

Northwestern College Magazine

SUMMER 2013
the Classic

289

Trivial Pursuit

Northwestern in numbers,
from the obscure to the obvious

Also

Honoring Syl Scorza
Defending Women
Touring Cuba

18

Among Northwestern's numbers are impressive service stats like the number of countries Summer of Service participants have traveled to since the program started: 89.



Contents

Classic People

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The *Classic* is published three times a year—in April, July and November—for alumni and friends of Northwestern College. So named because it served what was then known as the Northwestern Classical Academy, the *Classic* was the school's first student newspaper, begun in 1891. It has been an alumni publication since 1930.

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

Opinions expressed in the *Classic* do not necessarily reflect the official position of Northwestern College.

On the cover:

Even though Leah Wielenga was one of 289 students who took an online NWC course this year, like every student, she's more than a number to us.

PHOTO BY DOUG BURG



16 Driven

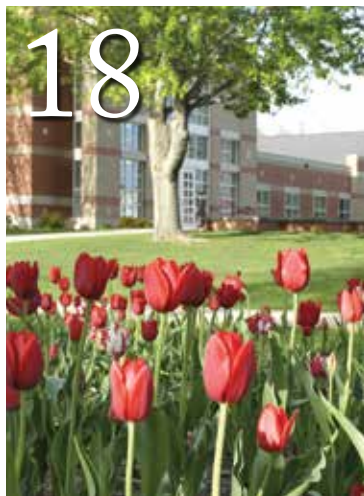
Retired religion professor Syl Scorza overcomes disability to leave a legacy of lifelong learning.

18 By the Numbers

Whether it's tulips planted on campus or bricks used to build the new learning commons, we have the facts and figures to satisfy your curiosity.

22 Warrior for Women

Social work professor Valerie Stokes' research gives voice to the victims of coercive relationships.



On the Web

Your Turn

What have you learned from professor Syl Scorza? Share that or any other comments about articles in this issue.

visit classic.nwciowa.edu

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Zwemer View

Strategic Moves at Northwestern

What students are seeking from their college experience is constantly changing. In response to students' needs (and wants), Northwestern's campus will look quite different when the fall semester begins in August.

The DeWitt Learning Commons will be open, accessible from a grand north campus entrance. The learning commons will provide space, technology and other resources for collaborative learning that will help us build on our hallmarks of excellent, relational faculty and strong, relevant academic programs. We're excited for our students to learn more and better through learning together. And we are grateful to our many alumni and friends whose gifts have fully funded this \$14 million project.

Wellness is important to today's students. To help them live healthy, balanced lives, we are significantly renovating our fitness center. This project is also being funded by some private gifts, as well as college resources.

Once Ramaker Library is vacated, we'll begin renovating this solid building into a center for the offices of student development, spiritual formation, career development and multicultural affairs—as well as key academic programs like global education, general education and our honors program. The services of each of these departments enrich our students' faith and learning, so we're eager to house them together in a strategic campus location.

The goal of all these improvements is to continue to make the campus as beautiful and functional as possible, but we know physical changes are not enough. Our new integrated general education (IGE) will help us better meet the goals of our Vision for Learning (www.nwciowa.edu/vision). A touchstone of the new IGE curriculum is a first-year seminar intended to help new students thrive in our Christian academic community.

The number of 18- to 22-year-olds seeking the intentional Christian academic community Northwestern is known for—at an institution of our size and setting—is declining. However, there is great growth in community college transfer students and adult learners. The reputation Northwestern enjoys for its high-quality academics, spiritual vibrancy and tight-knit community doesn't appeal just to traditional-aged students. That's why we're making the Northwestern experience available to a broader scope of students through two new online programs (nursing and analytics) and exploring others, including graduate degrees. We believe our unique faith-and-learning mission will set us apart in the online learning market.

One of Northwestern's most valuable qualities is our ability to change with the times while holding true to our founding values: academic excellence pursued within the context of Reformed and Christian principles. While the campus and methods of delivering the Northwestern experience will continue to adapt, we remain true to our mission of engaging students in courageous and faithful learning that empowers them to follow Christ and pursue God's redeeming work in the world.



Greg Christy
President



Follow President Christy at [Twitter.com/NWC_PGC](https://twitter.com/NWC_PGC)



DOUG BURG

in Box

Kudos

We just received our *Classic*. Another great issue! Both the content and the design display excellence in preparation, production and publishing. It's a great reflection on NWC. Thanks to you for a job well done.

Rev. Steven Vander Molen
Holland, Mich.

Top Grade

"Classroom Champions" was a great article. I continue to appreciate the way you integrate stories/examples into a key point supporting the main theme of your article. I was especially impressed with your background knowledge and research on the No Child Left Behind law and the impact it has had on poverty-stricken communities where some of our graduates are teaching. It was also interesting to read your comments about charter schools, vouchers and the newly enacted Common Core curriculum.

Your article was both educational and most positively recognized our graduates and program. Thanks!

Ron Juffer '56
Orange City

Booking It

I loved seeing the "Hey, cats, let's book!" ad in the spring *Classic*. I was part of the 1964 move [of books into Ramaker Library]. In fact, that's me on the right in the photo! I was a sophomore at the time. Hope all goes well [with the

move into the DeWitt Learning Commons] this summer.

Phillip Sand '69
Lake St. Louis, Mo.

Surprised

Love the school! Sending our third one there come fall. We definitely were unhappily surprised to see a young man showing his tattoo and so much [skin] in the *Classic*. We feel this was in very poor taste and should not have been included in a Christian college's magazine.

Fran Hutson
Logan, Iowa

Night-time Reading

Stayed up way past my bedtime to read the latest @nwc Iowa *Classic*. Makes me grateful for my time there and inspires me to live out my faith.

 **Candice Fender '08** @candifer85

Follow Scripture

Your publication does a good job of letting us know some of the activities of students and alumni, especially the mission work done.

We were appalled, however, at the article "Inked." What the students and you encouraged was contrary to Scripture. Leviticus 19:28 says, "Do not cut your bodies for the dead or put tattoo marks on yourselves. I am the Lord." Also, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 says, "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are

not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies."

The Scriptural mandate in Romans 10:10 is, "... It is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved." We pray you will encourage your students to live biblically sound lives.

Pete '60, '68 and Ruth Vande Stroet
Rock Valley, Iowa

EDITOR'S NOTE: Some of the students interviewed for the *Classic* referenced Leviticus 19:28, noting, as theologians have, that the prohibition against tattoos is preceded by prohibitions against mixing fabrics (vs. 19) and cutting the sides of one's hair and beard (vs. 27). The students understand some Levitical laws as enabling the Israelites to set themselves apart, and that's how they see their faith-oriented tattoos: as a way to set themselves apart as Christians.

The purpose of the article was simply to invite readers into the lives and minds of today's NWC students who are, on the whole, spiritually vibrant and mission-minded—and some of whom express their faith through body ink.

WE LOVE GETTING MAIL

Send letters to: *Classic*, NWC,
101 7th Street SW, Orange City, IA
51041; email: classic@nwc Iowa.edu.
Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Please include an address and daytime phone number.



around the Green



Makeover

New shades, some highlighting, a little trim work: Summer is the season for getting fresh and fit, even on Northwestern's campus.

A renovation of the Mini-Gym area of the DeWitt Physical Fitness Center began in May, with completion expected by Raider Days at the end of September. The 3,500-square-foot facility will sport new cardio equipment, resistance machines and free weights; three remodeled racquetball courts visible through glass back walls; a game zone with table tennis and pool; and new restrooms.

"The second-phase renovation of our fitness center and addition of new equipment will provide an outstanding area for students and community members to work out," says President Greg Christy.

The design, by Cannon Moss Brygger Architects, features Raider red accents and circular flow patterns that match the sleek, modern look of the two campus facilities it connects: the indoor track and four-court area, which was remodeled in 2011, and the Rowenhorst Student Center, redone in 2007.

On the other side of campus, the group study tables and test-taking stations of the Peer Learning Center (PLC) are being replaced by fruit flies and microscopes. As soon as classes ended in May, the PLC moved out of VPH 127, in the northeast corner of Van Peursem Hall, to make room for an additional

biology classroom and dry lab. Additional biology facilities are needed to accommodate growing enrollment in health sciences programs such as athletic training and nursing.

The Peer Learning Center, which includes the Writing Center and offers tutoring and disability accommodation services, is relocating to the new DeWitt Learning Commons, opening in August.

Vermeer Dining Room and Vermeer South, which serve students as well as college and community banquet guests, are being outfitted with fresh paint and new flooring, tables and chairs to match the redesigned cafeteria, completed last summer.



Sue Taylor

Safety Specialist Retires

To students, she's the person behind the fire drills that interrupted their classes. To faculty and staff, she's the employee who helped keep Northwestern out of hot water with regulators.

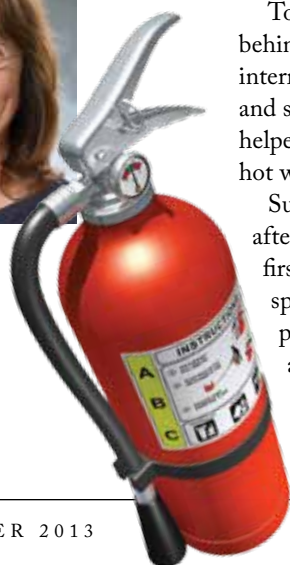
Sue Taylor retired this summer after 12 years as the college's first government regulations specialist. Given a yellow legal pad her first day on the job and told her computer was on order, Taylor was charged

with making sure the campus complied with rules regarding hazardous waste. Though a theatre major in college, she is detail-oriented and loves research, which served her well in mastering numerous federal regulations.

Taylor developed a chemical hygiene plan, worked with others to create an emergency response plan, recruited faculty and staff for CPR certification, and provided safety training for students who

cleaned the dorms and apartments.

Thanks to her work, Northwestern passed an unannounced hazardous waste inspection in 2005 and received a Groundwater Guardian Green Site Award six consecutive years. "Sue thought about scary scenarios so the rest of us didn't have to and provided a safer campus for us all," says Scott Simmelink, director of maintenance and operations.



Adviser and Advocate

Supporter. Encourager. Difference maker.

These words described Kim Van Es in letters nominating her to receive Northwestern's first Faculty Inspirational Service Award.

As an adviser for provisional students, Van Es's eagerness to aid students whose challenges threaten to undermine their college success has contributed to her reputation as an advocate for learners at all levels.

"[Kim] has been a passionate advocate of ... our conditionally accepted students," wrote Dean of the Faculty Dr. Adrienne Forgette in her nomination, which also describes the extra time Van Es invests in communicating with prospective students and their parents. "[She works] to find good solutions for [students'] academic needs."

Also a lecturer in English and coordinator of Northwestern's English teaching major, Van Es enables her students to attend professional conferences, helping them build stand-out resumes and learn the value of contributing to scholarship in one's field.

As a teacher for Northwestern's new First-Year Seminar, Van Es has been instrumental in developing the course curriculum and choosing texts that guide freshmen in imagining how they might meaningfully engage with their Christian college experience. During the spring semester, she led a faculty/staff discussion group on one of the texts, *Why College Matters to God*.



The first recipient of Northwestern's Faculty Inspirational Service Award, Kim Van Es, lecturer in English, is known across campus for exceeding both students' and colleagues' expectations.

Geoff Johnson

Van Es and her physician husband, Jerry '71, have served as Spring Service Project leaders, traveling with students to Annville, Ky., and Opelousas, La. They also led a summer study abroad trip to Israel and have served as host parents for international students at Northwestern.

Dr. Valerie (Roman '93) Stokes, social work, praised Van Es's contributions beyond the classroom in her nomination letter: "[Kim] views her work as developing young people into creative, compassionate citizens who participate in our country and around the world."

Tireless Servant

"I'm actually kind of exhausted," joked Dr. Barb Dewald at a year-end banquet in May. The college's associate dean for spiritual formation had just received the 2013 Staff Inspirational Service Award for her seemingly indefatigable commitment to students' spiritual growth.

Dewald's zeal for deepening students' faith comes with a broad job description. A typical week can include more than 30 appointments with colleagues and students. And student meetings sometimes start about the time she would rather be heading to bed.

She might be on campus at any hour, on any day, supporting students as they seek to encourage the spiritual growth of their peers, wrote Dr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, director of music ministries, in her letter nominating Dewald. "Barb sees her entire

life as ministry," she added.

Director of Residence Life Marlon Haverdink '97 wrote, "She always finds time to listen and provide wise counsel."

Since joining Northwestern's staff in 1995, Dewald has directed nearly all the college's campus ministry efforts, including Discipleship Group Bible studies and ministry teams serving on campus and in the region.

She helped develop the college's Spring Service Project (SSP) and Summer of Service (SOS) programs to the point where they annually involve more than 200 students, faculty and staff in short-term missions. She has logged thousands of miles leading SSP teams and visiting SOS students overseas.

For her efforts to establish standards by which short-term mission programs ensure effective planning, execution and follow-up,

Dewald received the Dana Walling Award for Excellence in Campus Ministry from the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities in 2008. She has a Master of Divinity degree from Sioux Falls Seminary and a master's in counseling from the University of South Dakota.

Dewald's doctorate in leadership and spiritual formation at George Fox Seminary included writing a vocational discernment guidebook to help college students discover God's calling for their lives.



Dan Ross

Barb Dewald, associate dean of spiritual formation, offers a blessing to a student near the end of the baccalaureate service in May. Dewald received Northwestern's Staff Inspirational Service Award for her devotion to nurturing students' faith and empowering them to serve.

Of Course

Studying Slavery

Class

Topics in Religion: Slavery, Separation, Redemption, Reconciliation

Instructors

Michael Andres
Professor of Religion

Rahn Franklin
Multi-Ethnic Student Counselor

Texts and Assignments

- *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, by Harriet Beecher Stowe
- *The Beloved Community: How Faith Shapes Social Justice From the Civil Rights Movement to Today*, by Charles Marsh

Students enrolled in this course also participated in a field trip to abolitionist and civil rights sites in the Midwest, including Malcolm X's birthplace in Omaha; the Rev. John Todd's house in Tabor, Iowa, which was a "hub" of the Underground Railroad; and Monroe Elementary School in Topeka, Kan., a Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site.

As the United States' first African-American president serves his second term, it can be difficult to imagine a time when blacks were prohibited from voting. But students enrolled in Michael Andres' and Rahn Franklin's team-taught course are reminded daily of the slavery, separation, redemption and reconciliation stories that have existed both in American history and the biblical narrative.

Relating to the historical, political, social and theological context of oppression—with a focus on the African-American experience—can be difficult for students who have never personally been impacted by inequality. "Because it is such an emotionally charged subject, we want to treat it seriously, but with time to respond both socially and spiritually," explains Andres. "We've had to make sure space was carved for lament and reflection."

Andres and Franklin enable students to process what they are learning by assigning two book analyses, an oral presentation and reflection papers. Students also read literary, biblical and historical narratives of oppression. "There are a number of access points to understanding injustice. Students need opportunities to see where their own life story weaves into this larger one," says Andres.

Although the first opportunity to take this special topics class was in the spring of 2013, Andres hopes the course might become a regular part of the curriculum. "This was something of a pilot for a capstone course for the Christian community development minor," he explains, "but our hope is that students who have captured God's vision for justice would find this class fruitful. It is not just for religion students; it is for all who want to participate in God's great holistic plan of restoration."

Summer in Europe

Dr. Paul Bartlett, kinesiology, teamed with Professor Vonda Post, business, to lead his third summer study abroad course to the Czech Republic in May and June. The trip enabled seven students to compare and contrast sports, fitness and leisure pursuits in the former communist country with that of the United States.

"There's a very strong emphasis on outdoor activities in the Czech—things like cycling, hiking and rock climbing," Bartlett says. Students had opportunities to observe and join their Czech peers in such activities, as well as to conduct informal interviews with Czech citizens about their country and culture, exploring differences between Czech and American sport delivery systems, allegiances and nationalism.

They also toured a Czech Olympic Training Center, visited castles and villages, and traveled to a famous mineral water spa town.

Star Visit



Jason Castro, a Christian singer/songwriter who finished fourth in *American Idol* in 2008, was the special guest artist and judge at the NC/DC finals in April.

Awards Season

Spring was awards season for Dr. Samuel Martin, English, who was honored as the March Artist of the Month by *Image Journal* and named a Mullin Scholar at the University of Southern California's Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies (IFACS) in April.

Image Journal publishes "the best writing and artwork that is informed by—or grapples with—religious faith." Annie Dillard is one of the editors, and the diverse list of contributors includes Madeleine L'Engle and John Updike.

Image published an excerpt from Martin's *A Blessed Snarl* and named

the novel among the Top 10 of 2012. The Artist of the Month tribute describes him as a writer "possessed of the ability to spin a good yarn—and also to plumb the depths" and calls *Snarl* "a family saga worthy of the Old Testament."

The only Protestant among this year's Mullin Scholars, Martin will participate in the IFACS's Generations in Dialogue program, which hosts weekend retreats that bring together accomplished mentors in academia and the arts with early-career writers, artists and scholars.

Martin is among six scholars and artists from across the U.S.



Dr. Sam Martin, English, is receiving attention for his creative writing, including *A Blessed Snarl* and a second novel he's currently writing. Both books are set in Newfoundland, where Martin is spending the summer.

chosen for the program, which also includes an assistant editor at *The Cincinnati Review* and the coordinator of the M.F.A. program at the University of Alaska at Anchorage. Their discussions on the vocation of the writer will be led by Gregory Wolfe, founding

editor of *Image Journal*.

In addition to *A Blessed Snarl*, Martin is also the author of *This Ramshackle Tabernacle*, a collection of short stories. Both volumes, published by Breakwater Books, are available at amazon.com.

Summer Sonshine

Fiji and Greece are among the dozen countries Northwestern Summer of Service (SOS) team members are visiting this summer as short-term missionaries. Other nations where students are serving are Albania, Bolivia, France, Ghana, Haiti, Ireland, India, Romania, Thailand and the United States.

Eighteen students—whose majors include education, religion, and the health and social sciences—are assisting pastors, physicians, teachers and

other missionaries in churches, hospitals, orphanages and refugee camps. They are teaching English, leading worship, and delivering community health programs with ministries such as Pioneers, Rahab's Rope and the Luke Society.

For a list of the 2013 SOS team members' names, dates of service, ministry details and links to blogs, visit nwciowa.edu/sos-team.

Caps and Gowns

Northwestern gained 259 more alumni at commencement ceremonies on May 11.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas De Vries, general secretary of the Reformed Church in America, addressed the graduates in a speech entitled "Life in the Fast Lane."

With diplomas in hand, members of the class of 2013 are heading to locations that include Colorado, Connecticut and Kenya and settling in communities ranging from Sioux Center and Chicago to Omaha and Des Moines. Among the positions they've secured are those of an assistant national bank examiner, high school Spanish teacher, intensive care nurse, editor, sound engineer and youth pastor. Still others are enrolling in graduate schools that include Western Theological Seminary, the University of Iowa and the University of Nebraska.



Lindsey Geels, a public relations major from Sheldon, Iowa, was among 259 seniors who graduated from Northwestern this spring.

DAN ROSS



ANITA CIRIUS

Critical Acclaim

Shelby Vander Molen '13 is starting her writing career rubbing shoulders with Pulitzer Prize-winning playwrights and some of the nation's leading theatre critics.

A double major in theatre and writing from Pella, Iowa, Vander Molen won the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center's National Critics Institute Scholarship after placing first as a theatre review and features writer at both the regional and then national Kennedy Center American College Theatre

May graduate Shelby Vander Molen is the national winner of the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center's National Critics Institute Scholarship. She is spending part of her summer in Waterford, Conn., studying the art of reviewing plays with leading theatre critics from across the U.S.

Festivals in January and April, respectively.

The O'Neill Scholarship is covering all expenses for Vander Molen to attend the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, Waterford, Conn., during its monthlong playwriting conference this summer. While there, she is studying the art of reviewing plays with critics like Michael Feingold from *The Village Voice* and Linda Winer from *Newsday*.

Among the renowned and emerging playwrights invited to the O'Neill conference this year is David Auburn, who wrote *Proof*, which won a Tony Award and was made into a feature film starring Gwyneth Paltrow and Anthony Hopkins.

Opening Soon

Northwestern staff are moving into their offices in the new learning commons and preparing for the building's opening, which will coincide with the start of the 2013–14 school year.

Dedication of the \$14 million facility—named in honor of Jack and Mary DeWitt of Holland, Mich., who gave the lead gift for its construction—is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 27, during the Raider Days Homecoming weekend. Along with the library, the center will house the college's academic support center, writing center, multimedia center and institutional technology help desk.

A wet spring marked by snow as late as May 1 delayed outside work on the plaza, sidewalks, boulevard and parking lot, but interior work proceeded on schedule. Flooring, woodwork and ceilings were finished in June, and

shelving and furniture were installed in July. Landscaping will be completed in August, although plans are to wait until September and cooler weather to seed grass around the building.

Dr. Tim Schlak, director of the library, is looking forward to seeing the impact the DeWitt Learning Commons will have on the Northwestern community. "Countless hours were invested in designing a building that will serve students' evolving digital and collaborative needs for generations to come," he says. "We couldn't be more excited about our new home."



Twelve monument piers will line the boulevard leading from Northwestern's new campus entrance to the plaza in front of the Jack and Mary DeWitt Learning Commons.

ANITA CIRIUS

An App for That

A student-developed NWC yearbook iPad application commemorating the 2012–13 school year is now available at the Apple App Store. The app, which includes photo slideshows of athletics teams, dorm life, performing arts and service projects, is downloadable for free at <http://goo.gl/GtLOR>.

The app came out of a collaborative effort between Northwestern's advancement office, Help Desk Manager Matt Austin '05, and students in a Multiplatform Communication course taught by Professor Dayne Logan.

"The students who built this app will have something in their portfolios that few of their peers from other colleges will have," says Logan.

Concert at Carnegie

When members of Ensemble: Périphérie presented concerts at five Midwestern colleges this spring, they had another venue in mind: Carnegie Hall. The chamber ensemble, for which NWC music professor Dr. Luke Dahn serves as co-artistic director and composer, will present its tour program at the venerable New York City site on Saturday, Oct. 26.

Dahn and co-artistic director Dr. Joseph Dangerfield founded Ensemble: Périphérie in 2010 to share their love for new music with others. The group includes strings, clarinet, flute, percussion, piano and soprano vocals. All of the members have performed and recorded widely; many, like Dahn and Dangerfield, have completed doctorates at the University of Iowa.

The group's repertoire features new works composed by Dahn and Dangerfield.

The concert will be exactly one week after Dahn's colleague, Northwestern music professor and pianist Dr. Juyeon Kang, performs at Carnegie Hall.

Face Value

Grace Rohrer

Northwestern's her cup of tea

What was your transition to Orange City like?

I missed my family, my friends who I love dearly, the church community I was deeply involved with, and the career I was passionate about. Learning the language was one of the main challenges after I arrived; I struggled with understanding others and helping others understand me.

What do you enjoy about working with Northwestern's international students?

Serving them reminds me of the story in Genesis when Abraham receives the three strangers. He is blessed by those strangers, who were actually angels. Working with international students provides me with an opportunity to respond to God's calling in my life. I discovered who I am and who God is through his handiwork. I'm thankful to have a job I love.

Why is it important for college students to experience other cultures?

It broadens their worldview. It will not only improve their cultural competency and ability to celebrate diversity, but it will also help them to be passionate about building an inclusive society.

How do you spend your spare time?

I love to write. I wrote devotionals for *Church Press* for many years and still write articles for them. I also translated *Interpretation: a Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching* into Chinese. I am very passionate about providing good commentary to Taiwanese and Chinese Christian societies so they can better understand the word of God.

What is something about you that most people don't know?

During a time of political struggle in Taiwan, I engaged in a street protest. I was the executive editor of my college's magazine and wanted to report on what was happening in Taipei and what my peers and faculty were thinking. I



Ming Chen Lo, known on campus as Grace Rohrer, left her home in Taiwan for Orange City in 1998. Fluent in crossing cultures, she has served as Northwestern's international student counselor for nearly 13 years.

learned a lot through that experience and was also proud to be a part of a social movement during a crucial time in my homeland.

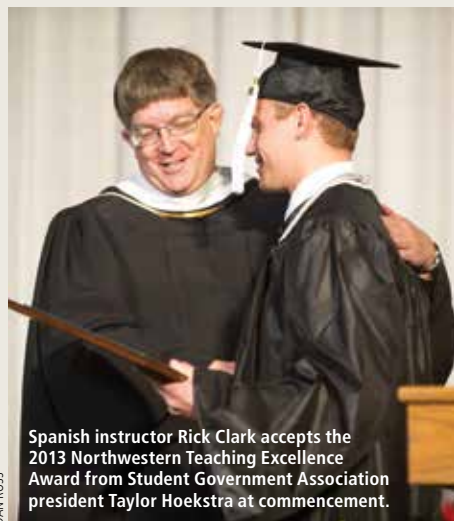
What is your favorite spot on campus?

I like the art building. I wish I could spend a lot more time there being creative, making sculptures and meditating.

If you could work in any other department on campus, which one would you choose?

I would love to teach biblical study. That was my passion before I moved to the United States. I could also see myself working in campus ministry or with the study abroad department.

If you'd like to see a particular Northwestern faculty or staff member featured in Face Value, email classic@nwciowa.edu.



Spanish instructor Rick Clark accepts the 2013 Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award from Student Government Association president Taylor Hoekstra at commencement.

DAVID ROSS

Double Award Winner

Since the Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award was established 30 years ago, only three professors have received the award twice. Spanish instructor Rick Clark joined that elite group—which also includes retired business professors Dr. Dave Mulder and Dr. Dick Van Holland '58—when he was named the 2013 recipient in May.

Clark, who also won in 2007, is described as very knowledgeable and engaging. “He loves what he teaches and gets very enthusiastic,” says Nadine Lundgren '13. “He teaches in a way we can connect with and remember.”

In Clark's classes, the pace moves quickly. “I believe you shouldn't do hardly anything in the classroom for more than five to seven minutes,” he says. “And if you do, you should approach it in two or three different ways.” So a typical period could include an activity or game, some work with the textbook, a time of singing Spanish worship songs, a vocabulary quiz, and exercises in which students pair up to practice speaking Spanish.

The son of missionary parents, Clark was raised in Ecuador. He regularly teaches NWC study abroad courses in that country and has led mission trips there, as well as in Mexico and Nicaragua.

Ray Gibler, accounting, and Dr. Mitch Kinsinger, religion/Christian education, were also finalists for the award.

World (and) History

Carlson leaves mark as teacher and study abroad advocate

Two months in the Dominican Republic as a college history major made a profound impact on Doug Carlson.

“It was summer 1967,” he recalls. “I'll never forget sitting one warm, lazy afternoon in the supposedly volatile Latin America, reading in *Time* magazine how Newark and Detroit were tearing themselves apart in race riots.”

With a bigger worldview, Carlson continued to follow his passion for history, earning a doctorate from the University of Illinois. But his time in another culture set the stage for a career that combined teaching history with promoting opportunities to study abroad. This summer he retires after serving Northwestern for 23 years as a professor and administrator.

“What made Doug such a good teacher is his ability to have students think deeply about the people of the past, with a real compassion and genuine empathy for their experience,” says Dr. Adrienne Forgette, dean of the faculty.

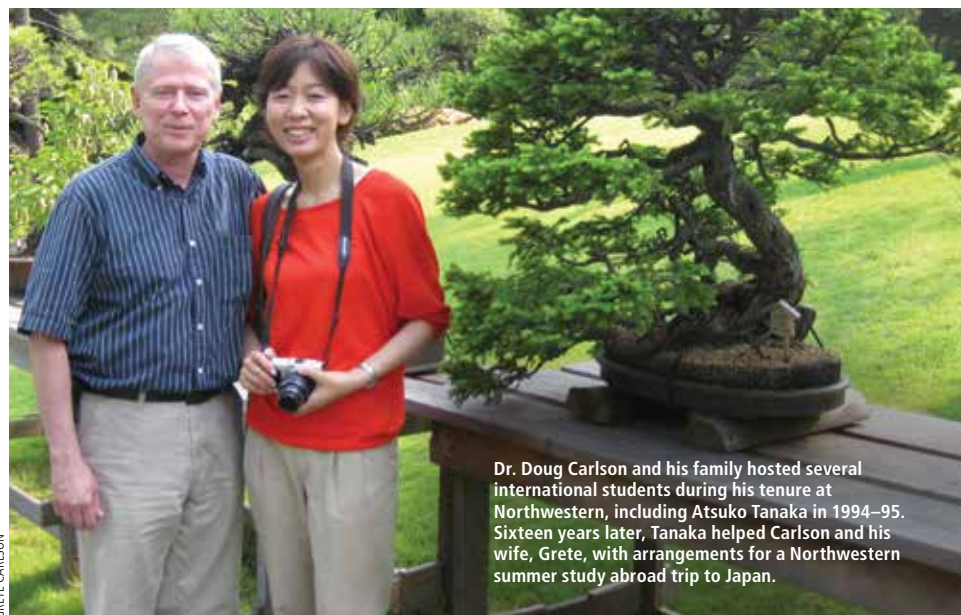
Carlson's specialty was American history, and through the years he developed and taught courses on women's history, African-American history, the Cold War and Vietnam. Named associate academic dean

in 2000, he helped establish and develop Northwestern's Global Education Center, including its summer study abroad office, as well as the college's own semester-long study abroad programs in Romania and Oman.

For Carlson, the connection between his two passions makes sense. “Teaching history helps students understand the world chronologically,” he says. “I love history, so I love the history of wherever we got involved.”

Carlson co-led one of Northwestern's first summer study abroad trips to Mexico City in 1999. During that decade, fewer than 20 Northwestern students spent a semester abroad each year; now more than 50 participate in off-campus semesters—and approximately another 50 in summer study abroad programs—each year.

Sociology professor Dr. Scott Monsma collaborated with Carlson to develop the Oman Semester. “Without Doug, it wouldn't have happened,” Monsma says. “He's been an advocate for getting students off campus and overseas. That's his passion, and we owe a lot to that.”



Dr. Doug Carlson and his family hosted several international students during his tenure at Northwestern, including Atsuko Tanaka in 1994–95. Sixteen years later, Tanaka helped Carlson and his wife, Grete, with arrangements for a Northwestern summer study abroad trip to Japan.

GRETE CARLSON



Jeff Taylor directed *The Winslow Boy* in April. After 33 years at Northwestern, he retired this spring as the college's lighting designer, technical director and member of its theatre department faculty.

TOM BECKER

Great Expectations

Longtime theatre professor ends 33-year career at NWC

Johan Godwaldt '85 was stretched out on a catwalk in Northwestern's Playhouse theatre, hanging a light. After numerous attempts, he finally had it positioned exactly where his professor, Jeff Taylor, wanted it.

"Perfect! C+," Taylor called out.

Decades later, Godwaldt's son was in the final play Taylor directed this spring before retiring after a 33-year teaching career at NWC. He, too, experienced the high expectations of the college's longtime lighting designer and technical director.

"Mr. T broke me down and made me realize more than I had before that 'You can do better,'" Tiemen Godwaldt says.

While Taylor's reputation as a demanding teacher may be well-deserved, it's also the reason his students have achieved more than they dreamed possible. One won top lighting honors and represented a seven-state region at a national theatre competition, others pursued Master of Fine Arts degrees in lighting design, and still others garnered summer internships at notable playhouses around the country.

Taylor's plans to become a professional lighting designer changed when he became a

Christian while in graduate school. He joined Northwestern's faculty in 1980 when NWC's theatre department—originally looking for a costume designer—hired Taylor instead.

Taylor holds himself to the same high standards he has for his students. Reflecting on his early years at Northwestern, he describes himself as a tough grader who had to learn to be a good teacher. "In theatre you roll up your sleeves and you're shoulder to shoulder with other people, and that was a good environment for my personality," he says.

Taylor's theatre colleague Karen Barker agrees it's in those mentoring relationships that Taylor was most effective.

"For students who had no foundation, he lived out a life with Christ as foundation. For students who had no model of living with integrity, Jeff made his own life an open book so they could learn what integrity looks like. He spent hours mentoring, guiding, encouraging and confronting students. Jeff's true legacy is changed lives."

West Hall Wins

Current and former West Hall residents gave generously to the Northwestern Fund during the final days of the Dorm Dollar Challenge, held April 22 to May 10, surpassing Colenbrander to take home the trophy.

The victory—based on the number of givers relative to the total number of hall residents during the past 15 years—also wins West additional funds for summer dorm improvements, and donors will be invited to a hall party during Raider Days in September.

Nearly 100 alumni participated in the challenge, raising \$2,995. Thirty-five alumni donated in honor of West Hall.

Pedal Out the Metal

Head Football Coach Kyle Achterhoff '90 was among 30 faculty, staff and students who rode one of the "vintage" stationary bikes during Pedal Out the Metal in May. The Kinesiology Klub event raised \$437 for new exercise equipment.



DOUG BURG

Tough Love

It didn't take Dr. John Brogan long to realize the difference between his new job as dean of student life and his previous position as a faculty member.

"I'd been named dean but was finishing up a sabbatical in Vancouver when I got an email from a professor," he recalls. "The email described Coly guys who were swinging from trees and making a racket outside the windows of the classroom where he was giving an exam. He asked if I would do something about it. He was serious. I thought to myself: This will be an interesting job."

Brogan became Northwestern's dean of students in 2005 after having taught in the religion department for eight years, during which time he won the college's Teaching Excellence Award. He traded daily classroom contact with students for interaction that was less regular but more intense. Less teaching, more discipline—and a lot of redemption.

The dean of student life has a different window into students' lives than professors, Brogan says. "I knew much more about what some students were dealing with: depression, eating disorders, early signs of mental illness."

Brogan also witnessed how much teaching and learning takes place alongside the classroom. "Other campus staff in addition to professors do so much to help students grow socially, spiritually and intellectually. That's one of the things I think is unique at Northwestern and should be cherished: The collaborative work done for the sake of students' lives and learning."

Brogan and his wife, Kathy, moved this summer to Holland, Mich., where he is the new dean of formation for ministry at Western Theological Seminary.



John Brogan says his role as dean of student life enabled him to engage with students' lives and development in ways that were sometimes difficult, but deeply gratifying.

DAN ROSS

Ready to Lead

Julie Vermeer Elliott '97 says when she enrolled at Northwestern, she was a nominal Christian and lacking in motivation. Four years later she was "a confident and whole person, an accomplished student and a dedicated follower

of Christ" who was awarded a full-tuition scholarship to pursue a Master of Theological Studies degree at Duke Divinity School.

That transformative experience inspires Elliott as she begins her position as Northwestern's dean of student life this summer. She returns to campus after serving as director of advising and first-year programs—as well as senior lecturer in Christian ethics—at Eastern University in Pennsylvania the last 10 years.

"I have been very active in bridging what are commonly understood as divides between academics and student life," says Elliott, "and I'm excited about the very integrated learning experience at Northwestern. The college's Vision for Learning and mission statement clearly articulate how

influential the area of student development is in shaping students for lives of thoughtful discipleship. I look forward to being involved in the transformation of students at an institution that was very influential in my development."

At Eastern, Elliott served on the Dean's Council and co-chaired the committee that developed a new general education curriculum. She directed all aspects of the university's first-year experience and advising system and was at the forefront of many co-curricular initiatives, including learning communities and service learning.

"Her contributions at Eastern reflected a deep appreciation for the work of both faculty and student life staff in promoting student learning," says Dr. Jasper Lesage, Northwestern's provost.

"She understands that learning takes place across the campus: in the classroom, chapel, residence halls, the library and elsewhere, and has a clear vision for student life that resonated with our campus community. She brings a collaborative style of leadership that has earned her strong support from those with whom she has worked."

Among Elliott's goals are helping faculty and student development staff to see themselves as partners in education; supporting and encouraging student development staff to continue to grow in their vocations; and building positive relationships with students and being an advocate for their developmental, academic, emotional and spiritual needs.



Julie Vermeer Elliott

Red Zone

Baseball

Back at Nationals

The baseball team won both the GPAC regular-season and conference tournament championships, the first time a squad has won both since 2006. The Raiders made their second appearance in the opening round of the NAIA national championships, ending the season with a 31-19 record, 17-3 in the conference. Tyler Stuermer was named the GPAC pitcher of the year and earned All-American honorable mention status, while Brian Wede earned the league's coach of the year recognition.

Softball

Good Day on the Mound

Katie VandeVoort threw the Raiders' first no-hitter since 2008 in a 12-0 victory over Dordt. Northwestern finished the season third in the GPAC with a 13-7 record and 26-22 overall.

Outdoor Track

Double All-American

Karen Hutson earned All-American honors in both the long jump and 100-meter hurdles at the national meet. The men placed fourth at the conference meet and the women were seventh; the Raiders won six events.

Men's Golf

Final Cut

The Raiders advanced to the final round at the national tournament and finished 17th. Neil Malenke and Ryan Kiewiet were named second and third team All-Americans, respectively. Malenke was the GPAC golfer of the year and recorded the lowest season average in school history, 73.2.

The men won every regular-season meet and captured their second straight conference title. Aaron Aberson '06 was named GPAC coach of the year for the second year in a row.

Women's Golf

New Coach

Under new head coach Catherine Van Der Weide, the squad placed second in the GPAC. Emma Wynja finished fourth overall.

Women's Tennis

Competitive

The Raiders finished the season with a 7-11 record overall, 3-4 in the GPAC.

Women's Basketball

National Recognition

Samantha Kleinsasser won the NAIA's Emil Liston Award, given to an outstanding junior basketball player with a GPA of at least 3.5. A second team Capital One Academic All-American, the nursing major is the sixth NWC athlete to win the prestigious award.

Scholar-Athletes

Honor Roll

Eighteen Raiders in spring sports earned NAIA Scholar-Athlete recognition, including nine in track and field. Repeat honorees included Noah Bohlmann (baseball); Michael Clark (golf); and Brandon Schuler, Leslie Stover and Amy Van Skike (track).

Capital One Academic All-American honors went to Clark and golfers Jessica Locker and Emma Wynja.

For more on Raider sports, visit www.nwcraiders.com

Erik Widener beats the throw at third during the Raiders' doubleheader victories over Hastings in April.



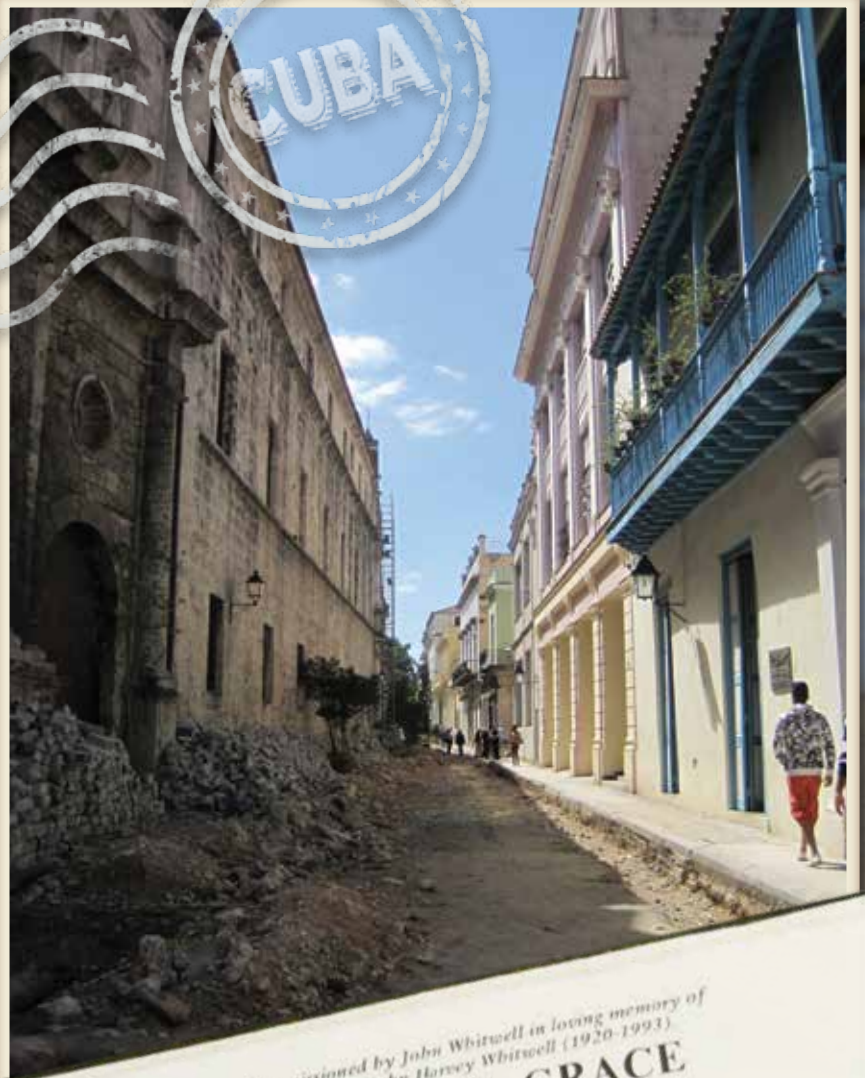
DAN ROSS



To CUBA, *with love*

The Symphonic Band brought \$6,000 worth of donated musical supplies and nine instruments when they arrived in Cuba for their spring tour. They also brought a desire to minister to members of the National Band of Cuba, which invited the NWC ensemble. The death of Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez altered plans, as three days of national mourning prohibited live music. Still, the students got in two performances, opportunities to share their faith with people they met, and a cross-cultural experience they'll remember for a lifetime.

Photos by Aaron DeBoer, Andrea Hallberg and Jessica Cleveland



Commissioned by John Whitwell in loving memory of
his father, John Harvey Whitwell (1920-1993)
AMAZING GRACE
(for concert band)

NORTHWESTERN CO.
MUSIC DEPT.



When Professor Emeritus of Religion Syl Scorza received an honorary doctorate at commencement, he told the audience he'd been labeled the "disabled professor," but he gave thanks to all the enablers who made it possible for him "to do a little good work."

DAN ROSS

Driven



NORTHWESTERN ARCHIVES

BY AMY SCHEER

Life-changing accident doesn't stop professor who loves learning

Scorza fiddled with the dials on his shortwave radio, picking up British broadcasts and the latest on the war. It was 1945, and doctors weren't convinced the young man would survive the traffic accident that paralyzed him from the chest down. Scorza, confined to his California bed 23 hours a day, would listen to the latest on the Belgian Congo and plot his next move.

Advance a rook? Pin the bishop to the king?

Scorza, born in Switzerland to an Italian immigrant and his American wife, found that correspondence chess took him around the world while stuck in a bed. Players from as far away as Siberia and Argentina mailed him their moves, written in numerical notation to avoid language difficulties. Between rehab and wound dressings, Scorza set up the board, decided his move, and mailed it back.

"It took a lot of time, but I had a lot of time," Scorza says. "I was rather sick for at least a year. As far as my attitude, I was rather positive; I didn't expect to die. I was planning to live my life out."

To recognize the drive and sense of adventure that kept him moving then and has barely diminished at age 90, Northwestern awarded the professor emeritus of religion an honorary doctorate at commencement this spring.

Scorza's first degree had come about between chess moves, as he finished up his courses at Hope College by correspondence. His family had moved from Chicago to California for the warmer climate and acquired an Autoette, a minicar marketed as an early electric wheelchair. As his health improved, Scorza drove around the neighborhood at 10 miles on a charge, meeting kids on the street and giving them rides to a Bible study he started just for them.

The logical next step on his route: studying the Bible more intensely back in Holland, Mich., at Western Theological Seminary, and later, at Princeton Theological Seminary, where he would earn a doctorate in Old Testament. Scorza also spent 13 months pastoring three rural churches in central Pennsylvania.

In 1959 he and his wife, Phyllis, moved to Orange City just as Northwestern was developing into a four-year institution. Scorza became one of two faculty members in the religion department, serving a growing student body.

"I had the reputation of academic strictness and tough love," says Scorza, who earned a second doctorate—in linguistics—from the

University of Illinois in 1972. "They'd say, 'Scorza's awful tough in Greek and religion. If you want to pass, you better take another prof.'"

When Scorza first arrived at Northwestern, only one building—Van Pense Hall—was accessible without a step. "When I went to chapel, I had to be hauled up manually," he says. "Eventually they put an elevator near my office to take me up to the back hallway, and they built a library that was accessible. The campus was more or less built with the idea that I'd be rolling around."

Themes of accomplishment and accommodation trace the arc of Scorza's 90 years, with each, at times, complementing or thwarting the other.

In 1991, Scorza was named Disabled Person of the Year by the Iowa Commission of Persons with Disabilities. He traveled to Washington, met with Barbara Bush at the White House and stayed at the famous Watergate Hotel, which turned out to be highly inaccessible.

In 1962 as part of a course at New York University, Scorza and his wife traveled through Israel for eight weeks. Getting around was difficult, and their bus wasn't equipped for people with disabilities. At each stop, he'd have to be carried up the stairs and put in a seat so his wheelchair wouldn't block the aisle.

"People made accommodations for me so I could achieve what I wanted to achieve," he says. "I was helped along the way."

Due to health complications, Scorza now spends at least 20 hours a day in bed. As a result, he had to discontinue his practice of taking at least one Northwestern course every semester since retiring from teaching in 1990.

From his bed, he reflected on being honored. After joking that what he really wanted was an honorary bachelor's degree for his 220 credits, he makes clear that he's just an ordinary guy grateful for all his "enablers." "I'm not the great hero that I'm being pictured as this year," he says.

And then he mentions the Israel trip. He was at the mercy of his fellow travelers at every stop, until they brought out the chessboard.

Competing against his professor, Scorza wheeled around so he couldn't see the pieces—and beat him blindfolded. No accommodation necessary. ♠

By the Numbers



1,657
Gallons

of ice cream
consumed annually
by those eating in
Northwestern's
cafeteria

Ever wonder how many tulips fill the flower beds on campus, or how many faculty and staff were once NWC students themselves? We spent some time compiling obscure—as well as better known—facts about Northwestern College for your enlightenment and enjoyment.



*(Tyler Zeutenhorst's
dad, Tim '82, was there)*

289

Students who took an online
Northwestern College course
during 2012–2013

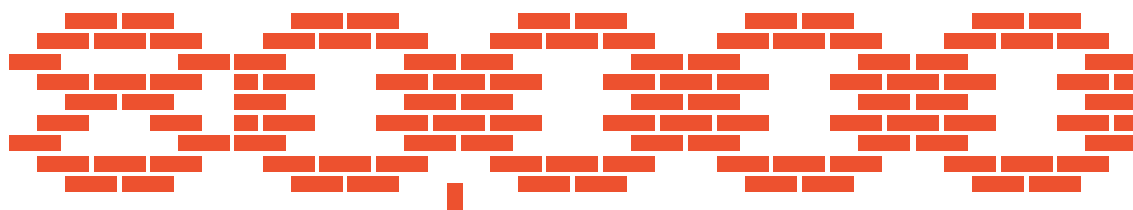
133

Sets of string
and net lighting
used to decorate
the campus for
Christmas



\$254

Average gift to the
Northwestern Fund



Bricks used to build the new learning commons



14:1 Student/faculty ratio at NWC

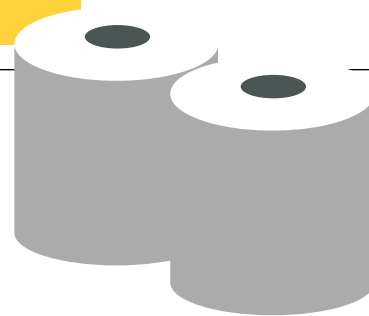


714

NWC scholarships
established by
alumni and friends
of the college

35%

Percentage of students
participating in
intercollegiate sports



33,744

Rolls of toilet
paper used on
campus each year



56 Students
who studied
abroad during
2012-13

89

Countries in which
Summer of Service
students have lived
and worked



124

Faculty and staff who
are Northwestern
alumni

1,178,834

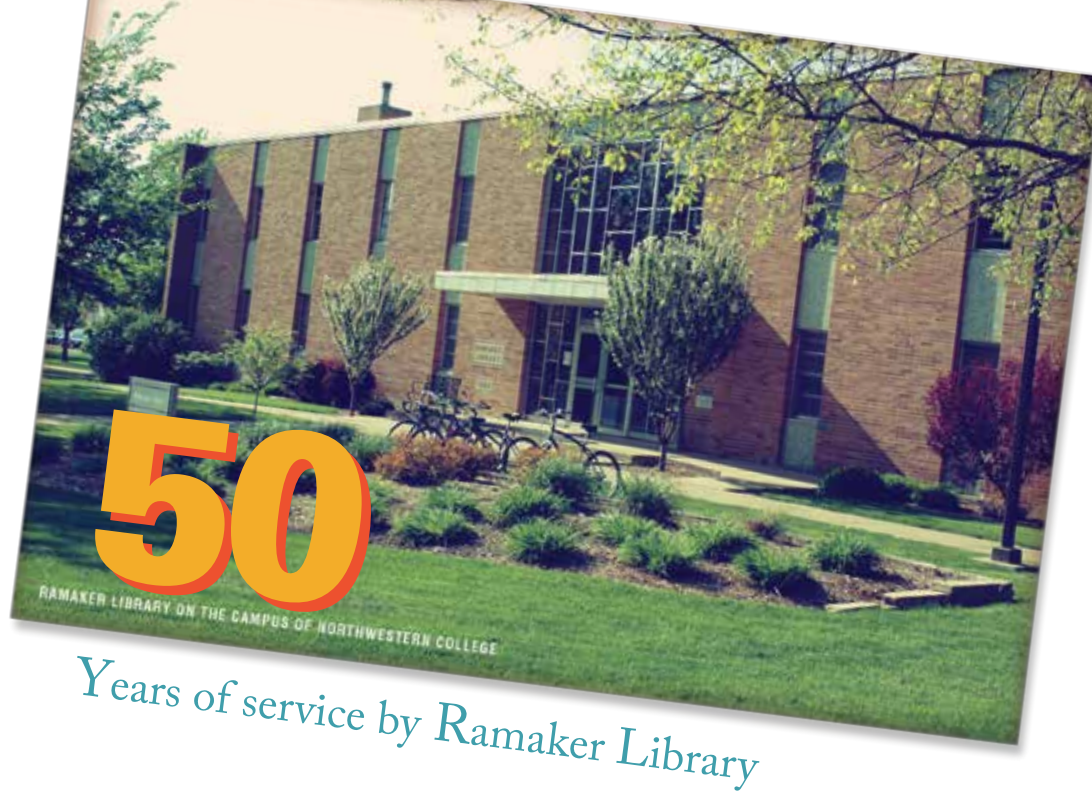
Pages used in college printers during 2012
(Laid end-to-end, they would reach from Orange City to Minneapolis)

800 tulips planted on campus last fall

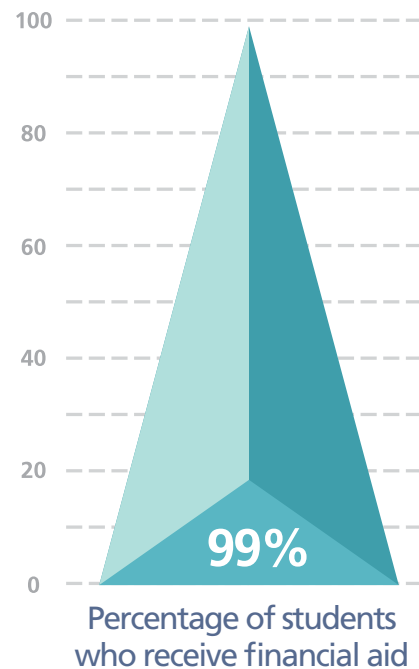
2

Northwestern
faculty named
Iowa Professor
of the Year





COVER STORY



DeWitt 6

Facilities on campus with “DeWitt” as part of the name



28 Kegs of root beer served since the first Steggy Keggy



(for late-night donut runs)



ILLUSTRATIONS BY
JAY KOELZER

BY TAMARA FYNAARDT

Warrior for Women

"He got the trash from the curb and carried it back into the house. He slashed the bags and dumped the contents on the floor. Then he dropped a gallon of milk on it, which exploded, and said, 'Clean it up.' I was on the floor, mopping and mopping—wiping really fast so he'd stop screaming at me. And I thought, 'What am I doing? Why am I down here?'"

ISABEL

Social work professor sheds light on domestic abuse that doesn't bruise but still does damage

Dr. Valerie (Roman '93) Stokes listened as Isabel* described that moment among the garbage as the one when she knew "I need to get out." (*Names have been changed for confidentiality.)


For every Isabel, there are many more women who stay. They secretly remain in relationships that may not be physically violent but can be just as damaging.

"These women suffer alone, in their homes. There aren't any bruises, so no one notices. There is a war on women, and it's real," Stokes says—and she's the kind of person who runs toward the front lines.

A social work practitioner before she became a Northwestern professor in 2008, Stokes has been behind the locked doors and closed curtains. Her career has included serving as director of a women's and children's shelter in Orange City and social worker for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in Sioux City. She's ridden with cops in squad cars and been summoned to the emergency room during the night to support girls who have been raped.

"I loved that work," she says. "I loved the strength of the women, the sisterhood. We were taking care of each other. I resonated with the Old Testament prophets when they would cry out, 'Injustice!' It felt like that's what I did."

A soft-spoken, fiercely passionate advocate for people who are vulnerable, Stokes has taken her propensity to mentor to the classroom. Now a step removed from the raw reality of her early career, Stokes

An aerial photograph showing two people inside a large, circular, wooden structure that resembles a well or a large barrel. The structure is made of dark wood and has a rough, weathered appearance. One person is sitting on the left side, and the other is lying down on the right side. The ground around the structure is covered in dry, yellowish-brown grass or straw.

"I had to agree to everything he said or wanted. ... I had to set my hopes and dreams aside. I ended up not knowing who I was or what I believed anymore."

PAM

instead prepares Northwestern's 50-plus social work majors for the front lines: to be listeners, hand-holders, voices shouting for justice on behalf of silent victims.

Two years ago, though, Stokes' dissertation research gave her the opportunity to be in the fray again—hearing and sharing war stories that few people notice or acknowledge.

Stokes' doctoral scholarship researched a type of domestic abuse labeled Intimate Coercive Control (ICC)—or, as it's been called, "intimate terrorism."

"The salient feature is control," she says—control that's wielded through threats of violence or violation, relentless criticism or other verbal abuse, and isolation through denial of access to money, transportation, or friends or family outside the home.

Stokes' fliers, posted in northwest Iowa shelters and domestic violence centers, brought 12 rural women out of the shadows to tell their tales of intimidation and feeling trapped.

All mothers, ranging in age from 21 to 60, the women were from varying ethnicities and socioeconomic situations. "There's no profile for the abused woman," says Stokes, "as much as we want there to be so we can have a sense of security. We want to think, 'It won't be me. It won't be my daughter.' You want to know what kind of woman could be a victim of domestic abuse? Look in the mirror. She's just like you."

One of Stokes' subjects, Mary, has been married for 39 years. Her husband is a business owner and respected community leader. She knows he makes a comfortable living, although she isn't allowed access to their savings or checking accounts and has to ask him for money—and then provide a receipt—when she buys anything, including groceries.

Stacy's ex-partner called her names and threw things. He constantly called her at work and demanded to know what she was doing and who she was talking to. Jamie's partner kept her financially dependent, and once, when she angered him, he took her kids and disappeared for two months.

Ariel ignored her husband's outbursts and the time when he broke her phone to keep her from calling anyone. But the one time he vented his frustration with his fist, cracking her cheekbone, she knew she had to leave—if not for herself, at least for her daughter. "I heard her crying, and her first words were, 'Is Dad going to kill you?' That's when I [told myself] 'You know, this [isn't right]. [S]he isn't going to live hearing this.'"



"He burned everything I owned ... [but] I want to move on. I want to be whole."

JAMIE

Stokes' research focused on moms to explore whether mothering had any effect on women's inclination to seek help. It did. As with Ariel, nearly every woman in Stokes' study was convinced either by her children or because of them to leave the abusive situation.

Tragically, leaving an abusive home for the sake of one's children can lead to losing them. Iowa and Minnesota, for example, have laws that classify witnessing domestic violence as child abuse. So a mother brave enough to tell authorities she's been the target of abuse can find herself "relieved" of parenting by Child Protective Services.

"A lot of women are scared that I gonna ask for help and they gonna help me a little bit too



"In an abusive relationship, even if you don't kill yourself, you're dying a slow, miserable death."

ISABEL

much and take my children away," shared an abuse victim in a *Journal of Emotional Abuse* article Stokes cites in her dissertation. The women Stokes interviewed confirmed that laws like these are an obstacle to seeking help.

Another tragic irony, one that Stokes was pained to uncover, is that rural, religious communities can present unique barriers to emotionally battered women. There are practical obstacles—like distance from a shelter, counselor or other social service provider—and there are societal obstacles—when exposing one's brokenness can lead to gossip and judgment.

"Because of my husband's role in our community and church ... very few people in our town would not know who we are," says Mary, who traveled several towns over when she finally sought help. "I felt like I still had to protect his business and reputation—not make people feel uncomfortable."


Within rural communities, the church can be a safe place—or a place that sweeps messiness under the rug. "I value my Christian faith and traditions, so it was hard for me to hear what some of the women said about the ways Christian beliefs were misused in harmful ways," says Stokes.

"My family is very religious," Stacy told her, "so when I had struggles [with ICC], they were ashamed. They cut ties with me. My mother said, 'You made your bed. Now you need to lie in it.' Church leaders told me to submit to my husband, let him be the ruler of the house." When Pam unburdened herself to Bible study friends, their advice and offers to pray for her felt dismissive. "They told me, 'There's sin in the world, so we have to suffer. You should stay in the relationship.' That can be dangerous advice."

Nonetheless, especially as governmental efforts to rein in spending have led to cuts in services provided through the Violence Against Women Act, the church could be one of the organizations to fill the gap. Some of the women Stokes interviewed have experienced the restorative healing a church family can provide for an emotionally bruised woman.

Daisy's church is helping her finance counseling for her sons, and Linda's helped her hire a lawyer. Jada's pastor accompanied her to a protective order court hearing. "His sitting with her sent a message," says Stokes. "It said he supported her. It said that courtroom was a place where a clergyman—where the church—should be. It helps when men, including clergymen, say and demonstrate that we won't tolerate anyone mistreating women or viewing them as inferior."

Stokes says that anyone can watch out for a woman who's in trouble. Listen, she advises. "If her husband cuts her down in public, check with her. Let her know you heard him and ask if he says those things often—because if he says it in public, he probably says worse in private. We need to have the courage to care about each other."

Courage, after all, is necessary in the midst of a war. 



STEPHEN ALLEN

Dr. Valerie Stokes' recent dissertation research on a form of domestic violence called Intimate Coercive Control enabled her to interview abused women in northwest Iowa—and then share their stories with students in her Violence Against Women class.

The Global War on Women

Last spring, Stokes taught a social work special topics class, Violence Against Women. Over the course of the semester, she and her students learned about the plight of women from Sioux County to Sub-Saharan Africa.

A main text for the course was *Half the Sky*, by married *New York Times* correspondents Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, an acclaimed book that makes the case, in graphic detail, that women worldwide really are involved in a war.

Kristof and WuDunn interviewed girls and women around the globe who told first-person stories of sexual enslavement, rape as a weapon of war, and community-sanctioned killings of women accused of promiscuity.

The authors wrote about their travels through developing countries where girls are denied education or adequate healthcare due to cultural convention or poverty so extreme that families are forced to fund school and vaccines for only their sons.

They also documented women who, against enormous odds, have had the temerity to build schools, stand up to Taliban bullies, and defy traditions that disfigure and devalue women.

Social work junior Carly Rozeboom volunteers at The Bridge women's shelter in Orange City and dreams of working with women in Africa. Reflecting on the course, she said, "I knew that women's rights was an issue near to Dr. Val's heart, but I wasn't personally aware of how serious and widespread [oppression of women] is.

"Women in Third-World countries are fighting for education or dying because they can't get decent maternity care. Others living right next door might be suffering abuse. They all deserve to be treated better."

Her classmate, sophomore Kaela Prachar, adds, "This is not just a gender issue. It's a human issue."

class Notes

'70 Jake Moss, executive director of the Annville (Ky.) Institute and Jackson County Ministries (JCM), received the Jack Gabbard Citizenship Award in December. The award was presented for his outstanding contributions to the people of Jackson County and surrounding areas. He and his wife, Sharon, have served with JCM since 2004.

'73 Judy (Boom) Cope, Carlisle, Iowa, retired in June after 27 years of teaching elementary physical education for Des Moines Public Schools.

'79 Bruce Held and his coaching partner, Steve Diedeker, were honored as the Class A State Coaches of the Year at the Iowa Football Coaches Association's annual meeting in April. In their 30th year of coaching together, Held and Diedeker led the Hinton High School football team to the 2012 state championship game.

'80 Dean Schnoes, Elk Horn, Iowa, was inducted into the Iowa High School Athletic Association Basketball Hall of Fame in March. During his career at Washington High School in Cherokee, he was a two-time all-state player and a prep All-American. He finished his basketball career at Northwestern as the fourth leading career rebounder and the

eighth leading scorer. He is superintendent of the Exira-Elk Horn-Kimballton Community School District.

'82 After 24 years, **Jim Boeve** has resigned as the head baseball coach at Hastings (Neb.) College. In addition to continuing to serve as an assistant professor of sociology, he will also be responsible for institutional research at the college.

'83 Rollie Ackerman, Grundy Center, Iowa, was recently named Iowa Junior High Athletic Director of the Year by the Iowa High School Athletic Directors Association.

'90 Sharon (Olson) Johnson is the director of community education for the Worthington, Minn., public school system.

'97 The Rev. Derek Vande Slunt and his wife, **Tina (Jackson)**, recently moved to Hawarden, Iowa, along with their three children. Derek is pastor of Hawarden Community Church.

'99 Jeff De Bruin has been promoted to chief credit and risk officer at Municipal Bank in Bourbonnais, Ill.

Red Ties

MARK BLOEMENDAAL '81
Director of Alumni Relations

One of the questions I ask alums is: "When was the last time you visited campus?" And, depending on their distance from Orange City, I'm not surprised when some say, "It's been a long time" or "Never."

I understand. Life gets busy and visiting Northwestern is low on the list of travel plans. Still, I don't remember any who visited—for Homecoming or during travel that took them near Orange City—saying they regretted stopping in.

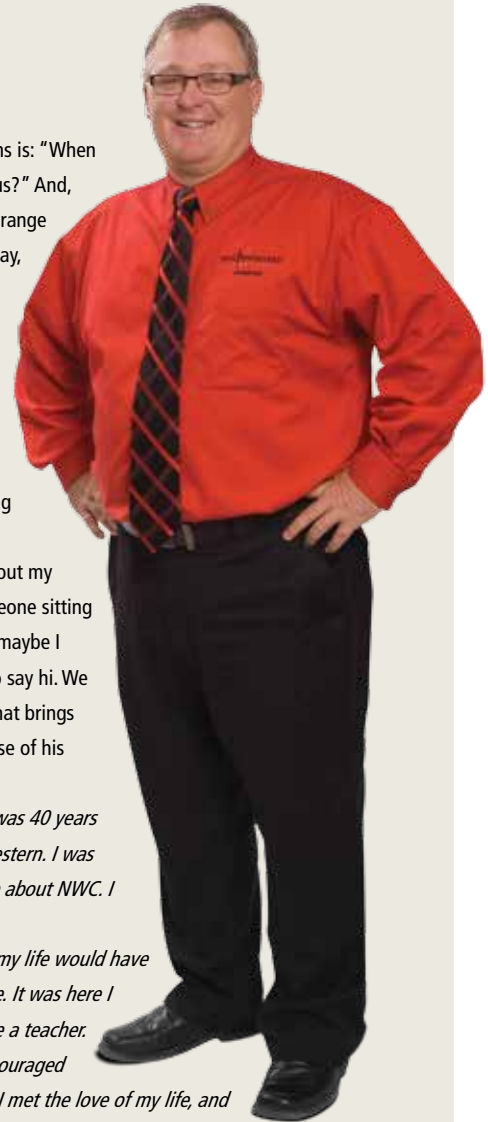
A few summers ago, I glanced out my Zwemer Hall window and saw someone sitting in front of Christ Chapel. I thought maybe I recognized him, so I strolled over to say hi. We chatted a bit before I asked: "So what brings you to campus?" This is a paraphrase of his response:

This morning I remembered it was 40 years ago today that I arrived at Northwestern. I was from the East Coast and knew little about NWC. I was excited—and scared.

I thought about how different my life would have been without Northwestern College. It was here I discovered God had gifted me to be a teacher. It was here I was accepted and encouraged to pursue my passions. It was here I met the love of my life, and it was here that our children had many of the same life-changing experiences their mother and I did.

I decided I needed to drive here today. I needed to walk around campus and thank God for this place and what it means to me.

I know there are hundreds of similar stories. If you haven't been to campus in a while—or at all—since graduating, I hope you'll consider returning. Come whenever the Spirit moves you. Or come during Raider Days Homecoming in September. Tell your friends to meet you here. Relive the fun and friendships. Learn what Northwestern College is like today. You won't regret it.





FREAKING OUT ABOUT PAYING FOR COLLEGE?

Your kids may be young now, but time flies. The Private College 529 Plan is a way for you to stop the clock—paying today's prices for tomorrow's tuition at Northwestern or one of more than 270 other private colleges. With a deal like that, you'll be able to relax again.

www.privatecollege529.com

Little Raiders James and Landon are the sons of Amanda (Van Kekerix '07) and Scott Stahl '07

Jona Leo, Sioux Falls, set an International Powerlifting Federation world record at the world bench press championships in Lithuania. He won the gold medal in the super heavyweight class and placed second overall pound for pound. His record-breaking lift was 360.5 kilograms, the equivalent of more than 794 pounds.

'01 Megan (Rich) Satvati, Orlando, Fla., is a sales representative for Vector Marketing.

'02 Matt De Vries recently received Certified Financial Planner certification. He is employed by Edward Jones in West Fargo, N.D.

Angela (Albrecht) Torgerson directs the children's ministry at Goodland (Minn.) Community Church, a church she and her husband, Brandon, helped plant two years ago.

'03 Lindsey (Buche) Alcock is a part-time occupational therapist at Gillette Children's Hospital in St. Paul, Minn. She and her husband, Craig, have two daughters, Lydia (2) and Valerie (1).

The Rev. Josh Van Leeuwen is the lead pastor of Westview Church in Wauke, Iowa. He previously served North Holland Reformed Church in Holland, Mich., for six years. He and his wife, **the Rev. Heather (Boersma)**, have three children. Heather is a Mary Kay beauty consultant and active volunteer.

'05 Amanda (De Boer) Bowman lives in Gig Harbor, Wash., and is the manager of church mobilization for World Vision.

'06 Jennifer Hoitink earned a master's degree in Spanish from the University of Northern Iowa. She teaches Spanish at Sheboygan (Wis.) Lutheran High School.

'08 The Rev. Lindsey De Kruif was ordained in January and is serving as the pastor of Calvary Reformed Church in Hagaman, N.Y.

The Rev. Brett Vander Berg, pastor of First Reformed Church in Aplington, Iowa, was elected vice president of the Classis of Pleasant Prairie. He and his wife, **Jaimi (Joneson '07)**, have a son, Gabriel.

'09 Erica (Boyd) Thomas, Scotts Valley, Calif., teaches middle school life science at The King's Academy in Sunnyvale.

Elizabeth VanOort is the program coordinator for CitySquare, a hunger/homeless ministry in Dallas. She earned a master's degree in social change at Iliff School of Theology.

'10 Jordan Larson has completed his first year of medical school at Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences. His wife, **Betsy (Heiberger '08)**, is an account executive at Woodruff Sweitzer advertising agency.

'11 Derek Hanisch, Eden Prairie, Minn., is a case manager for Spectrum Community Mental Health.

'12 Julie (Mineart) Haverly is a market analyst for Renewable Energy Group in Ames, Iowa.

New Arrivals

Jill and **Jay McKinstrey '86**, son, Joshua Caleb, joins Casey (18), Corin (15), Anna (5) and Sarah (2)

Jason and **Heather (Johnson '96) Holcomb**, son, Ian Patrick Lee

Dean and **Susan (Hagge '97) Fuerst**, twins, Lydia Caroline and Andrew Dean, join Sarah (8), Anna (5) and Jacob (2)

Eric and **Jill (Rasmussen '97) Groezinger**, son by adoption, Joshua YoonSeo (2), joins Nathan (8) and Brooke (5)

Dan and **Wendy (Ackerberg '98) Ahrens**, son, Keelo Lee

Cody and **Jennifer (Calhoon '98) Talarico**, son, Francesco Joseph Graham Kelly and **Steven Wilbur '98**, twin sons, John Marin and Logan Harlen

Jeremy and **Jennifer (Recker '01) Kudera**, son, Jalen Joseph, joins Jackson (3) and Jordyn (2)



Podiatrist Kirk Neustrom wears the Boston Marathon jacket and ID that was his uniform while working in the marathon's medical tent. After two bombs went off, he helped triage and comfort victims.

Bomb Scene

The boom was deafening. Des Moines podiatrist Kirk Neustrom '82 remembers first hearing it, then feeling the ground shake beneath his feet as he tended to a runner's blistered foot in the medical tent, paces away from the Boston Marathon finish line.

April marked Neustrom's 19th stint as a volunteer medic for the marathon, but no amount of experience could have prepared him for what he encountered when he stepped outside the tent after the first blast and saw a white plume of smoke.

"The second one went off and immediately I knew it was a bomb," says Neustrom.

Within 30 seconds, Neustrom, a former Navy doctor, was on the scene triaging and comforting victims—many with missing limbs, protruding bones and severe bleeding.

"It was like a war zone," he says. "Even though I've been out of the Navy for quite awhile, [your training] still kicks in. You know what you've got to do, so you do it."

After the site cleared, Neustrom finally had time to reflect. "I sat down, and I was shaking."

Neustrom will never forget the terror of that day, but he refuses to let the bombers win. "We can't live our lives in fear," he says. "I'll be there next year."

BY SARAH ASP OLSON '03



Damon Huibregtse and friends run a camp in which they share their love for water-skiing and Christ.

Wowed on the Water

What started over a decade ago as a hobby for Damon Huibregtse '98—digging a lake on some land near Oostburg, Wis.—has turned into a unique ministry opportunity.

Huibregtse, who works at a family-owned excavating business, has long been a water-skiing enthusiast. After enjoying his new lake with friends, they decided to start Walking on Water (WOW), a youth water-skiing camp that lets them share two of their passions: water-skiing and Christ.

Four years later, the camp is so popular that all 80 of this year's spots were filled in one week. All the instructors, which include Jen (Manders '93) and CJ Swart '93, volunteer their time, taking a week off work to run two morning sessions and two afternoon sessions. The 20 kids in each section rotate among activities: learning to ski, playing beach games, and studying the Bible. At the end of the week, they put on a show for family members and friends that also serves as an outreach.

"If not for the faith tie-in, it would be just another water-ski camp," says Huibregtse. "We started because we enjoyed skiing, but really the only thing that makes it worth it is seeing the joy on the kids' faces when they open a Bible—sometimes for the first time."

BY **SHERRIE BARBER WILLSON '98**

Grant and **Jami (Jelken '01) Schmidt**, daughter, Taylor Jayne, joins Austin (7)
 Zeke and **Kim (Tjeerdsma '02) Ellis**, daughter, Brynn Mikkell, joins Parker (2)
 Brent and **Beth (Nikkel '02) Gaulke**, daughter, Kate Elizabeth, joins Mason (5) and Silas (2)
 Brandon and **Angela (Albrecht '02) Torgerson**, son, Noah Layton, joins Samuel (3)
 Ben and **Jennifer (DeWaard '03) Klumb**, daughter, Tenlee Patricia, joins Taite (7) and Creighton (4)
Kelly (Huizenga '03) and Brandon Van Marel '02, daughter, Makayla Grace, joins Joanna (5) and Ellie (3)
Kyndara (Hardersen '03) and Brandon Woudstra '03, son, Breyden Benn, joins Jaelye (6) and Leyton (4)
Adrienne (Gaster '04) and Tristan Agre '03, son, Obadiah David, joins Aliyah (6) and Selah (3)
Jill (Abbott '04) and Tony Hoftiezer '05, daughter, Emma Jean, joins Mason (2)
 Zach and **Stacy (Van Vark '04) Kanis**, son, Grayson Fredrick, joins Zander (2)

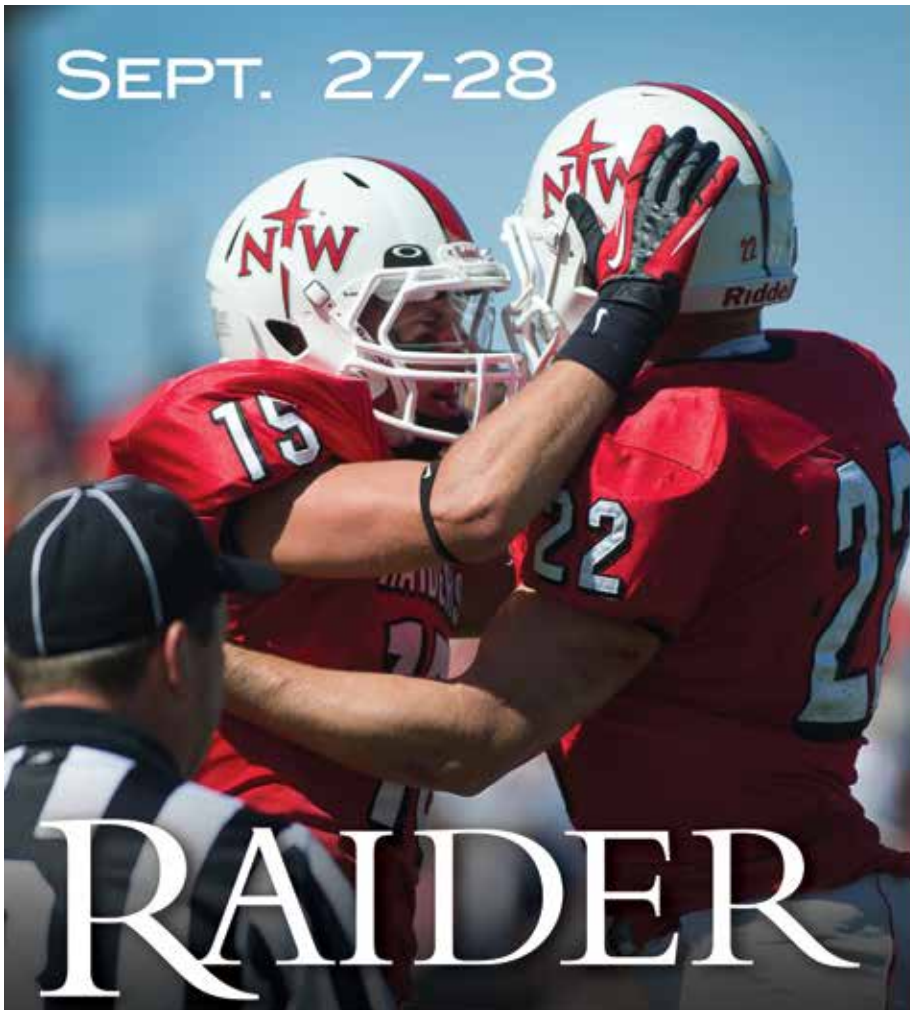
Timothy and **Erin (Piehl '04) Kittila**, son, Benjamin Timothy, joins Alice (2)
 Philip and **Jennifer (Kienzle '04) Steers**, daughter, Rachel Marie, joins Katelynn (2)
Jennifer (Tjeerdsma '04) and Brian Young '04, daughter, Macy Lee
Megan (Blunck '05) and Peter Boerema '04, son, James Harrison, joins twins Ashleigh and Anna (5)
 Aaron and **Kelly (Iverson '05) Peithmann**, son, Levi Allen, joins Nora (3)
Crystal (Drury '05) and Mick Snieder '06, daughter, Jewel Holly, joins Raegan (6) and Analiese (2)
 Caleb and **Leah (Seehusen '05) Stam**, son, Collin Daniel
 Joel and **Tyann (Meyer '06) Beenken**, son, Ascher Daniel
Ashley (Adams '06) and Kendall Stanislav '05, son, Jackson Leo, joins Mady (5) and Drew (2)
 Todd and **Nicole (Kraayenbrink '07) De Weerd**, daughter, Braelee Mae
 Jack and **Katie (Sandbulte '07) Spear**, daughter, Sydney Jean

Where in the world is NWC?



Mary (Vermeer '84) Nyhof proudly wore her Northwestern sweatshirt on a recent trip to the Great Wall of China. How far have you gone to promote Northwestern? Send us a photo of you in Raider attire and it might get printed in a future *Classic*.


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www.nwciowa.edu/raider-days

DAYS

Sara (Vee '08) and **Rich Meekhof '08**, daughter, Sydnee Elizabeth Ben and **Annie (Moran '09) Cochran**, son, Obadiah Jon, joins Hosea (1) Emily and **Steve Mahr '09**, son, Alexander Lynn Thomas, joins Margo (3) Michael and **Tiffany (Vermeer '10) Van Roekel**, daughter, Allison Jolene **Brittany (Dykhuisen '11)** and **Noah Adams '11**, daughter, Elly Jeleen, joins Malakye (2) Melissa and **Tyler Knoboch '11**, daughter, Taryn Nicole

Marriages

Kim Benz '97 and Joe Emry, Elmhurst, Ill. **Elizabeth VanOort '09** and Mitchell Boone, Dallas **Dan Mangold '10** and **Rebecca Bagley '12**, Orange City

Emily Gowing '12 and Brad Lawson, Huntley, Ill.

The couples reside in the city listed.

In Memoriam

Hilbert Bloemendaal '27 died May 2 in Orange City at age 102. After graduating from Northwestern Classical Academy, he attended Grundy Center (Iowa) College for one year. He farmed for many years and was a former president of the Alton Farmers Cooperative. He is survived by a daughter, **Judy Linam '59, '61, '63**, and a son.

Arloa Muilenburg '39, age 92, died Feb. 23 in Sheldon. She received degrees from Northwestern Junior College, Westmar College and Northwestern University. She taught for 46 years in Hull, Alton and

Orange City, and she was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Education Society. In 1990 she was recognized as one of Northwestern's Centennial Year Honored Alumni for her contributions to the field of education. She was a member of Orange City's American Reformed Church, where she was an elder and Sunday school teacher. She taught Friendship Bible Study classes and was active in the Sioux County Historical Society and the Pressman-Kosters American Legion Auxiliary.

Dr. Wallace Vermeer '50, of Orange City, died March 19 in Phoenix at age 84. He earned a bachelor's degree in science from Westmar College and pursued additional degrees at Western Theological Seminary and Iowa State University. A veterinarian, he was active at First Reformed Church, where he was an elder and Sunday school teacher. He is survived by four children, including **Brent**

'80, Barry '81, and Julie Elliott '97.

Eldon Beukelman '55, age 73, died Jan. 17 in Lake Havasu City, Ariz. After graduating from Northwestern and Augustana College, he was an agent for Prudential Insurance in Sioux Falls. He sold agricultural equipment in Orange City before returning to the insurance industry, working in Corsica and Madison, S.D. Active with United Methodist Church of Madison, the Lions Club and the Corsica Fire Department, he served on the Corsica School Board and the Douglas County Hospital Board. He is survived by his wife, Irma; six children; and a sister, **Joyce Wrage '57.**

Wayne Vander Schaaf '57, '59, '61, of Orange City, died Feb. 16 at age 73. He served in the Air Force and Reserves. He taught in Hartley and Boyden and earned a master's degree in elementary



Alison and Tim Ter Horst were joined by hundreds of people who did random acts of kindness on "Celebrate Quinncidence Day," commemorating what would have been the first birthday of their late daughter.

Remembering Quinn

Alison (Sadler '05) and Tim Ter Horst '05 approached March 12, 2013, with dread. It would have been the first birthday of their daughter, Quinn, who died the previous July from sudden infant death syndrome.

"We were really worried that we might not even be able to get out of bed," Tim says.

The Ter Horsts found a reason to get up, marking March 12 as "Celebrate Quinncidence Day," a day to honor Quinn's life through random acts of kindness. They could not have predicted the response when they invited others to join them.

Friends, family, Alison's students in Sioux Falls and even total strangers—including U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem—shared "Quinncidences" such as buying coffee for others, leaving money on vending machines, and handing out candy. Others wrote notes of appreciation to their moms or spent more time with their children.

One of the most meaningful "Quinncidences" came when the Ter Horsts arrived home. They found 30 balloons tethered with birthday cards for Quinn written by their relatives and friends. Quinn's birthday had offered something hard to come by: hope.

"We expected so little out of it, and it was so much bigger than we could have imagined," says Alison. "They say it takes a village to raise a child, but after this, I believe it takes a village to bury a child too."

Read more about the Ter Horsts' journey at ohmydearone.blogspot.com

BY BETH (NIKKEL '02) GAULKE

administration from the University of South Dakota. He also taught evening classes at NWC. He was an elder, deacon, choir director and Sunday school teacher at First Reformed Church in Boyden and served on the board of Harmony Youth Home. In addition, he sang in the Sheldon Barbershop Chorus and Journeymen Quartet. His survivors include his wife, **Sharon (Muyskens '59, '65)**, and three children, **Sheryl Grotenhuis '84, Brent '86** and **Douglas '87**. Among his 10 surviving siblings are **Herlon '56, Audrey '56, '58** and **Roger '59, '72**.

Millard De Gooyer '56, '62 died Nov. 19 in Kalamazoo, Mich., at the age of 77. He taught in Lake Mills and Spencer, Iowa, and earned a master's degree from Mankato State University. He also served as an elementary school principal in Spencer for 24 years. He is survived by his wife, Maureen, and three children, including **Monte '89**.

Rebecca (Breese) Lake '72, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, died Feb. 11 in Waterloo at age 63. She earned a bachelor's degree in music from NWC, followed by a master's degree in piano performance from Western Illinois University. She was employed as a paralegal and legal assistant for many years and also worked in accounting for John Deere. She was an adjunct piano professor at the

University of Northern Iowa and taught at Lake Piano Studio for more than 20 years. Survivors include her husband, Tony; a son; her mother; and a sister, **Susan McGlaughlin '65**.

Carvell Pearson '78, of Orange City, died April 26 at age 60. In addition to teaching and coaching for many years, he worked at Iowa Beef Packers in Storm Lake, Tyson-Advance Brands in Orange City, Sioux Golf and Country Club in Alton, and Securitas-Golden Crisp in Sioux Center. He is survived by his wife, **Sandy (Richter '76)**, and four children, including **Lezlie '98**.

Dr. James Romkema '82, of Orange City, died April 22 at age 57. He received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Iowa State University and was a large animal veterinarian in Minnesota and Orange City. He is survived by his wife, **Barbara (Weiss '80)**; four children, including **Erica '05**; his mother; and five siblings.

Chris Presthus '02, age 39, of Ashton, Iowa, died Dec. 20. After spending a year at Iowa State University, he served in the Army for six years. He earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from NWC and worked as an insurance agent until becoming a para-professional aide at Boyden-Hull

Take the Twitter challenge!

Can u talk about NWC in 140 characters or less? Pick a hashtag and tweet @nwc Iowa or email classic@nwc Iowa.edu for a future *Classic* feature.

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| #GreatRaiderGame | #LabDisaster |

Community Schools. He is survived by his wife, **Kimberly (Lamfers '94)**; four children; his mother; and three brothers.

Derrick Rensink '11, age 24, of Primghar, Iowa, died May 24 following a car accident. He taught fourth grade at South O'Brien Elementary School, and he was the head girls' basketball coach and junior high baseball coach. He attended Zion St. John Lutheran Church in Paullina. He is survived by his parents, **Darren '83** and **Lisa (Grond '84)**, and two sisters, including **Lauren '15**.

Carol Granberg, former first lady of Northwestern, died May 16 in Holland, Mich., at age 93. Her husband, Lars, was president of NWC from 1966 to 1975. She earned a degree from Davenport Business College

and attended Wheaton College, where she met her future husband. After earning a degree in elementary education from Hope College, she taught in the Holland, Mich., area for several years. She was an elder, involved in the Stephen Ministry, and a member of the Christian Education Council at Third Reformed Church in Holland. Among her survivors are three daughters.

SPEAK UP

Tell your NWC friends and classmates about the latest news in your life.

Submit for consideration by Aug. 30 to:

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Running her first Boston Marathon in just over four hours, Monica Pearson was receiving medical attention when the bombs detonated and her tent became a triage area for victims.

Boston Strong

It was thumbs up for Monica Pearson '06 as she checked an item off her bucket list: running the Boston Marathon. But by the time she finished 4 hours and 17 minutes later, the Houston schoolteacher was having trouble breathing and was steered into the Boylston Street medical tent. She'd just sat down when two booms shook the area.

Bewilderment was followed by shock as two men raced into the tent: a dark-haired man in a cowboy hat running alongside the wheelchair of a man with a bloodied, smoke-blackened face and the mangled remains of his lower legs.

Still gasping for air, Pearson was moved to the perimeter of the tent with other runners receiving medical attention as more victims with grisly injuries were brought in. After 45 minutes, Pearson convinced her attending medical volunteer she was OK to leave, and she headed out into a city on lockdown.

Months after the event, Pearson is most struck by the kindness of the people of Boston. "Out on the streets, stranded for a few hours, I had people I didn't know take me into their homes to cook me a meal, let me use their shower, and just listen as I was processing everything," she says. "I hope I can pay it forward to someone that way in the future."

BY TAMARA FYNAARDT

Classic Thoughts

Degrees of Grief

BY HARLAN VAN OORT '82



Dealing with life's inevitable sorrows is difficult—no more so than when a young person is also trying to be a college student. This past school year, nine

Northwestern students experienced the death of a parent. One, Brittany Vollmer, lost her entire family—mother, father and younger brother and sister—in a car accident. Dozens of students said a final goodbye to grandparents or other beloved family members, and scores are still grieving losses from previous years. It has been a season of suffering.

The demands of college classes and co-curricular responsibilities require intense focus. Tragedy is a thunderous interruption, followed by days, weeks and months of emotional storms and distracted foginess. College life goes on, but students in grief find it almost impossible to function at their previous level of intellectual effort. They feel distracted, consumed with thoughts of their loved one, and mired in the pain. Students in grief don't bring their "A" game.

Moving through the stages of grief takes time—*requires* time—time spent in communication with family and friends, time spent remembering, time spent recovering, time unavailable to devote to one's calling as a student.

It is always important to be in tune with one's feelings, but especially in grief. Like anyone who has suffered a loss—whether expected or sudden—students feel anxious and sad as they try to imagine a new, uncertain reality. They describe feeling like internal curtains have been drawn and loneliness has taken up residence. They erupt in anger unexpectedly and with no explanation or target for their rage. Sometimes the only thing to do is to become angry with God and cry, as David did, "How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?" (Psalm 13:1).

People in grief commonly ask, "Why, God?" It's a major theological question—and one that must be left unanswered. Well-meaning friends, like Job's, sometimes attempt to answer the question, even though they have no clue what to say. They try to

justify God with attempts to explain God, which is dangerous. It's an uneasy comfort to trust the paradox that God is sovereign but this loss is not God's will.

Sometimes well-meaning friends will also attempt to force God's hand, implying that God will make the event of loss magically disappear. Theologian Frederick Buechner corrects that thinking: "When horrors happen, we can't use God to make them unhappy." The valley of the shadow of death is not so easy to escape—yet our Good Shepherd has promised to stay beside us as we walk through it.

The Northwestern community has been reminded it's best to travel through the valley of the shadow of death together. One student wrote, "The support and community at this school is abundant, and I cannot tell you how much I feel blessed to be a part of this campus. [Few] other colleges would truly care about the loss of my dad, [but] Northwestern did."

Northwestern knows how to support students in grief. We know the Holy Spirit is present with us, and Christ not only knows suffering, he suffers with us. Our campus family includes trained counselors to help students sort out their conflicting feelings and move to a better awareness. The community of the Holy Spirit on campus is strong.

Doing college while grieving is unavoidable for some students. But we journey together, walking by faith rather than sight. We trust in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit to provide hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Christ our Lord, and the love of God shown by God's people.

The Rev. Harlan VanOort has been Northwestern's chaplain since 2003, serving as students' pastor while they are away from their home churches and families.

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Spring Colors



DOUG BURG

Members of the International Club and La Mosaic multicultural student association relieved a little Finals Week stress by showering each other in colored powder—a tradition

associated with the Festival of Colours held annually in countries that include Nepal, home of three Northwestern students. The festival celebrates the arrival of spring, a season that was

late in coming this year: Just the week before, on May 1, snow blanketed the campus.

the Classic