Carrying the Bag
Michael Greller ’00 trades teaching career for life as a PGA caddie

Also
Learning From a Distance
National Parks Ministry
An Eye for Nature
A summer job in America’s national parks gives students like Heather Heilman the chance to do ministry while enjoying the great outdoors.
Learning for Life: On Campus and Online

Throughout Northwestern’s 132-year history, much of the teaching and learning has taken place on campus in traditional classrooms. This has served our students well and continues to do so for those who can live on campus. Living and learning in community on campus will likely continue to be how the majority of students experience Northwestern, which is why we continue to invest wisely to make our facilities as inviting and functional as possible.

However, our mission of engaging students in courageous and faithful learning and living should not be limited to our physical campus. We live in a world that is desperate for Christian leaders and servants, and the education Northwestern offers is ever bit as valuable for adults who want to enhance their ability to make a kingdom difference by completing their bachelor’s degree or earning a certificate, endorsement or—in the future—even a graduate degree.

As our culture changes and more educational opportunities become available online, we are adapting accordingly. This spring semester we had the highest number of online-only students to date, 64. We expect that number to double next year. For the third consecutive year, all our summer courses are being offered exclusively online, and one result is we have more students taking summer courses now than when they were offered only on campus. Northwestern has done a marvelous job educating primarily 18- to 22-year-olds for generations. Now we are expanding our educational delivery methods to meet the demands of other adults who want to enhance their ability to make a kingdom difference by completing their bachelor’s degree or earning a certificate, endorsement or—in the future—even a graduate degree.

Second, as our graduates and other adults sense a calling to change careers, we’re eager to support them with online programs that are accessible, convenient and affordable. Maybe what your goal, we hope Northwestern will be your college of choice. Alumni and others. These skills are transferable to any job, anytime, anywhere.

Regardless of whether students experience Northwestern on campus or online, we remain committed to providing high-quality academic programs that prepare graduates not only for the world of work but for a calling to further God’s kingdom through one’s vocation.

Top Prof

Dr. Scott Monsma never met a pun he didn’t like. Known for the play on words that elicits groans as well as laughter, the sociology professor also enjoys a reputation as one of Northwestern’s best teachers—a fact evidenced by his selection as the 2014 recipient of its Teaching Excellence Award.

“Dr. Monsma does everything he can to ensure students are able to do their best,” says sociology major Logan Gooch. “He’s a learner.”

According to Gooch, Monsma’s sense of humor has a serious role: breaking tension and creating a relaxed classroom where everyone is encouraged to participate.

“Dr. Monsma has opened my eyes to many social justice issues and has pushed me to pursue God’s working in this world,” says the senior from Sioux Falls. “While I don’t agree with him on everything, he’s more than willing to listen to my opinions on issues and help me shape what I believe, not just impose his personal beliefs on me. His desire is for his students to be able to look at the facts and derive their own opinions.”

The chair of the sociology department, Monsma was instrumental in the creation of a new criminal justice major. He’s led study abroad trips to Taiwan and Oman and helped develop the college’s Oman Semester program. He also serves as faculty secretary and has been a student government adviser, co-chair of the Honors Program, and member of the Library Planning Task Force.

Monsma is a former president of the Association of Christians Teaching in Sociology and frequently presents at its conferences. A graduate of Geneva College, he earned a doctorate in sociology from the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Karissa Carlson, chemistry; Ray Gibler, accounting; Dr. Michael Renkwal, English; and Dr. Wayne Winterberg, mathematics, were also finalists for the award.

Racking up a Prize

The scene shows Lincoln, a young man anxiously waiting for a job interview. He’s in a dimly lit office after noticing a coat tree in the reception area sporting jackets instead of jackets. Is anybody in this office wearing pants?

He scans the workplace, but all of the employees are sitting behind desks or standing behind wall partitions. After noticing what he’s sure are bare calves behind a cubicle wall, he ditch’s his trousers in the lobby and approaches his interviewer’s office only to realize everyone is wearing athletic shorts for the company softball game.

“Pants Rack,” an original film by Northwestern faculty and staff members Dave Schmidt ’05 and Lori Maurer and student Matt Latchaw ’14, won Best in Show at the eighth annual Prairie Grass Film Challenge at Dordt College.

“We wanted the film to center around feeling extremely awkward,” says Schmidt. Their entry, which had to be scripted, filmed and edited in just 48 hours, won the trio a $250 cash prize.

Watch “Pants Rack” at tinyurl.com/pantsrack.
Degrees of Esteem

Northwestern College paid tribute to a former president and first lady by conferring honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees on both during commencement ceremonies May 10. Dr. Jim and Martie Bultman were awarded the degrees in recognition of their lives of service to Christian higher education.

Jim served as Northwestern’s president from 1985 to 1999 before another 14-year term as president of Hope College. During his tenure at both institutions, enrollment and endowments grew and successful fundraising campaigns were held that raised money for new construction and building renovations.

He and Martie were known for their commitment to excellence and passion for students. They remembered students’ names, attended their activities and sporting events, welcomed them into their home, and joined them for meals in the cafeteria. Jim was an active leader in statewide and national educational concerns. He served as a member of the NAIA Executive Committee, a representative on the NAIA Council of Presidents, and chair of the board of directors for the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. He also chaired the Iowa College Foundation, the Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, and the Commission on Campus Concerns for the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

Martie is a former special education and learning disabilities instructor. An advocate for students with special needs, she co-authored the Friendship Series, a religious instruction curriculum for sharing God’s love with persons who have disabilities. She also served on the board of directors for Friendship Ministries, on the steering committee for disability concerns for the Reformed Church in America, and on the planning committee for Western Theological Seminary’s Friendship House.

The Bultmans have both been awarded honorary doctorates by Hope College, their alma mater. And both Northwestern and Hope have named buildings in their honor: the Bultman Center for Health, Physical Education and Interscollegiate Athletics at NWC and the future Bultman Student Center at Hope.

Award-Winning Design

A logo developed as part of a graphic design class assignment will be seen by more than 5,000 educators in the promotion of the Higher Learning Commission’s 2015 annual conference in Chicago. Claudia Bomgaars’ logo was selected from 170 student submissians to represent the conference. The commission (HLC) accredits degree-granting post-secondary education institutions, like Northwestern, in the north central United States.

A senior art/graphic design major, Bomgaars featured a Chicago “L” train car against the Windy City skyline in her logo, while also depicting various educational tools. “The metro is like Northwestern, in the north central United States. It’s an important icon of Chicago, and I wanted to also communicate how education transports people to other dimensions of life through knowledge,” says Bomgaars.

Diplomas in Hand

When 277 seniors graduated from Northwestern May 10, they heard from a man who presided over the event for 14 years. Dr. James Bultman, the college’s president from 1985 to 1999, served this year as commencement speaker, delivering an address entitled “To Serve or be Served: That is the Question.”

All but 25 students were granted Bachelor of Arts degrees. The remainder received Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees.

Among this year’s graduates were mother and son Rachel and Rick Van Niel, an assistant in the campus ministry office, earned a literature degree, finishing a college education that was interrupted in the 1970s by marriage, motherhood and work. Rick is a political science major who plans to attend law school.

Other members of the class of 2014 have been accepted into graduate programs at schools that include the University of Nebraska, University of Wisconsin and Western Theological Seminary. Those beginning their careers are moving to communities ranging from Pella and Des Moines, Iowa, to San Francisco and Los Angeles. Among the positions they’ve secured are those of a fifth-grade teacher, homeless program assistant, IT application analyst, police officer and athletic trainer.

For the seventh consecutive year, Northwestern has been recognized by The Groundwater Foundation as a Groundwater Guardian Green Site for its environmental stewardship. Only seven other colleges have earned that designation.

Groundwater Guardian Green Sites are honored based on documentation of such things as maintaining a no-application zone around surface water and active wells, selecting plants adapted to the region’s climate, tracking irrigation use, and applying fertilizers based on nutrient needs.

“The exemplary work of Ward Van Pvenrum and the entire groundskeeping staff in respectfully managing groundwater quality and resources while keeping our green spaces beautiful is deserving of this recognition,” says Peter Boorenger, director of campus safety and environmental health at Northwestern.

“This award recognizes our commitment to groundskeeper management and environmental stewardship in our recent building remodels and new construction projects. We look forward to continuing to find new ways to advance Northwestern’s efforts to conserve and protect our environment.”

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“To Serve or be Served: That is the Question.”

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“To Serve or be Served: That is the Question.”
### Gennis

Each spring, as the campus comes to life, students turn the green into a fairway for one of their favorite games: gennis. Played with golf clubs and tennis balls, the amalgam sport is especially popular among men in Colenbrander Hall—which is convenient, as a favorite tee-off for the first hole is right outside their dorm doors.

Four to six players progress on a course that varies depending on campus construction and obstructions. “Holes” are identified, and scores accumulate similar to mini-golf based on the number of strokes it takes to hit the trashcan in front of Van Petersen Hall, the Zoemers sign, and the park bench on the north side of the under-construction Ramaker Center. From there, players might go west to Steegenga Hall, around the back of the DeWitt Learning Commons, across the boulevard to Christ Chapel, through the parking lot and across Alumni Avenue to Hosapers, and eventually back to the Coil “clubhouse.”

Instead of sand traps and water hazards, players try to avoid construction Ramaker Center. From there, players might go west to City nonprofit: the Bibles for Missions Thrift Store. Wearing the esteemed green jacket, purchased at another Orange week, which means the winners will have to wait until fall to share the victory. The Bridge Invitational was delayed by cold weather until finals, which means the winners will have to wait until fall to share the victory.

### Carlson Internships

An endowed gift from Northwestern alumni and entrepreneur Todd Carlson ’89, Carlson Internships are reserved for students spending the summer in full-time paid positions with companies and organizations in Chicago, Detroit and Sioux Center, Iowa—including the firm in which Carlson is a partner, Storm Lake Capital.

Carlson Internships are reserved for highly motivated and high-achieving students who are interested in business and management. The Bridge Internship was created in 2006 by Northwestern alumnus and entrepreneur Todd Carlson ’89 and is designed to provide students with the opportunity to gain valuable work experience in the business world. Carlson Internships are available to students in the College of Business Administration and the College of Arts and Sciences.

### Demolition and Construction

Demolition and Construction

A wrecking ball on the end of a five-story-tall crane is demolishing an Orange City landmark: the grain elevators visible as one approaches town. This elevator—along with a former gas station, storage buildings, and feed mill—will be replaced with an 80-foot-high silo. The new elevator will be completed by January 2015.

Nawteh also mentions that the Red Raiders will have a space where they can do conditioning and practice indoors during inclement weather. The facility, which will be connected to the DeWitt Physical Fitness Center, will also house a weight room for athletes.

### Under New Direction

For the first time since 2000, Northwestern’s athletic department has a new leader. Dr. Earl Woodstra ’78 is the new athletic director, replacing Barry Brandt ’64. Brandt has stepped down to the associate athletic director role as he prepares to retire next May.

Woodstra, who has served as assistant athletic director since 2004, has led teams to four national championships and was inducted into the NCAA Hall of Fame. Under Brandt’s leadership, seven NCIC teams won national titles and were strengthened by nearly all of the head coaches being full-time college employees. Major improvements were made to the football field, outdoor track and soccer complex.

### Power Lunch

For the third year, President Christy and his wife, Michelle, opened their home to seniors who wanted to have lunch with them before graduation. Nearly half of the 2014 class—130 students—accepted the invitation, enjoying the Christys in groups of around 20 throughout the final weeks of the spring semester.

Among the inquiries fielded by the first couple were “Where did you go on your first date?” “What advice do you have for new college graduates?” and “Can I use you as a reference on my job applications?”

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Inspiring Community

Speaking at this year’s commencement, Olivia Holt started her speech by remembering fellow graduates of three things that are special about Northwestern: “Community, community, community.”

One of the people responsible for nurturing NWC’s tight-knit, Christ-centered community is Marlon Havendink ’97, who received the 2014 Staff Inspirational Service Award at an employee banquet in May. The college’s director of residence life since 2011, Havendink has also served as resident director in Colebrokand Hall and held roles in recruitment and student leadership development. “Marlon has a rich vision for the role of student development in the mission of the college and in the kingdom of God as a whole,” wrote Dean of Student Life Julie Vermere Elliott ’97 in her nomination. “He spends countless hours—including evenings and weekends—supporting those on the front lines of student formation: RDs, RAs and fellow student development staff members.”

North Suites Resident Director Kendall Stannard ’05 describes Havendink’s investment in student leaders as pastoral. “He takes time each week to send a word of encouragement, an article to stimulate their minds, calling them to live more faithfully.”

RDs say Havendink’s redemptive approach is a model for them: “He doesn’t give up easily on students who are making poor choices,” says Brittany Coffey ’06. “Regardless of the case,” explains Elliott, “[Marlon] speaks to students with respect and Christian compassion, while at the same time challenging them to live more faithful lives.”

Northwestern’s Summer of Service

Last summer nursing major Kelsey Doornbolaw witnessed the devastation of sex trafficking and slavery firsthand. A member of Northwestern’s Summer of Service team, she traveled to Bangalore, India, to volunteer with Rahab’s Rope, a mission organization that rescues and rehabilitates women and girls who have been victims of sexual slavery.

The women Doornbolaw met were likely on her mind this spring when she helped stage a 24-hour “Stand for Freedom” demonstration on Northwestern’s campus. She and other members of the college’s International Justice Mission (IJM) chapter recruited 81 Northwestern students to stand for 30 minutes to six hours, holding signs to raise awareness for the global problem of slavery. Northwestern had more student participants than any of the other 100 colleges who also staged Stand for Freedom events. Packed along campus sidewalks and roads, the students shared distressing statistics about the nearly 30 million people—including almost 8 million children—who are enslaved around the world today.

Visit ijm.org to learn more about how the organization fights abuses in developing countries. Do you have any favorite sci-fi stories that moved the brain? I really enjoy Orson Scott Card’s Speaker for the Dead. One of the main characters is a machine named Jane who is super intelligent but socially needy. Everyone in our family names our favorite sci-fi stories. For me, it’s China Mieville’s Perdido Street Station.

What’s one way you like to unwind? Smoking a premium, hand-rolled cigar is one way you like to unwind. Smoking a premium, hand-rolled cigar is one way you like to unwind. Smoking a premium, hand-rolled cigar is one way you like to unwind. Smoking a premium, hand-rolled cigar is one way you like to unwind.
BUFFALO DOUG

Returning from a 2002–03 sabbatical spent exploring the American West, Dr. Doug Anderson dubbed himself “Buffalo Doug”—both to distinguish himself from other Doug’s on campus and as homage to the legendary Buffalo Bill.

Buffalo Doug retired this spring, metaphorically riding off into the sunset, his saddlebags packed with artifacts from 25 years teaching at Northwestern. “I’m sorry we’ve not passing out big white hats,” said Dr. Anderson. “Instead, we’ve been honored to have people say, ‘I’ve admired your work.’”

At a celebration in May, Anderson was honored not only for his years of service to Northwestern but also for “the spirit in which he served,” said Forgette. Anderson’s “willing spirit—as a professor and also as a contributor to the Northwestern archives and as the interim librarian in 2009—earned him the 2014 Faculty Inspirational Service Award.”

Next year Anderson will work part time in Northwestern’s library while the college searches for a new director. He also plans to continue contributing to history by submitting articles to academic journals and posting to his blog, buffalodoug.wordpress.com.

CLOCKING OUT

Doug Thompson was probably the only campus employee with a drawer full of travel alarm clocks. As the director of the Rosenhorst Student Center, he gladly gave them to any of his 45 work-study students who needed timely reminders to open the building at 6 a.m.

The alarm clocks were an important part of his supervising philosophy: He wanted students to take responsibility and learn how to work. Similarly, until recently, he didn’t have a cell phone, and he still doesn’t text. “I’ve wanted students to learn the value of problem-solving and talking to people directly—not calling me every time there’s a problem.”

When there was a problem requiring Thompson’s presence, of course, he came in. Legendary for being seen in the RSC at all hours of the day, he was the first recipient of Northwestern’s Staff Inspirational Service Award in 2003. Nominees cited his tireless work ethic; willingness to help others with tasks not part of his job; and unique combination of excellent organizational abilities, out-of-the-box thinking and interpersonal skills.

“I can think of no one who has approached their work and calling as an educator with more consistency and faithfulness than Dale,” says Marlon Haverdink ’97, director of residence life. “Year after year, day after day, he gave his best to his co-workers and students.”

Retailed for 33 years on Northwestern’s staff, in roles that also included directing internaals and coaching cross country and track, Thompson may still check his watch every afternoon around 3:30. That was the time he used to run with his teams—the favorite part of his day.

A SPARKLING EXAMPLE OF SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Pat Bruxvoort’s replacement as the housekeeper for the DeWitt Theatre Arts and Korver Visual Arts centers is two people. Sure, they’re part-time, but together they spend more hours doing the job Bruxvoort did single-handedly—sometimes literally.

Housekeeping Supervisor Dea Van Beek ’75 recalls the time Bruxvoort broke her wrist, spent two days recovering, then showed up ready to work one-handed. Another time a dislocated elbow failed to stop her.

During 14 years at Northwestern, Bruxvoort swept through nearly every building on campus, including the former Buhsner Art Center, where she scrubbed sinks and walls, and The Playhouse, where her dusting was sometimes interrupted by bats and other stubborn happenstings.

While she may have been charmed by the old theater’s “ghosts,” Bruxvoort misses the students most. Like a second mom to those she worked with, Bruxvoort attended the weddings of three former work-study students this summer and gave her home phone number to one who still might need a strong shoulder to lean on.

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Red Zone

Baseball
Most Wins in a Season
The baseball team set a school mark with a 42-13 record and advanced to the opening round of the NAIA national championships for the second consecutive year. The Raiders tied for second in the Great Plains Athletic Conference with a 16-5 mark. NWC was 31-18 overall. The Raiders tied for first place in the conference with 16 regular-season games to tie for second in NWC history.

Men’s Golf
School Record
The Raiders concluded the year with a team scoring average of 347.7, a new school record. The squad placed second in the GPAC championships.

Outdoor Track
Triple All-American
Karen Hutson earned All-American honors in the heptathlon and long jump, finishing second in each at the national meet, as well as in the 100-meter hurdles, placing eighth. Also earning All-American honors were Matt Huseman, fourth in the high jump; the fifth-place men’s 4x800 team of Taylor Bodin, Logan Hovland, Skyler Ginkelings and Kyle Anderson; and the 4x100 team of Jordan Strofaci, Jeriah Dunk, Jesse Selgeby, Alex Van Roekel and Jeriah Dunk, which earned All-American honors. Matt Huseman, fourth in the high jump, the fifth-place men’s 4x800 team of Taylor Bodin, Logan Hovland, Skyler Ginkelings and Kyle Anderson, and the 4x100 team of Jordan Strofaci, Jesse Selgeby, Alex Van Roekel and Jeriah Dunk, which earned All-American honors.

Softball
Surge for First
The Raiders won 14 of their last 16 regular-season games to tie for first place in the conference with a 35-5 mark. NWC was 31-18 overall.

Women’s Golf
School Record
The Raiders concluded the year with a team scoring average of 347.7, a new school record. The squad placed second in the GPAC championships.

Outdoor Track
Triple All-American
Karen Hutson earned All-American honors in the heptathlon and long jump, finishing second in each at the national meet, as well as in the 100-meter hurdles, placing eighth. Also earning All-American honors were Matt Huseman, fourth in the high jump; the fifth-place men’s 4x800 team of Taylor Bodin, Logan Hovland, Skyler Ginkelings and Kyle Anderson; and the 4x100 team of Jordan Strofaci, Jesse Selgeby, Alex Van Roekel and Jeriah Dunk, which earned All-American honors. Matt Huseman, fourth in the high jump, the fifth-place men’s 4x800 team of Taylor Bodin, Logan Hovland, Skyler Ginkelings and Kyle Anderson, and the 4x100 team of Jordan Strofaci, Jesse Selgeby, Alex Van Roekel and Jeriah Dunk, which earned All-American honors.

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After earning a master’s degree in entomology from the University of Massachusetts, Kelley (Downer ’04) Zylstra worked for the USDA, conducting insect research and blogging about the bugs she found most fascinating. These days she’s a full-time freelance photographer, snapping images of captivating creatures in the forests and fields around her home in upstate New York. More of Zylstra’s stunning “Wild America” images can be seen on her website, kelleyelizabethphotography.com, and at yourshot.nationalgeographic.com.

Photos by Kelley Zylstra
Kelley (Downer ’04) Zylstra was a frequent visitor to the Brookfield Zoo, The Field Museum and the Shedd Aquarium. When she wasn’t out exploring the Windy City’s exhibits of nature, she tuned in for Marty Stouffer’s Wild America and paged through back issues of National Geographic.

Those experiences, Zylstra says, turned the city girl into a nature lover. After graduating with an ecology degree from Northwestern and earning a master’s in entomology from the University of Massachusetts, Zylstra worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, conducting research to detect, monitor and control invasive insect species, primarily a Eurasian wood wasp that was threatening pine trees (and the associated billion-dollar lumber industry).

“The work kept me outside in the woods almost 365 days a year, which was, by far, the best part of the job,” says Zylstra. “I watched the forest constantly change from day to day and season to season, and I had my camera with me the whole time, documenting everything.”

Despite the freedom to spend every day outdoors, Zylstra was starting to feel suffocated by the bureaucracy of her government job. So when the recession led to federal cuts, including at the USDA, it was the breath of fresh air Zylstra needed.

“Having to redefine your vocation involves a lot of introspection. When I thought about what I would do if money were no object, I wanted to find a way to keep encountering wild places and documenting what I discovered there through the lens of my camera. ‘I realized I needed to figure out how to make something I love into a career.’

Zylstra launched Kelley Elizabeth Photography two years ago and now makes a living documenting life, including love, marriage, families and other natural wonders. “A foundational pillar of science research is careful observation,” she says. “My purpose behind my camera is the same. My view is one of endless fascination with the world, whether I’m shooting a waterfall or a wedding. It’s my way of capturing something worth keeping.”

A Fresh View

Scientist-turned-photographer
Kelley Zylstra documents nature’s changing face

by TAMARA FEINBERG

Growing up in the concrete jungle of Chicago, Kelley Zylstra was a frequent visitor to the Brookfield Zoo, The Field Museum and the Shedd Aquarium. When she wasn’t out exploring the Windy City’s exhibits of nature, she tuned in for Marty Stouffer’s Wild America and paged through back issues of National Geographic.

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Zylstra also continues to photograph landscapes and wildlife— including close-ups of her beloved bugs—images she markets to nature magazines and sells as fine art in her Etsy.com store, KelleyElizabethPhoto.

In her photos and in life, Zylstra strives for an intimacy with nature that she nurtures by immersing herself in it every day, sometimes alone, sometimes in the company of her German shorthaired pointers, Maya and Wesson, and always with her camera in hand. Her five-and-a-half-acre property in upstate New York—just an hour’s drive from the Canadian border—is next to a hemlock swamp and surrounded by acre after acre of hardwood forest.

“Most people don’t live off of the land anymore, claims Zylstra, so even very close to it. ‘People approach the outdoors as a place full of things that can harm you: biting bugs, poisonous plants—even boredom.’

But if you are open to the outdoors, it will reveal itself to you in subtle, startling ways. ‘It has to be a deliberate relationship,’ Zylstra advises. ‘You’re continually cultivating by tuning into the landscapes around you and the rhythms that were here long before you were. That way you’ll notice the claw scratchings of a black bear on a pine tree or the singular V-shape made by the wings of a soaring turkey vulture.’

‘I’ve lived here eight years, and this place is still revealing itself to me,’ she marvels. ‘Every day there are surprises—learning the rhythms and languages of all the inhabitants. Just the other morning, I was awakened at 3:30 a.m. by the caterwauling of barred owls in the swamp. It was eerie—and magical.’

For Zylstra, wild places are more than magical; they’re sacred: ‘No brick-and-mortar church has ever made me feel as worshipful or close to God as the forest, feeling the warmth of the light filtering through the canopy, kneeling on a soft cushion of moss, listening to chorusing birds and frogs, and smelling the balsam and rose hips.’

As a leafy cathedral, it’s picture perfect.
T he next time you’re in a national park on a summer vacation, take a closer look at the young person working in the gift shop, serving your food or leading worship at your campground. He or she could be a Northwestern student.

Sixty-three years ago, a Princeton Seminary student employed in Yellowstone for the summer felt called to provide for the spiritual needs of park visitors, residents and co-workers. The interdenominational worship service he led in the Old Faithful Inn was the start of A Christian Ministry in the National Parks (ACMNP), an organization that places Christians on ministry teams in 28 of America’s most scenic settings. Volunteers—generally 18 to 30 years old—get seasonal jobs with private park hospitality companies. Then, throughout the summer, they interact with their co-workers and park guests and lead worship services in park campgrounds and amphitheaters.

Last year ACMNP had nearly 200 students in America’s national parks. Eight were from NWC. This summer four Northwestern students are serving with ACMNP in Wyoming’s Grand Teton National Park. Emily Kubbe worked at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park last summer, helping people make jewelry in its craft and design center. “I told my college adviser that I loved the outdoors and that I also loved to do ministry, and she told me about ACMNP,” the junior from Ottumwa, Iowa, says.

Every Sunday, Kubbe and the other six members of her team would divide up to lead services at the Aspenpines and Moraine Park campgrounds—one service in the morning and one in the evening for anywhere from four to 45 campers. “It was a really intimate setting,” Kubbe says. “For me a lot of it was just spending time with my co-workers. We had really good conversations in our downtime and were able to discuss some really deep things.”

Like Kubbe, Taylor Bodin ’14 was at the YMCA of the Rockies last summer. The elementary education major served as a camp counselor—an experience that confirmed his calling to work with children. “I know how much I’ve seen God in creation, and just being in the outdoors with kids and to share that passion was why I was interested in working at a national park,” he says.

Bodin would join Kubbe and other ACMNP teammates in “campground walking” every weekend, striking up conversations with campers and inviting them to the Sunday services. Many of their co-workers would come to the services—some because they were Christians and others out of curiosity.

“We would end by getting in a circle and praying, and then we would sing the doxology,” he recalls. “I really liked doing that at Sunday Night Praise & Worship at Northwester, and we were able to incorporate that into our services, which was pretty special.”

Another student whose summer in the national parks reinforced his calling was Jordan Vermeer ’13, a business and religion major who worked in retail at the Jackson Lake Lodge in Grand Teton National Park. The future pastor got good practice speaking at the services.

“For my first sermon, I basically used my senior thesis paper for my religion major and turned it into a sermon,” he says. “I ended up writing five or six sermons. I would take some Scripture and then preach about theology and how God relates with us. I had a lot to draw on from what I learned at Northwestern.”

Throughout the summer, ACMNP team members have plenty of opportunities to explore the national parks in which they are placed. With a different schedule than the rest of her teammates, Kubbe spent her day off on Mondays hiking with a local woman and her friends—70-year-olds who Kubbe says “could pound out a 10-mile hike, no problem.”

Vermeer, a novice at backpacking, found himself freezing in a borrowed sleeping bag the first night he went camping. By the end of the summer he owned his own equipment and had hiked into the back country, slept on a glacier and climbed both the Middille and South Teton.

“It was definitely the most incredible summer I’ve ever had,” he says. “I got a super tight group of friends out of it, but mostly it gave me a yearning for the outdoors and open spaces.”

Perhaps, then, it’s not surprising that when Vermeer starts work on his Master of Divinity degree this fall, he will be at Denver Seminary in Colorado, at the foot of the Rocky Mountains.

ACMNP provides its volunteers with materials to help them plan the services, as well as training prior to the start of the summer. “Our Sunday morning responsibilities were a huge part of it, but we also did relational ministry throughout the week with our co-workers and the people we were living with in the dorm,” Kubbe says. “For me a lot of it was just spending time with my co-workers. We had really good conversations in our downtime and were able to discuss some really deep things.”
Watching the final round of the 2012 Masters on TV, teacher and part-time caddie Michael Greller ’00 was asked a question he hadn’t yet dared voice. “Will you always wonder what could have been,” asked his then-fiancée, Ellie, “if you don’t try caddying full time?”

His answer? “Absolutely.”

Not long afterward, Greller had offers to carry the bag for both Jordan Spieth and Justin Thomas at the U.S. Open. He chose Spieth, who finished as the low amateur, tied for 21st overall. By December the 19-year-old Spieth had left the University of Texas to go pro, and Greller had taken a year’s leave of absence from Narrows View Intermediate School near Tacoma, Wash., to serve as his full-time caddie.

Greller’s new job came with few guarantees. Spieth was the 2009 Rolex Junior Player of the Year and the only other golfer besides Tiger Woods to win the U.S. Junior Amateur more than once. But he failed to make it through the PGA’s qualifying school, which meant he didn’t have an exempt spot on the PGA Tour or its developmental Web.com Tour.

“Since I had no idea where my schedule was going to take me week to week, we decided it was best to have a [caddie] who knew my game, how I go through my shot process and was a good friend off the course,” said Spieth at a press conference.

Spieth’s friendship with Greller could be indirectly traced back to 2006, when Greller was watching the U.S. Amateur Public Links at his home course, Gold Mountain Golf Club. “I noticed Matt Savage was carrying his own bag,” Greller told the Sioux City Journal. “I thought about how cool it would be to caddie, to hear what they thought, to be inside the ropes. So I went up to him and offered to work free.”

Savage, a Florida State University golfer, had shot a 75 but improved to 69 the next day with Greller’s assistance and advanced to the quarterfinals. After that auspicious beginning, Greller became a regular summer caddie. In 2010 he called Savage and asked if he knew anyone needing a looper for that year’s U.S. Amateur at nearby Chambers Bay on Puget Sound. Savage connected him with Justin Thomas, with whom Greller worked at three U.S. Amateurs.

When the Junior Amateur came to Gold Mountain the next year, Thomas linked Greller with Spieth, who went on to win the title.

Former schoolteacher caddies for rising PGA star Jordan Spieth

by Diane Berenson

Michael Greller is in his second year as the full-time caddie for rising star Jordan Spieth. The 21-year-old phenom is ranked as the ninth best golfer in the world and has won $3.4 million this year.
I’ve been told that a good caddie is a psychologist, meteorologist, agronomist and mathematician. Sure, he carries the 55-pound bag, but he also cleans the clubs, studies the course to see how balls are reacting to the greens and to weather conditions, and advises on club selection.

The most important part of the job for Greller is the psychological aspect. “I have a really good relationship with Jordan’s swing coach, and I know what he’s working on. I can find ways to validate what he’s been saying. The No. 1 thing at this level is self-belief.”

While Pebble Beach may seem to be light years away from his sixth-grade classroom in Washington, Greller says there are a lot of similarities between teaching and caddying. “Being able to think on your feet, being an encourager, having a servant’s heart, being able to adapt, having thick skin—all of those things directly apply to working with Jordan.”

A grin crosses his face as Greller adds: “Instead of 30 children in my classroom every year, it’s like I have one big kid. Teaching for 10 years prepared me for Jordan.”

Growing up with three siblings in the family of former Vice President for Advancement John Greller, the caddie knows a lot about trash talking. While he has a teacher role at times, Michael is also like a big brother to the Dallas native. “We give each other a hard time,” he says. “Jordan teases me about my bald spot and Greller belly. I say, ‘When you’re 37, come talk to me.’”

They often banter about Greller’s game. “He’s perfect for me,” Spieth said in an article in DFW Links. “He and Jordan both seem mature. The little things that take years to learn, they already have a firm grasp on.”

Strong Start

In their first year together as pros, Spieth finished second in the Puerto Rico Open, won the John Deere Classic in western Illinois, and helped the star-studded U.S. team win the Presidents Cup. He finished as the PGA 2013 Rookie of the Year, ranked 20th in the world with $3.8 million in winnings.

“He’s a really gritty hard worker,” says Greller in explaining his boss’s success. “He’s consistent in every area of the game. He visualizes things like nobody I’ve ever met. And yet he’s very grounded.”

A few weeks after winning the John Deere, Spieth skipped a tournament so he could join his caddie and Jordan Spieth’s alma mater, the University of Texas, making small bets as they often do for admissions advantage.

“He’s learned quickly,” Paul Tesori, the caddie for Webb Simpson, told Golf Channel last year. “He and Jordan both seem mature. The little things that take years to learn, they already have a firm grasp on.”

Heading into this year’s Masters, Greller spent a lot of time with Carl Jackson, Ben Crenshaw’s longtime caddie at Augusta National. “I took the yardage book out and went over it with him hole-by-hole. I jotted things that take years to learn, they already have a firm grasp on.”

Together for 30 weeks of the year, the two try not to talk about golf after the long days on the course. Instead, they compete at everything from trout fishing and pool to pingpong (Spieth’s the champ) and cards (more Greller’s game).

“I told him it was one of the best weeks of my life,” Greller said to ESPN about his post-tournament conversation with Spieth. “We told each other how proud we were, and [said] we’re going to have a lot more of these.”

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“He’s perfect for me,” Spieth said in an article in DFW Links. “Especially early in the season [last year], I was trying to earn as much money as I could and I was pressing a lot. I was up and down, not emotionally neutral. Greller is great at settling me down. He understands the strengths of my game and where I get in trouble.”

Greller—a two-time all-conference golfer at Northwestern whose 79.74 career average is 28th best in school history—has approached his new job like a student happy to back in class following summer break. At tournaments he’s often on the course as early as 5:30 a.m., studying the links with his range finder. He peppers veteran caddies with questions and finds inspiration from the tour’s weekly Christian fellowship meetings.

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Teacher, Brother

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FLEXIBLE LEARNING

Online programs bring a Northwestern education to students around the world

by Amy Scheer

When Nicole Ondrashek’s mentor encouraged her to pursue an endorsement to complement her early education degree, she knew there was no way she could attend a class. A mother of four, Ondrashek called the Iowa Board of Education to determine the options available for her packed schedule. “I wouldn’t have been able to get this job without the endorsement,” Ondrashek says about her full-time teaching position in Ossian, Iowa. “I learned a great base of knowledge, and now I have the endorsement to teach what I really enjoy.”

Ondrashek says about her full-time teaching position in Ossian, Iowa. “I learned a great base of knowledge, and now I have the endorsement to teach what I really enjoy.”

Though Kiel, who is mom to Emmett (5) and Amelia (3), appreciated the flexibility of studying at home on her own time, she chose Northwestern’s online program for its literal proximity and its mission. While Ondrashek already had a classroom in which to complete her student teaching, Kiel wanted access to clinical experiences in a familiar, close environment alongside people who shared her beliefs. “There are places you could go to get an online degree and learn facts about the body,” Kiel says, “whereas at Northwestern, they also want you to think about faith, how God created us, and how amazing our bodies are.”

Nandan Lexman’s needs were more straightforward. An independent software consultant commuting regularly between Illinois and Texas, Lexman was ready to transition into the area of data science, a discipline that requires knowledge of statistics, databases, programming and machine learning. Closely following industry trends, he recognized the value of an analytics education and enrolled at Northwestern to earn a certificate in the field online. “Software can typically be self-taught,” he says, “but for data science, I needed more of a structured course online that covers various disciplines.” Dr. [Russ] Albright made us think. He is a great guy with a lot of knowledge.

Certified teachers with sports skills and knowledge can benefit from Northwestern’s online programs as well. A coaching endorsement was among the first online offerings, enrolling mostly traditional students; a coaching authorization was added later, qualifying adults who are not licensed teachers to coach at the middle and high school level. In May, 55 students began the eight-week authorization program online. Pending Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation that will enable Northwestern to offer graduate-level programs, next summer will see the addition of a graduate certificate in the management of international development. “Major nonprofits like Compassion International have people in missions working all over the world,” says Hoey. “This certificate will prepare them so they are better able to help entrepreneurs in developing countries start and sustain small businesses.”

Northwestern also plans to begin offering online master’s degrees in education, pending HLC approval. “As an institution, we’re really thinking about how we can meet the needs of adult students. How can we help them grow and do God’s work in the world?” asks Hoey—because the courageous and faithful learning Northwestern offers is for students of all ages and locations.
**Red Ties**

**Mark Bluemelhauser '81**
Director of Alumni Relations

Considering I've attended more than 10 graduation ceremonies since my own in 1981, you might imagine they're not a big deal to me anymore. But the pomp and circumstance still excite me—especially this year. Having an opportunity to hear Dr. Jim Eastman speak at Northwestern again was as inspiring as ever. Then, as our youngest son received his diploma alongside 276 other graduates, two things in particular struck me.

First, I thought of all the students who have crossed that stage and I marveled at their cumulative impact on the world. Teachers, doctors, artists, farmers, social workers, parents, pastors, bureaucrats—everyone has an impact on the world and builds community in places and ways they never imagined. It made me feel so proud and so humbled at the same time.

Second, as the names of this year’s graduates were read, I was struck by the number I knew who were following in the footsteps of a parent, grandparent, sibling or other family member who crossed the same stage in my attended graduations. All these connections—the legacies—are such vital threads in the fabric of the Northwestern story.

Just a few hours after commencement, I read the following tweet from a 2014 graduate: "For the World" featured seven life-sized figures that portray her deep concerns and hopes for the world. Her husband, as that line of graduates waiting to shake the president’s hand. Many are doing what they hoped and dreamed of, and probably more are living, working and building community in places and ways they never imagined. It made me feel so proud and so humbled at the same time.

The Rev. Barry Wynveen

RCM missionary at Micaulea Reformed Church, located in the Micaulea Apache Reservation in Yuma, Arizona. He replaces The Rev. Robert Schultz ’71, who retired after 29 years in that role. Landegent previously served as the youth pastor there.

**Online Campus Tour**

Whether you’re a frequent Wolverines fan or haven’t been back to your alma mater in years, you’ll enjoy exploring Northwestern’s campus via our new virtual tour featuring 360-degree photos of major buildings, an interactive campus map, and 8 photo galleries.

nwciowa.edu/virtual-tour

**Staying in the Game**

The issue of being a sports lover with a noticeable limp and limited use of his right side is not lost on Paul Delger ’79. Born with cerebral palsy, Delger has had his share of physical and vocational setbacks, and now he is drawing on his experiences to share his fighting spirit with others.

Delger approaches life with a creative mind, strong faith and sense of humor, which is how he persevered through years of vocational monotony, including a long stint of pumping gas at his dad’s station. "You can’t be someone else," he says. "I encourage [young people] to speak at Northwestern again was as inspiring as ever. Then, as our youngest son received his diploma alongside 276 other graduates, two things in particular struck me.

First, I thought of all the students who have crossed that stage and I marveled at their cumulative impact on the world. Teachers, doctors, artists, farmers, social workers, parents, pastors, bureaucrats—everyone has an impact on the world and builds community in places and ways they never imagined. It made me feel so proud and so humbled at the same time.

Second, as the names of this year’s graduates were read, I was struck by the number I knew who were following in the footsteps of a parent, grandparent, sibling or other family member who crossed the same stage in my attended graduations. All these connections—the legacies—are such vital threads in the fabric of the Northwestern story.

Just a few hours after commencement, I read the following tweet from a 2014 graduate: "For the World" featured seven life-sized figures that portray her deep concerns and hopes for the world. Her husband, as that line of graduates waiting to shake the president’s hand. Many are doing what they hoped and dreamed of, and probably more are living, working and building community in places and ways they never imagined. It made me feel so proud and so humbled at the same time.

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Former pitcher and outfielder finds his competitive spirit hasn’t waned. “I still have a good feel when hitting it,” says Bultman. He wants to “find balance throughout the bat, a good sound coming off the ball and a growth of composite and hybrid bats.”

 Slugger’s product line in his time with the company, including the Grand Slam and softball products seemed like a better fit.

Grand Slam

The son of a baseball coach (and later college president), Matt Bultman ’90 played the sport as a Northwestern freshman but hit his stride on the golf course, where he lettered four years. A business administration major, Bultman wanted to work for a golf company. After graduation he entered the sales training program of Hillerich & Bradsby, the parent company of PowerBilt Golf. But by the time he was ready to begin making sales calls, a Kansas City-based territory for the firm’s iconic Louisville Slugger line of baseball and softball products seemed like a better fit.

After selling in a four-state area for many years, Bultman now handles national strategic accounts, mainly Internet and catalog companies. He’s seen numerous technological changes in Louisville Slugger. “It’s been exciting to watch the growth of the company,” he says.

Bultman says it’s fun to sell equipment for sports he loves. And the company is “growing its presence in the college market.”

What are the marks of a good bat? “You want a big sweet spot, nice handling, a balanced swing weight, and a satisfying sound off the ball,” he says. Bultman concedes that new technology makes it difficult to determine whether a bat is good or bad without hitting it. “My main focus is to educate the customer,” he says.

Bultman describes the sales profession as “an ever evolving field” that combines an understanding of the product, the customer and the technology. He says he enjoys the challenge and the flexibility of the sales career.

by DiAnne Benson

‘12 University of Iowa law student Anna T膜kam has been elected the school’s Iowa Student Bar Association co-president for 2014–15. Her article, “Protecting Our Herd: How a National Mandatory Vaccination Policy Protects Public Health by Ensuring herd Immunity,” was selected for publication by the Journal of Gender, Race and Justice.

‘13 Jeremy Bork is a youth ministry intern at First Reformed Church of Schenectady (N.Y.). He plans to attend Western Theological Seminary this fall.

Brandon Hammack is a graduate assistant and assistant track and field coach at Southeast Minnesota State University in Marshall. He is pursuing a master’s degree in physical education/coaching. His wife, Wamunno (Fernandes), is a congressional specialist for U.S. Bank.

Kersten (McCrea) Lempp will begin studies toward a doctorate in developmental psychology from the University of California, Riverside, this fall.

Heather (Gombritz) Vermeer is an actuarial technician at Indianas Farm Bureau Insurance in Indianapolis. Her husband, Paul, is pursuing a Doctor of Optometry degree from the Indiana University School of Optometry.

Margaret White teaches in the resource room at Fredstrom Elementary School in Gates Falls.

Everyone wore something from their alma mater when Mary Jane (Van Batoria ’53) Rozeboom gathered with her kids and grandchildren for a group photo while on a family vacation in Jamaica. How far have you gone to promote Northwestern? Send us a photo of you in NWC attire and it might get printed in a future Classic.
Don’t Lose Sight of the Future

It may be hard to see now, but she’ll be ready for college before you know it. Make sure you’re ready, too, with the Private College 529 Plan.

This national plan lets you pay today’s rates for tomorrow’s tuition at thousands of private colleges.

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Road Work

Minnesotans are tough. They get bug bites in the summer and potholes in the winter. This past winter, North Star Staters weathered more than 35 inches of snow and windstorms. In addition to costing the state’s taxpayers $335 million in snow removal, the chilly winter generated millions of potholes and loads of mail for the Minnesota Department of Transportation—some of it warmly appreciative, some of it heated.

Angry letters are part of the job for Tracy (Carter ’95) Hatch, deputy commissioner of MnDOT. “You should see how skilful people get about potholes,” she says.

With steady resolve and a sunny disposition, Hatch steers a department of 5,000 employees and $11 billion in state-owned assets—like roads and bridges—that are in constant need of upkeep. Responsible for stretching Minnesota’s $3 billion annual budget to pay for infrastructure maintenance, improvement and expansion, Hatch is driven by a passion for government effectiveness and accountability.

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In Memoriam

Dr. David Dyckstra ’32, ’34 died Feb. 27 in Galveston, Tex., at age 99. He earned a doctorate in American history from the University of Wisconsin and was a professor of American history for 32 years at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa. His survivors include a son and a sister.

Dorothy (Mak ’41) Hymas, age 91, of Hull, Iowa, died Jan. 31. She taught in a one-room school and served as a secretary in Sioux City. Later she was employed at Floyd Memorial Hospital and Hope Haven in Rock Valley. She was an active member of American Reformed Church in Hull. She is survived by four children, including Dallas ’72.

Adriana Bonner ’44 died March 15 in Sheldon, Iowa, at age 86. She graduated from Fort Wayne (Ind.) Bible College and was a teacher in Iowa, Kentucky, Mexico, and Alberta, Canada. She was a member of First Reformed Church of Hooper. She volunteered with Bible for Missionaries, the Bible League and the American Legion Auxiliary.

The Rev. Norman Manning ’52, of Rock Valley, Iowa, died Jan. 30 at the age of 87. After attending Northwestern, he graduated from Hope College and Western Theological Seminary. He pastored several Reformed churches in Iowa and Nebraska before retiring in 1991. He was a member of the Sioux Saints Church and helped refurbish wheelchairs for Hope Haven. He is survived by his wife, Fannie (Jammer’s ’51), ’83.

Marie (Lundberg ’57), age 77, died April 8 in Cherry Valley, Calif. She earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Wayne State College and taught for over 30 years in Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota and Nebraska. She also helped her husband manage two Hallmark stores and a pharmacy. She is survived by two children, including Amy Peterson ’96, and a brother, Marinos ’83.

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Pushing Back Against Bullying

by Emily (Meyerink ’08) Griese

“I get called fish-face ... I feel kinda nervous going to school. I like learning, but I have trouble making friends.”

These comments by a young boy in Sioux City, Iowa, were featured in the recent documentary Bully and capture the trepidation so many youth today feel. While school is supposed to be a safe place—a place where students go to learn, make friends and explore who they are—it has, for so many of them, become a place of fear. With nearly 20 percent of youth reporting repeated maltreatment by their peers in the form of bullying, it is clear we should no longer ignore this issue.

To combat bullying, it is important that we first accurately identify what bullying is and its impact. Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior directed toward an individual that is 1) repeated or has the potential to be repeated and 2) involves some sort of power imbalance, such as differences in physical strength or popularity. Children who are bullied report feeling emotionally distressed or anxious. They withdraw from their peers or family, act out behaviorally, or avoid school. In more extreme cases, being a perpetual victim can lead to significant depression and even thoughts of suicide.

As parents or teachers, we often feel lost in this battle, wondering where to turn and how best to help our kids. The reassuring news is that there are resources. As a researcher who studies bullying, one of the most rewarding aspects of my work is providing teachers and parents—who often feel helpless—with supportive information on bullying and the skills needed to stand up to it. Below are key areas researchers have identified as important in the fight against bullying.

Engaging teachers and parents: Finally, teachers and parents serve an important role in supporting both victims and bystanders by providing them with the necessary skills and knowledge to take a stand against bullying. Victims of bullying report that the most helpful things teachers can do are listen to them, check in with them, and provide them with advice and skills to deal with the bullying if and when it occurs.

Bullied kids and their parents aren’t helpless or alone. Together we can empower our youth by providing them with the knowledge and skills to decrease bullying and ensure our schools are safe and welcoming places.

Dr. Emily Griese earned master’s and doctoral degrees in educational psychology from the University of Nebraska. She is now a postdoctoral research fellow at Sanford Research in Sioux Falls, S.D., conducting research aimed at bullying prevention.
Baccalaureate is an opportunity for graduating seniors to gather for a final time in Christ Chapel, their college worship home. The service includes stories, songs and a personal blessing for each student, culminating in a moving Cutting of the Cords ceremony. While that act symbolizes the graduates’ separation from Northwestern College, their bonds in Christ—and to their alma mater—are ties that cannot be broken.