

CLASSIC

A publication for Northwestern College alumni & friends • Fall 2005

A SOLDIER IS A SOLDIER





Dr. Bruce Murphy
President

A New Way to Do College?

"Is there some problem within higher education that Northwestern can solve—some need Northwestern can address to make a difference?"

The question came from a good friend of the college, a renowned business executive and Christian leader. We were discussing Northwestern's plans for the future and its calling as a Christian institution.

I thought for a moment and then shared a concern I have had for years.

It has seemed to me and a growing number of others in higher education that over the last generation or so, we in the education world have come to define "quality" mainly in terms of "quantity." We have encouraged students to add a minor or a second major to their schedule, assuming more credits equals more learning. We have also advised students to add co-curricular activities to their growing list of academic credits, trusting that these additional experiences will enrich their lives and build attractive resumé's, making a college education even more valuable.

The same emphasis on quantity has marked the evaluation of professors: The more articles published, the more classes taught, the more committees chaired, the more worthwhile the contribution.

To put the issue in even more familiar language: The assumption today is the busier the student, the more he is learning, and the busier the professor, the more she is contributing.

The tragedy and irony in this perspective is that when we stop to think for a moment (and, of course, we don't have time to) we acknowledge—especially those of us in Christian liberal arts colleges—that the wisdom we claim to value above all can only come when we have time to reflect. Activity and busyness, the gods of our culture, are demons in the life of those seeking "the mind of Christ." No matter how good the individual academic or co-curricular experience may be, the cumulative effect of so many experiences is destructive.

Our friend listened intently as I rattled on. When I stopped, he nodded in agreement and asked, "So what can Northwestern do about it?" For the next two hours we brainstormed together.

The brainstorming is continuing on campus this year. As we undergo our regular 10-year reaccreditation visit, we are beginning a partnership with the North Central Association to explore, over the next decade, a "new way to do college." How can we use student, faculty and staff time more effectively—*more wisely*?

To whet your appetites, one of many questions we will be investigating is this: Is it possible to organize a student's four years at Northwestern in a more developmental way, gradually cultivating a way of life that truly allows for lifelong learning—rather than just lifelong busyness?

Here is one possibility: The freshman year would be much like it is today, with a structured academic schedule and opportunities to participate in co-curricular activities. But as students move through their sophomore, junior and senior years, they would be weaned from a structured but busy schedule of many curricular and co-curricular experiences to a less structured schedule with more time for critical reflection and synthesis. The focus would be more on overall learning results than on particular activities—more on growing internal student discipline than on following external direction.

One challenge for the faculty and staff would be to become even more effective discerners of student learning and mentors of student maturity. With these changes in place, the senior year would look much different from the freshman year. The goal would be synthesis—academic, professional and personal. Bridges would be built to the world students will encounter after graduation. A senior project culminating in a personal mission statement would provide an appropriate climax.

This is one idea; there are many others. Think with us. We welcome your suggestions and your continued prayers as we seek to be careful stewards of all that is Northwestern.

Bruce Murphy

▼
"Is it possible to organize a student's four years at Northwestern in a more developmental way, gradually cultivating a way of life that truly allows for lifelong learning—rather than just lifelong busyness?"
▲

classicpeople

CLASSIC

Fall 2005

Vol. 77, No. 3

Editor

Duane Beeson
(712-707-7116,
beeson@nwciowa.edu)

Staff Writers

Carrie (Odell '01) Anderson
Duane Beeson
Anita Cirulis
Tamara Fynaardt

Contributing Photographers

Tom Becker
Duane Beeson
Doug Burg
Anita Cirulis
Jim Heemstra '72
Rod Hop '80
Sonja Rakicevic
Dr. Carl Vandermeulen

Designers

Anji Bennett
John Vander Stelt '83

The *Classic* is published quarterly—in March, June, October and December—for alumni and friends of Northwestern College. So named because it served what was then known as the Northwestern Classical Academy, the *Classic* was the school's first student newspaper, begun in 1891. It has been an alumni publication since 1930.

Send correspondence or address changes to the *Classic*, Northwestern College, 101 7th Street SW, Orange City, IA 51041-1996.

Visit us on the Web at:
www.nwciowa.edu



page4
Campus news

page11
Face value
TJ Buchholz

page12
Notes in Another Culture
Student profile
Ruth Umthun



18



14

page14
Out of Africa
Faculty profile
Dr. Carl Vandermeulen

page18
A Soldier is a Soldier
Cover story

page21
Of course

page22
Higglytown Hero
Alumni profile
Kent Redeker

page24
Lessons for Life
Alumni profile
Catherine Miller

page26
Annual report

page28
Alumni news



12

page34
Why I Don't Support the War in Iraq
Classic thoughts

Mailbag

I'm at the office late tonight but decided to take a little time to peek at the most recent *Classic*.

Kudos to the editorial team. Good stuff from cover to cover! Love the layout and design. Pictures are bright, clean and crisp. Articles are fun, informative and help me relive the spirit of NWC.

Thank you for your continued commitment to excellence!

Glenn Van Ekeren '74
Elkhorn, Neb.

NWC enrolls second largest class of freshmen

Northwestern has enrolled the second largest freshman class in school history, with 374 first-time freshmen on campus this fall. The total enrollment of 1,273 is the fifth highest ever.

"We are very pleased with this year's enrollment. The number of new students is an affirmation of the work of all who contribute to the recruiting process," says Mark Bloemendaal, director of admissions. "We feel blessed to have such a large freshman class. We anticipated

that it would be a good class, both in terms of numbers and in terms of academic credentials."

The mean composite ACT score of new freshmen is 24.4, the highest in school history. Nearly 26 percent of the freshmen graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school class; their average high school grade point average was 3.51.

"Top students are being attracted to Northwestern because of our academic reputation and strong programs,

in addition to the faith-based character of the school," says Bloemendaal.

Over the last 15 years, Northwestern's enrollment has increased by 21.6 percent. This year's figures are 6.3 percent higher than those of 10 years ago and a 2.4 percent increase over five years ago.

The largest freshman class in school history was recorded in 1995, with 394. This year's freshman class ties the freshman class that enrolled in 2001.

Enrollment records

1. 1,313	2002
2. 1,294	2001
3. 1,285	2003
4. 1,284	2004
5. 1,273	2005

Student body snapshot

- 57 percent are from Iowa
- 30 states and 16 foreign countries are represented
- 35 students are American ethnic minorities
- 28 are international students



SMILE (Student Move-In LEaders) Team members (left to right) Larissa Harwood, Brett Miller and Terika Raak help a new student move into Heemstra Hall during Orientation Weekend.

Smallbones selected for endowed professorship



Dr. Jackie Smallbones, professor of religion and Christian education since 1995, has been

appointed to the Marvin and Jerene DeWitt Endowed Religion Professorship.

The endowed chair provides annual funds to support the recipient's scholarly work. The funds can be used for summer research, the purchase of equipment or

materials, travel to pursue research, or assistance to student researchers.

The endowed professor must be an active member in the Reformed Church in America who has a distinguished record as an outstanding teacher; is recognized for scholarly and leadership contributions to the religion discipline; has provided exemplary service to the department, Northwestern and the larger community; and has demonstrated a commitment to the col-

lege's mission.

A native South African, Smallbones earned a doctoral degree from the University of Durban-Westville and a master's degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. She received the Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award in 1998.

Smallbones is the author of *Keeping Company with Jesus: Reflections on Gospel Stories*, published by Augsburg Books (2005). She also has written articles for *Christian Education Journal*.

The endowed chair appointment is for a five-year period beginning with the 2005–06 school year. Dr. John Brogan held the chair last year before leaving the faculty to become the college's vice president for student development.

Smallbones was the Marvin and Jerene DeWitt Endowed Religion Professor from 1999 to 2004. Dr. E.W. Kennedy held the chair before her appointment.

NWC ranked 20th by U.S. News

For the second year in a row, Northwestern is ranked in the top 20 among Midwestern comprehensive colleges by *U.S. News & World Report*. The magazine's 2006 *America's Best Colleges* guidebook lists Northwestern in a tie for 20th out of 107 schools in its category.

The *U.S. News* rankings are based on key measures of quality such as academic reputation; retention (freshman retention and six-year graduation rate); faculty resources (including class size, the percentage of faculty with the top academic degree, student-faculty ratio and faculty compensation); student selectivity; financial resources; and alumni giving.

"Northwestern has been fortunate to receive signifi-



cant recognition for our academic program within the last year, including the selection of Spanish instructor Piet Koene as the Iowa Professor of the Year and the naming of student Mick Snieder to the *USA Today's* All-USA College Academic Team," says Dr. Bruce Murphy, president.

"This top-20 ranking is another indication of the quality of a Northwestern College education, and it reflects positively on the work of many people in all areas of the campus."

Chapel, student residences receive summer improvements

Gone are the mauves and pinks of the '80s. When classes resumed this fall, Christ Chapel sported an updated look thanks to new carpet, paint and pew cushions.

College personnel worked with an interior designer to choose a palette of earth-tone colors. A combination of dark taupe, brick red and tweed carpets cover the floor of the lobby. Inside the chapel, the taupe carpet extends down the aisles, while two shades of light taupe paint were used on the walls.

If Christ Chapel got a facelift during the summer, Courtyard Village underwent an extreme makeover.

The three-building apartment complex, located on the west side of campus, was transformed during a three-month process that involved the college's maintenance staff and outside contractors. The renovation was the first for the apartments (formerly known as the Plexes) since they were built in 1977, although the lower-level suites were new in 1993 when the buildings were moved to their present location.

Crews gutted all 24 main- and upper-floor units. Sprinklers and fire doors were added, and additional insulation made the units more soundproof. The apartment interiors were re-drywalled, after which new millwork, doors, carpet, linoleum, and kitchen and bathroom cabinets were installed. Workers also remodeled the bathrooms, replacing plumbing and adding shower stalls where bathtubs had been.

The renovation work involved the outside of the buildings as well. An artificial rock façade was removed and new vinyl siding installed.

New visual identity introduced

Northwestern has developed a new logo and wordmark to represent the college on publications, letterhead, the website, and throughout the campus. The new visual identity system was unveiled at an event for faculty, staff and students in August.

A key component of the visual identity system is a wordmark, which features the name of Northwestern College in a stylized typographic design that includes a cross. The same cross joins an "N" and a "W" in the new logo, which has some similarity to the previous logo that had been in use since the late 1960s.

"The new logo is not a radical departure from the previous one; it will seem familiar to alumni and friends of the college while utilizing a typeface that is much more timeless," says Duane Beeson, director of public relations. "The wordmark complements the new logo and will be used more often, helping us to present a consistent visual message every time we say 'Northwestern College.'"

Beeson and 12 other members of the Visual Identity Committee—comprised of faculty, staff, alumni and a student—began meeting in February 2004. The group reviewed Northwestern's visual communication efforts, which included a variety of logos and numerous typefaces; conducted a position study that analyzed



the relationship between NWC and its constituencies; and developed a positioning statement to guide the artistic process of developing a new visual identity.

John Vander Stelt '83 of Maurice designed the new logo and wordmark. Inspired by the college's historic

motto of "God is light," he developed a cross for the visual identity system that is reminiscent of a star.

"The new look continues the overt visual representation of Northwestern as a Christian college, which is important to us," says Dr. Bruce Murphy, president. "In

the wordmark, the cross extends into the word 'college,' illustrating how the Christian perspective permeates all aspects of the Northwestern College experience. The design is elegant, and we feel that it visually represents the high quality of Northwestern today."



Among the host of activities funded by the Lilly Grant this summer was filming for *Prairie Pirates*, a children's movie written and directed by Professor Jamey Durham, communication studies. He hopes to submit the film to independent film festivals and seek airing on national cable television. Actors for *Prairie Pirates* included (left to right) Emily Anderson, Orange City, and Durham's kids: Rachel, Josh and Jack.

Nine bring skills to NWC faculty

Nine new full-time faculty members are teaching at NWC this fall. They include:



Laurie Daily

Education

- Ed.D. candidate in educational leadership, Argosy University; M.Ed. in special education, University of North Carolina
- Previously directed a field-based special

education teacher training program in New Hampshire, coordinated the special education program at Plymouth State College, and taught children with special needs in North Carolina

- Replaces Dr. Barb Top, who retired



Mark De Ruyter '94

Social work

- M.S.W., University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Formerly served as the manager of children and family services for Hope Haven in Rock Valley. Also managed a residential home

for young men and served as an in-home therapist for children and their families.

- Replaces Jerry Fritsch, who has returned to a private counseling practice



Dr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson

Director of music ministries

- Th.D. in liturgy and liturgical music and M.S.M. in sacred music, Boston University
- Previously the minister of education and music at Old West Church in Boston

- Replaces Greg Scheer, who is serving as minister of worship at Church of the Servant, Grand Rapids, Mich.



Amy McCann

English

- M.F.A. in creative writing, with an emphasis on poetry, from Eastern Washington University
- Formerly an editor for Tyndale House

Publishers

- Poetry published in *Rock and Sling*, *Elixir*, *Third Coast* and *Hotel Amerika*
- Dr. Joonna Trapp's sabbatical replacement



Kristin McDonald

Spanish

- M.S. in educational leadership, Southwest State University
- Taught Spanish at Orange City's Unity Christian High School for 12 years and at

- Ontario Christian High School in California for three years
- Taught in Taiwan and served in Latin America
- Replaces Dr. Ron Takalo, who retired



Dr. Jerry Nachtwey

English

- Ph.D., Loyola University, Chicago
- Published in *Essays in Medieval Studies*
- Presented papers at conferences such as the International Congress on Medieval Studies,

the Modern Language Association and the International Congress of the New Chaucer Society

- Sabbatical replacement for Dr. Michael Kensak



Phil Scorza

Art

- B.A. in graphic design, Iowa State University
- Twenty years of experience as a professional graphic designer both in a corporate setting and as owner/operator of his own freelance design service. Creative director for Creative Resource Inc. in Orange City since 1988.

- Replaces John Kaericher, who retired



Dr. Rod Spidahl

Religion

- Ph.D., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; M.Div., Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Fergus Falls, Minn.
- Missions department chair at Lutheran

Brethren Seminary since 1994. Has pastored Lutheran and Presbyterian churches and worked in leadership training in Cameroon and in AIDS relief in Kenya.

- Replaces Angel Santiago-Vendrell, who is pastoring a church in Boston

A previously announced addition to the faculty is Dr. Ruth Dankanich Daumer, who is serving as nursing program developer. A member of the nursing faculty at Briar Cliff University for 20 years, she served as department chairperson since 2000.

Faculty/staff news

Jeff Barker and **Karen Bohm Barker**, theatre, led worship at the Reformed Church in America's General Synod in Schenectady, N.Y., in June. They also were guest lecturers for Dr. Tim Brown's seminar at Calvin College entitled Keeping and Talking the Word. While at Calvin, they performed *Lookit the Train!*

Barry Brandt, athletics, has been named chairman of NAIA Region Three and will serve another term on the NAIA's Council of Athletics Administrators, which governs all sports policies and national championship events. He also has been appointed to serve on a realignment task force for the NAIA.

Dr. Sean Cordry, physics, presented "Butterflies in the Machine (Or 'Renewable' Doesn't Mean 'Harmless')" at the annual meeting of the American Scientific Affiliation. The conference was held in August on the campus of Messiah College, Grantham, Pa.

Dr. Laird Edman, psychology, and his wife, **Dr. Sally Edman**, counseling services, co-wrote an article titled "Emotional Intelligence and the Honors Student," published in the latest issue of the *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*.

Dr. Robert Hubbard, theatre, performed his one-person show, *Dancing with Jimmy*, at Thunderhead Episcopal Center in the Black Hills of South Dakota in June.

Dr. Michael Kensak, English, presented a paper entitled "What's the Matter With Chaucer? An Interdisciplinary Study of Form and Meaning" at the Southeast Medieval Academy meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., in September. This summer, Kensak taught a course, Theory of Language and Linguistics, over the Iowa Communications Network. The course was part of a federally funded initiative to train Iowa teachers to better serve students with limited English skills.

Dr. Ann Lundberg, English, presented a paper, "The Uplift of the Grand Cañon Region: Clarence Dutton's Moral Geology," at the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment conference in Eugene, Ore., in June.

Dr. Scott Monsma, sociology, presented a paper entitled "Critical Integration: Christianity and Sociology" to the Association of Christians Teaching Sociology at their annual summer conference in Wheaton, Ill.

Dr. Orv Otten, kinesiology, was recognized by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in May for his efforts to train future physical education teachers in the Fish Iowa! curriculum.

John Paul, theatre, spent the summer designing sets for three shows at the Creede Repertory Theatre in Creede, Colo. The theatre was recently cited by *USA Today* as one of the country's top 10 professional summer regional theatres.

Patti Thayer, academic support, facilitated a business writing conference for MEDTEC employees in Orange City.

Dr. Jeff VanDerWerff, political science, presented a paper entitled "Engaging Democracy: Politics at the Foot of the Cross" at the biennial gathering of Christians in Political Science in Washington, D.C., in June.

Mike Wallinga, computer science, successfully defended his master's thesis, "A Web-Based Meta-Tool for Bioinformatics Data Mining Tools," at the University of South Dakota (USD) and received a master's degree in computer science in July. He was also accepted into the computational science and statistics doctoral program at USD.

MaryLou Wielenga, music, was an instructor at Pipe Organ Encounter, a camp sponsored by the South Dakota chapter of the American Guild of Organists and held at Augustana College in Sioux Falls. During the weeklong camp she instructed students, performed in a faculty recital and gave a presentation on organ repertoire.

Recent staff promotions include **Nick Scholten** to assistant director of enrollment, **Sandy Van Kley** to associate registrar, **Rachel Van Roekel** to associate director of admissions and **Deb Wolthuizen** to assistant registrar.

De Jong joins development staff



Ron De Jong, formerly dean of enrollment services, has been appointed associate vice president for development. A member of the admissions staff since

he graduated from Northwestern in 1971, De Jong will renew acquaintances with alumni and friends of the college as he works in fund raising.

De Jong will also provide leadership for the development office while John

Greller, vice president for development, is on medical leave. Greller has been suffering from complications from a kidney and pancreas transplant in 2001 and was scheduled to undergo a new kidney transplant in late September. De Jong will work closely with Jay Wielenga, director of devel-

opment, who will provide administrative direction for Northwestern's forthcoming capital campaign.

In light of De Jong's transition, Mark Bloemendaal, director of admissions, and Gerry Korver, director of financial aid, will serve as co-directors of enrollment services.

Princeton Review recognizes Northwestern

Northwestern is among 158 institutions selected for 2006 "Best in the Midwest" designation by the *Princeton Review*, based on the opinions of current students.

The colleges and universities recognized "stand out as academically excellent institutions of higher learning," according to the *Princeton Review*, and allowed their students to be surveyed anonymously.

The *Princeton Review's* academic profile of Northwestern gives professors high marks. Students praised the faculty for caring about them and for incorporating a Christian perspective in the classroom. One said they are "super helpful in any way possible, and they provide a great example for students to follow."

Students also praised Northwestern's extensive off-campus programs, from Summer of Service and Spring Service Projects to the Chicago Semester and

numerous study abroad programs. "These opportunities allow us to experience life for a time in a situation many of us would not encounter in any other way," wrote one.

A student described Northwestern as being "about experiencing God and appreciating people in academics, activities and all of life." Another student wrote, "The people here are caring, loving and generally all-around great people. It's easy to get to know the other students and make lots of friends."

"We appreciate this recognition from the *Princeton Review*. It is especially meaningful that the honor is based on what students say about us," said Northwestern's president, Dr. Bruce Murphy. "We are pleased that our students value the very things we seek to cultivate on campus: academic rigor, strong relationships and spiritual vitality."

Alum joins board



The Rev. Nolan Palsma '77, pastor of Pitcher Hill Community Church in North Syracuse, N.Y., has been appointed to a four-year term on Northwestern's Board of Trustees as a Reformed Church in America (RCA) representative.

Palsma earned an M.Div. degree from Western Theological Seminary. A member of the RCA's General Synod Council, he served as co-pastor at Pequannock Reformed Church in Wayne, N.J., for nine years before moving to Pitcher Hill in 1990. One of his three children, Sarah, is a sophomore at Northwestern.

Estate gift benefits college, church, community

Projects and programs that were important to the late Charlie and Cordelia Boyd will continue to benefit from their generosity, thanks to gifts from the Boyds' estate.

The initial distribution of the estate took place in August, with Northwestern receiving a check for \$1.3 million and the First Reformed Church of Maurice, Iowa, and the city of Maurice each receiving \$650,000 checks. The final estate distribution will take place at a later date.

Charlie Boyd moved to Maurice in 1940 to work for his brother, J. Robert Boyd, at the Maurice Elevator. After serving in the Army, he and Cordelia returned to Maurice. Charlie and De Orr Cose assumed management of the elevator in 1947 and later became part-owners. They sold it to the Farmers Cooperative Elevator of Orange City in 1965. Cordelia died on Oct. 1, 2002; Charlie died on Oct. 12, 2004.

When the estate gift became known, officials from NWC, the church and the town met to discuss the importance of using the proceeds in a manner the Boyds would have endorsed.

"We mentioned many of the things that were important to Charlie and Cordelia and talked about how these resources could be used to either start new programs or enhance existing ones," says Cornie Wassink, Northwestern's director of planned giving. "The citizens of Maurice, members of First Reformed Church of Maurice, and the young people in our school district will benefit greatly from the generosity of the Boyds."

Northwestern's portion of the proceeds will go into the college's endowment to fund scholarships. "We plan to set up some scholarships directed to students from the Maurice church and graduates of MOC-Floyd Valley High School," says Wassink. "The Boyds were always pleased when local students chose to attend Northwestern, and these scholarships will help make that possible."

First Reformed Church will use the funds to expand a number of ministry programs. One of the city's projects will be to renovate its ball field, especially appropriate due to the Boyds' interest in sports—Charlie was a fixture at half court of MOC-Floyd Valley High School and Red Raider basketball games. It's also likely some of the money will be used to help fund a new veterans' memorial.



Fifty of this year's freshmen are the sons or daughters of Northwestern alumni. Many of them gathered for a photo in Christ Chapel during Orientation Weekend.

Theatre building wins another award

Northwestern's DeWitt Theatre Arts Center has garnered another architectural award.

The \$7.9 million facility, completed in 2004, was named a Project of Distinction in *College Planning & Management* magazine's Education Design Showcase competition. The building was featured in the June issue of the magazine.

Earlier in the summer, the building was awarded a Silver Citation in *American School & University's* 2005 Educational Interiors Showcase. The facility was featured in the magazine's August issue.



The DeWitt Theatre Arts Center, an adaptation and expansion of the Auditorium, has been called the best theatre facility of any college in the state by the executive director of the Iowa High School Speech Association.

Northwestern responds to Hurricane Katrina

The effects of Hurricane Katrina are being felt at Northwestern too. The college opened its doors to displaced students and offered two houses on campus to families left homeless.

Students, faculty and staff immediately began soliciting donations of money and goods. Among the efforts was an all-campus garage sale in mid-September; all proceeds went toward hurricane relief.

Northwestern plans to provide three service opportunities in the Gulf Coast region over spring break and is considering sending a team of students, faculty, staff, alumni and their families over Christmas break. Check www.nwciowa.edu/hurricanekatrina for more information.

The winter issue of the *Classic* will cover the hurricane's impact on NWC alumni and those who have been involved in relief efforts.

Facevalue

TJ Buchholz

Soccer coach, security director, nonconformist

Describe yourself in three words.

I was voted “most sarcastic” in my high school. My wife would say I’m stubborn. And I’m pretty disciplined.

What’s the best thing about the roles you fill at Northwestern?

I get to form relationships with my players. Success is great, but it’s empty if I’m not able to bond with the guys.

From a security standpoint—my other hat here at NWC—I would say helping the campus be safe. It helps that there’s no crime rate in Orange City, but I think being smart and proactive about our security is important.

What appeals to you most about soccer?

It’s such a tactical sport. There are no timeouts in soccer. I like that there are 45-minute halves, and I make adjustments in who is playing all the time, but I really don’t have a lot of contact with those players on the field. I do my best to prepare them, and they have to go out and perform the game plan.

How do you start your day?

I wake up at about 4, 4:30. I don’t need an alarm clock. During the school year, I start my job by writing tickets. I’m very dedicated to physical fitness, so I’ll go to the weight room four times a week. I also have time for doing my own personal daily devotions. I have a quote I always think about in the morning: “Start every day with a purpose.” I try to decide, What is my day going to accomplish?

For awhile you wore dreadlocks.

Why?

I’ve always been fascinated with them. I know it raised eyebrows in Sioux County, including with my athletic

director. It probably comes back to my fascination with the artists I enjoy for music and to my personality. I like to be different.

Describe Northwestern in three words.

Christ-centered academics. That’s what I was drawn to.

What’s been the best moment for you as a coach?

Watching my team overachieve every year. When people think of soccer at Northwestern, it’s such a new thing to see us at the top. Our conference championship is great, but watching them go above and beyond what is expected has been the most satisfying.



A 1999 Northwestern graduate, TJ Buchholz was hired as the college’s head men’s soccer coach in 2001 at the age of 24. He says he’s very humbled to be a head coach.

Ruth Umthun

Notes in Another Culture

Summer of Service student finds music a universal language



Ruth Umthun, shown with her host sister in East Asia, says a Summer of Service project transformed her faith.

by Sherrie Barber Willson '98

Sitting through countless hours of music theory, Ruth Umthun echoed the classic cry of students everywhere: "When will I ever use this in the real world?"

Little did Umthun know she'd end up thankful for every bit of that knowledge. This past summer, the senior music major from Johnston, Iowa, spent a month in East Asia on a Summer of Service project, and as she struggled to learn a new language and adapt to a different country, music was her main tool for bridging the cultural gap.

Music and missions

Music and missions are what brought Umthun to East Asia, via the PIONEERS mission agency. Her goal was to study ethnomusicology—the study of music in its cultural context—in a non-Western country.

"It combines the two things I want to do most in life: learn how different people live, and learn everything I can about music," she says. "And I wanted to see a bigger picture of music than just Western/European music."

Umthun also sees music as a tool for communicating with people, and her larger goal was to use her research to help missionaries incorporate more indigenous forms of worship.

"You rarely run across someone who doesn't like music," Umthun says. "It's a way to open the door to com-

municating with people, so it can be a great gateway to talking about Christ.”

A lifetime of preparation

Someone asked Umthun, “Why East Asia?” Her answer: “God has prepared me to go there my whole life.

“None of my experiences up to this point were wasted; I drew on all of them while I was there,” she says. For example, the camping trips she took with her family were ideal preparation for her visit to a village where she slept on a bed of boards with just a sheet over them, ate with her fingers and had primitive bathroom facilities.

And last year Umthun

▼
“I came to see that God truly is everywhere. I knew that, of course, but it was like knowing satellites are orbiting the planet—you believe it, but it’s not real to you. But while I was there, God became real to me.”

▲
had a feeling she should work on becoming better at sightreading and piano—practice that came in handy when she had to teach music to little kids and play the pump organ (for the first time ever) in East Asia.

And those music theory classes were helpful too. Besides researching music,

Umthun took daily lessons in a native instrument called the yueqin. The instructor, however, played from memory, so if Umthun wanted something written, she had to do it herself.

“There I was, in the middle of my lesson, furiously scribbling the rhythm and notes down,” she recalls, laughing. “I was like, ‘Wow,

eignness just hit me like a sack of rocks,” she says. “I was traveling alone; I didn’t know where to change money; I didn’t know how to find my connecting flight; I couldn’t get food because I didn’t have any foreign money. I just sat down on the floor—there were no chairs open—and tried not to cry. But God really looked

and returning to East Asia to continue her research. Before she went, she says, she thought of it as just another location to cross off her list of places to visit. But she ended up falling in love with the place.

“The people are just so hospitable and gracious. They don’t use ‘please’ and ‘thank you’ that often, but



While studying ethnomusicology in an East Asian country, Ruth Umthun learned to play the yueqin, a native instrument.

you really do use this theory stuff!”

Strengthening her faith

While her objective was to help others learn about Christ, the experience transformed Umthun’s own faith. She had been struggling with questions and wondering how God could become real to her. But from the moment she landed in East Asia, she felt God’s presence and her dependence on him.

“When I landed, the for-

out for me and blessed me immeasurably.

“I came to see that God truly is everywhere,” she says. “I knew that, of course, but it was like knowing satellites are orbiting the planet—you believe it, but it’s not real to you. But while I was there, God became real to me. I saw how he was watching out for me constantly. It sounds like a simple thing, but it was a lesson I needed.”

Umthun’s future plans include studying ethnomusicology in graduate school

they are polite in actions,” she says. “And I really appreciate their love for music. They make instruments from commonplace things they find, and they make music spontaneously. While working in fields or even at weddings or funerals, they make up songs and sing together in call-and-response style.”

She’s now considering a two-year missions trip back to East Asia. “I feel like I have just gotten started.”

For six months during 2004–05, Dr. Carl Vandermeulen and his wife, Jan, lived in South Africa. The English and communication studies professor was there as part of a yearlong sabbatical, during which he worked on a manuscript for a book about the teaching of creative writing. It was his third visit to the country, having been there previously to prepare and lead a summer study abroad course for NWC students.

Alan Paton's novel, *Cry, the Beloved Country*, first sparked Vandermeulen's interest in South Africa. The reconciliation work taking place in the nation since apartheid—as well as what he calls the “miracle” of Nelson Mandela's presidency—he heightened that interest. The following excerpts come from his journal.

Photos by Carl Vandermeulen

OUT OF AFRICA

Northwestern professor chronicles sabbatical experiences on another continent

8 November 2004

I'm observing and assisting at The King's Court Christian School, located on the edge of the mountain above the town of Modjadjiskloof. The school includes pre-registration (kindergarten) through secondary. About 85 percent of students are black, though most teachers are white.

We're staying in the house of an Afrikaner couple, Alida and Cobus DuPreez. They prefer Afrikaans (like Dutch or Flemish) at home but use English at school and church. Most South Africans know at least two or three languages, so some mix languages, tossing in a lively word or phrase now and then.

It's mountainous here, so we catch more rainfall. A trail leads to a clearing along the river—murky and jungle-bound. Cobus warns me to be alert for hippos and especially to avoid getting between them and the water they hide in. Hippos kill more people in Africa than any other large animal, primarily by running over them in a mad dash for water.

Not much autumn here, none of those crisp days when trees loaded with gold heave a last gasp and let it all fall to the ground. Here, the tobacco tree drops a few huge leaves all day and night, so that each Tuesday and Thursday when Elias the gardener comes, his first task is to rake the leaves again (to remove hiding places for snakes), pile them up to dry, and burn those that have dried since the last time he gathered.

There's something to say for a once-

and-for-all fall, a cleansing, a clearing out of the old to make way for a new. I'm beginning to think of a sabbatical that way.

I substitute-taught for three days—an exhausting experience. The students are incredibly noisy and seem to regard that as a natural state of affairs. The teachers say they're loud because in their communities, a person speaking quietly would be suspected of gossiping about someone else present. Individually, the students are considerate and engaging, but as a group, they cannot seem to stop interrupting each other.

21 November

Down the coast to Durban. We got a good room high up on the Durban waterfront with an amazing view of the beach and ocean, which means anyone standing at our window would also have had a good view of us getting mugged a little later, when we decided go for a little walk along the beach before dinner. It was still daylight and there were quite a few people around, so it should have been safe.

No injury but to pride—though that one takes a few days to heal. The dominant way of life in South Africa is “be watchful,” which mainly means, Watch out for yourself and your own.

“Security” means having walls and fences and barbed wire and armed guards or big dogs around yourself and your property. The result, as a Durban shopkeeper quipped, is, “In South Africa, most of the people live in prisons, while the



Dr. Carl Vandermeulen and his wife, Jan, were guests of another teacher at King's Court school, living in the second story of their host's country house. This view greeted them from their bedroom window each Tuesday and Thursday morning, when Elias the gardener's first task was to rake leaves dropped by the tobacco tree to remove hiding places for snakes.

criminals run free in the streets."

The only continuing consequence is greater watchfulness and suspicion, and thus greater tension. We hear on the radio that South Africa is a high-stress society. We don't question it.

19 December: Privilege

One of the causes of South Africa's social problems is the clear preference among the privileged to have people with low expectations for job satisfaction—as well as for pay—to do unpleasant work for them.

In South Africa, even people of moderate means have full-time hired help to do such things as carry out the trash, prepare some meals, wash the dishes and clothes, clean the house, mop the floors, empty the kitty litter tray, mow the lawn, rake the leaves, plant and weed the flowers and garden, and wash the car.

One difference in South Africa is that it's harder not to



At Illala Weavers in Hluhluwe, KwaZulu Natal, artists demonstrate the weaving of the famous Zulu baskets.



Tsitsikamma National Park on the Garden Route in the Western Cape province offers a rugged shoreline resisting crashing waves of the Indian Ocean. Porpoises patrolled just beyond the rocks, which were also useful for framing sunsets.



The rolling terrain of Ithala Game Preserve, once part of the kingdom of the famed Shaka Zulu, provides an ideal background for classic African wildlife scenes.

see the people who do your dirty work for you because they probably live on your property. But people do learn not to see what is inconvenient to see.

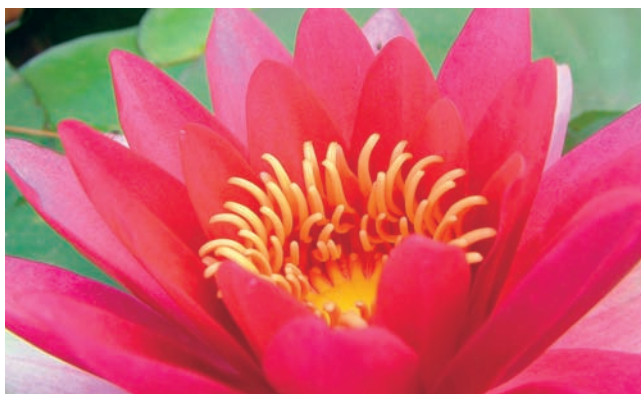
Returning from the Transvaal, we came through Ventersdorp, which Alida said was the headquarters of the ultra-right party. "They'd push all the blacks into the sea if they had their way," she said. I said, "Then I suppose they don't employ blacks on their farms." She said, "That's the funny part, they do. But they're very harsh with them."

Yes. If you couldn't resist employing people you despised, someone would have to suffer for the awkwardness of the situation.

9 March

I guess you're not a tourist any more when the dogs recognize you. They never bark when we drive in. Much of the time as I write, I have one or two dogs sleeping at my feet—and at the moment, Patches' head is resting on my foot. Fluffy

Besides catching a few rainbow trout in a pond in the Drakensberg Mountains near the country of Lesotho, Carl photographed flowers such as this water lily.



the Pooh is more often here, still a pup, preferring refuge from the loud dogs and liking nice long naps. She's a moaner, so when she rolls over and stretches in her sleep, she makes loud satisfied moans. It feels that good to roll about in one's sleep.

Back home

People have asked us if we experienced re-entry culture shock. Not shock, but a lot of adjustments. Switching back to driving on the right wasn't too difficult in our mini-van, but

harder the first time I drove the Neon, because it has much the same size and feel as the Hyundai Elantra we drove there. The countryside and roadsides feel empty after driving where the roadsides were populated by people and goats and cattle.

The South African experience is a regular overlay on our experience here. We came past a little boy peeing in his front yard today and asked, "Are we in South Africa?" We say the same when we get French

fries that are good and not heavily salted.

One thing I miss is a sense of eventfulness that comes with being for a limited time in a place where, every day, I'm likely to see something I've never seen before. Expecting to be amazed, I keep my eyes open.

But that's true wherever we are, and if we keep our eyes open, we are likely to see and hear amazing things. In Michigan for a few days late in May, I came upon a pair of sandhill cranes walking through an open grassy field. They set up a raucous din of hooting and clacking when I stopped to photograph them, and then I saw the reason—three or four little heads bobbing in the grass.

And then I noticed lilacs, beautiful this year, and went around looking for and photographing lilacs for a couple of days, discovering again that when I seek, I find.



High school students climb the steps to the King's Court Christian School in Modjadjiskloof, Limpopo.

For more journal entries and photos of Vandermeulen's sabbatical in South Africa, visit www.nwciowa.edu/southafrica.



Since Jan has been a buyer for Hands Around the World in downtown Orange City, a store that sells fair-traded handicrafts and other goods from around the world, the Vandermeulens' travels took them to craft stops, where sellers were happy to pose with some of their goods, and to craft villages supporting local artists.



A member of the NWC faculty since 1981, Dr. Carl Vandermeulen teaches in the English and communication studies departments.

A SOLDIER IS A SOLDIER

by Amy Scheer

One evening in the fall of 2002, a young girl and her mother were talking. The mother said, "I will be leaving," and the girl began to cry.

"If you love me, why do you keep leaving me?" the girl asked, then stormed off. Later she returned to the room where her mother was packing a suitcase, her favorite doll in hand.

"I've been thinking," she said. "If I can't go with you, then Baby Jeff will go with you and keep you safe."

About 16 percent of people serving in the U.S. armed forces today are women. Some are mothers,

like Giovvy Carnet '95, who took a baby doll to the battlefield, who toted a breast pump to her Air National Guard training, who had to lie on her side to shoot her weapon while five months pregnant.

"I shot 'expert' that time," she says. "Everyone was joking, 'You have to be pregnant to shoot 'expert' around here.'"

What attracts women to this traditionally male career? For Bridget VanderVinne, who attended Northwestern just six weeks in 2003 before being deployed to Baghdad, the events of Sept. 11, 2001, played a large role in her decision to join.

"It made me realize I wanted to do something. I wanted to attempt to be part

of something that could make a difference," she says, adding, "I wanted to have the possibility to go somewhere, see different things, without having to pay for it."

"Most people who have been there [Baghdad] know we need to be there. If you have the power to help someone and you don't, you're wrong."

The promises of adventure and educational benefits are common themes: Angie

(Trudeau '05) Schmidt joined the Air National Guard so she could attend Northwestern.

While serving their country, patriotism soon stirred within these women, no matter their initial impetus for joining. Connie Miller '93, who now works as a military intelligence specialist for the Air National Guard, says "to walk out to gravesites and fold the flag in front of a weeping widow is one of the proudest moments, knowing they gave you that freedom."

For VanderVinne and Schmidt, their love of this country grew from what they witnessed in Iraq.

"My deployment was voluntary," says Schmidt, who spent a few months of



Giovvy Carnet '95 and her daughter, Dielle, enjoy togetherness in their Sioux City home.



Women in the Military

Connie Miller '93 works as a military intelligence specialist for the Iowa Air National Guard.

2004 in Tallil, Iraq, working on an Air Force base. She worked from a supply store set up inside a former Iraqi school, in a library with murals of Saddam Hussein and signs declaring "Saddam is God."

VanderVenne was an Army construction equipment operator in Baghdad for one year. She helped build Camp Victory, sleeping in hot tents so air-conditioned bunks with plumbing could be built for other soldiers.

Both women visited children in schools or hospitals. VanderVenne says, "You hand out candy to a little girl with no shoes, and she looks at you like you're a hero. That makes it all worth it. They're seeing history, and you're a part of it."

A few months into her time in Baghdad, VanderVenne and her unit bought a television off the street from some Iraqis. Her group was angered by the anti-war protesting they saw on the news. "We're going on these missions every day and seeing people building houses out of trash. They clearly need a new government. Most people who have been there know we need to be there. If you have the power to help someone and you don't, you're wrong."

Miller, who has taught military classes on terrorism and national security, agrees. "Sometimes it may not be the right decision [to go to war], but it's a decision. Something needs to be done." Those who are anti-war can express their opinions because wars were fought for the freedom to do so, she says.

VanderVenne, whose camp in Baghdad was separated from Iraqi houses by a large wall, spent one Easter Sunday dodging fire sent over the wall by a band of Iraqis. "Bullets are hitting the ground all around you. It's kind of like you're in a video game," she says. "You think about it later: 'Dang it. We could have just died.'"

Because her base was being attacked, VanderVenne was able to help defend it, though women cannot be placed into direct combat. Without this experience, women are unable to advance to certain high-ranking positions in the armed forces.

Miller had long disagreed with that policy, until she saw the pairs of husbands and wives serving and thought about a child losing both parents. VanderVenne puts a positive spin on it: Keeping women out of harm's way, she says, "is the world's way of trying to show respect to women."

Carnet wrote a children's book about taking Baby Jeff to the desert. While creating it, she instructed her illustrator to avoid all portrayals of human faces, except for that of a sleeping child on the last page. She didn't want her readers to be distracted by a white or black face, a male or female one. "A soldier is a soldier," she says.



Bridget VanderVenne '07 hangs a U.S. flag on a semi during her deployment in Iraq.

"Sometimes it may not be the right decision [to go to war], but it's a decision. Something needs to be done. Those who are anti-war can express their opinions because wars were fought for the freedom to do so."

Angie (Trudeau '05) Schmidt worked on an Air Force base in Tallil, Iraq, in 2004.



Doll's tour of duty becomes subject of children's book

It was late on a school night when Dielle told her mother that tomorrow was show and tell. The object must start with the letter J, and it must be "cool."

Carnet's eye went to Baby Jeff. She grabbed the pictures of the doll on a Humvee and with an M16, taken when Carnet worked as a bay supervisor for a military checkpoint in Saudi Arabia. Late that night, she scribbled out a story tracing Baby Jeff's journey through the Middle East.

The next morning, the school principal called Carnet. Everyone in her office was weeping. "This is the sweetest story I've ever read," she said, and she encouraged Carnet to publish a children's book. After doing some research, Carnet decided to self-publish. "I didn't want a tribute to my daughter to be changed in any way," she says.

My Name Is Baby Jeff tells of Baby Jeff battling the sand and the heat (soldiers would put a helmet and goggles on her) and visiting the "boot cemetery," where soldiers would sling their boots over a fence, believing the act would prevent them from having to return to the desert.

This past summer, Baby Jeff took another tour of duty. Carnet's brother Jesus '96, an Army helicopter pilot, took the doll with him to Afghanistan.

My Name is Baby Jeff can be purchased at www.trafford.com or by calling 1-888-232-4444.



Giovy Carnet wrote *My Name is Baby Jeff* to tell of the adventures her daughter's doll had during her deployment in the Middle East.

Ofcourse Parents With Special Needs

Class:

EDU 314: Working With Parents

Instructor:

Dr. Barbara Top, professor emeritus of education

Special education students in Dr. Barb Top's Working With Parents class are learning that their job as teachers will be bigger than they thought. Sometimes they'll need to educate their students' parents. More often, they'll need to accept their students' parents teaching them.

Special education teachers must meet the demands of the No Child Left Behind Act. They also must strive for a "least restrictive" learning environment for their students. But, Top says, her students often don't grasp the lengths they will need to go to in order to develop a truly *Individualized Education Plan* (IEP) for each of their students—one that accommodates the student's family, whose needs are just as diverse as their child's.

"What about a single mom?" asks Top. "What about parents who are in their early 20s—or in their late 40s? What about parents who themselves have mild disabilities?"

Special education teachers have to work with familial attitudes toward the child with a disability that range from denial to acceptance, from embarrassment to a cel-



Tara Bonestroo '03, center, took Working With Parents when she was a special education student. Now she uses what she learned in her position as an early childhood special education teacher for Area Education Agency 4 in Sioux Center, partnering with families to achieve the best education and environment possible for their kids with special needs.

ebration of uniqueness.

"Students are surprised to realize that whether the parents of a child with special needs are good parents or not—no matter how they treat or interact with their child—they're still vital to the child's education. If you can empathize with them and understand where they're coming from, then you can achieve a collaborative relationship that will be the best for the child," says Top.

Special education teachers, she says, need to remember that although they are the professionals, the parents spend far more time with the child than they do. As a result, it's a good idea to ask them for advice.

Top reminds her stu-

dents—most of whom are well-meaning, hard-working and values-driven—that it's not their job to fix any family (even a dysfunctional one) that includes a child with special needs, but simply to be an extended part of it.

Guest speakers:

Nearly every class period includes one or more guest speakers, both special education teachers and parents of children with disabilities. Among them is Pam Megill, parent-educator coordinator for Area Education Agency 4 in Sioux Center. Megill is like all AEA parent-educator coordinators across the state, who must themselves be the parent of a child with special needs.

Assignments:

In addition to class presentations, students also write a research paper exploring some aspect of parenting a child with special needs and collaborative relationships between parents and educators.

They also must choose among assignment options that include spending time with the family of a child with special needs, attending planning sessions between educators and parents of a child with special needs, developing special needs information packets for families, or developing a special needs presentation for students in a regular classroom.

Higglytown Hero

Alum helps create Disney Channel show

by Tamara Fynaardt

Heroes don't have to be as super as Spiderman. For a preschooler with a skinned knee, anyone with a Bert and Ernie Band-Aid is a hero. So is the baker who puts the sprinkles on donuts and the plumber who retrieves your Cracker Jack prize from the bathtub drain.

* * *

Wild Brain animators have come up with an animation concept they think will appeal to preschoolers: a community populated by cute, clever characters who fit inside one another, like Russian "matryoshka," or nesting, dolls. Disney likes the idea. Now if the characters only had a story ...

Kent Redeker '93 and Holly Huckins to the rescue.

Their idea, a show about celebrating the everyday heroes all around us, beat out the storylines of other writing teams to make it on the air last September as *Higglytown Heroes*.

In *Higglytown*, the superheroes are gardeners, teachers, veterinarians and sanitation workers voiced by Sharon Stone, Smokey Robinson, Sean Astin, Jamie Lynn DiScalla and other stars of the stage and screen.

Redeker, who grew up in Stickney, S.D., now lives in Burbank, Calif., with his wife, Amy Whetsel, a special effects artist. As a student at Northwestern, the communication studies major became involved in theatre, eventually adding a theatre minor.

While his theatre involvement was mostly behind the scenes, Redeker says, "The greatest benefit I



Kent Redeker visits the recording studio where the *Higglytown* actors voice their parts. He's interested in someday working on an animated feature film. "Who doesn't want to?" he asks, citing the two *Toy Story* movies and *The Incredibles* as "about as good as it gets."

got [from attending NWC] was hooking up with [theatre professor] Jeff Barker when I was just starting to be interested in writing. He was very encouraging and helpful in making me feel like I could really do it. If I'd been in a bigger writing program as an undergraduate, I don't think I would have been given that individual attention."

▼
"Celebrating the fact that anyone can be a hero if they help those around them—I think we stumbled on an idea that was better than we realized."
 ▲

After earning an M.F.A. from the American Film Institute, Redeker's first break was landing a job as a writer with Fox Family Channel's *Angela Anaconda* (1999), a show about not quite fitting in that appeals to kids in elementary school.

Redeker also has done freelance writing for Disney's *Teamo Supremo*, a PBS show titled *Make Way for Noddy*, and the *Larryboy* videos about the Veggie Tales' Larry the Cucumber.

Redeker has another season and a half of *Higglytown Heroes* to write. When it is over, the show will have celebrated 130 everyday heroes who perform super service in their communities. And

Redeker will move on to something new. Perhaps one of the two shows he's already developing—another preschool cartoon for Disney and a Nickelodeon show for older kids—will make it on the air.

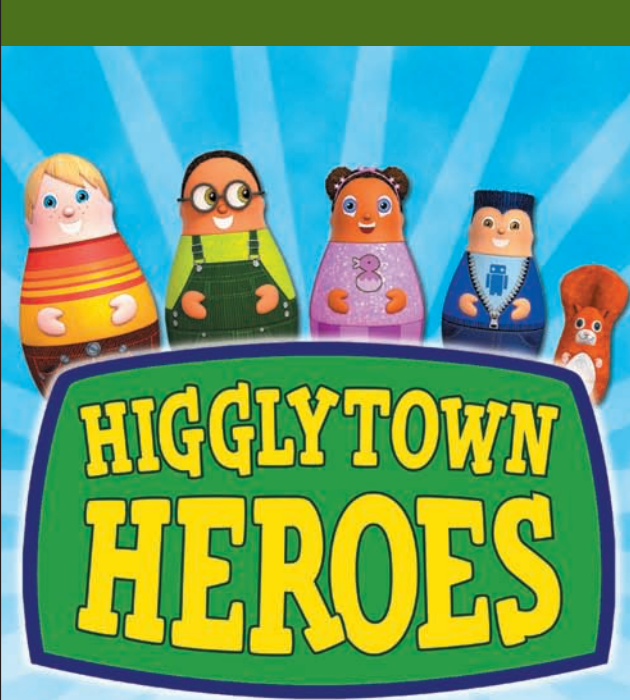
Meanwhile, he can catch up on his own cartoon watching; favorites include *SpongeBob SquarePants*, *Powerpuff Girls* and *Invader ZIM*.

While Redeker and Huckins get little fan mail from their pint-sized fans, *Higglytown Heroes* fares well in focus group testing with both preschoolers and their moms—except those few zealously overprotective parents who have asked questions like "Will the show give my preschooler the idea he can open his head and pull things out of it?"

"Kids don't think that way," says Redeker, laughing and pointing out that children's programming doesn't have to be grounded in reality for kids to learn real lessons. "They just accept that the Higglytown people are the way they are. Kids get it.

"Too much of children's programming is just people writing to market research," says Redeker of shows where all the boys play sports and all the girls shop. "I think in some ways, with *Higglytown*, we've stayed above that.

Celebrating the fact that *anyone* can be a hero if they help those around them—I think we stumbled on an idea that was better than we realized."



Higglytown Heroes
 Disney Channel
 7 and 11 a.m. CST

Eubie is the loving and lovable heart of the group of Higglytown friends.

Cautious and a little eccentric, **Wayne** is detail oriented and likes being prepared.

Wayne's sister **Twinkle** has an enormous imagination, dreaming up sailboat-sized solutions for puddle-sized problems.

A little boy who lives large, **Kip** is the energetic leader of the group—even if he doesn't always know exactly where he's going.

Although a squirrel, **Fran** is more of a Jiminy Cricket—a guardian angel who keeps the kids out of trouble.

As befits the world of preschoolers (or, maybe even better, college students), one of the biggest heroes in Higglytown is **Pizza Guy**, who has a surfer-dude attitude and both cycle and 'copter delivery vehicles.

Learn more about the Higglytown gang by visiting playhousedisney.com.

Kent Redeker

Catherine Miller

LESSONS FOR LIFE

by Duane Beeson



The 1924 Girls' Glee Club poses for a yearbook photo.

What are the secrets to a long life? Catherine (Ver Hoef '25) Miller, believed to be Northwestern's oldest alum, isn't one to tell others what to do. But by looking at her long life—she turned 99 in August—perhaps a few lessons can be learned.

Be content.

Kevin Brasser '85, Miller's former neighbor and fellow member of Paullina, Iowa, Presbyterian Church, says he's never heard her complain. "She's always complimentary of others.

Our whole church looks up to her as a role model of how to be content."

On the day before her 99th birthday, Miller visited with her daughter, Janice Sage, and Brasser and his wife, Karen (Hagge '88), at her care center. Miller was cheerful, humble and gracious.

That night, she became very sick. Her gallbladder needed to be removed—and she was hospitalized for several days.

"I think she had been feeling pretty miserable for a long time," says Sage, "but she just doesn't complain. She's tough, and she won't say anything.

"The grandkids all think she's wonderful," Sage says. "They can talk to her, and she's nonjudgmental. She tries to see the best in everybody."

Catherine Miller, 99, remembers the excitement among students and faculty when Science Hall (the first wing of Van Peurse Hall) was opened in 1924. And she recalls the fright of having to present a long, memorized essay in that building for her class's graduation. "I was in a trance that day," she says.

Don't worry.

"Worry makes a big difference" in one's health, Miller says. And she has a story to back that up.

In 2001, Miller was diagnosed with stomach cancer. She was given three options: have her stomach removed, undergo chemotherapy or do nothing. She chose the latter, and doctors expected she would die within a few months.

"I never even worried about that—just prayed," she says.

Today, there's no tumor. "I outlived them all," she says, her eyes sparkling.

Have faith.

"Her faith keeps her going," says Sage. "She just turns things over to the Lord. She doesn't get worked up, and she has the attitude that whatever happens is meant to be."



Sage fondly remembers her mom's daily time of reading the Bible and devotionals, and she knows that Miller continues to keep family members in her prayers.

The academy alumna also keeps a regular appointment to watch *Hour of Power*. "She really likes Robert Schuller—she knew his family from living in Alton."

Work hard.

After graduating from Northwestern, Miller became a telephone operator. Later, she worked as a bookkeeper and at a dress shop.

In 1956, she and her husband, Lawrence, opened Miller Motel in Paullina. She ran it—while he managed the local lumber yard—until 1984, when she was 78.

"She was a hard worker, and she did a good job of teaching all of us kids to work," says Sage.

Use Watkin's salve.

Home remedies were a way of life in the Miller home. She was a big fan of Watkin's salve, aloe vera, Vick's on a wool rag, and castor oil. "She still had a couple bottles of that in her cupboard when we moved her out of her house a couple of years ago," says Sage.

Is your ear hurting?
Pour warm milk
in it. Got the
sniffles?



Students and faculty gather in front of Zwemer Hall in 1924.

Breathe sulfur.

To this day, if Miller gets a sore throat, she practices what she preached for decades: gargle with salt water.

"We never went to the doctor unless it was a dire emergency," Sage says. "I'm beginning to think maybe there's something to all those home remedies."

Have some chocolate.

Miller never smoked and never drank, says her daughter—and never followed a good diet. "She loves her sweets," says Sage. The Brassers often bring chocolates or ice cream to her.

Miller, who has outlived all four of her siblings and one of her five children, also stayed active with a variety of

"She just turns things over to the Lord. She doesn't get worked up, and she has the attitude that whatever happens is meant to be."

hobbies—bridge, flowers, scrapbooking, crossword puzzles, word searches, reading and watching *Jeopardy*. At Northwestern, she sang in the choir, participated in YWCA activities and played on the girls' basketball team.

Miller uses a walker to get around today, but she still enjoys being driven around northwest Iowa and the NWC campus to see the progress that has been made.

She remembers the horse-and-buggy days—even riding to church on a bob-sled during the winter—and is amazed by how much has changed in her lifetime. Even so, Miller doesn't think she'd do much differently if given the chance to start over again.

"I've enjoyed living," she says.

Oldest alum?

If you know someone who graduated from Northwestern before 1925 and is still living, please let us know. Contact editor Duane Beeson, 712-707-7116 or beeson@nwciova.edu.

Catherine Miller

"Generous hands are blessed hands."

Proverbs 22:9a (*The Message*)

NWC * ANNUAL REPORT * 2004-05

Fund raising 2004-05

- * Total giving was \$2,860,421 from 7,356 donors.
- * The average gift to the Northwestern Fund was \$164 (up \$10 from 2003-04) from 2,496 alums.
- * The percentage of alumni giving to Northwestern was 29%. (The national average for alumni giving to all colleges and universities in 2004-05 was 13%.)
- * The Tower Society included 213 members this year.
- * The Heritage Society grew by 8 members this year to 570.
- * Church giving was \$348,831 from 360 churches.

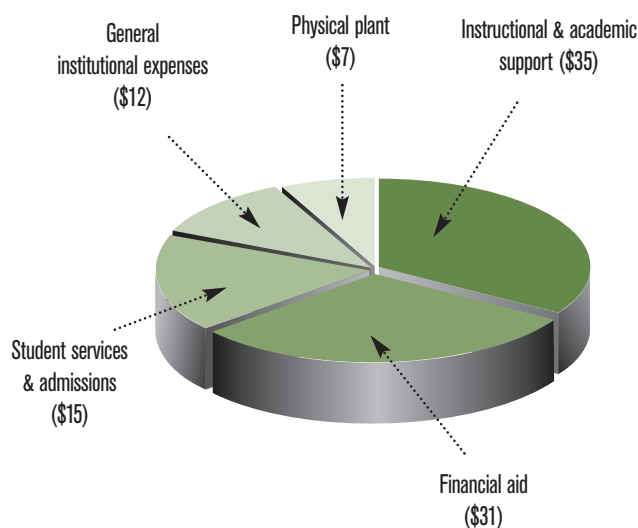
Northwestern Fund (operating)	2003-04	2004-05
Alumni	\$394,576	\$408,641
Friends	\$397,943	\$419,290
Foundations/grants	\$113,284	\$142,583
Corporations	\$135,818	\$124,885
Churches	\$408,700	\$348,831
Other	\$7,740	\$20,913
Subtotal	\$1,458,061	\$1,465,143

Capital and endowed gifts (non-operating)	2003-04	2004-05
Alumni	\$620,679	\$361,360
Friends	\$651,721	\$523,101
Foundations/grants	\$161,742	\$74,543
Corporations	\$84,461	\$95,611
Churches	\$1,000	\$0
Estates	\$151,592	\$222,953
Other	\$333,405	\$117,710
Subtotal	\$2,004,600	\$1,395,278
Grand total	\$3,462,661	\$2,860,421

Your gift dollars

Did you know that without your annual gifts to the Northwestern Fund, tuition at Northwestern College would have to be \$1,205 higher each year for every student? For the year ending June 30, 2005, annual Northwestern Fund gift income represented 9 percent of the total dollars expended for educational and general purposes.

How does Northwestern spend each \$100 given?



Alumni giving

Best giving percentage

Class of 1937	77%
Class of 1945	69%
Classes of 1941 and '48 ...	61%
Classes of 1933 and '47 ...	60%

Best giving overall

Class of 1943	\$130,647
Class of 1953	\$94,502
Class of 1975	\$75,385
Class of 1972	\$71,605
Class of 1965	\$64,746

Best giving to the Northwestern Fund

Class of 1965	\$24,870
Class of 1953	\$23,483
Class of 1955	\$23,055
Class of 1969	\$21,505
Class of 1983	\$19,080

Planned giving 2004-05

Bequests received	\$85,412
Irrevocable planned gifts consummated ...	\$227,000
Revocable planned gifts consummated ...	\$284,000
Gifts-in-kind	\$66,056
Gifts for endowed scholarships	\$422,488

2004-05 memorial gifts

Mr. & Mrs. Steven De Vries and Mr. & Mrs. Thomas L. De Vries
in memory of Thomas De Vries Sr. & Jane De Vries
 Ms. Lorraine Hand, Rev. Keith Hook, Ms. Janet Manchester, and
 Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Mitick Jr. *in memory of* Alvin Hook
 Ms. Barbara Nielsen *in memory of* Orval Nielsen
 Mr. & Mrs. Laurence Grooters *in memory of* Marjorie Weeks

New scholarships 2004-05

Casualty Insurance Underwriters Inc. Scholarship
 Gossen & Jennie De Boer Entrepreneurial Scholarship
 Hebrews 12:1 Scholarship
 Erlene Kading Elementary Education Scholarship
 Kuhl-First Reformed Church, Sioux Center, Scholarship
 Harry Kuhl Memorial Agriculture Scholarship
 John & Mary Muilenburg Scholarship

Endowment

1996	\$14,900,000
1997	\$19,300,000
1998	\$26,000,000
1999	\$29,200,000
2000	\$33,700,000
2001	\$33,400,000
2002	\$31,400,000
2003	\$31,800,000
2004	\$34,400,000
2005	\$35,700,000

Read and review the full Annual
 Report 2004-05 at

www.nwciowa.edu/annualreport.

Use the password **give2nwc** to
 access the report. If you prefer a
 hard-copy printout, please request one
 from the college's development office:
 712-707-7106.

Alumni*corner*



Karen Woudstra '79, director of alumni and parent relations

Brrring ... Brrring ... Brrring ... "Hello, my name is Allison, and I'm a sophomore at Northwestern College. Is this a good time to talk?"

Ring a bell? That's good, because it means you are one of our faithful donors! It's time for the fall phonathon, so approximately 40 Northwestern College students like Allison will spend hours and hours on the phone with parents, friends and alumni all over the country. They'll be asking about you and your college experiences, asking if you have prayer requests for our students and staff

who are involved in prayer ministries on campus, and giving you the opportunity to stay connected with your alma mater by making a donation.

I have to admit that when I get a call from someone I don't know, I wonder, "Who is this, and what do they want?" Guess what? Student callers are wondering about you too: "Who is this? How will he respond?" But many of you warm up as soon as you know the caller "wears red" like you do.

Your phonathon call is on Northwestern's dime, so feel free to chat a bit. Students love to hear your stories, and many say they are inspired and encouraged to know what God is doing in your lives. They also want to fill you in on what's new and happening at Northwestern. They'll encourage you to come back to campus for Homecoming, for your reunion or for a visit anytime. You're already connected to the person on the other end of the line because you've contributed to a rich NWC heritage—one that stays strong through the gifts you continue to give.

Do you know how much you impact today's students with your gifts each year? Without your generosity, tuition would be \$1,200 higher for every student. Your faithful support also helps ensure they have access to technology and other instructional tools that enhance their education.

It's evident NWC alumni recognize the unique value of what Northwestern offers. Our alumni participation rate in the Northwestern Fund is five percent higher than the national average. And many of you support the college not only financially, but you also serve as board members, visit during Homecoming, attend and bid at the Gala Auction, mentor students seeking careers similar to yours, and pray for faculty, staff and administrators.

I think ours is one of the best alumni associations. Thank you.

Deaths

Al "Slick" Slickers, age 83, a former Northwestern College employee, died Dec. 3 at his home in West Lafayette, Ind. He and his wife, Milly, served as hall directors of Hospers Hall from 1976 until 1980, when they became the directors of the Rowenhorst Student Center. They retired in 1983 and moved to Sheridan, Wyo., to manage a trailer park. They fully retired and returned to Lafayette in 1989. While in Orange City, they were active at First Reformed Church. A graduate of Central College, Slickers served in the Navy from 1941 to 1946 and was awarded a Purple Heart. In addition to his wife, he is survived by four children, including **Margo Taylor '78**.

Richard Anderson '50, age 74, died on April 30 in Vancouver, Wash. He earned a bachelor's degree at Augustana College (S.D.) and received master's and doctoral degrees in physics from Kansas State University. A professor of physics at the University of Missouri-Rolla for 34 years, Anderson was professionally associated with numerous organizations, including the Optical Society of America, the American Association of Physics Teachers, and the Missouri Academy of Science. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and one daughter.

Thomas Barry Parks '65, age 67, died on March 29 in Springfield, Mo., after a long battle with cancer. He taught for two years and later worked in human resources, spending the last 10 years of his career at Positronic in Springfield. He is survived by his wife, **Thelma "Terry" (Lyftogt '64)**.

Marvin Schipper '76, age 50, died May 23 at a Rapid City hospital following a liver transplant and two years of medical complications. He and his wife, **Deb (Schut '77)**, moved to a ranch in Box Elder, S.D., in 1983. In addition to ranch-

ing, Schipper served as a manager at McDonald's for nearly 10 years and worked as a substitute teacher for four. He attended First Evangelical Free Church of Rapid City. He is survived by his wife; a son; three brothers, including **Gary '79**; and a sister.

Class notes

'64

Roger Wyngarden, Constantine, Mich., is retired from General Motors. His wife, Leona, was diagnosed with ovarian cancer five years ago and is in remission after undergoing chemotherapy treatments. She recently returned from Guatemala, where she picked up their seventh grandchild. (This is a correction of a class note that appeared in the summer issue of the *Classic*. We apologize for the error.)

'69

David Dierenfeld, Nicollet, Minn., and his wife, Cheryl, are now involved in professional foster care, parenting teenage boys.

Terry Hill has returned home to Sanborn, Iowa, after a 23-year military career and another 10 years in northern Virginia. He retired from the Army in 1992 and then joined VISTA Technology Services Inc., which he now serves as a principal consultant. His wife, **Nadeen (Vander Velde '71)**, held a number of managerial positions and is currently assisting her mother with a drapery business. They have three married sons and are enjoying their six grandchildren.

'74

Grace Peterson spent 20 years at Faith Academy in the Philippines, where she taught music and band. She returned to the United States in 2001 and began teaching music at Grandview Park Baptist School in Des Moines.

Brenda (De Wild) Van Roekel and **Karen (Sikma '75) Vander Pol** traveled to Babadag, Romania, for two weeks in June to participate in a mission project with For God's Children International. They worked in a state-run orphanage with children from ages two to 18.

'76

Alan TeBrink retired in 2004 from his position as a captain in the Colorado state patrol. Following a 26-year career with the patrol, he became the first commissioned lay pastor in the southwest Colorado area and accepted a part-time position with the Allison Community Church. He and his wife, **Brenda (Kok '77)**, live in Durango.

'79

Connie (Bastemeyer) Albers, Northfield, Minn., is now employed by St. Olaf College, working in the office of advancement as an administrative assistant. She says she enjoys seeing the work that goes into fund raising for a private institution and appreciates the similarities between NWC and St. Olaf.

Dr. Timothy Westcott, assistant professor of history at Park University in Parkville, Mo., was recently awarded a Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History Fellowship. The weeklong fellowship will take place at the institute in New York City.

'82

Elaine (Bakker) Lawrensen and her family have returned to Orange City following two years at Black Forest Academy (BFA) in Kandern, Germany. BFA is a school for missionary kids from Europe, northern Africa and Asia. Her husband, Barry, has returned to Northwestern's audiovisual staff.

'87

Ann Walker now lives in Orlando, Fla., where she serves as the assistant to the commissioner of the Sunshine State Conference office,

an NCAA Div. II conference. She spent the last seven years at Minnesota State University, Mankato, as the head women's basketball coach and then the assistant athletic director.

Julie (Elsner-Horne) Crist works as a chiropractor in Crete, Neb.

'89

Dr. Mark Jensen is starting a year-long sabbatical in the Corrosion and Coatings Research Center at North Dakota State University in Fargo. He served the last two years as chair of the chemistry department at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn.

'90

Sharon (Olson) Johnson, Worthington, Minn., serves as coordinator for the Nobles County Integration Collaborative, a consortium of six adjacent school districts. The collaborative promotes student success and cultural integration by offering opportunities for individuals from diverse backgrounds to learn from one another.

Cheryl Waggoner recently moved to West Des Moines, where she is a sales and catering representative at Holiday Inn.

'91

Susanne (Caines) Bolt of Temple Terrace, Fla., recently accepted a position as director of outreach and prevention with Metropolitan Ministries, which serves over 11,000 hot meals each week to people who are homeless. She and her husband, Richard, also serve as youth pastors at Brandon Assembly.

'92

Shelby Keating lives in Orange, Calif., where she has been working for Herman Miller, an office furniture business, since 1999.

'96

Joshua Blakesley is the associate pastor of Community Church of Honolulu, a United Church of Christ congregation.

Jennie (Morgan) Emmert, Indianapolis, is working part time as a development assistant, recruiting and promoting for St. Paul's

Choir School. She and her husband, Jason, have two children, David (6) and Lydia (1).

Michele (Guthridge) Reeves is working as a corrections security case-worker at the Minnesota Correctional Facility-St. Cloud. She and her husband, Dallas, have a son, Alex (1).

Kevin Kroeze and his wife, Amy, recently moved to Visalia, Calif. He is a police officer in Visalia, and Amy is a stay-at-home mom.

'98

Kristie (Johanson) Happeney, Brandon, S.D., is a source water specialist for South Dakota Rural Water and travels extensively around the state. Her husband, Henry, is a truck driver.

Tara (Simmons) Kluth is living in Rochester, Minn., where she is a stay-at-home mom to her three sons. She is also on the steering committee of a Mothers of Preschoolers group at their church.

Dr. Mark Mouw graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic in

Alumni: What's new with you?

Let us know so we can tell your friends and classmates. Send to: Office of Public Relations, Northwestern College, 101 7th Street SW, Orange City, IA 51041. Or e-mail to beeson@nwciowa.edu; fax number is 712-707-7370. Deadline for the winter '05-'06 *Classic* is Oct. 21.

Name _____
 Address _____

 Home phone _____ Class of _____
 E-mail _____
 Current employer(s) _____

2002. He and his wife, Dr. Lynne Mouw, opened a new practice specializing in chiropractic and spine rehabilitation in Council Bluffs, Iowa, last January.

'99

Dan Faber is living in Omaha, where he is in his second year of internal medicine/pediatrics residency at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. His wife, **Angie (Halverson '02)**, recently left her teaching job to be a stay-at-home mom.

Ben Petty works for IBM in Atlanta as the team leader of the group providing network services to Equifax, a credit bureau. His wife, **Marianne (Koolhaas '00)**, is a technical recruiter at Equifax, where she coordinates all U.S. and offshore contractors.

Brian Town graduated in July from Viterbo University in La Crosse, Wis., with a master's degree in administration. He has started a new job as the assistant athletic

director for the Johnston (Iowa) Community School District.

'00

Kelly Brouwer graduated from Western Theological Seminary in May and was ordained in September. She is serving as a chaplain at Loyola University Medical Center in Chicago.

Jessica (Nissen) Earnshaw received a master's degree in education from Baker University last May. She lives in Kansas City with her husband, Damon, and teaches sixth grade in Lee's Summit, Mo.

Jackie (Van Engen) Freese recently completed a master's degree in physician assistant studies from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She continues to work at Iowa Lakes Orthopaedics. Her husband, **Ryan**, is now the branch manager of Iowa State Bank in Sanborn. The Freeses live on an acreage near Spencer.

Prayercorner



The Rev. Harlan VanOort '82
Chaplain

Tension can be a catalyst for learning. When Peter learned to walk on water with Jesus in Matthew 14:22–33, he first felt terrified and frightened, and he even doubted. He cried out, “O Lord, save me.” Later he worshipped Jesus, saying, “Truly you are the son of God.”

College is a time of life when most students experience the tension of transition. They move from their homes, they search for identity, they discern their calling, and they discover new vistas in the world. The challenges—even the crises—can produce beautiful changes.

It is important to manage this tension. Like a violin string, if the stress becomes too great, it can break. The Northwestern community is constantly alert to the care and nurture of students.

But if there is no tension, the violin makes no music. It is also important to understand the difference between normal tension and conflict that needs to be resolved. Good tension should not be mistakenly viewed as conflict. Sometimes when the tension is removed, the benefit is also removed.

Join in a prayer in the midst of normal Christian college crises: O Lord, challenge us with your presence and your calling. Comfort us when we are afraid. Save us when we feel like we are sinking. Help us to trust you. Lead us to a greater knowledge of you and your world so we can worship and serve you. Amen.



Searches are open for the following positions:

Faculty

Elementary education (*tenure track*)
ESL and TESL (*possible tenure track*)
Missiology and religion (*tenure track*)
Spanish (*tenure track*)

All openings begin in August 2006. Job descriptions and application details are posted at www.nwciowa.edu/ employment. Northwestern seeks individuals who are Reformed and evangelical in theology and committed to the distinctives of a Christian liberal arts education.

Northwestern College complies with federal and state regulations concerning nondiscrimination in employment. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Micah Johnson taught at a Christian school in Lake Worth, Fla., for four years. He recently moved to Gainesville to work in computing services at the University of Florida, where his wife, Amy, is a pre-veterinarian student. He also operates a financial services business part time.

Jennifer Lundmark is in her fifth year of teaching 7-12 instrumental music in the Galva-Holstein (Iowa) Community School District. She also manages the high school concession stand, serves as yearbook adviser and teaches private piano lessons. She is working on a master's degree in music education through VanderCook College of Music in Chicago.

Krista Meckling recently moved to Fort Wayne, Ind., where she works as the coordinator for membership services and communication for the North American Coalition for Christian Admissions Professionals. She previously worked in the admissions office at Spring Arbor University in Michigan for five years.

Stephanie (Waage) Turcotte graduated in May from Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical School. She is now a resident in emergency medicine at St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, Ill.

'01

Lenette (Nienoord) Baron is a social worker at Austin Medical Center

Hospice in Austin, Minn. Her husband, **Jason**, is a medical secretary at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

Justin Grimm graduated from Luther Seminary in May and accepted a call as a mission developer from the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He will be helping start a mission congregation in the greater Traverse City area.

Amanda Speakman has been hired as a resident director at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Ark.

'02

Tricia (Henderson) Chacon teaches fourth grade at Colegio Monterrey, a Christian bilingual school in San José, Costa Rica. She is also in her second year at the University of Costa Rica, pursuing a master's degree in teaching English as a foreign language.

Jen McAlpine is a missionary working with a team in Sarajevo, Bosnia, through PIONEERS. Her team works with the professional community, using English classes and business seminars to open doors for relational evangelism. To learn more about their work in Sarajevo, visit www.teamsarajevo.org.

Kim Tjeerdsma teaches third grade at Kinsey Elementary in Sioux Center.

'03

Scott Bock works on Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha doing computer programming for the government. His wife, **Angie (Husman)**, is the band director at Woodbine (Iowa) Community School.

James DeVos will begin teaching high school science in Cherokee, Iowa, in January. His wife, **Jaylene (Wiersema)**, is in her second year of teaching high school English in Cherokee. James is the golf coach at the high school, and Jaylene coaches cross country and speech.

Ashley (Jones) DiMauro is working in the soils reporting and word processing departments at Midwest Laboratories Inc. in Omaha.

Stacy Wittler teaches second grade at a public elementary school in Central City, Neb., and is the head cross country coach and assistant track coach at the high school.

'04

Peter Boerema works at Hematech in Sioux Falls, cloning transgenic cattle for human polyclonal antibody production. His wife, **Megan (Blunck '05)**, is a medical technologist for the Sioux Valley Hospital laboratory in the areas of chemistry, hematology and blood banking.

Jeannine Lovas was accepted to an exclusive writing workshop at Windbreak House, hosted by author Linda Hasselstrom on her ranch near Hermosa, S.D. Lovas lives in Des Moines, where she works as a historical interpreter, specializing in 1850 domestic life, at Living History Farms. She plans to apply to graduate programs in writing.

Jenny Tjeerdsma is beginning her second year in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the Arizona School of Health Science in Mesa.

Carmen (Walker) Woudstra and her husband, **Lee '02**, recently moved to Arlington, Texas. Carmen is teaching ninth grade integrated physics and chemistry at Harwood Junior High School in Bedford. Lee is working as a network services technician at Custom Information Services.

New arrivals

Anne Youmans and **Charles Contreras '83**, son, Gabriel Charles.

Becca and **Stanley Koopmans '83**, daughter, Marielle Joy, joins Liesel (5) and twins Steven and Schyler (2).

Heidi and **Doug Hochstetler '89**, son

by adoption, Erick Matthew, joins Conley (7), Emma (5) and Cora (3).

Beth Sibenaller and **Philip Woodall '89**, son, Benjamin James.

Ivan and **Dawn (Van Berkum '90) Crane**, son, Andrew Jay, joins Will (2).

Al and **Rhonda (Friese '91) Slight**, daughter, Amy Elaine, joins Jessica (3) and Samuel (2).

Dennis and **Audrey (Verburg '93) Halverson**, son, John Lyman, joins Scott (7).

Becky (Vander Stoep '93) and Matt Ray '93, daughter, Adria Lynn, joins Allyson (5) and Anna (2).

Jill and **Jeremy Vance '93**, daughter by adoption from China, Bethany, joins Brandon (13), Allison (10) and Cara (3).

Pam and **Scott Dykstra '95**, daughter, Lilyan Joy, joins Drew (2).

Don and **Diane (Cuthrell '95) Salton**, daughter, Jadey Lee Ann, joins Sydney (7) and Cale (5).

Amy and **Kevin Kroeze '96**, son, Brent Thomas.

Clement and **René (Ramaker '96) Messerli**, daughter by adoption, Samantha Ann.

Tina (Ter Horst '97) and Dean Calsbeek '97, daughter, Amelia Joy, joins Avery (4) and Bennett (2).

Kristen (Bernardy '97) and Jonathan De Bie '99, daughter, Keziah Joy, joins Kaelene (3).

Brian and **Sheri (Zimmerman '97) Gunderson**, daughter, Elena Joy.

Tina (Jackson '97) and Derek Vande Slunt '97, son, Micah Dellen, joins Noah (2).

Mike and **Myra (De Haan '97) Van Zee**, daughter, Eliza Grace, joins Ella (2).

James and **Tara (Simmons '98) Kluth**, son, Tobias Andrew, joins Evan (4) and Aidan (2).

Nathan and **Amy (Schneiderman '98) Schulte**, son, Gabriel Henry, joins Koriene (10), Braeden (5) and Cael (2).

Anne and **Duane Teerink '98**, son, Cameron James.

Randy and **Jennifer (Christiansen '99) Dolphin**, son, Tyce Aaron.

Cora (Bleeker '99) and Marlon

Haverdink '97, son, Andrew Dale, joins Emily (1).

Jon and **Marilee (Johnson '99) Lace**, daughter, Olivia Jean, joins Jon II (3).

Susan (Menning '99) and Dan Nelson '99, daughter, Avery Rae.

Jason and **Kathleen (McLane '99) Riggs**, son, Anakin Blaine, joins Jacob (5) and Adaiah (4).

Karen (Van Zanten '99) and Matt Westenberg '00, daughter, Emily Joy, joins Kaitlyn (2).

Sharla (Jager '00) and Rob Roozeboom '01, daughter, Riley Joy, joins Jager (2).

Andrew and **Stephanie (Waage '00) Turcotte**, son, Jack Andrew.

Lenette (Nienoord '01) and Jason Baron '01, daughter, Lydia Callista.

Jonathan and **Tricia (Henderson '02) Chacon**, daughter, Isabel.

Angie (Halverson '02) and Dan Faber '99, son, Josiah Daniel.

Makila (Hallett '02) and Ben Lors '00, daughter, Danielle Faith, joins Seth (2).

Pam (Menschner '03) and Art DeVos '02, son, Ashton Douglas.

Michael and **Jamie (Zeutenhorst '04) Kamerman**, daughter, Jaylee Beth.

Marriages

Julie Elsner-Horne '87 and Larry Crist, Crete, Neb.

Kristie Johanson '98 and Henry Happeney, Brandon, S.D.

Micah Johnson '00 and Amy Miclean, Gainesville, Fla.

Carrie Odell '01 and **Eric Anderson**, associate dean of residence life, Orange City.

Trudi Hansen '02 and Jim Vanderploeg Jr., Holland, Mich.

Kristi Kurtzleben '02 and **Joe Wick '03**, Omaha.

Ashley Jones '03 and Chad DiMauro, Bellevue, Neb.

Kara Dehmloew '05 and **Lance Knaack**, Madrid, Iowa.

Chris Jacobsen '05 and **Sarah Huibregtse '05**, Plainsboro, N.J.

Teresa Larson '05 and **Cody Templin**, Denver.

The couples reside in the city listed.

Mini profile

Alumnus on the cutting edge of energy research

by Derrick Haskins '06

Growing up on an Iowa farm sparked Luke Haverhals' interest in how things work. Today that interest finds expression in his doctoral program in chemistry and research on fuel cells.

"There was always something to see or take apart and wonder at," says the 2000 NWC graduate of his agricultural background. His fascination with the natural and mechanical led him to study chemistry at Northwestern and then go on to the University of Iowa. There Haverhals is among a growing number of researchers working to provide cleaner, more efficient sources of energy.

Haverhals is part of a research team working to build and test fuel cells that are safe, clean and economical. In principle, fuel cells operate much like batteries. But unlike a battery, as long as fuel is supplied, a fuel cell does not run down or need recharging.

It could be awhile before vehicles powered by fuel cells show up on a car lot near you—mainly due to a combination of safety, technological and economic issues researchers are working to address. For example, although the technology exists to produce a fuel-cell-powered sedan, it would cost the consumer around \$200,000 to purchase one.

In addition, there are a number of safety issues concerning fuel cell technology. "My supervisor's first rule of power sources is, if it makes a good power source, it also makes a good bomb," says Haverhals. As a result, it is important that the technology released to consumers is safe and cannot be modified for unintended uses.

Haverhals notes it could take 50 years or more for fuel cells to replace the internal combustion engine as the power plant used in automobiles. Although mainstream use of fuel cells for transportation purposes is many years off, fuel-cell-powered electronics such as laptop



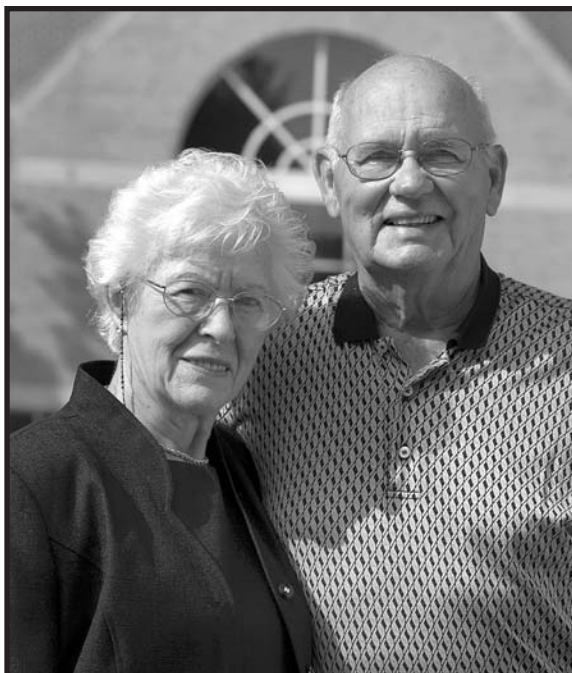
Luke Haverhals and others on his research team took their fuel-cell-powered vehicle to the Iowa State Fair in August.

computers and MP3 players are beginning to enter the market in Asia, and the military is interested in developing fuel-cell-powered devices for use on the battlefield.

"With fuel cells, you can potentially make power anywhere and with different fuels," Haverhals explains. He hopes the research that scientists are conducting will

someday help improve the lives of people in developing countries where vital infrastructure is not available, and he credits Northwestern as the foundation for his vision.

"Northwestern was a good place for me to be able to dream about how to be a Christian in a large, diverse world."



Cliff Leslie, shown with his wife, Jo (Van Wyk '45, '66), considers being involved in the construction of Christ Chapel a highlight of his 17-year tenure as Northwestern's maintenance director.

Legacy

Northwestern has been a big part of Cliff and Jo Leslie's lives. Cliff's commitment to the college meant driving athletes to road games, fixing leaks on the Zwemer Hall roof and cleaning up after campus pranks. Jo earned two degrees at NWC, hosted many students for meals, and joined Cliff at numerous fine arts events.

When asked to give a gift to help build Christ Chapel in the 1980s, the Leslies said yes—but. They also wanted to start a scholarship because students meant so much to them.

"I just loved the community of Northwestern," says Cliff. "I appreciate that Northwestern has never lost its focus—it's there to help students grow in the Lord."

For information about establishing an endowed scholarship like the Leslies did, contact Cornie Wassink, director of planned giving, 712-707-7109 or cwassink@nwciova.edu.

In 18 years, he'll be ready for college. Will you?



Right now he's most concerned about eating, sleeping, feeling loved and exploring the world around him. In 18 years, he'll be thinking about girls, cars, sports, eating, sleeping ...

College may seem like a long way off, but now is a good time to start thinking about financing his education. The Independent 529 Plan, sponsored by Northwestern and over 240 private colleges, lets you lock in tomorrow's tuition at less than today's price.

Visit www.independent529plan.org or call 888-718-7878 to learn more about this prepaid tuition program.

Little Raider Jotaro Yoneyama is the son of Satoshi and Shiho Yoneyama '95.

(All items displayed on back cover)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

While supplies last

Up to \$50: \$7
Over \$50: \$9

Total
(amount enclosed)

CLASSIC

Northwestern College
101 7th Street SW
Orange City, IA 51041
Ph. 712-707-7000 (switchboard)
www.nwciowa.edu

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
Paid
SP&D

Change Service Requested

I am Northwestern

"Language learning has always been part of the liberal arts, and locally we see a great need for knowledge of Spanish."

Piet Koene
Instructor in Spanish
2004 Iowa Professor of the Year



Our world is changing. Foreign languages are increasingly important as the world becomes more interconnected. Our classes teach language and culture—you can't separate those two. Language is not something for the classroom alone; it has to be a way of life. That's why I try to educate students on the immigrant experience and create opportunities for them to interact with other cultures. I am an immigrant; you can tell by the words I choose and by my accent. Those may not be pressing differences, but they are noticeable. Your donation to the Northwestern Fund equips students to open channels of communication and foster understanding between cultures.



A whole education for your whole life.

Contact Jennie Smith, director of the Northwestern Fund, to find out how you can help broaden the worldview of Northwestern students. Phone: 712-707-7110; e-mail: smith@nwciowa.edu; visit: give.nwciowa.edu



Show your Raider pride!

Make it a **Red** Christmas

with gifts that show your loyalty!
(order form on page 35)

Thanks to our "model family": Nancy (Walhof '87) and Mike Landhuis '86 and their children (from left), Josh, Katie and Zach.

