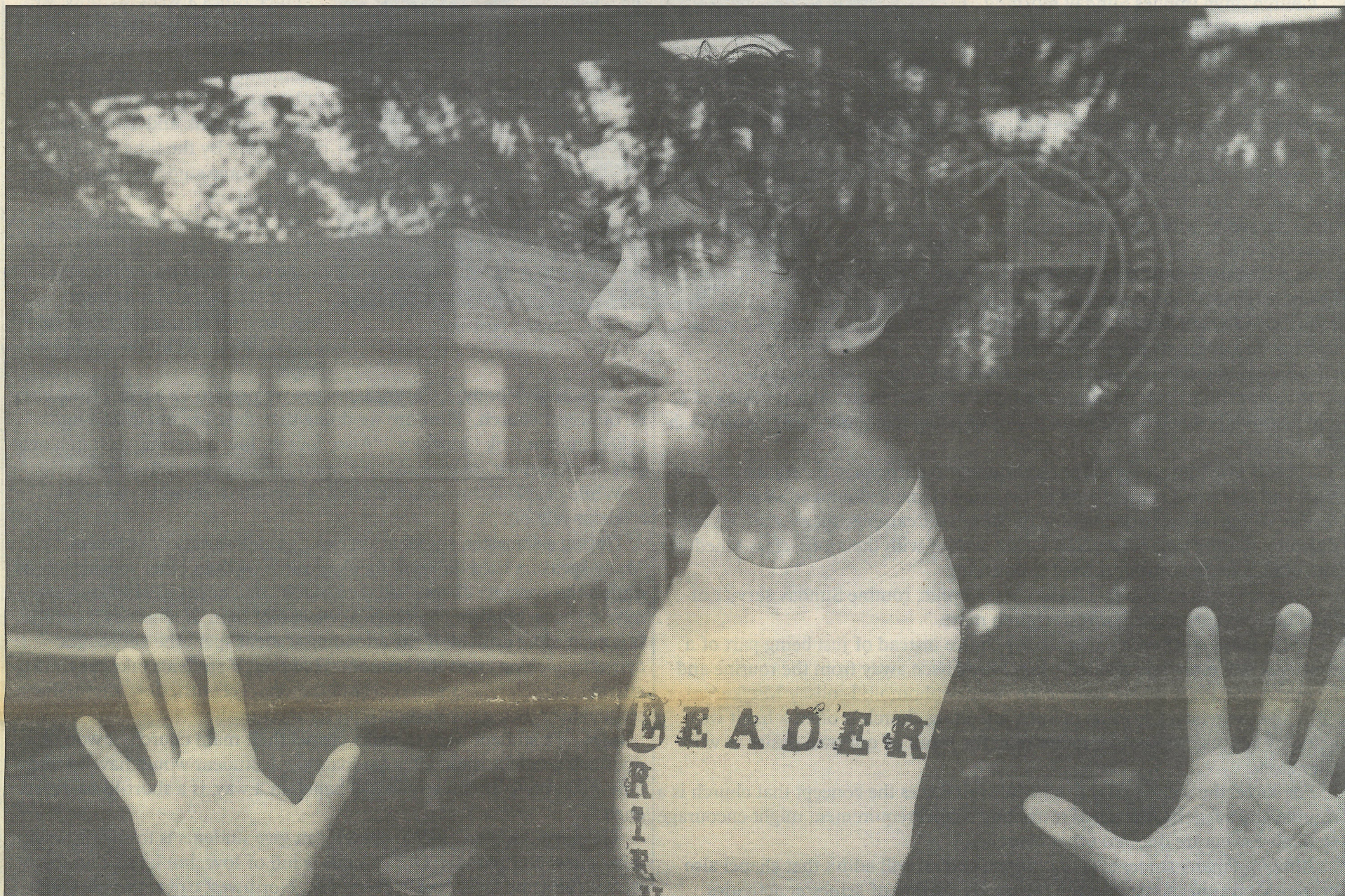


THE TALON

FEBRUARY 2010

A NORTHWEST PUBLICATION WRITTEN BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS

VOLUME 2. ISSUE 6



STUDENTS BURST NU BUBBLE

Kirsten Phillips
Editor-in-Chief

Nearly 10 percent of Northwest University students are carving a new path of leadership this semester as they reach outside of the "NU bubble" to serve communities in need.

The Social Venture class is comprised of over 75 students who are creating "a business that impacts society positively," said Professor John Bacon.

The Social Venture project was brought to NU's attention through Seattle Pacific University. The project is a competition among students with a grand prize of \$2,500, according to the Seattle Pacific University website.

Students at Northwest are working on a wide range of projects from helping the people of Tanzania to opening restaurants and bakeries that will benefit the social good.

"This generation has grown up with a really strong belief in the importance of volunteering," said Dr. Joseph Castleberry, NU president.

Senior Brookes August said that he is really impressed with how the NU School of Business has helped the community through their different marketing projects, internships, and now the Social Venture project.

Opportunities like these help students reach beyond the boundaries of the campus to serve the greater community, according to August.

"Some people think that we as Northwest students don't have any interaction with the outside world at all and we are all insulated by the bubble,"

said senior Brandon Schulz.

Junior Alisha Elmo is quick to agree that the NU bubble can be a crutch for many students.

"It is really important to not be so consumed with just the NU bubble. I think it's great for people to get outside of NU and be in the community and have a life outside these walls because if not, you're really not preparing yourself for the real world," she said.

Many students feel pressured to stay and serve within the boundaries of the bubble.

"The NU bubble is just as much of the students own doing of creating a bubble as it is a reality. If we didn't want there to be a bubble, it wouldn't be there," said August.

Still others feel content staying at NU and leading in this insulated environment.

"I don't necessarily think students need to feel a pressure or guilt to break out into the community. However, they should recognize that Northwest is not all there is to the world," said senior J.P. O'Connor.

Elmo agrees that students can get involved on campus but she also sees the danger of not breaking the bubble.

"There are a ton of great opportunities at NU to be involved and that's awesome but that makes it easier to just sit here and stay flat lined," she said.

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Clashing Sides: Is Chapel Enough Church?

Jessica Orr
Staff Writer

Church often implies Sunday morning service, however, many students argue that church is about the experience, not the time or day—for many, chapel is that experience.

While Northwest encourages students to find a local church off campus, many students feel that by going to chapel, they are already attending church three times per week, which is a heavy time commitment.

As a Christian university, Northwest fosters a “church” environment across its campus. Many students find that the fellowship and accountability at Northwest allows them the same growth opportunities any other church would.

“I’ve grown through relationships [at Northwest] more than anything else, and fellowship is one of the main points of going to church,” said Senior Ashley Bales.

Chapel provides students the opportunity to participate in worship, fellowship, and listen to a sermon—all of the same elements found at a local church service. While unopposed to going to church off campus, many students have difficulty finding time to attend a fourth service with their jobs, class schedules, and often a hefty homework load to consider.

Some students believe that breaking the cyclic, routine Sunday service allows them to appreciate going to church more.

“I like going to church when it’s my choice instead of just being part of a routine. I feel more rejuvenated when I have been away from the routine and go out of the desire of my own heart,” said sophomore Lindsey Mielke.

In an evangelical Christian culture, attending church is often a habit we abide by because we should, rather than the result of our own desire to worship God.

For some, the weekly chapel schedule reinforces the concept that church is a routine and suggests that a less restricting chapel requirement might encourage students to venture out into other churches.

Although many students enjoy chapel, several will admit that chapel also becomes a routine somewhere in the steady rhythm of semester activities.

While trying to squeeze four church services into our already hectic week may not be the best way to grow spiritually, students can take advantage of the fellowship and worship opportunities at Northwest through campus ministries.



Jessica Orr and Shayn Fite discuss different views on chapel and church.

Shayn Fite
Staff Writer

Three times a week we pray, we worship, give offerings and share our testimonies—hey, we even take communion every month. It is a gathering of God’s people, coming together to think and learn about our Savior. By the time Sunday rolls around, some students claim to feel “churched-out.”

But is chapel really something one can rely on as their sole source of the church-going experience?

The school’s administration says “no.” In fact, it is a violation to NOT attend a church outside of chapel.

“As a church body, 1 Corinthians says we need to be a part of the body of our local church. How are we doing that if we are not attending?” asked student Erik Gonzales. “Also, for me, [by] attending a church outside of chapel we are exposed to a multi-generational influence.”

While chapel is, by nature, a form of church, it shouldn’t be what students rely on.

During a semester, students are exposed to a variety of speakers. Many speakers hold different theological views than other speakers. It is difficult to consider chapel “all the church” one needs if Monday’s sermon takes an opposing theological viewpoint than Wednesday’s sermon. It is even more difficult if the attending student spent the entire time cynically picking apart the sermon. However, if students take the time to attend a church with a pastor whom they can gel with, they are finding a place where they grow in their faith harmoniously.

Also, if a student were to make chapel their main church, it wouldn’t do much good for them after graduation. A student would have to find a new church to attend anyway. Chapel, in a way, is a short-lived experience.

The third thing an outside church can give students is fresh fellowship with a new community. Our campus is full of love, but let’s be honest—we see the same faces nearly every day. Northwest can sometimes feel like a clique that blocks off the rest of Kirkland. By attending a church outside of Chapel one can engage in a community full of new faces and personalities, sharing testimonies, and learning more about God’s work.



Photo by Angela Crawford

Spring 2010 Talon Staff

From R to L: Back Row- Tyler Hart, Graphics; Tim Smith, Staff Writer; Andrey Malskiy, Staff Writer; Matthew Moroni, Senior Photographer. Middle- Kara Heinrichs, Faculty Advisor; Racheal Arteaga, Ministry Editor; Doug Harkness, Photographer; Shayn Fite, Staff Writer. Front- Kirsten Phillips, Editor-In-Chief; Alexa Breidenbach, Staff Writer; Christy Wolyniak, Senior Staff Writer; Anu Akamine, Staff Writer; Janie Kliever, Senior Staff Writer; Jennifer Jensen, Staff Writer; and Jessica Orr, Staff Writer.

Not Pictured: Josh Bollinger, Staff Writer; Krissa Partridge, Publisher; Kyle Wall, Publisher; Liz Rodriguez, Staff Writer; Satomi Ito, Web Master; and Jessie Fast, column writer.

Letter From The Editor

Kirsten Phillips
Editor-in-Chief

The NU Bubble. Many students find themselves stuck within the boundaries of NU. They eat at NU, they sleep at NU, they lead at NU, they study at NU, they worship at NU. Many would define this as the NU bubble.

So many different aspects of our lives happen at NU and many interpret that to being trapped by the “bubble”.

I am someone who has made my life at NU. I have lived on campus for four years. I have been in leadership at NU. I have been supported by a community of believers at NU. This is my life.

Staying inside the bubble also has given me many opportunities I may not have gained outside the bubble.

I have gained skills and had experiences in leadership that I may not have gotten in any other position than being an editor of a university newspaper.

I have gained skills and had experiences in mentorship that I may not have gotten in any other position than being an RA.

Whether or not you find security in the NU bubble, there is something about having a community outside of NU. So I encourage you to find something to get involved in and go for it even if it just means attending a weekly church service.

Having a church outside of NU is how I break out of the bubble at NU. You don’t have to be trapped. Break the bubble and get involved in something.

NU Bubble Brings Security and Complacency

Continued from page 1

August also believes that students need to see the value in getting involved outside of NU.

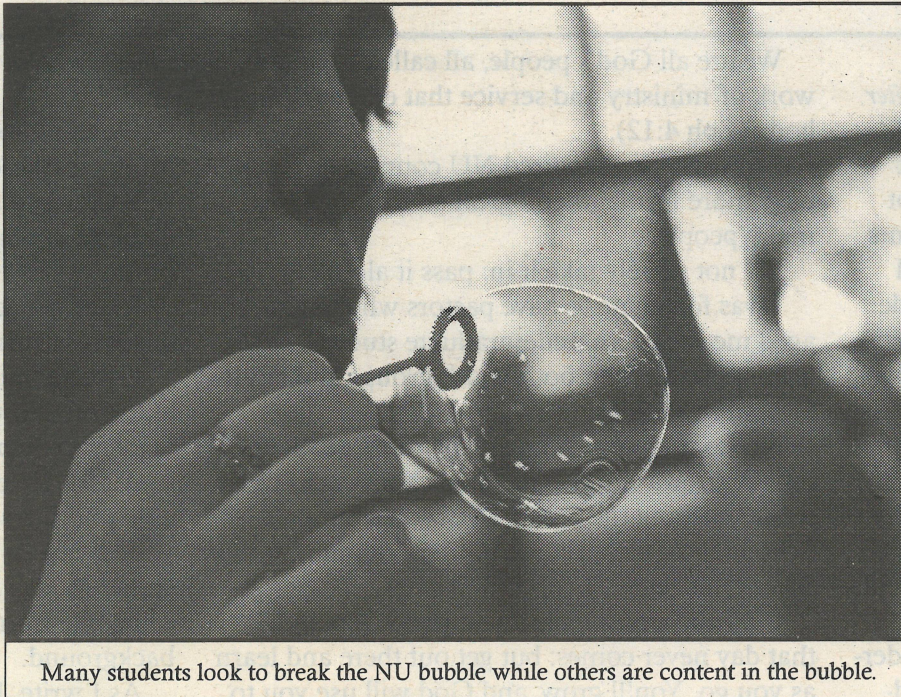
"I think every student should be involved in a local church, a local mission. They need to get involved serving outside of Northwest," he said, "I think the College of Ministry could do a better job at getting their students involved. I don't see them pushing their students outside the bubble as much."

While there is a strong belief that students need to break out of the bubble of NU, some find a security in it.

"The bubble can be good in the sense that it can give a lot of students shelter and protection and an environment where they experience the things they need to experience such as academics," said August.

Being at NU provides opportunities for students to learn and not be afraid to make mistakes.

"I think one of the best things about college in general is that you can try new things, try new experiences in an insulated environment, an environment that is safe and it's ok to make



Many students look to break the NU bubble while others are content in the bubble.

mistakes," said Bacon.

Students can also use NU as a catapult into community involvement. There are many opportunities through different majors and ministries to get involved in the community.

The Social Venture project is just one way that students are currently breaking the NU bubble. Not only are students going out into the community but they are bringing community leaders to Northwest.

Business leaders in the community have volun-

teered their time and expertise to help the students gain the skills needed to create successful projects.

"We are engaging business community leaders and we are allowing them access to our bubble," said Bacon. "We can give the students exposure to business professionals that are expressing Christian values in a business setting."

Students are gaining leadership skills through NU and the Social Venture project that will be beneficial to them beyond the boundaries of NU, according to Castleberry.

"It is really important for everyone to realize that they have to be a leader," said Castleberry. "The reason that everyone needs to be a leader is that it is not possible to become a fully actualized human being without participating in leadership."

Even if not all students go into leadership, they still need to be the leader of their own lives, he said.

While there are many opportunities for students to lead on and off campus they, "have to choose whether or not they want to contribute to this community which is a unique one or to be able to contribute to their surrounding community," said Schulz.

For more details on the Social Venture competition contact John Bacon

NU Student Invited to Speak at High Profile Event

Christy Wolyniak
Senior Staff Writer

Senior Lindsey Bruner, who is an advocate against human trafficking, joined celebrities at a recent event in Walla Walla, WA.

Shelter for Freedom, an activist group against modern-day slavery, held a five day event to raise awareness of human trafficking. The event was hosted at Whitman College January 14-18.

Writer and director, Michael Cory Davis, finished producing his movie and documentary, *Cargo: Innocence Lost*, which was presented at the event.

The movie "unveils the dark underworld of sex trafficking through compelling interviews with some of the country's top officials...victims' advocates, and victims themselves," according to cargoinnocencelost.com.

Bruner, who was invited to attend the event, spoke on a panel discussion following the film on Saturday.

She is the leader of NU's Embargo and has been involved in the fight against human trafficking for the past three years.

Other speakers included A-list actors such as Academy award-nominated best actress, Ann Archer, and director, Michael Cory Davis, according to Bruner.

Archer founded the Artists for Human Rights in 2006. The organization raises human rights awareness on a global scale.

"Human trafficking is one of those things that when you hear about it, you can't forget about it. It doesn't mat-

ter the level of involvement that you have; once you hear about it, you have to do something," said Bruner.

Bombay Teen Challenge provided an opportunity for Bruner and other NU students to minister to victims of human trafficking. Since this experience, Embargo has begun events

such as Freeze, in an effort to raise awareness on a local level.

"I felt that my calling to do this was more affirmed. Working with human trafficking victims is something that I really want to do with my life and will always advocate," said Bruner.

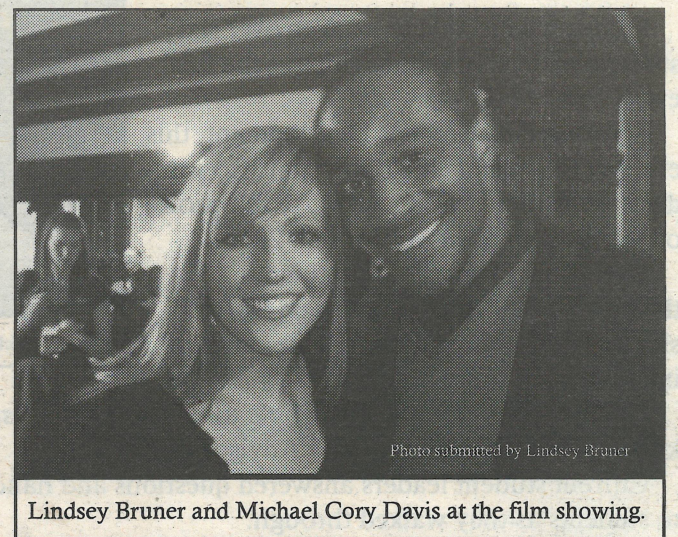
She spoke of teaming up with SPU and UW to raise awareness through the *Cargo: Innocence Lost* film, sometime in the future.

"It's easy to get up in chapel and do the offering and be the leader. It's another to go out and make a difference," said Bruner.

Human trafficking is still a growing issue in America. It has become a \$9 billion dollar a year industry according to cargoinnocencelost.com. This school year, Northwest University has raised \$6496.87 for human trafficking organizations including the Home Foundation, Project Rescue, and Convoy of Hope, according to Pastor Phil Rasmussen.

The event included workshops and lectures to educate people about human trafficking victims and preventive actions. An art auction was also included, tickets selling at \$100 a ticket. All funds from this event assisted the Walla Walla Helpline Women's Shelter.

About 1,500 people attended, according to Bruner.



Lindsey Bruner and Michael Cory Davis at the film showing.

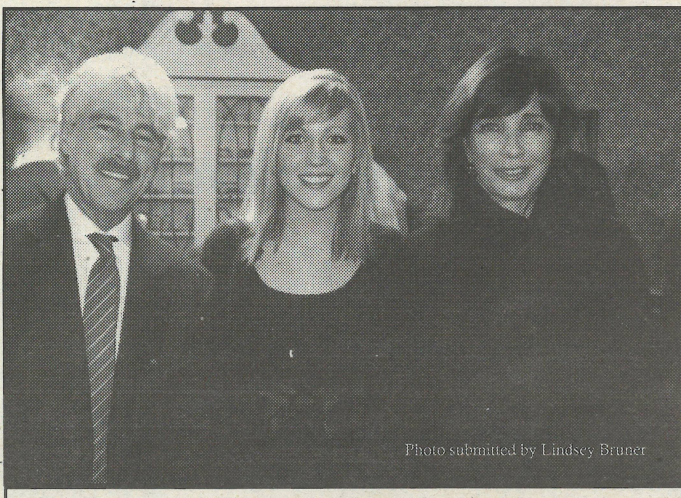


Photo submitted by Lindsey Bruner

Michael Wisner, Lindsey Bruner, and Anne Archer at the event.

Faculty Voice: Is Leadership For Everyone?



Kari Brodin
Guest Faculty Writer

At the outset, let me say that I do not think all NU students need to be involved in leadership outside Northwest University.

Some of you are in significant leadership positions on campus (RA's, student government, etc.) which demand large amounts of time.

Some of you must work full-time, or nearly so, to pay for your education.

Some of you have families, and taking care of them is certainly your chief priority.

For such students to take on additional leadership responsibilities may well be poor stewardship.

As students you need to be devoting adequate time to your studies; spreading yourself too thin will lead to unsatisfactory results in every facet of your life.

That said, for many students leadership outside NU is an important avenue of both developing leadership skills and significant current ministry.

My mind goes first of all to the local church.

We are all God's people, all called to do the work of ministry and service that edifies the body (Eph 4:12).

Just by taking required NU courses, you will have more formal theological education than many people.

Do not merely take it in: pass it along!

I was fortunate to have pastors who encouraged me, when an undergraduate student, to teach right away in both youth groups and adult education settings.

Not to mention, some of my more challenging (and rewarding) leadership experiences came while teaching the 3-and-4-year-olds Sunday School class, or coaching the 1st-6th grade Junior Bible Quizzers!

If you're waiting until you know "enough," that day never comes: but get out there and learn as you go. You'll grow, and God will use you to help others grow, too.

Look also for ways in which you may put your current studies, interests, and abilities to work in order to make a difference in the broader community.

You can acquire valuable skills, develop important networks, and gain significant career-enhancing experience in volunteer and/or paid positions, such as internships.

Are you an athlete? Coach at a boys-and-girls club.

Planning to teach? Volunteer to assist in a school classroom.

Feel called to practice medicine one day? Explore opportunities in a hospital or nursing home.

In the process you will carry the light of the gospel of Christ wherever you go.

Getting outside Northwest University, if your situation allows it, will help to diversify your leadership experience.

Although leadership skills are often transferable to other settings, it may be one thing to lead your peers on campus and another thing altogether to lead people of a different age group, or people from a different cultural or ideological background.

As I write, I think about Geoff Sankey who recently preached at a Sunday morning service in my church.

Here's a Bib Lit major engaging in significant leadership outside Northwest University related to his field of study. Go Geoff!

And go all of you who are stepping out and pursuing your God-given callings!

May God give us all eyes to see what He is doing in our world, and the gumption to get involved.

Students Find Leadership Opportunities with Lead @ NU

Jennifer Jensen
Staff Writer

Students were able to explore over sixty student leadership scholarships at the first ever Lead @ NU.

Sponsored by Student Development, this event gave students the opportunity to wander booths representing a diverse selection of scholarship positions for Fall 2010.

Everything from radio production to the newly established Northwest University Business Association, a wide range of interests were represented.

"It's been cool to connect people to their interests," said Jonathan Yorkowitz, Area Coordinator and Advisor of Karisma.

Current student leaders answered questions and handed out applications to students as they walked through.

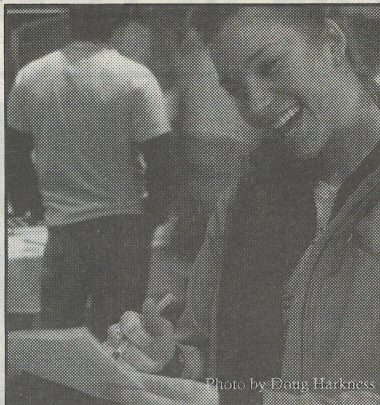
Sophomore Rebekah Williams stated, "I got a lot of information on things I can be involved in next year!"

Whether you are interested in film studies, athletics, or student government, this year's Lead @ NU proved to have something for everyone.

"The representatives talked about the upcoming opportunities with contagious enthusiasm," said freshman Brandon Long of the event.

Due to the positive response of students, you can expect this event to occur again next year.

If you would like more information on student leadership scholarships available Fall 2010 contact the specific area of interest or the Student Development office with general questions.



Kalie Messick looks over an application



Rhonda Davis, Jessica Daniels and Ryan Gilbreath helped at Lead @ NU



Graduate School is not for the faint of heart

Mars Hill Graduate School is no exception to that rule.

MHGS has invited me to step out of my comfortable theology and reformed my faith in a beautiful way. As a result, I have found new strengths and come to cherish profound weakness. *I am learning to listen well, speak truth, and to do so with the humility that comes from loving the story of my gifts and failure.*

These days many of us are about the work of redefining what it means to be the Church by holding loosely to the traditions that have informed our best worship and worst fears. We view the stories of God's people as gifts to the church of yesterday, today and tomorrow. *MHGS students like myself come to understand how to live out of the Biblical text in a way that responds to the call for continual healing in the Body of Christ.*

Abigail Jimenez

3rd year Master of Divinity Student



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Ex-Gay Tackles Taboo Topics at NU

Racheal Arteaga
Ministry Editor

As students grapple over sexual issues this semester, internationally known speaker and musician, Sy Rogers, shares his story of his difficult journey.

Speaking in chapel on Wednesday, February 24th, he will be sharing his story of brokenness and the long road to redemption that he has walked along since 1979.

Rogers began living a homosexual lifestyle as early ten years old, after enduring sexual abuse even earlier in his life and losing his mother to alcoholism and drunk driving. He lived a double life, active in church and Boy Scouts, but secretly struggling with urges and desires that he felt he could not control.

Through the military, Rogers was stationed in Hawaii and became deeply involved in the underground gay culture of the main cities, often putting himself in dangerous prostitution and drug trafficking deals.



Sy Rogers, a nationally known speaker and musician, to speak at NU.

During his time in Hawaii, Rogers met a homosexual couple who encouraged him in his lifestyle and became close friends and mentors. However, after a short break from the scene in Hawaii, he returned to find the couple had split up and moved...and most shocking of all, had become Christians and renounced their former lifestyle.

Still confused and hurting, Sy began to dive deeper into the darkness that surrounded him, living as a female for several years and applying to be a candidate for sexual reassignment surgery.

God had other plans for Rogers, though. At one especially low point, during a near-fatal drug experience, Sy cried out for the God who had saved his friends to lead him and help him figure out his life.

Three days later, the hospital that was scheduled to perform his gender reassignment surgery unexpectedly closed the doors on that program.

Weeping, Rogers committed his life to the Lord. In his testimony, Rogers describes this experience, saying, "To be pleasing to God, to be loved and not rejected by Him - that was all I wanted. As I placed my life into His hands, trusting Him, the "old man" died and the "new man" was born! There was immediate evidence of my spiritual regeneration - the power of immorality and drug dependence was broken! I wasn't driven. I could resist, and even wanted to resist compulsions that had always enslaved me. What had happened to me? I wasn't sure, but I felt good. Peaceful. Clean. Forgiven. And confident that God would be with me now to help me begin living a decidedly different life."



Photo from google images

Sy Rogers will be coming to NU Feb. 24th- 26th

Decidedly different is a serious understatement when it comes to the changes in Sy Rogers' life. Now happily married to a woman and is a father, Rogers' life is a testimony to the saving, redeeming power of God.

The temptation was not completely gone, but Rogers lives his life in response to the forgiveness and grace God has shown him. Rogers sums up the difficulties and the rewards of choosing redemption and repentance, saying, "Being my own toughest critic, I sometimes have difficulty seeing the changes God has brought about in my life. I may never live up to society's unrealistic standard of manliness. But then I live by a different set of values now - I look to Jesus. He is my example, my ultimate goal, and the object of my desire."

Women's Conference: Soaking in God's Presence

To all the ladies, are you worn out and just wanting a rest? Women's Conference is THIS Friday and Saturday, February 19th and 20th, starting at 7 p.m. on Friday.

Di Beals will be bringing God's Word, and Annie Ashley will be leading us in worship.

So why not just spend this weekend relaxing in God's presence?

The theme is "Soaking in God's Presence", and Heather Fried has put together an incredible time of fun and fellowship.

The activities include (but are not limited to!) massages, hand paraffin wax treatments, and lots of chocolate and other girly foods.

Sign up now for your chance to relax and renew yourself with other women from Northwest.

If you're interested in bringing a friend, but she doesn't go to NU, no worries—the cost is \$20 for non-students, but is free for students.

This Friday and Saturday, spend some time soaking in God's presence to refresh yourself for the rest of the semester. Hope to see you there!

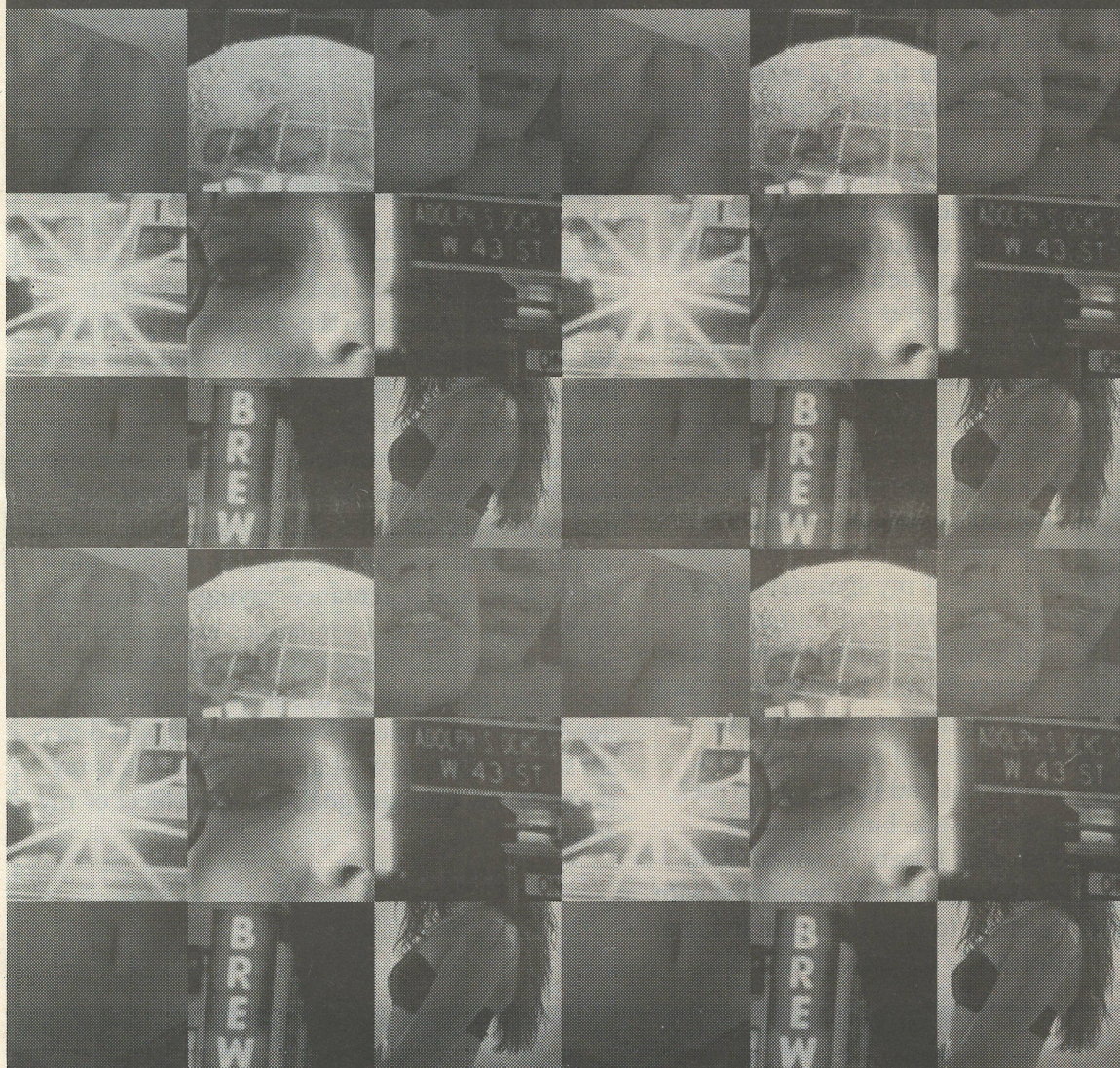
Sy's Schedule While at NU

Wednesday February 24th-
10 a.m.- 12:20 p.m.-Alpha and Omega Chapel
6 p.m.- "The 'Sychology' of Sex" in the Chapel.

Thursday February 25th-
2:30 p.m.- Student Leadership Session (all welcome who are interested in student leadership or are currently involved) in Millard 103.
6 p.m.- "Sy in the Hot Seat" Q & A Session in the Chapel

Friday February 26th-
10 a.m.- 12:20 p.m.- Alpha and Omega Chapel

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Students Seek Ways to Save on School

Shayn Fite
Staff Writer

With the FAFSA priority deadline quickly approaching, many students are looking to maximize the aid they will receive for Fall 2010.

There are 90 million dollars floating around each year for financial aid.

Federal aid money, scholarships, and various types of grants are often awarded to students for reasons that may affect their education experience such as: Athletic ability, academic merit, disability, race, nationality, religious affiliation, relation to a cancer victim, location, etc.

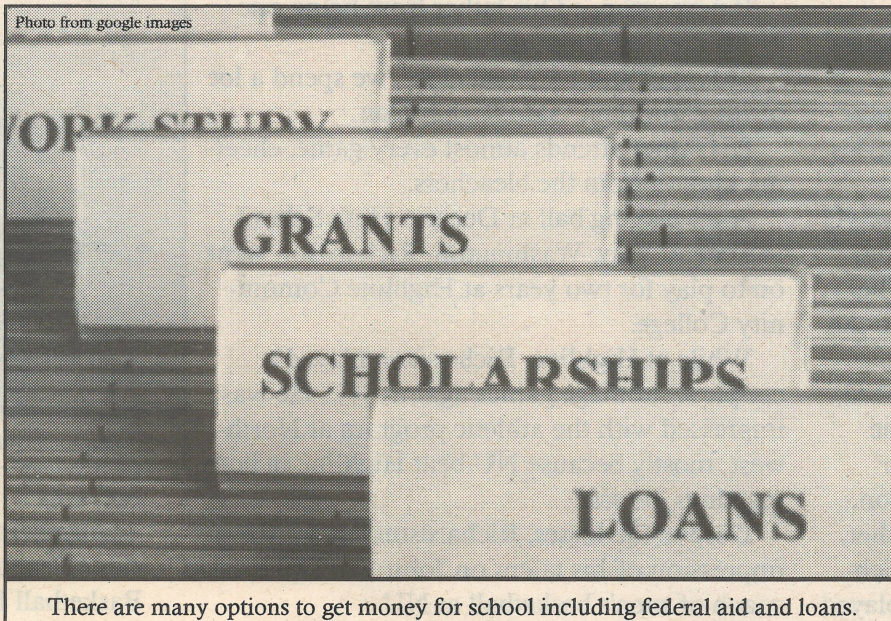
However, for the students who can not immediately be identified with these financial aid "attributes" getting their hands on this "free money" is a difficult task.

In recent years, students have found a series of new tactics to obtain more monetary help with these ever-increasing tuition costs.

When filing a Free Application for Student Aid, Online Education Database (OEDB) officials suggest that students seeking to gain additional money should remember six rules:

Save in parents' names. The federal government expects students to contribute 35% of their income to college education, while they expect parents to contribute only 5.6%. So keep that 529 plan and any other investments in the names of the parents.

Photo from google images



There are many options to get money for school including federal aid and loans.

Pay off debt. The federal government is going to consider what you have, not what you owe, when they determine your financial aid award. Liquidate some assets to pay off debt, you may see a boost in aid.

Maximize your 401(k) and IRA. Funds in accounts set aside for retirement will not be counted by the federal government when they determine your aid package. Move extra funds into these accounts at least two years prior to filling out the FAFSA.

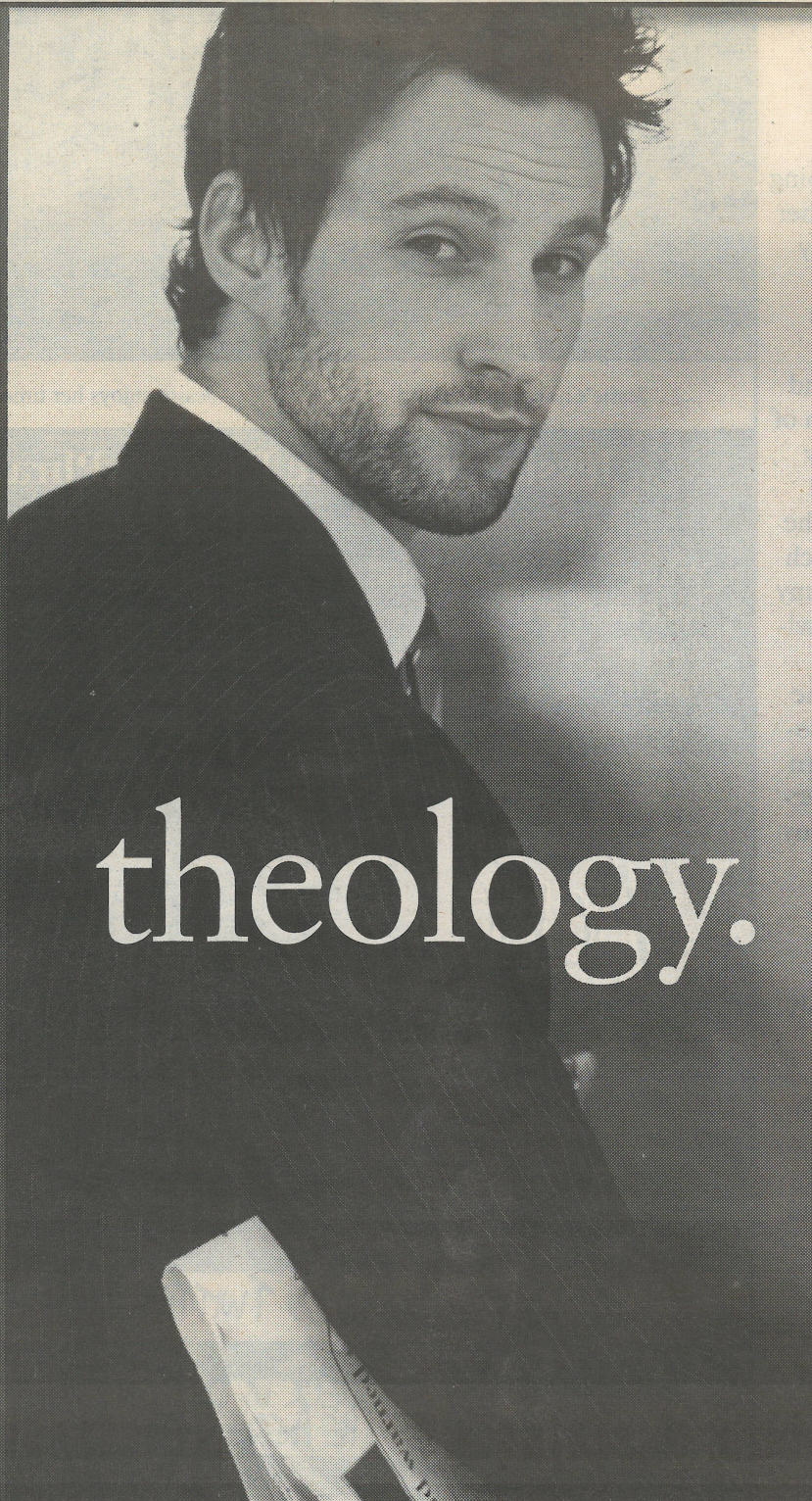
Ask for more. Your university's financial aid office can be quite accommodating, especially when it comes to personal family needs. Schedule an appointment face-to-face with another person and ask for more money.

Keep up the good work. Financial aid often relies upon keeping up a certain course load and G.P.A. Don't get behind in your studies or slack off for a semester. It could cost you.

Meet all deadlines. Scholarship applications and the FAFSA have deadlines. Be aware of these. If you miss a deadline, you're sure to lose money.

According to the OEDB, the most common mistake students make is "looking poor." This scheme has been well-researched in order to prevent misleading information.

For more information on financial aid, contact the financial aid office



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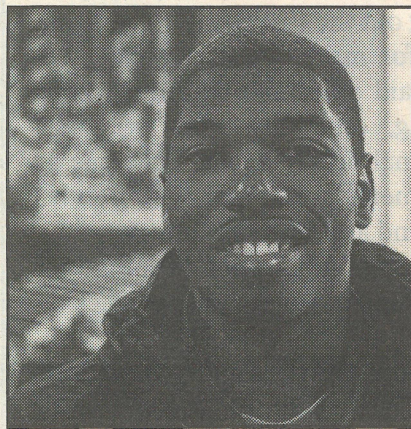
Following In His Father's Footsteps

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

A father's influence inspired a child to shoot for success, on and off a basketball court.

Stedman Richardson, age 21, a junior studying Communication, is following the path of his father as a basketball player.

The journey of his life has brought him to NU as the newest point guard for the men's basketball team, where already in his first season, he has helped lead the Eagles to clinch a spot in the playoffs.



Richardson enjoys being at NU.

Basketball runs in the family for Richardson.

His father, Steven Richardson, played in the NBA for three seasons with the Denver Nuggets, but his career was cut short after his hand was crushed

in a machinery accident, forcing him to retire from basketball.

It never stopped his father from being one of his greatest supporters.

"My dad and I are real close, we spend a lot of time together," said Richardson.

His father attends almost every game, cheering him on from the bleachers.

After playing ball at Decatur High School in Federal Way, Washington, Richardson went on to play for two years at Highline Community College.

While at Highline, Richardson played a couple scrimmage games against NU. He was impressed with the athletic program at Northwest, mostly because NU beat Highline in both meetings, he said.

Despite the losses, Richardson left a lasting impression of his talent on John Van Dyke, head coach of men's basketball at NU.

Van Dyke recruited Richardson to come to NU and play with a full scholarship.

Richardson accepted the offer, moving to Kirkland to join the team last July, with his wife Michelle.

His future plans are to first get his degree in Communication, and to some day start a family, as well as continuing to play basketball, possibly

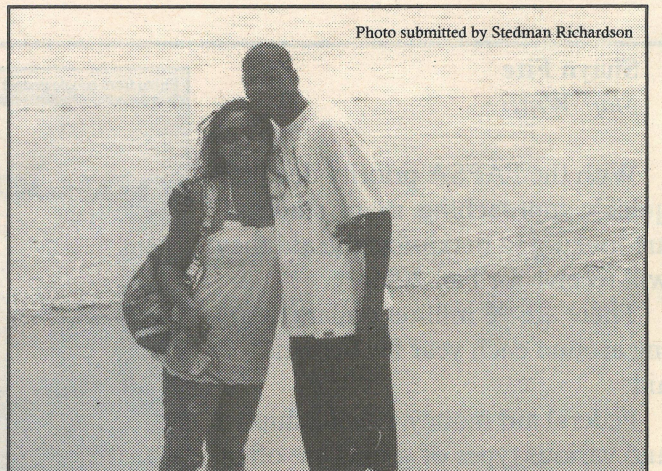


Photo submitted by Stedman Richardson

Richardson and his wife Michelle enjoy spending time together.

overseas.

According to Richardson, there are professional leagues overseas, such as, the International Basketball League (IBL), which is similar to the NBA.

"Who wouldn't want to go play in Italy?" asked Richardson.

He hopes to have a career playing professional basketball. If that does not happen, he thinks his extensive knowledge of the game would make him a good sports analyst broadcaster for ESPN.

Only in Oxford: Jessie's Story

Jessie Fast
Staff Writer

Oxford classes are, frankly, nothing like American ones. Instead of going to a specific room twice or three times a week for an hour to hear a teacher lecture on the topic of the day, I spend one hour a week with my primary tutor, and another hour every other week with my secondary, including about four hours a week of lectures by Oxford tutors on various subjects within my discipline.

This system has its pros and cons. It encourages independent study and the management of one's time, since the show of my work is in the form of a long essay that my tutor reviews with me. For instance, for my primary tutorial in Shakespeare, I read the play for the week, write my essay, and then read my essay with my tutor during the tutorial. These essays and the play, book, or topic chosen by the tutor and I sparks the discussions which drive the time spent in the tutorial. This allows me to decide when I get my work done and incites me to study, read, and write for my own and knowledge's sake.

However, this limited interaction poses some drawbacks as well. At the end of term (spring term is called Hilary), I will have spent eight hours total with my Shakespeare tutor, and four with my secondary tutor, modern literature. This means I have to work to make the hour sessions as productive and learning-based as possible, preparing questions beforehand for my tutor and knowing the material so I can interact productively in order to gain as much benefit as possible.

I have adjusted to the new system by now, and I look forward to my hours with my tutors (called dons). The amount and quality of reading required for both is vast. I have read seven substantial books in the last four weeks, I am in the middle of two others, and I am currently writing my fifth long essay.

This rigorous system, however, shapes my brain to retain and process news ideas and information like never before, as I simultaneously adjust and embrace life in England more generally. My roommates and I are keeping a running list of what we are phrasing "English-isms," words and phrases which the British use and which differ from American speech.

And in case you are ever in the area, the best place to get a good cup of coffee is the Missing Bean on Turl Street. Although the British excel at making tea, coffee is not their strong suit, and it took me many failed attempts at a cappuccino to find this café and its heavenly brew. All in all, Oxford feels like home, and every day reveals something new about my city, my education, and myself.

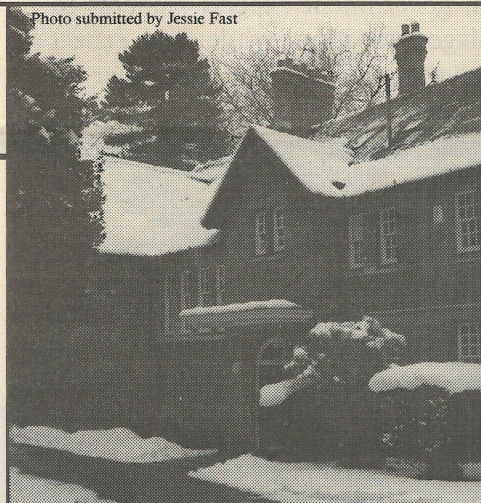


Photo submitted by Jessie Fast

Jessie's house in England.



Photo submitted by Jessie Fast

Jessie enjoys her time in England.

Jessie's Favorite English Phrases

White = coffee with milk
Take away = to-go
Cuppa = a cup of tea at any time of day
Rubbish = trash, garbage

Plasters = bandages
Lift = elevator
DMV = deserted Medieval village



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Student's Excited Over New Intramural Sports

Alexa Breidenbach
Staff Writer

Northwest students will have new things to do this spring with intramural sports.

This year the intramurals board looks to expand their program by adding a dodge ball league and ultimate frisbee league.

Andy Weber, Northwest's intramurals coordinator, has a positive outlook for the additions and the future of intramurals but acknowledges the possible setbacks for the program.

"I would really like to expand intramurals as a program, however, until the facilities at Northwest improve, it will be hard to make any real change to the current system," he said.

Currently, basketball is in play, but in a few months when basketball nears an end, Weber will shift his attention to getting the new sports off the drawing board and set into action.

"These events are at least a month away, after basketball has been

worked out and running smoothly, then I will turn my attention to other sports," said Weber.

Intramurals have proved to be a popular activity on campus with students eager to explore the new sports.

"I can't wait for the new activities in intramurals to start, frisbee and dodge ball aren't your everyday sports

so it will bring a whole new aspect and atmosphere to the program," said NU junior Erika Hornyak.

The spring intramurals are already underway with basketball games every Tuesday and Thursday nights in the Northwest Pavilion.

"Intramurals offers an opportunity for all students to be involved in a sport at school and it brings the community of students closer," said NU student Tim Smith.

Northwest offers a variety of intramural sports for students living on and off campus including football, volleyball and basketball.

"Intramurals is down right fun, definitely one of the best parts about NU. Living on campus, there is not much to do here and it's a cure to boredom. I also like to compete and be a part of a team," added Smith.

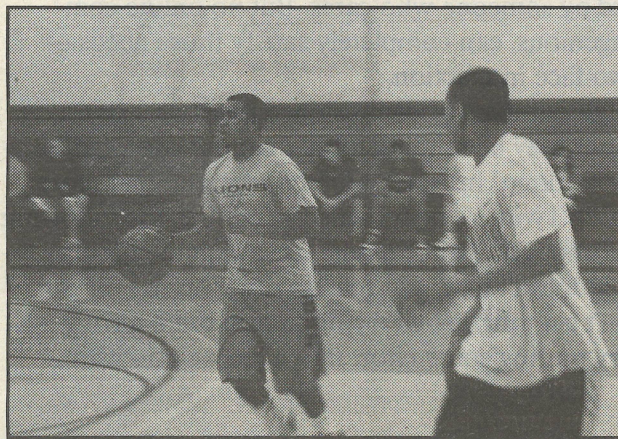
With the new additions to intramurals and emphasis on expanding the program in the future Weber hopes to keep the positive environment for years to come.

"We, as the intramural program, exist to bring glory to Christ and to create fellowship on the NU campus through the venue of sports. I'm quite hopeful that Intramurals will succeed as a program long after I am graduated and gone," Weber added.

Spring Intramurals runs from February 2nd to April 8th, followed immediately by playoffs and a championship game.



Lance Watson (600) drives in a game where 600 faced 400.

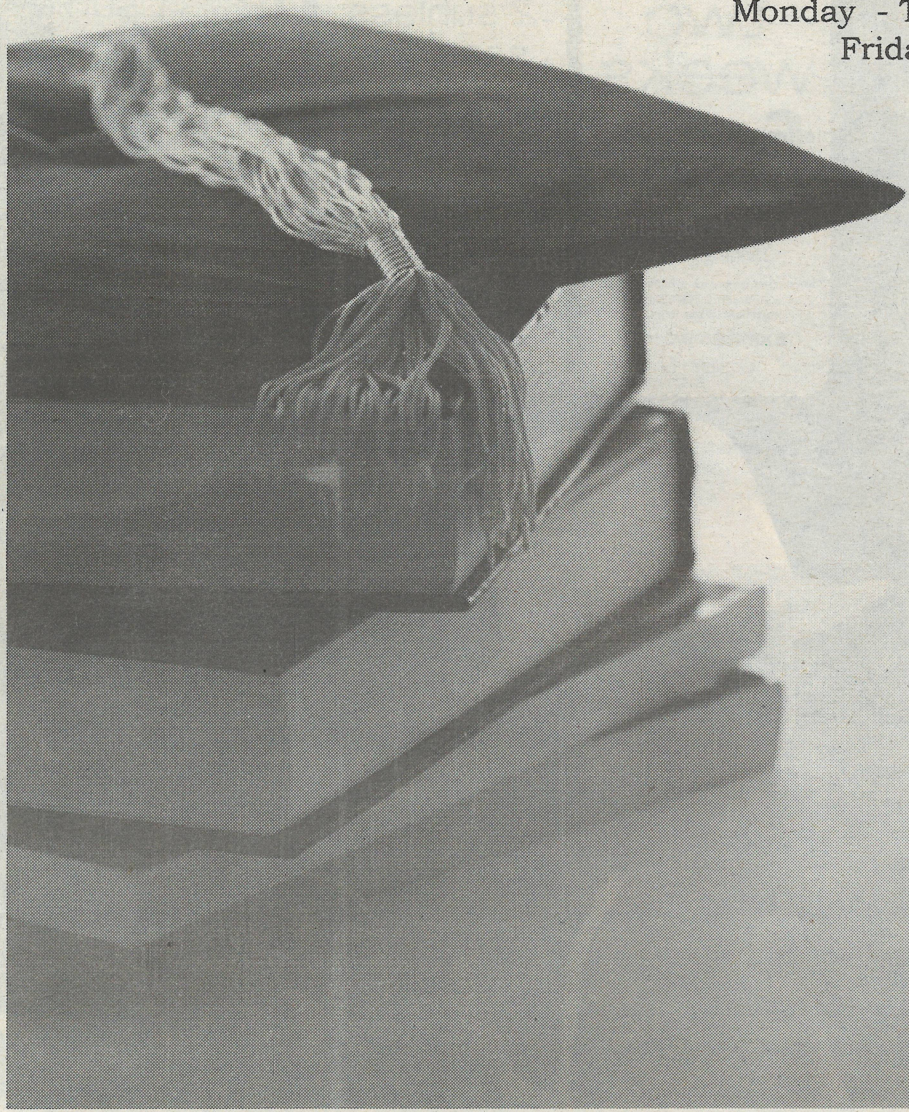


Markese Brown (with ball) and Romece Barnes look to score.

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Stop by Today!

The Scene

Twitter-mania: Terrific or Toxic?

Janie Kliever
Senior Staff Writer

What are you doing? What are you doing right now, this very minute? Millions of your fellow Americans search the inner recesses of their souls to retrieve a witty, or poetic, or perhaps a disturbingly honest answer to this timeless question. Why? For the love of Twitter, of course!

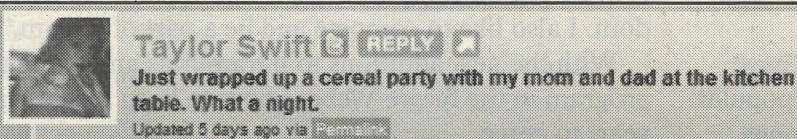
First came MySpace, then Facebook, and now the latest and greatest social networking site—Twitter.



“Tweeting” is the hip new way to keep all your friends up to date, as long as you can pull off anything even remotely meaningful in 140 characters or less. If you think it’s only for teens and 20-somethings, you would be wrong. A Nielsen Company report from earlier this year indicated that 35- to 49-year-olds who use the site at work are Twitter’s biggest demographic.

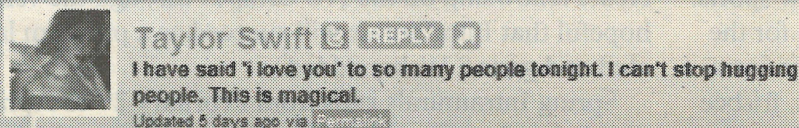
So what are you missing if you refuse to succumb to the Twitter craze? Probably a bunch of middle-aged slackers wiling away the time at their dead end jobs—makes for some fascinating reading material.



Some might wonder what the attraction is of a social networking site devoted solely to status updates, or “micro-blogging”. Like Facebook minus the fun. Well, even if all your friends have boring lives, you can always follow (or stalk) your favorite celebrity.

Peruse a few samples from country music sensation Taylor Swift:



Taylor Swift  
Just wrapped up a cereal party with my mom and dad at the kitchen table. What a night.
Updated 5 days ago via [RemixLink](#)



Taylor Swift  
I have said 'i love you' to so many people tonight. I can't stop hugging people. This is magical.
Updated 5 days ago via [RemixLink](#)

Or not. That is, unless you enjoy the sickeningly sweet effusions of teen idols.

So what made Twitter the fastest growing member community site in February 2009? What’s the thrill in real-time status updates? Is it the immediacy, the instant gratification, the constant change? Maybe it’s knowing that your Uncle Arnold got heartburn from his pastrami on rye at exactly 6:59 p.m. Or maybe you enjoy the weekly installments of your best friend’s pathetic dating saga.

Or maybe, just maybe, America has lost the art of conversation and has substituted relationships with distant, faceless blips on a screen. Perhaps millions of Americans long for a sense of belonging, for someone to listen, for their voices to be heard by someone who cares. But no online community, no matter how ingenious, can completely satisfy those needs or replace the value of face-to-face interaction.



The high numbers of disillusioned tweeters suggest that Twitter may be nothing more than the latest fad in social networking. In April, Nielsen reported that more than half of Twitter’s new users don’t return the following month. Although Twitter-mania has swept the nation, apparently it doesn’t have any real staying power.

So don’t get tongue-tied trying to turn out a terrific tweet. Try putting some effort into a real relationship instead.

Spendy Apple Gadget Late to Game

Shayn Fite
Staff Writer

Exploding onto the tech scene like an iPhone-shaped superhero, the Apple iPad has finally arrived.

Tech-savvy Mac users knew they had to have it before they were even sure what it was. Apparently, the superior performance of apple’s family of “i” gadgets was the all the marketing this new device needed.

Built with a 9.7 inch display, 1024x768 pixel resolution, and weighing only 1.5 lbs., the iPad is just as easy on the eyes as its big bro and sis, (iPhone and iPod Touch).

The iPad boasts a variety of new features as well as nearly all of the ones made popular by the iPod and iPhone.

Complete with full touch-screen capabilities, the tablet is compatible with a docking port and a wireless keyboard.

It also includes programs for your handheld computers, and smart phones. A version of iWork is available for producing word and spreadsheet documents.

The tablet features Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and some models are connected to AT&T’s 3G network. iPad models include a 16 GB, 32 GB, and a 64 GB versions—all of which have a GPS, accelerometer, and a compass.

With all of these features, it’s a good thing the iPad flexes 10 hours of battery power.



Photo from google images

Textbook publishers and firms are already signing deals with agencies to bring their products to digital devices.

Ebook applications and study guides are another major feature of the iPad.

Rivalling Amazon’s “Kindle” already, the tablet is hoping to change technology in the classroom. Prices for the new gadget are starting at the \$500 to \$700 range.

The iPad gives the impression that is trying to be a touch-screen laptop. Something most college students don’t need—especially since it lacks many of the helpful processing qualities and multi-tasking abilities traditional laptops have. Bottom line: while it boasts many fun features, Apple’s iPad is also very unnecessary. It doesn’t even have a camera.

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Advertisers Score on Record Breaking Super Bowl

Liz Rodrigues
Staff Writer

Super Bowl Sunday, a day where the two best teams out of the NFL league compete head to head for the championship prize. And it is the day that advertisers bite their nails and pace the halls nervously in hopes that their ads are received well by viewers.

It is part of the tradition of Super Bowl Sunday, the reason many people sit down to actually watch the game, and this year it broke records.

According to CBS spokesperson Ed Harrison, the Super Bowl surpassed the viewings of M*A*S*H, which was the most watched TV show in history.

There was an estimated 106.5 million people all tuning into watch the game!

As the official sponsor of the Super Bowl game, Doritos knew they needed to be creative this year, so they challenged their customers to create their ads and submit their commercials to be aired during the game.

Doritos chose four different user-generated commercials to air on game day and the most popular ad featured a dog that uses its shock collar to outsmart its owner for a bag of Doritos.

This was a hit and ranked in the top two most popular ads by USA TODAY, giving the creator \$600,000 as a part of the promotion.

So let's recap on of the must see ads that received lots of talk, according

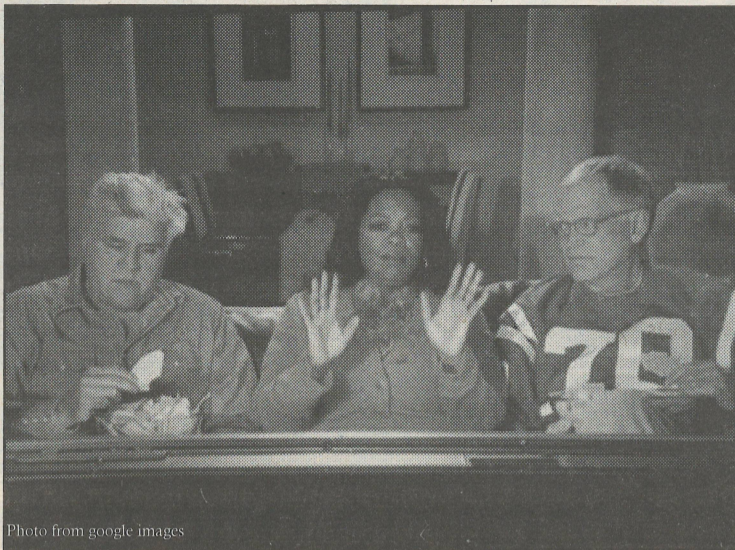


Photo from google images

Leno, Oprah, and Letterman had one of the top commercials.

to World News with Diane Sawyer.

The most surprising ad was the Leno, Oprah and Letterman all together advertising for the Late Show, where Jay Leno advertised his own competitor's show, while playing the role as the rival host.

The very popular, Betty White was viciously body slammed into the mud while playing a pick up football game with boys which resulted in many laughs and a request for her to host SNL.

On NFLfanhouse.com, a little boy sets his mom's date straight with hands off on his Doritos's and his mother, and Chevy Chase and co-star actress, Beverly D'Angelo from Christmas vacation once again return to TV while promoting Homeaway.com make the top ten hits of the day.

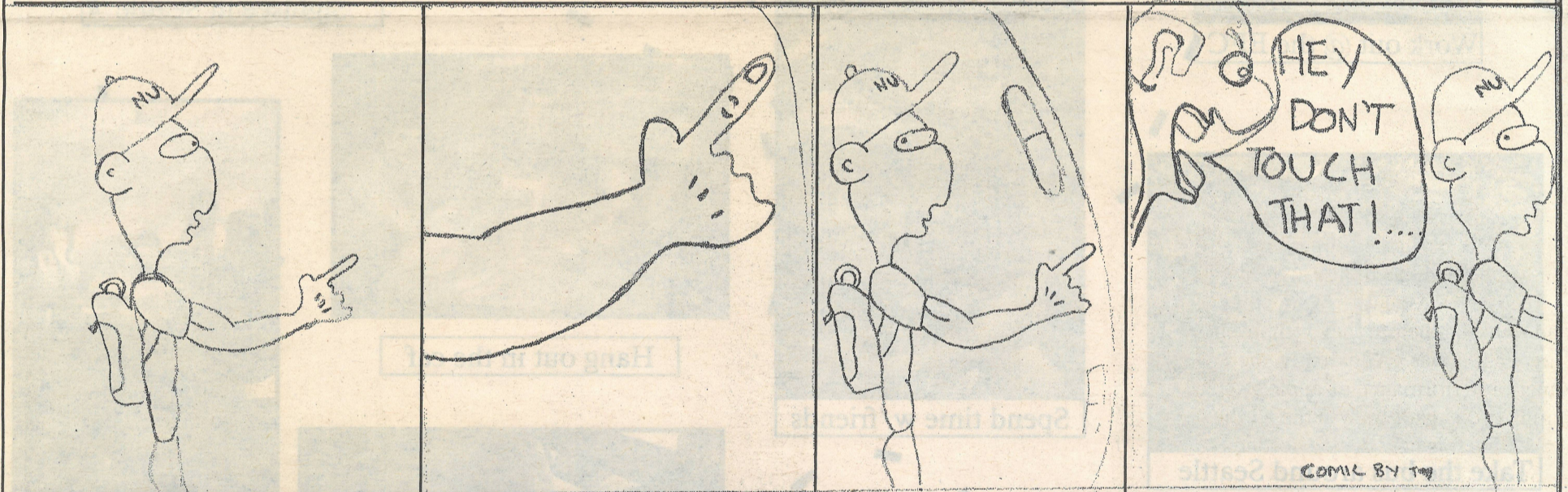
As a whole, it was a successful day for television and advertisers. Catch all the Super Bowl ads on NFLfanhouse.com!

Focus on the Family.

This year, the ads included of quite the variety including Focus on the Family who wanted to get their name into the mix this year, and hopefully boost the interest of the viewers. The Ad featuring Tim Tebow and his mom Pam was ranked 54th out of the 65 ads in the game by panelists. However even though it scored very low in USA's Today Ad meter, the site received 40 times its normal volume.

T-HART COMICS

WELCOME TO THE BUBBLE



COMIC BY TTY

DEAR DRAKE

Dear Drake,
The days are getting longer and warmer. My schoolwork is manageable. However, my bank account is persistently hovering around zero. I would like to enjoy the extended sunlight, yet my wallet does not allow. Do you have any solutions?

Bored and Broke Bob

Dear Bored and Broke Bob,

You are in a diverse demographic. The city life is a few feet away from the suburban life. There is an added benefit to this. Most suburbanites work long hours in the city. Thus leaving little or no time to walk their dogs, maintain their homes, or wash their cars. This gives you an opportunity to coin in on their inconveniences of maintenance.

Make yourself known by marketing your name around your area. Network and let people know you are available for work—post on facebook, community bulletin boards, or mass email.

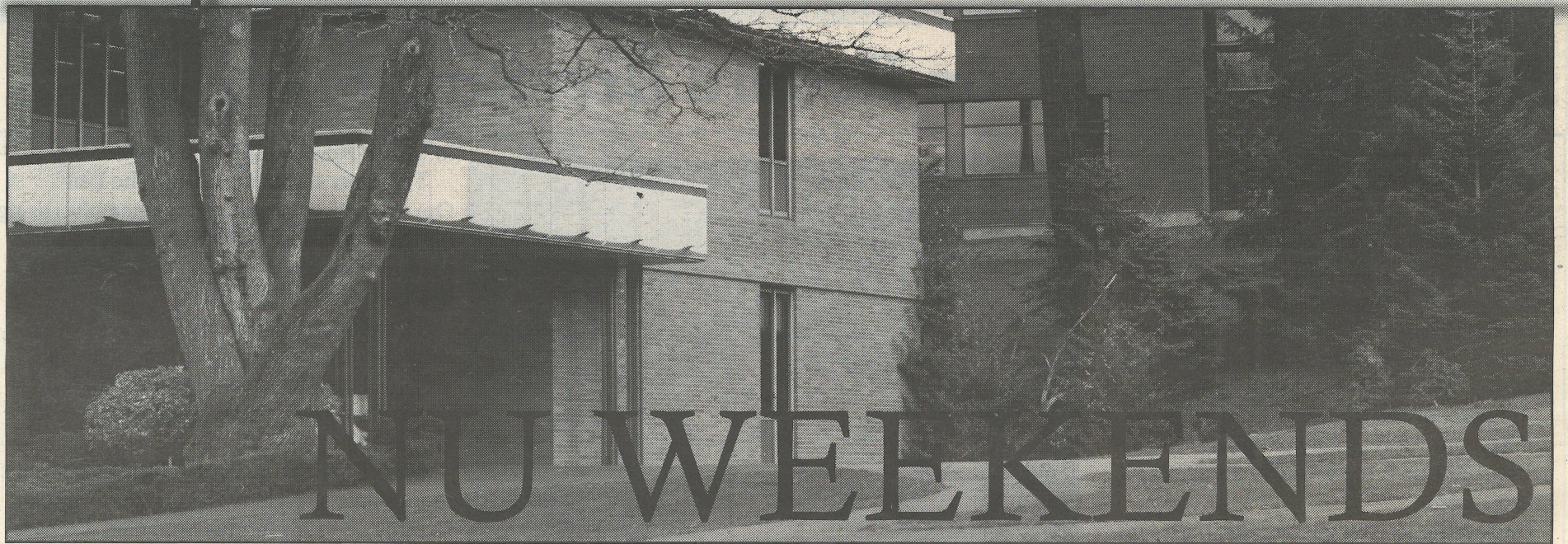
By working odd end jobs, you'll be able to enjoy the outdoors (depending on job) and fatten your wallet.

Another source to look for odd end jobs is <http://eagle.northwestu.edu/jobsearch>.

Best of luck,
Drake

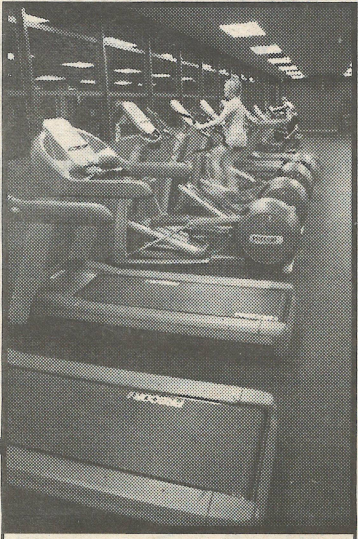
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Photo Journal

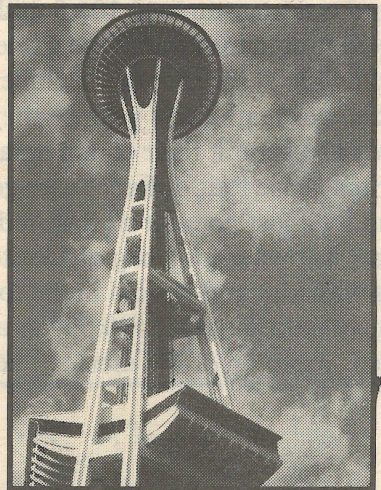
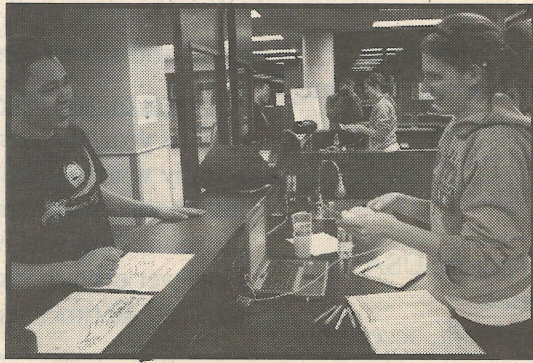


NU WEEKENDS

What do you do when no one is around campus?



Work out @ the EFC



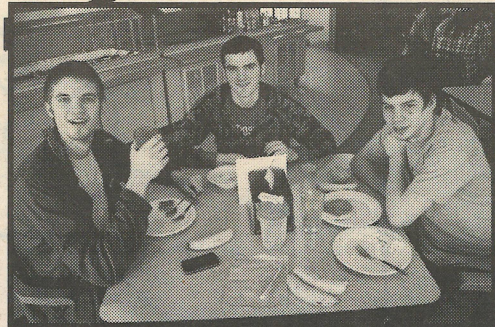
Sightsee in Seattle



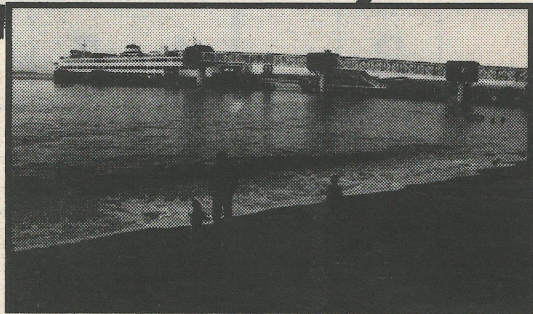
Take the bus around Seattle



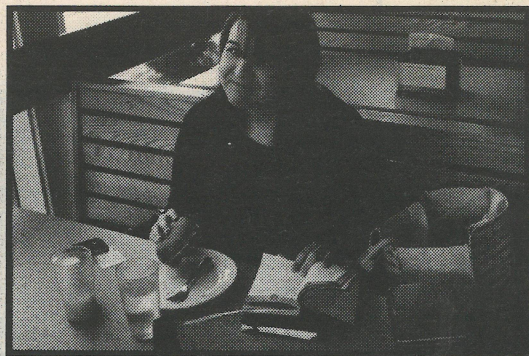
Spend time w/friends



Hang out in the caf



Catch the Edmonds/Kingston ferry



...And nothing fun seems to be happening