New Heights
CCCU Young Alumni Award winner
gives Romanian youth a lift

Also
125 Years of the Classic
New Science Center
A Day in the Life
Get a snapshot of life during a typical day at Northwestern College.
Contents

Classic People

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The Classic is published three times a year—in January, April and August—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.

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

On the Web
See more photos of a typical day at Northwestern, and learn about the picks and pans of movie connoisseur Matt Austin '05.

A Place for Discovery
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Interception
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No Limits
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First published in 1891–92, Northwestern’s Classic is celebrating its 125th anniversary.

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On the Cover:
Felipe Silva ’12 helps Romanian youth develop trust, discipline, persistence and confidence through the sport of rock climbing.

PHOTO BY JANELLE (DE WAARD ’11) SILVA
Diversifying: The Work of Reconciliation

Five years ago, Northwestern developed a new strategic plan. One of our many goals was to increase the ethnic diversity of our campus community through strategic student recruitment and faculty/staff hiring efforts.

At that time, our student body was 90 percent Caucasian; this fall it was 83 percent. In 2011, only about 6 percent of our students were American ethnic minorities; we have now more than doubled that.

International students continue to account for 3 percent of our student body each year. Good progress has been made.

As for diversifying our faculty and staff, though, progress has been too slow. It is easy to make excuses about being located in homogeneous rural northwest Iowa, but it is time to move beyond excuses.

Two years ago I asked our Multi-Ethnic Resource Committee, led by Dr. Valerie (Roman ’93) Stokes and Rahn Franklin, to craft a Vision for Diversity, and I provided a framework for such a statement. It needed to be consistent with our mission, our Vision for Learning, and our Statement of Christian Identity and not contradict any policy or theological positions of the college—such as the view that God’s good design for all sexual intimacy is within marriage between one man and one woman.

After leading a campus-wide discussion of the college’s diversity values, realities, obstacles and aspirations, the committee developed a statement that was approved by the Board of Trustees. The Vision for Diversity artfully describes our desire to be a leader in embracing diversity so we can better reflect the fullness of the kingdom of God, respond to our country’s changing demographics and culture, and model reconciliation.

Scripture teaches us that one day people from every tribe, nation and tongue will stand before the throne. But we don’t need to wait; glimpses are possible now, even though we are a broken version of God’s creation. How beautiful it would be if Northwestern led the way in embracing peoples of all races and ethnicities, to the glory of God.

Greg Christy
President
Excellence Affirmed

Northwestern continues to get high rankings for academics, value, Christian education and more. Here are some of the latest accolades we’ve received:

- **U.S. News & World Report** ranked Northwestern in a tie for sixth place among 80 Midwestern regional colleges in its 2017 Best Colleges guidebook. NWC was the highest-ranked Iowa college in its category.

- Northwestern’s online Master of Education program has been ranked highly by two organizations. BestMastersDegrees.com ranked the program second among the nation’s top low-cost master’s degrees, while AffordableSchools.net rated NWC third in its list of most affordable online M.Ed. degrees.

- *Washington Monthly* rated Northwestern 25th among the nation’s top baccalaureate colleges, based on the schools’ contributions to the public good in the areas of social mobility, civic engagement and service.

- ChristianUniversitiesOnline.org ranked NWC 16th among the 50 Best Christian Colleges and Universities for 2017. Northwestern was the highest-rated college in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska and South Dakota.

- The President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll included Northwestern for the ninth consecutive year.

- The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption ranked NWC among the top five adoption-friendly workplaces in education for the sixth year in a row, joining New York University, Emory University, Ohio State and Notre Dame.

To read more about NWC’s accolades, visit nwciowa.edu/excellence.

Interpretación

Spanish professor Piet Koene has been certified as a medical interpreter through the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters. To earn certification, he had to memorize thousands of medical terms in English and Spanish, attend a 40-hour workshop, and pass written and verbal exams in both languages.

Koene is also a state-certified court interpreter in Iowa and Minnesota. He is among just a handful of top-tier professional legal interpreters in Iowa.

Piet Koene, the leader of Northwestern’s translation and interpretation major, has earned his medical interpreter certification.
A Morning on the Green crowd that was among the largest ever was one of the highlights of Raider Days Sept. 30 and Oct. 1.

Cloudy skies but warm temperatures provided an excellent environment for the annual carnival, as well as the Red Raider Road Race, football and soccer contests, alumni games in five sports, and class reunions. Alumni, parents and friends gathered indoors for the Legacy Celebration Banquet, a music department concert, the Distinguished Alumni Banquet, the Hall of Fame luncheon, and a production of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.


Trike races were among many popular activities at Morning on the Green during Raider Days.
New M.Ed. Director

Dr. Sara Waring-Tiedeman is the new Master of Education program director for Northwestern’s graduate school. In addition to overseeing the current M.Ed. programs, she is also working with the education department to develop new M.Ed. tracks and graduate-level education endorsements.

Waring-Tiedeman previously served as a contract specialist and data analyst for edCount, an organization that provides systems and services for educators across the U.S. She taught at South Dakota State University and Arizona State University and also served on the executive board for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.

Nine new faculty members also began teaching at Northwestern this fall in the areas of business, computer science, education, kinesiology, music, nursing, psychology and religion, including theologian Dr. Jason Lief ’96.

Art in the Big Apple

A New York City gallery featured the work of Northwestern art professor Yun Shin in a solo exhibition during the month of September.

The show, titled “Filtering,” included pieces Shin created using carbon paper to trace her father’s and mother’s signatures thousands of times. The overlapping lines appear to be infinite and create patterns of light and dark.

One two-inch square image and one 20-inch square image were created using her father’s name; similar-sized pieces were made using her mother’s name. Even the carbon papers themselves were part of the show.

“My work is all about process,” says Shin, who spent several hours every day creating the patterns that were part of her show—with a single image taking 11 months to finish.

A $10,000 artist fellowship from the Iowa Arts Council helped Shin purchase art supplies, frame and ship her work, and travel to New York City for the opening of the exhibit at A.I.R. Gallery. Founded in 1972, A.I.R. was the first all-female cooperative gallery in the United States.

Shin was also one of 15 artists chosen for a group exhibition at the Altered Esthetics Gallery in Minneapolis this fall. Her piece was created with graphic pencil and oil paint. After drawing vertical and horizontal lines—spaced one-eighth of an inch apart—on paper, she applied oil paint to every other intersection of the lines, creating an ethereal, abstract and translucent image.

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A Special Student

Ask Trey Poppema what he likes best about being a student at Northwestern College, and he replies, “Making new friends.” Ask him what he's best at, and his answer is the same: “Making new friends.”

Poppema is getting plenty of opportunities to do just that as the first participant in Northwestern NEXT, a new two-year program for students with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Born with Down syndrome, Poppema grew up in Orange City, where he was mainstreamed with other students at Orange City Christian School and Unity Christian High School. When his class graduated from high school in 2015, however, his peers continued their education or got jobs while he stayed home.

That changed this fall when the NEXT program was launched with Poppema as its first participant. “Trey is the perfect student to start with,” says John Menning, the program's director and Northwestern's learning disability service provider. “We’re learning as we go as far as developing the right curriculum. Our vision is to take each student and create a program specifically for them based on what they need and their abilities.”

NEXT is designed to prepare participants for as much independence as possible. Classes taught by Menning and education professor Tonya Moore-Huss cover life and social skills, functional math and reading, and career exploration and readiness. And like other students, Poppema lives in a dorm, eats in the cafeteria and participates in college activities.

Sophomore Ben Grev, who has three cousins with Down syndrome, receives a stipend as Poppema's roommate and personal RA. “I was supposed to show him the ropes and introduce him to people,” Grev says, “but now he's doing that on his own, so I'm just there to help him out when he needs it.”

Other students who are part of a peer network accompany Trey to meals, on the job, while exercising, and during free time. Still others work with him as part of their studies as education, social work or kinesiology majors.

Adding intellectual diversity to campus aligns with Northwestern's mission and Vision for Diversity and is the right thing to do, Menning says. “Trey has affected other people, and other people have affected him. The learning goes both ways.”

Award-Winners

Three projects produced by Northwestern's public relations and advancement offices have won awards in the 2017 Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District Six awards competition.

Silver awards were received for the admissions viewbook and a donor thank-you video that was shown at the 2015 Legacy Celebration Banquet. A thank-you postcard for donors to the Juffer Athletic Fieldhouse won a bronze award.

This is the seventh consecutive year Northwestern has won at least two awards in the district competition, which includes colleges, universities and independent schools from eight states.

Parenthood

Bonding time with baby will be made a little easier for Northwestern employees, thanks to a new college policy. Six weeks of paid parental leave is now available for mothers or fathers upon the birth or adoption of a child.
On the Rise

Northwestern has recorded its highest enrollment in nine years, with 1,260 students enrolled, an increase of 50 from last fall. Factors included record numbers of transfer and graduate students, a high retention rate, and an increase in the number of freshmen.

Fifty-three students transferred to Northwestern, and the college's Master of Education programs—only in their second year—enrolled 161. Meanwhile, 81.9 percent of last year’s freshmen returned, second only to last year’s 82.2 percent rate. “This retention rate tells us we’re attracting students who are a good match for Northwestern and, secondly, that they are having a good experience here,” says Mark Bloemendaal ’81, dean of enrollment and marketing.

Northwestern enrolled 43 more new undergraduate students than last year, and their academic credentials are strong. The average ACT score of Northwestern's freshman class is the third highest on record, at a 24.6 composite, well above the Iowa average of 22.2 and the national average of 21.0. “We’re very pleased with the quality of our freshman class,” says Bloemendaal. “We’ve enrolled students with strong academic credentials who have given us every indication they’ll thrive here and contribute positively to our Christian academic community.”

Booking It

The bookshelves in the religion department’s office suite have gotten a little more crowded over the last six months. Three faculty members have published books recently.

Dr. John Hubers ’76 is the author of I Am a Pilgrim, a Traveler, a Stranger: Exploring the Life and Mind of the First American Missionary to the Middle East, the Rev. Pliny Fisk (1792–1825). The book is part biography, part critical analysis of Fisk and his pioneering ministry in the Ottoman Empire.

“Fisk’s ministry contribution has gone largely unnoticed since his memoir was published,” says Hubers. “Not only was he the first American missionary to establish work in the Middle East; he was one of only a handful of Americans who had traveled to that part of the world at this point of time.”

Dr. Jackie Smallbones has released her third book, Live the Story not the Dream: Story and Spiritual Formation. The volume is about prayerfully and creatively entering the story of Scripture through its many smaller stories so the reader can learn to live life narrated by God’s word, not by the fads of today’s world.

“It is my desire that people who read my book will discover the same excitement for God’s word that I experienced as a child and finally regained in my adult years,” says Smallbones.

Dr. John Vonder Bruegge has published Mapping Galilee in Josephus, Luke and John: Critical Geography and the Construction of an Ancient Space.

The book focuses on viewing first century Galilee as a variously mapped space both in ancient writings and current scholarship. “Many scholars have focused on Galilee and its archeological remains, assuming that would yield a better understanding of Jesus himself,” says Vonder Bruegge. “Yet, at the same time, another field called ‘critical geography’ has been developing. These geographers help us understand the methods ancient authors used when they wrote about Galilee, how dynamic those processes were, and how different they are from the mapping we know of today.”
Bridge Scholars Advance Diversity Values

Northwestern will offer scholarships and campus learning and leadership opportunities for students from historically underrepresented populations through a new program to be launched this fall.

Ten to 12 students chosen as Bridge Scholars will be part of each incoming class for an eventual total of approximately 40 students on campus each year. Rahn Franklin, Northwestern’s director of multicultural student development, will direct the program.

Bridge Scholars will meet for courses, discussion, mentoring and experiential learning all aimed at developing the ability to be a campus leader and advocate for an inclusive campus and curriculum. Bridge Scholars will be “ambassadors of reconciliation,” says Franklin, helping Northwestern exhibit the values expressed in its Vision for Diversity.

“Reconciliation between people, particularly people separated by racial prejudice, is not simply a good social goal, it’s part of what it means to follow Jesus,” says Julie Vermeer Elliott ’97, vice president for student life. “We want to attract more diverse persons to our campus and equip them to become transformative leaders in college and throughout their lives.”

Bridge Scholars will receive $2,500 scholarships, renewable for four years for students who meet GPA and program participation requirements. Applications are due March 31. More information is available at nwciowa.edu/bridge-scholars.

SID MVP

Matt Bos, Northwestern’s sports information director since 2004, was honored as the 2015–16 Great Plains Athletic Conference Sports Information Director of the Year last summer.

“Matt has made significant improvements in the way Red Raider athletics are publicized,” says Athletic Director Earl Woudstra ’78.

“He has increased Northwestern’s promotion online, via social media, and through the use of webcasts, where he serves as the voice of the Red Raiders.”

Military-Friendly

Northwestern has earned the 2017 Military-Friendly School designation by Victory Media, publisher of G.I. Jobs magazine. The list—based on assessments of institutions’ abilities to meet thresholds for student retention, graduation, job placement and loan repayment—is designed to help service members select the best educational route for pursuing a civilian career.

“We are pleased to be recognized for providing an outstanding education and excellent services to veterans,” says Mark Bloemendaal ’81, Northwestern’s dean of enrollment and marketing. “We accept the GI Bill and also have designated significant scholarships for veterans or active military members, and we enjoy serving those who have served our country.”
Jennifer Rogers
Working Toward Wellness

You earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology and human resource management. Why make the switch to athletic training?

I still love psychology, and I actually use it every day. But I couldn’t see myself trying to help people solve problems that often stemmed from their surroundings, which I have no control over. I found that helping people get healthy physically suited my personality.

What fascinates you about the human body?
The body is a huge kinetic chain. Just because your knees hurt doesn’t mean the problem lies at the knees. It might be due to your inner core or the shoes you’re wearing, or because you’ve been sitting all day long and your hamstrings and glutes are weak. The body is so complex and adapts well to the forces and actions we require of it. I feel like a detective every day, trying to discover why something feels wrong and helping solve the problem.

You know firsthand what can happen when something is wrong. What has been the most challenging health problem you’ve had to deal with personally?

Our son Kaden was born with a congenital heart defect and had three open heart surgeries before he was 2 years old. There are many complications with these surgeries, as the purpose was to change the heart’s anatomy and physiology so it could function as long as possible.

And what is Kaden up to these days?
Kaden’s pediatric cardiologist refers all of her patients with that defect to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In September he was granted a wish and got to spend two days behind the scenes with ESPN’s College GameDay. He played catch with hosts Rece Davis and David Pollack, sat on Lee Corso’s lap, and saw the mascot headgear before the big reveal. It was an experience he will never forget.

Partners in Law

Northwestern students who want to pursue a career as an attorney now have as an option a six-year program that would result in a bachelor’s degree from Northwestern College and a law degree from Drake University.

Earning a Juris Doctor degree typically requires four years toward an undergraduate degree and three more years in law school. The Northwestern-Drake 3+3 partnership enables students to spend three years completing general education courses in the Northwestern Core—as well as requirements for any NWC major—before enrolling in Drake University’s law school in year four.

Undergraduates enrolled in the 3+3 program will take the LSAT and apply to Drake during year three; applicants are not guaranteed admission into the law school. Students who are accepted into Drake’s law program will receive a $5,000 scholarship for each of the three years of their law school studies if academic requirements are met.

Law school courses taken at Drake during year four fulfill NWC elective requirements. At the end of that year, students have both earned a Northwestern bachelor’s degree and already completed the first year of law school.

Drake University Law School also has 3+3 partnerships with Iowa State University and Simpson College. Adviser for Northwestern’s partnership is political science professor Dr. Dan Young. To learn more about the program, visit nwciowa.edu/law.

In addition to serving as a kinesiology professor, Dr. Jennifer Rogers directs Northwestern’s athletic training program. A former collegiate volleyball player, she enjoys working with student-athletes as a way to keep her clinical skills sharp and to show students firsthand how to practice what she teaches.

What’s the worst athletic injury you’ve ever treated?
The worst so far has been a shoulder dislocation. In one case, I was able to reduce and treat. The other one I couldn’t, so the patient had to be taken to the emergency room.

What’s a common myth about preventing or treating injuries?
That you should continue to use ice after an injury. Research has shown that after the first 12 to 24 hours, ice is useful only for pain inhibition. Elevation and compression of an injury are actually the key strategies for reducing swelling.

What’s been your favorite memory at Northwestern?
I have built so many great relationships with students, and I love to hear from them. I think of the many conversations that have been challenging. But when these same students come back as alumni and say “thank you,” I feel it’s God’s way of telling me my work here is very worthwhile.
Junko Nagao of Tokyo, Glenn Van Ekeren of Elkhorn, Neb., and Sheila De Jong of Sioux Center (left to right) are this year’s Distinguished Alumni Award recipients.

GREAT EXAMPLES

This year’s Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented to an adoption advocate, motivational speaker and avid supporter of Northwestern. The three were recognized at an Oct. 1 banquet during Raider Days, Northwestern’s Homecoming and Parents Weekend.

Junko (Hirasawa ’70) Nagao  
Service to Northwestern

Junko Nagao calls the two years she spent at Northwestern College “the foundation of my life.” When she attended NWC in the late 1960s, she was the only student from Japan. Since then, she has devoted herself to nurturing the relationship between Northwestern and her country. In addition to hosting gatherings of Japanese alumni, she encourages Japanese students to enroll at Northwestern and has invited NWC graduates to consider teaching in Japanese schools.

Nagao attended a junior college in Japan before transferring to NWC, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in English. She also spent a semester at Northwestern in the fall of 2003 as a student in the college’s English as a Second Language certificate program.

Glenn Van Ekeren ’74  
Professional Achievement

Glenn Van Ekeren is an accomplished motivational speaker and trainer. He shares his passion for living a meaningful life in his blog, enthusedaboutlife.com, and in books he’s authored with titles such as 12 Simple Steps to Experiencing Joy in Everyday Relationships and Celebrate: Living the Life You’ve Imagined.

After graduating with a psychology degree from Northwestern, Van Ekeren spent 20 years as the director of people development at Village Northwest Unlimited, an organization that serves individuals with disabilities. Since 1999 he has been the president of Vetter Health Services, which owns and operates 30 long-term care facilities in the Midwest.

Sheila (Born ’94) De Jong  
Service to Humankind

In 2005, Sheila De Jong and her husband were preparing to welcome twin girls born in Guatemala. Before they could bring them home, however, one twin died. Katelyn’s Fund, named in their daughter’s memory, now advocates for orphans around the world and provides emotional, prayer and financial support to families pursuing international adoption. Since its inception, it has provided over $1 million in grants to more than 500 families who have adopted children from 41 countries.

De Jong taught first grade at Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn and Sheldon elementary schools after graduating with a bachelor’s degree in education from NWC. She also earned a master’s degree from Morningside College.
Investing in the Mission

2015–16 giving tops $5.7 million

$5,701,771 Total giving to Northwestern College (giving to the Northwestern Fund was $1,187,794 million)

$1,346,508 Total alumni giving to Northwestern

$700,997 Total giving to scholarships for students (endowed and annual)

714 Heritage Society members (donors making planned gifts)

514 Patrons (donors giving $1,000 or more to any Northwestern cause)

355 Tower Society members (donors giving $1,000+ to the Northwestern Fund)

620 Jacob and Hannah Heemstra Roll of Honor members (donors who have given to Northwestern for 20 or more consecutive years)

449 Geven Society members (donors who have reached cumulative giving milestones ranging from $25,000 to $5 million; total lifetime giving of Geven Society members is $84,529,902)

Fundraising Report

July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016

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Make a bid for students’ hearts. (And get more than their thanks in return.)

Scholarship Auction
Saturday, Feb. 11
9 a.m. | RSC Gym

Donate auction items, then bid at the February event. Proceeds support student scholarships.

nwciowa.edu/auction
events@nwciowa.edu
712-707-7134

To see students expressing their gratitude for scholarships and more, watch nwciowa.edu/grateful-students
A PLACE FOR DISCOVERY

Northwestern moves forward with plans to build new health and natural sciences facility

by Tamara Fynaardt

A new eco-friendly health and natural sciences building will anchor the southwest corner of the campus green and create a more obvious, welcoming entry to campus for visitors arriving from the west.
Adaptive classrooms will enable whole-class instruction as well as small-group student work. Laboratories throughout the new building will also be adaptive and include spaces designated solely for professor-student collaborative research.

In the last decade, average class sizes in Northwestern science courses have grown by 41 percent, and lab enrollment has grown by 58 percent—to the point that current science facilities are at or, in some cases, beyond capacity.

**STRONG IN SCIENCE.** That describes Northwestern's science faculty and students. It describes the college's accomplished alumni researchers, science teachers and healthcare workers. And soon, it will describe a new, $24.5 million state-of-the-art building for the health and natural sciences. "Northwestern has already built a strong program and reputation in the sciences," Virg Muilenburg '62, biology professor emeritus, says. "Now we need facilities to match."

Taken together, health and natural sciences (athletic training, biology, chemistry, exercise science and nursing) is Northwestern's biggest academic program with just over 300 majors. Biology itself is the college's fourth largest major (137 students), and nursing is the sixth largest (78 students). And the majority of these students are headed into careers where they'll be in high demand.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor's *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, careers identified as prospects for growth potential between now and 2020 include nursing, physical therapy and physician assistant (all with a 30 percent projected growth rate or faster); biomedical engineers (20 to 29 percent); and environmental scientists, health educators, and physicians and surgeons (10 to 19 percent). And in the case of nursing, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends that at least 80 percent of nurses hold a minimum of a B.S.N. degree, which Northwestern offers. Currently only 35 percent of nurses have a B.S.N.

Booming career prospects in the health and natural sciences have more college students clamoring for science degrees. And that demand is stretching Northwestern's science facilities to the limit.

In 2014 a report prepared by a task force of Northwestern administrators and science professors revealed that enrollment in science labs had grown 58 percent since 2005. In addition, the average size of science classes had increased by 41 percent. The report concluded the college's science facilities are operating at maximum capacity achieved through time and space efficiencies that run the risk of reaching a tipping point when more will no longer be better.

"The students working with me on cancer cell growth responses to various plant extracts are doing marvelous work—but in a closet-sized room with only a four-foot fume hood," says Dr. Sara Sybesma Tolsma '84. She envisions expanding her study and the number of students involved when she's no longer limited to a space that can fit only one or two students at a time.

In response to both the task force report and the college's 2012 strategic plan that identifies the sciences as an area of strength in which to invest more resources, college administrators planned and launched the Discover Campaign. The $30 million campaign is raising funds for a new 61,000-square-foot health and natural sciences building as well as science scholarships and student research fellowships.

"Northwestern has enjoyed a strong reputation in the sciences since we became accredited as a four-year institution in the 1970s," says President Greg Christy, "and part of the reason for that strength—and a real distinctive of Northwestern, I believe—is the compelling way our professors integrate science and faith. They pursue both their scientific exploration and their desire to know God with bold curiosity and a deep trust that what they discover in the natural world reveals something about God."

The new science building will bring the departments of biology, chemistry and nursing all under one roof and into collaborative proximity to each other. Planned for the southwest corner of the campus green, just west of the Ramaker Center, it will also expand the resources of the natural science programs to include a greenhouse and vivarium for the care of live research animals, such as mice.

Most importantly, the new building will increase the number of classrooms and labs available for student
learning and research, including the ongoing research students conduct individually or in small teams with professors—research that is invaluable on students’ medical and graduate school applications.

Jordan Reinders ’15 credits his three summers of research with Dr. Laura Furlong and Dr. Todd Tracy as among the reasons he’s succeeding as an entomology graduate student. “Now that I’m at the University of Nebraska, I’ve found I was very well prepared,” he says. “A lot of the classes are actually easier than the biology classes I had as an undergrad.”

Students like Reinders are also involved in Furlong’s multi-year study of mayfly DNA and Tolsma’s cancer research, and chemistry students are collaborating with Dr. Dave Arnett and Dr. Karissa Carlson ’02 in an enzymology study that involves producing their own enzymes in a campus lab. Northwestern is also the only Iowa college engaged in SEA-PHAGES, a discovery-based undergraduate research effort funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

The rigorous science education Northwestern students receive and the support and mentorship they get from expert professors leads them to places around the world where they use what they’ve learned to change lives. At Exemplar Genetics, based in northwest Iowa, CEO Dr. John Swart ’90 and his team are world leaders in producing swine models that can be used to test cures for cystic fibrosis. At the University of Illinois-Chicago hospital and medical school, Dr. Kent Hoskins ’84 specializes in cancer genetics and breast cancer treatment. In Haiti, nurse missionary Kristie (De Boer ’95) Mompremier started nutrition centers—as well as a school and seminary.

Dr. Bryan Den Hartog ’81, a Des Moines orthopedic surgeon, is chair of the leadership committee for the Discover Campaign.

“Northwestern helped me discover my passion for medicine and encouraged me to develop the skills and qualities I would need as a doctor: a solid science background and a heart to serve,” he says. “I’m grateful for the faithful education I received at Northwestern. That’s why I’m giving back to it.”

As graduates, Northwestern’s more than 300 science majors head into research and healthcare careers where there are more jobs than professionals to fill them. They’re also welcome at graduate schools across the country; for example, 80 percent of Northwestern grads who apply to medical school are accepted the first time around (compared to a national med school matriculation rate of 45 percent).

Discover Campaign

Gifts and pledges as of December 2016

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Help us get to $22 million for the science building by Feb.15

In mid-December, President Christy announced that an anonymous donor who already has given $1 million to the campaign will give an additional $1 million as a matching gift challenge. To receive the match, Northwestern must reach $21 million in donations to the $24.5 million building by Feb.15. To help Northwestern get the $1 million matching gift, visit the website and give to the Discover Campaign: nwciowa.edu/discover

On the Web

To see more drawings of the new science building, visit nwciowa.edu/science-facility
Interception

A 35-year-old linebacker regains possession of his life
by Amy Scheer

California sunshine, Iowa snow. Jeron Jache’s salt-and-pepper hair next to his teammate’s blonde mane. An intimate knowledge of inner-city violence, Midwestern small-town niceness.

The yardage between 35-year-old Jache and his fellow Red Raiders shortens with every play. “We all look the same when we put our helmets on,” he says.

Raised by a single mom in San Diego, Jache, a high school football star, found family in an inner-city gang. He would soon tire of this destructive lifestyle, but not until his 30s would Jache choose to tackle a business administration degree and play linebacker for Northwestern.

The man who grew up without a father falls quite naturally into the role of mentor. When the team had a big lead in an October game against Dordt, Jache offered to try a new, different position to allow younger players time on the field.

“His mindset of ‘get to’ versus ‘have to’ has really impacted our younger players,” says Coach Matt McCarty ’03. “He is one of our hardest workers, and guys notice that.”

At 32, Jache was adopted by his stepfather, taking his name to symbolize a fresh start. And yet his own playbook didn’t include marriage and fatherhood until he stood alongside the men of Northwestern.

“Seeing the coaches and the young men out here and how good they are to their wives made me want to run home and get married [to then girlfriend, Vanessa],” says Jache. “I couldn’t see kids in my future; now I can’t see my future without them. Moving out here has given me a new faith in humanity and a new hope.”

Recognized Raiders

Three former All-Americans were inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame in October: Dr. Kaitlyn (Beaver ’11) Hoogeveen, volleyball; Becca (Hurley ’11) Kramer, basketball; and Luke Vermeer ’10, golf.

Coach of the Year honors went to Josh Bolluyt ’99, football coach at Spirit Lake (Iowa) High School; Sara Friedrichsen ’02, softball coach at Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley (Iowa) High School; and Travis Kooima ’05, football coach at Western Christian High School in Hull, Iowa. Dr. Lance Wulf ’01, who played baseball and football for the Raiders, received the Barnabas Award.

Best-Ever Finish

The men’s cross country team placed sixth at the NAIA national meet in November. The Raiders were paced by senior Will Norris, who set a school record and finished third.

For more on Raider sports, visit nwcraiders.com
The Apostle Paul compared the church to a body, each member with a different role to play—and each role vital to God’s redeeming work in the world. The same can be said of the many people who, together, are Northwestern College. Each student, professor and staff member is a unique and important part of our community. We asked photographer Dan Ross to spend a day on campus, documenting our life together. Here are just some of the moments he captured.

On the Web
See more of Dan’s photos at classic.nwciowa.edu.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

6:44 A.M.

7:44 A.M.

7:53 A.M.

8:46 A.M.

7:10 A.M.

7:02 A.M.

9:34 A.M.
NO LIMITS

Alumni help impoverished Romanian youth reach higher

by Duane Beeson
Felipe Silva has been named the 2017 Young Alumni Award recipient by the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU). He and his wife, Janelle, will be honored during the CCCU Presidents’ Conference in Washington, D.C., Jan. 25–27.

The award is given to individuals who have graduated within the last 10 years and have achieved uncommon leadership or success in a way that reflects the values of Christian higher education. Thousands of people cast their votes for the nominees in October on the organization’s Facebook page.

“What made me really excited about this award was how many people voted for me,” says Silva. “It was a full month of people encouraging me and speaking about our ministry. Working in a place where you are so far away from those you love and who really believe in you isn’t easy, so it’s a great blessing when you get a lot of people encouraging you. This award got me more excited and motivated about what we are doing here.”

The Silvas will also be recognized at their alma mater the week before the Washington conference.

The CCCU is an association of comprehensive colleges and universities with Christ-centered missions and curricula rooted in the arts and sciences. It includes 115 member campuses in North America and 63 affiliated campuses in 20 countries. Northwestern has been a member since 1979.
The Silvas take their climbers to competitions across Romania, which provides more opportunities to strengthen relationships.

“Most of the kids haven’t been out of the Jiu Valley,” says Felipe. “We bring them out, and they cling to us as people they trust in this new environment. They get vulnerable, and we see changes happen in their lives.”

Janelle describes the group’s first trip to a competition, when nearly all of the children got carsick because they weren’t used to long rides. “We went to Bucharest, and they couldn’t believe we were still in Romania. They saw traffic lights for the first time and started playing on a display of playground equipment at a store because they thought it was a park.

“It’s neat to see the world through the eyes of people who are experiencing things for the first time,” she says. “And we bond with them in so many ways on these trips because we spend so much time with them.”

Competitions also help to meet another of the Silvas’ goals: to promote reconciliation between the Roma and others. “Many people in the climbing community come from better circumstances,” says Felipe. “We encourage the other climbers and our kids to get to know each other and realize they are a lot alike.”

One of his highlights came at an outdoor competition. “The professionals who were winning the competition started giving their prizes to our kids and told us, ‘Keep doing what you’re doing.’ That was an extremely important moment for the gym, to realize the climbing community was showing support. I had tears in my eyes.”

What Felipe and Janelle are doing is mirroring what they saw from so many influential people at Northwestern—like Dr. Michael Andres, Dave Nonnemacher and Dr. Kevin McMahan—pouring themselves into their students’ lives. “The great
example I saw in many of the faculty and staff I encountered at Northwestern made the biggest impact,” says Felipe, a religion major and sociology minor who played on the soccer team and served as an assistant resident director.

“Northwestern gave me the tools to do what I’m doing today,” he continues. “The college helped me center everything in my life around my Christian faith and gave me my vision for Christian community development.”

Dr. John Hubers ’76, a religion professor and director of global education at Northwestern, has witnessed the Silvas’ ministry firsthand. “I can say without any qualification that Felipe and Janelle are two of the most powerful witnesses to the love of Christ I have seen in my years of teaching and supervising global missions,” he says. “The children come to Fără Limite not only because of the gym but because of the selfless, compassionate care Felipe and Janelle give to them. The Silvas literally radiate the love of Christ to their neighbors.”

Bates says the Silvas have tremendous energy, passion and love for the kids. “They have found that sweet spot where they are taking what they love—rock climbing—and doing it for the neediest of the needy and in a way that promotes their holistic development. Felipe and Janelle attract people—kids and adults—not just because of their mission, but because they have such warm personalities.”

Today, the youth of “Dallas” have a new identity. They proudly describe themselves by saying, “We are the Fără Limite.”

Laurentiu is one of the “No Limit” kids. He dropped out of school when he was in the fourth grade. Now 17, he is in charge of his 15- and 12-year-old siblings, as their father left for a job in England and they don’t know their mom. They live in an apartment with no water or heat and sometimes stop by the gym looking for food.

“He started coming to the gym but couldn’t pay the monthly fee,” says Felipe. “We negotiated a fee of five leu (about $1.25). He didn’t have the money, so he paid for it by collecting scrap metal from around town.”

As he became a skilled climber, he also found an anchor in his relationship with the Silvas. They’ve seen him become more responsible and trusting, someone the younger climbers look up to. And his violent outbursts have lessened.

Thanks to the donation of an Orange City woman who heard about Felipe’s award, Fără Limite has recently hired Laurentiu. He helps children improve as climbers, maintains the gym and is learning leadership skills.

Felipe’s goal is that this young man who once scavenged scrap metal to pay for his climbing membership will be sharpened like iron (Proverbs 27:17) and able to pass on valuable life lessons to others in the future. There really are no limits.

For more information about Fără Limite and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.fara-limite.ro.
A Real Classic

by Tamara Fynaardt

This year marks the 125th anniversary of the Classic, which began in 1891–92 as the Northwestern Classical Academy’s student publication. Published monthly, each issue during that inaugural year listed the academy’s enrollment (72) and tuition ($150 to $200), and subscription rates were 15 cents per issue.

The initial Classic ceased publication after 1907, reappearing around 1925 as both the student course catalog and a news bulletin for academy and junior college constituents. In 1930, then President Jacob Heemstra made it official, writing in his column, “…it was decided that a quarterly publication should be issued as the official organ of the institution. The name adopted for this periodical is ‘the Classic.’ …[W]e hope [it] will be given a very cordial reception by all readers …”

By the 1950s, the Classic had a consistent look and could be counted on by constituents for regular updates regarding alumni news and campus developments. Class notes, then called “Personalia,” were popular, and “Our mailbag” included all manner of letters sent to Northwestern, including one from Billy Graham’s secretary in 1959, explaining the notable preacher would be unable to visit campus.

Throughout the 1960s, ’70s and early ’80s, a series of editors transformed the Classic’s form and content—including Dr. Syl Scorza, Barb (Hoskins) Turnwall, Edward Stetson, Alfred Drake, Janine (Salterberg ’76) Calsbeek and Bill Lovelady. In 1986 Duane Beeson assumed responsibility for the Classic, and he remains the editor today.

During Beeson’s 30 years as Classic chief, the magazine has continued to celebrate alumni, student and faculty accomplishments as well as nurture readers’ lifelong learning and awareness of important issues.

Northwestern has great stories. And sharing them never goes out of style.

March 1892 | The earliest Classics regularly included personals and local ads. A personal in this issue read “Lost or stolen—A pair of wooden shoes …”, and a local proprietor, C.P.G. Roelofsen, advertised temperance drinks and cigars.

February 1954 | Starting in the 1950s, Classic issues reported booming campus, academic and co-curricular growth. Northwestern was building a reputation for excellence, including in the sciences. This issue included photos of an addition to Science Hall as well as an article on the appointment of Dr. Alfred Popma ’24 as president of the American Cancer Society.
In the 1960s as college students cast aside social conventions, Northwestern’s Classic editors experimented with covers and content. The cover description for the Fall 1968 issue explains that while the student pictured, Judy (Vogelzang ’69) De Graaff, doesn’t play the tuba, “she is prettier than the fellow who does.”

During Duane Beeson’s three decades as Classic editor, the magazine’s design has changed multiple times. In addition to covering campus and student news and celebrating alumni success, the content has expanded to include features on national crises like Hurricane Katrina and challenging issues like racial reconciliation.
’46 Ray and Maxine (Roos ’47) Heemstra attended a family reunion for the descendants of Jacob and Hannah Heemstra in Hot Springs, Ark., in May. Families traveled from Texas, South Dakota and Oklahoma to attend the event.

’69 The Rev. Paul Nulton has retired from his position as volunteer coordinator for the Reformed Church’s regional synods of the Mid-Atlantic and New York, as well as the Warwick Center. He has served as a volunteer work group leader and member of the disaster reconstruction team for the RCA and as a pastor for seven churches in New York, New Jersey and Canada. He continues to serve as pastor of the Claryville (N.Y.) Reformed Church.

’70 After retiring from a 37-year banking career, Merne Haack now manages Sanborn (Iowa) Housing, which is comprised of 22 apartments. He also restores antique tractors and gives rides to children and nursing home residents on his home-built hayrack.

’73 Dale Van Veldhuizen has retired from Village Northwest Unlimited and moved to New River, Ariz., with his wife, Katie.

’80 David Menning retired in November after spending nearly 35 years at State Farm Insurance’s headquarters in Bloomington, Ill. During his career, he served on the board for the corporation’s actuarial department for 12 years. He also served as the vice president of admissions for the Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS), and in 2005 he received the organization’s Above and Beyond Achievement Award. In November he was honored with the Matthew Rodermund Lifetime Service Award, which recognizes CAS members who have made significant volunteer contributions to the actuarial profession.

’83 Rollie Ackerman is in his first year as athletic/activities director at Marshalltown (Iowa) High School, after having served in a similar capacity at Grundy Center for 13 years. His boys’ basketball teams at Grundy Center and Dumont compiled a record of 280-240.

’84 Patti (Achterhoff) Kruger is the new principal for Clark and Franklin elementary schools in Le Mars, Iowa. She has more than 30 years of experience in teaching and administration and most recently served as the associate principal for Ortega Middle School in Alamosa, Colo.

’88 Dr. Bill Swart is professor of sociology and director of the Civitas Honors Program at Augustana University in Sioux Falls. His recent work on the economics of motorsports spectators (co-written with Dan Krier) has been published in three journals and has led to a forthcoming book from Brill Publishing, *NASCAR, Sturgis and the New Economy of Spectacle*. In 2016 he taught a course on Catalan identity and politics in Barcelona, Spain, and contributed a chapter titled “Designing the Academic Course: Principles and Practicalities” to the National Association for Study Abroad’s *Guide to Successful Short-Term Programs Abroad*.

’91 Brenda Renes Oldenkamp received a master’s degree in teaching from Morningside College in June. She lives in Sioux Center and works as a scorer for Educational Testing Service.

’95 Dr. Jason Kanz is a neuropsychologist in Eau Claire, Wis. He and his wife, Heather, have three children and are pursuing adoption of two children from Haiti.

The Rev. Jeremy Wiersema is now serving as pastor of the Reformed Church

Red Ties

Corey Koerselman ’82
Alumni Relations

As this (and every) issue of the *Classic* makes clear: Northwestern alumni are impressive! And I’m increasingly aware that for every alum we celebrate in these pages, there are so many more doing extraordinary things with little fanfare.

I think of Evonne (Vander Wilt ’82) Blankers, who lives in Sioux City. Evonne worked as a pharmaceutical representative while raising her family. She’s beat cancer. Now in her 50s, Evonne is a student again in Northwestern’s online RN to BSN program.

I think of Clark Haken ’05 of Sibley, Iowa. Clark began his career as an education paraprofessional and then worked as a model and landscaper before discovering his passion for helping people who just need someone to have their back. Now Clark is the director of ATLAS of Osceola County, helping individuals and families achieve emotional, social, and financial stability and confidence.

Evonne and Clark and all the inspiring alumni whose stories are in this issue are just a few of the Northwestern graduates participating in God’s redeeming work in this world by making a difference in their sphere of influence.

How can you make a difference within your sphere of influence? One way is by bringing people together to experience community and to work toward a common redemptive purpose.

You can respond to tragedy with efforts that encourage healing and wholeness—like Sheila De Jong (p. 10) and Kim Scorza (p. 28).

You can use social media to start a movement—like Holly Sanchez Perry (p. 31).

You can go somewhere hopeless and build something that fosters trust, teamwork and hope—like Felipe and Janelle Silva (p. 20).

As an alum of Northwestern College, you’ve been prepared to participate in God’s redemptive work. Go make a difference.
of Steen, Minn. Prior to that, he spent nearly 12 years in ministry at Archer (Iowa) Reformed Church.

’97 The Rev. Derek Vande Slunt was commissioned as a Navy chaplain last summer and is now serving as a lieutenant at Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station in North Carolina. His wife, Tina (Jackson), is teaching fifth grade at West Sioux Elementary School in Hawarden, Iowa.

’98 Ali (Fiene) Van Roekel is a coach and facilitator for Equip 2 Equip, a life and career coaching organization in Omaha, Neb. She partners with a team of strengths coaches and life plan facilitators to help people, teams and organizations identify talent and discover purpose.

’99 Darrin DeVries works as a report writer/business intelligence developer for Grady Health System in Atlanta.

Josh Pyle is a sergeant at the Webster County Jail in Fort Dodge, Iowa. He asks for prayers for wisdom, patience and protection in his work, as well as strength in dealing with his father’s recent death.

’00 Katy (Palmer) Moran is the family life pastor at Knightstown (Ind.) Friends Church.

Tineke Raak is the founder of Ripple Theatre Project in Redlands, Calif. The company’s first show, Shakespeare’s Comedy of Errors, debuted in August and included Brady Greer Huffman ’10 as actor and assistant director and Jonathan Strauss ’01 as graphic designer.

’02 Matthew De Vries, a financial adviser for Edward Jones in West Fargo, N.D., has been awarded the firm’s Spirit of Caring Award for exemplifying the values, culture and spirit of giving back. He was among just 250 winners selected from more than 14,000 financial advisers.

The Rev. Sara (Lamb) Sutter graduated with a Master of Divinity degree from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary in May. She now serves the Goldfield (Iowa) United Presbyterian Church.

’04 Ha Nui Chun teaches English at Saetbyeol Middle School in South Korea and partners with three teachers to lead a Sunday school program for their students.

The Rev. Tim Truesdell is the pastor of American Reformed Church in Worthington, Minn. He previously served as the associate pastor of Christ’s Family Church in Davenport, Iowa, for nine years.

’05 Bryan Johnson is the new leadership development minister for camping and Christian formation for the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. He has 15 years of experience in camping and outdoor education and served as the site director for the Lake Okoboji United Methodist Camp the last four years.

’06 The Rev. Richard Moore earned a Master of Divinity degree from the University of Northwestern–St. Paul in May. He is senior pastor of Bluff Hall Evangelical Free Church in Payton, Ill.

Kevin Ulmer is in his first year as the head volleyball coach at Bemidji State University in Minnesota. He led the volleyball program at Bethel College in Indiana for four years.

’07 Daniel Laaveg completed a master’s degree in pipe organ performance from the University of Iowa in May. He is now pursuing a doctorate.

National Coach of the Year

Jerry Hulsing ’90 has led a successful basketball program known for its intense man-to-man defense for a quarter century, but you would be hard-pressed to hear him taking any credit. Hulsing, head girls’ basketball coach at Iowa’s Lynnville-Sully High School, boasts only about the impressive young ladies he has coached, his family’s sacrifices, and the excellence of the school district and community surrounding him.

In addition to three back-to-back Class 1A state titles in the late 1990s, Hulsing’s résumé includes six additional state tournament berths and eight conference titles. Still, he would rather focus on the relationships he has built with his players and the joy of watching them grow on and off the court.

Jessica Maston, a member of Hulsing’s state championship teams, says such humility is typical of her former coach. “The work ethic, knowledge and execution of game fundamentals he instilled in each of us helped us find success on the court, but he made sure we knew our families, faith, character and sportsmanship on and off the court were far more important,” she says.

Last summer Hulsing’s list of accolades expanded to include National Girls’ Basketball Coach of the Year, an honor awarded by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association. Though his name is on the award, Hulsing passes the praise on to his players. “I really think this award is for them. It’s not my program; it’s theirs.”

by Beth (Nikkel ’02) Gaulke
A Place of Hope and Healing

When Kim (Vrieze ‘96) Scorza became CEO of northwest Iowa’s multi-location Seasons Center for Behavioral Health in 2010, she brought a dream to offer resources she had found scarce in her previous work with struggling adoptive children and families.

Two years later, Scorza formed a team to develop a state-of-the-art children’s center. This October, Autumn’s Center opened in Spencer, Iowa, offering specialized services to children who have experienced abuse, grief or other challenges.

Two more NWC alums—Natalie (Bosma ‘02) Sandbulte, Seasons Center’s director of clinical services, and Nikki (Vos ‘05) Van Ginkel, clinical supervisor—were part of Scorza’s team, developing programming and treatment methods for the 10,000-square-foot facility. Both see clients weekly at the center and are excited to be equipped with new, effective tools, such as a sensory room, healing gardens and a therapy dog.

The center also features artwork honoring the center’s namesake, Autumn Elgersma, an Orange City three-year-old who died in 2013 from injuries suffered at the hands of her daycare provider. In the entrance, a prominent painting by John Vander Stelt ‘83 showcases Autumn’s bright smile, and colorful metalwork designed by Ronni Postma is hung throughout the building.

With clients coming from across the state, Autumn’s Center has already hit capacity and is set for an addition next spring. “Our work is just beginning,” Scorza says.

by Beth (Nikkel ‘02) Gaulke

The Rev. Emily (Fischer) Munger serves the Congregational Christian Church, UCC, in Columbia, S.D.

’08 After teaching in Honduras for seven years, Christa Hydeen is now a first grade teacher at Sioux Falls Christian School.

Tim Klemz has been appointed the new chief financial officer for Enclave Development, a development and construction firm in Fargo, N.D. A certified public accountant and internal auditor, he previously worked as an internal audit manager.

Nathan Peters graduated from the University of St. Thomas School of Law and is a staff attorney with Iowa Legal Aid in Waterloo.

’10 Jenna (Wissink) Heery, Auburn, N.Y., is a family services coordinator with the Finger Lakes Donor Recovery Network. She works with families of organ donors, helping them discern if donation is the right choice for their loved one and then continuing to support them for up to two years after the donation.

’12 The Rev. Justin Karmann received a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in May. He is serving as associate pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Metuchen, N.J. His wife, Nicole (Schlickbernd ‘13), is teaching third grade at Lincoln Elementary in Edison, N.J.

Matt Negaard graduated from the University of Iowa in May and is an emergency medicine resident at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City.

Mariah Tappe is pursuing a certificate in infant and early childhood mental health at the University of Minnesota.

’13 The Rev. Jeffrey Hubers graduated from Western Theological Seminary in May and is serving as associate pastor at First Reformed Church in Mitchell, S.D.

’14 Dani Maurer is pursuing a master’s degree in higher education administration from Vanderbilt University.

’16 Aaron Tysseling is an accountant with KPMG in Des Moines. His wife, Megan (Negaard), teaches kindergarten in Urbandale.

New Arrivals

Matt and Tammy (Mason ’97) Carlson, son by adoption, Kashton David (3), joins Simon (12) and Bryson Jeffery, joins Jordy (2) and Mya Jane, join Jackson (5) and Cora (2) and Levi and Carissa (Meyn ’04) Judge, twins, Brooks Michael and Baker Louise, join Maxwell (5) and Lincoln (2) and Arie Gray, joins Loenn (2) and David Michael, son by adoption, Kashton David (3), joins Simon (12) and Claire Ann, joins Nelson (7) and Jocelyn (5) and Leslie and David Perrigo ’02, daughter, and Simon (12) and ClaireAnn Jean, joins Nelson (7) and Jocelyn (5) and Tim and Trudi (Hansen ’02) Vander Ploeg, children by adoption, Isabela Grace (7) and Manuel Josiah (6) and Laura (Boote ’03) and Micah Van Otterloo ’04, twins, Brooks Michael and Mya Jane, join Jackson (5) and Cora (2) and Levi and Carissa (Meyn ’04) Judge, son, Bryson Jeffery, joins Jordy (2) and Lee and Heidi (Hagena ’04) McCoy, son, Griffin Turner, joins Bennett (5), Brigham (4), Greta (3) and Gentry (1) and Ben and Lori Beth (Amos ’05) Waldron, son, Clayton, joins Royce (2) and Greg and Julie (Goettsch ’05) Weidauer, son, David Michael Rachael and Joey Hartfiel ’06, daughter, Wilhelmina Ray

Northwestern alumni have played important roles in the new Autumn’s Center. Social workers Natalie Sandbulte, Nikki Van Ginkel and Kim Scorza (left to right) are among the center’s staff members, and the building includes this painting by John Vander Stelt, as well as metalwork designed by Ronni Postma.
Living Your Faith (LYF) is a one-week campus experience for high schoolers who

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Marriages

Katy Palmer ’00 and Carlos Moran, Knightstown, Ind.
Lisa Bouwman ’01 and Thomas Allison, Cardigan, Wales, U.K.
Bryce Book ’09 and Britney Siningher, Sioux City, Iowa
Nick Tjeerdsma ’10 and Kelsey Wendholt, Auburn, Ind.
Ashley Sherrod ’11 and Jose Ramirez, Rock Island, Ill.
Chelsea Stanton ’11 and Jeb Rach ’13, Roseville, Minn.
Matt Negaard ’12 and Briana Midkiff, Iowa City, Iowa
Emily Papp ’12 and Brad Crofford, West Des Moines, Iowa
Jessica Wedel ’12 and Derrick Bulthuis, Prinsburg, Minn.
Jessica Kleveland ’13 and Derek Brown, Eldora, Iowa
Malea Beeson ’14 and Evan Stoesz ’14, Eagan, Minn.
Layce Johnson ’14 and Brandon Smith ’13, Mankato, Minn.
Gretchen Sutherland ’14 and Josh Mesward, Arvada, Colo.
Tyler Farr ’15 and Kevin Krattenmaker, Littleton, Colo.
Taylor Studer ’15 and Tec Sun ’14, Denver
A Year at the Movies

What began as an unorthodox New Year’s resolution—“I could watch a movie every day”—became a way of life for Matt Austin ’05. By the time 2016 faded to black, Northwestern’s help desk manager had reached his goal of viewing 365 movies.

“We didn’t have cable or see movies much growing up, so this was my chance to catch up,” Austin explains. His watch list included 1920 German silent horror film The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari, Hacksaw Ridge from 2016, and flicks from every genre. He watched blockbusters as well as obscure documentaries.

His favorite: Dances With Wolves. “It was almost a religious experience. I was ready for four more hours. I felt better for having seen it.”

Most surprising? E.T. and the Bollywood movie 3 Idiots. “I didn’t have high expectations for E.T., but it made me feel like a kid again. I had a dopey smile on my face the whole time. I thought 3 Idiots would be stupid, but it was quite affecting.”

Austin admits he’s not a trained movie critic, but he knows what he’s looking for. “If it can engender a deep and visceral emotional reaction in me—fear, anger, anxiety, sadness, joy—it automatically gets a five” (his top rating).

Will there be a sequel in 2017? No, but Austin did recently gift himself an Xbox One S, so there may be a lot of gaming in his future.

by Duane Beeson

Sarah Lindell ’16 and Eric Van Der Linden ’14, Marion, Iowa
Megan Negaard ’16 and Aaron Tysssel ’16, West Des Moines, Iowa

The couples reside in the city listed.

In Memoriam

Betty (De Haan ’45) Nitz died on Sept. 2 at age 90. She was an elementary school teacher in Estherville, Iowa, and Tustin, Calif., and was an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Tama, Iowa. She is survived by three children.

Dr. Stanley Vander Aarde ’49, ’51, of Orange City, died Nov. 19 at the age of 85. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Hope College and graduated from the Northwestern University Medical School, where he also completed his otorhinolaryngology residency. An Air Force veteran, he served as a medical missionary for the Reformed Church in America in India for 21 years, directing the Union Mission Tuberculosis Sanatorium and serving as medical superintendent of the Mary Lott Lyles Hospital. He later practiced in Willmar, Minn. A member of First Reformed Church of Orange City, he was active with such groups as the Sioux County Historical Society and the Dutch Heritage Boosters. Among his survivors are his wife, Darlene (De Beer ’50, ’52); four children, Paul ’80, David ’82, Debra Scott ’84 and Mary Kenobie ’88; and a brother, the Rev. Robert ’56.

Ralph Wiersma ’51, ’53, age 83, died on Aug. 4. An Army veteran, he worked at Public Service Company in Denver for 40 years. In retirement he volunteered with such organizations as World Renew, Mississippi Christian Family Services and the Audubon Society. He is survived by his wife, Emilie; two sons; a daughter; and brothers Glenn ’54, ’56 and Lee ’60, ’62, ’64.

Ronald Van’t Hof ’57, of Hospers, Iowa, died on June 28 at age 79. He graduated from the University of South Dakota in Springfield and worked as an instructor for the auto body repair program at Northwest Iowa Technical College in Sheldon for 30 years. He was a member of First Reformed Church, where he served as a deacon, youth group leader and Sunday school teacher. His survivors include his wife, Sharon, and three children.

Elaine (Kolenbrander ’60, ’62) Koerselman, 76, died June 29. She taught third grade at Maurice-Orange City Elementary before becoming a teacher’s aide at Boyden-Hull Elementary. A resident of Hull, Iowa, she was an active member of Free Grace Reformed Church in Middleburg, serving as a Sunday school and catechism teacher, among other roles. She is survived by her husband, Ben ’58; four children, including Brenda ’88, Lynne Dykstra ’89 and Laryl ’01; and three siblings, including Marilyn Vander Kooi ’59 and Carole Aykens ’63.

Howard Anderson ’64 of Schoharie, N.Y., died on June 15 at age 75. He had a long career with the state of New York, primarily working on the construction of facilities for the Commission of Corrections and the Office of Children and Family Services. He was a member of Lynnwood Reformed Church and served as a deacon, elder and treasurer. He is survived by his wife, Jean (Miller ’65); three daughters; and two siblings.

Flora (Warnke ’65) Clayton of Pauliina, Iowa, died at age 93 on July 18. She attended Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls for one year before teaching in schools near Pauliina, Sutherland and Peterson. Later, she completed her bachelor’s degree at Northwestern. She was a lifelong member of Zion Lutheran Church. Among her survivors is a daughter.

Doug Korver ’65 died in Mesa, Ariz., at age 73 on July 2. He graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a degree in industrial arts. He was drafted by the Atlanta Falcons and played football for the Norfolk Neptunes and Omaha
Mustangs. He taught school and coached football in Council Bluffs and Charles City, Iowa. He later operated Red Line Vending, which supplied and serviced video games, juke boxes and pool tables throughout northeast Iowa for 25 years. He is survived by his wife, Carol; two children; and three sisters, including Audrey Scholten ’60.

Robert Sonneveldt ’66 died on Aug. 1 at age 73. A Marine Corps veteran, he worked at his family’s bakery in Grand Rapids, Mich., for two decades and then became a finish carpenter for the next 20 years. He often volunteered at soup kitchens, Habitat for Humanity projects and community outreach programs. He is survived by two children, including Shane ’92, and three sisters.

Judith (Vander Ploeg ’68) Franken, 69, of Sun Prairie, Wis., died July 3. She taught in Rock Valley, Iowa, for a few years and later worked for the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church. An active volunteer, she was recognized by a service award nomination from the Madison School District. Her survivors include her husband, Greg ’69; two daughters; and two brothers.

Darlene (Jurgens ’69) Wiersema of Cherokee, Iowa, died on Sept. 6 at age 69. She taught first grade at schools in Spencer and Sutherland, Iowa, before becoming a stay-at-home mother. A Sunday school teacher at American Reformed Church in Primghar, she led a women’s Bible study in her home. She is survived by her husband, Ivan ’70; and three children, Jeremy ’95, Jennifer Probst ’98 and Jaylene De Vos ’03.

Barb (Weiss ’80) Romkema, 56, of Durham, N.C., died May 16. She earned a master’s degree in English from Iowa State University and was involved in a variety of pursuits, from freelance writing and lobbying on behalf of people with disabilities to teaching English as a second language. Among her survivors are four children, including Erica ’05; her parents, Dorothy and Dr. Ray Weiss, professor emeritus of religion; and three siblings, Catherine Bell ’78, David ’92 and Tim ’97.

Scott Wolswinkel ’98 died at age 42 from injuries sustained after the plane he was piloting crashed on Sept. 7. He was the owner and founder of Wolf Construction, a West Des Moines-based commercial construction firm and roofing contractor that he founded while a student at NWC. He also served as an assistant football coach at Des Moines Christian School. He is survived by four children; brothers Brent ’99, Tim ’00, Mark ’02 and Blake ’07; and his parents.

Mary (Hofland ’03) Wissink died on July 11 at age 64 in Orange City. A member of Calvary Christian Reformed Church, she worked at Neal Chase Lumbar Company in clerical accounting and kitchen design. Among her survivors are her husband, Milt ’72; two daughters; and a brother.

Bill Lovelady, 92, a Northwestern speech professor from 1963 to 1966 and director of public relations from 1981 to 1986, died July 18 in Orange City. Born in Manchester, England, he served for five years with the Royal Corps of Engineers before immigrating to the United States in 1951. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Cornell University. His survivors include a son and a sister.

LETS KNOW: Email your news for the next Classic by Jan. 31 to classic@nwciowa.edu.

Dignity. Period.

YouTube star Ingrid Nilsen, fresh from interviewing President Obama in the East Room of the White House, announced in a commercial for U by Kotex, “I’m going to join Holly.”

That’s Holly (Stewart ’13) Sanchez Perry, whose tweet on feminine hygiene needs in homeless shelters inspired the brand to create the first-ever national drive for period products.

Media coverage, including Amy Poehler’s Smart Girls website, mentions Sanchez Perry’s work with the homeless in Chicago, but the law student traces her inspiration back to a Northwestern internship—and later job—at The Bridge, a transitional shelter for women and children in Orange City.

“The Bridge was my first introduction to the needs of women and how they are not being met,” she says. “This is an issue that should not be an issue. People deserve the dignity of having a comfortable menstrual cycle.”

One “Power to the Period” participant told Sanchez Perry that while she was homeless, she stole toilet paper rolls from public restrooms whenever she had her period. Approaching her church for donations was the woman’s opportunity to share her history for the first time and receive support.

With more than 50,000 participants and nearly 600,000 products distributed, the three-month campaign saw success not only in numbers, but in deep personal connections formed through simply meeting a practical need.

BY AMY PHILLIPS
It's a very challenging time to be a law enforcement officer—and a black man. It seems nearly every week we hear a new story of a black male shot by a cop. The relationship between police and civilians is worse than it has been for a long time, and most of the tension is coming from the relationships and actions between white officers and black males.

For the most part, the Woodbury County area hasn't experienced the types of incidents that have set off big divides between officers and civilians. I am very blessed to be working in an area where our duties are appreciated by the majority of the people we serve. But it's impossible to avoid hearing about other parts of the country where that is not the case and tragedies are happening.

Media coverage and widespread use of social media don't make a clear understanding of these issues any easier. People see the first news report on something or a social media post about an alleged police brutality situation and assume it's 100 percent accurate, when most of the time it isn't. Even the body cameras we wear don't fully display all the emotion and action going on. Satan is unfortunately doing a really good job using the media to separate people and create hatred. Be wary of that when you hear about the next tragedy; try to learn more about the situation rather than allowing anger to immediately fill your heart.

People often ask me where I stand. I try hard to look at all these situations from three perspectives: as an officer, as a black man and as a citizen in general. I often get the impression from the media and people talking about these tragedies that I need to express allegiance to one side or the other. As a black cop, do I lean toward my African-American brothers and sisters or toward my brothers and sisters who wear the uniform? At the end of the day I find myself sitting in the middle, not picking any sides, just going to work to try to help people and make it home again when my shift is over.

Some things that help keep me level-headed are my supportive wife, my personality, my morals and how I was raised by my parents—which is to respect others and lean on God. With this foundation and support system, I can hear about a shooting or bad situation, and no matter how upset it makes me as a black man or as a cop, when I go to work at night, it does not affect how I treat people I come into contact with, regardless of their skin color.

Another thing that helps me treat everyone the same is something simple and effective I learned in training: I was told that the way you talk to people makes a huge difference. If you talk to people like they're your equal and show them respect, they will, most of the time, respect you back.

A native of Orange City, Ben Brown studied sociology and criminal justice and played basketball at Northwestern. He became the first African-American deputy sheriff for Iowa’s Woodbury County in 2013.

At the end of the day, I find myself not picking any sides, just going to work to try to help people and make it home again when my shift is over.

So how should we respond to these tense situations? Let's start by being respectful to one another. In my experiences on the job, a little respect goes a long way. I haven't had very many “sticky” situations so far, and I would like to think that’s primarily because I show people I stop or even arrest as much respect as I can.

A native of Orange City, Ben Brown studied sociology and criminal justice and played basketball at Northwestern. He became the first African-American deputy sheriff for Iowa’s Woodbury County in 2013.
“Union Pacific’s matching gift program makes giving even better, because we can see how much further our money can go. When we give $1,000 to Northwestern as Tower Society members, it becomes $3,000, and that’s pretty amazing.”

It all adds up.

Trent ’04 and Kendra Fredericksen made regular, intentional giving part of their life shortly after they got married. And though Kendra isn’t a Northwestern graduate, she was eager to take advantage of her company’s 2-to-1 matching gift program for educational institutions, which triples their donations. “Seeing how Trent grew at Northwestern and hearing about his experience there speaks volumes,” she says. “We want to give someone else that experience too.”

To find out if your company will match your gift to NWC, visit nwciowa.edu/matching-gifts.

The Fredericksens live in Bennington, Neb., with their son, Samuel. Kendra is a manager of internal controls in the finance department of Union Pacific. Trent is the director of housing and residence life at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, a career track he started on when he was an RA in Northwestern’s Colenbrander Hall.
“God Is Light,” the motto carved in Latin on the cornerstone of Zwemer Hall, has inspired a new tradition at Northwestern. On a Sunday evening during fall orientation, new students gathered between Christ Chapel and the DeWitt Learning Commons—a location chosen for its representation of the intersection of faith and learning.

Following a time of worship, President Greg Christy exhorted students to pursue the light of God’s truth in all they do. After the flame from one candle was passed to others, Dr. Mark Husbands, vice president for academic affairs, and Mark De Younge ’08, director of Christian formation, dedicated the students to God in prayer. Then each candle was lifted toward the night sky as all sang the Doxology.