeing how we don't lie, the Talon staff decided to bite the bullet and deal with the most popular subject on NU's campus in the most diverse way possible.

In this issue, you will find a mix of true love stories, satirical outlooks, comics, faculty and student opinions on marriages in private universities.

And all you single folks, don't shut the paper just yet. There is something in here for you too.

After all, it is springtime, and whether that means recognizing love for another person or the love for our savior, taking in this issue to expand on the heart seems only fitting.

So grab a carton of ice cream, a box of tissues and an open mind as the lovey-dovey-iness of Northwest graces the pages of the Talon newspaper.

Not Pictured: Rachel Buchman: Staff Writer and Dan Redwine: Staff Writer

### TALON STAFF



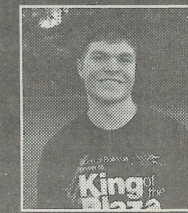
**Rebekah Smith:**  
Staff Photographer



**Jared Burrow:**  
Photographer



**Andrew Tolson:**  
Staff Writer



**Josh Desimone:**  
Staff Writer



**Kirsten Phillips:**  
Staff Writer



**Olivia Moormeier:**  
Staff Writer



## Married life and college: A match made in heaven?



*Continued from Page 1*

Drivdahl explained that the ethic of sexual purity on a campus such as Northwest's encourages students to marry rather than live together before marriage. This ethic is "not a bad thing. It's a good thing!" said Drivdahl.

The danger, though, comes when students rush to get married before they have developed their identity. Drivdahl pointed out that the life stage directly before the quest for intimacy is the quest for identity. "Some people in college weren't out of the identity stage yet, but they got married anyway," she said. "If I get married before I figure out who I am, that is problematic."

Darrell Hobson, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, came to NU as a student in 1967. He has seen a generational change in attitudes toward marriage. Students today tend to marry later and to mock the idea of looking for commitment.

"NU is about helping people grow and fulfill their goals and ambitions. If courtship and marriage are part of that, no one should disparage it," said Hobson.

Many who attend Northwest University will graduate without getting engaged. The male to female ratio of two to three sets the odds against women who hope to marry another NU student. "I've had students come by over the years, disappointed that they haven't found 'the one,'" said Hicks. She encourages such students not to limit their futures. "There are many opportunities and many avenues to find a Christian, if that's what you're looking for," said Hicks.

A study by Laura Montgomery, published in the November/December issue of the *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*, points out the differences in choices and expectations for male and female college students. Men tend to choose their majors based more on job and earning potential. Women are less likely to consider earning potential. They are also more likely to expect to compromise their careers to raise children when they started a family.

Montgomery's study shows that many more women major in education, social sciences, and the humanities, while more men choose the natural sciences.

The 2008 Enrollment Report on the Eagle Website confirms this trend. The School of Business holds 87 male and 77 female undergraduates, even though men are the minority in the university. The College of Ministry holds 117 male and 83 female undergraduates.

On the other hand, the Schools of Nursing and Education and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences contain an overwhelming number of women.

Part of Montgomery's reasoning for this difference is the expectation that careers in teaching or other more traditionally "feminine" fields will allow more leeway for mothers to take time off to raise their children.

The current social and economic situation means that most married women, regardless of their major, will have to work outside the home. However, the attitudes of the students in the study show that society has not completed the transition.

Professor LeRoy Johnson has seen the opportunities for women grow drastically in his 42 years at Northwest University.

"When I came all the majors were ministry degrees of one kind or another. Women students really had few options upon graduating with a ministry degree as there were not many ministry openings in the Assemblies of God for single women," said Johnson.

This may explain the pressure that ministry-minded women in the 60s felt to marry a pastor at NU, said Johnson.

"A final observation I can make is that through the years I have thought that some men students have a rather inflated opinion about themselves and feel that they need to look somewhere else to find their girl friends and/or potential mates. I have watched too many wonderful, talented, spiritually aware women go through NU without any men paying attention to them," said Johnson.

Only nine percent of Northwest traditional undergraduate students are married. Thirteen percent of non-traditional students are married.



## Love at First Sight, Marriage at Second for NU Couple

By: Anuheia Akamine  
Guest Writer

The phrase "love at first sight" may seem cliché, but that overused sentiment seems apropos when describing the whirlwind romance and marriage of NU newlyweds Kaila and Josh Jenkins.

Although getting married as students and moving to the FIRS is not exactly uncommon at NU, Kaila and Josh definitely moved on their decision to marry more quickly than do most student couples.

"Our situation was special," said Josh, although he does not recommend that other students should necessarily make a decision of such importance so quickly. "It's probably not a wise thing," he continued, "although we felt God's blessing over us the entire time, that's why we felt it was the right time to get married."

They first met at the Ice Cream Social during Orientation week in August of 2008. After dating for just a few months they were absolutely certain that it was God's plan for them to be husband and wife, and so Kaila and Josh decided to run away and get married.

That November they headed for Reno.

"A lot of people may have thought going to Reno was a spontaneous decision, but during the long drive we kept checking with each other to see if we were still ready," said Josh.

"We really felt God was a big part of the relationship and we felt like this was what he wanted us to



Josh and Kaila Jenkins exchanged vows at a wedding chapel in Reno, Nevada over the holiday break.



do. We were both ready," added Kaila.

"We knew from the moment we met that we were the ones for each other and we wanted to get married. We're just lucky that we found each other so young," she added.

Because both Kaila and Josh were just 18 when they wed, it is not surprising that news of their marriage was met with some controversy by the community. But as is the case with all great romance stories, Kaila and Josh are confident that their love will endure and trust that God will continue to bless their relationship.

As far as adjusting to married life, Kaila and Josh are not exempt from the day-to-day problems and challenges that all married couples face as they learn to live with the vows "for better or for worse."

Already the newlyweds have experienced the full spectrum of emotions that are part of every marriage.

"It (married life) has its ups and downs," acknowledges Kaila.

"I mean, no relationship will be perfect, but the troubles along the way help you to know each other even more," added Josh.

Despite any lingering controversy or disapproval, Kaila and Josh cling to the one thing that they hold dear to their hearts: "We really felt God was a big part of the relationship from the very beginning and we believe this was what he wanted us to do. We just love each other so much!" said Kaila.



## The Queen of the Castle: Kathleen Castleberry

By: Lindsey Cressey  
Editor-in-Chief

It was right in the middle of conjugating verbs in foreign language class when Joseph Castleberry met the woman that he would spend his life with.

"In Spanish class, our third year, she was sitting across the room from me and I noticed her and just really liked her. She was so cool and collected, so dignified and so blue eyed," said President Joseph Castleberry.

Although they have been on many adventures since their college days at Evangel, as I sit down to coffee with Kathleen Castleberry, some of these defining moments of the past echo throughout the interview.

So who is this Queen behind the Castle? Who is the woman beside the face of Northwest? Let me introduce you all, to Kathleen Castleberry.

Originally from Pennsylvania, Kathleen grew up with her father, mother and brother near Philadelphia.

Upon marrying Joseph Castleberry, Kathleen moved to New Jersey where he was studying at seminary. After seminary, the couple ventured overseas, spending three years in El Salvador and five in Ecuador before moving to Springfield, Missouri.

Now with three daughters, Jessie, Jodie and Sophie, Kathleen spent time developing each girl into a woman of character and embracing each of their qualities.

"That's my passion; raising my daughters," she said.

Jodie became involved in theater in Missouri, which led her to discover a unique hobby she grew to love.

"Jodie was supposed to be an elf with a sword and needed fencing classes, and I started taking classes with her. She didn't like them very much, but I really enjoyed them so I continued lessons on my own," she said.

Kathleen took her fencing lessons for two years before the move to Kirkland.

"I haven't had a hard time adjusting to the climate and culture here at all. I guess because we have lived overseas I have seen different ways of living and enjoy experiencing the uniqueness. I love it here. I love the environment, I love the weather. It's cool 99 percent of the time here and I hate the heat," she said.

The Castleberrys moved 15 times in the first 15 years of their marriage. Kathleen described that "people are people everywhere. There are cultural dif-

ferences but for the most part I see that as a plus."

"We've moved a lot. She's always been a real trooper," Dr. Castleberry continued.

"Kathy fully embraced the calling to be with me, and knew that meant we would be moving around. And she has never complained about my constant traveling. She's never once showed the slightest evidence of jealousy or distrust. Although she said this is the last move," he ended with a grin.

Kathleen is currently involved with the art and décor committee at Northwest, helping with the set up and tear down of art exhibits. She also heads up the monthly women's faculty and staff lunch.

"This lunch is on campus for women, either staff or faculty, to get together and reconnect. The university is large enough that we can easily go for months without seeing each other if we don't make the effort to interact. It was already functioning when I got here; I've just enjoyed hosting it and

making sure it happens," she said.

Hosting and spending time with her girls are some of Kathleen's favorite things to do.

"I think people would be surprised at how socially gregarious she is. She comes off quiet, but she's excellent at mixing," Joseph said, adding, "she is also a great cook."

Joseph's favorite meal is the traditional pork and sauerkraut Kathleen makes every New Year's Day.

"It's an old Pennsylvania thing that she has kept alive. It's excellent," he stated.

Her daughters also enjoy spending quality time with their mother.

"My favorite memory of my mother is any time I've made her laugh. Any time she's laughed uncontrollably. It's the loveliest thing in the world to see her laugh," explained Jodie Castleberry.

Jodie recalled one time when she was little that her mother was cutting her hair and she accidentally snipped Jodie's eyebrow.

"We joke that it will be put on her tombstone,"

Jodie chuckled.

Joseph Castleberry stated that his daughters exemplify the same noble characteristics he sees in his wife.

"My daughters are fine people with great attitudes; they are kind people, and they have dignity and self control. They are the kind of people I want to know," he said.

When asked to describe Kathleen, Joseph smiled and calmly remarked, "She just utterly melts me; she completely captures me. I just look into those blue eyes and all the problems of the world go away. I am just at peace."

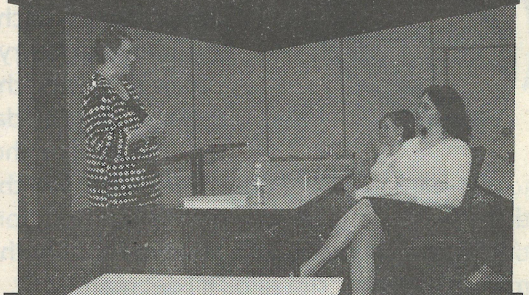


Kathleen Castleberry with daughter Jessica



"It's the loveliest thing in the world to see her laugh," said Jodie Castleberry about her mother.

## Faith In The Humanities Conference



Kirsten Phillips  
Staff Writer

Students have an opportunity to share their best work at the third annual Faith in Humanities conference this month.

This conference, which is hosted by Sigma Tau Delta, will see a wide variety of academic papers, exceptional presentations, and it will challenge you in your thinking and understanding of many different issues, according to event organizer Dr. Martha Diede.

This conference is not your typical "conference" that you might think of at NU. It isn't a spiritual growth conference or anything of the like. In fact, this conference is different from what any other school has according to Dr. Martha Diede, an English professor at NU.

The Faith in Humanities conference gives students the opportunity to present their academic and creative papers to their peers and professors outside of a classroom setting, said student and President of Sigma Tau Delta Rebekha Smith. The papers are then subject to questions and review.

The conference this year is focusing on argumentative and creative papers. "Most people who learn to think like to think" and these papers will give you a different perspective and challenge you as a student in your thinking, said Dr. Diede.

NU's own Dr. Blaine Charette, will be the keynote speaker. He will be presenting a paper entitled, "Paul, Blindness, and the Servant of the Lord."

"Dr. Charette is the embodiment of the theme of the Faith in Humanities conference, and he is actively integrating his faith and his intellects on this campus," said Smith.

The event will be held March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> in the HSC.

The conference is an open house format. "The only thing we ask is that you are respectful to the presenters and wait until the Q & A or a break to enter or leave the conference," said Dr. Diede.

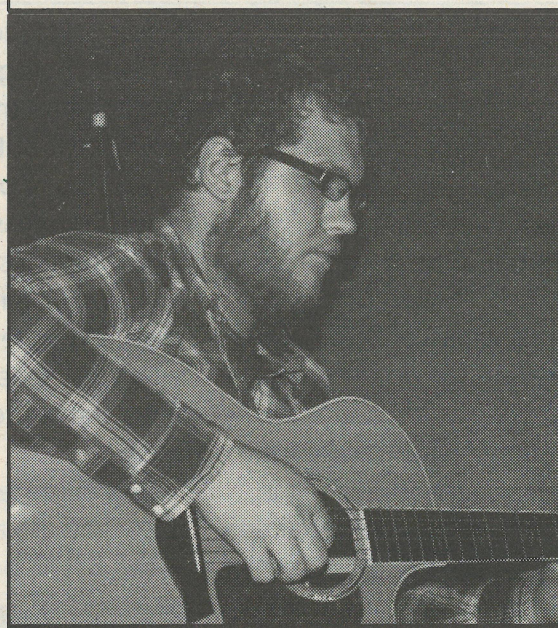


## Heather's Hot Hits

Top Ten Most Played Love Songs that Are Guaranteed to Light the Fire in Your heart

- 1.) My Heart Will Go On - Celine Dion
- 2.) Let's Get It On - Marvin Gaye
- 3.) Can You Feel The Love Tonight? - Elton John
- 4.) When A Man Loves a Woman - Percy Sledge
- 5.) Iris - Goo Goo Dolls
- 6.) L-O-V-E - Nat King Cole
- 7.) I Don't Want To Miss A Thing - Aerosmith
- 8.) At Last - Etta James
- 9.) I'll Be Seeing You - Billy Holiday
- 10.) God Must Have Spent A Little More Time On You - N'Sync

## NU Artist: Joshua Phillips



Joshua Desimone  
Staff Writer

The man behind the soulful strings, Josh Phillips, is a senior at Northwest that has gained widespread attention and popularity for his music recently.

This 25-year-old from North Carolina likes to emulate the sounds from his home town Ahsokie, North Carolina.

Josh Phillips is an up and coming artist that is gaining attention and popularity in the local area.

"I sound sort of like mountain

folk of North Carolina with an Indie rock flair," said Phillips. "Every song I write is a direct reflection of my life, whether I mask it or it's very direct. Basically I just tell stories."

Josh has been playing for almost four years now. If you're looking to see Josh live you might need to check out your local coffee shop or other small local venues.

"I'll play anywhere," said Phillips.

When asked who he's influenced by Josh said, "Hank Williams, Iron and Wine, Bob Dylan, and Hank and Bob. Whose music has been out for 20 to 40 years old but is still relevant today. Iron and Wine takes that same vibe and makes it more modern."

Right now, Josh has been playing at a church in Ballard called Emmanuel.

"I visited and they didn't have any music, but it's a church centered around arts so Kyle Turver and I started doing worship for them," said Phillips, "Playing my own music is the most satisfying, but at Emmanuel we are just as creative with songs we haven't wrote."

Josh doesn't have an official band, but he continues to play all the time.

"I don't have a formal band, but I play with different people all the time," said Phillips.

You can hear one of Josh's songs 'PS Live' on myspace.com at myspace.com/jphillipswa. In this song, you can hear Josh singing and playing the guitar. This song will give you the real feel of what Josh has to offer.

Take three minutes to listen to Josh's song on myspace if your interested in a new up and coming acoustic artist.

Josh plans to start recording very soon. He hopes to release a CD recorded as well as other merchandise such as buttons, t-shirts, etc.

## A Tale of Two Mountains: Snoqualomine VS. Stevens

By: Peter Vertefeuille  
Staff Writer

The cold air stings your face as you look out over the freshly falling powder. You cinch your bindings snugly over your boots, take a deep breath, and stand to engage the mountain.

If you enjoy skiing or snowboarding on a frequent basis, there are two mountains that you will most likely look to, to satisfy your urge for snow: The Summit at Snoqualmie or Stevens Pass. These two mountains are the closest to Kirkland and either one is great for day or night skiing. They are both very different from one another, and each has its own distinctive feel and atmosphere. This is a quick look at each mountain and how they stack up against each other.

### Summit at Snoqualmie:

About an hour east on I-90 there sits the lowest ski resort in Washington State. At 2,610 feet above sea level, the Summit at Snoqualmie is the little mountain that could.

Snoqualmie has 1,025 feet of vertical drop, which is not very much compared to other ski resorts. But don't let its size fool you; Snoqualmie packs a lot into the space it has. There are four separate areas to occupy your time on the mountain: Summit East, Summit Central, Summit West, and Alpentel.

These four sections of the mountain contain runs ranging from beginner to double black diamonds. There are three

Terrain Parks with jumps, boxes, jibs (rails), and a whole arsenal of obstacles, such as a van box and a massive Toll Bridge. Central Park contains the biggest and hardest terrain, as well as a Super Pipe and Quarter Pipe.

For backcountry runs, Alpentel offers the best areas, and, if you get there early enough, untracked powder from top to bottom. As far as value and fun, Snoqualmie is awesomely close to Kirkland for a quick daily ride.

### Stevens Pass:

Stevens Pass is a big mountain that offers long runs and endless possibilities for fun.

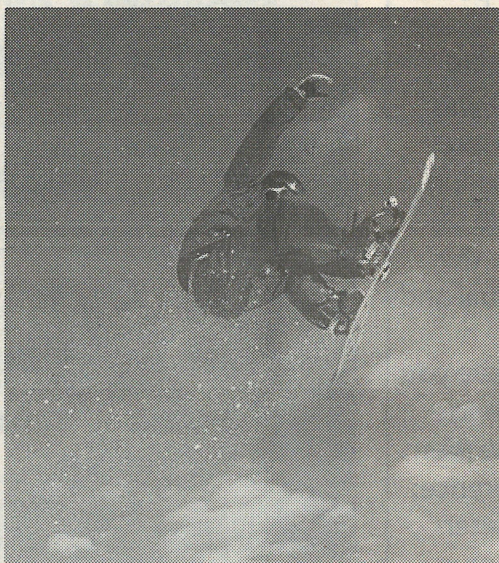
Stevens has 1,800 feet of vertical drop spread down the mountain in long runs that range from beginner to double black diamonds. It occupies three sides of two different mountains. Stevens is beautifully spread out and offers great

runs to explore and conquer.

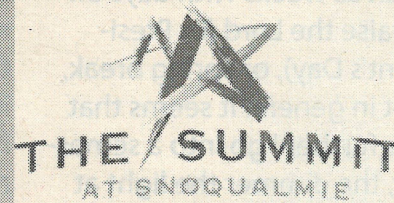
The Top Phlight Terrain Park at Stevens is huge and contains jumps ranging from small lips to huge booters that satisfy the most extreme of appetites for air. There are also boxes, jibs, and hips to get your adrenaline pumping.

As far as backcountry, Stevens has beautiful powder bowls and a backside of the mountain where untracked powder is plentiful.

Slightly farther away than Snoqualmie (about two hours from Kirkland) and a bit pricier, Stevens is a great weekend mountain to ride.



Lifts: 19  
Runs: 70  
Base Elevation:  
2,610 feet  
Area: 1,697 acres  
Hours: 9 AM - 5 PM / 10 PM  
Night Skiing: Yes (select lifts)  
Price (Adult): \$48 (9 am-5 pm)  
\$32 (4 pm-10 pm)



Lifts: 10  
Runs: 37 major runs  
Base Elevation: 4,061 feet  
Area: 1,125 acres  
Hours: 9 AM - 4 PM / 10 PM  
Night Skiing: Yes (select lifts)  
Price (Adult): \$49 (9 am-10 pm)  
\$39 (12 pm-10 pm)  
\$30 (4 pm-10 pm)





# Ministry

## Womens Conference: Tailor Made

Olivia Moormeier  
Guest Writer

Northwest University's annual Women's Conference was held Friday and Saturday, February 20th and 21st.

Women filled the chapel to hear from NU alum and wife of the District Youth Director, Joanne Portmann, as she spoke of the unique identities women hold in Christ and how to live a victorious life.

This year's theme, Tailor Made, focused on the importance of women accepting their individual talents, spiritual giftings, personalities and teaching women how to walk confidently in the image of God.

Powerful worship, student testimonies, intimate prayer and alter times made for an unforgettable experience.

"It has changed my life," exclaimed Mikaela Shaeffer, Pursuit intern, as she reflected on the conference and her first experience with the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Other's, like Mikaela, shared stories and testimonies of how they experienced or heard from God in a way that they hadn't before.

Freshman student, Heather Cheuka, shared openly about the conference and how it changed her perspective on her peers.

"There are girls I see in class and in the

dorms and I judged them before ever talking to them. Being here at conference with those girls opened my eyes and changed my way of thinking about them," Cheuka explained.

Months of prayer, preparation and planning proved successful as dozens of girls voiced how this year's conference gave them hope, encouragement and clarity for their relationships, struggles and everyday lives.

It was close to midnight before the chapel pews started to empty and the music died down.

One conference attendee commented, "you know you are at a women's conference when all the tissue boxes are empty."



Students spend time in worship and prayer.



Joanne Portmann discusses the importance of remaining confident in Christ.



Students spend time catching up and sharing their testimonies.

## Mens Conference:

*Practicing Faith that is Both Practical and Spiritual*

Eric Wade  
Guest Writer

It seems that with each week that passes by, my workload becomes increasingly difficult. Each new week seems harder than the last. There are some fantastic exceptions to that rule, such as weeks with days off (praise the Lord for President's Day), or spring break, but in general it seems that the further I go into a semester, the dimmer the light at the end of the tunnel gets. This may sound like a very backward idea, but I know that this is true for a lot of students. As the semester progresses, we should be hopeful about nearing completion. Instead, we become overwhelmed by our current situations and seem to lose our sense of motivation and reality.

Being a student is difficult. We have classes, homework, jobs, relationships and other various responsibilities. Sometimes, it is only when we step outside of

our busy lives that we allow ourselves to be transformed and renewed. A few weeks ago, my life was impacted in such a way.

I was extremely busy and preoccupied during the weeks leading up to the Men's Conference. As the date rolled around, my heart was not fully devoted to attending it, but in hindsight, it was just the thing that I needed during this period of relentless stress.

From getting a healthy dose of exercise by playing ultimate frisbee and dodgeball, to the prayer and time of reflection on the words of conference speaker, Monty Hipp, it was all clearly ordained by God.

One of the most profound moments of the conference occurred during the breakfast that we had on Saturday morning with Monty. It was amazing to hear how God has used him and worked through his life during his time in Washington D.C., and to hear how the

lives of prominent senators have been impacted by his example of Christian living in a place dominated by power and ego.

This kind of practicality mixed with spirituality was characteristic of the entire conference. Brooks Josephson, a senior at NU, said of the conference, "it was the perfect blend of spiritual and practical."

What I want to leave you with is the same challenge that Monty gave to the men that were at the conference: "Choice, not chance determines your destiny." As we dig deeper into our semester and the hectic moments of life surround us, we will be faced with choices that will determine our destiny. Will we choose to worship? Will we choose to press on? Will we choose to make the most of our time here at NU (both practically and spiritually)? The truth is that we all hold the keys to our future and can determine the outcome of who we will become.

**Are you Interested in Service and Leadership on Campus?**

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## I am a Kite... So are You

Julia Young

English Professor

We are all kites, and we all fly with one another. Late in August, 1991, I meet Connie and Dan Rice one Sunday afternoon to pick up the text I will use in English 101 the next day. I am going to teach one class at Northwest College, and I'm so excited to be back in the classroom.

I tremble in the air with fear and nervous anticipation.

Spring of 1993, I apply for a full time position at NC. My flight hasn't caused harm, but will the NC Board approve of a Baptist raised Presbyterian English Prof? Surprisingly, the answer is "Yes." Meanwhile, University Presbyterian Church is still the spiritual "house that takes me in to send me out." But it sends me to NC where I finally know the UPC slogan that "every member is a minister."

I soar.

Ack! Does everyone in this chapel pray aloud and with their own prayers? Calm down, breathe. Breathe. Ask why the many voices upset you so much? I do, and I'm coming to know this new culture and connecting with its people. Relationships, not traditions, are key.

I soar a little higher.

At UPC, I hear of "putting our weight on the downhill ski when we follow Christ," or of "flying as a kite tethered to God." Of not cutting our kite's cord because God is the actual kite flyer, not us. Easy to hear. Sometimes difficult to understand.

I flutter a little, unsure of my direction.

No way! Praying with students down front in chapel?! Standing and waiting for someone to come up to me and ask my blessings? What if I don't know him or her? What if I simply can't pray? It's vulnerable. It's scary.

It's flying.

And I realize that it's not all about my comfort, about my solo flight. It's about all of us kites flying together, strung out from the flyer's mighty hand, but unafraid because we fly together, secure in the flyer's strength to hold us.

But, wait, it's not that easy: few of our days see summer's perfection. And even on the best days, we kites often tangle or disregard the flyer's tug; we even fear and doubt the flyer; sometimes, we may self-destruct; but, then it's rare that we fly hopelessly, and somehow, in brief extraordinary moments, our kites catch the wind. We hold, we curl and loop in confidence, and we slowly learn to untangle, to fear and doubt less, to love and hope more.

Perhaps we soar to higher air on those days when we somehow sense a fine tension in our cords held in the loosely stable hand of our flyer. We do have choice, and at some grand moments, we choose to fly with, not against, the flyer. C.S. Lewis might call these moments joy, and Presbyterian minister/writer Frederick Buechner writes of joy that "it is as notoriously unpredictable as the one who bequeaths it." Regardless, it's a joyful soaring that, once we experience it, we want more of it, that spirit-filled flight.

The years pile on; students enter and then, in a blink, graduate; everything changes ... and stays the same: I love to teach, and write, and teach and write what I love.

I am rising again now. Even I am learning to go with the flyer's tug and resist my own, but it's not easy, and it's not every day.

Fall 2007. In Hurst's magic hallway my colleague Glenn Settle asks if I'd like to perform my play as NU's spring play in April '08. "Yes!" There's nothing like personal acknowledgment, is there?

"Well..." I whisper and plunge a few feet, but the flyer anchors me again. Ah, will I ever learn?

Will you? How do we find that joyful, grand tension with our flyer? Experience the paradoxical freedom and obedience that work such joy in our flights? We listen to our flights.

Sorry, I'm blocking your drafts? But, I'm ....

We watch, observe, associate, see in brilliant flashes beyond the reassuringly obstinate blinds of our every day lives. As Mississippian author Eudora Welty once wrote, "Hundreds of people can talk for one who can think, and thousands can think for one who can see. To see clearly is poetry, philosophy,

and religion - all in one."

It's 2009. Like it or not, we kites fly together: men and women and children of all races, Christians and others, even poets and philosophers and preachers. In the mighty care of our good flyer, may we each soar with spirited curls and exhilarating dips, with bright prisms and vibrant hues. Ready? Let's go!

I Am the Kite

I am the kite:  
Red and orange,  
Fire in the sky,  
Stunt Kite,  
Cutting loops  
And gashes in the blue,  
My skin vibrates  
On my frame with power.  
I cut the cord  
To fly yet higher still,  
To show the rest  
What freedom's all about.  
I turn and twist  
My fanciest curl  
And set my course  
For distance.  
But, my mistake  
Was to take  
Not the wind for granted,  
But the cord  
That tensioned me  
To one I did not see  
So far below.  
The flyer is not me.  
Lord, give me anchor. Give me pause.  
Let me know in freedom's limited flight,  
The kite's first cause.

- Bruce Barton Bailey, Sunday, May 29, 1994

## The Power of Prayer

Jadon Haynes

Guest Writer

These are some tough times that we are living in. What better time is there for us to grow stronger in our prayer lives than right now? It's not hard to think of something to pray for on our campus. People are dealing with tough circumstances ranging from financial struggles to family situations; people are sick and broken both physi-

cally and spiritually. Add to the mix our country's economic and political issues, and there is a lot that we can be praying for as Americans, Northwest students and Christians. Now is the time to set aside meaningless pursuits and actively pursue God in deeper and more meaningful ways.

For the rest of the semester, the Chapel will be open for prayer Sunday through Thursday night from 11:00 p.m. to Midnight. This is not a time

for people to earn extra chapel credit; it is a time for people grow closer to God. It is not a time to bring a laundry list of things to God so that he can answer our every need, it is a time to let him be the Lord of our situation and trust him to make his will known to our generation. Some nights we may pray for a specific issue or event. Other nights we may sit alone and pray for our own personal needs. Either way, we will join with other students, seek after God and throw ourselves at his feet.

In Acts 2 after the events of Pentecost, the believers made prayer a foundation for everything they did in relation to God and made joining together a priority for their prayer lives. We live in a community full of other believers, yet so often we are shy or afraid to share with one another what God is doing in our lives. When will this end? When will be able to walk into a floor in the dorms and be eager to share with one another what God is speaking to us, and when will we be willing to receive those words from someone else?

My prayer for the rest of this semester is that we would be a people who is faithful to God in our prayers with him and through that God would speak to his people with visions, dreams, and words of knowledge so that we can grow closer to him. There will now be 9 organized opportunities in any given week to join together with brothers and sisters in prayer, don't let a simple excuse get in the way of you receiving everything that God wants for you the rest of this school year.

# prayer @ 11:00

## sunday-thursday nights

Come to the Chapel for an hour  
of intentional prayer  
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questions: [jadon.haynes@northwestu.edu](mailto:jadon.haynes@northwestu.edu)

requests and praises: [prayer@northwestu.edu](mailto:prayer@northwestu.edu)



# Community

## EAGLE EYE: How to get a "Ring by Spring" - A Satire

Rachael Harris  
Senior Writer

Calling all men! If you will ever honestly listen to a woman, it should be now. I have collaborated with all of the finest minds in the business of engagement at NU, and we have created a foolproof plan that will have you arriving at the altar in record time. I know that each and every one of you would prefer to be married right now if possible, and I want to make that dream a vivid reality for you.

I hope that you have a highlighter handy.

Fortunately, you get to skip a step in my plan because you have already selected a location ripe with potential spouses. Normally, I would advise you to scout the sundry of local churches and volunteer banks for quality individuals. Church-people make the best partners, specifically Christians. They believe that God has forgiven all of their sins and that they will someday spend eternity with Him. This makes them very happy. All the time. Seeing that most people would delight in feeling happy all the time, you should go to churches first.

Now, we will further explore the topic of a quality individual. "She speaks with Jesus at least two hours a day," said field expert Marty Dawood on the ideal bride. "She does a devotion at breakfast, lunch, and dinner. She gets to the gym every day, and is toning up that tight body for our wedding night. Who said the girl can't have the three B's: Bible, Brains, and Booty?"

As for the bridegroom, the top priority is muscle mass. Strength means security. It also means a minimum bicep measurement of 20 inches. In addition, keep a sharp eye on back pockets. A large protrusion indicates a loaded wallet. After all, living on love is a lie. We all know that shared wealth is the foundation

of lasting relationships. Secondary characteristics include faith, morals, and integrity. Keep these suggestions in mind when progressing to the next step.

The next step is to identify "the one." Look to your right. Now to your left. You see that person? Yes, that person could very well be the one. You need to approach them this very instant. Time is running short. You could die tomorrow and never experience true love. As my father once told me, "When the fruit is ripe, pick it." I guarantee the person you see is ripe. Now stop reading and go pick your fruit!

What now? That person is the same sex as you? Stop being pessimistic! He/she surely has a relative who is accessible with a quick exchange of phone numbers.

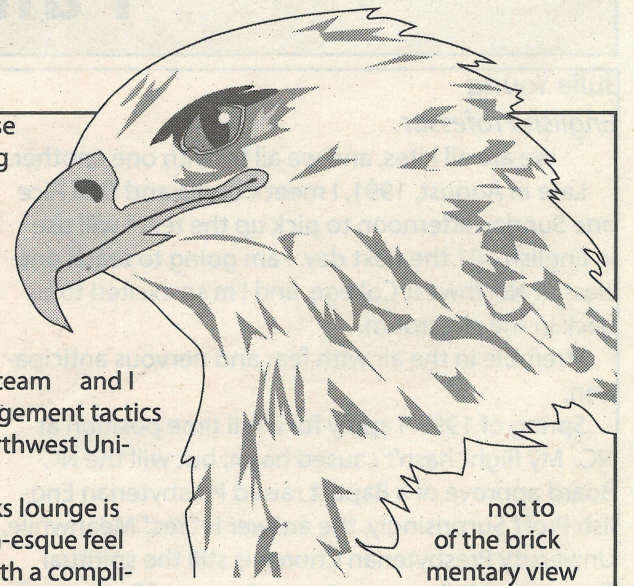
What's that? The person is already committed to another? Don't fret! There is no doubt that they know a perfectly suitable person who inevitably wants to be married now as well.

Invariably, a few of you are lounging in your room, alone. No bother! Mark my words, you will spot a member of the oppsite if you sex if you simply step outside and take a saunter around campus.

Locating your future spouse is a fairly simple task. Planning the engagement process requires a much greater level of counsel and deep reflection. My team and I suggest seeking out loved ones and trusted individuals for advice.

For your convenience, my team and I have assembled a list of engagement tactics specially tailored to life at Northwest University.

Romantic and Robust: Perks lounge is be underestimated. The cabin-esque feel hearth and wide windows (with a compli-



not to of the brick mentary view of the rolling

Green) will convey your affinity for that special someone. Why not propose to a beautiful person in a beautiful place? Turn the mood to simmer by adding battery powered candles and portable iPod music. I recommend "Because You Love Me" by Celene Dion or "Hero" by Enrique Iglesias.

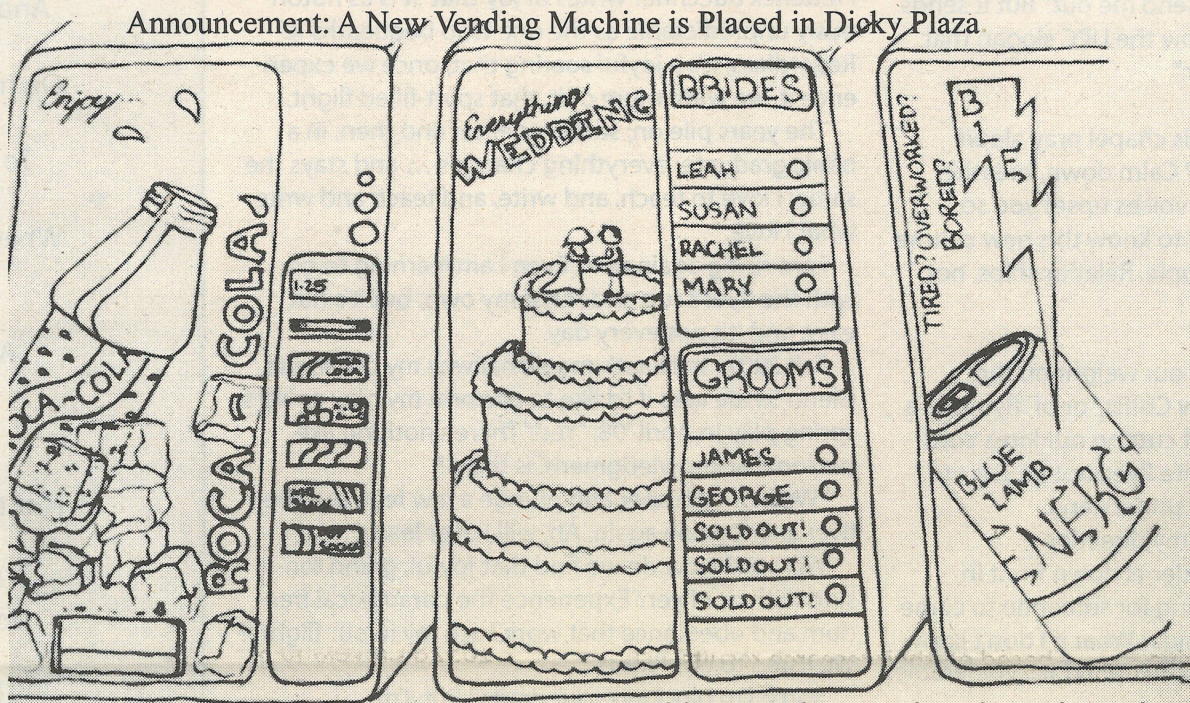
Fun and Flamboyant: I once viewed a YouTube video in which a man proposed to his wife at a professional basketball game. She was called out of the stands for one of those halftime shooting games. He ran out of the locker room disguised as the team

mascot - clever fellow! - pulled off his mask and proposed right there on television! Brilliant! For some reason, she denied him. This is an especially rare case. My team and I don't quite understand it... Never-the-less, be reminded that NU is investing in a mascot costume. You could become a legacy, or better yet, the forefather of an endearing tradition.

Simple and Straightforward: If all else fails, you could always shoot that special someone a tender-hearted text. Nothing thrills like the cheerful jingle of a text message alert when wedding bells are in mind. My team also suggests spelling out the anticipated question on a pepperoni pizza. Just imagine the glow of your soon-to-be-spouse when they find they've been treated to true love AND free dinner!

Be sure to tuck those golden nuggets away for potential use!

"You can't put a timeline on love," said Dawood, "That is why I think some people misunderstand what Northwest University is all about."



NU Wedding Vending Machine by Rick Snyder

## What Do YOU Think?



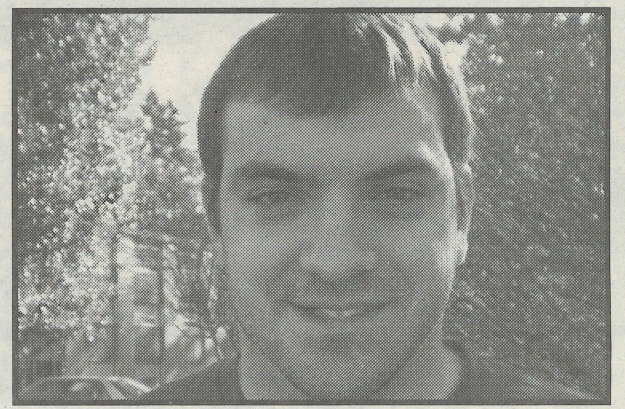
"It's annoying how girls are the ones who are said to come here looking for a pastor, but how many wanna-be pastors come here looking for a pastor's wife?"

- Angela Crawford



"All colleges are nesting grounds for marriage, but at NU, people opt for sooner rather than later because they don't believe in sex before marriage."

- Matt Whalton



"NU is so small that everyone is aware of the engagements and marriages taking place, but compared to other colleges, NU nothing is nothing exceptional in that regard."

- Tyler Petty



## Changing Your Major to Keep the Change

By Rachel Buchman  
Guest Writer

What comes in different shapes, sizes and colors, has four wheels, and continually drains the checkbook? Here is a hint, there are currently over 900 registered at Northwest

University this term alone! In short, it is cars.

For many students, making ends meet seems like an advanced linear algebra equation. However, there is good news; there are ways to save!

Some insurance companies give discounts to people who hold a bachelor's degree in certain science and math disciplines, as well as education.

The reason for this is that people in these fields are considered "low-risk," and are therefore less likely to drive extravagantly. For example, farming was specifically named as a low-risk occupation. Perhaps the skill of driving a tractor translates over as skill in driving a car.

Dr. Eric Steinkamp, a professor of science here at NU, shared some insight on this matter.

"I hypothesize the reason us math/science majors are safer drivers is that we all join SMART (Science and Math geeks Always Ride Together) so there are a plethora of eyes watching the

road. However, to be completely unbiased, a car full of science/math geeks has a significantly greater chance of being wrapped around a tree while bird-watching out the window," he said.

For the student able to maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher in any

major, many car insurance companies offer a "Good Student Discount." For the conservative driver, there is the "Good Driver Discount."

But now, there are two new ways to save. According to Insure.com, Allstate has been researching, since September 2008, the possibility of giving discounts to those willing to "exercise their

brain."

Allstate has teamed up with Posit Science Corporation to develop an insurance program based off their research results, which show that improving cognition could lead to safer driving.

Allstate plans to release a statement in March 2009 that will reveal whether or not they intend on implementing this program

So, if you would like to save some money, remember to drive safely, or, consider changing your major to bio-chemistry, farming, education or good ole arithmetic.

*"I hypothesize the reason us math/science majors are safer drivers is that we all join SMART (Science and Math geeks Always Ride Together)"*

-Dr. Eric Steinkamp

Dear Abby,

My friends and I are sitting in the dorms twiddling our thumbs about what to do for spring break. We're strapped for cash but still want to enjoy the week. Any creative ideas for a trip worthy of a "Spring Break 09" facebook album?

Sincerely,  
Fun yet Frugal Francesca

Dear Francesca,

Spring break is all about traveling. Whether it is back to mama's home-cooked meals or flying across the country for a dream vacation, getting away from the chaos of mid semester is a must. Here are a few creative ideas for March Spring break 2009:

1.) Road trip to the Tillamook Factory in Oregon. Home to milk and cheese, someone once said, Tillamook products were proven to enhance the pigment in your skin. Take that advice with a grain of salt. Get a tan while cooling off with some unique ice cream flavors offered there.

2.) Explore the desolate of Washington. Spangle, Cusick or possibly Deming, Washington. Deming is one of the smallest towns and with a population of 210 people you could meet the whole town in one visit. Talk about popular! Explore the diverse Deming library or go apple picking at high meadow orchids. You know what they say; an apple a day keeps the doctor away. Healthy, and happy, who could ask for more.

3.) Go international. Take the long and tedious three hour drive to Canada and unleash your inner Canuck Eh? Ski or Snowboard at the notorious Whistler and sip hot cocoa around a Canadian camp fire. Trust me, smores always taste better in Canada.

The overall point? Take advantage of the economic slump. Expedia is offering crazy good deals for flights right now. Grab some friends and take a spontaneous, safe trip. Best of luck in your travels and relaxation. Bon Voyage!

Sincerely,  
Abby

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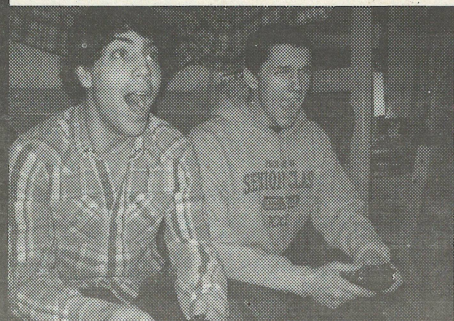
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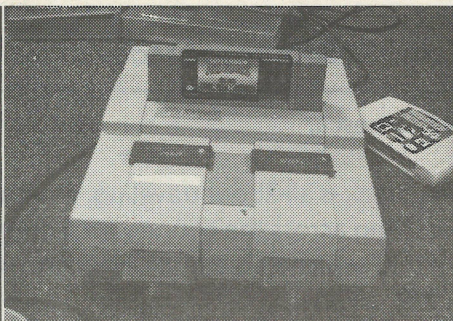


# Sports

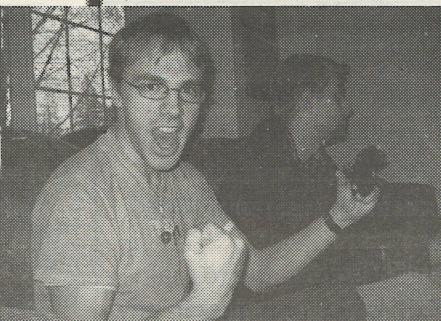
## Virtual Sports



Kramer Rasmussen and friend compete for the top score.



The source of the madness - Super Nintendo Mario Kart All Stars



Kody Lothrop celebrates a close win against opponent Jarrod Pace.



Jarrod Pace is all smiles with a controller in hand.

Andrew Tolson  
Staff Writer

Video games: the couch potatoes' sport, or is it? Here at Northwest, there are many "sporting" events that take place, whether extracurricular or not. Although intramurals and collegiate events are popular, the real sportsmanship seems to emerge behind the controller. That's right, video games are one of the most popular sports on the NU campus.

In this small bubble we like to call NU, video games have been integrated into daily living.

When I wanted to talk to a couple of the soccer players, they made me wait until after their game was finished before I could ask any questions. James Kerr said he enjoys playing because, "It makes me feel like a pro," and Luke Fischer said it was because, "It inspires me to practice my moves so I can play better in actual games."

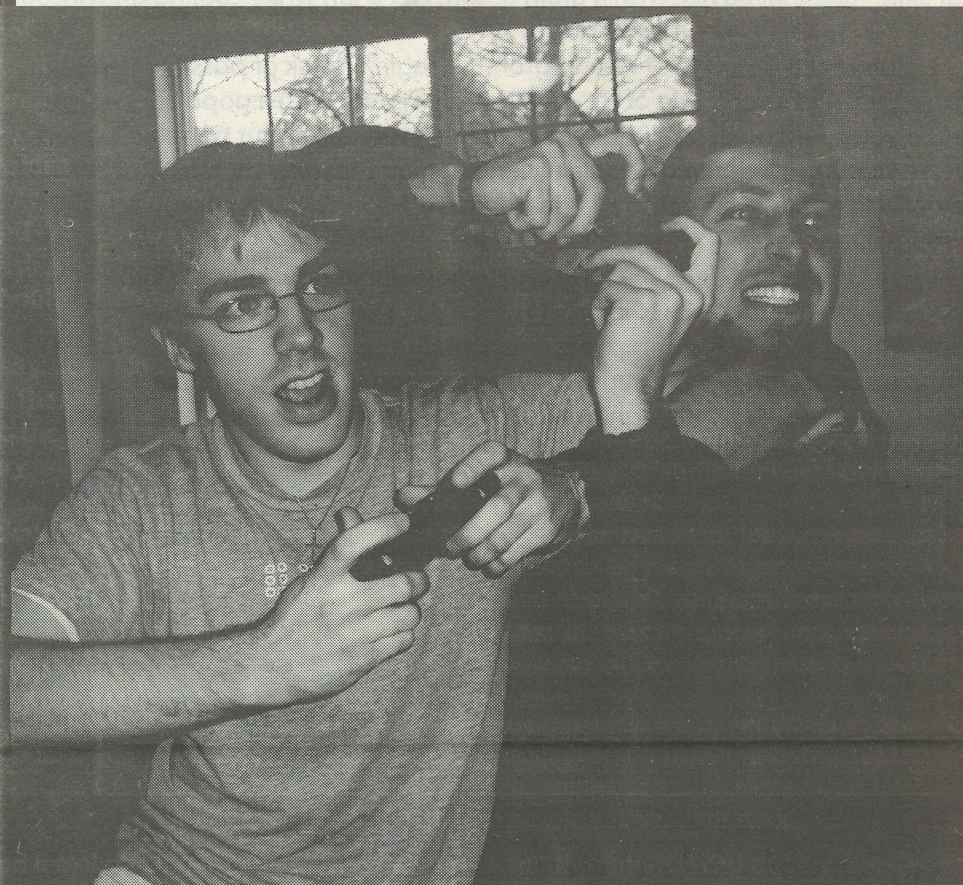
Drew Jensen took a different approach and said, "it helps me relieve the stress of everyday life."

Last year alone over 32 billion dollars was spent, worldwide, on video games, which is a twenty percent increase from the previous year. Even with a wide variety of games flowing into the market almost two thirds of the titles were sports games.

It may seem odd to play a game that you can go outside and play, but, as you can tell from the sales, sports video games, such as Madden or Fifa, are becoming an ever growing activity.

And not with just the lethargic, but with athletes too.

Video games were once looked down on and cast as a waste of time, but that mind set has slowly been changing. Like so many other issues in life, the key is moderation and knowing when to stop.



Kody Lothrop and Jarrod Pace move their battle from the screen to reality.

## New Volleyball Coach Returns to NU



Dan Redwine  
Staff Writer

There is a buzz about the new volleyball coach at Northwest University - Jessie Dietrich is young, energetic, optimistic, driven...all the clichés that usually follow the hiring of a young coach in any athletic department; but after spending a few minutes with Jessie, it is easy to see what all the buzz is about.

I sat down with her recently to get her thoughts on taking the helm of the program she was such an important part of as a player only a few years ago. Jessie played for NU from 2002 - 2006. During that time she was a three-year team captain, First Team All-Cascade Conference, First Team NAIA All-Region, and Honorable Mention NAIA All-American. She was also voted Best Teammate, and graduated with a B.A. in Communication with a concentration on Organizational Management.

Dan Redwine: What is the biggest challenge for you going forward as the head coach of the NU volleyball program?

Jessie Dietrich: Rebuilding the program, getting my players to buy into the mindset that I have for this team.

DR: What is that mindset?

JD: Getting them to work hard, taking a lot of pride in our fitness.

DR: What are some of your goals for 2009?

JD: Learning how to win as a team, being there for each other, re-igniting that passion that I know is there, getting them excited to work hard at volleyball.

DR: You spent a year at Jacksonville

University as an assistant coach. What was it like being part of an NCAA Division I program?

JD: It was great; I learned a lot while I was there, and really started thinking like a coach during my time there.

DR: You were able to work with Shawn Kupferberg at Jacksonville University, the coach you played for during your time here at NU. Do you still keep in touch with him?

JD: Yeah, we talk all the time, and he is definitely a mentor to me as a coach.

DR: What is your favorite memory from your time playing here at NU?

JD: We had an amazing team my senior year. We were so close on and off the court. We were so close to making it to nationals, we were ranked in the top ten...but the best thing was just the togetherness of the team.

I called Shawn Kupferberg at the University of Jacksonville to get his thoughts on Jessie's move back to NU as a head coach.

"Jessie will do a great job," Kupferberg said. "She is an amazing person, a phenomenal athlete, and she comes from a family with a strong coaching background. We will miss her, but wish her nothing but success with Northwest University."

Lauren Holtz, a junior at NU and 2008 team captain is excited about her new coach. The team has met with Jessie a couple times, but Lauren was impressed by the passion that came across in those meetings.

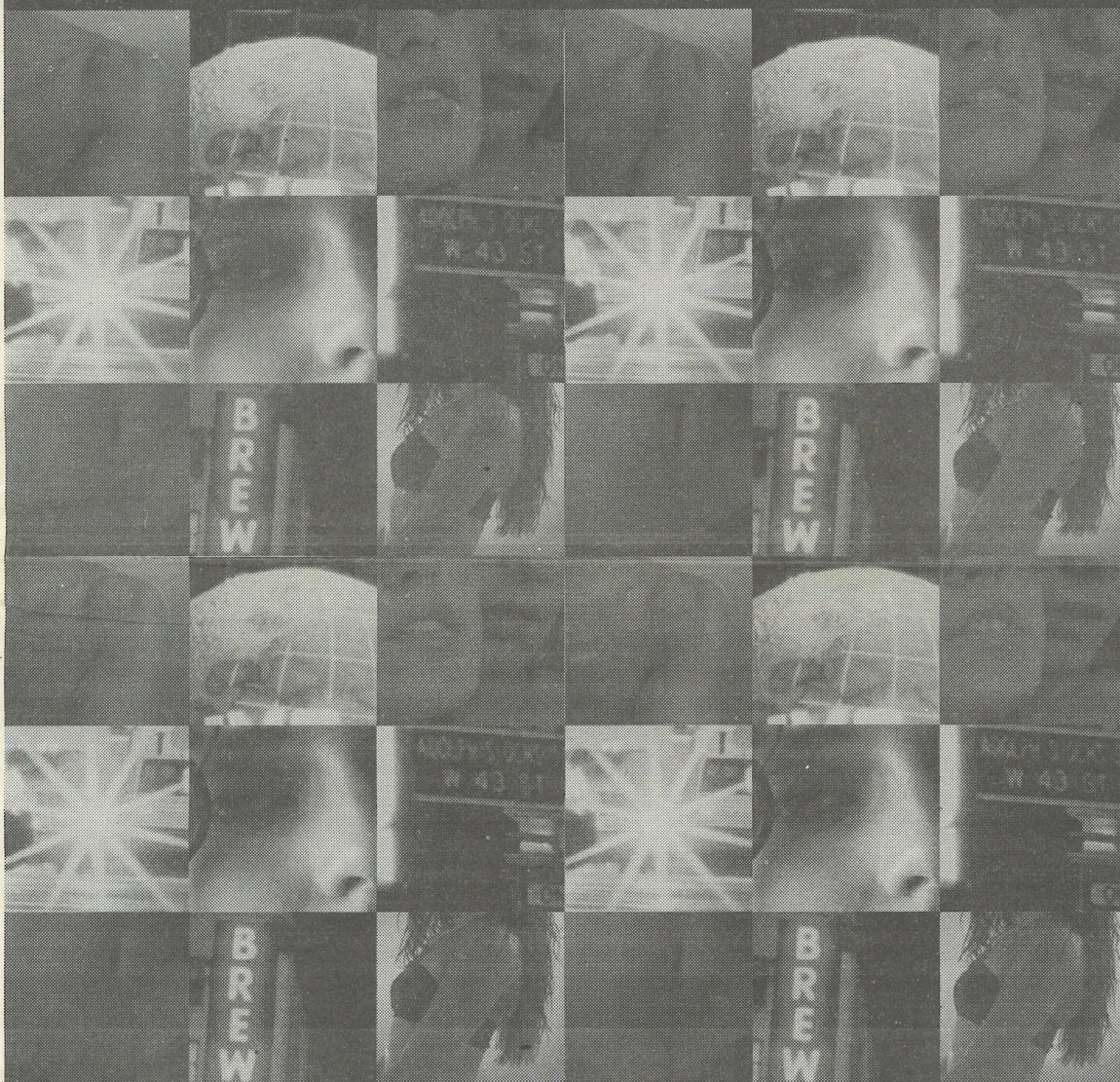
"Jessie obviously knows what it takes to succeed at this level," Holtz said. "I think she wants her players to experience that passion for the game that she had while she played here. I know she is going to kick our butts when it comes to fitness, but I want to experience the success she achieved while she was here, and I know that level of success comes at a price."

Jessie has hit the ground running. She flies to Las Vegas next week to watch potential recruits play at a high school volleyball tournament. There, she will look for players with physical talent - strength, agility, athleticism - but she knows it takes more than physical talent to build a winning team.

Jessie made it clear during her time here at NU as a player: it all begins with a passion for the game. Now it is her turn to show what passion looks like as a head coach:



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# Photo Journal

## Single in the City



It is a sad fact that attending a school like ours, as a single person, can be terribly discouraging. The good news is that we live in an incredibly fun area, just seconds away from the natural splendor of the waterfront and just minutes away from all the thrills of city life. No matter how you specifically choose to enjoy your singlehood, there are many options nearby--from dance lessons, to bike rides, to great talks over coffee, to new adventures. The key is to embrace the opportunities presented and not let your status get in the way. Just have fun, and remember that to be single is to be available to serve God more fully. As Paul reminds us:  
"It is good for a man [or woman] not to marry" (1 Corinthians 7)  
Take advantage of this opportunity to have fun, to serve, to worship, to develop a greater understanding of yourself as God's unique creation.