

THE TALON

MAY 2009

A NORTHWEST PUBLICATION WRITTEN BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS

VOLUME 1. ISSUE 8



Photo Credit: ReBekha Smith

Big Dreams for the Performing Arts at Northwest

Rachael Harris
Senior Staff Writer

University leaders are working to raise millions of dollars to make Northwest University, a premier university for the arts in the region.

Creatio, a fundraising campaign currently underway, will enhance the performing arts facilities and resources on campus. The initiative plan includes a new recording studio, renovations to the theater in Millard Hall, video processing suites, and a music lesson academy for kids called "U-Rock."

While Creatio is still in the research and development stage, students can expect tangible developments by next year.

"The recording studio would be the first thing that people would see that would be completed," said John Lockhart, head of fundraising for Creatio and Director of Funds at Northwest.

Project leaders wanted to ensure that the money they raised would meet the most pressing needs of students and faculty. According to President Joseph Castleberry, the performance of artistic groups on campus has outpaced our facilities.

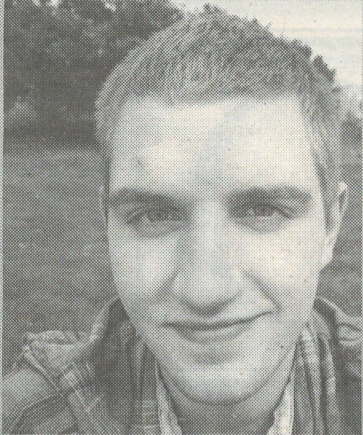
"The main thing that we want to do is raise the profile and intensity of our offerings for music and video making," said Castleberry. "Northwest attracts incredible songwriters, singers, and musicians, and we want to make sure that we're serving them well."

Continued on Page 5

Photo Credits: Matthew Moroni

Meet The New Crew

Photographer
Matthew Moroni



What is your dorm room's theme?

Europe/Scandinavia

What's inside your refrigerator?

Garlic hummus, pita bread, Swedish chocolate, and strawberry milk.

10 words to describe your life?

Family, Texas, aware, sensitive, disciple, acquiring, travel, photography, culture, networking

Editor-in-Chief
Kirsten Phillips



What's inside your refrigerator?

Currently, left over BBQ food and some yogurt.

How would your mom describe your style?

Comfortable

10 words to describe your life?

Passionate, Friends, Blue, Laughter, Deep Talks, Children, Sports, Conversation, Flowers, Water

Senior Staff Writer
Janie Kliever



Describe yourself in one word:

Colorful

What's inside your refrigerator?

Vitamin Water and string cheese

10 words to describe your life?

Family. Art. Books. Music. Jesus. Laughing. Writing. Memories. Simple pleasures.

Senior Staff Writer
Jodie Castleberry



If your dorm room had a theme, what would it be?

Fun eclectic classy arty theme.

Favorite ride at the fair?

Anything with swings! I love swings.

10 words to describe your life?

bright, happy, fun, jazzy, warm, hugs, humorous, loving, music, big!

Senior Staff Writer
Josh Desimone



How would your mom describe your style?

mom says, "neat, comfortable almost hip-hop look and is always wearing a baseball cap tilted to the side."

Describe yourself in one word:

Unexpected

10 words to describe your life?

A work in progress...

Co-Publisher
Krissa Partridge



Describe yourself in one word:

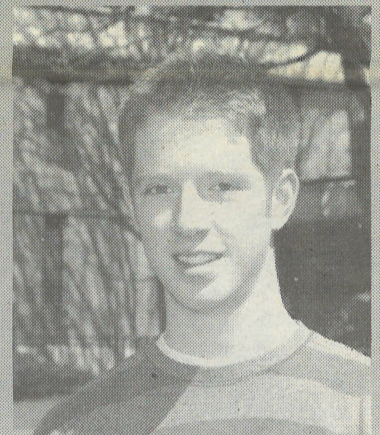
Optimistic!

What's inside your refrigerator?

My five food groups: Protein, Vegetables, Fruit, Yogurt, Starbucks!

10 words to describe your life? **Blessed, Fun, Family, Organized, Loud, Young-Life, Driven, Leadership, Energetic, Marines**

Co-Publisher
Brian Swanson



How would your mom describe your style?

Fresh

What's inside your refrigerator?

Probably some mold...

10 words to describe your life?

Soccer, Music, Family, Church, Friends, Sports, School, Business, Money, Fun

Editors' Note: *Out With The Old and In With The New*

It has been my pleasure to serve you as Editor this academic year. Starting the year, I felt insanely overwhelmed and wasn't exactly sure how I was going to make it through eight publications. But as the year progressed, it was the involvement and excitement from my student body that kept me trucking along through those late hours (and maybe a little help from Coldplay too). But it is time I say adieu. I am graduating on May 9th with a large group of outstanding scholars and people of high character. What will I do now is the haunting question as I approach friends and family; as if having a degree somehow defines and narrows the vast options for my life. My answer? I do not know. I do know my passion for media, music and writing has led me to an incredible opportunity interning with Relevant Magazine in Orlando, Florida. And that is step one. Step two lies in the hands of my Maker. I hope to choose the road less taken and make a difference, as everyone does. Wish me luck. In terms of the Talon, I am excited to pass my leadership role to Kirsten Phillips. I know the hard work and tedious hours put into rebuilding the Talon will be in good hands with the new team. My word of advice to them: Put Kara Heinrichs on speed dial. Enjoy this issue Northwest, and the many more to come!

Lindsey Cressey
2008/2009 Editor-in-Chief

Kirsten Phillips
2009/2010 Editor-in-Chief

Hello! First I want to say congratulations to Lindsey! The Talon has gone so far this year and I am excited to take it even further next year. Well, I am your new Editor-in-Chief. Life is insanely busy right now as we begin to prepare for finals and head into summer break. I don't know about you but I plan to relax and soak up some rays this summer. I will also have some of my focus on how to make the Talon an even more student-centered paper and how to continue to make it benefit you. Next year I hope we can get even more of you involved in the Talon whether it is writing articles or some other area, we want you to have a voice in the Talon. This is your newspaper so let your voice be heard or read. Again, I am very excited to take on this role and to represent you, the students, in the Talon. Have a great summer and congratulations on completing another year of your education!

The Future of NUSG Lies in Their Hands

Lindsey Cressey
Editor-in-Chief

Excitement is an understatement for the new Northwest University Student Government (NUSG).

Married president, Eric Wade and first lady Rheyay Wade, are looking forward to continuing what NUSG has become this year.

"NUSG is the mouthpiece to the student body," explained new NUSG president, Eric Wade. As President, Wade will oversee and keep things on track, his translation, "I get to take the head for a lot of stuff," he explained with a smile. Wade's theme of servant hood and seeing the student body take responsibility for itself and "find not only their voice, but their feet" coincides with all the new members of the NUSG team.

"I hope that my love for the Northwest student body will be present in everything I do, because ultimately I am involved to serve them. I also want to contribute focus, organization and professionalism," explained Mikaela Joy Shaeffer, NUSG Administrative Assistant.

And organization is crucial in an environment where eight energetic college students meet weekly.

"I know it is weird, but I am passionate about organization-I love it! I applied for NUSG Administrative Assistant because I know that I will do a great job keeping the NUSG team organized, focused and on task," Shaeffer continued.

"I have a secret obsession with Excel spreadsheets and accordion folders.

As Secretary of Student Activities, I get to be overly organized and lead students!! Accordion folders! Accordion folders!!" proclaimed Krissa Partridge.

Partridge will be "taming" Vice President of Activities Ryan Gilbreath and help "plan exhilarating activities" for the 2009-2010 school year.



Shaeffer and Partidge are not the only new members whose jobs require much organization.

Justin Turner, NUSG treasurer will "be overseeing the budgeting for NUSG and helping to keep us fiscally responsible, as well as keeping a record of all expenses related to NUSG."

Turner brings to the group a fresh outlook as he is not currently involved in leadership.

"I think that I am the only member of NUSG for next year that is not currently involved in a leadership position of some kind, whether that is current NUSG, senate, or Pursuit. I hope that I would be able to learn from the other members of NUSG," said Turner.

Returning member include Eric Wade, Mikel Adams and Intramural coordinator Andrew Webber.

"I want to try to revamp the way Intramurals are done. I'd like to get more students involved and expand the variety of sports offered to the students," explained Webber.

Webber reapplied for intramural coordinator because he "likes people, sports, and getting involved with school activities."

Mikel Adams is also returning as Vice President of Ministries. "My job will be to provide student-led ministry opportunities for the student body to encourage students to use their gifts and talents for the glory of God," said Adams.

Adams plans to organize events that will, "enrich the spiritual lives of students on campus as well as service events to bless the community." Adams hopes to see Student Ministries grow and become a vital part of the spiritual growth of students and members of the Northwest community.

With a well-qualified and passionate team, the future of NUSG is in good hands, according to Mikaela Shaeffer.

"I am so excited to get started on planning and preparing for next year-I want to do my part to make the 2009-2010 NUSG team the best Northwest has ever seen!"

NU Students Assist in Summer Harvest

Rachel Buchman
Staff Writer

Over the upcoming summer, 30 students will be traveling around the world participating in one of four NU mission trips.

Each mission trip has a unique goal. Those who are going to Chad will be assisting Bill and Sonia Shaw at the English as a Second Language (ESL) school. They will also be participating in church outreaches.

The students traveling to Ecuador will be assisting construction projects in the morning and doing street ministry in the afternoon.

The mission trip to India is focused around helping those affected by human trafficking. They also will be helping others with addictions or unhealthy lifestyles at the Bombay Teen Challenge and the Jubilee Action.

The last mission trip that students are going on is to Bellshill, Scotland. There, students will work with Living Water Christian Centre in their efforts to reach out to local youth and college students.

To the students who have sacrificed time and money, I would like to include the verse Proverbs 10:5: "He who gathers in summer is a son who acts wisely, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who acts shamefully (NASB)." You are answering the call for laborers in a time of harvest.

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"Reality TV" Comes to Northwest

Michelle Meade
Senior Staff Writer

Gospel Dream, the reality show competition of the Gospel Music Channel, held auditions at Butterfield Chapel on April 1. Out of 53 NU students who auditioned, 7 made it to the second round, according to Warren Kinser, who facilitated the auditions.

Many people call the show "the American Idol of Christian music." Of course, using the term "idol" in a Christian show does have a ring of irony. The Gospel Dream website describes the program differently. "Gospel Dream is the original music reality competition on television that celebrates aspiring artists who desire to inspire, as well as to entertain," says GMC founder and President Charles Humbard.

"The second round was the final audition, and now we're all just waiting to get a call to see if any of the students made it into the National Finals," said Kinser.

Travis Lindseth received a call back on April 24th and will be interviewing with the producer in the upcoming weeks.

Northwest University's connections with Natalie Grant, as well as its own recording projects, led the Gospel Music Channel to choose NU as the location for the Seattle auditions. The Choralons, Surrender, Crossing, and Awaken CD's also got the GMC interested in NU's music, according to Kinser.

Of the student participants whom the Talon interviewed, all agreed that nervousness was the hardest part. Some of them, such as freshman Michelle Brown, have big dreams of a musical future. Others, such as senior Jonathan Waller, are pursuing other dreams and auditioned just to see what would happen.

Three of the students who made it to the second round express very different dreams for their musical future.

"I hope to travel and incorporate music somehow, whether it's a band, solo, piano performing, and eventually get involved with missions and music, however that looks," said Travis Lindseth.



Photo Credit: Matthew Moroni

"I love music, love writing music. I would love to be a worship leader at a church. My main focus is my wife, my family, but if I make it big, sweet!" said Jonathan Waller.

"I really feel that God is calling me to teenage girls. I had rough teenage years and my heart bleeds for them. I want to reach them with my talent." "I want to teach them to feel good about themselves through Christ," said Michelle Brown. She plans to become a recording artist and sees the music program at NU as a path to that destination.

Brown shares a memory that captures the experience for her. "One of my favorite moments was when we were all in the lobby and we were all freaking out and nervous. A lady turned around and said to McKenna, 'Let's sing a song to break the ice.' We all started singing 'How Great Is Our God,' then 'How Great Thou Art'... It was a little worship moment in the lobby. It sounded so good! I thought, what am I doing here? It was amazing."



Travis Lindseth auditioned for Gospel Dream in April.

An Eye on NU Star



Artist and former NU student Natalie Grant

Kirsten Phillips
Staff Writer

When she was looking for a college to get her teaching degree, Natalie Grant thought the obvious decision was to attend Northwest. She said that many people she respected and admired had attended Northwest and it just felt like a natural fit for her. So she attended but did not stay for long as her career took off.

Natalie Grant, a well-known musician, grew up in Seattle, WA. She started her college education at Northwest wanting to become an elementary school teacher, she said, but after seeing a group called "Truth" perform God changed her direction.

Natalie auditioned for the group and got accepted into what would be for the next two years "intense boot camp." She traveled with them and learned the ropes of what it was like to hit the road with a band. It was this experience that catapulted Natalie to Nashville where she would pursue a music career on her own.

Now singing to audience's nation wide Natalie has had many successful records with one of her latest records "Awaken" hitting gold. Although with all this accomplished, Natalie says that her greatest accomplishment was having a family.

"No award or gold record has compared to the privilege of being a mommy to my twin daughters, Gracie and Bella," Grant said.

Looking back, Natalie had a great experience at Northwest. She said that some of her best memories were singing and traveling with "Northwest Sounds."

She also mentioned that another great memory was being on the cheer squad.

"I got it approved for us to do a cheer "dance" during halftime. It had been the first time they had allowed that. But I've since discovered that my rhythm is only in my voice and I retired the cheer uniform," said Grant.

As the year is coming to a close, Natalie said she would give students one last piece of advice: "fall in love with Jesus." Natalie said, "He is the only way to find purpose and fulfillment in life. And whether you are a nursing major, business major, ministry or music major or whatever your area of study, you only have one life to live. So make it matter."

NU's Best Kept Secret

Ken Prettyman
Faculty Guest Writer

The Northwest Wind Ensemble is a non-audition concert band that meets on Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00-3:15. The instrumentation for the group is made of the brass section (trumpet, trombone, French horn, baritone and tuba), reed section (flute, oboe, clarinet, bass clarinet, bassoon, alto sax, tenor sax and baritone sax) and percussion (snare drum, bass drum, cymbals, timpani, xylophone, vibes, piano, etc.) instruments. For more information about becoming an ensemble member contact the Music office at 425.889.5255 or music@northwestu.edu. The Wind Ensemble performs four concerts each year: The Fall Concert, Christmas Concert, Spring Concert and Commencement. The ensemble plays music literature from the 18th and 19th centuries, well known motion picture scores, tunes from Broadway hits and the music of some of our greatest 20th century American composers and arrangers.

The Northwest Jazz Band and Synergy Vocal Jazz will host a Jazz Festival and perform in November 2009 with vocal jazz legend Frank DeMiero and his Seattle Jazz Singers. The ensembles will also perform at the Lionel

Hampton Jazz Festival held at the University of Idaho, the Christmas Festival of Lights at Warm Beach Resort, a Christmas spectacular at Benaroya Hall with the Rainier Symphony and the NU Concert Choir, and perform at various Puget Sound music festivals and jazz events.

•The Jazz Band is a non-audition ensemble open to all students who play saxophone, clarinet, trombone, trumpet, piano, upright or electric bass, rhythm guitar, drum set and percussion. The band meets on MWF from 3:40-4:30.

•Synergy Vocal Jazz requires an audition to become a member of the ensemble. Students who wish to audition for vocal jazz may make an appointment through music@northwestu.edu or call the Music Department at x5255 (425.889.5255) to schedule an audition. Both ensembles perform rhythm and blues, swing, Latin (samba/bossa nova) and ballads. Strong, independent singers and students with jazz background in piano bass, rhythm guitar or drum set are encouraged to audition. Synergy meets on Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00-12:15 and Thursday evening from 6:30-8:20.

New Emphasis on Fundraising for the Performing Arts

Continued from Page 1

The future recording studio will likely be located on the first floor of 11220 W. 53rd and the theater will remain in Millard Hall. Locations for the video production suites have not yet been determined.

"There are people that are cutting demos and records in their dorms or practicing music or making videos, and we want to expand that environment for them," said Lockhart.

Additionally, a new major entitled Business and the Performing Arts is in the works. The major will allow students to sharpen their creative skills, while also providing business skills necessary to making a living.

"The reality is that music and video and the business attached to them are changing," said Castleberry, "and so what we want to do is create a major that is heavily focused on giving performing artists the business skills that they're going to need to survive, while at the same time a chance to hone their craft."

"So, if you're a violin player trying to play for a symphony or trying to book weddings," said Lockhart, "you need to know how to sell and market yourself as a product."

Lockhart hopes the major will enable students to pursue their artistic dreams, while ensuring a steady income.

"Whatever you want to be, don't put your music or your art aside; let that be a part of your life still," he said.

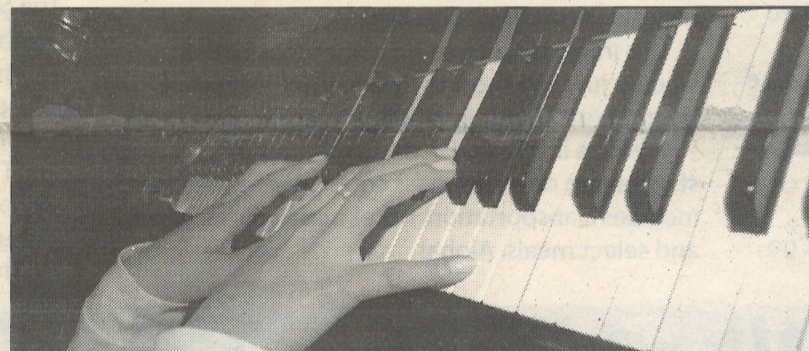
Creatio will most directly benefit music and communication students interested in music recording, drama, and video production, but the facilities are not reserved to students of these majors. The future facilities have applications across all academic pursuits at Northwest.

"Whatever your academic endeavors or career goals, we're living in an age we're you have to be a good communicator," said Lockhart, "So whether you're a pastor, a nurse, or a business person, you need to know how to make visual presentations."

The facilities will also not be reserved for students with higher levels of skill. "There are all kinds of levels of artistic contribution, but all those levels have



Danielle Stout



Mei-An Yeun

dignity," said Castleberry. "God gifts us and calls us to be artists, and then he gives us a platform; the dignity doesn't come from the size of the platform, but from the One who calls."

Funding for the projects will come from a variety of different sources.

"We're working with donors that are interested in the project, we're writing grants to foundations that would be interested in it, [and] we're working with companies that may be interested in doing service," said Lockhart.

Donations may range from building services, recording equipment, money, or expertise.

Northwest has produced a notable collection of music and video luminaries. Among them are Bud Tutmarc - inventor of the electric guitar and inspiration for Creatio, Rick Portin - the founder of E-Television, and Natalie Grant - award winning CCW singer. Also included are David Bazan - globally respected underground musician and lead singer of Pedro The Lion, Michael Bloodgood - a Christian heavy metal artist and pastor at Calvary Chapel Church, and most recently Jesse Brian - who was head of video production at Mars Hill Church and is now working with Quentin Tarantino's production company in Los Angeles.

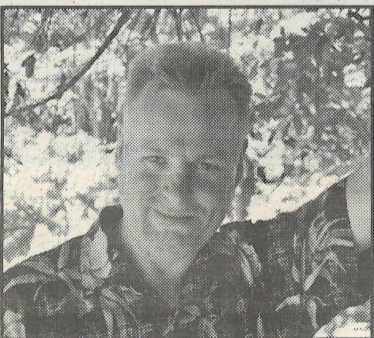
The new facilities will undoubtedly add appeal to prospective students.

"I think it's not only a recruitment, but a retention," said Lockhart. "I think that students see the Choralons or see some of our alums and they come here. Creatio visually embraces those concepts."

Castleberry called Creatio a project-by-project ordeal, noting that expectations should remain conservative for the time being.

"But in the meantime," he said, "the project rolls on because whether we have great facilities or bad facilities, Northwest just somehow seems to turn out great musicians and artists. What we're doing is playing catch up to where we've been the past 60+ years... to get to where God is already taking our students."

Faculty Voice: NU Music Department



Bill Owen
Faculty Guest Writer

Since my arrival at Northwest University ten years ago, this past year has been the high water mark. A major contributing factor for this has been collaboration with other organizations in the community that have blessed us, and in turn we have blessed them.

During fall semester, I received a call from the conductor of the Rainer Symphony based in Tukwila. They were looking to partner with a collegiate-type chorale that would

help bolster their concert season, and in return, they would help us out by providing the orchestra for seasonal events where we always are in need of instrumentation.

The collaboration was established and this past Christmas, we produced what was described to me as "the best musical production this University has ever done." On May 16-17, the Concert Choir will perform alongside the Rainier Symphony in the production of Gustav Mahler's famous "Resurrection Symphony." This is Mahler's second symphony and it is glorious.

The concerts are on Saturday, May 16th at 7:30pm, at Renton's IKEA Performing Arts Center; and on Sunday, May 17th at 3:00pm at the Foster Performing Arts Center in Tukwila. If you would like tickets for this, please email music@northwestu.edu.

Additionally, for the past three years I have been the Director of

Choral Worship at Seattle's University Presbyterian Church. It would be quite difficult to describe in this short article how that has contributed to my life on several levels.

We have begun a collaboration with their Cathedral Choir which will debut on Friday, May 1st at 7:30pm at University Presbyterian Church, (directions and parking can be found at: <http://www.upc.org/contact.aspx>). The Spring Choral Concert, "A Celebration of Christ," will be performed by NU's Concert Choir and UPC's Cathedral Choir. The concert is free and a free-will offering will be taken. For more information please email music@northwestu.edu.

Next year, the collaboration will continue and will, I believe, take us to greater heights yet. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 15th. The NU Concert Choir, the UPC Cathedral Choir, and the Rainier Symphony will be performing a

large Christmas program at Seattle's Benaroya Hall, (the venue for the Seattle Symphony). More details will be forthcoming as we approach this event.

Research has begun for a Concert Choir tour to Europe in May 2010. I am looking into northern England/Scotland and France. This is open to all Concert Choir members, as well as past members, alums, family and friends. Please email me if you would be interested in participating in this marvelous opportunity to sing in some of the greatest cathedrals in the world, (St. Pauls, Westminster Abbey, Yorkminster, Notre Dame, etc.).

It is the experience of a lifetime to enter these glorious places, so rich in the history of the church, and sing your heart out for the glory of God.

I wish everybody could experience this! It has been a great year, and next year is looking great. Join us; we are on a wonderful journey.

Student Life

EAGLE EYE: Study Aboard

Rachael Harris
Senior Staff Writer

As the weather slowly grows into a bearable state, thoughts of leaving the Great Northwest often begin to dissolve. However, fall does come again, and if you're interested in ensuring a post-summer adventure (save for late night Taco Bell runs), now is the time to look into the study abroad options offered at Northwest.

While only select majors are required to study abroad for graduation, several short term study abroad excursions are available to all students each semester.

Among these opportunities are two new classes, each debuting this spring 2009: Native Peoples of Hawaii and Australia - International Business & International Study Tour.

Native Peoples of Hawaii

Open to anyone wanting to take a three credit course, this class ensures your spring break will be spent in the Hawaiian sun, rather than the Washington snowy drizzle.

Students will meet three to four times before the trip to review the textbook, participate in class discussions, and learn basic Hawaiian vocabulary.

The actual trip consists of a mixture of educational and leisure activities. The itinerary includes visits to two schools that enroll only students with native Hawaiian ancestry, and also a trip to a Taro farm.

"The reason why we chose schools was because schools embody what a culture, community, or society wants for that group," said Suzan Kobashigawa, who teaches the course.

"We did a lot of fun stuff too," she said. "Just go-



Photo Credit: Matthew Mori

ing to the beach and hanging out, [and having] the ability to go to Hanauma Bay... a nature preserve with the reef, and you're able to see fish, and if you're lucky enough you can see sea turtles."

Next year Kobashigawa would like to add more historic sites to the schedule.

"It's interesting because sometimes I think a week is just too short to understand fully what Hawaii is all about," said Kobashigawa.

If you're interested in discovering the true Hawaii, start saving now. The class costs only \$1,650, which includes transportation, hotel, activity fees, a luau, and select meals. Aloha!



Australia-International Business Study Tour

Students can take one of the business classes offered or travel with the group without taking the courses for credit.

The class will meet three to four times throughout the semester to prepare for the trip, which takes place the last two and a half weeks of May.

Once in Australia, students will gain hands on experience in the international business field, visiting businesses and hearing lectures on Australian history, court systems, and economics.

"We'll be going to the courthouse, the port, and a Hillsong church," added Teresa Gillespie, who teaches the course.

Students will also have free time to explore.

"Everything is accessible by the local trains," said Gillespie. "We'll be going to the Blue Mountains, the Sydney Opera House, and we'll be watching an Australian football game."

The class will introduce students to the process of learning about a different culture with business in mind.

"This class, in a sense, is an opportunity to say, 'What is the process for me to learn about another culture?'" said Gillespie.

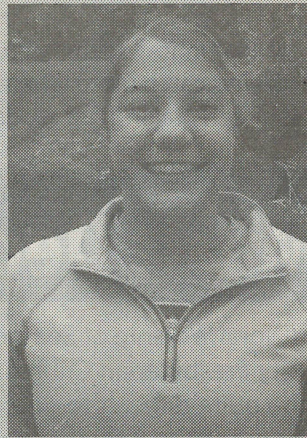
The trip costs \$2,850 for 17 days in Australia.

What Do You Think?



"Technically, I'm already studying abroad because I live in Malaysia, but I'm excited to add to this experience by going to Australia with the business program."

Azalea Lee



"I feel fortunate that my major requires a study abroad trip. That's one of the reasons I was attracted to the nursing program. I get to practice my skills outside the States."

Julia Johnson



"I considered studying abroad when I came to Northwest, but there weren't any opportunities that fit my major and budget."

Justin Turner

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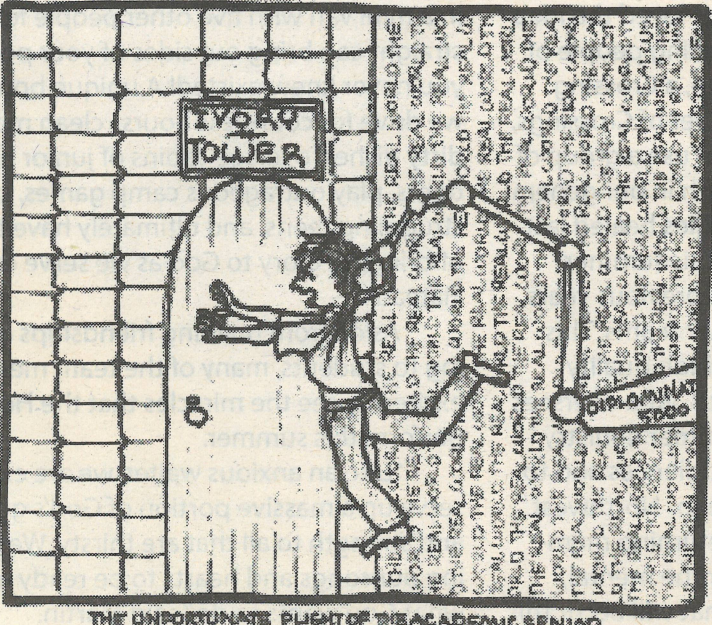
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THE UNFORTUNATE FLIGHT OF THE ACADEMIC SENIOR.

Kirsten Phillips
Staff Writer

For approximately 330 undergraduate, LEAP, and graduate students, late night studying, 8 a.m. classes, Starbucks runs, and so many other college experiences are all coming down to one thing: graduation.

On May 9th, 2009 at 10 a.m. graduates will begin to file into the auditorium of Overlake Christian Church for what will be for many the closing of their time at NU.

For senior Jadon Haynes, who is graduating with a Pastoral Ministry degree, his time at Northwest has taught him that "every day is the first day of the rest of your life." After graduation Haynes plans on traveling with ACTS and then pursuing a pastoral position in the fall.

Many students made memories at NU that they will not soon forget. Rocky Davis, a senior Children's Ministry major, says one of his best memories of NU was "chilling with the Brumbies when I was an RA. Being able to minister to a floor of guys that I could serve was an amazing experience for me."

Graduation festivities include baccalaureate on May 1st, graduate celebrations by school on May 7th, alumni breakfast on May 8th followed by mandatory practice, and will conclude with the commencement ceremony on May 9th.

The College of Arts and Sciences is graduating the most students with 66.

Students from Northwest's Salem location, Salem Bible College, will also be graduating and holding their own ceremony.

Congratulations to all the graduates!

The New Nameless Lounge

Olivia Moormeier
Staff Writer

Class ends and you have twenty minutes to kill before heading up to the chapel.

The line in the aerie is packed, all the barstools are taken, and the picnic tables outside are drenched in rain puddles, where to go now?

This pressing dilemma of where to hang out and socialize with your friends has become the central topic of this year's student senate.

With a budget of nearly \$8,000 set aside for student needs, the senate has come to a final decision on how to spend the money in order to best serve the students of NU.

As some may have noticed, what used to be the student advising center has become an abandoned corner of deserted cubicles and lonely swivel chairs.



Photo Credit: Jared Burrow

NUSG student senators see this blank canvas space as a premier location for their new student lounge.

Plans have been made to transform the former advising center into a place where students can relax on leather couches, watch

TV on plasma screens, and chat with their friends before and after class.

A committee has already been established to head this project and plans for the lounge are aimed to be completed by this summer.

The name for the lounge has not yet been decided, but the senators are gladly accepting idea suggestions by email at NUSG@northwestu.edu

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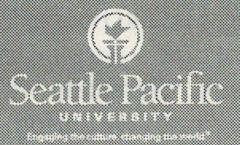
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Ministry

Meet the 2009 Summer Ministry Teams

Angelique Sofie
Ministry Editor

From Alaska to Florida, and all places in-between, three different teams of students will travel this summer, ministering to others through drama and music. These students are part of summer ministry teams, which were selected in November, 2008 after going through an audition process.

Reaching teenagers with their wild antics and humorous skits is "Acts," a drama ministry team made up of Christine Henry, Jadon Haynes and Kramer Rasmussen. Their group mission for this year is "to deliver hope to a generation in need." Using their talent as comedians, they hope to touch the lives of audience members and give them practical insight on concepts from the bible.

"We hope to show a visual generation who Christ is, and how to live for him in a visual way. That is how we plan to reach out to youth," said Henry. "Ultimately, we are there to love the kids at the camps we perform at."

Due to popular demand, two Crossing teams will also be traveling this summer, leading worship at summer camps and churches. Their theme for



Crossing Two: Zac Calvo, Ray Garza, Ethan Bowe and Travis Lindseth

this summer is: it's "all about your glory."

"I auditioned because I wanted to do something that would stretch my faith. I loved the idea of travelling, playing music and telling people of God's greatness," said Taylor Martin, a Crossing team member. "As a return member of Crossings, I have realized how much God can use a group of college students to affect the youth in our generation. We saw many hearts and bodies healed last year and I'm excited to see more this summer."

"We have built up rapport in previous years and receive a lot of requests for our teams. This year we are happy to have three, high quality teams to send out," said Amy Burtis, who oversees the students. "The purpose of summer ministry teams is twofold: to minister to audiences and to serve as a public relations avenue for Northwest."

Stephanie Fleteau is also a returning member of Crossings and is excited for the mental, emotional and spiritual growth that will occur this summer during the 10 weeks the teams will be traveling.



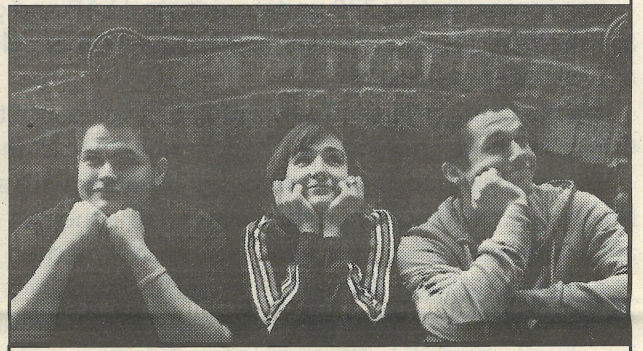
Crossing One: Kaleb Pearson, Ryan Walker, Marisa Monroy, Stephanie Fleteau, Nicole Barnes and Taylor Martin

"I am traveling again because I have great expectations for what lies ahead. After all, traveling in a mini van with five other people for 10 weeks straight can bring out sides of your personality you never knew existed! A unique bond forms as we drive for countless hours, clean mountains of dirty dishes, oversee cabins of junior high students, play outrageous camp games, pray with struggling teens, and ultimately have the privilege of bringing glory to God as we serve others," said Fleteau.

Aside from building friendships and witnessing to students, many of the team members are excited to see the miracles that the Holy Spirit will perform this summer.

"Like an anxious waiter, we are excited to serve up a massive portion of God's goodness and strength to all that are thirsty. We are preparing our songs and hearts to be ready and open to what God wants to do," said Martin.

With summer soon approaching, the teams are excited to go out and minister. Through their drama skits and music, they will hopefully touch the lives of those who witness them perform.



Acts: Jadon Haynes, Christine Henry and Kramer Rasmussen

NU Adjunct Professor Combines Drama and Ministry

Gwen Mansfield
Guest Writer

God's kingdom is like a pine nut a farmer plants. It is quite small as seeds go, but in the course of years it grows into a large pine tree, and eagles build nests in it." Matthew 13:31-32 I believe God planted a seed in my heart, and I'm quite sure it was a pine nut.

For me, God's whispered the call to drama at an early age. As a kid, even before I could distinguish the voice of my Mother from the voice of my God, the outline of my life was evident.

By seven, I was a self-proclaimed theatre director of neighborhood plays, using the picnic table for a stage and making sure I cast myself in all the leads regardless of gender, color or religious preference.

Later, I arrived on the church scene in the seventies as a Christian writer and actress with a script in one hand and a pen in the other. My apprehension about my call, "to pioneer drama back into the church," was balanced by my desire to forge the way for the seed of Christ's story to be planted in the hearts of those who would never step inside a church but who might consider attending a theatre production.

Under the headship of a long-standing church and after months of prayer and planning, six of us left our job as teachers, contractors and insurance clerks. We traveled from the crab canneries of Adak, Alaska to the barrios of northern Mexico bringing the gospel message to the church and un-churched, the scholarly and the unschooled, the spiritually fed and the soulfully hungry. We stepped on stage with costumes,

lights, props and a time-tested, eternal message that was wrapped in a new presentational style—drama.

After seven years of the traveling ministry, most large churches invested in drama departments. Many pastors used the medium of theatre to bring "the seeker" to the pew. God had risen up many others to continue the work of drama in the church, and my direction changed.

My passion for writing and theatre had evolved from straight forward evangelism to a more guised and subtle presentation of a life-changing world view that involved themes of ending racial divides, embracing the nations with the peace of Christ and receiving the powerful commission to change the world. I write the secular story with a subtext of Christian values.

My characters look through the eyes of the blue color worker, the Ellis Island immigrant and the migrants from the Southern Oregon pear orchards. By the end of each story they have filtered life past the darkness of their circumstances to the hope of the Seed-Planter. And now, that whispered voice that I heard on the backyard neighborhood picnic table when I was seven seems to be a Holy Spirit shout giving directions so readily that I find it difficult to move my feet fast enough to keep pace.

As I continue my call—to tell the story through the medium of scripts, novels and screenplays—I am blessed and inspired to have a model to follow.

Jesus said in THE MESSAGE, Matthew 13: "The disciples came up and asked, 'Why do you tell stories?' He (Jesus) replied, 'You've been given

insight into God's kingdom. You know how it works. Not everybody has this gift, this insight; it hasn't been given to them. Whenever someone has a ready heart for this, the insights and understandings flow freely. But if there is no readiness, any trace of receptivity soon disappears. That's why I tell stories: to create readiness, to nudge the people toward receptive insight."

Just like He planted the seed inside my heart and watered it through the years, it is my privilege to sow His seeds. That is why I tell stories.



Gwen Mansfield's most recent play, Experiment Station Road, stories from the journey, was the recipient of a final four position in the PEN USA Literary Awards for Excellence in 2007, and received a New York reading and final four position in "The New Generation of Playwrights" through Reverie Productions in 2008. This photo is the cast from a 2006 production of the script which themes deal with the choices humanity faces when confronted with unexpected prejudice.

Human Trafficking in India: Hope Remains

Bethenee Englesvold
Guest Writer

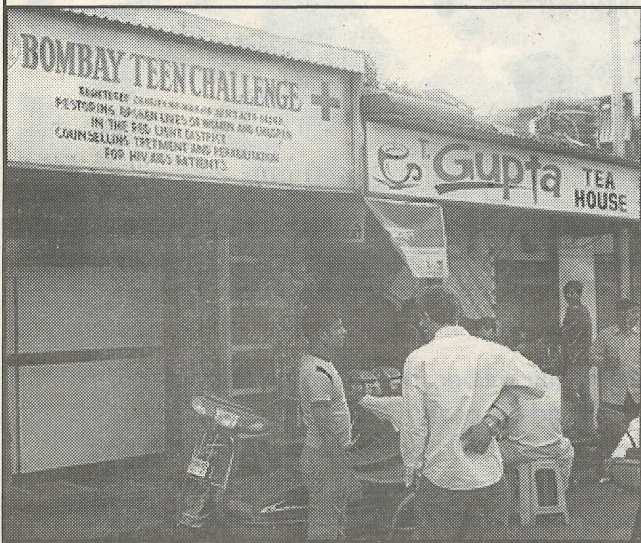
Getting off the plane I am struck by the odor permeating everything. The international terminal is dingy, decaying and odd...rusting ceilings, musty smell, and high tech security. The missionaries are late to pick me up. It's now 1:30 am and I am pretty nervous. Why didn't I bring a phone number? Wait, my cell phone doesn't work here. I begin feeling less adventuresome than my usual self as I deal with stares from 100 or so men who seemed to be speculating about why an American woman would be standing alone for so long in the middle of the night. Welcome to India.

From the airport I discover the true experience of the game chicken: traffic in Mumbai. No lanes, no limits, no need to obey stop lights-and people don't. Inches are plenty to pull a rickshaw into, and nobody wears helmets, let alone seat belts. Did I mention children—two and three at a time—hanging off the hips of adults on motorcycles?

I came to India to collect the stories of women who endured the unbelievable and seem to have emerged hopeful and healing. Up to this point, no research had been done on this population, and this study served as a first of its' kind. I was eager and hopeful to learn all I could contain, but the lessons the Lord wrote on my heart went far deeper than culture or resiliency and taught me powerfully that the Holy Spirit is alive and working great miracles in dark places.

The shanty slums are everywhere. Conditions are shockingly desperate. I see individuals carrying vessels to stagnant construction pools to draw water for the day—next to this is a Bollywood shoot in progress, with luxurious motor homes parked along the road. A young boy with no hip socket and severe cataracts approaches me with his entire leg swung up over his shoulder; he uses a stick to walk. An elderly lady with bandaged leprous limbs begs at a crowded light, and men in expensive western cars give her a few cents. How do people ignore the horror that surrounds them?

The next day, Deveraj and I ventured into



Outside of the Bombay Teen Challenge Center

the infamous Kamatipura—the red light district of Mumbai. The second largest in the world, it contains nearly 400,000 women and girls, most of whom were sold into bonded slavery and live in conditions so sordid and wretched that they die by the droves—nearly 95% attempt suicide, many are murdered, and nearly 70% contract AIDS. I see destitute poverty, but everything is overshadowed by the dense humanity; people crowding everywhere. The Bombay Teen Challenge members venture nearly daily into the district to make friends with the women suffering there. Deveraj says it takes a long time to earn the trust of women here.



Rescued girls at the Jubilee Camp in India

They are humiliated and become angry. They don't trust anyone. By the time these girls are rescued they have usually been prostitutes 4-5 years, and they have lost all hope.

It's terribly crowded, smells ghastly—and it's filthy and hot. I have dressed in modest traditional Indian garb, but everyone is staring. They are not friendly, and a man begins screaming at me to take my American money and get out. He follows us for some time yelling as I watch where my feet go. Why are women lying on beds in the streets, I wonder. I learn later that these women are dying, and rejected by the world around them.

To my surprise I am asked to go in to one of the 'cages' women live in—to pray for someone. An elderly woman has just lost her only son in an auto accident. As I pray for her and the other women in this small cage (approximately 10x10 for three women) I feel so completely unworthy. While our sins are not the same sins, I am keenly aware of my own unwitting arrogance and superficiality. This little lady has all her belongings in a tiny wooden box under her bed. There is a tiny sink in the corner. There is no privacy between the beds—do others watch at night? As I leave a woman on the street grabs me desperately. She is burning up, and I know now from the staff that she is in the final stages of dying from AIDS. God forgive me for taking my life too much for granted.

The next day we visited the Jubilee house

to visit girls who have been rescued when their mothers gave them to Deveraj to escape Kamatipura. Arriving at the children's compound, I was struck by the laughter and general busyness of the girls simply going about the events of their lives. They are adorable and bubbly. There is a surprising and wonderful amount of girlish tomfoolery going on. "What do you want to be when you grow up?" I asked these teens. Inside I am nearly ill thinking about how narrow their escape from what I have just witnessed. "I want to be a biomedical engineer", one girl says somewhat shyly. "I want to be a pediatrician", says another. "I will be a pastor"

another says, "I want to be a computer engineer"... "I want to have an American boyfriend" giggles a very attractive young girl. It is disorienting how normal our conversation is after the horrors of human slavery I have witnessed. I see in this moment the immensity of one man's mission, and the impact one life sold out to the King can ultimately have to thousands.

One morning I awoke, still groggy and disoriented with the time change, to the most beautiful sound. I heard several young girls singing—to music played unbelievably loud for 6:00 a.m. Making my way to the window, I beheld a wonder. Laughing, the girls held their faces to the sun and danced like angels, holding hands and giggling with the innocence of youth. These young girls were caged and ravaged. Children lost in the darkness of human depravity. Watching them it

seemed possible that they were no longer victims but rather victors. I sat and marveled: it is remarkable to see miracles clothed in fragile human skin.

Deveraj recently sent me a note thanking Northwest students again for your prayers and support of Bombay Teen Challenge. He asks you to keep praying as their work spreads to new regions of the country. Deveraj recently received the National Mother Teresa Award, India's highest honor for humanitarian service, and BTC has recently become the first faith-based organization of its' kind to gain sponsorship by UNICEF. Each open door brings the message of Jesus to those in need, and we thank the Lord together for what He's doing.



Girls from the Jubilee children's compound

Car Wash for Human Trafficking

Angelique Sofie
Ministry Editor

A big thank you goes out to everyone who helped at the car wash for human trafficking. A total of 800 dollars was raised and will be sent to an orphanage in India.

The fundraiser was a huge success. At one

point during the event, multiple cars lined the campus parking lot waiting to be washed. Even a massive landscaping truck, which took five students to wash, stopped by for a cleaning.

Donors were a good mix of the community, faculty and students. Pamphlets describing human trafficking were distributed at the event.

One man commented on the fact that is "is great students would give one hundred percent of their proceeds to India." Many community members were very supportive of the cause. This was the second successful car wash and hopefully there will be more to come.

The Scene

Featured Band: Kings of Leon

John Leckenby
Guest Writer

What band do you get when you cross a solid Pentecostal upbringing with a fondness for Jack Daniels whiskey? Here's a hint: since we're reviewing the Kings of Leon here, you should guess that. Ok, if you guessed Kings of Leon, you're right! That fact directly from the horse's mouth, lead-singer Caleb Followill.

It's true, the Followill brothers spent their childhood and teens following their evangelist father, Leon, through a camp-revival-esque tour, mostly in the deep south. Their musical intake was limited, as mother didn't approve of rock 'n roll, but they eventually started a band with their cousins anyway, and now they rock international stages with admirers such as U2. Yes, I said admirers such as U2. You can research their amazing story, but that's not what I'm here to review.

KOL's album, *Only By The Night*, took the UK and US charts by storm in late 2008, remaining at number 1 in the UK for four weeks. I've been watching with interest as the world seems to be lapping up rawness and emotional depth in albums and bands more and more. Probably a reflection of your top 40 radio getting stupider and stupider. But I digress.

This album strikes the raw and truly emotional gong with a holy fervor. The



opening track, Closer, is one of the hardest "easy-listening" songs I think I've ever heard, full of unquestionably believable angst and splashing lyrical imagery. I love the almost yodeling quality of the vocals on *Use Somebody*. But I have to say that the entire album is just one good track. Musicians and those with musical ears probably won't be wowed by the bands technical prowess. I just don't think that's what they're about.

So if you want to fully appreciate what will be invading your ears, I suggest thinking about the blues more than pop in the album. Allow the grunge of southern rock and the ethereal reverb-infested pop riffs make a pleasant mix in your ears.

Not enough can be said about the uniqueness of Followill's vocals. Great melodies aside, the sound of his normal voice is shocking. And here I give up, because I don't know who or what to compare it to. If you hate it upon first listen, deal with it. Give it time. Took me a bit, and now I feel like I learned a new language. If you're a guitarist, you'll probably be surfing the web trying to find out what this guitar player has on his pedal board. It screams, man. It screams. Makes me happy.

To be honest, they're so raw, I'm not sure how these guys got to be so popular. But you'll hear no complaints from me. Unless the music is turned down and I'm in the backseat. Not cool.

NU Play Conquers Audiences



Katrina Ong and Rick Snyder

Lindsey Cressey
Editor-in-Cheif

Northwest University students wrapped up the final performance of *She Stoops to Conquer* on Saturday, April 25th, 2009.

I attended the second performance, and despite the uncomfortable wooden desks, was thoroughly entertained through the ironic comedy of class directed by Jennifer Mohan.

I was a bit apprehensive at the announcement of Oliver Goldsmith's witty play as the chosen spring production. With limited funds, I wasn't sure how the drama department would capture Goldsmith's tone and make the set believable.

I can now say that I am impressed with the talent of all who participated in this production. With such an intricate plot line, the 13 cast members were able to keep the audience on track of the tricks and stoops of Kate, Katrina Ong, and her victim Charles Marlow, Rick Snyder. But even through the well acted scheme, it was the humor presented by NU actors that allowed me to fully enjoy every moment of the lights on stage.

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George Hasting, Nathan Austin, quickly became a favored character of mine with his Steve Urkel voice and desperate, love stricken boldness. There was also a dynamic interaction Tony Hardcastle, Ryan Mohan, and anyone he interacted with (including the audience). His dry humor was complimented by the motherly instincts of cougar Mrs. Hardcastle, Liz Dorame. My favorite scene lies divided between the coffee shop junkie's poetry reading and the servant's attempts to follow instructions by Mr. Hardcastle, Dustin Larson.

The play ended with a hilariously energetic Randall Templin attempting to close the play in a proper epilogue but interrupted by Tony Hardcastle, Ryan Mohan. That epilogue summed up Tony's character and his appetite for schemed humor. The play ended with the crowd in an uproar of proud parents, staff and student at, again, another success from the NU drama department. I extend my thanks to Jennifer, Julia Young and all other participants on and off the stage for their continuing efforts to keep the drama department at NU reputable.

Tommy Thai
celebrates

20Th

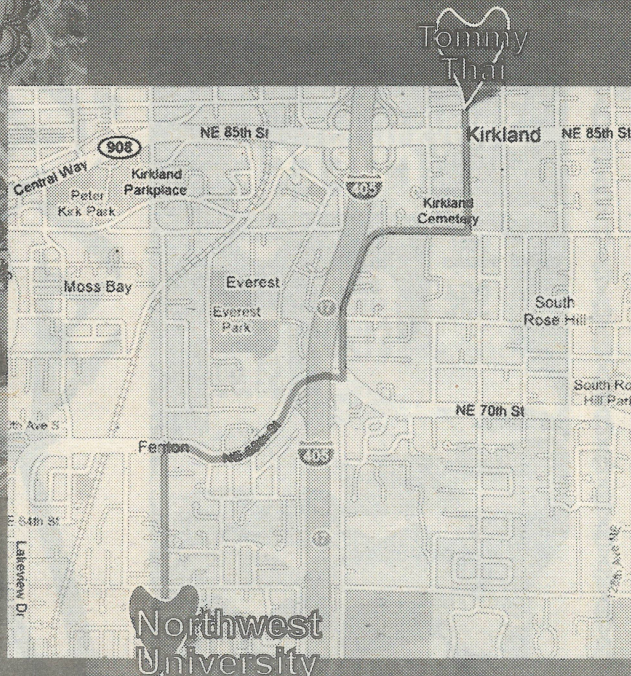
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Being Proactive on a Sunny Day in Kirkland

Andrew Tolson
Staff Writer

As the school year is slowly crawling to a close, one can't help but notice the schizophrenic spurts of sunshine that sporadically tease us as we labor away in an attempt to finish out the year strong.

As your concentration suddenly becomes nomadic and migrates towards the sun, it's easy to allow your mind to drift where the nearest hot spot might be to hit a volleyball, throw a Frisbee, or even sign up for a basketball tournament. Well Kirkland alone has over eighty different parks and designated trails awaiting an eager mind and a steady foot.

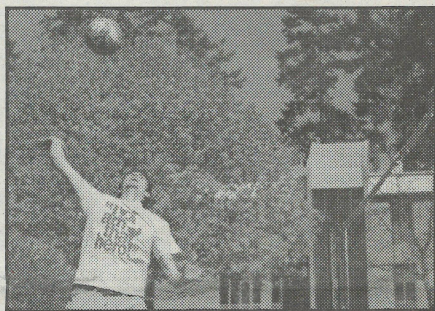
One of the more popular spots would be Houghton Beach which is on the water front and is a great place to swim, play volleyball or just relax. Another well-liked location is Peter Kirk Park. This place has everything from a playground to a pool. They also have a skate deck, tennis courts, basketball courts, a baseball field and a community center that always has an event running.

These are just a couple locations within a few minutes from the school but if you're looking for other spots or events to check out, swing by myparksandrecreation.com.

NU Students Dig Volleyball



Paul Moughamian



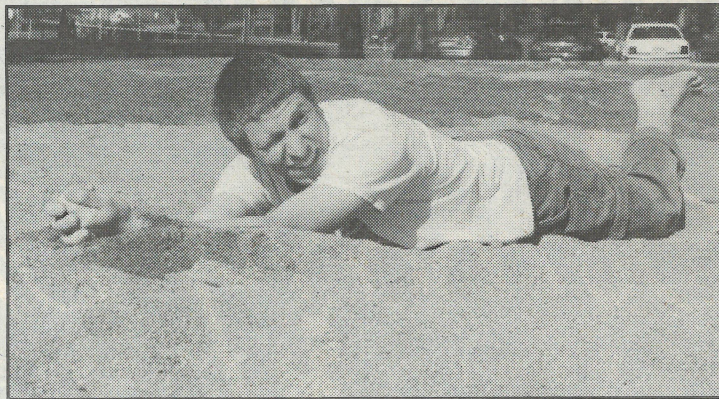
Kaden Shumway spikes it



Douglas Hein & Paul Moughamian



Douglas Hein & Kaden Shumway



Paul Moughamian sacrifices for the team



Tracy Allen shows her scars

Photo Credits: ReBekha Smith

Choralons Brings Gospel Sounds to New CD

Dan Redwine
Staff Writer

Pastor Phil Rasmussen is confident the latest CD to be released by Northwest University's Choralons is going to be the best CD they have produced so far.

"The reason 'Freedom' is going to be the best is the engineering and studio production is going to be done by some of the best people in the business who will use state-of-the-art equipment to really capture the talent we have here at Northwest University, said Rasmussen. "Through some good friends I have in the music industry in Nashville, we are able to take the production of this CD to the next level. It is a very exciting step for Choralons and Northwest University."

Brenda Rasmussen, the director of Choralons at NU, began recording "Freedom" in January and is excited to hear the final product.

"Freedom will have a variety of songs and arrangements that I think everyone will enjoy. There are two original arrangements and this CD will have a more diverse sound than anything we have done in the past," she said.

"There will be elements of traditional worship songs and older hymns, but with some great remixing to give the songs we have all heard before a fresh sound while capturing their powerful message to believers throughout the generations."

Michael Utz assisted in the production of "Freedom."

The new CD features eleven gospel-style worship songs. Nine NU students make their solo debut on the album.

"Freedom" is the sixth CD to be released by NU's Choralons and should be available soon.

The CD will be available in the bookstore and other campus locations.

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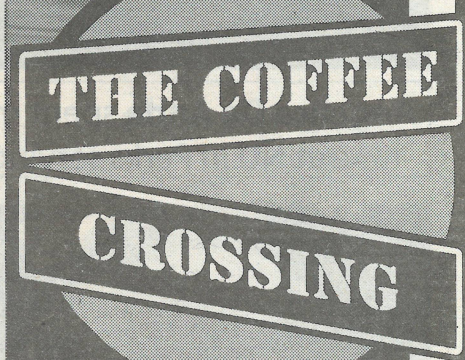
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Photo Journal

Leaving NU: Graduates share their favorite campus locations

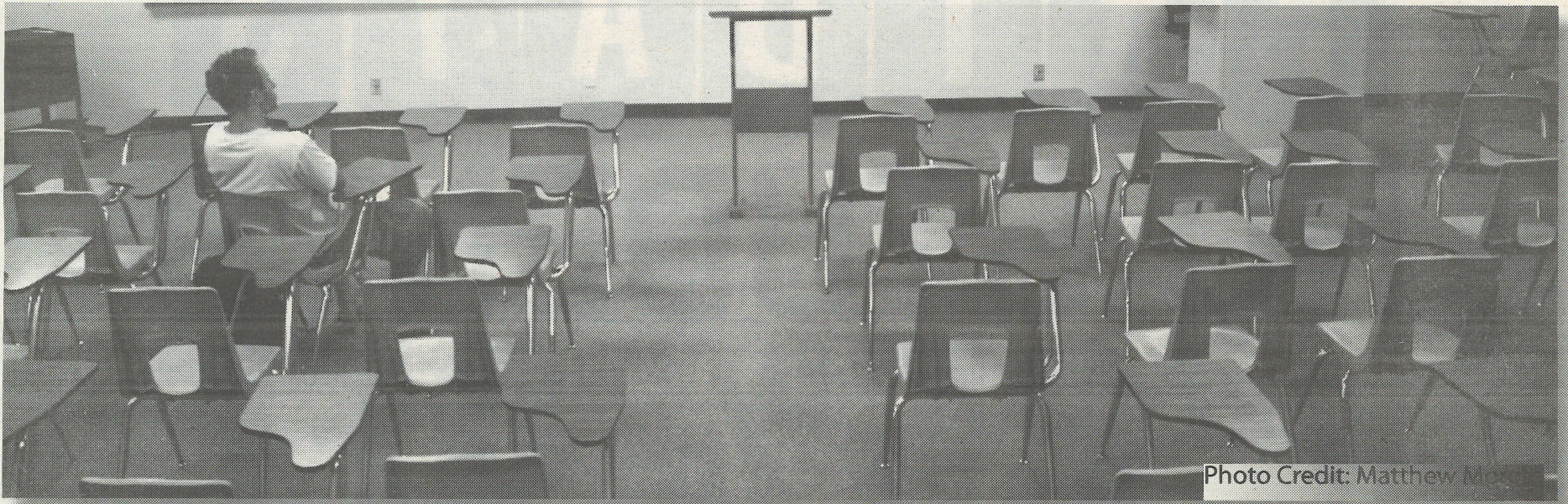


Photo Credit: Matthew Moroni

Nick LeFors, graduating next fall, reflects on his time at Northwest, much of it spent in Fee hall taking business classes

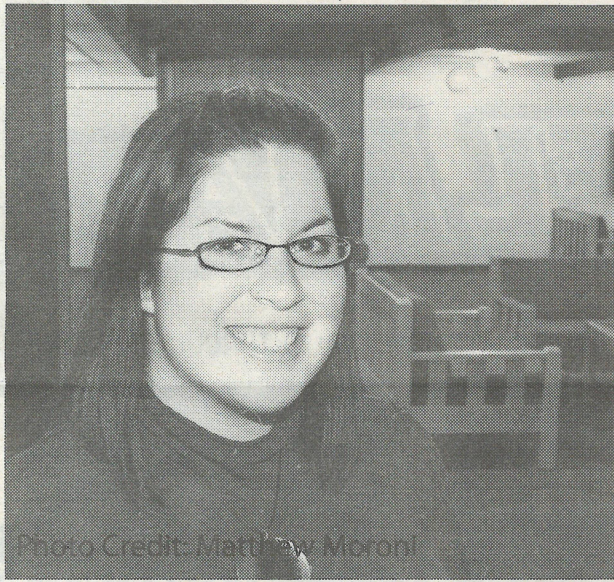


Photo Credit: Matthew Moroni

Angelica De Anda spent much of her time at NU in Perks serving as an RA



Photo Credit: Matthew Moroni

Stacia Haynes, who loves relaxing in the HSC, will be graduating with a degree in Psychology and plans to pursue graduate school



Photo Credit: ReBekha Smith

Martha Tracey, Secondary Education
"Millard Hall has been a place where I discovered my character: both fictional and real."

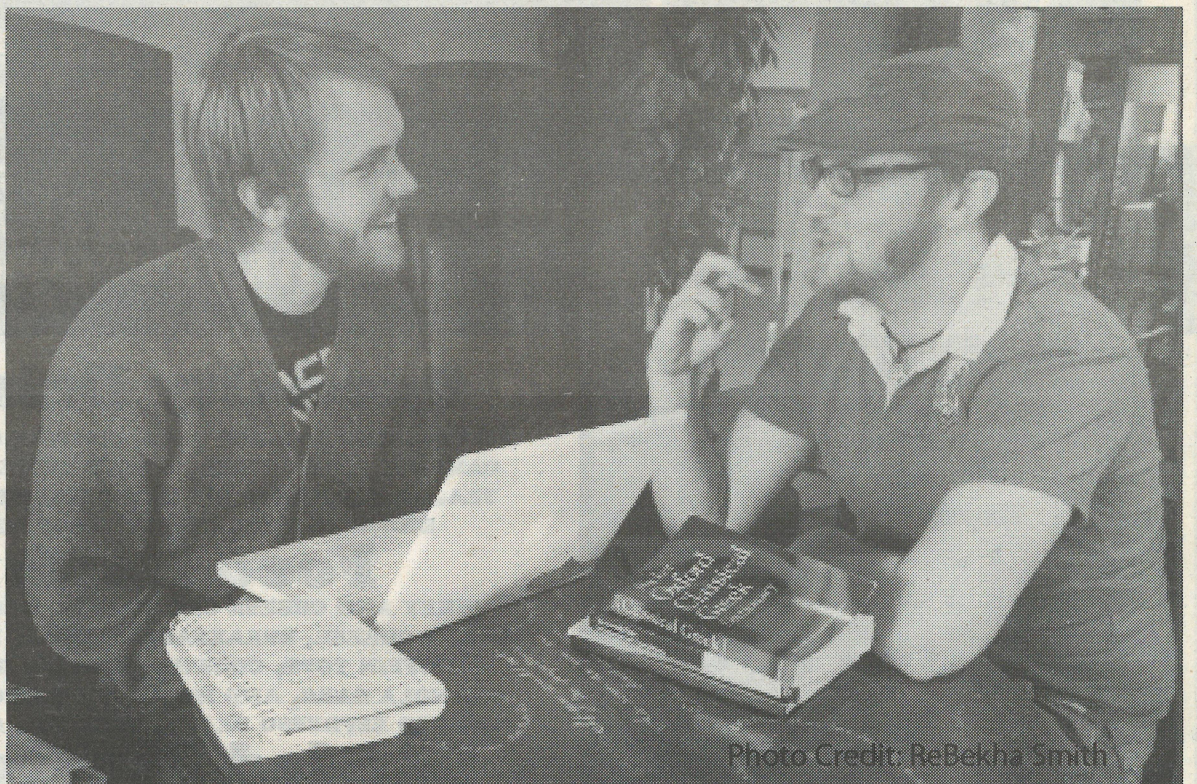


Photo Credit: ReBekha Smith

Trevor Barnes, English Major, chats with **Randall Templin** in the Aerie
"It has been really nice to have a coffee shop on campus, especially in the last couple years since its renovation. I spend a ton of time studying here."

See something you like? Or don't? Want to write for the Talon? Have a topic you'd like to see in our next issue? Contact us at talonstaff@northwestu.edu