Hope for Haiti
Northwestern alumni respond to nation's crisis

Also
Things to Do in Northwest Iowa
Christianity and Pop Culture
European Choir Tour
The Blue Mountain Culinary Emporium—with three restaurants and artifacts from six continents—offers visitors to Orange City a taste of the world.
Mission in Action

One of the things that has impressed me most since coming to Northwestern is the compassion of our students, faculty, and staff and people for people in need. In this issue of the Classic you can read stories about members of the Northwestern family who have put that compassion into action. The ravages of the earthquake in Haiti last January brought horrific pain and devastation to that country. Many of our alumini, students, and RCA churches have been loving and serving the Haitian people in the moments, days and months since that disaster.

Dr. Bryan Doan Harting ’81, a member of our Board of Trustees, was on a medical mission trip to Haiti at the time of the earthquake and was literally on the front lines trying to save lives. He has since made a return trip and is helping enable other surgeons to volunteer in Haiti.

Kristie (De Boer ’95) Montinpremier and her husband have been missionaries in Haiti for many years. Robin (Van Oostrhout ’92) Lewis has counseled earthquake victims as a Public Health Service psychologist, and Sarah Earleywine ’70 has made half a dozen mission trips to the country, including one as a member of Northwestern’s Summer of Service (SOS) team. Haiti is just one place where Northwestern students and alumni are making a difference. Each spring break, our Spring Service Projects program enables more than 200 students, faculty and staff to travel in teams to communities around the U.S. and abroad, where they volunteer in a variety of ministry settings. During the past 30 years, SOS has sent more than 500 Northwestern students to spend the summer as short-term missionaries. They have served on nearly every continent in almost 100 countries. I, for one, find it inspiring and humbling to witness these participants’ service in God’s work in the world.

In February Northwestern was listed on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, which is the highest federal recognition a college can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement. Northwestern was honored for the fourth consecutive year and is among only 115 U.S. colleges and universities cited with distinction.

I am so proud of how Northwestern community members serve locally and globally. Their commitment to helping others is an expression of their commitment to responding when God calls—and it is supported by the education they receive here—an education that engages them in courageous and faithful learning and living so they’re empowered to follow Christ and pursue God’s redeeming work in the world.

That’s Northwestern College’s mission. These servants are living it.

Greg Christy
President

Road-Trip Romance

We really enjoyed reading “Raiden Romance” in the last issue of the Classic. It was fun to read some of the many ways God has written love stories on the Northwestern campus. It made me wish we had submitted our story. Better late than never, here it is.

My now-husband, Chad Fukse ’00, and I had met all of our classes together our freshman year. We both returned to campus early our sophomore year to help with SMLe (Student Move-In Leaders) and ended up in the same group of friends.

A few weeks into the school year, Chad told me his aunt and uncle had invited him to go to Indiana with them over Thanksgiving and that he could bring his girlfriend along. Since he didn’t have a girlfriend—and didn’t think having one by Thanksgiving was likely—he asked if I’d like to go along instead. Little did we know that by the time Thanksgiving rolled around, he would have a girlfriend. Our first date was six days and 1,300 miles long—to Indiana with his aunt and uncle.

Lynnette (Van Gorp ’00) Fukse, Chad

Looking Sharp

Congratulations on the format of the winter Classic. The graphics are absolutely first rate! Please keep up the good work.

Karen and Donald Dyksterhuis ’59

A Real Dutch Treat

My sophomore year a guy named Terry Muller transferred from a junior college, where he had started his major in veterinary medicine. During his freshman year he responded to God’s call to the pastorate, and with the influence of my roommate, Joan (Elderts ’70) Nulton—his first high school date—he transferred to NWC.

During orientation week she introduced me to him, a tall skinny guy who didn’t pay any attention to me. When Dutch Treat Week came along in December and Friday was my only night without a date of some kind (our dorm had a contest to win points for treating the guys), I decided to ask him to join me at the basketball game and then accompany my older sister, Esther Graham ’68, to help trim a friend’s Christmas tree afterward.

On Sunday afternoon I got a phone call from Terry asking me to attend Sunday night worship service with him, and that began our courtship. We went caravanning together the next summer and exchanged rings. The second summer we enrolled in the Christian Ministry in the National Parks program and were engaged, and the next year we got married two days after Christmas in a snowstorm, wondering why none of our friends from Orange City came up to Chandler, Minn., for our wedding.

We have been married for 40 years and in the ministry for 36 years.

Laura (Kreun ’70) Muller

Kudos

John Menning and I wanted to formally thank the Classic for the recent feature on NWC students with Disabilities (“Free to Be”). The photos were great, and Amy Scherz wrote a strong piece.

We particularly appreciated how she focused on the students and not necessarily our services or department. It was great to see Kyle Sauter, Laura Droskas and Kory Jensen recognized—they have definitely worked hard to succeed.

Tom Trousdell ’01
NWC Director of Academic Support

Good Read

Thanks for another great issue of the Classic. We look forward to each issue and read it from cover to cover. Good job!

Valma (Van Drinl ’47) and Norm Rommatra ’44
Orange City, Iowa

WE LOVE GETTING MAIL
Send letters to: Classic, Northwestern College, 101 7th Street SW, Orange City, IA 51041, e-mail: classic@nwciowa.edu, fax: 712-707-7370. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Please include an address and daytime phone number.
AROUND THE GREEN

Northwestern Classic

4 SUMMER 2010

AROUND THE GREEN

In recognition of its groundwater and environmental stewardship, Northwestern has been named a Groundwater Guardian Green Site by The Groundwater Foundation for the third consecutive year.

Green Sites are highly managed green spaces such as golf courses, zoos, resorts, colleges, parks and hospital campuses that implement groundwater and surface-water-friendly practices. Of the 75 sites honored, NWC is one of only two from Iowa and one of only six colleges nationwide. This designation is awarded to organizations after a review of their efforts to use chemicals and water responsibly, prevent pollution, and preserve water quality.

Northwestern’s water-friendly practices include applying fertilizer based on nutrient analysis, maintaining a no-application zone around surface water and active wells, selecting plants adapted to the region’s climate, disposing of toxic substances properly, and irrigating lawns at night to reduce evaporation.

Global Classroom

Nearly 50 students started off their summer with study in China, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Great Britain or Tanzania in programs offered by NWC faculty.

Under kinesiology professor Dr. Dean Calsbeek ’97, students examined China’s “body culture” by learning about current and past practices in medicine, physical fitness and sport. They also took weekend trips to the Great Wall and to a Buddhist monastery where they learned the ancient martial art of tai chi chuan.

Rick Clark, a Spanish professor raised in Ecuador as the son of missionary parents, led a trip in which students studied Spanish, learned about Ecuadorian culture, and lived with host families. They also participated in excursions to an indigenous tribe in northern Ecuador, to the Amazon rain forest, and to an Afro-Ecuadorian community on the Pacific Coast.

Students were immersed in the contemporary culture of Ethiopia as they explored the city of Addis Ababa, recording their findings through drawings, writings, collections, sound recordings or photography. They also met rural Ethiopians and traveled to the Blue Nile Falls. Art professor Arnold Carlson, son of missionaries to Africa, taught the course.

Theatre professors Jeff and Karen Barker led a course that examined British culture through art and theater. Students attended at least a dozen theatre productions and visited nearly that many museums. They also explored some of England’s many cathedrals, markets, restaurants, parks and squares and lived with families in Gloucester.

Nursing students traveled to Tanzania with professors Dr. Ruth Daumer and Deb Bomgaars. The experience included an introduction to Tanzania’s health services, visits to Selian Lutheran Hospital, rural clinics and an orphanage, and observations of health teaching in villages. Students also took Swahili language classes and went on safari.

Mission: SOS

Fifteen Northwestern students are volunteering their time as short-term missionaries around the globe this summer.

As members of the college’s Summer of Service (SOS) team, the students are ministering in a dozen countries: Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Namibia, South Africa, Spain, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The students—who range from computer science to history to pre-medicine—are learning from missionary pastors, physicians, teachers and others in churches, hospitals, orphanages and refugee camps.

They are teaching English, caring for AIDS orphans, leading worship, performing construction, and delivering community health programs with ministries such as Africa Inland Mission, the Lake Society, Pioneers and World Teams.

Ever Green

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Ever Green
Sound Learning

Class
The Audio Essay: Stories of Service

Instructor
Richard Sowienski
Assistant Professor of Composition and Rhetoric

Professor Richard Sowienski wants to teach his students to listen. He likes to quote radio producer David Isay, who says, “Listening is an act of love.” In The Audio Essay: Stories of Service course, students learned to listen better by going on Service Project (SSP) trips and to other mission-based organizations to document their experiences and to listen to the stories of the people there.

“You cannot learn about yourself without actually putting yourself out there,” says Sowienski, which is why his students, digital recorders in hand, embarked on various SSPs this past March in order to capture the sounds of their project sites: from kids bouncing basketballs to roofers swinging hammers. Students also interviewed the people they encountered. When they returned, students wrote accompanying voice-overs and put everything together in a final narrative to summarize their service experiences.

Junior Jenna Van Oort incorporated the sounds of kids playing at the youth center in Cary, Miss., and saw cutting wood on their work day. “Sometimes you learn the most by just listening and taking it in. Listening to real stories is so powerful,” she says about the audio essay experience.

Sowienski is a big believer in giving students opportunities to work with digital technologies to give them an edge when they enter the job market. “Digital technology is one of those things that, from a marketability standpoint, is going to be great for our students,” he says.

Yes, students are getting the chance to work with new digital technology, but in reality, the oral aspect of storytelling is not new at all. “It is almost like coming full circle, and we now have the technology, but in reality, the oral aspect of storytelling is not new at all. “It is almost like coming full circle, and we now have the technology, but in reality, the oral aspect of storytelling is not new at all. “It is almost like coming full circle, and we now have the technology, but in reality, the oral aspect of storytelling is not new at all. “It is almost like coming full circle, and we now have the technology, but in reality, the oral aspect of storytelling is not new at all.”

Assignments
Before undertaking the main audio project, students listened to NPR commentaries, studied audio competition entries, researched their SSP sites, and analyzed the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, analyzing the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh.

Training Mission
Northwestern students are getting first-hand experience in ministry and community development through a summer internship program funded in part by a grant from the Lilly Endowment. The program places students in a variety of ministry contexts, where the interns work with and learn from mentors.

Six students majoring in religion, Christian education or youth ministry are serving Reformed churches in Texas and a consortium of Christian Reformed churches in Minnesota. Another nine students are at one of seven Christian Community Development Association ministries: Cary Christian Center in Cary, Miss., the John M. Perkins Foundation in Jackson, Miss., Mile High Ministries in Denver; Mission Waco in Texas; Trinity Christian Community and Urban Impact in New Orleans; and World Vision in Philadelphia, Pa.

Grade-A Teaching
An analysis of Northwestern course evaluations shows that students believe they are receiving high-quality instruction.

A study of evaluations completed using a nationwide rating system revealed that Northwestern faculty rated higher than the national database average for quality of instruction. In addition, 73 percent of classes were at or above the national average on the “excellent teacher” rating, while 65 percent were at or above the average on the “excellent course” rating.

“I’m so encouraged by this study,” says Dean of the Faculty Dr. Adrienne Forgette. “The results show that our students are learning, and they appreciate the instruction provided by our faculty. The evaluations also show that our faculty frequently use teaching methods that are acknowledged as good for student learning.”

Honored Prof
Ray Weiss, who served Northwestern as chaplain, dean of students and religion professor for nearly 10 years, received a Distinguished Alumni Award from Western Theological Seminary in May. Weiss joined the staff in 1970 as chaplain and retired from the religion faculty in 1998. He returned to serve as interim vice president for academic affairs in 1999–2000. He was a Reformed Church in America missionary in the Middle East for 11 years before coming to NWC.

Creation-Care Efforts
Two efforts to promote environmental stewardship were highlighted on campus during spring semester.

The Student Government Association’s ConServe initiative challenged students to implement changes that would help curb energy consumption. Encouraging students to take steps such as shortening showers, turning off computers when not in use, unplugging gaming systems and turning off water while brushing teeth, ConServe resulted in a savings of nearly $9,600 on Northwestern’s energy bill over a two-month period.

“I know students went around at night and made sure lights in the bathrooms and lobby areas were off or kept to a minimum,” says SGA President Wes Garcia. “It was interesting to walk through Cohnbrander and notice how dark the hallways were during ConServe. It was a small change to have all the overhead hallway lights off, but in the end it definitely helped. Each dorm took a different approach depending on its personality.”

From Northwestern’s energy savings, $5,000 was donated to ministries suggested by students, faculty and staff: the Summer of Service program; The Bridge, a transitional housing facility for women and children; Bethany Christian Services, an adoption agency; and ATLAS, an organization that provides personal development services to hurting individuals and families. The remainder of the money will be used to further campus creation-care initiatives next year.

A second effort, Go and Gru, resulted in the collection of numerous furniture, clothing and household items that students cleaned out of their dorm rooms at the end of the semester. Goods worth a total of nearly $10,000 were donated to Justice for All for use by needy families—items that in past years would have been placed in campus dumpsters.
Healthy Glow

“Glowing.”
That’s the term Provost Jasper Leagte used to describe the exit comments of the Iowa Board of Nursing team that visited campus last October. “They confirmed the quality of our nursing program is not just adequate, it’s exceptional,” he added.
Northwestern’s department of nursing received documentation of the board’s formal approval in March. Iowa Board of Nursing approval represented the last hurdle for the program, according to nursing department chairperson Dr. Ruth Daumer, who began work on the program this year. "Amy Holecheck '10 is one of this year’s 13 nursing graduates, several of whom had jobs even before earning their degrees from NWC."

Rays of Hope

Efforts to provide solar energy to low-income communities are getting a boost from Northwestern students and faculty. The program was accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education in 2009, but final approval from the Iowa Board couldn’t be granted until after Northwestern graduated its first class of nurses in May 2009. “For one thing,” Daumer explains, “they had to wait to see how our initial nursing graduates did on their board exams.”
Northwestern’s first eight B.S.N. graduates all passed their board exams and are working in hospitals across the U.S. The 13 nurses who graduated in May will take their board exams this summer and fall; several students had already accepted job offers prior to graduation.

Moving Music

Dr. Dean Calsbeek '97 has been a member of Northwestern’s kinesiology department since 2004. He holds a doctorate in physiology from Colorado State University. The director of the exercise science program, Calsbeek serves as the faculty mentor for the Kinesiology Club.

Dean Calsbeek

Fit for teaching

What makes your job great?
That’s easy—the students. Very early in my teaching career, I realized students have a lot more personality (most of the time) and provide much more fulfillment than the rats, mice and cell cultures I was working with as a researcher. I look forward to seeing and getting to know my students every day, and I miss them during the breaks and summers.

What is one of the most challenging aspects of being a professor?
Helping students to see and believe how talented and gifted they are. Most of our students eventually realize their potential, but as a professor few experiences are more difficult than watching a student not believe in himself and give up.

What is your favorite time of the year?
When the students return in the fall. It’s so fun to watch friends reunite and hear stories of adventures they had over the summer. There’s such a sense of optimism and grace when we start a new year.

Describe yourself in three words:
Sarcastic. Empathetic. Loyal.

What is one of your favorite NWC memories?
The summer course I taught in China in 2007 was great. I had an excellent group of students and a great co-leader, Dr. Paul Bartlett. It was physically and emotionally exhausting, but unforgettable. We tried new foods, hiked and camped out on the Great Wall, and studied a culture that is drastically different than our own. Our comfort zones definitely expanded, and I think everyone gained a greater appreciation for the value of cultural diversity.

What do you do in your free time?
When I’m not spending time with my wife and children, I’ll do about anything for an appreciation for the value of cultural diversity. I enjoy golfing, I also enjoy cycling and swimming. I follow Northwestern athletics as much as my schedule allows. Otherwise, I enjoy working on home projects. How did you like participating in, and winning, Dancing with the Prof! this year?
I had more fun than I deserve. It was a huge leap for me—I’ve never been as nervous about anything in all of my life—but it was worth it. I learned a lot about myself and made some great new friends along the way.

If you’d like to see a particular Northwestern faculty or staff member featured in Face Value, e-mail classic@nwciowa.edu.
Summer Study

Two NWC students are participating in competitive off-campus research projects this summer funded by Research Experiences for Undergraduates grants from the National Science Foundation.

Jacob Gaster, a junior biology-ecological science major from Bettendorf, Iowa, is studying at the University of Puerto Rico. He is examining how native tropical trees are growing amidst exotic tree species that were planted on a site about 20 years ago.

Jacob Peterson, a junior majoring in biology-health professions from Atkinson, Neb., is conducting research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is exploring autoimmune disorders and immune system activation in the context of oxidation-reduction biology.

Summer Study continues on page 11.

On Board

Dale Den Herder ’63 of Sioux Center has rejoined Northwestern’s Board of Trustees. Appointed for a four-year term, he attended his first board meeting in April.

Den Herder is the founder of American State Bank, where he serves as CEO and chairman of the board. He previously served on Northwestern’s board for 18 years.

Summer Study continues on page 11.
Prize-Winning Poems

Weston Cutter, a first-year member of Northwestern’s English faculty, received a $2,500 Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Prize in February. Three poems by Cutter, Pumpernickel, So Perhaps (After CL) and Spring Prayer, were selected by judges and published at dorothyprizes.org among submissions by poets from London, Brooklyn, San Francisco and Seattle.

Dorothy Sargent Fraser Rosenberg wrote poetry but was not widely published. After she died in 1969, her husband and son privately published a selection of her poems. When Marvin Rosenberg died in 2003, two of his poems and musicians have been published in numerous journals and magazines. He was included in Best New Poets 2006, and two of his poems were nominated for the Pushcart Prize in both 2008 and 2007.

New Majors for New Needs

Northwestern will offer two new majors this fall—one in sport management and the other in Spanish translation and interpretation. The new programs are a response to high demand and need.

“The sports industry has exploded,” says Dr. Paul Bartlett, professor of kinesiology. Sport is the 11th largest industry in the U.S., and the Department of Labor predicts employment opportunities in the field will grow 15 to 23 percent during the next decade.

Northwestern’s sport management program is interdisciplinary. Students will choose among three options, allowing them to focus on coaching/athletic administration, marketing/finance, or sports information/interpretation. The new program will provide hands-on experience, while the area’s growing Hispanic population will provide students with an opportunity to serve as they learn.

The second new program is designed for fully bilingual students, making Northwestern the first Christian college or university in the U.S. to offer a translation and interpretation major for those who want to work in this growing field. Only three other schools in the U.S. offer a similar program: the University of Arizona; California State University, Long Beach; and the University of Texas at Brownsville.

Leading Northwestern’s program is Piet Koene, 2004 Iowa Professor of the Year and one of only 11 class A certified interpreters for Iowa’s court system. Koene holds a reader’s degree in translation and interpretation, as well as professional certification in both areas.

NWC will build an interpretation lab and purchase portable translation and interpretation equipment for hands-on experience, while the area’s growing Hispanic population will provide students with an opportunity to serve as they learn.

Exemplary Servant

When members of Northwestern’s music faculty saw the criteria listed for the college’s Staff Recognition for Inspirational Service Award, they immediately thought of Nora Verburg ’87, their secretary.

The honor is given to recognize staff who consistently provide outstanding contributions by going above and beyond what is expected, personify a strong Christian commitment, and distinguish themselves as an inspiration to the campus community.

That’s Verburg, says Dr. Tom McGarvey, chairperson of the music department. “While Nora is an hourly employee, she at times works at home without turning in and does many things way beyond the call of duty, simply because she sees a need and fills it,” he wrote in a letter of nomination. Dr. Thomas Holm wrote that Verburg “personifies Christian witness by always remaining kind, patient and caring—even in the most challenging of circumstances. Her personal faith in God shows through in the ways she treats others with respect and handles delicate matters professionally, yet with kindness.”

A former music teacher at Christian schools in Hospers and Iowa City, Iowa, Verburg taught piano lessons for 20 years. She is in her ninth year on the Northwestern staff. As the 2010 service award winner, she received a $1,000 honorarium funded by the Alumni Association, a plaque, and a luncheon to share with her coworkers.

Nora Verburg’s attentive service to the music department led to her being named the 2010 Staff Recognition for Inspirational Service Award recipient.

Summer Research

Ten Northwestern professors are spending their summer pursuing scholarship and research with funding from the college’s Scholarship Grant Program.

Awards of up to $2,250 were presented to six professors; the remainder will receive grants of up to $5,000 for collaboration research with students.

Music professor Dr. Luke Dahn is working with other composers on a CD of new piano music to be released on the Albany label, while theatre professor Dr. Robert Hubbard is developing the five individual performances in his solo show, Grace Notes.

Three professors are working on books. The Gospel and the Good Life, by philosophy professor Dr. Randy Jensen, integrates philosophical and gospel-centered views about ethics. Dr. Kim Jongerius and mathematicians at other Christian colleges are writing Mathematics Through the Eyes of Faith. And history professor Dr. Robert Winn is revising his doctoral dissertation on Eusebius of Emesa.

History professor Dr. Michael Kagel is examining the historical and cultural context for a collection of comics drawn by his father during the 1940s.

Grant winners collaborating with students include chemistry professor Dr. Karius Carlson ’03. She and Adam Verhoef, a biology-health professions major, are examining interactions between a specific protein and DNA using a fluorescence-based assay.

Biology professor Dr. Sara Sylvia Tenora ’94 and biology-health professions major Dan Lockar are researching the genetic relationships between newly populations on Santa Cruz Island and the California mainland, as well as between mayflies in northeast Iowa watersheds. And two other biology professors, Dr. Laura Furlong and Dr. Todd Dray, are studying the impact of invasive plants on northeast Iowa ecosystems. Assisting them are Erin Brogan-Vander Stelt and Olivia Neeman, both ecological science majors.
Northwestern’s Gospel Choir debuted with chapel performances this spring.

New Directors

Northwestern is welcoming three new staff members this summer. Eric Anderson is the new director of financial aid. Formerly Northwestern’s associate dean of residence life and resident director of West Hall, he has been a financial planning assistant in Orange City the last two years. He earned an M.B.A. at Ball State University.

Jackie Davis joins the Northwestern staff as director of capital giving after 17 years of experience in higher education advancement. She comes from her alma mater, Dakota Wesleyan University, where she worked with the annual fund, major and campaign gifts, alumni relations, planned giving and administration.

Tim Schlak, a recent Ph.D. graduate in library and information science at the University of Pittsburgh, is the new director of Ramaker Library. In addition to his doctorate, Schlak earned a master’s degree in library and information science and a master’s in Slavic languages and literatures, both from Pittsburgh.

Building Determination

by Amy Scheer

Construction of Christ Chapel began in 1986, despite a Midwest farm crisis, thanks in large part to the leadership of board member Marv DeWitt. He was awarded an honorary doctorate during the building’s dedication two years later.

Land values plummeted. The fiscal year ended in the red. Northwestern’s president declared it “a time when economic conditions in our immediate vicinity have seldom been worse.”

The year? 1985. That August, Jim Bultman stepped into the presidency of Northwestern College and faced both a budget shortfall and a large-scale farm crisis in the Midwest.

He also received an invitation to lunch from Marv DeWitt, a board member with a mission: Build a new chapel.

DeWitt and his brother, Bill, had bought a few turkeys back in 1938. They raised them on their parents’ farm north of Zeeland, Mich., and sold eggs the following spring. The turkeys multiplied, waddling through wartime even as other hatcheries failed, and the brothers moved into year-round production by 1958. Naming themselves BilMar Foods, the DeWitts turned a few turkeys into a multi-million-dollar business, eventually merging with the Sara Lee Corporation in 1987.

Farm crisis? College budget concerns? DeWitt could see a light at the end of the tunnel—or, rather, sunlight streaming through the tall, elegant windows of a new chapel and adjacent music hall. A fund for the building had begun some 25 years prior, and DeWitt was determined to see its construction through to completion.

“It was a tough time for the college,” says DeWitt. “Some thought we shouldn’t go ahead with the chapel. I pushed hard for it. I said it was the best time to build.”

After pledging to give $50,000 a year toward the project, DeWitt presented the board with a check in the amount of $180,000. In response, four other members of the board stepped forward and promised to bump up their own pledges as well.

In March 1986, the executive committee unanimously approved the project. Ground was broken two months later. The building was dedicated on April 10, 1988, and DeWitt was awarded an honorary doctorate.

“It is his positive spirit, his contagious enthusiasm, his ‘you can do it’ attitude that has most endeared him to those closest to Northwestern and to me,” Bultman said at the dedication ceremony. “This came at a time when we needed it most.”
Coaching baseball at Northwestern prepared Brad Payne to lead his team to new heights.

Brad Payne etched his name in Northwestern’s record book, finishing his career second in runs (151) and sixth in batting average (.386). For more on Raider sports, visit www.nwcraiders.com
The A cappella Choir’s spring break tour of Eastern Europe included concerts at churches in the Czech Republic, a mass at the Salzburg Cathedral, a visit to Auschwitz, and ministry to students and senior citizens. Missionaries told director Thomas Holm, “You have no idea the bright light you’re bringing into this place with your music and your lives.”
An interview with Jeffrey Keuss, Ph.D.

A Christian college professor and pastor, Jeff Keuss has been called “an engaging interpreter of theology in popular culture” by colleagues at The Kindlings (www.thekindlings.com). Keuss’ work with youth and his research on Christ and culture has led to scholarship on subjects like Dr. Keuss, Bruce Springsteen, Star Wars, Twilight and U2. During his visit to Northwestern for the college’s third annual Day of Learning in Community, Classic staff asked him about Christianity and pop culture.

Classic: I understand you’ve read Twilight.

Keuss: I have. Three of Stephenie Meyer’s books are in my office at Seattle Pacific University, which both shocks and awes me. I have. Three of Stephenie Meyer’s books are in my office—most people don’t believe in shielding her from the world. My oldest is 9, and she asked but then she got interested in Twilight. When she picks up Twilight next, we’ll read it together. I think clearly—when they inevitably encounter it.

Classic: What will?

Keuss: Some Christians are confined by what, psychologist Dr. Tim Clydeandsale calls a lockbox spirituality. They want to keep the faith they had when they were 10 years old. Studenta with a lockbox mentality sit in classes—even at Christian colleges—with Teflon, nonstick surfaces. They perceive all questions about faith as an assault on their own carefully guarded faith.

Classic: So what’s a lockbox Christian to do?

Keuss: Move from bounded to centered spirituality. A bounded Christian is concerned primarily with borders and retaining the purity of one’s faith. They perceive all questions about faith as an assault on their own carefully guarded faith. A centered Christian tries to figure out who he’s not—what he sees are walls. A centered Christian knows that God is in the middle, and she’s making her way to God. She welcomes others who might be journeying to God too, even if they’re coming from a different direction. She reveals God to other seekers by saying, “I think we’re looking for the same thing.”

Classic: You're a U2 fanboy.

Keuss: After becoming a Christian in high school, I was in a Christian music store—and among albums by Keith Green and Randy Stonehill, I found U2’s War. I bought it, listened and was telling my friends about this cool Christian band, and my friends said, “They’re not Christians.” I thought, “What?!” Their music, like “40” about Psalm 40, reached me in ways music by Christian artists hadn’t. So I bought more albums.

Classic: Bono and his band are rock stars, though. Some Christians are uncomfortable with that.

Keuss: Right. When I was a youth pastor in Dublin, we took teens to the gate outside Bono’s house. One time an American, Eric, tried to “spread the gospel” by throwing a Chistmas Bible into Bono’s compound—like an evangelistic hand grenade. After I calmed the guards and police, I asked Eric, “What were you thinking?” He said, “I don’t share the word of God with Bono, who will?” Apparently Bono wasn’t Christian enough for Eric. Bono’s theology may not be your theology, but there is a faithfulness to U2’s journey that challenges both the church and the world—and that middle space is so interesting to me.

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Rebuilding Haiti

After a devastating earthquake hits an already destitute nation, members of the Northwestern family find ways to help

by Anita Cirulli

Bryan Den Hartog was thrown from his seat on the bus when the earthquake struck. As the vehicle shook violently, he looked out the windows and saw buildings and trees mirroring the bus' movements. Across the mission compound, his father was on the ground, trying to get up on all fours since it was impossible to stand. Shockwaves moved through the earth like waves on water.

Then everything stopped. Stunned, Den Hartog and his mission team colleagues emerged from the bus and looked out over Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Huge fissures split the walls around the compound. Dust rose over the city. Then came the cries of people trapped under the rubble.
When we heard the screams, that’s when it really hit me what had happened,” says Den Hartog, a 1981 Northwestern graduate who works as an orthopedic surgeon in Rapid City, S.D. “I knew there were going to be thousands of casualties, I knew we weren’t prepared for that, and I felt this hopeless, sinking feeling in my heart.”

Den Hartog, his father, and two of his sons had arrived in Haiti on Jan. 11, the day before the earthquake, as part of a 48-person con-
struction and medical team working with an organization called Mission to Haiti. Within minutes of the 7.0-magnitude quake, however, their focus changed from building a clinic and serving patients to saving lives.

As aftershocks rumbled through the area every 15 to 20 minutes, the two doctors and seven nurses on the team began treating the wounded. Because the clinic wasn’t finished— and because aftershocks made it dangerous to be in any building— triage was done outdoors on folding tables. People arrived with leg and skull fractures, paralyzing spinal cord trauma, and open, contaminated crush injuries.

“Fire kids died in front of us that night,” Den Hartog remembers. “We pulled two little girls, 2 and 4 years old, out of the rubble, and then three other kids died later—one from a collapsed lung.”

Without the proper equipment and quickly running low on medical supplies, Den Hartog and his colleagues did what they could. Out of gas, the team tore bed sheets into bandages. They cut down telephone poles for splints and sheets into bandages. They cut loose fabric from folding tables. People arrived with injuries from the rubble, and then three other

Kristie provides medical care and teaches public health. UCI also has an agricultural ministry to help people support themselves. And when the Mompremiers saw children eating ashes because they were so malnourished, they started a feeding program that has grown to seven nutrition centers.

Despite its distance from the epicenter of the quake, the Caiman neighborhood was deeply impacted by the disaster. JeanJean’s nephew survived after being buried overnight in the rubble of his medical school and they were unable to reach family and friends living in the city.

Kristie first visited Haiti as an agricultural missionary a year after graduating from Northwestern. She fell in love with the country and its people—and eventually with JeanJean, a Haitian secondary math and physics teacher. She met him at the mission where she was working. The two were married in 1998 and then spent four years in Orange City, where Kristie worked as a nurse while JeanJean completed an online seminary degree.

Moving back to Haiti, the Mompremiers settled in JeanJean’s hometown of Caiman, a small, poor community composed of subsistence farmers. With the help of several friends, they founded United Christians International, a ministry that works through the local church to teach the word of God and equip Haitian leaders.

JeanJean leads Bible seminars for Haitian pastors, many of whom have had no formal training.

Looking for a new source of expendable manpower to cultivate sugar cane, the Spanish colonists began trafficking in slaves from Africa. When the western third of the island was ceded to France, the practice of slavery continued.

Slaves and the goods they produced made the colony the French renamed Saint-Domingue the richest in the world. By the late 1700s, it supplied three-fourths of the world’s sugar; was a leader in the production of coffee, cotton, rum and indigo; and generated more revenue for France than all 13 American colonies combined did for England.

Saint-Domingue was arguably the most brutal slave colony of all time. One out of every three slaves died within a few years of arriving on the island. Despite such high mortality rates, at the close of the century, Saint-Domingue’s population included at least a half million slaves.

East Africa had come to be known as the “black” continent in the modern world and the only nation born of a slave revolt. But in the centuries that followed, most Haitians would find themselves living under a different kind of oppression: 200 years of exploitation, corruption and tyrannical rule that played a major role in the devastating impact of the January 2010 earthquake.

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“A never thought I would be holding children at night as they cry themselves...
De Hartog and his colleagues were evacuated from Haiti on an Air Force transport plane three days after the earthquake hit. Just 14 hours prior to the team’s departure, the first American troops landed in the country to provide humanitarian support, disaster relief, and security.

“It’s hard for people to understand just how disabled Port-au-Prince was the first few days,” De Hartog says. “The United States military is probably the best kind of an organization to handle these kinds of major catastrophes.”

Robin (Van Oosterhout ’92) Lewis, a Public Health Service psychologist, agrees. She spent six weeks on the Comfort, a U.S. Navy hospital ship that arrived in Haiti the week after the quake and was equipped with an operating room, a medical staff of 550, and a 1,000-bed capacity.

“The injuries were just incredible,” Lewis says. “There were a lot of crush injuries beyond repair, and because it had been a week since the earthquake by the time the Comfort arrived, severe infections had set in.”

The ship’s surgeons performed more than 850 operations during the Comfort’s time in Haiti, and while numerous amputations were necessary, physicians were also able to save many injured limbs. Lewis, who was known as “Dr. Ma’am” by the Haitian children on board, continued treatment and therapy would be inadequate for their needs. Lewis also provided support to the staff—some of whom, though seasoned combat veterans, were brought to tears by the suffering they saw. Also difficult was the prospect of sending patients back home, where they would not have access to the care they had received.

On many occasions Lewis ended up escorting children to orphanages, which gave her a close-up view of Haiti. “It was the worst poverty I’ve ever seen in my life,” she recalls. “I’d seen Third World poverty before. I’ve never seen it to the extent that was Haiti.”

fixed with such acute poverty, people search for answers—an explanation for Haiti’s problems. Dr. Paul Farmer is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School who has worked in Haiti for more than 25 years as the founder of Partners in Health. According to Farmer, it’s convenient to attribute the country’s ills to causes native to Haiti. “Among the most popular explanatory models are those invoking ‘cultural’ factors,” he writes in his book The Uses of Haiti. “Voodooism is the practice of seeing and communicating with spirits.”

There’s a joke rooted in fact that says Haiti is 80 percent Catholic, 20 percent Protestant, and 100 percent Voodoo,” says Jeanjean Mopremont. “That’s because everyone, Christians and non-Christians, has to deal with Voodoo all the time.”

Serving as a contact point for a devastating earthquake, the United States military is probably the best kind of an organization to handle these kinds of major catastrophes. The Comfort’s surgeons performed more than 850 operations during its time in Haiti, and while numerous amputations were necessary, physicians were also able to save many injured limbs. Lewis, who was known as “Dr. Ma’am” by the Haitian children on board, provided assessment and counseling for the patients who had been traumatized by the disaster. The 18-hour workdays were exhausting, but the work, meaningful. Lewis found herself doing whatever was necessary: emptying bed pans, changing IV bags, feeding adults, cleaning blood off the floor. In an e-mail to family and friends, she wrote: “I never thought I would practice deep breathing/relaxation with a patient while he was having his raw stump cleaned. I never thought I would be exploring occupations with a woman with no arms. I never thought I would be holding children at night as they cry themselves to sleep longing for their mommies.”

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in Haiti’s economy. Similar injuries permeate Haiti’s history. Devolved by race and class, the country—95 percent black and 5 percent mulatto and white—is controlled by a few elite families that stepped into the positions of the former colonial plantation owners. Just 1 percent of Haiti’s people own 50 percent of the country’s wealth.

The pose in Haiti is used as a source of cheap labor. In 1925 an American financial newspaper lauded the fact that the average Haitian “gives a hard day’s labor for 20 cents, while in Panama the same day’s work costs $3.” Fifty years later, U.S. manufacturers were taking advantage of a 70 percent unemployment rate and wages of 14 cents per hour to establish assembly plants in Haiti.

By tradition, those who rule Haiti view the country as their private property and its treasury as their bank account, says journalist and author Amy Wilentz. Perhaps that’s why, over the course of nearly 200 years, Haiti has experienced more than 30 coups and suffered under a series of dictators backed by a repressive military, Haiti’s elite and foreign interests.

As much as 40 percent of Haiti’s more than $3 billion debt today is due to loans made to the brutal dictators François “Papa Doc” Duvalier and his son, Jean-Claude. During their reigns, writes Farmer, the U.S. Department of Commerce produced figures to show that “no less than 63 percent of all recorded government revenue in Haiti was being ‘misappropriated’ each year.” At one point, Haiti’s finance minister revealed that “a monthly average of $15 million was being diverted from public funds to meet ‘extra-budgetary expenses’ that included regular deposits into [Duvalier’s] private Swiss bank account.”

With such a history of oppression and corruption, it’s little wonder Haiti lacked the construction standards, infrastructure, health care and planning to help it cope with a killer earthquake.

In the weeks following the disaster, the eyes of the world were focused on Haiti, and donations for relief efforts topped $305 million.

Sarah Earleywine, a 2010 Northwestern graduate from Boulvard, Wis., participated in six different mission trips to Haiti during high
All processing of orphans stopped before Haiti changed its procedures, requiring the prime minister to sign every child’s paperwork and for all children to fly out of Port-au-Prince. “I don’t know what their hearts were,” Sara says of the missionaries, “but I do know that when children and countries are involved, whatever your motivation is, you need to do things the right way. It’s just frustrating because you think, ‘If you really care about kids, do it so everybody can continue in this process.’”

When it was finally Albear’s turn to travel to the U.S., however, there were more problems. Haitian police, including at the airport refused to believe his travel papers were legitimate, and his American escorts were detained while Albear and five other children were taken and placed in a tent city. Four harrowing days later, the Haitian government finally confirmed the paperwork was legitimate, and in a story covered by CNN, the children were reunited with their American escort and flown to Miami, where their new parents awaited them.

As the Van Zees fielded questions from reporters, Sara told them that while Albear now has a home, there are thousands of children in that same situation who have no hope. “It was worth it if this helps direct the government officials to think about how to provide for those kids,” she said. “We did our best to help, and this child ended up in a good place.”

Replacing unsanitary dirt floors with poured cement.

“This wouldn’t have been the case even six years ago before the gospel was bought here,” Kristie says. “There would have been people sabotaging work sites and theft of materials. Truly, God’s love changes people’s hearts.”

“We believe God is the only answer to Haiti’s problems,” adds JeanJean. “With without in the government and other leadership positions that truly care for the people and not just about lining their own pockets or advancing their power, there can be no progress.”

Although Haiti is now fading from the headlines, the crisis continues. People lack shelter. Disease runs rampant. The injured still need treatment.

Because of his connections in Haiti, Den Haring has been commissioned by the American Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Society to make arrangements for teams of orthopedic surgeons to travel to Haiti.

“There’s no shortage of volunteers,” he says of the waiting list of 600 of his peers willing to travel to Haiti. “People are still interested in helping. They just need to plug in with somebody who has a plan.”

In April, Den Haring spent a week in Haiti, providing medical treatment and working out the logistics for such teams. In two to four months he will return with a group of surgeons to conduct reconstructive foot and ankle surgeries and train Haitian orthopedists.

Both Den Haring and the Mompremiers, however, stress that humanitarian aid is not enough. Prayer, they agree, is the most important way to help Haiti. As for financial support, Den Haring encourages people to give to organizations “but just worried about saving lives, but caring souls.”

“We have seen many great projects that are here for a short time and then collapse,” echoes Kristie. “We see Christian missions so concentrated on humanitarian acts that they forget to share the gospel of Christ. Without Christ, hearts can’t be changed and all the good deeds in the world will not last.”
Northwest Iowa offers diverse dining, sightseeing and cultural experiences

by Tamara Pykaabt

If you missed Orange City’s annual Tulip Festival, there are still good reasons to visit northwest Iowa. When you join us for Homecoming—or take your kids to visit your alma mater—you can browse Dutch-fronted shops, visit windmill replicas along a miniature canal, and play 18 holes among native prairie grasses at Landsmeer Golf Club. You can also taste alligator, buy jewelry from Peru, and explore a geological wonder.

Shop

After stocking up on Raider-wear from the Northwestern Bookstore, you can wander off campus to buy tulip bulbs, wooden shoes or Woudstra bratwurst. Among Orange City’s shops, like the Dove Christian Bookstore and Old Wagon Wheel Antiques is one where buying is a way to give back.

Hands Around the World

In the middle of our Dutch downtown, Hands Around the World celebrates the global neighborhood by selling the fair-trade handiwork of artisans in more than 30 developing countries, including Haiti. Friendly volunteer shopkeepers share stories of craftspeople who’ve fashioned the jewelry, tableware, linens, nativity sets, musical instruments and more that fill the store. Proceeds enable the artisans—including women who have no other way to earn a living—to feed and house their families and educate their children.

Play

Orange City-area recreation includes Holland Plaza Theatres, Windmill Park, and Kinderpleeland, where parents can chase their children up ladders, across bridges and through tunnels all-sized for adults. If you come for Homecoming in October, you can also look for the Great Pumpkin.

Pumpkinland

pumpkinlandiowa.com

Located just three miles north of Orange City, Pumpkinland is on the family farm of Helen and Dave Huitink ’71, also known to area children as “Grandma and Grandpa Pumpkin.” In addition to a pick-your-own pumpkin, you can also go home with gourds, ornamental corn, and squashes from a selection of 35 varieties. After visiting Animal-land—with kittens, puppies, bunnies, peacocks, ponies, llamas and more—you might lose the kids for awhile in the seven-acre corn maze.

Northwestern Classic
Eat

If thinking of Orange City makes you crave poffertjes and fudge puppies, you’ll have to wait until the tulips are blooming. Until then, there’s plenty to satisfy your appetite, including Pizza Ranch’s “Roundup” with Blue Bunny’s “Peanut Butter Panic” ice cream for dessert. Other area restaurants offer one-of-a-kind dining experiences.

Old Factory Coffee Shop
View vintage wooden shoe-making machinery while you wait for your gourmet coffee, brewed to order one cup at a time by owners Rola and Richard Sowienski. The historic Orange City landmark is just a walk away from Northwestern’s campus, where Richard—a former editor for Better Homes and Gardens magazine—teaches creative writing.

Blue Mountain Culinary Emporium
The Blue Mountain Culinary Emporium is named for proprietors Deb and Clayton ‘87 Korver’s beloved Blue Mountains of Jamaica. In addition to The Barn, a restored post-and-beam Iowa barn that is part art gallery, part reception hall, the emporium includes three distinct dining experiences:

- Unwind in front of the fire in the Blue Mountain Lodge. Your kids will gape at the wild game trophies while they enjoy house-made root beer and hotdogs. You can wash down your “Jalapeño Papa” burger—fi red over hardwood charcoal—with a Blue Mountain Brew made with locally grown raspberries, rhubarb, black walnuts or toasted pumpkin seeds.
- Or leave the kids with a sitter and escape to the Passport Club, where you can sample both exotic and home-grown appetizers like gator remoulade and fried green tomatoes. Pop the cork on a rare vintage from Passport’s 1,300-bottle wine cellar. Large-gathering or nook-and-cranny private seating is surrounded by the Korvers’ museum-quality art, artifacts and antiques from six continents—including fossilized trilobites from prehistoric Africa and a Tibetan drum large enough to serve as a table for eight.
- After an appetizer, head downstairs to the Smokehouse Grille for Northern Plains Cuisine™, including wood-fired pizza or an award-winning rack of ribs, slow-smoked over apple wood. Side dishes are grown in Blue Mountain’s own garden and greenhouse. The Grille, also housed in a restored Iowa barn, offers cozy booths in an Americana atmosphere, a European-style conservatory, or a garden piazza for alfresco dining.

Archie’s Waeside
Archie’s Waeside in nearby Le Mars was judged the best steakhouse in the Midwest by Rachael Ray during her 2009 “Search for the Great American Steakhouse.” Roadfood.com’s Michael Stern rated it “worth driving from anywhere” and described his hand-cut, dry-aged ribeye entree as “deliriously succulent.” If you visit Archie’s, you may wonder if you’re in the right place when you drive up to the unpretentious building. But if the spacious parking lot is full—even on a weeknight—you’ve found it.

Explore
A walk in the woods is as close as the Puddle Jumper Trail between Orange City and Alton. If you’re game for roaming farther, a trip to Sioux City will enable you to follow the trail of Lewis and Clark or wander along the ridge of an uncommon landform.

Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center
The only member to die on Lewis and Clark’s expedition from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean did so in what is now Sioux City, Iowa. Listen to animatronic Lewis and Clark tell the harrowing story of Sergeant Charles Floyd’s death by appendicitis—and other memorable moments from their journey—at Sioux City’s Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center along the Missouri River. The center, with its interactive exhibits, is surrounded by gardens of plants that were among Lewis and Clark’s species discoveries, such as cattleya gunpowder and buffaloberry.

Loess Hills
The Loess Hills along Iowa’s western border run from north of Sioux City down to near St. Joseph, Mo. Visitors can drive the 200-mile Loess Hills Scenic Byway or explore the geology and wildlife around Sioux City at Stone State Park, which includes the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. The nature center has a “walk-under” prairie and children’s discovery area with touchable furs, antlers, fossils and other artifacts. Loess (pronounced “luss”) is soil that’s been ground fine as flour during an ice age and blown into dune-like hills. Loess deposits can be found elsewhere in the U.S., but the one between Iowa and Nebraska is the largest. And to find higher loess hills than Iowa’s, you’ll have to travel to China.

DoUG BURGO
LOReL LuENSe
DON POGGENsee
IOWA TOuRISM OFFICE
Red Ties

Interview with Mark Bloomendaal

Mark Bloomendaal will become director of alumni relations in July. A member of Northwestern’s admissions office since 1984, he graduated, and has been the admissions director since 2003.

What interests you about the alumni director’s job?

The primary appeal is being in a position to connect alumni with the many good things happening on campus. Northwestern’s mission continues to be focused on transformation, and I really enjoy hearing the transforming stories from alumni and, sometimes, we get trapped into thinking those life-changing moments and insights happened only when “I was there.”

What excites you the most about beginning this new phase of your career?

Being challenged to think in a new way. I’m also excited to find out what our graduates are doing and think we’ll all be surprised if we know more about where and how NWC alumni are impacting the world.

What experiences shaped your years as a Northwestern student?

(Former chapel) Jerry Sitter’s challenge to radical Christianity, “getting it” after being challenged by Dr. Lyle Vander Werff to think we’d all be surprised if we knew more about where and how NWC alumni are impacting the world.

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Summer 2010

Concur Technologies.

Administrative assistant at Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, Calif.

Jill (Kruger) Haverdink, Alton, Iowa, serves as the children’s pastor at Maurice First Reformed Church.

Stephanie Griesmer, Altavista, Iowa, has worked toward a master’s degree in Spanish from the University of Northern Iowa. Her graduate work will be done at the University of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, Spain.

Jill (Kruger) Haverdink, Alton, Iowa, serves as the children’s pastor at Maurice First Reformed Church.

Andrew Rorabaugh from Gonzaga University in May.

Elizabeth Colbert is a marketing consultant for the Sioux Falls Area Anna Institute, which will open this fall.

Joe Grady is a behavioral service tech for Aetna in Omaha.

New Arrivals

Rob and Trisha (Sheltor ’92) Gray, daughter, Bethany Nicole

Gina (Main ’93) and Jason Smits ’04, daughter by adoption from China, Laylenn Mae Lane, join John (10), Jared (8) and Allian (5)

Erin and Bryce Armstrong ’94, son, Logan Luke, joins Caleb (3) and Cole (1)

Laura (Aligony ’96) and Vinus Karta ’92, daughter, Katie Janan, joins McKennzie (8) and Kyle (4)

Jeff and Rachel (Vermeer ’96) Bania, son, Camron John, joins Mason (8), Grace (6) and Cole (4)

Tina (Jackson ’97) and Derek Vanderveen ’97, daughter, Jenson Grace, joins Noah (8) and Micah (6)

Lanie and Courtney (Steven ’99) Eggers, daughter, Allen Grace

Brooke (Blevins ’99) and Todd Hartlbeck ’98, son, Preston Donald, joins Tyler (5) and Kalem (5)

Bob and Dennise (Dreamer ’99) Morris, daughter, Lila Kay, joins Sam (13), lyric (10), Lincoln (15) and Lanxon (4)

Anjani and Wes Brandsma ’99, daughter, Piper Evelyn, joins Bryton (4)

Erik and Matt Trost ’99, daughter by adoption, Maleny Karlie

Angela (Grissom ’00) and Adam Collins ’99, daughter, Areli Faith, joins Makayla (2)

Chad and Erica (Hoyser ’00) Klaver, daughter, Avery Mae, joins Jake (5) and Chase (3)

Marissa and Eric (Vermeer ’00) Fetter, daughter, Allana, joins Joel (2)

Jeremy and Joy (Hibma ’01) Pritchard, daughter, Anna Joy, joins Charlotte (4)

Jessica and Andrew Hugen ’02, son, Troy Andrew

Kyle and Melodine (Croress ’02) Webb, daughter, Julianne Paige

Craig and Lindsey (Buechel ’03) Alcock, daughter, Lydia Joan

Angela (Hosman ’03) and Scott Beck ’03, daughter, Lillian Lucille

Jen and Andrea (Bremmer ’03) Taylor, son, Owen Christopher, joins Canon (1)

Josh and Wendy (Mearow ’02) Visser, daughter, Audaka Joie, joins Samson (4)

Eric and Valerie (Hibma ’04) Van Zee, daughter, Madeline Ann

Mikyla (Hardenstrom ’04) and Ryan Ottman ’04, daughter, Miraya Leigh

Lisa (Miller ’05) and Jeremy Koerselman ’05, daughter, Marci Joy

Carrie (Vander Stoepp ’05) and Brandon Schewel ’03, son, Nikkah James, joins Malcolm (2)

Brook and Joe Schueller ’05, daughter, Ava Grace, joins Kade (3)

Kara (Wismer ’05) and Aaron Willems ’05, daughter, Ethan Saun, joins Taria (5)

Bobby and Jessica (Schweitzer ’06) Johnson, daughter, Delphine Ann, joins Lane (2)

Sara (Kennes ’06) and Jake Nessa ’06, daughter, Gehlen Marie

Morgan (Walker ’06) and Dan Swier ’06, daughter, Brookie Lynnea

Cade and Jill (Kruger ’06) Haverdink, son, Micah John

Be and Tom Eaton ’99, daughters, Evangeline Pamela, joins Caleb (1)

Taryn and Kyle McManus ’99, daughters, Kaitlyn Rae

Marriages

Steven Bogaard ’95 and Rebecca Fong, Orange City

Steven Van Goor ’93 and Anzu Williams, Otsego, Wis.

Heather Finkbeiner ’89 and Bhavin Dalal, Jersey City, N.J.

Speak up

Tell your NWC friends and classmates about the latest news in your life. 
Submit for consideration by August 6 to:
Office of Public Relations • Northwestern College 101 7th Street SW • Orange City, IA 51041 classic@nwciowa.edu • classic.nwciowa.edu 712-327-3770 (fax)

Name

Address

Home/cell phone: ______________________ Class year: ______________________
E-mail: ______________________
Current employer(s): ______________________
My news: ______________________

Class Notes

Homecoming 2010 • October 1 & 2

All She Needs

By Amy Scherer

Allaying stress. Improving health. Boosting your mood. These are just a few of the reasons people have turned to music for affec
tion? But track and field is special to Wassink. “What’s nice is the
cross country, having worked three NCAA Div. I national
track and field events. He co-founded the Iowa Association of Track Officials and has
edited its procedures manual for 10 years.

Rod Witherell ’72, age 59, died July 21, 2005, in Des Moines. After attending NWC for
two years, he transferred to the University
of Illinois, where he earned a degree in
agricultural engineering. He competed
internationally on the U.S. Wheelchair
Olympic Track team over 16 years. An
engineer for several years, he later became
a pastor and served on the staff of Altona
(tona) United Methodist Church. He is
survived by his wife, Yvette, and three
children.

Henry Dale Hubers ’45, ’47, age 81, died
Dec. 29 in Orange City. He named a bachelor’s degree in education and math
from Central College and a master’s degree
in education from the University of South
dakota. He served as a principal at various
schools, including Northwestern Classical
Academy and Maurice-Orange City High
School, where he also taught math for 30
years. An adjunct professor at Northwestern,
he served on the Board of Trustees. He
was a longtime member of Trinity
Reformed Church, where he served as an
deacon and Sunday school teacher. He
is survived by his wife, Margaret
(Mittemeyer) Zupke, age 83; sisters
Margaret Zupke, ’41, and Lois Vermorel, ’52; and three
children, including Barbara Hubers-
Drake ’76 and John ’76.

Wilbur Wiersma ’46, ’48, Orange- City, died Dec. 21 at age 80. Following his
graduation from Northwestern Junior College, he attended Calvin College. He then
served in the Air Force for four years and later was a farmer and egg plant operator. He
was a member of Calvin Christian Reformed Church, where he served as a Sunday
tschool teacher and council member. Mr. Wiersma’s survivors include his wife, Mary; five
children; and three brothers, Ralph ’52, ’53; Glenn ’54, ’56; and Lee ’50, ’62.

Andrew Pardunia ’84, ’85, age 68, of Newport, Iowa, died Jan. 10 in Sanborn. He
attended Beth Junior College, Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary
before graduating with a bachelor’s degree in
education from NWC. He was a high
school English teacher in Sioux Center,
Rockwell City-Lytton, and Washington
High School in Cherokee, where he spent most of his career. In addition to
teaching, he coached speech and drama. His survivors include a sister.

By Amy Scherer

The byline Thed Stoyes ‘94 penned songs for her Christian pop album "All I Need,"
nominated for an Indieheaven Momentum Award in 2008, her life had been an exercise in proving
the title track’s theme. In 2008, her life had been an exercise in proving the
title track’s theme. In 2008, her life had been an exercise in proving the
title track’s theme. In 2008, her life had been an exercise in proving the
title track’s theme. In 2008, her life had been an exercise in proving the
title track’s theme.

In Memoriam

Mathilda Vander Wal ’34, age 97, died
Jan. 1 in Orange City. After graduating from
Northwestern Junior College, she
served as a school teacher for several years.
She was a member of First Reformed Church,
where she participated in women’s programs and
was involved in Christian education. She is survived by two children, including
Glenda De Jong ’60, ’62, and a brother,
Claude Boom ‘34.

age 91. He was a pastor for 17 years and served RCA churches in Sibley, Iowa; Prai-
er View, Kan.; Sioux, Minn.; and Buffalo
Center, Iowa. He was a member of Calvary
Reformed Church. Among his survivors are
four children.

Wilma Groeneweg ’37, ’38, age 90, of
Boyden, Iowa, died Jan. 8 in Sanborn.
She taught in the Boyden-Hull School
District for 28 years before retiring. She
was a member of First Reformed Church
of Sheldon, and she served as organist at
First Reformed in Boyden for 40 years. She
was a member of the Reformed Church
in America’s Women’s Ministries as well as
the American Legion Auxiliary in Boyden.
Among her survivors are two sons and two
sisters, including Harriet Vanlie ‘Heuf ’46.
Harold Vanlie ‘Berg ’29, age 90, died
Dec. 29 in La Vista, Neb. After graduating from
Northwestern Junior College, he at-
}
Our Past, Haiti’s Future
by Carl Lindskoog ’02

In 2002, just days after I arrived in Washington, D.C., for a semester-long internship program, I met Augustine, a beautiful and captivating fellow intern from Florida. Augustine is Haitian, and as I got to know this fascinating woman, I also became fascinated by the rich history and culture of Haiti. Now Im completing a dissertation on the history of Haitians in the United States, and Augustine is my wife. Through her, I’ve fallen in love with the people of Haiti.

As thrilling as it has been to explore Haitian culture and history, it has also been uncomfortable and painful. I have been especially interested in the historical relationship between the United States and Haiti and in the experience of Haitian immigrants in the U.S. It was not easy, therefore, to learn about the many instances in which my country has adopted policies that have led to extreme hardship for the Haitian people.

Even in just the past 100 years, much is disturbing about the United States’ relationship with Haiti. During the American occupation from 1915 to 1934, the U.S. imposed the corvée, a labor system of forced servitude that reminded the Haitian people of their past enslavement. When peasants resisted the corvée, U.S. Marines violently suppressed the insurgents and executed their leaders.

Post-occupation turmoil contributed to the rise of the now notorious dictator François “Papa Doc” Duvalier. Papa Doc has become synonymous in the minds of many Americans with the worst excesses of government brutality and state terror. What is less well-known is the degree to which he enjoyed U.S. government brutality and state terror. What is less well-known is the degree to which he enjoyed U.S. support. American leaders tolerated Duvalier because they regarded him as reliably anti-Communist.

After Papa Doc’s death, the U.S. supported his son, Jean-Claude “Baby Doc,” working with him to institute an economic model that enriched international agribusiness and manufacturers while destroying peasant agriculture and entrenching international agribusiness and manufacturers while destroying peasant agriculture and entrenching Haiti’s dependence on foreign investment and proposals rejuvenating Haiti’s low-wage, labor-intensive assembly industry.

This is the same failed economic model imposed on Haiti in the 1970s and ‘80s. No wonder, then, that members of Haitian grassroots organizations—who have been shut out of these meetings about Haiti’s future—have claimed the plan “fails to address similar abuses in the future.”

For example, more than $9 billion has been pledged for the next three years and beyond to rebuild Haiti. However, the accompanying economic plan continues and even increases Haiti’s dependence on foreign investment and proposals rejuvenating Haiti’s low-wage, labor-intensive assembly industry.

What’s Your Legacy?

A s a little girl, Miriam (Korver ’74) Hector watched Dr. Rodney Jiskoot play organ at Alton Reformed Church. “My family didn’t have a piano yet,” she says, “but I’d go home and pretend to play like him, with my fingers on two levels of a windowsill.”

When Hector came to Northwestern, she was thrilled to study with the musician who first inspired her to play. “He said, when accompanying hymns, to read the words and convey their meaning through my playing,” she says. “People tell me my accompaniment is worshipful. He taught me that. He gave me so much.” That’s why Hector wanted to give back, helping to establish the Dr. Rodney Jiskoot Organ Scholarship in memory of her mentor.

Be intentional.

To contribute to the Dr. Rodney Jiskoot Organ Scholarship—or to give to one of 33 other scholarships that honor the legacies of Northwestern professors and staff members—contact Carrie Wassink, 712-707-7109 or corniew@nwciowa.edu.

Carl Lindskoog attended Northwestern from 1998 to 2000. He has a B.A. from the University of Iowa, an M.A. from Northern Illinois University, and is a Ph.D. candidate at City University of New York. Carl is the son of Dr. Don Lindskoog and Dr. Verna De Jong.

Northwestern professors emeritus of psychology and English, respectively.

give.nwciowa.edu • giving@nwciowa.edu
Although Dr. Elizabeth Heeg-Truesdell is sometimes mistaken for a student, those who have taken a class from her know her talents as a teacher. Not only is she extremely knowledgeable, but she’s able to relate well with students and excite them about science.

Small wonder the biology professor was named the 2010 recipient of the $1,500 Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award in April. “She is one of my favorite professors because of her willingness to treat students as colleagues in science, not subordinates,” says senior Jacob Peterson.

Rachelle Pedersen ’10, who will begin medical studies this fall, says Heeg-Truesdell’s office door is always open. “She has provided me with priceless guidance over the years.”

A 2001 NWC graduate, Heeg-Truesdell completed a doctorate at Northwestern University and joined the faculty in 2006.