



# CLASSIC

A publication for Northwestern College alumni & friends • Spring 2007

## Caring About Creation

Are we ruling or ruining God's world?



Dr. Bruce Murphy  
President

# Joy in the Struggle

"Going Deep." The title leaped out at me as I was leafing through a stack of articles on my desk. The subtitle indicated the article wasn't about hitting home runs or fishing—my first thoughts—but about an invaluable kind of learning that has all but disappeared in many of our colleges and universities. I picked up the article and began to read.

DEEP is an acronym for Documenting Effective Educational Practices. In the article, the practices of 20 higher educational institutions are described. The list is impressive. But more intriguing is the definition of educational success underlying them all.

The primary purpose of higher education, according to one official interviewed, is not to prepare students for secure employment, or even to assist them in becoming experts in a particular area of knowledge, but to help them clarify their values and connect their personal and professional goals.

Earlier this school year, the Northwestern College Board of Trustees approved a new document designed to shape our campus for years to come. Entitled "A Vision for Learning" ([www.nwciowa.edu/vision](http://www.nwciowa.edu/vision)), it charges faculty and staff to help students *trust God, engage ideas, connect ideas and experience, and respond to God's call*. In other words, it challenges us to go deep as a community of learners.

Such learning is indeed invaluable, but it is also arduous. There is a reason many colleges and universities have chosen another course. Clarifying values and nurturing appropriate commitments in today's pluralistic world is not easy—even for Christians.

Our temptation as Christian educators is to not go deep at all but simply to provide "God's answers" to life's meaning and purpose. A parable tells of a math student who never became a mathematician. The reason? He looked up the answers in the back of the book, and his answers were all correct!

To go deep and become a mature person of faith requires struggle—facing and overcoming confusion, doubt and evil. It is a rewarding journey, but not an easy one. Deep waters reveal a richness of life but as we navigate through them, obstacles often block our sight, predators lie in wait, and we have to hold our breath to see.

In our search for life's answers, we must discipline our minds and hearts not to come up for air too soon, not to give up the battle and settle for immediate but superficial versions of God's truth. There is the joy of seeing—there are answers to life's fundamental questions; there is divine guidance. But what we learn is that these answers and this joy have little meaning without the struggle.

It is in the struggle that we come, truly, to know ourselves and the gracious heart of God. To introduce students to this exciting but difficult—sometimes even dangerous—adventure of faith is central to our calling as a Christian educational institution.

The issue of global warming is one of those requiring deep study and discernment. Not all Christians agree about whether this is even a problem, let alone how urgent it is and what our response should be. Last fall, the campus examined the claims and realities regarding climate change in a two-session forum. And now we bring it to you as this issue's cover story. Go deep ...

*Bruce Murphy*

▼  
*Our temptation as Christian educators is to not go deep at all but simply to provide "God's answers" to life's meaning and purpose.*  
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CLASSIC

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MEMBER

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page18  
*Of course*

page20  
Creation Care  
*Cover story*

page26  
Good  
Investment  
*Alumni profile*  
Todd Carlson



page4  
*Campus news*

page13  
Cool Time  
*Photo essay*

page14  
Community 101  
*Mission House*

page17  
*Face value*  
Earl Woudstra



page28  
*Sports update*

page30  
*Looking back*

page31  
*Alumni news*

page39  
Looks Like  
Rice, Tastes  
Like Love  
*Classic thoughts*

*Cover photo: An iceberg floats in the bay in Kulusuk, Greenland, near the Arctic Circle. Scientists say global warming has an increasing effect on the Arctic region—with glaciers shrinking, water temperatures warming and permafrost softening—and that nations must take action.*

What's inside



# Students continue rebuilding efforts in Gulf Coast

Northwestern's commitment to helping hurricane victims continued over Christmas and spring breaks.

In December, 25 students and staff worked in the low-income New Orleans neighborhood of Hollygrove, assisting the ministry of Trinity Christian Community (TCC), demolishing the interiors of houses and removing mold from them.

"It might seem like finishing the mold remediation process in nine houses is insignificant," says Dave Nonnemacher, director of service learning. "Not so. I believe it serves as a huge encouragement for the people of Hollygrove."

For senior Kendall Huisman, this was his second trip to New Orleans since the hurricanes; he went on a Spring Service Project to TCC last year.

"We saw God working in the hearts and lives of many of the residents who were grateful for our assistance," he says. "It was an incredible part of my Christmas break."

Senior Rachel King concurs. "The people taught me so much—especially about perseverance and hope. I was amazed at the community's positive attitude. Even though they lost it all, they still had hope in the future and are willing to do whatever it takes to get their lives back in order."

Another seven students spent part of their Christmas break in Lake Charles, La. These students worked with Faithshare Outreach Ministries, helping with ceiling and dry-wall reconstruction.



*Northwestern again sent volunteer groups to the Gulf Coast region over Christmas and spring breaks this year. The college was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for efforts to help Gulf Coast residents clean up after Hurricane Katrina.*

Over spring break, two teams traveled to New Orleans to provide continued hurricane relief through the ministries of TCC and Urban Impact. In a service-learning project through Dr. Bob Hubbard's Performance Studies class, one team of students aimed to support Hurricane Katrina survivors through community-based drama.

Early in the week, the students interviewed 13 community members who are trying to reclaim their homes. Northwestern students transcribed the stories and turned them into a 40-minute drama they spent the rest of the week rehearsing. At the end of the week, community members gathered for a meal and the performance of their survival stories.

"We struggled over whether we should be cleaning storm drains, like other work groups in the area, rather than producing this show," says Hubbard. But community members were very moved. "They feel like the rest of the country has deserted them," says Hubbard. "They were grateful someone cares about keeping their stories alive."

## SIFE project finalist in business plan competition

A Northwestern Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) project was among 12 finalists in the 2007 Pappajohn New Venture Business Plan Competition.

Northwestern students Alla Miroshnychenko and Andrew Wismer presented their proposal for a developing business enterprise, Teach a Man to Fish, at the competition on the campus of Drake University in March.

Teach a Man to Fish

aims to manufacture and distribute self-sustaining aquaculture kits that would enable families in developing nations to raise fish and grow vegetables. After more than three years of research, development and experimentation, the NWC group has developed a prototype that requires only sunlight and water, operating on a 12-volt solar system. SIFE seeks to sell 50 of the kits this year to relief agencies for less than \$550 apiece.

Representatives of Northwestern's SIFE team will travel to Moldova and Romania this summer to work with a mission organization to provide kits to selected recipients. Talks are also under way with agencies regarding test marketing in Kenya and Uganda.

The goal, the students say, is to feed the hungry. In doing so, recipients will have the opportunity to become economically self-sufficient as their time will be freed up to

seek employment. Recipients may choose to sell some of their food or set up spawning tanks to provide fish for other systems.

Sponsored by John Pappajohn and Equity Dynamics Inc., the Pappajohn New Venture Business Plan Competition is intended for Iowa college students with an interest in starting their own business. Plans are judged by the potential investors based on their content and viability.

# Former obstetrics unit births new nursing program

Northwestern's new nursing program is getting its start in the same place thousands of children did: the former obstetrical unit of the Orange City Area Health System's downtown campus. The facility now houses Northwestern's nursing arts laboratory, which began hosting clinical labs and classes for sophomores this semester.

"In God's grand design, this site has been transformed into a setting for the birthing of tomorrow's healers—nurses committed to Jesus' healing ministry," said Dr. Ruth Daumer, chairperson of the nursing department, at the facility's dedication in January.

The 3,800-square-foot laboratory is designed to allow Northwestern's Bachelor of Science in



*Nursing Department Chairperson Dr. Ruth Daumer uses a human patient simulator to show students how to assess for heart murmurs. The nursing program dedicated its new nursing arts laboratory in January.*

Nursing (BSN) students to develop their nursing aptitudes and critical thinking in a state-of-the-art facility that mimics the experiences they will have in clinical settings. The facility includes four patient rooms, a task training

room, a conference room, a mock home setting/lounge, an office and a high-technology classroom.

"We are delighted to locate our new laboratory at the Orange City Area Health System's downtown campus,

and we are grateful to the health system for their donation of medical equipment," says Daumer. "Northwestern looks forward to enhancing our collaborative relationship with the Orange City Area Health System as we both endeavor to meet our region's health care needs."

Marty Guthmiller '82, the health system's CEO, says he is pleased the nursing program is able to use space in his organization's downtown campus.

"We're very excited about Northwestern's nursing program, and we're anxiously awaiting its maturation—not only to train future nursing staffs but also to provide for the continuing education of our existing nursing staff," he says. "We anticipate partnering more with the college in the future."

## Vocare influence felt across students' NWC experience

Vocare—initiatives to encourage a theological exploration of vocation, funded by \$2.5 million in grants from the Lilly Endowment—has been a part of Northwestern's campus ethos since this year's seniors were freshmen.

Exploring, discerning, and exhibiting wisdom and faithfulness in one's vocation, or calling, is discussed and modeled for students in classes, chapel and co-curricular opportunities across campus.

This school year, that exploration has engaged students, faculty and staff both on and off campus. In addition to supporting outside speakers, Vocare has funded networking and mentorship opportunities for women students with women who are leaders in the Reformed Church in America and for business majors with alumni who are business leaders and entrepreneurs.

Students have been able to explore vocation within

their discipline during retreats for the Spanish House, Mission House and English department. Vocare also helped fund the all-campus Black Hills retreat, a freshman retreat, and a stillness retreat. Several individuals were also supported when they took solitude retreats to reflect and listen for God's voice and leading in their vocation.

Nearly 20 students have utilized Lilly funds to visit graduate schools, including Western Theological Seminary. And student-staff teams have attended and presented at conferences for faith development, multicultural affairs, piano performance and theology.

Last summer Dr. Dean Calsbeek '97, kinesiology, and Dr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, music, took exploratory trips to China and Russia. This summer they are leading groups of students on summer study abroad courses in those countries.

# Northwestern develops Romanian study program

Northwestern is establishing a study abroad program in Romania. The Romania Semester, which will begin offering classes in fall 2007, will be the first semester-long study abroad program operated by NWC.

"Romania Semester will be a unique combination of cross-cultural learning, theory about social development, practice, service, and adventure education," says Dr. Doug Carlson, associate dean for off-campus programs. "This program will help students develop their intercultural competence and act on their faith as they work with Romanians who are trying to bring change to that post-communist nation."

The program will be operated in association with New Horizons Foundation, a ministry that seeks to use adventure education and service-learning experiences to help young Romanians develop responsibility, teamwork and trust. One of the organization's ultimate goals is to aid sustainable development in Romania.

New Horizons' founder and executive director, Dana Bates, will serve as on-site program director. Bates is a doctoral degree candidate at the Oxford Centre for Missions Studies. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary and a bachelor's degree from Gordon College.

"We hope students will understand more about the post-communist trauma and why development is so complicated here," says Bates. "It's quite hard for an average American to understand the extent of the wound that communism inflicted, and its lingering effects. The positive side of this is that students will better understand the importance of things like social capital, civil society and active media; the dangers of corruption and apathy; and how democratic engagement can help people flourish."

Romania Semester will include four courses: Romanian Culture and History, Eastern Orthodoxy, Sustainable Development, and Experiential Education: Theory and Practice. Based in Lupeni in a deprived coal-mining region, students will live with area residents for five weeks and have constant interaction with Romanians.

The program will be offered every fall and is open to six to 10 students each year. The cost will be the same as a semester on Northwestern's campus, with a stipend for airfare included.

The roots of the Romania Semester were established in 2004 when Dave Nonnemacher, Northwestern's director of service learning, spent a week exploring study abroad possibilities with Bates. Nonnemacher returned to Romania the

next summer to lead a four-week course for NWC students, and Bates met with college officials on campus in the fall of 2005.

Last summer, Nonnemacher led a small group of students in a cross-cultural immersion and service-learning experience in Romania.

"Dana has assembled a very gifted and intelligent group of Romanians who seek to transform the culture," says Nonnemacher. "New Horizons is doing the hard work of incarnational gospel ministry, and working with that organization will provide our students a great opportunity to adjust their perspective and realize that one person can make a difference."



*Students participating in the Romania Semester will have opportunities to interact with Romanian youth through adventure education and service-learning programs. Here, junior Candi Fender is shown with two children she worked with on the New Horizons Foundation ropes course during a 2005 short-term study abroad trip.*

Northwestern currently sends approximately 30 students a year to semester study abroad programs operated by the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities and other organizations. For several years, NWC professors have led short-term study abroad programs over summer and winter breaks to countries including China, Ecuador, France, India, Oman and Russia.



## Former Playhouse site to be garden of tulips

The site where the Northwestern theatre department produced hundreds of plays will produce something new in the coming years: thousands of tulips.

Last fall the property that housed the Northwestern College Playhouse was purchased by Nora (Mouw '83) and Brett Mulder '85, who live next door. The building was razed so the Mulders can transform the marquee corner into a beautiful landscape of tulips.

The Mulders recently purchased Vander Wel Tulip Test Gardens from Mary Lou and Don Vander Wel '58 in hopes of using the Playhouse property as a new venue for a dramatic display of tulips. The Vander Wels have grown tulips and sold bulbs from their gardens—an Orange City Tulip Festival attraction—since 1980.

"The central location of the property is great," says Brett Mulder. "We want to keep the tulip tradition going in Orange City."

During this transition year, the Mulders will display approximately 3,100 tulips in their yard, as well as in their neighbor's yard. "Right now, the Playhouse property is a muddy mess," says Mulder. However, by the 2008 Tulip Festival, the Mulders plan to have tulips blooming on their new property.

The Mulders purchased several salvaged pieces from the Playhouse, which they hope to incorporate into a new business structure on the site. Their purchases include bricks, limestone, a stained-glass window and several vintage light fixtures.



*The original American Reformed Church, which became Northwestern's Playhouse in 1970, was razed in December.*

During the demolition process, other items were salvaged from the Playhouse as well. Some were sold to individuals; others, to salvage companies. Vice President for Financial Affairs Doug Beukelman says the college kept possession of the large stained glass window at the north end of the church and hopes to incorporate it into the learning commons when it is built.

The Playhouse, formerly the American Reformed Church, was purchased for \$30,000 in 1970 for the theatre department's use. George Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man* was the first play to be staged in the Playhouse. Jeff Barker's award-winning *Kin* closed the building's run in the fall of 2003.

## Students to study in China and Russia this summer

Courses led by Northwestern faculty will take students to Russia and China this summer.

Dr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, a music professor and director of music ministries, will teach a program that focuses on Russian culture, music and language. The China program, led by Dr. Dean Calsbeek '97 of the kinesiology department, will examine how different cultures view the body. Both are four-week courses.

Josselyn-Cranson spent

two years in Russia as a member of the Peace Corps and speaks Russian fluently. She and her students will stay in Artiom in eastern Russia, taking day trips to nearby Vladivostok and a six-day excursion to Moscow.

The course will immerse students in the Russian way of life by allowing them to live with host families and study the Russian language. Participants will also attend concerts, visit local museums and churches, and tour the Kremlin, St. Basil's Cathedral

and Lenin's Tomb.

Calsbeek's class will study the Chinese approach to medicine, physical fitness and sport, learning about past and current norms and traditions.

Students will stay in the international dormitory at Bei Wei University in Beijing, where they will interact with Chinese students, study Mandarin, and learn Tai Chi, a Chinese martial art. The NWC students will also hear from experts in medicine, fitness and sports; visit the

2008 Olympic venues in Beijing; and meet Olympic athletes and trainers. Excursions are planned to the Great Wall and Tai'an.

"I hope it changes the way students view their own society and opens their minds to things that are different," Calsbeek says of summer study abroad. "I hope it helps them understand the way we do things is not the right way—it's just a different way."



Elaine Hofland, shown in this picture from the 1990s, was a familiar sight in the mailroom.

## Hofland retires from mailroom career

The woman known to many students simply as "The Mailroom Lady" delivered her last package in December. Elaine Hofland retired after 27 years as the mailroom supervisor.

When Hofland began her job in the late 1970s, the mailroom was in Van Peurse Hall. "The boxes were open; they had no locks," she recalls. After some time in VPH, the mailboxes were transferred to the Rowenhurst Student Center. With the current remodeling in the RSC, the mailboxes returned to VPH last fall, in

essence completing the route from which Hofland began.

Hofland says her career in the mailroom was well worth the holidays and weekends she worked. "I enjoyed seeing the students and working with them," she says. "It was so much fun to see the youth. I always especially enjoyed Valentine's Day and seeing all the pretty flowers that would arrive."

Hofland says Northwestern's Christian commitment provided a great environment in which to work. "That was the first thing that appealed to me when I

applied for the job. I enjoyed the opportunity to work with fellow believers."

In retirement, Hofland plans to spend her weekends and additional free time with her grandchildren. An avid crafter, Hofland seeks to devote more time to her hobby, including attending craft shows with her daughter. "I love to make dolls," says Hofland. "Larger dolls are actually my favorite."

Hofland was succeeded in the mailroom by Deb Wolthuizen '85, who previously served as assistant registrar.

## Performers represent Northwestern on spring tours

Northwestern's performing groups represented the college in California, Mexico and the Midwest during spring tours.

The Symphonic Band performed concerts and served in soup kitchens and orphanages in Chihuahua, Mexico, over spring break. Touring under the auspices of Christian Outreach International, the band's performances included a joint concert with the State Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Drama Ministries Ensemble performed *Sioux Center Sudan* in churches, Christian high schools and an assisted living center in California over break.

The A cappella Choir sang in churches in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota during a short tour.

## Theatre major selected to compete in nation's capital

Elizabeth Grim, a senior from Huxley, Iowa, won the Barbizon Design Award for her scenic design for *James Joyce's The Dead* at the Region Five Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF). She will compete in the national KCACTF at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., April 16-21.



# Northwestern theatre tours overseas

For the first time since Northwestern's Drama Ministries Ensemble (DME) began taking summer tours in 2000, the troupe will perform overseas. The tour, which runs from May 14 through Aug. 7, will include two weeks in Japan.

Tour planner Kelly (Huizenga '02) Van Marel has collaborated with Ron '46 and Ruby (Barth '53) Korver, missionaries who live in Zushi-shi, to schedule performances in Japanese churches and schools May 27–June 9.

The company will perform *Sioux Center Sudan*, an

original worship drama about Sioux Center resident Arlene Schuiteman, who was a missionary to the Sudan in the 1950s. Schuiteman was thrown out of the Sudan in 1963 when civil war began, but while she ministered elsewhere, her heart remained with her Sudanese friends. Eventually they were miraculously reunited.

This summer's theatre tour will also include performances at conferences for RCA women and Christians in Theatre Arts in Chicago, as well as the Network of Biblical Storytellers in Atlanta. Between conference



*The Drama Ministries Ensemble will perform the story of African missionary Arlene Schuiteman during a summer tour that will include two weeks in Japan.*

performances, the company is planning to tour in the eastern United States this summer.

DME members will also perform ancient Israelite dramas from the Old Testament and enacted prayer. Company members, all of whom are skilled in the development and performance of worship dramas, are also available to lead workshops on topics such as storied

worship and writing real-life dramas for churches that want to learn more about integrating the arts with worship.

Van Marel is still accepting performance requests from churches in the eastern and southeastern U.S. For information about hosting Northwestern theatre at your church this summer, contact her at 712-707-7257 or theatretour@nwciowa.edu.

## Auction helps build scholarship funds

The Northwestern College Gala Auction on Feb. 3 raised more than \$40,000, bringing the total raised through 24 years of auctions to nearly \$600,000.

Proceeds will help fund \$1,000 Alumni Scholarships



*The Rowenhorst Student Center gym was decorated with a construction theme as alumni and friends bid on nearly 450 items at the Gala Auction.*

for 35 to 40 students next year, the \$1,500 Northwestern College Teaching Excellence Award, a fall workshop for faculty, and student life programs.

More than 750 people attended the event, which featured a construction-zone theme. Bids were submitted on nearly 450 items.

Items that secured generous bids included a four-night stay at the Rainbow Trout Ranch in Colorado, deep-sea fishing off the coast of California, a Chicago Bears autographed football, and a 42-inch LCD TV.

"Other electronics and the golf packages also brought good bids," says Aletha Beeson, who helped coordinate this year's auction.

Beeson praised the warm spirit and giving of Northwestern's supporters who braved subzero temperatures to attend the live event. "It was a great night. Even though it was so cold, people still came and supported our students. It's wonderful to have that kind of commitment."

# Grad wins prestigious fellowship



Daniel Berntson

Daniel Berntson '06 has been named one of two recipients of American Graduate Fellowships, which provide winners up to \$50,000 a year for two years of doctoral study at one of 23 top-tier private research universities.

The competition, a new initiative by the Council of Independent Colleges, is designed to promote doctoral study in the humanities. The award is contingent upon admission and full-time enrollment in a humanities doctoral program at one of the eligible universities, which include institutions such as Brown, Columbia, Princeton and Yale.

Berntson graduated summa cum laude with majors in English and philosophy. He has already been accepted into doctoral programs in English at Northwestern University and Notre Dame, and into the philosophy programs at Duke, Georgetown and Syracuse.

Berntson, who is spending this year working on his family's farm near Paullina, Iowa, says his Northwestern education gave him good preparation for the fellowship competition.

"I felt particularly well prepared from the close interaction I had with my professors," he says. "They helped me tai-

lor my studies for what I wanted to do in graduate school—doing independent studies and honors research in both English and philosophy. A lot of what prepared me well were other students. I found a lot of students at Northwestern who were engaged in the discussion of ideas."

While he is not yet sure whether he will study English or philosophy in graduate school, Berntson says he would like to become a college professor. "I would like to work for awhile at a graduate institution where I could focus more on research. Eventually, though, I'd like to teach at a Christian liberal arts college like Northwestern, because I really appreciated my relationships with the professors at NWC and would like to have those kinds of mentoring relationships with undergraduates."

At Northwestern, Berntson was a Norman Vincent Peale Scholarship recipient, Honors Program graduate and Sigma Tau senior honor society member. He assisted philosophy professor Don Wacome with research and proofreading for a book project, played piano in the Jazz Band, helped found the Juggling Club, studied in Germany, interned at the National Endowment for the Humanities, served as a worship intern on the Campus Ministry Team, and was an editor for the *Beacon*.

## Northwestern to offer new communications majors

Beginning next fall, Northwestern will offer three new majors in the communications department. The majors of cinema and digital video, journalism, and public relations replace the general communication studies major.

"We're responding to students' desires," says Jamey Durham, department chairperson. "We've had a lot of student-initiated majors in public relations, students have been asking for more advanced video production classes, and a number of students have been seeking more in-depth preparation for careers in journalism."

All three majors will



One of the communications department's new majors, cinema and digital video, is rare among small private colleges in the Midwest and Christian colleges nationwide.

give students significant hands-on experiences, such as writing for the student newspaper or community

newspapers; producing press releases, brochures and marketing videos for area non-profit organizations; or writ-

ing their own scripts and crafting short films.

Another common theme for the majors is their emphasis on preparing students to tell compelling stories. "Storytelling really transcends all the different media: film, Web, newspapers, print," says Durham. "Our main goal is to teach students to become good storytellers."

The new majors also draw on the strengths of other academic departments at Northwestern. All three include a number of English courses. Art, business and theatre courses are also required, depending upon the major.

## SIFE team begins microfinancing program in Nicaragua

A Northwestern Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) team is piloting a new microfinancing program in Bluefields, Nicaragua. Team members spent spring break in the Central American country, where they have begun Christian Investment Action Outreach (CIAO!) to provide opportunity to low-income entrepreneurs who have no access to regular banks or financing.

SIFE team members Angela Jiskoot and Alla Miroshnychenko taught over 40 economically disenfranchised women about free enterprise, marketing and budgeting. The women were then encouraged to form peer groups to develop ideas and receive group training.

Representing the groups formed, eight entrepreneurs were given low-interest loans to bring their ideas—most of which involve the manufacture or sale of food products—to the marketplace.

The Northwestern students and faculty adviser Dr. Mike Avery also hired an on-site manager in Bluefields. The manager, a university student, will offer weekly training to the women and oversee group accountability and community building, two cornerstones of the CIAO! system of economic development.

The roots of CIAO! began two years ago when Avery participated in a Spring Service Project in Bluefields. Learning of the area's high unemployment rate and low standard of living (the average person of working age makes significantly less than \$1,000 per year), Avery talked to a group of women to gauge their interest in working together in entrepreneurial endeavors.

"I tried to find an organization that would go to Bluefields and begin a microfinancing program, but the impression I got was that it wasn't a big enough market," says Avery. "I decided we have a vested interest in Bluefields since we've been sending service project teams there for five years, they have really good people there, and we should try to do something ourselves."

Avery, developing the program in conjunction with students Jiskoot and Miroshnychenko, chose CIAO! as the organization's name because it is an international term of either greeting or farewell. He says the CIAO! motto of "Hello to new business. Goodbye to poverty!" may be directly translated

## Publications win awards

Publications produced by Northwestern's public relations office received awards this winter.

The search piece developed for the admissions office received a Silver Award, and a series of publications produced for the Imagine capital campaign received a Bronze Award in the 2007 Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District Six awards competition.

In addition, the search piece received an Award of Merit for schools with fewer than 2,000 students in the *Admissions Marketing Report's* national competition.

The search piece was developed by The Image Group of Holland, Mich., in conjunction with Duane Beeson, Anita Cirulis and Tamara Fynaardt of Northwestern's public relations office. The publication includes a number of photographs taken by Tom Becker of Orange City and Jim Heemstra '72 of Des Moines.

Northwestern's campaign publications were designed by Ryan James of Orange City and written by Fynaardt, with project management overseen by Cirulis. The series featured photographs taken by Heemstra.

This is the fourth consecutive year Northwestern's public relations office has received recognition in the CASE district competition.

ed in most languages.

CIAO! is modeled after the Grameen Bank concept of 2006 Nobel Prize in Economics winner Muhammad Yunus, and adapted to area cultural considerations. The project is funded by private donations and intended as a pilot program for other Latin American sites.

"This is an opportunity for the women and their families to participate in a dream," says Avery. "Not one of them has ever been to a bank. We feel confident that through these loans, the women can increase their standard of living, attain dignity through work, gain a sense of hope and build up their community."

The SIFE representatives were among a group of 15 NWC students and staff members involved in a Spring Service Project in Bluefields. The group also painted part of a clinic, poured concrete for a new well and conducted six Bible schools for children.



## Professor's film premieres in Orange City

*The Prairie Pirates*, written, produced and directed by communications professor Jamey Durham, premiered to a full house at the Holland Plaza Theatre in Orange City on March 16.

Described by Durham as a "comedy with heart," the movie tells the story about a hidden pirates' treasure buried in, of all places, Iowa. A group of adventurous children stumble onto a treasure map and must rely on their wits to solve its riddle, unearth the loot and save their town.

Durham calls it the ultimate family movie because he, his wife and their three kids all acted in the 80-minute feature.

The movie was filmed in northwest Iowa, with principal photography taking place

during the summer of 2005. It was a community-wide event, Durham says, with over 100 people from the area involved in some way. The production cost \$15,000 and was supported by funding from Northwestern's Lilly Grant.

Theatre professor Karen Barker, John Hubers '76 and Drew Schmidt '05 also had title roles in the film. The supporting cast included registrar Charlie Couch and theatre professor Jeff Taylor. Becky (Fanning '05) and Vaughn Donahue, a senior, were the production assistants. Senior Amy Leigh Lightfoot designed the costumes.

During its week's run in Orange City, *The Prairie Pirates* sold out 10 shows. The *Pirates* also



Two years of planning, work and emotion went into Professor Jamey Durham's first full-length movie, which debuted in March.

played at Promenade Cinema 14 Theatre in Sioux City.

Durham will enter *The Prairie Pirates* in several film festivals, including the Houston World Fest; Gloria, a family-oriented festival in Utah; and Creation Art, a Christian film festival in Canada. He's also seeking

distribution arrangements that could place the movie in bookstores, video rental stores or on cable television.

To learn more about the movie or to sign up to purchase a DVD when they become available, visit [www.theprairiepirates.com](http://www.theprairiepirates.com).

## Kang to record CD of classical piano music



Dr. Juyeon Kang

Northwestern music professor Dr. Juyeon Kang is an accomplished pianist who performs internationally and whose concerts have been aired on National Public Radio. Beginning this fall, her music will be available on CD, thanks to the college's 2007 Endowed Research Fellowship.

The \$10,000 grant is intended to fund substantive summer research that contributes meaningfully to the faculty member's discipline. It is provided through the generosity of an anonymous donor and awarded by the Faculty Development Committee after an external review process.

Kang will use the money to prepare for and record a CD, as well as to explore the relationship between her art and

Christian faith. The CD, entitled *Joyful Noise*, will feature a classical piano repertoire by composers such as Bach, Mozart, Chopin, Brahms, Debussy, Rachmaninoff and Scriabin.

Kang's plans are to record the CD in August, working with renowned recording engineer Peter Nothnagle of Iowa City. She will also research the spiritual beliefs of the composers and how their compositions reflect their faith. The results of that research will appear in the program notes on the CD jacket.

Kang earned a doctorate in piano performance and literature from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. She also received the prestigious Artist Diploma in piano performance from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, where she was on the faculty in the college division.

# Cool Time

Great White North



Great White North tradition calls for a group picture on the steps of Zwemer Hall, complete with a sign indicating the day's temperature.



Still warm from their start at Colenbrander Hall, Great White North participants head across campus.

A tradition since 1982, Great White North was celebrated again this Super Bowl Sunday. Fifteen Colenbrander Hall residents ran across campus wearing only shorts, shoes and hats.

"It's one of our best bonding experiences," says this year's "Major Cold" (leader), Rich Meekhof.

Unlike past participants, this year's runners weren't pelted with snowballs or doused with cold water. They did, however, get their typical reactions in the women's dorms.

"At Fern (Smith), they're pretty excited," says Meekhof, who led the group in serenading coeds with "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling." "At Stegenga, they're a little reluctant, but there are a few girls who will get involved. At Hospers, not many want to have anything to do with it. They lock their doors."

When the run is complete, the guys take a hot shower. After 45 minutes or so, they're warm again.



# Community 101

*Students and professor learn the struggles of living together in Mission House*

by **Tamara Fynaardt**

During their first mission experience in Cameroon in the 1980s, religion professor Dr. Rod Spidahl and his wife, Alice, lived in a mud hut with a tin roof, just like their neighbors. They served their new friends by digging wells and planting trees.

When the Spidahls were lonely or sick, people from the village served them by

coming to sit with them. "Not just one, but two, three, four," remembers Spidahl. "They didn't say much, just sat there, loving not by doing, but by being."

Spidahl shares stories like these from his mission field experiences to illustrate to students in his theology and missiology classes how dependent mission efforts—both abroad and at home—are on being able to live in

true community with those around you.

Spidahl explains, "In Cameroon, I learned something my Western, individualistic culture hadn't taught me: I came to understand that when we follow Jesus, we're not to follow him alone. We're expected to follow him in the company of other people."

This year the Spidahls have a different mission field: Northwestern's new themed residence known as "Mission House." Some of the 13 students living with the Spidahls in the two campus cottages are preparing for overseas missions. Most simply want to learn how to live with other Christians in a way that serves others and the kingdom no matter what vocation they pursue.

▼  
*Serious Christians who are put in a community for the first time will often bring with them a very definite image of what Christian communal life should be, and they will be anxious to realize it ...*

*Life Together,*  
Dietrich Bonhoeffer

▲

The Spidahls and the students—all upperclassmen whose majors include art, communications, education, music, nursing, political science, religion, sociology and theatre—discussed their expectations last spring and kicked off the school year with a retreat.

They defined their purpose, in part, to live as an open and truthful community, depending on faith in Christ, dedicated to challenging each other to learn about God, the world, and how God has gifted each to serve.

They committed to gather at least three times each week: Thursday mornings for breakfast and prayer, Sunday evenings for a meal of ethnic food and learning about mission efforts in another culture, and Tuesday nights to study Scripture and *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Christian martyred by the Nazis.

Everyone came home from the idyllic retreat eager to begin living with each other and serving one another and the campus more in the way Christ intended.



In Cameroonian dress, religion professor Dr. Rod Spidahl shares a Fulbe meal and discusses current mission efforts in Cameroon with the 13 students he lives with in the college's new themed residence, Mission House.





Senior art major Ruth George, who lives in the Mission House, hopes this year of learning to live in true Christian community will be good preparation for next year. George has applied as a missionary with Servants to Asia. If accepted, she will live in a shanty town among the people she's serving.

▼  
*... but God's grace quickly frustrates all such dreams. We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God, who will thwart our plans and frustrate our ways time and again by sending people across our path with their demands and requests.*  
 Bonhoeffer

▲  
 In one of three journals kept in the common areas of

the Mission House, someone wrote: "[Theologian] Henri Nouwen defines community as 'the place where the person you least want to live with always lives.'" The writer continues, pointing out that Nouwen says we usually surround ourselves with people we most want to live with, forming a club or clique. "Anyone can form a club," says Nouwen. "It takes grace, shared vision and hard work to form a community."

Mission House residents have found Nouwen is

right—frustratingly so. The truth is, living in community might be a lot easier if it weren't for the people you're living with.

▼  
*"Anyone can form a club. It takes grace, shared vision and hard work to form a community."*  
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"I expected we'd be open and honest with each other right away because we'd all said that's what we wanted," says Ruth George, a senior art major from San Jose, Calif., who hopes to be a missionary in Asia next year. "It was definitely not like that." It turns out the *what* and *how* of forming intentional community mean something different to everyone.

Chris Rensink, a senior education major from Clinton, Wis., echoes George's

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*"Individualism is the Achilles' heel of Western Christianity, I think. We emphasize my spirituality, my purpose in life, my salvation." The Trinity is God in community, and we, who are made in God's image, are meant to live in community too.*

▲

experience. "Some came in ready for Mission House to be their ultimate Northwestern community. Others embraced it as yet *another* community, in addition to communities they are already a part of on campus."

Rensink explains that some Mission House residents had ideas for a lot of service projects, others for plenty of socializing and bonding. And some, like him, who already are heavily involved across campus, resisted any additional obligations.

How could they serve the campus when they couldn't even agree on how to serve each other?

Within weeks, the Mission House residents' plans for a year of harmonious, grace-filled community seemed misguided and unachievable. Spidahl listened to their struggles and wondered himself at times if the Mission House would come apart. "Students said, 'This isn't what I thought it would be. Everyone's not like me. I'm being asked to give too much.'"

"The students have gone through a shaping, a bending—even a breaking—that's

been painful," Spidahl says. They've experienced disillusionment, suffering and a stubborn unwillingness to sacrifice for the sake of community. For Spidahl, it proved something positive was happening. "Struggle is foundational to learning," he says.

▼

*The community of faith does not need brilliant personalities but faithful servants of Jesus and of one another.*

Bonhoeffer

▲

Spidahl and the students agreed not to quit—to be tenacious in their pursuit of loving and serving one another. The students made concessions, compromises and attempts at sacrificing their time and other commitments for the sake of the Mission House community.

When someone was angry or misunderstood, they made second, third and fourth attempts at seeking forgiveness and understanding.

George says she tried to improve her willingness to be vulnerable. "We have this

idea that we don't have to share problems we're facing because it only affects me. 'I'm going to retreat and fix this myself.' That individualism pulls a community apart."

Mission House residents still sought to serve beyond the house—to reach the whole campus—so instead of adding new projects, they decided simply to serve one another as they fulfilled the commitments they already had as athletes, campus ministry participants and performers.

They helped Corinna find boxes for her Hunger/Homeless Ministry's Night in a Box event. They attended Katie's concerts, Cori's plays, and Jess's and Megan's athletic events. "We realized that what we were trying to achieve was more fundamental than a service project," says Rensink.

▼

*Christians can live with each other in peace; they can love and serve one another; they can become one. ... Christians experience the presence of God in the reality of the other.*

Bonhoeffer

▲

"You start as a servant," says George. "You need to be humble." Mission House residents Katie Gard, a junior music ministry major from Fergus Falls, Minn., and her roommate Preeti Elaiyavalli, a senior nursing major from India, were models of service

and humility when Katie developed tendonitis last semester.

"It was beautiful," says Spidahl. "Katie, who's extremely driven and accomplished, suddenly needed Preeti to tie her shoes."

Spidahl adds that honesty, a willingness to learn, and an unending capacity for forgiveness are also necessary for true Christian community.

George says learning to listen is essential. "Our individualistic mentality of everyone being equal has come to mean that everyone has a right to say what they think," says George. "We tend to start with talking, rather than listening."

She says one of her challenges has been learning not to talk—not to always state her opinions, no matter how well-founded or insightful. "I'm always trying to fix people's problems," she says. "But I'm learning to let things mature in Christ's own time."

Elaiyavalli urges a teachable spirit—"because you're going to be broken in ways you haven't before," she says.

"Individualism is the Achilles' heel of Western Christianity, I think," says Spidahl. "We emphasize my spirituality, my purpose in life, my salvation." The Trinity, explains Spidahl, is God in community, and we, who are made in God's image, are meant to live in community too.

The true Christian community values everyone, George explains. Everyone has a meaningful role. "It looks a lot like a body."

# Facevalue Earl Woudstra

## *Raider, winsome, wise*

### **Describe yourself in three words.**

Competitive, committed, loyal.

### **What kind of athlete were you?**

In college, I played baseball, basketball, tennis and golf, but I wasn't much of a varsity contributor. In fact, when I realized I wasn't going to play much as a senior on the basketball team, I quit. Thinking back, that's probably why I value the player who sticks it out, even when she has to accept a role with little recognition. It shows a lot of character.

### **What do you enjoy about being a Raider coach?**

It's a blessing that while we want competitive teams, and we want to excel, I don't feel any pressure from Northwestern that a winning program defines my job performance. We do what we say we do: try to impact and build into the lives of the young people we work with. The pressure to win is self-imposed. Someone once told me, "It's not that you really like to win so much, it's just that you can't stand losing." That's probably not healthy, but it's true.

### **What's the most important part of your job?**

Relationships. That's what fuels me to keep doing it. It really makes it fun when you

have the kind of high-quality kids we get to teach and coach here.

### **What part do you enjoy most?**

When I was coaching with Les Douma, he told me he enjoyed the practices more than the games, and I thought that was the dumbest thing I ever heard. Now I understand. As a young coach, it was all about the games. Now I enjoy the preparation and relationships of the practices.

### **What's your unique perspective on Northwestern?**

Because I've been here as a student, employee and parent, I've seen people who are wholly devoted and loyal to NWC. There's nothing wrong with being here for a time and then leaving, but it's the Ron Juffers of the world who motivate me.

### **What was your favorite coaching moment?**

Sharing the national championship in 2001 with my daughter Jaime. And it's pretty special to have my kids [assistant coach Jaime and student assistant coach Brady] out there helping me this year. They probably think if they want to have a relationship with me, they have to find me where I'm at. That's how it was with my dad. If I wanted to have a relationship with

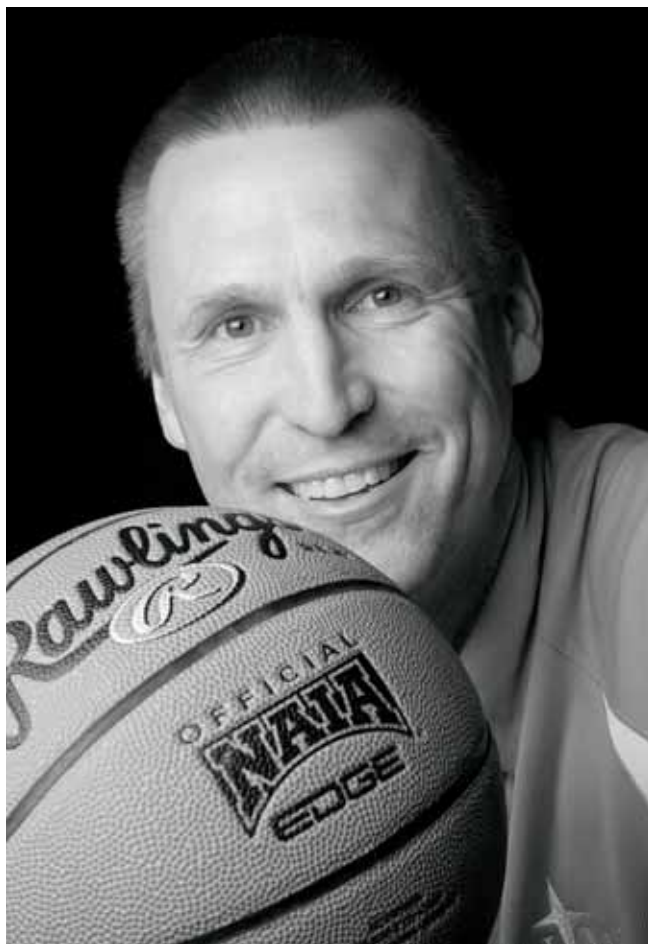
him, I had to meet him at his place, the meat market.

### **What goals do you have for the rest of your coaching career?**

At some point—and I don't know when that will be—I hope I recognize when it's time to quit. I want to finish well and pass the baton well.

### **What's something you'd change about the way you've lived to this point?**

I wish I would've listened better when I was a student. I would love to take Bill Kennedy's class now, instead of just trying to get through it. Or to go back and really appreciate all Dr. Scorza could teach me. Not regrets, really—just realizations.



A 1978 Northwestern alumnus, Earl Woudstra has been head coach of the women's basketball team for 13 years.



Ofcourse

# The Gift of Writing



At a gathering of World War II vets and students who wrote their stories, Dick Te Brink responds with amazement as he reads the book prepared by his group of students.

Class: ENG 124: Basic Writing

Instructor: Deborah Menning, instructor in English

On an overcast day at the end of the semester, Vermeer South Dining Room is humming with activity. Students talk excitedly with their guests—people the age of their grandparents—and proudly show off their projects after eating hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

It feels more like a family reunion than a class project as students in Deb Menning's Basic Writing class meet with area World War II veterans and their wives. The gathering is the culmination of a service-learning experience in which students hone their writing skills while telling the vets' stories. Today, the final products are being presented.

The service-learning project, accounting for about 20 percent of the semester grade, includes several writing assignments in different genres. After interviewing their veterans, teams of students compose an introduction to that individual, his war biography, and a variety of other writings.

Students may write in the form of a short story, personal reflection, journal entry, news article, letter, poem or song lyrics. They also develop a devotional for their veteran, write a

(by Nika Anderson, writing a letter from Lawrence Van Roekel)

I have realized that what I thought the Army would be like was just an illusion. ... I celebrated my 19th birthday on the ship when the bombs hit Japan. ... When I got here, I couldn't believe the destruction. There were people using little pieces of metal scraps for houses. Others were lying in the gutters dying. People are people all over the world; they didn't want to go to war any more than we did. ... It's so strange over here, but I'm glad I came. Don't worry about me; I will make it through this, and I'm coming home soon.

(by Bryant Wieking, writing a journal entry for Dick Te Brink)

July 18, 1945

Although the sun was shining, the event that took place today involves nothing bright or enjoyable. I have been continually asking God, "Why not me?" and the only answer I can derive from this horrible situation is that he has greater plans for me. ... We had been encountering enemy fire all day, and I was with one other man in the foxhole. The only thing we could do was sit low, hoping the adversary would not be able to get to us. I attempted to make conversation with my foxhole mate to take our minds off the perilous conflict facing us. I received no reply. Thinking he did not hear me, I rolled over to speak once more. At the moment I turned over, there was heavy fire followed by a large explosion. I looked into the soldier's eyes, and there was nothing.

page about themselves, and gather paintings, poems or songs that connect with their vet. The final work is presented in a binder, scrapbook or other packaging.

When students first encounter the service-learning project, they often feel overwhelmed by its many assignments and

apprehensive to write about someone they've never met. After interviewing their subject, though, "students are bubbling with ideas that link to their vet, clamoring to tell me how neat it was to visit with an elderly person who isn't their grandparent," says Menning.

"They discover that writing has meaning—it isn't simply a dreary assignment required by teachers to torture them," the prof says of the project. "Instead, it becomes a valuable work with a real audience. Usually, most students have not thought about writing as a gift, but that's what it becomes to them—and to their vet—when they see the smiles, tears and amazement on the vets' faces. It makes all writing take on enriched meaning for them."

Menning has received a number of thank-you notes from veterans. Many share the sentiments of Marion and Wilma Jasper: "We treasure the book very much. Some articles bring a tear, but we aren't ashamed of that. It is all so meaningful to us."

(Personal reflection by Inisha Scott after meeting Rich Van Donge)

Rich allowed me to see the older generation differently. I've always liked to listen to my grandparents tell stories, but after paying attention to Rich, it gave me a greater understanding of all I can learn from them, besides the fun legends. People like Rich have so much to share with us; we just need to open our ears and listen.

They have been there before us, and so we can learn from their mistakes and accomplishments. I hope one day I can be like Rich by contributing my story and wisdom to the future generation.

The students often write about their veterans' faith and courage, and about the effects of war on loved ones back home. Their stories also tell of a lighter side of being a soldier, including a squadron's rebellion against Spam in the mountains of Burma and a jackrabbit that set off a trip wire during a tense night in France.

The students say they have learned a lot from the experience: about World War II, about the value of life, that it's OK for men to show emotion, that military service is a great sacrifice. They've also learned much about the techniques of writ-



Students are encouraged to creatively package the gifts for their veterans. Pete Van Muyden, a retired trucker, received his binder in the bed of a small wooden truck created by his group. Basketball was the theme of the binder cover for Arnie Vermeer '42, who played the sport while at Northwestern.

ing—and its purpose.

"A person who knows grammar and the proper way to write a paper still is missing something," says Bryce Book. "What I learned is that you have to write from your heart. When you do that, the reader will see the passion you have for the story you are telling."

Classmate Nick Jones concurs: "This project made me a better writer in almost every aspect of my writing, but what I learned above all was how to write with feeling and purpose—and that some things we write mean so much more to other people than we realize."



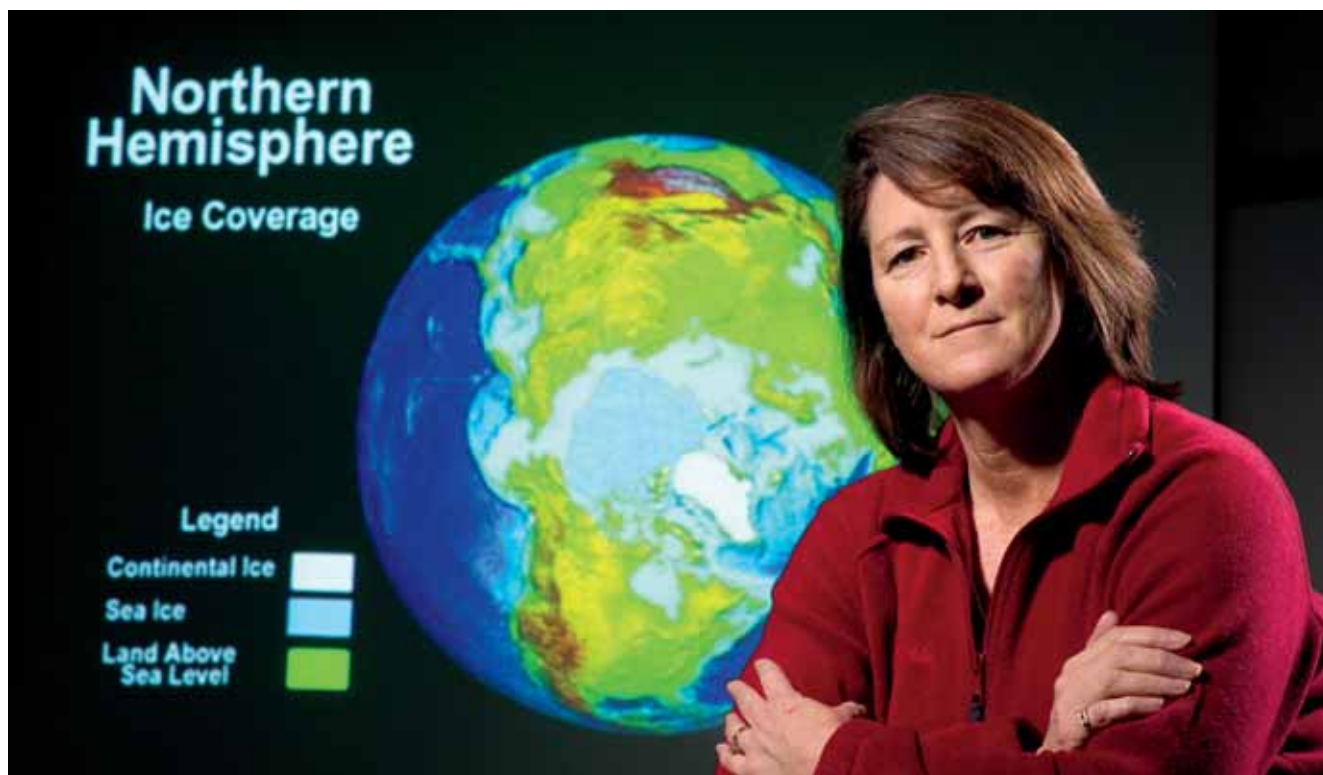
World War II veteran Pat Wright shares memories with student Jason Martens.



# Creation Care

*Humankind's influence on the environment becoming an issue for Christians*

by Anita Cirulis



*Dr. Laurie Furlong's computer is full of colorful charts and graphs tracking the impact of global climate change on the environment. The Northwestern biology professor and ecologist says scientists overwhelmingly agree that humans are contributing to increased amounts of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.*

Wind chill readings were 24 below one morning when Dr. Sean Cordry arrived on campus to teach his first class. Subzero temperatures in February aren't unusual for northwest Iowa. What was unusual was Cordry's method of transportation. On a day when many people in Orange City were leaving

cars running to warm them up while getting groceries, the Northwestern physics professor had ridden his bike to work.

Cordry's willingness to trade comfort for chilly feet stems, ironically, from environmental concerns about global warming. His concerns are shared by more and

more people—including an increasing number of the world's scientists.

"The data coming back now are confirming what was a little more theoretical in the past," says Dr. Laurie Furlong, a biology professor and ecologist at Northwestern. "The evidence has become stronger and stronger that we

are contributing to increased amounts of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere."

Such increases are a concern because of the relationship between carbon dioxide levels and temperatures. By studying clues to the earth's climate dating back to what experts say is over 400,000



years ago, scientists have found that the more carbon dioxide was in the air, the warmer the earth was.

Measurements of carbon dioxide levels are made from air bubbles trapped in ice cores drilled in the Antarctic and Greenland. Plotted on a chart, those levels fluctuate over the millennia but spike sharply upward in the last half century.

"It goes up with the industrial revolution," Furlong says, "and it goes up even more after World War II when fossil fuel consumption really took off. Basically, it's higher now than it's been at any time in the measurable past."

## Mounting concern

As early as 1965, a scientific advisory board under President Johnson warned that increases in atmospheric carbon dioxide could lead to "marked changes in climate" by the end of the 20th century. Two decades later, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established by the United Nations. The panel's first report, issued in 1990, noted the earth's average temperature had increased by 0.5 to 1 degree Fahrenheit—an amount that could be due to normal fluctuations in climate.

The IPCC's second report in 1995 noted "the balance of evidence suggests a discernable human influence on global climate." That report was the basis for the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, an

international treaty that assigns mandatory targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to signatory nations. To date, more than 160 nations have signed and ratified the treaty. The United States isn't among them, in part because Kyoto doesn't require developing countries like China and India to reduce their carbon emissions as well.

The IPCC's fourth report was issued Feb. 2 of this year. In its strongest language yet, the panel says the increase in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century is "very likely" caused by humans—estimating that likelihood at 90 percent. Days earlier, President Bush acknowledged the reality of global warming in his State of the Union address, calling for technologies that will help America "confront the serious challenge of global climate change."

## What the future holds

Furlong prefers the term "global climate change" to "global warming," as it's a better description of a complex problem.

"You have a month of cold weather in Iowa, and people say, 'What's all this about global warming?' It's really not that simple," she says. "Some places are going to get colder and wetter; some places may get warmer and drier."

Europe, for example, may experience a mini ice age if the Greenland and polar ice caps continue melt-

ing at what Furlong calls an "alarming" rate. That's because ocean currents play a major role in moderating Europe's climate. Smaller ice caps mean more solar energy will be absorbed by the ocean rather than reflected by the ice. And warmer, rather than cooler, ocean temps around Greenland could change the direction of the ocean currents that flow past Europe's coastline, impacting the continent's climate.

Other possible results of

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*"Our economy is based on consumption. If we're not consuming, our economy is not growing. But I don't know how we can sustain that. If everybody lives like we live in the United States, there aren't enough resources to go around."*  
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global warming—some of which are already being observed—include the disappearance of glaciers; sea-level rise and coastal flooding; shifts of plant and animal ranges; loss of ecosystems; the spread of insects and the diseases they carry; and increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events.

Skeptics of global warming see such scenarios as alarmist and contend current trends are within the range of natural climate variations.

They also question the accuracy of computer models designed to predict future climate and argue there's no consensus among scientists regarding the reality of global warming.

Furlong admits that the further models project into the future, the more room there is for error.

"I don't think scientists are saying we know exactly what's going to happen in the year 2100," she says, "but none of the models are showing carbon dioxide levels going down." In fact, some models are being adjusted upward because when they were first developed, no one knew the role China would play. That nation is now the world's second biggest energy consumer and produces 13 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions—second only to the United States' 26 percent.

As for normal climate, "history would suggest we should be entering a cooling phase," says Cordry, "but what we find is just the opposite." What's more, the rate at which the climate seems to be altering is "unprecedented," he says. In the past, it took centuries—rather than decades—for average global temperatures to raise or cool a few degrees. Now changes are taking place too quickly for ecosystems and species to adapt.

Furlong also takes exception to claims that scientists are divided about global climate change. "If it's 100 to 1, I guess skeptics could say there's not consen-

sus,” she says, “but as a scientist, I would say it’s weighted very heavily” toward the view that humans are influencing the world’s climate.

## Differing opinions

Much of the debate about global warming centers around possible solutions to the problem. As Furlong puts it, scientists and economists speak two different languages—and both economics and politics play a role in proposed responses. Particularly controversial is the idea of government-mandated reductions in greenhouse gas emissions—the very thing called for by the Kyoto

Protocol.

Those opposing Kyoto point out nearly all of the countries that have signed the treaty have failed to meet their goals for reducing such emissions. They argue even full compliance would make an insignificant impact on future temperatures. They also believe the treaty’s estimated annual costs of \$200 billion to \$1 trillion would have a damaging effect on the global economy. Economist William Cline of the Institute for International Economics calculates that for every \$3 of benefits to be gained by emission restrictions, \$4 of costs will be incurred.

Christians are among those who don’t agree on the best course of action.

Dr. Calvin Beisner, a theology and social ethics professor at Knox Theological Seminary, is a founder and spokesman for the Interfaith Stewardship Alliance (ISA). He is also co-author of the Cornwall Declaration on Environmental Stewardship, a treatise signed by Dr. James Dobson, president of Focus on the Family, and Chuck Colson, chairman of Prison Fellowship Ministries.

Members of ISA believe present temperature trends are part of natural fluctuations in climate—and that humans are responsible for

only a “minute fraction” of the warming that has occurred. Any warming anticipated from a doubling of atmospheric carbon dioxide over the next century, they contend, will have beneficial, rather than catastrophic, consequences.

Beisner warns that some policies aimed at stopping global warming may actually harm the world’s poor. “Our wisest response,” he says, “is to promote economic and technological development that will increase energy efficiency, reduce pollution, and enable us to adapt to the modest cyclical variations in temperature the best science projects.”



The Rocky Mountains can be seen in the distance as windmills generate electricity at the Ponquequin Wind Farm near Carr, Colo. A clean source of electricity, wind energy is growing rapidly. The U.S. has a wind capacity of more than 11,600 megawatts, enough to power at least three million homes.

Beisner is joined by others who believe the obvious needs of vulnerable people supersede the possible needs of a vulnerable environment. Jerry Taylor, director of natural resource studies for the Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank headquartered in Washington, D.C., argues that emission restrictions will deny the developing world “the opportunity to better their lifestyle and standard of living.”

Some evangelical Christians, however, are joining the call for national legislation to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. In February of last year, 86 evangelical leaders gave their support to the Evangelical Climate Initiative. Among those signing the “call to action” were the Rev. Rick Warren, pastor and author of *The Purpose-Driven Life*; the Rev. Bill Hybels, pastor of Willow Creek Community Church; Dr. Timothy George, executive editor of *Christianity Today*; the leaders of World Vision and the Salvation Army; and approximately 40 college and seminary presidents—including Northwestern College’s president, Dr. Bruce Murphy.

## Taking a closer look

Last October, Northwestern students, faculty and staff learned more about the global warming debate when the college hosted a two-part forum. The brainchild of Matt Hulstein, a junior pre-law student from Sioux Center, the forum took one evening to examine the scien-



Even during the winter, Dr. Sean Cordry, a physics professor, rides his bike to work. He cautions that renewable energy alone can't meet consumption demands and that people need to drastically change their mindsets about how they live.

## Ways to make a difference

Much of what you can do to combat global warming begins with the products you buy and how you use energy. Dr. Sean Cordry has these practical suggestions for ways to make a difference:

- Use (and buy) less stuff. Follow Alternatives for Simple Living's motto: "Live simply, that others may simply live."
- Don't be in such a rush. The pace of our American lifestyle wastes huge amounts of energy. You can take back your time and find your sanity.
- Park your car and leave it. Walk, bike and ride-share.
- Buy locally or regionally produced food and other

products whenever you can.

- Recycle—and encourage those around you to recycle.
- Buy things with less packaging and avoid “disposable” items. We need to throw away our throw-away mindset.
- Don't let money be the only thing you consider when making a purchase. Where did the product come from? What are the costs to the environment during the item's useable lifetime? Be willing to spend more to get something that will last longer and use less energy.
- Use less energy yourself. Turn off lights, computers and other machines when

they aren't being used.

- Adjust your thermostat to 68 degrees or less in the winter. See how long you can go in the summertime without using air conditioning. Install fluorescent bulbs instead of incandescent bulbs.
- Use your physical energy. Walk. Take the stairs. Exercise instead of watching TV.
- Ask questions and learn as much as you can about how the earth works and how to be a good steward of resources.

Get more tips and find out what your planetary impact is at [www.nwciowa.edu/climate](http://www.nwciowa.edu/climate).



tific evidence and another to discuss possible solutions.

Participants were shown *An Inconvenient Truth*, the Academy Award-winning documentary by former Vice President Al Gore. They then heard from a panel of scientists—including Cordry;

fact, for many panelists, what's happening to the environment is intricately connected with issues of social justice and consumerism.

America's use of fossil fuels per capita is higher than any other nation in the world. "Our economy is

the Bible talks about economic justice, then we should too."

Andres says the key to change is to make things personal—to realize the impact lifestyle choices have on the rest of the earth's inhabitants and the environment. Cordry believes those in more economically developed countries must choose to live more simply.

"Others could have a better life if we would just be willing to inconvenience ourselves a little more," he says.

Cordry and his family set the thermostat at 65 during the day and 60 at night. They wash their dishes by hand because a dishwasher uses so much energy. They've installed flow-restricting shower heads, air dry their clothes, collect rainwater for their garden in a cistern, and use a reel mower to cut their grass. Cordry even built a solar oven in which to cook their meals. And, because they've chosen to own just one car, he rides his bike to work.

For Cordry, however, the solution involves more than switching to compact fluorescent light bulbs and buying a hybrid vehicle. Those actions alone, he says, are like trying to pay the rent by scouring the gutter for loose change.

"The things that are going to make a difference are when people stop driving a mile to work or making a

20-mile commute from here to there," he says. "Yes, we need to develop renewable energy, but to think we can't or don't have to drastically change our mindset about how we live is false."

Furlong shares Cordry's concern about the future, and it motivates her to reach today's students, who will be the leaders of the next generation.

"I want those leaders to be able to get at information and look at it critically through a lens of faith," she says. "What does their belief mean in terms of that issue? That's what we're trying to train students to do; that's what we all have to do."

With more Christians equipped to think critically about both the science of global climate change and God's mandate to care for his created world—including the most vulnerable—Andres sees hope for the future. He thinks the evangelical Christian community is a sleeping giant with tremendous potential for making a difference.

"If Christians were able to reform ourselves and recognize what Scripture has to say about this and be true to our best theology, it would be a wonderful witness," he says. "We're lagging behind. But what a beautiful picture it would be if the church would lead the way on caring for the environment."

▼  
*"As a liberal arts college, we're in a unique place where we can begin to discuss these things, so as a theologian, I can talk to a physicist and a biologist and an economist, and we can see the interrelated nature of an issue like global warming."*  
 ▲

Furlong; Todd Tracy, another Northwestern biology professor; and Dr. Dave Arnett, one of the college's chemistry professors—who discussed the scientific merits of the film. The second evening, a panel discussion focused on what people can do about global climate change. Dr. Michael Andres, one of Northwestern's religion professors, was among the panelists.

"As a liberal arts college, we're in a unique place where we can begin to discuss these things," he says, "so as a theologian, I can talk to a physicist and a biologist and an economist, and we can see the interrelated nature of an issue like global warming."

Hulstein says it was helpful to hear from Christian scientists who are looking at global climate change from a faith perspective. In

based on consumption," says Furlong. "If we're not consuming, our economy is not growing. But I don't know how we can sustain that. If everybody lives like we live in the United States, there aren't enough resources to go around."

### How then should we live?

Whether or not one believes global climate change is a reality, much less a threat, there is no denying God cares about his created world and how we as his stewards use our resources to care for it.

"It's becoming more and more acceptable to talk about issues of environmental and economic justice in evangelical circles," Andres says. "The Bible has thousands of verses about how we use our money and possessions. We're people of the Bible. If

Learn more about climate change, your impact on the world, and ways you can make a difference at [www.nwciowa.edu/climate](http://www.nwciowa.edu/climate).

# Going Green

## *Environment an issue on nation's college campuses*

Climate change

Concerns about climate change are affecting the way colleges operate—whether it's the energy they buy, the academic programs they offer, or the facilities they build. And experts say students are the driving force behind those changes.

Maine's College of the Atlantic is the first to implement a "net-zero carbon emissions plan." In addition to reducing its use of fossil fuels and electricity, the college is compensating for its own energy usage by paying for windmills that are generating electricity in South Dakota.

New York University plans to purchase 118 million kilowatt hours of wind power—the largest of any American college—and has established an environmental studies major. Arizona State University is launching a new School of Sustainability this fall.

Colleges are hiring environmental experts to join their staffs and constructing "green" buildings on campus. Nearly 300 institutions have begun seeking LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification for their facilities.

Northwestern College

doesn't track its carbon emissions, but it does monitor its energy usage. Frugality, says Vice President for Financial Affairs Doug Beukelman, comes naturally to Midwesterners—and especially residents of Iowa's Sioux County.

Last year, when oil prices were skyrocketing, a campus-wide effort was made to save energy. Building thermostats were set back, reducing both daytime and nighttime temperatures 2 degrees. The college also turned temps down to 55 or 60 degrees in unoccupied buildings during Christmas and spring breaks.

Students, faculty and staff were encouraged to shut down their computers at night and on weekends and to turn off lights.

"It costs merely a dollar a day to run a computer," Beukelman says, "but if you take that times the number of students we have on campus and multiply that by the number of days in a school year, it turns into significant dollars."

The result of such conservation efforts? Northwestern used 10 percent less natural gas and consumed 7 percent less electricity.

Northwestern's recycling program is promoted on cam-



*Tim Swart manages Northwestern's recycling program through his work-study position with the maintenance department. Swart, a senior biology-ecological science major from Oostburg, Wis., is also a member of Terra Nova, an environmental stewardship club for students at NWC.*

pus by students in Terra Nova, an environmental stewardship club. The college also donates its used mattresses to Justice for All, buys energy-efficient appliances, and composts leaves and grass clippings. Bathrooms are equipped with low-flow showerheads, and energy management systems are added whenever a building needs a new heating system.

The college considered pursuing LEED certification for the new learning commons it plans to build, but most of the points for such certification come from installing a heating and cooling system that is "green." Because Orange City has a municipal utility, energy costs are low enough that such a

system wouldn't pay for itself over the course of its life cycle.

Environmental considerations, however, are still part of the learning commons' construction and design. Materials will be produced as locally as possible to avoid using diesel fuel for long-distance shipping. Workers will separate and recycle construction waste, and the building's air quality will be improved through low-emission carpet and adhesive.

Extensive use of windows on the building's south side will promote solar gain, and a raised, window-rimmed roof will facilitate "daylight harvesting"—allowing natural light into the building's interior.



Todd Carlson helped turn around the fortunes of Cadillac Casting, an iron foundry. Also part owner of several other companies, he says integrity is one of the main keys to business success.

# Good Investment

## *Ethics and character contribute to alum's entrepreneurial success*

by Amy Scheer

The front page of *The Des Moines Register* showed two Northwestern students sitting back to back. One, Todd Carlson '89, holds an open *Soybean Digest*. Both of them, perhaps, mask an eagerness to end the photo session and return to their dorm room to study.

To study soybean quotes, that is. Pork bellies too.

Carlson, now a successful entrepreneur living in Rochester Hills, Mich., met with a *Register* reporter in 1988 to discuss his and Greg Westra's success in the AT&T Collegiate Investment Contest. The two students made a name for Northwestern after skillfully playing the stock market during a four-month period with an imaginary \$500,000.

Though Westra, also an '89 grad, became a finalist in

the national competition, the reporter scrapped the original story for a better one when he learned the students were dorm room day traders, handling not only pretend commodities but real ones too.

At a time when there was no Internet available to access real-time stock market quotes, Carlson and Westra connected their computer to a satellite dish. They staggered their class schedules to

take turns tracking market activity, calling out updates as they passed in the hall.

The work paid off; the two subsidized their schooling with the profits.

Carlson received his first lessons in trade in a stockyard near Storm Lake, Iowa, where as a young boy he'd accompany his father, a live-stock buyer and entrepreneur. This object lesson in sheep laid the foundation for Carlson's future career, which



began in banking.

From 1991 to 1999, Carlson was a commercial banker in Detroit and Omaha. Clients sought his advice on their side projects, and eventually he left his position to become an independent investment banker.

"Most investment bankers work for a fee. I had a different philosophy," says Carlson. "Instead of working for fee income, I did it for equity—a piece of ownership in the company. If my compensation comes from the ownership of the deal, I only get paid if it's successful. That philosophy was very different than the typical approach. It resonated with people who wanted to do business with me."

Today, Carlson owns equity in seven companies with 800 employees and \$180 million in aggregate sales. Diversifying the choice of companies (from auto parts to real estate) ensures overall success if one of the industries falters.

"Not that we're planning on failing," Carlson says.

The ratio of moral responsibility rises proportionately with each success. "Daily—hourly, almost—there are opportunities to advance at the expense of others," he says. "There are so many moral and ethical decisions to make every day."

Perhaps to counter these pressures, Carlson devotes his limited spare time to Vision 2020, a church-planting organization he developed with fellow members at Kensington Community

Church in Troy, Mich. Their mission is to launch 40 churches by the year 2020, with help from partnering churches and organizations located throughout Michigan and in East Africa and India, as well.

Any type of business has its share of financial risk, yet Carlson's wife, Jill (Erwin '91), models patience and trust in his decisions, he says. This is necessary during deals like the one Carlson made in December 2005, when he and his partner, Dan Minor, approached the owner of a foundry slated for closure in Cadillac, Mich. The foundry, which makes steel products for primarily

Ford and Chrysler vehicles, was in financial ruin but didn't qualify for Michigan state tax credits, which the partners knew they needed to help them turn the business around.

They approached their local state representative, who drafted an amendment to the Michigan Economic Growth Authority Act. The state legislature passed it unanimously, and the governor approved it a day later.

"We literally changed the law," Carlson says proudly. "The headlines said, '400 Jobs Saved.'"

A parade of politicians visited the newly named Cadillac Casting, and

▼  
***"Most investment bankers work for a fee. I had a different philosophy. Instead of working for fee income, I did it for equity—a piece of ownership in the company. If my compensation comes from the ownership of the deal, I only get paid if it's successful."***  
▲

Michigan's government website celebrated the success. A year later, Carlson says the foundry is in the black and hiring 40 new employees in 2007.

Carlson is reminded of his dorm room dealings when he visits Northwestern to speak in business classes. With such early successes, his perspective then was a bit more carefree than it is today.

"I thought, 'Life's easy. Business is easy. No problem.' I can tell you now, at 39, I have a whole appreciation for and clarity about the value of experience."

It's all about integrity, he says.

"If you have unchallengeable ethics and character in business, people gravitate toward that," Carlson says. "You get a reputation over time; trust and history build that. Stay reputable, and people will want to do business with you."

## Feeling Discon-NET-ed?

### Plug in to NWC's 'net connections.

**Net News**, an alumni e-mail newsletter, provides the latest news from Northwestern College and information on upcoming alumni events. Visit [www.nwciowa.edu/alumniupdate](http://www.nwciowa.edu/alumniupdate) and click on the *Net News* box to subscribe.

**Parent Partners**, an e-mail newsletter for students' parents, offers information and advice for supporting your kids at NWC. Read *Parents Partners* and subscribe at [www.nwciowa.edu/parentpartners](http://www.nwciowa.edu/parentpartners).

Both *Net News* and *Parent Partners* are sent three to four times each year.

## Wintersports

## Men's basketball

- Advanced to the NAIA Div. II Final Four, losing to eventual national champion MidAmerica Nazarene and finishing with a 26-9 record.
- Shared the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) regular-season title with a 14-4 mark.
- Chad Schuiteman (junior, Sioux Center) was named a first team All-American. Curt Schilling (junior, Ellsworth, Minn.) received honorable mention recognition. Mark DeYounge (junior, Mountain Lake, Minn.) was named a Scholar-Athlete. Schuiteman and Schilling were selected to the all-conference first team. Schuiteman averaged 16

points and 10 rebounds, compiling 22 double-doubles, while Schilling contributed 14 points per game.

- Schuiteman and Kale Wiertzema (sophomore, Hills, Minn.) were named to the all-tournament team at the national event. Eric Kruger (senior, Paullina, Iowa) received the Hustle Award.
- Schuiteman was twice named the GPAC player of the week.

## Women's basketball

- Advanced to the Sweet 16 at the national tournament, finishing with a 24-9 record.
- Went 14-4 in the GPAC, sharing the regular-season title with three other

schools.

- Deb Remmerde (junior, Rock Valley, Iowa) broke NWC's single-game scoring record when she poured in 45 points against Dakota Wesleyan. She also broke the school's all-time scoring record and currently has 2,712 career points. She led the nation in three-point field goal percentage (51.5) and free throw percentage (94.2).
- Remmerde, who averaged 25 points per game, was named the GPAC player of the year and earned first team All-American honors. She also was selected to the all-national tournament second team. Jaime Hoegh (senior, Atlantic, Iowa), who averaged 13 points, joined her on the conference first team and

was an honorable mention All-American pick.

- Remmerde was the GPAC player of the week twice, and Hoegh received that honor once.
- Remmerde and Crystal Algood (junior, Brookings, S.D.), Laura Bahrke (senior, Kingsley, Iowa) and Amy Larson (junior, Denison, Iowa) received Scholar-Athlete distinction.

## Wrestling

- Sophomore Enock Francois (Lake Park, Fla.) was named an All-American after placing fourth at nationals. Receiving honorable mention recognition were junior Andrew Lundgren (Orange City), who placed seventh, and freshman Jordan Keckler (Modesto, Calif.), who placed eighth.
- Six other wrestlers qualified for the national meet.
- The Raiders received the Team Sportsmanship Award at nationals for the second consecutive year.
- Seniors David Bray (Colorado Springs) and Chris Ernster (Sioux Falls) were named NAIA Scholar-Athletes.
- Francois, Keckler and Lundgren were named first team all-conference. Sophomore Levi Price (Cannon Falls, Minn.) and senior Chris Keating (Aztec, N.M.) were selected to the second team.



Sophomore Enock Francois (left) set a new school record for most wins in a season with 45. His mark eclipsed the previous record of 37 set by Lyle Lundgren in 1981 and Tracy Ping in 1990.

## Indoor track

• Senior Robbie Cundy (Madison, S.D.) received All-American honors after placing fourth in the 60-meter hurdles at the national meet. Seniors Nick Fynaardt (New Sharon, Iowa) and Andrew Ortmeier (Osmond, Neb.) placed eighth and 16th, respectively, in the shot put. Ortmeier finished 14th in the weight throw. The women's 4x400-meter relay of Laura Jacobson (junior, Galva, Iowa), Jess Regan (junior, Council Bluffs, Iowa), Kristen Becker (senior, Osage, Iowa) and Megan Harding (senior, Newcastle, Neb.) placed 16th.

## Four honored by Red Raider Club

Four former NWC athletes who received accolades during their playing days were honored again this February by the Northwestern College Red Raider Club.



A five-time All-American in track, Hall of Famer **Jacob Koczman '01** was the na-

tional champ in the 600-meter run (indoor) and the 400-meter run (outdoor) as a senior. He set the GPAC record in both the 600 and

400, clocking a 1:19.23 (indoor) in the 600 and a 47.36 (outdoor) in the 400. He also broke Northwestern's records in the indoor 400- and 600-yard runs and the 4x400-meter relay, as well as the outdoor 400 and sprint medley.

A member of the Indiana Invaders elite team, Koczman placed eighth in the 800-meter run at the 2004 Olympic Trials. He is now a medical student at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.



Hall of Famer **Rachel (Binneboese '01) Nettetstad** of Mokena, Ill., led the Red Raiders to

the national women's basketball championship in 2001 and a national runner-up finish in 2000. Named a second team All-American as a freshman and a first team All-American each subsequent season, she was the national player of the year her last two seasons and the national tournament MVP in 2001. She finished her collegiate career as Northwestern's all-time leader in scoring with 2,517 points, in rebounding with 1,119, and in steals with 291.

Nettstad is a math teacher and dean of students at Lincoln Way High School.

**Ben Gerleman '01** of



Rock Rapids, Iowa, was named the 2006 Coach of the Year after leading George-Little

Rock High School to the Iowa Class 1A boys' basketball title in 2006. The Mustangs' skipper since 2001-02, he led his last three teams to a combined record of 56-19. While at Northwestern, Gerleman earned All-American status, was conference player of the year in 2000, and was a member of the national championship team in 2001.



The late **Heidi Altena '97** of Springfield, Mo., was honored posthumously with

the Barnabas Award, given to a former Raider who encouraged others to strive for their best performance athletically, academically and personally, and who used sport as a way to bring others to a knowledge of Jesus Christ. Altena, who died in December 2005, played on Northwestern volleyball teams that qualified for nationals from 1994 to '96 and that finished as regional champs in '95 and '96. She earned honorable mention all-conference recognition her sophomore through senior seasons.

## Several receive national honors

Several Raiders received national honors at the conclusion of the fall season.

Senior Austin Janssen (Orange City) was named an All-American in football. Receiving honorable mention were senior Mike Ten Clay (Albuquerque, N.M.) and junior Blake Wieking (Sioux Falls) in soccer and senior Katie Schnoes (Sheffield, Iowa) in volleyball.

Named NAIA Scholar-Athletes in football were seniors Keith Sietstra (Boyden, Iowa) and Iver Mettler (Ridgeway, Iowa) and juniors Blake Reinke (Spirit Lake, Iowa) and Scott Stahl (Bridgewater, S.D.). Junior Megan Meyer (Aplington, Iowa) received the honor in volleyball, as did juniors Sarah Korver (Orange City), Laura Jacobson (Galva, Iowa), Anthony Ebert (Lynnville, Iowa) and Jon Woehl (Ankeny, Iowa) in cross country; Matt Van Heuvelen (senior, Urbandale, Iowa) in men's soccer; and Liz Reynen (senior, Orange City), Michelle Power (junior, Grandville, Mich.), Macy Rozeboom (junior, Chino Hills, Calif.), Hannah Stanfield (junior, Camp Verde, Ariz.) and Carrie Vander Horst (junior, Grandville, Mich.) in women's soccer.



# Hogs and corn, dedication and culture

by Tamara Fynaardt

*Editor's note: As part of Northwestern's 125th anniversary celebration in 2007–08, the Classic will present a series of articles exploring the institution's history.*

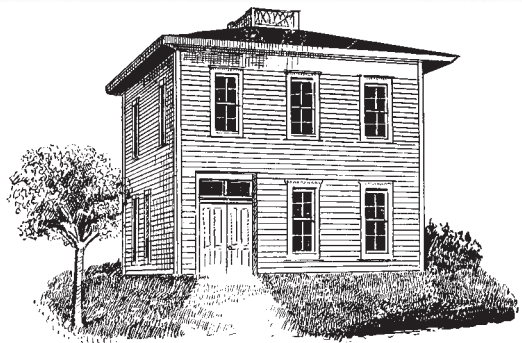
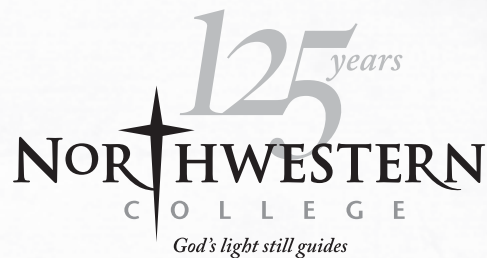
"The grasshoppers took the hopes for an academy with them," said the Rev. Seine Bolks, after fields were stripped clean by the insects in the fall of 1875. Three years before, the stern-looking man whose beard hung down like a bib had accepted a call to First Reformed Church in Orange City—in part because he wanted to help establish an academy, as he had already done in Holland, Mich., for the children of Dutch settlers in the West.

Bolks and other of Northwestern's first visionaries would withstand several more harvests compromised by grasshoppers, hailstorms, floods and droughts before, in 1882, they finally drew up articles of incorporation for Northwestern Classical Academy and made plans to grow a school on land donated by Henry Hospers.

Classes didn't formally convene until Sept. 23, 1883. In *From Strength to Strength*, historian Gerald De Jong recounts: "On that memorable day, 12 young people assembled for



Known by students as the "Rink" and "Noah's Ark," this former skating rink in downtown Orange City was Northwestern's home from 1886 to 1894. It included classrooms, a chapel/auditorium, and a few sleeping rooms for male students.



OUR PIONEER SCHOOL.

*The four-classroom Pioneer School housed Northwestern Classical Academy from 1884 to 1886.*

instruction, and by the end of the first week of classes, the number had risen to 17 and to 25 by the close of the second week."

Students met in First Reformed Church's consistory room and the public schoolhouse until a two-story frame building was ready for classes in 1884. Situated on Orange City's highest elevation, the Pioneer School, as it was called, was later moved to another campus location and remodeled into a home for the academy's principal.

In the March 1892 *Classic* student publication, academy principal James Zwemer reminisced about the humble structure's history and significance:

*"This building has always stood [as] a testimony to the importance of higher education, a protest against ignorance and materialism ... as a ballot box, where [one] could cast his vote 'yes' or 'no' on the important question for these parts: whether we would be a people only for hogs and corn, or also for dedication and culture."*

By 1886, academy enrollment had already outgrown the Pioneer School, so trustees bought an abandoned skating rink in downtown Orange City. The four-year-old building—constructed in response to a short-lived, nationwide skating craze—was purchased for \$3,500 and remodeled for \$1,200 more.

"If the cradle of the academy was the Pioneer School, it was in the rink that we learned to walk," said Zwemer.

Eight years later, the rink was sold back to Orange City, and academy students moved into Northwestern's first permanent building, Zwemer Hall.

## Alumnicorner



Lori (Burris '92)  
Van Beek  
Member, National  
Alumni Board

Have you seen the new Ford Mustang? I don't know about you, but I can't help but stop and take a good look when I see one.

I have always loved Mustangs, whether the old classics of the '60s (my personal favorite is the '68) or the new 2007 models. The designers have gone to great lengths to keep the old look and nostalgic feeling of the '60s, while at the same time incorporating today's technology and contemporary elements.

I feel the same way about Northwestern College. Wonderful memories come streaming back when I think of my four years at NWC. (Nothing could ever compete with the majestic architecture of Zwemer Hall.) But as I've visited the campus, I've discovered that the same old place I knew and loved has evolved and advanced with the years. What a wonderful thing it is to be able to remember the "good ol' days," but also to know NWC is excelling at accommodating the students of today.

I applaud all of those who have worked so hard to enable Northwestern to keep pace with an ever-changing modern world and preserve, simultaneously, the essence of what NWC is and stands for.

Just as the years have been good for the Ford Mustang, they have also been good for Northwestern. And as we alumni take a moment to savor our memories of NWC, I trust that we have grown and changed—and that yes, in many ways, the years have also been good to us.

Take time to find those old friends you came to know and love at your alma mater. Use the alumni e-mail directory ([www.nwciowa.edu/alumnidirectory](http://www.nwciowa.edu/alumnidirectory)) to find out how to keep in touch with your friends. I think you will be pleasantly surprised at what you get when you take a high school senior, add a little Northwestern College, then send them back into the world. You will find the same friend you knew before, just "new and improved."

## Deaths

**Dr. Carl Van de Waa '37**, age 88, died Dec. 9 in Sioux Falls. After completing dental school at the University of Iowa, he served as a dentist in the Army and then in Knoxville, Iowa. He joined the staff at the Royal Johnson Veterans Memorial Hospital in Sioux Falls in 1948 and later was named chief of the dental clinic. He was a member

of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, the Elks Club and the American Legion. His survivors include his wife, Charlotte, and his sister, **Ruth Grether '32, '62**.

**Harriet (Muyskens '42) Maassen**, 84, of Venice, Fla., died on Jan. 6. After attending Northwestern, she graduated from Hope College. She taught in South Holland, Ill., and worked

in the education department at the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, Calif. She was a member of Venice Presbyterian Church. She is survived by her husband, the Rev. John; five children; and three siblings, **Lois Hector '43, Paul '48 and Joseph '49, '51**.

**Christine (Nelson '57) Tolman**, age 89, died Jan. 11 in Orange City. She taught school in Orange City and the nearby communities of Maurice, Hoppers and Remsen. A member of American Reformed Church, she participated in its women's ministry. Among her survivors are two children.

**Bertha (Bosman '61) Moret**, age 95, died Oct. 26 in Sheldon, Iowa. She taught for 38 years in Boyden, Iowa. She was a member of First Reformed Church in Boyden, where she taught Sunday school. She was a former trustee of the Boyden Public Library and a lifetime member of the Iowa Teachers Association. Among her survivors is a daughter.

**Sylvia (Anker '64) Bretveld**, Momence, Ill., died Jan. 4 at the age of 64 from complications following a liver transplant. She was an active member of First Church of the Nazarene in Momence, where she sang in the choir, participated in many Bible studies and taught Sunday school. She is survived by her husband, **Bennet '65**; three children; and two sisters, **Sharon Kleis '67 and Charlotte Ebberts '73**.

**Jim Vermeer '64**, age 65, died of cancer Nov. 3 in Sioux Center. A teacher and basketball coach in the Floyd Valley School District for 10 years, he then worked as a New York Life Insurance agent in Sioux Center. He was involved in many community activities, including Lion's Club, Kiwanis, Pheasants Forever and the planning committee for Sioux Center's centennial. His survivors include his wife, Barbara; four children, including **Joshua '94**; two brothers; and two sisters.

**Arllys (Pannkuk '69) Rens**, age 58, died of cancer on Sept. 22 in Apple Valley, Minn. After graduating from Northwestern, she taught elementary school for four years in Collins, Iowa, and Edina, Minn. She was an active member of Hope Church. She is survived by her husband, **Don '70**, and three children, including **Elise Binsfeld '96**.

**Jim Johnson '72**, age 56, died Jan. 26 in Sioux Center. An English teacher, football coach and athletic director for several years, he served Sioux Center High School and Battle Creek-Ida Grove High School. He was named the Northwest Iowa Athletic Director of the Year in 2005. He sang in the gospel trio His Light for 20 years, recording seven albums, and founded a recording studio, White Dove. His survivors include his wife, Bonnie; two daughters; a son; and his father.

**Sharon (Mol '79) Smits**, age 50, died of cancer Oct. 23 in Orange City. After graduating from Northwestern, she was director of education and youth at First Reformed Church in Maurice, Iowa, and at Lincoln Avenue Reformed Church in Pomona, Calif. After earning a master's degree in social work from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, she worked as a counselor at the Siouxland Mental Health Center in Sioux City and Bethesda Christian Counseling in Orange City. She was a member of Trinity Reformed Church, where she served as a care elder and youth group leader. She and her husband, Jim, were named Northwestern's Parents of the Year in 2003. Among her survivors are Jim and five children, including **Angela Kim '98, Andrea Hydeen '04, Maria Simmelink '06 and Melinda '07**.

**Stacey Goodrich '91**, of Manly, Iowa, died Nov. 17 at age 39 in Rochester, Minn. She was employed by Cherokee (Iowa) Work Services for several years. Her survivors include her parents and two siblings.



## Class notes

'54

**The Rev. J. David Muyskens**, Grand Rapids, Mich., is the author of *Forty Days to a Closer Walk With God: The Practice of Centering Prayer*, published by Upper Room Books. The book introduces readers to contemplative prayer and living, suggesting practices of prayer and Scripture meditation for each day.

'69

**Cal Groen** was appointed director of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission in January. A 17-year veteran of the department, he served as supervisor of its Clearwater Region for the last nine years. He previously worked as an assistant director at wildlife agencies in Washington and Kansas.

'71

**Dan Boonstra** underwent a successful kidney transplant in April 2006. The organ was donated by a friend's daughter, who had died in an accident in Colorado. Dan reports that he's feeling great and is back to work as a financial planner in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

'73

**Myra (De Jong) Bowman**, Britt, Iowa, recently retired after teaching music for 33 years. She spent the last 30 years of her career with the West Hancock Community School District.

'74

**Wayne Van Heuvelen** was honored as the 2006 citizen of the year for Urbandale, Iowa, in February. He was lauded for his volunteer efforts in city, school and youth athletic activities. A former mock trial and Little League coach, he serves on the local planning and zoning commission and as treasurer of Endow Urbandale. He is president of Horizon Consulting and Investment Services.

## Writing Center tutor alumni

Were you a Writing Center tutor while at NWC? A tutor open house/reunion is being organized for the 125-Year Anniversary Celebration in October, but we do not have a complete list of tutors. E-mail Jill Haarsma at [jhaarsma@nwciowa.edu](mailto:jhaarsma@nwciowa.edu) if you would like information about the gathering.

'83

**Dean Koele**, Le Mars, Iowa, works as the information technology manager at Link Manufacturing and Main-tainer Corp. He spent the last 16 years working in information technology at Harker's Distribution.

'84

**Col. Don Bacon** took command of the Air Force's 55th Electronic Combat Group in Tucson, Ariz., last year. His organization has five squadrons and flies the EC-130H Compass Call aircraft. With a mission of information warfare, the unit is deployed in both Afghanistan and Iraq. In May, he will be reassigned to the U.S. Embassy in Iraq, acting as the liaison between the military and embassy staff. His wife, Angie, and four children will remain in Tucson during this assignment.

**Gary Teunissen** and his family recently relocated to Granite Bay, Calif., where he serves as vice president of finance for Shea Homes, the nation's largest privately owned homebuilder. He previously worked as the company's director of mergers and acquisitions.

'85

**Bob Vander Plaats**, Sioux City, is the author of a new Focus on the Family book published by Tyndale House. *Light From Lucas* tells inspirational lessons Bob and his wife, **Darla (Granstra)**, have learned from son Lucas, who was born severely disabled. Bob is president of MVP Leadership Inc.

'87

**Ken Jensen**, Coon Rapids, Minn., has sold Snack Attack Vending and now works as a pest control technician for Plunketts Pest Control in Lake Minnetonka.

**Ann Walker** serves as the assistant athletic director for compliance and senior woman administrator at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Nova Southeastern, a private institution, is an NCAA Div. II school and a member of the Sunshine State Conference.

'88

**Brian Bartle**, Minneapolis, is a network technician at St. Paul Public Schools, where he has worked for nine years.

**Ted Schultz** received one of two media awards from the Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association at its annual convention in Cedar Rapids in February. He is sports editor at the *Clinton Herald*.

'92

**Ellen (Sikes) Sarchet**, Humble, Texas, teaches English as a second language to third graders at Raymond Academy in Houston.

'94

**Steve Eelkema**, Merced, Calif., teaches art at Golden Valley High School.

**Cindy (Wiekamp) Prins** and her husband, Corey, live in Marshall, Minn. Cindy is a stay-at-home mom for their three children. Corey works with Northwestern Farm Management.

**Joy Sterner**, Ypsilanti, Mich., is an emergency room nurse at a trauma center in Ann Arbor. She also serves as a writing tutor to nurses who are pursuing graduate degrees.

**Kent Wiersma**, Eldridge, Iowa, recently accepted a position as accounting manager of Genesis Health System in Davenport. His wife, **Amy (Vande Wall '93)**, works part time in the human resources department at Guardian Industries. They have two children, Cora (8) and Colin (6).

'95

**Steven Bogaard**, Orange City, is on the football coaching staff at Unity Christian High School. He is also a team leader in bacterin production and central services at Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Inc. in Sioux Center.

**Dr. Jason Kanz**, Eau Claire, Wis., is a neuropsychologist at Marshfield Clinic, serving patients with Alzheimer's disease and related memory disorders.

'96

**Eileen (Ringnald) Barron**, Salt Lake City, works as public involvement manager for Parsons Brinckerhoff, a worldwide firm that provides program management, planning, engineering and construction management services.

**The Rev. Josh Blakesley**, Newtown, Pa., serves as the minister of youth and discipling for the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ. He is helping develop multicultural ministries in Philadelphia-area churches, and he also is an actor in Without a Cue Productions. His wife, Maria, teaches Spanish at Bucks County Community College.

**Jason Kooiker**, Sioux Falls, serves as assistant manager at Walgreen Drug. He is pursuing a master's degree in business administration from the University of Sioux Falls.



## Miniprofile

## Theatre critic gives shout-out to alum

by **Tamara Fynaardt**

In the October 27 *Chicago Tribune*, theatre critic Chris Jones lauded five Chicago stage newbies as actors with “real talent.” One was Cora Vander Broek '00, who, as Drina in *Dead End* by Sidney Kingsley, “lets out the kind of howl of despair that makes you want to wrap her up in a blanket.”

Jones describes Vander Broek as “funny, self-aware, self-effacing, passionate and unflaggingly honest” and praises her as an actress who improves every ensemble she finds herself in. He says, “No Chicago fringe actress more deserves a shot at the big time.”

Vander Broek smiles at the memory of the article.

She also wryly admits it's a lot of poorly paid work for “a shot.” But that's acting. Stage and screen stars like John Malkovich, Joan Allen and Gary Sinise, notable members of Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre Company, probably thought the same thing back when they were in Vander Broek's shoes,

working “day jobs” for rent money and insurance benefits and spending nights and weekends auditioning, rehearsing or performing.

From her studio apartment north of the Loop, Vander Broek rides the “L” 45 minutes to Michigan Avenue. She scans the trades for auditions before starting her day as an editorial assistant at *The Christian Century* magazine, a go-to publication for intelligent Christian perspective on contemporary issues.

At 5:00 she heads to rehearsals or performances at theatres like Griffin Theatre, The Hypocrites, Northlight Theatre or Raven Theatre, where she's acting now in a production of Chekhov's *The Seagull*.

Since moving to the Windy City six years ago, Vander Broek has acted in one or two shows each year, a time commitment of two to five months per show. “Sometimes I even get paid,” she says with a laugh.

Discovering what she calls her quirky style in the “edgy but real” Chicago the-



Cora Vander Broek was named one of five up-and-comers in Chicago's theatre scene in October.

atre scene, Vander Broek muses about roles she'd like to play. She thinks she'd make a good Stella in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. She aspires to play the more challenging Blanche in that Tennessee Williams play, or Shakespeare's *Lady Macbeth*.

Vander Broek's dreams for her acting career range from simply making a living on stage to being discovered

by Broadway or Hollywood. Perhaps she'll be cast in a commercial or a TV pilot, and that'll be her big break.

And if not? “I'll just wait for something to happen,” says Vander Broek. Acting may not put food on the table, but it nourishes something deeper.

## '98

**Trent Baatz** teaches fifth grade in Fort Collins, Colo. He and his wife, **Christa (Hibma)**, have two children, Isaac (5) and Eden (1).

**Michael Waugh**, Jacksonville, N.C., recently moved from Hawaii, where

he deployed with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit to eastern Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

## '99

**Shane Jager** has been named senior manager at Cain Ellsworth and

Company in Sheldon, Iowa. He leads the accounting firm's efforts to serve the community banking industry.

**The Rev. Kevin Jansma** serves as director of leadership development at Prairie Ridge Church in Ankeny,

Iowa. His wife, **Dr. Kelly (Van Haften '00)**, is an optometrist at Eye Care of Iowa in Des Moines.

**Will Kooiker** has written his first novel, *Tower of Ruin*, published by Sunpiper Media Publishing, is in the classic fantasy genre. More

information is available at [www.williamkooker.com](http://www.williamkooker.com). Will teaches first grade at Tussing Elementary in Colonial Heights, Va.

**Nathan Kroesche**, Sioux Falls, is a juvenile corrections supervisor for Minnehaha County.

**Brian Pals** is the new city clerk and administrator for Hartley, Iowa. He served as the city clerk in nearby Sanborn since 2003.

## '00

**Brian Kading**, Anoka, Minn., serves as regional vice president for Trak-1 Technology, a company that specializes in employment and residential background checks. His wife, **Amber (Smith '01)**, teaches physical education and outdoor education at St. Anthony Village Middle/High School.

**Dr. Kevin Noffsinger**, a chiropractor in Denver, is a supporting provider for *One Minute Wellness*, a *New York Times* bestseller.

## '01

**Anitra Wolf**, managing editor of the *Dickinson County News* in Spirit

Lake, Iowa, received the Genevieve Mauck Stoufer Outstanding Young Iowa Journalist Award from the Iowa Newspaper Association in February.

## '02

**Carrie (Tracy) Lowe**, Fayetteville, N.C., teaches fourth grade for Cumberland County Schools.

**Jeremy Nelson**, Yankton, S.D., is a youth pastor at Calvary Baptist Church. His wife, **Kirstin (Bulhuis)**, is a bookkeeper and stay-at-home mom.

**Darcie (Van Beek) Van Voorst**, Rock Rapids, Iowa, is in her fifth year of employment with the Central Lyon and George-Little Rock school districts. Previously a tracking officer, she spent the last two years as a school liaison officer.

## '03

**Stacy (Wittler) Berck** teaches second grade in Central City, Neb.

**Ellie Brenneman** has been promoted to supervisor at Cain Ellsworth and Company in Sheldon, Iowa. She provides income tax compliance

and accounting service to community banking and closely held business clients.

**Tricia Henderson** recently earned a master's degree in teaching English as a foreign language at the University of Costa Rica. She teaches English at Colegio Monterrey, a Christian school in San José, Costa Rica. She and her husband, Jonathan Pimentel Chacon, have a daughter, Isabel (2).

## '04

**Eric Haley** completed a bachelor's degree in education at Emporia State University last May. He now teaches sixth grade at Ridgeview Elementary School in Olathe, Kan.

## '05

**Melanie Algood** teaches algebra and geometry at Kelvyn Park High School in Chicago.

## Humanities (English concentration) major alumni

Did you graduate with a humanities major with an English concentration? Would you like to be included in the English major reunion at the 125-Year Anniversary Celebration in October? E-mail Jill Haarsma at [jhaarsma@nwciowa.edu](mailto:jhaarsma@nwciowa.edu) for more information.

**Jonathan Kraker** is in his fourth year as youth pastor at Rosewood Reformed Church in Jenison, Mich.

**Joey Weber** is a resident director at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash.

**Ariel Emery**, Northfield, Minn., recently accepted a position as news editor for the *Northfield News*.

**Angela (Trudeau) Schmidt**, Hawarden, Iowa, recently graduated from the Academy of Military Science and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air National Guard after six years of enlistment. Her home unit is the 185th Refueling Wing in Sioux City.

**Shanna Vetter** works as a tour guide for the White Pass and Yukon Route Railroad in Skagway, Alaska.

## '06

**Aaron Aberson** is a Northwestern admissions counselor.

**Sara Bensema** teaches kindergarten in Katy, Texas.

**Dan Breen** is a staff writer for Iowa Information Publications in Sheldon, Iowa. His wife, **Kristin (Westenberg)**, is a staff accountant for Van Bruggen and Vande Vegte in Orange City.

## 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 [classic@nwciowa.edu](mailto:classic@nwciowa.edu); fax number is 712-707-7370. Deadline for the summer '07 *Classic* is April 27.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Current employer(s) \_\_\_\_\_



## President

The Board of Trustees of Northwestern College invites nominations and applications for the position of president.

The Board of Trustees appoints the president to serve as Northwestern's chief executive officer. Working together with the board, the president provides overall leadership—developing, formulating and directing policy and governance in accordance with board policies—and has the opportunity to develop the strengths of the leadership team, focus the college's vision, and implement the strategic plan.

As the primary spokesperson for the college, the president must be adept at articulating the vision of Northwestern College, building relationships with all of Northwestern's constituencies, and raising funds.

The president must be a maturing Christian who serves as a vibrant ambassador for Christ in every aspect of life and witness. Because Northwestern College is affiliated with the Reformed Church in America (RCA), it is expected that the president will join and be active in a local RCA congregation.

The ideal candidate will have an earned academic doctorate or terminal degree coupled with significant leadership experience. The president is expected to have a reputation of trustworthiness and integrity, be committed to a collegial and collaborative culture, and be accessible and visible to students.

Information about submitting application materials can be obtained by viewing the complete opportunity profile at [www.nwciowa.edu/presidentialsearch](http://www.nwciowa.edu/presidentialsearch).

*Northwestern College complies with all federal and state regulations for nondiscrimination in employment.  
Women and persons of color are encouraged to apply.*

Theological Seminary.

**Adam Mickelson** works as an assistant site supervisor for before- and after-school child care programs at the Waukee (Iowa) Family YMCA.

**Cassie Mings** is working as an electrician intern with Centerstage Theatre in Baltimore.

**Adam Mohr** teaches 12th grade social studies at San Jose (Calif.) Conservative Corps Charter School.

**Sarah Mullin** works as a milieu treatment counselor at Orchard Place in Des Moines.

**Megan Northway**, Camden, N.J., is working with inner-city kids through the Mission Year program.

**Kyle Osborne** is the youth pastor at West Center Baptist Church in Madison, S.D.

**Tyler Parson** serves as pastor of student family discipleship at Christ Community Church in Sioux Center.

**Brent Paulsen** serves as a psychiatric security specialist at the Mental Health Institute in Cherokee, Iowa.

**Ashley Ratliff** works as a recreation leader for the city of Tustin, Calif.

**Christopher Roed** serves as a computer programmer/analyst for Diamond Vogel Paints in Orange City.

**Cayla Schwendemann** is a music educator for South of the River Music in Lakeville, Minn.

**Ryan Simmelink** teaches fourth grade in Carroll, Iowa.

**Daniel Swier** is pursuing graduate studies in kinesiology at the University of Texas at Arlington. His wife, **Morgan (Walker)**, teaches third grade in Mansfield.

**Brent Town** teaches seventh grade

**Jeff De Haan** works in sales and marketing for IOS Office Solutions in Storm Lake, Iowa.

**Justin Dowdy** teaches second grade in Gothenburg, Neb.

**Amy Gartland**, Fargo, N.D., teaches preschool at Nokomis Child Care.

**Julie Goettsch**, Manson, Iowa, teaches fifth and sixth grade special education in the Manson Northwest Webster School District.

**Andrew Gunter** is an account manager for IKON Legal Document Services in Minneapolis.

**Abby Haverhals** teaches seventh and 11th grade English in Rock Valley, Iowa.

**Katrina Hilberg** teaches first grade in Katy, Texas.

**Missy McLeish** is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Princeton



## Prayercorner



The Rev. Harlan  
VanOort '82  
Chaplain

As students begin college, they experience extreme transition. There are at least three major areas: independence, crises, and weightiness of accomplishments.

College students discover their identity from a new perspective apart from their family. Certainly they will retain much of what they learned at home, but now they will decide what to own and what not to. It is *their* identity, discovered with increasing independence. They ask, "Who am I as a child of God, a family member, a friend, or an educated global citizen?"

With this independence is also a transition into more severe crises. There are challenges in academic rigor—college is more difficult than high school. There are challenges with relationships that have become more intense. There are crises in care of the self physically, emotionally and spiritually. There are also new ideas, some of which cause stress.

College increases the number and weightiness of personal accomplishments. Successes and failures lead to larger learning opportunities with greater implications for the future. Everything is a bigger deal.

College is not easy. That is why prayer is so important. Please pray for Northwestern's students. Pray that God will grant them the power of the Holy Spirit to endure this journey of faith, learning and living. Pray that this journey will be a transformation toward Christ-likeness as they prepare for leadership in God's kingdom.

history and social studies at MOC-Floyd Valley Middle School in Alton, Iowa.

**Sarah (Way)** and **Scott Treft** live in Coralville, Iowa. Sarah is pursuing a degree in communication disorders at the University of Iowa, and Scott is substitute teaching.

**Kristy Wegman** teaches first grade in Cypress, Texas.

**Stacey Wilcox** is a training counselor for Jesuit Volunteer Corps/Esperanza Community Services in Chicago.

'07

**Josh Menning** is serving in the music

and worship school of Youth With a Mission in New Zealand.

### New arrivals

**Laura (Dykstra '84)** and **Steve Heitritter '86**, daughters by adoption from Ethiopia, Shaya (4) and Megan (1), join Paul (23), Joe (21), Emma (14) and Thomas (8).

Jennifer and **Milton Holecek '84**, son, Garrett James Edward, joins Jessica (7).

Jennifer and **Brian Bartle '88**, son, Alexander Kelly, joins Luke (2).

Alan and **Jodi (Schmitt '93) Hunter**, daughter, Leah.

Michael and **Kimberly (Wilson '93)**

**Linson**, daughter, Abby, joins Robby (3).

**Julie and Steve Eelkema '94**, son, Gabriel, joins Emma (3).

**Corey and Cindy (Wiekamp '94) Prins**, son, Carter Dean, joins Kianna (6) and Kaylee (3).

**Amy (Verdoorn '94) and Abe Scheaffer '93**, daughter, Elisa Anne, joins Elliot (3) and Gracia (2).

**Derek and Kari (Sierk '95) Anderson**, daughter, Ava Ruth, joins Laura (5) and Max (2).

**Stuart and Kellie (Gregg '95) Hogg**, daughter, Elspeth Kathleen.

**Erica (Schuiteman '95) and Brandon Kamerman '96**, daughter, Kinley Rae, joins Blake (8) and Lane (4).

**Deric and Rachel (Burgers '95) Langenhorst**, daughter, Ella Grace, joins Alex (9) and Mason (4).

**Erin and Bryce Armstrong '96**, son, Caleb Kent, joins Gabriel (3).

**Angie and Greg Smit '96**, son, Camden Gregory, joins Brooklynn (6) and Alexys (4).

**Sally (Dykshorn '96) and Scott Te Stroete '93**, son, Kyle Scott, joins Katie (2).

**Matt and Sheila (Jones '96) Van Riesen**, daughter, Aliesha Faith,

joins Logan (3).

**Emily (Van Donslear '97) and Daron De Jong '97**, daughter, Ava Grace, joins Aden (4).

**Cory and Lynn (Bleeker '98) Grimm**, daughter, Alexandra Faith, joins Kester and Elizabeth.

**Henry and Kristie (Johanson '98) Happeny**, son, David Michael.

**Mike and Melissa (Krempges '98) Henschel**, daughter, Taryn Rose, joins twins Austin and Logan (4).

**Insoo and Angela (Smits '98) Kim**, son, Elliot James.

**Rogelio Gomez and Rebecca Schreuder '98**, son, Aaron Rogelio.

**Beth (Fisher '98) and David Wenell '97**, son, Nils Josef, joins Anders (2).

**Bill and Angela (Hoover '99) Cunigan**, daughter, Blessing Faith, joins Jubilee (2).

**Eric and Becky (Vermeer '99) Hiemstra**, son, Heydan Mykah, joins Jayden (5) and Teygan (3).

**Don and Shelly (King '99) Johnson**, daughter, Amelia Hope, joins Austin (6), Emily (4) and Schuyler (1).

**Kristin (Meyer '99) and Nathan**



*Searches are open for the following faculty positions:*

**Chemistry** (tenure-track, bioanalytical or biophysical)

**Music** (sabbatical replacement)

**Nursing** (three tenure-track positions)

**Physics** (tenure-track)

Each position begins August 2007. Job descriptions and application details are available at [www.nwciowa.edu/](http://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 persons of color are encouraged to apply.*

# 2007 Distinguished Alumni Awards

Paul Colenbrander • Beverly and Merlyn De Vries • Ellen Fennel • Joe Franken • Steve King • Steve Macchia • Kevin Brasser • Harry Tysen • Lyle VanderWerff • Frank Heemstra • Fannie Manning • Virg Mulken • Mike DeKrey • Carol Oliver • Wayne Kooiker • Jim Christensen • Bob Vander Aarde • Bob Vander Plaats • **Nominate Someone Today!** • Don Nibbelink • Kella Klinker Simonin • Paul Muyskens • Bob Van Citters • Bonnie Vander Schaaf • Arlan Decker • Ed Ver Mulm • Harold Vogelaar • John Fakkema • Corwin Smidt • Marge Beernink • Mert and Gert Smaj • Bert Hietbrink • Marcine De Jong • Earl Klay • Bill Kalsbeek • Dave Van Engelenhoven • Herlan Schut • Jan Bartels • Ruth Freeman • Ralph Mouw • Don Zwiep • Ken Jacobs • Dale Den Herder • Russ Vande Steeg • Christina McGriff • Ruud Van der Wal • Allan Schimmel • Gary Smit • Harold Korver • Harris Van Oort • Frank Vogel • Gene England • Dan Te Grotenhuis • Bernice Grunsting • Maggie Jackson • Clarence Buurman

For nearly 30 years, distinguished alumni awards have honored individuals who have *magnified* Northwestern's reputation through their outstanding achievements. Please take some time to nominate candidates for the Distinguished Professional Achievement, Distinguished Service to Humankind, and Distinguished Service to Northwestern College awards.

Visit [www.nwciowa.edu/alumniawards](http://www.nwciowa.edu/alumniawards) to suggest names of worthy nominees, or contact the alumni office: 712-707-7134 or [alumni@nwciowa.edu](mailto:alumni@nwciowa.edu).

**Kroesche '99**, son, Phineas Cooper, joins Isaiah (2).

**Mary (Dieck '99) and Jason Vanden Bosch '97**, daughter, Allison Jean, joins Nathan (2).

Joel and **Christie (Rydell '99) Vos**, son, Josiah Daniel.

Brianna and **Kevin Noffsinger '00**, son, Ian Paul.

**Rachel (See '00) and Jamey Valentine '00**, son, Carson James.

**Carrie (Odell '01) and Eric Anderson**, associate dean of students for residence life, son, Nathan Walter.

**Gina (Wenzel '01) and Andrew Greene '06**, daughter, Annika Esther.

Jason and **Jennifer (Schultz '01) Hetrick**, son, Nathan Thomas.

Sheldon and **Jamie (Hansen '01) Nalos**, daughter, Ashlyn Kate, joins Braden (3).

Grant and **Jami (Jelken '01) Schmidt**, son, Austin Luke.

**Michelle (Vander Molen '02) and Tom Didier '02**, son, Noah Thomas.

Bryan and **Tisha (Templer '02) Halverson**, son, Carter Douglas.

**Kirstin (Bulthuis '02) and Jeremy Nelson '02**, daughter, Annika Claire.

Jeremy and **Darcie (Van Beek '02) Van Voorst**, children by adoption, Austin (10) and Kaitlyn (5).

**Trisha (Van Klompenburg '03) and Josh Dyvig '02**, son, Caleb Joshua.

**Andrea (Smits '04) and Steve Hydeon '02**, son, Josiah Thomas, joins Lillian (2).

Brian and **Kacey (Van Dyke '04)**

**McQuilkin**, son, Logan William. **Cindy (de la Rosa '05) and Kurt Cline '05**, daughter, Rebekah Joy.

## Marriages

**Rick Brannan '93 and Amy Thompson**, Bellingham, Wash.

**Kevin Jansma '99 and Kelly Van Haaften '00**, Ankeny, Iowa.

**Amy Timmerman '01 and Luke Vanasse**, Bethel, Alaska.

**Carrie Tracy '02 and Dan Lowe**,

Fayetteville, N.C.

**Sara Brands '03 and Phillip Johnson**, Eagan, Minn.

**Karissa Carlson '03 and Andy Thomas**, Wellman, Iowa.

**Stacy Wittler '03 and Kyle Berck**, Central City, Neb.

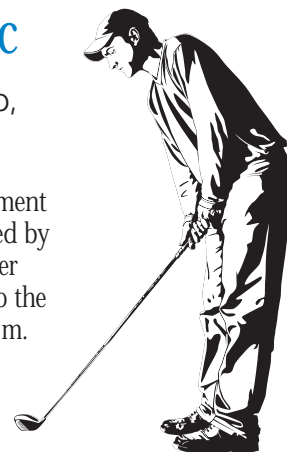
**Kelcee Foss '04 and Matt Murphy '04**, Urbandale, Iowa

*The couples reside in the city listed.*

## Sixth Annual Red Raider Classic

Friday, June 8 • Landsmeer Golf Club,  
Orange City

All former Raider athletes and friends of the athletic department are invited to participate in this four-person scramble, hosted by the athletic department and the Red Raider Club. Each golfer will be able to designate the proceeds from their entry fee to the sport of their choice. The event includes a noon lunch, 1 p.m. best-ball shotgun start, and 5:30 dinner. **For more information, contact Karen Vander Pol: 712-707-7280 or [karen@nwciowa.edu](mailto:karen@nwciowa.edu).**





## It's been a great ride ... Celebrate Northwestern's 125 years at Homecoming 2007

*On Saturday, Oct. 6, Northwestern will kick off a yearlong celebration that will culminate in the summer of 2008. Plan on joining your friends for Northwestern's 125-Year Anniversary Celebration.*

### **All-School Reunion**

5 to 7:30 p.m.

RSC gymnasium

(four-court area)

With food vendors and class reunions by decades

### **125-Year Anniversary Program**

7 to 7:45 p.m.

Bultman Center gymnasium

With a video, dramatic

presentation, and alumni choir

### **Anniversary Dance**

8 p.m. to midnight

Rowenhorst Student Center

***Mark Oct. 6 on your calendars and watch for more information.***



# Looks Like Rice, Tastes Like Love

by Grace Liu

"May I have the recipe?" they asked at the potluck.

"I do not have recipe. May I just show you?" I answered. It was so surprising to me; I am not a good cook. In Taiwan, I lived with my mother and then with my mother-in-law. They cooked for me, so I did not need to cook. I did not know Americans would like fried rice.

In my country, we eat rice two or three times every day. It is the main course. It is also the main crop of Taiwan. Because we eat so much of it, I think it represents our strength.

Of course, when I came to America, I brought my rice cooker along. It is natural. I don't know how to make American food, so I make rice.

The next time my church had potluck, I brought more fried rice. People said, "The rice is so good," and all the rice was gone. So I made fried rice more and more.

When I make fried rice, it is not just cooking. This rice has a lot of appreciation in it. Maybe that's why the rice tastes so good.

First I stir-fry the eggs. Second, I sauté the onion that I have chopped very fine. Third, I put rice with oyster-flavored sauce, salt and pepper, mix them together and stir-fry all of it. Next, I add ham, corn, peas, carrots and eggs until all is mixed very well. The color of the fried rice is red, green and yellow. It looks so beautiful.

When I cook fried rice now, I always think I am so lucky to have a lot of friends to love my three kids and me—to help us and be a blessing. I want our friends to have fried rice if they really like it. I like to cook for them to show my appreciation.

A retired couple in Boyden, Iowa—



*A busy student and mom, Grace Liu expresses appreciation to her friends by cooking fried rice for them.*

Wendell and Caroline Rensink—are very, very special to my family. We call them Grandpa and Grandma. They say I am their youngest daughter, and the youngest always gets spoiled.

They brought my family to their son's home in Minnesota for eight days of vacation last summer. We swam, fished and boated all the time. The view there is so peaceful and beautiful. I cooked fried rice two times when we were there. Their son, daughter-in-law and two giant college grandsons love this fried rice too.

At the end of the summer, the Rensinks told me that while my kids grow up, they need to have a big space to live. (I was living in a small two-bedroom apartment.) I said, "I know, but we have to wait for me to finish college and then find a nice job." But the first day of school, they called me; they

bought a house for us!

Four bedrooms, one study room, double garage, full-sized basement, new ceiling, new electrical system, new windows, close to the school and church. I just cannot believe this big gift. I believe a house is so important to a family. They make this possible now.

I am busy with studying, and at night, I am taking care of my kids. Grandpa and Grandma cleaned the house, painted, put in new carpet, and bought a new sink and new furniture for us. I cannot help Monday through Friday because of my school work. All I can do is cook fried rice for them.

Another special person is my best friend, Beth Sipma; she takes care of my kids in the daytime so I can focus on study. She came to paint at the new house on the weekend. Her mother painted during the week. And her mother-in-law found a dining table and chairs for me and refinished them.

I talked to Grandpa. I do not know Beth's mother-in-law. I have never seen her. Why did she come to help, and what can I do?

Grandpa said, "She lives in Hull. Maybe she does not know you, but maybe she has heard of the fried rice. Cook fried rice for her, and she will love it."

Grandpa also said, "I am thinking very hard how to make this house, and I have lost 10 pounds doing it."

I said, "You need more fried rice." Grandpa laughed and said, "Yes."

Now when I make fried rice for my family, it reminds me of how grateful we are for people who give real love to us.

*Grace Liu is an accounting major who will graduate in May 2008. She wrote this essay for Dr. Carl Vandermeulen's College Writing course last semester.*

Send your Classic thoughts to [classic@nwciowa.edu](mailto:classic@nwciowa.edu)

Change Service Requested

*"When our students participate in short-term missions, they are there to love the people and be the presence of Christ. As they return, they also bring new cultural perspectives and news of God's work elsewhere back to our campus."*

Jill Erickson '96  
Director of Missions



## I am Northwestern

I enjoy hearing students ask different questions about who they are and what they can do for others in God's world. Preparing and sending students across the country and throughout the world on Spring Service Projects and Summer of Service trips is just one way Northwestern is helping to prepare students for a life of reconciling work in God's kingdom. We seek to equip students with the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to be effective servants of the Lord—both now and in the future. When you support the Northwestern Fund, you broaden our students' opportunities for service and learning worldwide.



A whole education for your whole life.

Contact Jennie Smith, director of the Northwestern Fund, to find out how you can help students enlarge their worldview. Phone: 712-707-7110; e-mail: [smith@nwciowa.edu](mailto:smith@nwciowa.edu); visit: [give.nwciowa.edu](http://give.nwciowa.edu)

## Legacy



Dr. Lyle VanderWerff's longstanding commitment to international reconciliation will live in perpetuity, thanks to a scholarship he and his wife, Phyllis, established for international students.

A South Dakota farm boy, Lyle VanderWerff developed a love for learning—and a global vision. After graduating from Northwestern Junior College in 1954, he went on to earn degrees at Hope College, Western and Princeton seminaries, and the University of Edinburgh.

He and his wife, Phyllis, served as missionaries in Kuwait and also lived in India, Israel, Japan and Scotland. A member of Northwestern's religion faculty from 1967 to 1998, he is recognized as the architect of the college's outreach to international students.

It was natural, then, that when the VanderWerffs established a Northwestern scholarship in 1992, they designated it for international students. "He figured if he could support internationals in this way, they could be an extension of him and represent Christ's mission to the world," says Phyllis.

For information about how you can make an impact by establishing an endowed scholarship, contact Cornie Wassink, director of planned giving, 712-707-7109 or [cwassink@nwciowa.edu](mailto:cwassink@nwciowa.edu).