

CLASSIC



A publication for Northwestern College alumni & friends • Winter 2006-07



Jeff Barker

2006 Iowa Professor of the Year



Dr. Bruce Murphy
President

Can We Talk? Conversations of Consequence

At the faculty retreat this past August, Dr. Harold Heie, academic dean at Northwestern from 1980 to 1988 and sage of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities, used two phrases I have not been able to get out of my mind.

Describing our calling as educators, he spoke of the need for “conversations of consequence”—not only interesting discussions, much less mere talk, but serious explorations of realities that matter to us, our world and God. All of this sounds fine until you realize he is talking about explorations of those two subjects we have been warned never to talk about in public: religion and politics.

I will never forget the Sunday afternoon—shortly after dinner and just a couple of hours after church—when my dad and I almost came to blows while talking about the Vietnam War. Pop and I were very close and almost never disagreed. I respected him deeply, especially his Christian faith and political integrity. But on this occasion it was his faith and politics that I questioned.

I knew as soon as the topic came up that to say anything would raise the temperature in the room. Di and my mom were washing the dishes a few feet away, and they froze at the mention of the war. They knew, as did my dad, that we were all treading on precarious ground. But we also knew we had to talk about the war. The country and the church were up in arms over Vietnam—and soon I would be going there. The subject was too important to ignore.

Conversations of consequence aren't always controversial, but often they are. And this is where Heie's second phrase comes to mind. He suggests that if conversations of consequence are to be fruitful, they must also be “respectful conversations”—conversations marked by humility, religious maturity and patience.

Religious maturity is perhaps the most intriguing of these characteristics, and in some ways, combines the other two. Here Heie quotes Ian Barbour: “It is by no means easy to hold beliefs for which you would be willing to die and yet remain open to new insights, but it is precisely such a combination of commitment and inquiry that constitutes religious maturity.”

At Northwestern, our goal is to model and nurture religious maturity. With humility, patience and conviction, we seek to pursue God's truth in all things. Sometimes this means we disagree. But it never means we stop learning.

That's why we've been intentional about providing more opportunities for the campus community to wrestle with important, controversial issues. This fall, three such occasions were forums on climate change, the Middle East, and war and peace, using Northwestern faculty/staff and outside experts to help us learn more about the issues and explore our response as Christians.

And this *Classic* provides two similar opportunities, with an article about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict on page 28 and the *Classic Thoughts* essay by John Hubers '76 (page 39) about ministry—and friendship—with Muslims.

Bruce Murphy

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CLASSIC

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The *Classic* is published quarterly—in March, June, October and December—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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Presidential search under way

Northwestern has begun the search process for a successor to President Bruce Murphy, who announced in October his plans to retire upon the hiring of a new president.

The Rev. Jon Opgenorth '88, senior pastor of Trinity Reformed Church in Orange City and member of the Board of Trustees' Executive Committee, has been appointed chairperson of the Presidential Search Committee. Joining him are fellow board members, faculty, staff, alumni and a student.

"We have assembled a very strong committee repre-

senting various constituencies of Northwestern," says Opgenorth. "I sense among them a willingness to work hard together as we begin the noble task of finding the college's next president."

The search committee is working with People Management Inc., a firm that has been involved in more than 250 executive searches in the fields of higher education, ministry and business. People Management has assisted in searches for many schools that, like Northwestern, are members of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities.

Presidential Search Committee

The Rev. Jon Opgenorth '88, Orange City, chairperson
 Karen Barker, professor of theatre and speech
 Barb Dewald, associate dean of spiritual formation
 Arlan Draayer '65, Milford, Iowa
 John Greller, vice president for advancement
 Dr. Kim Jongerius, professor of mathematics
 Wayne Kooiker '70, Orange City
 Sarah Kreger, Council Bluffs, Iowa, student
 Dr. Jasper Lesage, vice president for academic affairs
 Deb (Kuijer '84) Locker, Orange City
 Dr. Jeff VanDerWerff '83, associate professor of political science
 Tonya Van Peurse '94, Sioux Falls, president of the
 National Alumni Board
 Drew Vogel '72, Orange City
 The Rev. Roger Voskuil '69, Sioux Center

Northwestern announces tuition guarantee

In an effort to help students and their families plan for their long-term college expenses more effectively, Northwestern has adopted a new tuition guarantee program. Effective for new students in the fall of 2007, Northwestern's Tuition Guarantee promises incoming freshmen and transfer students their tuition, room and board will not increase while they earn their degree from Northwestern.

Each year, Northwestern will establish a price for tuition, room and board for the next year's incoming class. The amount charged students for their first year will remain in effect for each of their four years at NWC.

"Northwestern's Tuition



**NORTHWESTERN'S
TUITION GUARANTEE**

YOU GROW. YOUR COSTS DON'T.

Guarantee was developed as another way for Northwestern to provide excellent service and value to students and their families," says President Bruce Murphy. "The guarantee allows families to plan more effectively for the total cost of a college education at Northwestern. An added benefit of that predictability is that Northwestern staff will be better able to advise students and parents on options to meet their financial needs.

"The Department of Education, Congress and others have expressed con-

cern about annual college cost increases that have greatly surpassed the national rate of inflation," says Murphy. "At Northwestern, we take this issue very seriously. Enacting this program signifies our intention to be a leader in helping families plan for college."

Nationwide, average tuition, room and board charges at both four-year public and private institutions rose six percent last year, according to statistics from the College Board. The previous year, costs rose five percent at private colleges

and six percent at public institutions.

Northwestern's Tuition Guarantee is available for up to five years to cover students who need additional semesters to finish. Northwestern will allow students to leave school for up to two semesters and still retain their original guarantee.

The new program will not affect present Northwestern students, who will remain on the current tuition and room-and-board pricing structure until graduation.

For more information about Northwestern's Tuition Guarantee, visit www.nwc.iowa.edu/guarantee or call Gerry Korver, director of financial services, at 1-800-747-4757.

NWC honored for hurricane relief

Northwestern has been named to the first President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for distinguished community service. The award recognizes extraordinary volunteer efforts by the school and its students while serving Gulf Coast communities devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Northwestern and 140 other institutions of higher education were recognized for distinguished service among the nearly 500 schools named to the President's Honor Roll. Schools receiving distinguished service recognition provided exceptional community service over the past year, contributing their time, resources, energy, skills—and intellect—to serve America.

"Northwestern has set a strong example for college-level civic engagement," says Stephen Goldsmith, chief executive officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency that works to foster a culture of volunteering and service in America. "Many people and communities have been improved because Northwestern and its students identified some of society's most pressing needs and got involved."

"This recognition is a

testament to the mission of Northwestern and the kind of students we have," says Dave Nonnemacher, director of service learning. "Northwestern has a long tradition of service during winter, spring and summer breaks, and it's an honor to see a national agency recognize the students' commitment to help others."

Last year, 81 NWC students were involved in service projects in New Orleans and Jackson, Miss., over the winter and spring breaks. Providing 3,840 hours of service, they participated in demolition, debris removal and sanitization work in devastated neighborhoods. They also sorted donations provided by various ministries, participated in after-school programs, worked in a medical clinic and raised an additional \$1,600 for two New Orleans ministries' relief efforts.

Northwestern will send two more service teams to Louisiana this December. Over spring break next March, three groups will provide hurricane relief in New Orleans and Jackson. At one New Orleans site, 10 NWC theatre students will create a drama to tell the stories of some who survived Katrina.

The President's Higher



The efforts of 81 Northwestern students to help clean up New Orleans and Jackson, Miss., last year resulted in a national honor for NWC.

Education Community Service Honor Roll is co-sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps, and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The recognition is presented in cooperation with Campus Compact, a national coalition of nearly 1,000 college and university presidents, and supported by all the major national higher education associations.

More than 1.1 million students from Honor Roll schools participated in local community service activities, with over 219,000 of those

providing hurricane relief. College students committed nearly 2.3 million service hours volunteering in Hurricane Katrina relief.

A total of 492 institutions were named to the first Honor Roll. Those schools reported a variety of service activities, including mentorship programs for foster children, literacy tutoring for preschool children in underserved communities, medical and other professional services, homebuilding through Habitat for Humanity, and neighborhood cleanup programs. The value of services provided by Honor Roll colleges and students was approximately \$87 million.

Programmers place first in local competition

A team of three NWC students placed first among the 12 teams at the Northwestern site during the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) International Collegiate Programming Contest in November.

The Northwestern team—John Calsbeek, a freshman computer science major from Orange City; Ben Kester, a junior actuarial science and computer science major from Urbandale, Iowa; and Mark Larson, a senior math and theatre major from Sioux Center—combined to solve four of the nine problems in the five-hour competition. Out of 181 teams competing at 17 sites in the North Central region, they placed seventh.

The only teams in the region that placed better than Northwestern's were from three schools: the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Minnesota.

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"All three students are extremely bright and creative. They know how to attack problems and remain focused in a pressure situation."
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"I really can't say enough good things about the team's effort," says Michael Wallinga, instructor in computer science. "All of the judges at our site agreed that the problem set was tough this year. At our site, only three teams solved any problems at all. Our entire site solved eight problems correctly, and our team solved four of them!"

"Mark, John and Ben did a great job of picking the right problems to do—skipping the most difficult ones and working on the easier problems, although none were easy. They were also efficient and accurate with their submissions. The judges accepted three of their four solutions on the first try, which reduced their penalty minutes and helped them score better than two other teams in the region that had four correct solutions.

"All three students are extremely bright and creative," says Wallinga. "They know how to attack problems and remain focused in a pressure situation. They also have positive attitudes and humble demeanors. I couldn't be happier for them; they're truly deserving of their success."



Piet Koene

Koene named certified court interpreter

Piet Koene, instructor in Spanish, has been named to the roster of certified court interpreters for the state of Iowa. He is among only nine Spanish interpreters in the top tier of the state's professional legal interpreters.

Koene earned state certification after passing a three-part oral exam in September and passing two written exams previously. The national pass rate for the oral exam is less than 20 percent.

A member of Northwestern's faculty for seven years, Koene received the college's Teaching Excellence Award in 2003 and was named the 2004 Iowa Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

▼
Koene is among only nine Spanish interpreters in the top tier of the state's professional legal interpreters.
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Business students learn from alumni

Six alumni working in various aspects of business spoke to about 55 students at the Alumni Business Forum in November.

Alumni participating included Catherine (Vermeer '97) Bloom, finance manager for Pioneer Hi-Bred International in Des Moines; Todd Carlson '89, Rochester Hills, Mich., investor, owner and acting CFO for several

Michigan companies; Colin Doughan '02, financial analyst for Lockheed Martin in Omaha; Cory Hughes '05, sales manager for Van Beek Global in Orange City; Zac Nesper '98, financial specialist for Hewlett Packard in San Diego; and Tonya Van Peursem '94, sales development consultant for Wells Fargo Bank in Sioux Falls.

Three join board

The Northwestern College Board of Trustees welcomed three new members at its fall board meeting in October: the Rev. Dr. Perry De Groot '73 and Dr. Jeff VanDerWerff '83, both of Orange City, and the Rev. Mark Heijerman '78 of Rock Valley, Iowa.



Perry De Groot

De Groot is shepherding pastor at First Reformed Church. He earned a Master of Divinity degree at Western Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry degree at Bethel University. He previously ministered at Hope Reformed Church in Spencer, Iowa; Bethany Reformed Church in Des Moines; and Newton-Zion Reformed Church in Erie, Ill.

VanDerWerff, associate professor of political science, is Northwestern's faculty representative on the Board of Trustees. A member of the faculty since 1999, he earned a doctorate at the University of Kansas and a master's degree at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.



Jeff VanDerWerff



Mark Heijerman

Heijerman serves as pastor at Carmel Reformed Church. He earned a Master of Arts in Religion degree at Westminster Theological Seminary and a Master of Divinity at Western Theological Seminary. Before joining Carmel Reformed Church in 2000, he ministered at Fairfield Reformed Church in Fairfield, N.J., and Harlem Reformed Church in Holland, Mich.

Fine arts departments present premieres

Northwestern's music and theatre departments unveiled new works to the public in November.

The Symphonic Band performed the world premiere of *Concerto for Marimba and Wind Ensemble*, composed by David Gillingham, a professor at Central Michigan University. The concerto featured Northwestern's Dr. Marc Wooldridge on marimba.

The theatre department's production of *Gone to Earth*, a Gothic melodrama set in the English countryside, was the play's North American premiere. The play tells the story of an innocent young woman and two men who are eager to possess her.

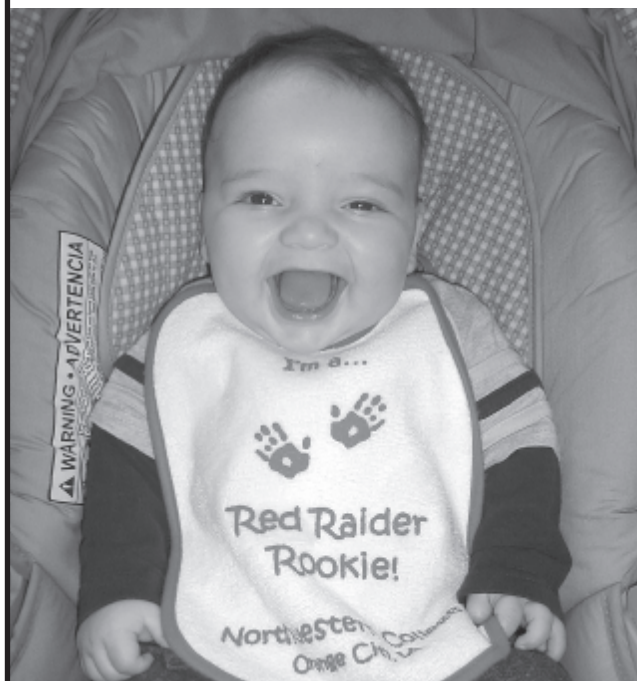
The production was directed by theatre professor Dr. Bob Hubbard, who first saw the play in London while on a study abroad trip with students.

In 18 years, he'll be ready for college. Will you?

A bottle, a clean diaper and some loving attention are all it takes to keep him happy today. Before you know it, though, you'll be helping him choose a college.

It's never too early to start preparing for that moment. To give your savings an added boost, invest in the Independent 529 Plan. Sponsored by Northwestern and more than 240 private colleges, this national plan lets you lock in tomorrow's tuition at less than today's price.

Visit www.independent529plan.org or call 888-718-7878 to learn more about this prepaid tuition plan—and start preparing for his future today.



Little Raider Jackson Doughan is the son of Corinne (Fanning '02) and Colin Doughan '02.



As the resident director of Heemstra Hall, Brian Moriarty (front and center) oversees a dorm with a reputation for its tight-knit culture and nonconformist ways. With Moriarty are Heemstra residents (from left) Aaron O'Brien, Tyler Sytsma, Aaron Thomas, Steve Mahr and Mark Alsum.

The Brotherhood of Heemstra

Northwestern's self-described dorm of misfits and rebels is steeped in tradition and community

by Anita Cirulis

It sits on the west end of the campus green, a nondescript brick building built like dorms were built more than half a century ago.

Plain. Sturdy. Solid. More than one person has commented that if a bomb went off, Heemstra is where they'd want to be.

Inside, the dorm is even less appealing. It's devoid of carpet. Lights aren't always reliable, and the showers are infamous for their lack of hot

water and water pressure. As the Heemstra website puts it, "No matter how many layers of paint are applied, the walls, like many things in the building, seem always to appear stained."

At Northwestern, there's no dorm like Heemstra. But that's true because of more than just its age and appearance. No other dorm inspires such loyalty among its residents. And no other dorm produces such criticism from its detractors.

Heemstra's personality

It's hard to say when Heemstra became "Heemstra." Built in 1950, it originally was a women's dorm, with the college's dining hall in the basement. At some point, it was switched to housing for men and gained its reputation as the "hippie" dorm—the dorm that housed the outcasts, misfits and nonconformists.

"It's as if all the kids in high school who were on the fringes, on the outside, and

didn't really have cliques or were popular—it's like all of those kids united," says sophomore Mark Alsum, who lives on Heemstra's third floor.

That was true even in the 1970s when Chaplain Harlan VanOort was a student. He remembers an early attempt to change Heemstra: "They filled the second floor with football players," he says. "It didn't work."

If anything, Heemstra's personality has become even more distinct over the

years—especially over the past decade. Eric Anderson, who oversees the residence life program, attributes that, in part, to the longevity and similarity of the dorm's recent resident directors. Mike Wooten, Jon Cavanagh and current RD Brian Moriarty share common personality characteristics that have helped shape Heemstra.

"All of them probably think differently than the mainstream way of thinking about Christianity," Anderson says. While such a point of view wasn't a requirement for the job, it made Moriarty an obvious choice when he was hired three years ago. "We just knew Brian was perfect for Northwestern and for Heemstra."



"There are always guys hanging out on the stoop. You can't even walk out the door without getting into a conversation with someone."

David Elder '05



Moriarty felt the same way about Heemstra.

"It excited me because it seemed like kind of a subversive dorm, and I liked that," he recalls. "I saw it as a place where there are alternative thinkers, guys who care about things that are pushed to the fringes, whether in our society or in the Christian culture. It's a place where guys care about their faith, but maybe not in the most

obvious ways."

Slightly built, with long dark hair and a scruffy beard, "Morrie," as he is known to the guys, could easily pass for a student—and often does. While interviewing at Northwestern, he asked Heemstra residents what they wanted in an RD. Someone who doesn't come in and change everything, was the answer. Someone who values our traditions.

Extreme community

At a college known for its emphasis on relationships, Heemstra takes community to the nth degree. The students who live in Heemstra describe it not so much as a dorm, but a culture. It's 93 guys who all know each other—an open fraternity where "you get in by living there, and once you're in, you don't want to leave."

Aaron Thomas, a fifth-year senior from Sioux Falls, S.D., has lived in Heemstra longer than any current resident, including Moriarty.

"Unless you're sleeping, your door is never shut," he says. "It's not like a rule or anything, but when you're a freshman, you see all the doors that are open, and you just open yours. That adds to the community."

Heemstra is a unique collection of athletes, artists and activists. It's a place where those who have carried the label of "nerd" or "dork" are loved for their quirkiness. It's a safe haven, where guys feel the freedom to be who they are.



"It's the misfit dorm where it doesn't matter what you like, what you do, what you study, what you look like. You'll find somebody like that in Heemstra, and you'll find acceptance no matter what."

Aaron Thomas '07



In some cases, Heemstra is even their reason for choosing Northwestern.

That was true for Alsum. A home-schooled student from nearby Alton, he hung out as a teen with his brother, Hal, a Heemstra resident for more than three years, and other Heemstra guys.

"Hal told me, 'If there's one piece of advice I pass on that you pay attention to, it's to live in Heemstra,'" Alsum says. "I couldn't wait to grow up and live in Heemstra. I realized it was the place for me."

Heemstra also hooked Steve Mahr, who transferred his sophomore year. Mahr would visit a friend attending Northwestern and hang out with him in Heemstra. "The community was like something I'd never experienced," he says, "so I applied and signed up to live here."

As in any community, there's a clash of personalities—the friction that develops when people with different likes and dislikes, values and opinions, live in close proximity.

"There are guys who annoy the heck out of each other here," Moriarty admits. But as Mahr is finding out, differences can be an opportunity for growth. Heemstra's

community is challenging him to reconsider his tendency to believe his opinion is better than others.

"I could tolerate people on my floor and never interact with them, but I think I would lose out by doing that," he says.

Tradition, lore and mystery

Much of Heemstra's unusually strong sense of community stems from its traditions, only some of which are common knowledge.

"One thing about Heemstra is that Heemstra doesn't give up a lot of information," Moriarty says. "There are definitely things that are ours. We have no problem with people knowing about them, but first you have to become part of our community."

As one Heemstrite puts it, "Every week there's something going on that's unique to Heemstra."

Among the dorm's more public traditions are Beard Month, also known as "No Shave November"; the Heemstra All-Hall Date in February; senior speeches and grill-outs on the stoop; an end-of-the-year, weeklong Stoopathon; and October's

Melon and Gourd Week—a cross between tag and hot potato that's billed as “a week of adrenaline-pumpin’ paranoia.”

Traditions are valuable, Moriarty believes, because they provide an opportunity for guys to connect with one another. And by participating in an activity passed down through the years, freshmen, in some mystical way, are linked to guys who graduated years ago through a shared experience.

Upperclassmen play a vital role in handing down traditions—a fact that's recognized in Heemstra, where seniors are called “lords” and those who have lived in the dorm four years earn the title

▼

“I think the core of the gospel is community. The two greatest commandments are to love God and love people. It's all about how we relate to each other.”

Brian Moriarty, Heemstra RD

▲

of “warrior poet.” Stories and legends are passed down. Guys living in Heemstra know its history.

“There's always a sense that you're part of something bigger than yourself,” Alsum says of the dorm. “That's why

we know the names. We know about all these guys who've lived in Heemstra that some of us have never met.”

Having upperclassmen in Heemstra is also important, Moriarty believes, because of the vital role they play in the lives of freshmen. “There's a responsibility for the older guys to care for and invest in the younger guys,” he says. “Sometimes that happens very intentionally. Sometimes that happens just by being present here.”

Nonconformists

It's often said that a strength can also be a weakness. Such is the case for Heemstra.

The dorm, Moriarty admits, can be a “raw and real” place. The desire to keep traditions a secret for next year's freshmen encourages the formation of rumors. For those who measure one's spirituality by external behaviors, the constant presence of guys smoking on the stoop can raise questions and even prompt judgment.

Heemstra's tight-knit community feels exclusive to those who don't live in the dorm, and residents—in Alsum's words—are notorious for not participating in campus activities. Heemstra's resistance to the college's discipleship groups in favor of its own “brotherhoods,” for example, isn't popular with



In Heemstra, doors are always left open—a tradition that contributes to the dorm's tight-knit community. Hanging out in Chris White and Justin Pannkuk's room are (clockwise from top left) Don Van Dam, Jonathan Manchester, White, Kipp Paulsen, Luke Laaveg, Pannkuk and Paul Weersma.

▼
"I hope it's not easy for people to leave here. Any time someone has an important impact on your life or you on theirs, it shouldn't be easy to go."

Brian Moriarty

▲
 the campus ministry staff.
 "Heemstra probably is the most criticized and least understood dorm," Anderson agrees. "But in some sense, it

probably has the most life-changing, deep and important conversations of any hall."

The legacy of Heemstra

Andy Keller graduated from Northwestern in May after living in Heemstra four years. His name is one of 54 on a plaque hanging in the lounge that lists Heemstra's warrior poets. Now working as the director of music at Trinity Reformed Church in Orange City, he lives in a house in Alton with two other guys—guys he met

through Heemstra.

"After being in community, I realized I could never *not* live in community again," he says.

Alsum has similar sentiments. "I've come to see Heemstra as a four-year training program on community and how to live with others."

If that's the case, Moriarty believes, Heemstra's doing its job.

The essential Heemstra

History

Built in 1950 and named after the first president of Northwestern, Jacob Heemstra. At one point, the basement served as the college's cafeteria; at another point, the dorm housed women.

Number of floors/rooms/beds

4/46/93

Stoop

The center hub of Heemstra. Situated right outside the front doors, it's where guys hang out to talk, play guitar, read, smoke, sleep, relax, or do whatever they want. It's the T-off for disk golf, the location of the last hole, the home of dorm grill-outs.

lords

The lords (with a lowercase "l") of the dorm are guys who choose to live in Heemstra during their senior year. They hold certain rights and privileges during the year and are to be respected by all residents.

Warrior poets

"Warrior poet" is the title given to those guys who live all four years in Heemstra. Their names are engraved on a plaque that hangs in the lounge and are also listed on the dorm's website.

Brotherhoods

A group of five to seven guys who intentionally hang out together for the purpose of experiencing deeper community

and growing as individuals. Members meet together two to three times per week. There are currently four active brotherhoods in Heemstra: the Ezbon Brotherhood, the Servant Brotherhood, the Other Brotherhood, and the Brotherhood of Adventure.

Traditions

Approximately 13

Official sport

Anything with a Frisbee

Colors

Black, green and yellow

Dorm verse for 2006–07

"... the love of Christ compels us ..." – II Cor. 5:14

Dorm nickname

h-star

Dorm mascot

T-metric, a tire with its own blog ("If someone steals it, it's just a tire.")

The Four Pillars of Heemstra

Community "We do things together."

Respect "We're all different, and that's OK."

Service "We give our time, space, possessions and privacy in the service of others."

Protection "If you live in Heemstra, we've got your back."

Dorm motto

It's all true.

Once Upon a Time

HOMECOMING 2006

OCTOBER 6-8

For more Homecoming photos, visit www.nwciowa.edu/homecoming



Angela Jiskoot, left, and Brooke Huizenga welcome a Morning on the Green visitor.



The football game against Sioux Falls began with the national anthem sung by alumni from several decades.



Reunions for the classes of 1976, '86, '96 and '01 were held in a tent during lunch.



Soccer alumni (left to right) Chrystan Fuller '06, Sarah Greenwood '05, Sarah (Way '06) Trefl and Elizabeth Peterson '05 pose before taking on this year's squad.



The concrete pad under the new bleachers at De Valois Stadium was a popular spot for mingling.



The football team gave Red Raider fans much to cheer about in the first half of the Homecoming matchup with Sioux Falls, racing out to a 14-0 lead. The Cougars came back for the 17-14 win.



Cory Petersen '98 got a tougher workout than most in the Raider Road Race.



Reminiscing with classmates was one of the most popular Homecoming activities.

Homecoming at a glance

Most popular Morning on the Green booth
Campus ministry's fishing pond

Total amount of funds raised for student organizations through Morning on the Green
Approximately \$1,600

Winning airband entry
The Lion Sleeps Tonight by "Jungle Showdown"

Most requested song at Homecoming dance
Get Your Head in the Game from the movie *High School Musical*

Alum who traveled the longest distance to come back for Homecoming
Kevin Kroese '96, from Visalia, Calif.

Number of singers in the alumni choir for the national anthem
27

Estimated number of people who didn't have seats at the standing-room-only football game against third-ranked Sioux Falls
900 (with a total crowd of 4,000)

Fastest alum in the 5K Raider Road Race
Robert Cast '93 placed third

Oldest alum participating in the alumni wrestling meet
Mike Rozeboom '95

Pounds of potato salad served at Lunch on the Green
120

Class with the largest number of alumni attending their reunion
Both the classes of '96 and '01 had approximately 40 members in attendance.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR HOMECOMING 2007, OCT. 5-7



Whether teaching or directing, Jeff Barker considers his students fellow artists. Explaining his approach to mentoring students, he says, "I'm like a mountain climber, farther up the slope, lowering secure lines to younger climbers below."

Learning From Life

Theatre professor Jeff Barker, who integrates living and teaching, is the 2006 Iowa Professor of the Year

by Tamara Fynaardt

Jeff Barker was a new professor, teaching theatre at Geneva College in Pennsylvania. He came home mid-

way through his first day and told his wife, "I'm terrible. I'm dyin' up there." So Karen took him for lunch, and he wrote notes on a napkin as his wife, who had experience

teaching high school English, taught him about teaching.

Years later, when they were again blending their personal and professional lives by sharing one theatre

teaching position at Northwestern, Karen confided, "Sometimes I think students learn as much from what I put in my grocery cart as they do from what I say in

class.”

“That stuck with me,” he remembers.

The cart and its contents have been one of Barker’s guiding metaphors for teaching, which sometimes looks a lot like just living life. “I’m not really following some big theory of how to do education,” Barker admits. “My teaching is just getting with a group of people I love and doing stuff I love.”

Matt Foss ’01, a former student who is pursuing a doctoral degree in theatre, says, “From Jeff I learned what kind of artist, man, husband and father I want to

be. He taught me that the quality of my art will reflect the quality of my life.”

Barker’s “no boundaries” approach to teaching and learning is one of the reasons he was named this year’s Iowa Professor of the Year by

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“I want audiences to go away from my plays both humbled and hopeful,” Barker explains. “That’s not typical entertainment, but I’m not out just to kill time.”
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the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He and 42 other state winners and four national winners were honored in Washington, D.C., Nov. 16.

Barker credits other teachers besides Karen with influencing his life and vocation. A high school teacher who was one of his first directors told Barker as he gave him a ride home one afternoon, “I think you have some talent.” His comment fell on the ears and heart of a boy raised as a fundamentalist—a boy who wasn’t sure

The best two out of three

Northwestern is home to Iowa’s Professor of the Year for the second time in three years. Piet Koene, who teaches Spanish, received the honor in 2004 for the authentic and innovative ways he encourages his students to engage our region’s growing Hispanic population.

Read more about Northwestern’s two Iowa Professors of the Year at www.nwciowa.edu/poy.



Students in the Drama Ministries Ensemble (DME) collaborate with their director, Jeff Barker, as he writes original worship dramas for the touring company. Barker’s most recent play, *Sioux Center Sudan*, about Arlene Schuiteman, developed after one DME member introduced Barker to the former missionary.

theatre was an appropriate pursuit for Christians.

The empowerment of a little comment from a respected teacher can change a life, Barker learned. Now he seeks to be that kind of influence in his own students’ lives.

“When Jeff perceives potential in a student, he understands when to tend it and when to set it free,” says Heidi Friesen ’04, who wrote and performed original music and drama while she taught English in Japan for two years. “He knows how to be honest without being hurtful—how to push hard, fall flat, and get up and try again. The result is an ensemble whose members trust their leader and produce excellent theatre.”

An award-winning playwright and director, Barker is good at calling for “Action.” Former student Gabe

Franken remembers a class in which Barker asked the students not only to complete reading assignments, but to change one aspect of their lives as a result. “We had to respond with ourselves. We weren’t working for a grade; we were working to change our lives,” says Franken, who volunteered in inner-city Oakland, Calif., with Mission Year after he graduated in 2004.

“I have a simple goal for myself and my students: to change the culture with the stories we tell,” says Barker. To that end, he has helped establish a focus on playwriting that is unusual for a college Northwestern’s size. He challenges, encourages and nurtures student playwrights as they bring their own stories to the stage through playwriting courses and annual productions that feature original student work.

The author of over 50 plays, Barker also involves students in every stage of the process as he writes his own scripts—as collaborators and sometimes sources for stories. “I’m interested in stories that break your heart somehow,” he says.

Unspoken for Time (Dramatic Publishing, 1996) gave voice to several students’ painful experience with the silence that surrounds sexual abuse. *When Scott Comes Home* tells the story of an alum’s experience with AIDS and prejudice, giving audience members a glimpse into a hurting mother’s heart.

Kin, which won grand

prize in the 2002 New Voices Iowa Playwrights Competition, tells the story of Carrie Buck, whose 1920s Supreme Court case legalized involuntary sterilization. Produced at Northwestern in 2003, the play taught Barker’s students—who researched the case and improvised scenes—not only about theatre, but also about history, political science, sociology, social work and human rights.

“I want audiences to go away from my plays both humbled and hopeful,” Barker explains. “That’s not typical entertainment, but I’m not out just to kill time.”

Barker’s teaching goes

beyond Northwestern’s campus to encompass the theatre, church and community. “The first play I ever wrote was titled *Worship*,” remembers Barker. “I was a sophomore in college. I was struggling to understand the role of theatre in the Christian life.”

An influential professor furthered his understanding of art and faith after Barker asked her, “What are some good religious plays to read?”

“All great plays are religious,” she said.

Today, “at home” in the Reformed tradition of integration, Barker brings Christ to the theatre, and he wants

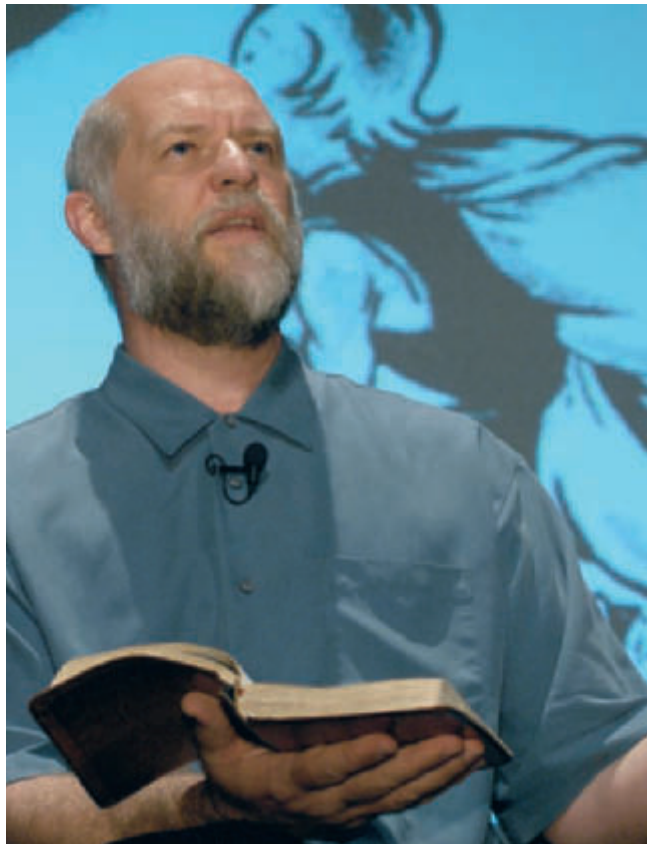
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“The first play I ever wrote was titled *Worship*. I was a sophomore in college. I was struggling to understand the role of theatre in the Christian life.”
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to bring theatre back to the church. He is collaborating with theologians to restore ancient Israelite dramas to the stage. And he and his students have led story-formed worship at Trinity Reformed Church in Orange City, where Barker was a worship leader for 12 years.

Northwestern’s Drama Ministries Ensemble touring company, which Barker directs, performs his original worship dramas and ancient Israelite dramas from the Old Testament in churches across the U.S.

Franken toured several times with Barker. “In the van as we traveled, the most coveted seat was the one next to Jeff’s,” he says. “We’d banter and laugh hard and talk about the deepest issues in life. Jeff was our leader in academics and theatre—but also in relationships.”

“I once took a class that shared a wall with a section of Jeff’s class,” remembers Friesen. “What we heard going on behind the chalkboard was obviously rich and boisterously supportive. We all wanted to be part of that.”



Jeff Barker uses Dr. Seuss to illustrate the power of story as he leads a seminar for pastors, worship leaders and theatre artists who are interested in bringing biblical and congregants’ stories into the worship experience.

Facevalue

ReNae Van Voorst

Helpful, watchful, joyful

Describe yourself in three words.

Work in progress.

What do you enjoy doing?

I love to sing—in our church choir, a women's trio, and with the Fietsen Zangers, bicycle riders in Dutch costume who greet visitors with Dutch songs at the Tulip Festival.

I've always been fascinated with weather—I flip channels every day and watch all the forecasts. I like to know what to expect, along with weather patterns and historical facts. And I love to watch old black and white movies—*It's a Wonderful Life* is my favorite.

What do you value?

My faith, my family and my job.

What makes you laugh?

A lot of things—I just generally choose to be joyful. Students are really hilarious, even when they don't realize it.

What is the most important part of your job?

Service to students and the campus community.

Why this job at this college?

I started 25 years ago, cleaning pots and pans for the first

year. I appreciated the breaks and summers off so I could be home with my children when they weren't in school. I've stayed because of the relationships with students, faculty and staff. I'm also grateful to work in a Christian environment. Now I've been here so long that it would be terribly hard to leave or do something different.

What is your unique perspective on Northwestern?

Being in food service, we get a chance to participate in almost everything on campus—every event involves food!

Describe Northwestern in three words.

Christ-centered, blessed, beautiful.

What are some changes that have happened in food service during your time here?

We serve a wider variety of food, along with an expanded salad bar and delicious homemade soups. Soft serve ice cream is always a big hit.

Before we had a computerized access system, I used a printed list to cross off students' ID numbers as they came through the line. It was always fun to see how many I could memorize!

What is your favorite meal at the cafeteria?

A full meat and potatoes meal—roast turkey with dressing, whipped potatoes and gravy, and glazed baby carrots.

What is a favorite cafeteria memory?

A few years ago a group of NWC students—pretending to be from Dordt—took all the trays and silverware from the cafeteria. They scattered the stolen items across the Sioux Center golf course.



A familiar face in the lunch line, administrative assistant ReNae Van Voorst has worked at the cafeteria for 25 years.

Achievers

Four receive distinguished alumni awards

Northwestern honored four alumni as part of Homecoming festivities Oct. 6–8. Dr. Beverly and Merlyn De Vries, Edmond, Okla.; Ellen Errington, Langley, British Columbia; and the Rev. Paul Colenbrander, Holland, Mich., were recognized for their professional, humanitarian and Northwestern service achievements.



Paul Colenbrander '41, '43 *Service to Northwestern Award*



When Paul Colenbrander became coach of the Northwestern Junior College football team in 1950, he had to start with the basics.

Like how to put on the pads.

Yet Colenbrander's first team—which included many athletes who had never played football before—finished 4-3-1. In

his second year, the Red Raiders won the conference title. His 11 seasons as coach were highlighted by a 15-game winning streak from 1953 to 1954.

Colenbrander had even more success on the hardwood. In 12 years of coaching basketball, his squads won more than 200 games. Advancing to the semifinals of the state junior college tournament nearly every season, they captured the state title in 1951, 1954 and 1957.

"He knew what it takes to win, and he always did it while honoring his opponents," says Larry Korver '54 about his former coach. "He never tore them down; he always built them up.

"He gave players the freedom to do what they did best, within the team concept. That's why he was so successful," continues Korver, who went on to coaching success in his own right.

Another former player who later coached at NWC cites Colenbrander as a positive influence. "He accentuated the positive rather than belittling people. He had such a strong faith; he always integrated that," says Ron Juffer '56, who led the baseball team for 20 years.

A frequent speaker at area churches while on Northwestern's staff, Colenbrander felt led to pursue pastoral ministry full time and left for seminary in 1963. He pastored Maplewood Reformed Church in Holland, Mich., for 14 years before retiring.

Always a strong Red Raider fan, he served on Northwestern's Board of Trustees from 1969 to 1979.

"My time at Northwestern was among the highlights of my life," says Colenbrander. "I'm very appreciative, and I hope I've returned something to the college."

Ellen (Bunger '71) Errington *Service to Humankind Award*



Ellen Errington says she doesn't have a gift for languages. But she's spent a lifetime ensuring that people have the opportunity to read the Bible in their own tongue.

"I have to work at it," she says of her role as a linguist. "I'm a risk taker in that way. I don't mind making mistakes. In my opinion,

anyone can learn a language if they work at it long enough."

Originally from Lennox, S.D., Errington enrolled at Northwestern with the goal of becoming a missionary. Watching Billy Graham on TV while in high school, she felt God touch her heart with the needs of the world. She graduated from NWC with a teaching degree. A year later, she joined Wycliffe Bible Translators, where she met her husband, Ross.

In 1976 the Erringtons were assigned to a language community known as the Cotabato Manobo in the southern Philippines. For the next 13 years, the couple lived among the Manobo people, raising a family, learning the language, translating the Bible, and providing adult literacy, health care and community development programs.

"I love cultures. I love people. I love hearing their stories," Errington says. On what she calls the happiest day of her life, the Manobo New Testament was dedicated in 1989—the 300th translation completed by Wycliffe.

Since then, Errington has served Wycliffe's field partner, SIL International, as the literacy and literature use coordinator in the Philippines. She also spent six years teaching in Langley, British Columbia—where she and her husband still live—as a member of the faculty of the Canada Institute of Linguistics, a department of Trinity Western University.

Now back with SIL, Errington is a multilingual education specialist for Asia, often traveling to the Philippines, India and Thailand to conduct linguistics training, lead writers' workshops and evaluate literacy programs.

Photo to the left:

Honored as the 2006 Alumni of the Year were, left to right: Paul Colenbrander, Merlyn De Vries, Bev De Vries and Ellen Errington.

Beverly (Gaalswyk '68) and Merlyn De Vries '66 Professional Achievement Award



As Beverly and Merlyn De Vries have followed God's leading in their careers, they've committed to step through any door God threw open wide.

"Wide—so we'd be sure," says Beverly. Her open doors have led to the head of the class; his, to the top of the corporate ladder. The view from there, they say, is humbling.

A schoolteacher in Iowa, Michigan and Oklahoma from 1968 to 1989, Beverly earned a master's degree in education from Western Michigan University and a doctorate from Oklahoma State. She has been an education professor at Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Okla., since 1993.

Beverly tries to instill in her students an understanding of language arts that is rooted in a love of reading and writing. She models the need for educators to be good writers as well as readers by writing college textbooks for Holcomb Hathaway. One text Beverly authored, *Literacy Assessment and Intervention in the Elementary Classroom*, is the publisher's top seller.

She also serves as a reviewer for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the International Reading Association.

What matters most to Beverly, though, is simply being a good role model for future teachers. Her enthusiasm for her subject and students radiates from her face, her hands and her body language, students have said.

"I'm the drama for the day," she says with a laugh. "I try to model animated teaching because today's teachers need a lot of energy to reach a generation that is easily bored. It's not hard for me because I just love learning and teaching—now more than ever."

Merlyn attended Northwestern one year and earned a bachelor's degree at the University of South Dakota. He worked as an accountant and controller in Michigan before becoming vice president of finance for the Fife Corporation, Oklahoma City, in 1981.

Since 1989, Merlyn has been chief financial officer and senior vice president of finance at Fife's parent company, Maxcess International, a manufacturer and seller of industrial controls and equipment used in web process manufacturing.

Grateful for the professional success he's had, Merlyn cites the honesty, integrity and ethics that have helped him succeed in the corporate world—not as safe career strategies, but simply who he is by the grace of God.

"I've always insisted no one should ever ask me to follow or approve any accounting practices that are anything other than completely honest and ethical. In the age of Enron and WorldCom, that's not always a given," Merlyn says. His stand at times has led to questions and conversations with colleagues and investors when he's been able to share Christ's influence in his life.

Both Merlyn and Beverly love Northwestern as the place where they started their careers and life together. They've used their gifts to invest in the college: Beverly has been a member of Northwestern's Board of Trustees since 2000, and they have established two scholarships for students in accounting and education.

"Northwestern has the right mission," says Merlyn.

"And excellent academics," adds Beverly. "You can't be serious about your mission without striving for excellence."

That's true of people too.

For a complete list of Northwestern's distinguished alumni or to nominate someone, visit www.nwciowa.edu/alumniawards.

Fallsports

Football

- Advanced to the quarterfinal round of the NAIA playoffs, finishing the season with an 11-2 record.
- Ranked sixth in the final national poll.
- Placed second in the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) with a 9-1 mark.
- Linebacker Austin Janssen was named GPAC player of the year. Joining him on the all-conference first team were running back Keith Sietstra, offensive lineman Phil Kooistra, defensive lineman Tim Martin and defensive back Jordan Van Otterloo. Earning second team honors were tight end and punter Blake Reinke, quarterback Craig Hector, wide receiver Tyler Reichle, offensive lineman T.J. Speer, linebackers Nathan Jansen and Blake Wolfswinkel, and kicker Grant Mosier.
- Five athletes earned GPAC player of the week honors: Janssen (three times), Hector (twice), Sietstra (twice), Reinke and Wolfswinkel. Hector was named national player of the week after throwing four touchdown passes and rushing for another TD in the Raiders' 33-7 victory over Morningside.
- Van Otterloo broke the GPAC record for career interceptions, compiling a total of 22 picks.
- Reinke was a national Draddy Trophy semifinalist for his excellence in academics, athletics and community leadership. Only

five other NAIA players were semifinalists.

Volleyball

- Qualified for the national tournament for the first time in 10 years after placing third at regionals.
- Ended the year with a 33-6 record.
- Ranked 18th nationally in the final poll.
- Finished GPAC play in second place with a 15-1 record.
- Outside hitter Megan Meyer and middle blocker Katie Schnoes earned first team all-conference honors. Outside hitter Karris Davelaar and libero Alison Waggie were named to the second team.
- Four Raiders earned GPAC player of the week honors: Meyer (twice), Schnoes, Waggie and setter Rachel Gosselink (twice). Meyer was named national player of the week after averaging 4.8 kills per game and compiling a .383 attack percentage. Schnoes earned the national honor after averaging 5.25 kills per game and hitting .443.

Men's soccer

- Advanced to the championship round of the regional tournament before falling to Hastings, losing 3-0 on penalty kicks after a 1-1 double-overtime tie.
- Finished 10-9-1 overall and sixth in the GPAC with a 7-5 mark.
- Five Raiders were second team all-league picks: midfielders Andy Janssen and Blake Wieking, defender



Northwestern's defense was ranked third best in the nation, allowing only 180 yards per game. NWC, 11-2, scored eight defensive touchdowns and recorded 35 sacks.

Tyler Sytsma, goalkeeper Mike Ten Clay and forward Brad White. Ten Clay and Wieking were all-region selections.

Women's soccer

- Qualified for the regional tournament and advanced to the semifinal round.
- Compiled a 10-9-1 record. Placed fourth in the league with a 7-4-1 record.
- Midfielder Macy Rozeboom was selected to the all-conference first team. Goalkeeper Liz Reynen was chosen for the second team.
- Reynen broke Northwestern's career shutout mark with nine and season shutout record with seven.

Men's cross country

- Placed seventh at the GPAC meet and 11th at the regional meet.
- Won the Dordt College Invite.

Women's cross country

- Finished seventh at the conference meet and 10th at regionals.
- Raced to first at the Dordt College Invite.

Men's golf

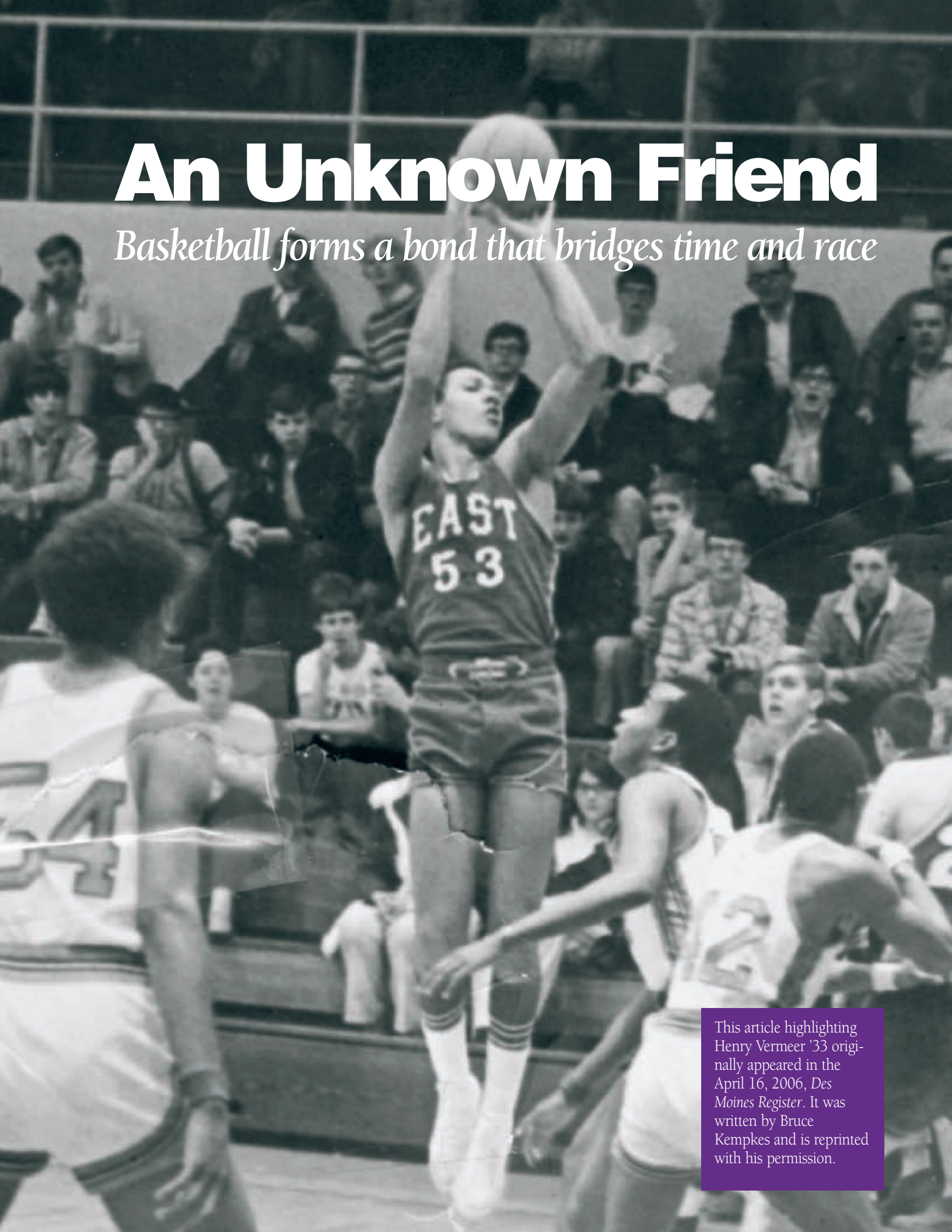
- Finished first at one meet and second four times.
- TJ Korver was medalist at the Wayne Invite with a 70; Justin Pannkuk was runner-up with a 72.
- Luke Vermeer was runner-up at the Buena Vista Invite with a 72.

Women's golf

- Qualified for the regional meet next spring by placing fifth in the GPAC.
- Melissa Hisel and Alison Stutzman tied for 10th at the conference meet, earning all-league honors.
- Won the Wayne State Invite.
- Kelsey Shiflett was the runner-up at the Wayne State Invite. She holed an ace at the Dakota Wesleyan meet.

An Unknown Friend

Basketball forms a bond that bridges time and race



This article highlighting Henry Vermeer '33 originally appeared in the April 16, 2006, *Des Moines Register*. It was written by Bruce Kempkes and is reprinted with his permission.

When Iowans pack high school gyms each basketball season, many go simply to support their community's young people. Some go for love of the sport, admiring the athleticism, the teamwork and the purity of a game well-played.

Some love the sport for what it teaches beyond how to play a game. They realize that basketball's lessons about hard work and fair play are also lessons about life. And they appreciate that on occasion, those lessons learned through basketball can transcend even race, class and other perceived barriers.

This story is about the life of Craig "Rocky" Hunt, who died in January 2006 at age 54. Back in the '60s, when he played at Des Moines' East High School, Rocky's skill and sportsmanship earned the admiration of a friend he would never meet. And as an adult, his love of the game and his sense of fair play built a circle of friendships at the Des Moines Riverfront YMCA. Through Rocky, basketball kept on teaching.

Christian grace

Lois and Wilbert Hunt had two girls before Rocky was born on Dec. 4, 1951. As with all their children, "we always felt he was a gift from God," Lois says now.

Rocky was one of those kids who was always shooting a basketball and dreaming of playing in the NBA. In elementary school, he started going to the Riverfront Y. Left-handed, he developed a jump shot with a flat arc that banked hard off the backboard and into the net. Most players lofted shots; Rocky drilled them. Even then, Rocky wouldn't swear or argue or fight. He kept his head about him.

When Rocky was in high school, racial tensions were more palpable than today. Sometimes it seemed officiating went against the black players, Lois recalled.

"His father and I would say, 'Just play your game.'"

In March 1969, two central Iowa teams were on a collision course for the Class AA district final of the state basketball tournament.

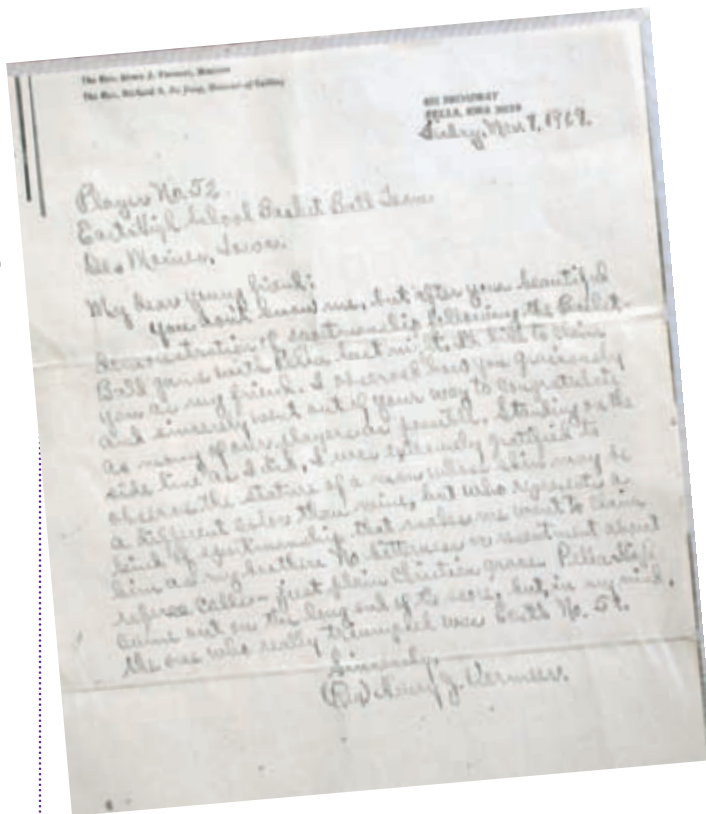
Rocky was a 6'4" junior starter for East. With a deceptive 12-9 record, East had turned around its season with a string of wins. Pella High's Flying Dutchmen also were on a roll, with a 17-1 record and a ranking of 11th in Class AA. Both teams had hopes of bringing home a state championship trophy.

The teams faced each other in Newton on March 6. Both teams made the same number of field goals, but Pella High shot 43 free throws and made 26, while East High shot 21 and made 11. Final score: Pella, 70, East, 55.



Lois Hunt and Henry Vermeer met for only the second time in their lives this November but visited like they've known each other forever.

Henry Vermeer



A letter Henry Vermeer wrote praising Rocky Hunt's sportsmanship remains a treasured possession of Rocky's mother, Lois.

Some of the East players and fans had to wonder about the fairness of the officiating.

At least one fan on the Pella side of the court wondered about it too, someone who admired both good basketball and good sportsmanship.

The fan, then 56, had played basketball for Western Christian High School of Hull and the old Northwestern Junior College of Orange City. He went home and composed a letter:

Friday, Mar. 7, 1969

Player No. 52

East High School Basketball Team

Des Moines, Iowa

My dear young friend:

You don't know me, but after your beautiful demonstration of sportsmanship following the basketball game with Pella last night, I'd like to claim you as a friend. I observed how you graciously and sincerely went out of your way to congratulate as many of our players as possible. Standing on the sideline as I did, I was extremely gratified to observe the stature of a man whose skin may be a different color than mine, but who represents a kind of sportsmanship that makes me want to claim him as my brother. No bitterness or resentment about referee calls—just plain Christian grace. Pella

“His father and I would say, Just play your game.”

High came out on the long end of the score, but, in my mind, the one who really triumphed was East's No. 52.

Sincerely,

The Reverend Henry J. Vermeer
First Reformed Church of Pella

The letter was sent to East and given to Rocky—Player No. 52—who in turn gave it to his mother. It was the kind of thing that makes a mother proud, and Lois made sure the letter appeared on the first page of a scrapbook she was putting together for her son.

Run-and-gun

His senior year, Rocky became one of the metro conference's leading scorers, earning second team all-conference honors—as well as the booster club's certificate of merit for leadership and achievement. He went on to play at Muscatine Junior College and attended Grambling State University.

But his dreams of big-time college ball and the NBA, of riches and fame, were not to be—in part, he admitted later, because of too much focus on basketball and not enough on grades.

He returned to Des Moines, found a job, got married and started a family.

He worked several jobs—for Firestone, for a moving company and finally for the Park Avenue Hy-Vee, where he was responsible for cleaning the parking lot and entrance, “the kind of position that society would sometimes overlook,” his supervisor, Paul Smith, said. But Rocky always did the job with “a smile that was infectious.”

And through the years, he still had basketball.

When he moved back to Des Moines, he joined the Riverfront Y so he could play in pickup games over the noon hour or after work.

Lean, strong and athletic, Rocky was known for his fair play and his reputation as a banger—someone who played hard, non-stop, run-and-gun. He was tough. When it came time to choose up sides, players wanted Rocky to be their teammate, not their opponent.

Rocky played basketball at the Riverfront Y for more than two decades. Then he joined the ranks of men with thinning hair and thickening abs who spend less time racing up and down the basketball court and more time parked in the sauna. He'd spend a half hour or more in the Y sauna with a towel draped cross-wise over his head and beads of sweat trailing down his body.

Rocky enjoyed talking to everyone about everything: politics; philosophy; recipes; his dog, Shaq; the Bible; his faith;

and, of course, basketball. He was humble, sincere and funny, and he had one of those laughs that made everyone smile. He went out of his way to learn everyone's name and to say something nice. He made friends like the volatile Bobby Knight makes enemies.

Fight against cancer

In the summer of 2005, Rocky began to feel unusually punk. He seemed to be tired all the time. Visits to doctors in the autumn revealed he was suffering from an advanced stage of liver cancer. By winter, he

was tethered to an oxygen pump in his mother's West Des Moines home.

The band of brothers at Riverfront Y regularly called or visited. When someone asked how he was feeling, Rocky always managed a half-smile and said, "Good, thanks."

Everyone could see differently, though. He became bedridden. There were times he would close his eyes for several minutes, when he no longer had the energy to talk or listen.

He fought the cancer hard, and it was difficult for Lois to accept that it was time to return her gift from God.

But Rocky had made his

peace, and he told her, "I'm ready."

She knew it was time for her to say, "It's OK to go."

Rocky entered hospice care and died on Jan. 8, surrounded by family and friends.

Touching lives

On Jan. 14, the day of Rocky's memorial service, the winter sun shone brightly. The pews at Shiloh Baptist Church were filled with his family and friends. Rocky was survived by his mother, two children, six grandchildren and three siblings.

Behind the row reserved for the pallbearers sat an elderly man who wore a hearing aid and carried a cane. Liver cancer had taken the man's mother, so he understood the pain Rocky had endured.

One after another, family members and friends spoke about the man who had a smile and good word for everyone. One of the presen-

ters read aloud the 1969 letter addressed to Player No. 52. That letter, Lois believed, was a perfect example of how Rocky had touched so many lives—even the life of someone he never knew.

At the end of the service, the elderly man joined the line filing past Rocky's casket. He gazed upon his friend's face, then he turned to Lois to express his sorrow for her loss.

Upon hearing the man's

▼

He went out of his way to learn everyone's name and to say something nice.

▲

name, Lois cried out and gave him a Heimlich-force hug.

It was the Rev. Henry J. Vermeer, now 92 and living in a Pella retirement community. Through the years, he had not known Player No. 52's name. But a friend of Rocky's learned of the connection and contacted Vermeer.

Vermeer still likes to watch basketball on TV. But on that day, he knew he could not stay home in Pella to catch a game. He needed to go to Shiloh Baptist Church to comfort a grieving mother and to say farewell to Craig "Rocky" Hunt, the friend he'd never met.

Bruce Kempkes is an assistant Iowa attorney general who was a basketball and sauna friend of Rocky Hunt's at the Riverfront Y in Des Moines.



Lois Hunt saw her son, Rocky, touch many lives in his 54 years—often through basketball and a ready smile.

Woven in History

Melissa Slaton learns women's history through their handiwork

by Jeannine Lovas '04

Melissa Slaton '03 doesn't know how to quilt. In fact, she's rarely picked up a needle and thread. What Slaton is

interested in, however, is women's history. As a history major at Northwestern, she often found it frustrating when trying to focus her study on the history of women.

"What's difficult is that most written history is about men," she says. "Historians often encounter a lack of written records left by women."

After graduation, Slaton volunteered at Living History Farms, an agriculture museum near her hometown of West Des Moines, Iowa. Helping to catalog some of the museum's collection, as well as working with the textile department and the museum's quilt collection, Slaton found herself at a meeting of the West Des Moines Quilter's Guild.

Carolyn Ducey, curator of collections at the International Quilt Study Center (IQSC) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, had been invited to speak at the meeting. After learning more about the IQSC and the textile history degree program at UNL, Slaton became intrigued and saw an opportunity—a way outside written history to learn more about women of the past by studying the material objects women leave behind. Objects like quilts.

Slaton enrolled as a graduate student in the

Pine Tree
Unknown, circa 1890–1910

"Pine Tree" reflects the style of quilts popular at the turn of the 20th century with its use of only two colors and a simple, pieced pattern.

textile history graduate program at UNL, with an emphasis in quilt studies and a minor in history. Soon she found herself amidst one of the largest and most diverse quilt collections in the United States.

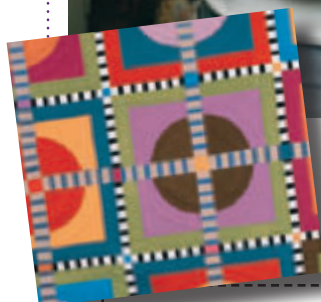
"Quilts, like any material culture objects, can serve as important sources of information about the past. As items made by women, they can shed light on the social, cultural and historical aspects of the lives those women led," Slaton explains.

"And it's not like the Civil War or westward expansion—a lot of research has already been done in those areas. I'm able to conduct original research and look at things that no one has formally studied before."

Slaton was hired as the curatorial graduate



Women's history comes alive to Melissa Slaton through their handiwork preserved at the International Quilt Study Center in Nebraska.



Manhattan Heat Waves
by Elizabeth Caves, 1987

The artist who created this quilt was inspired by the summer heat that radiates off Manhattan pavement. Melissa says the intense colors seem to radiate out when you view the quilt in person.

assistant at the IQSC during her two years of graduate school. She worked primarily with the volunteers at the quilt center, who come in daily to lead visitors on tours, help catalog items, and clean and refold the collection's quilts.

The mission of the IQSC is three-fold: to study, preserve and exhibit quilts. The study of quilts often lends itself to educating the public about quilt history, preserving one's own family's quilts, and perhaps even debunking some myths surrounding quilt history.

"We often think quilting is as American as apple pie. But in fact, quilting is practiced in many countries and has been around for thousands of years," Slaton

says. "People are also surprised to learn that most of the first quilts were not made out of scraps of cloth, as many believe, but

rather of some of the finest quality of fabrics made by the wealthy. It wasn't until after the Industrial Revolution that mass-produced fabrics allowed for excess scraps."

While other quilt study centers exist in the country, few can rival the diversity of the more than 2,000 quilts at the IQSC. "It really is becoming the premier place to come and study quilts," says Slaton.

Slaton received her master's degree in textile history in August. She is currently working at the IQSC as the editorial assistant for a forthcoming catalog, funded by a

grant from the Getty Institute, that will feature IQSC quilts from 1870 to 1940, as well as essays written by quilt historians.

Mindful of the women and their work she is privileged to study, Slaton has a quiet and careful manner with the quilts. She makes deliberate and calm movements with gloved hands as she handles quilts beyond value and hundreds of years old. From time to time, she gasps in awe as another quilt is taken out of storage and unfolded.

"Each quilt and quilt maker really do have a story to tell," she says.

English Rose variation by Olive McClure Cook, 1939

This quilt was featured in Melissa's graduate exhibition, "Perfecting the Past: Colonial Revival Quilts." Melissa's genealogical research on the quilter revealed that Mrs. Cook was in her 70s when she made it.

Ralli Unknown, circa 1970–1990

The Ralli quilts, made in India or Pakistan, use materials, techniques and colors representative of the culture of the quiltmaker.



Original, Century of Progress by Emma Mae Leonhard, circa 1933

This quilt, which shows how women's fashion evolved between 1833 and 1933, was submitted to the Sears Quilt Contest held at Chicago's Century of Progress World's Fair in 1933.

Sew interesting

The International Quilt Study Center has over 2,000 quilts varying in size, age and origin. There are full-size quilts and doll quilts; quilts made in the 17th century, others in the 21st century; American quilts as well as British, French, Norwegian and Pakistani.

Some of the quilts are quite simple; others are extremely intricate. While typical American quilts average about eight to 10 stitches per inch, some of the quilts from the French collection contain as many as 20 stitches per inch.

Volunteers at the IQSC maintain the quality of each quilt in the collection with diligence:

- Every 15 to 18 months, each quilt is carefully cleaned with a low-suction vacuum and refolded in a new direction to prevent wearing along the fold lines.
- Anyone handling the quilts must wear white cotton gloves to prevent oils from the skin from getting onto the fabric.
- Quilts are stored in acid-free boxes inside a temperature-controlled store-room, kept at a cool 64 degrees, with controlled humidity levels and special UV-filtered light bulbs.

For more information about the IQSC, including images and descriptions of the quilts, visit www.quiltstudy.org.

A Song of Peace

Alumnus aids Palestinian Christians

by Amy Scheer

Marlin Vis '70 watched as Palestinian youth tipped over an Israeli police car and set it aflame. With eyes watering from the smoke, he looked up from his third-story window into the night sky, where an army gunship circled the lighted dome of the Church of

the Annunciation.

Then he heard it, on this first Sunday of Lent: a man singing. It was a song Vis and his wife, Sally, recognized from their church in Jerusalem: "God of peace, rain peace upon us, give our land peace."

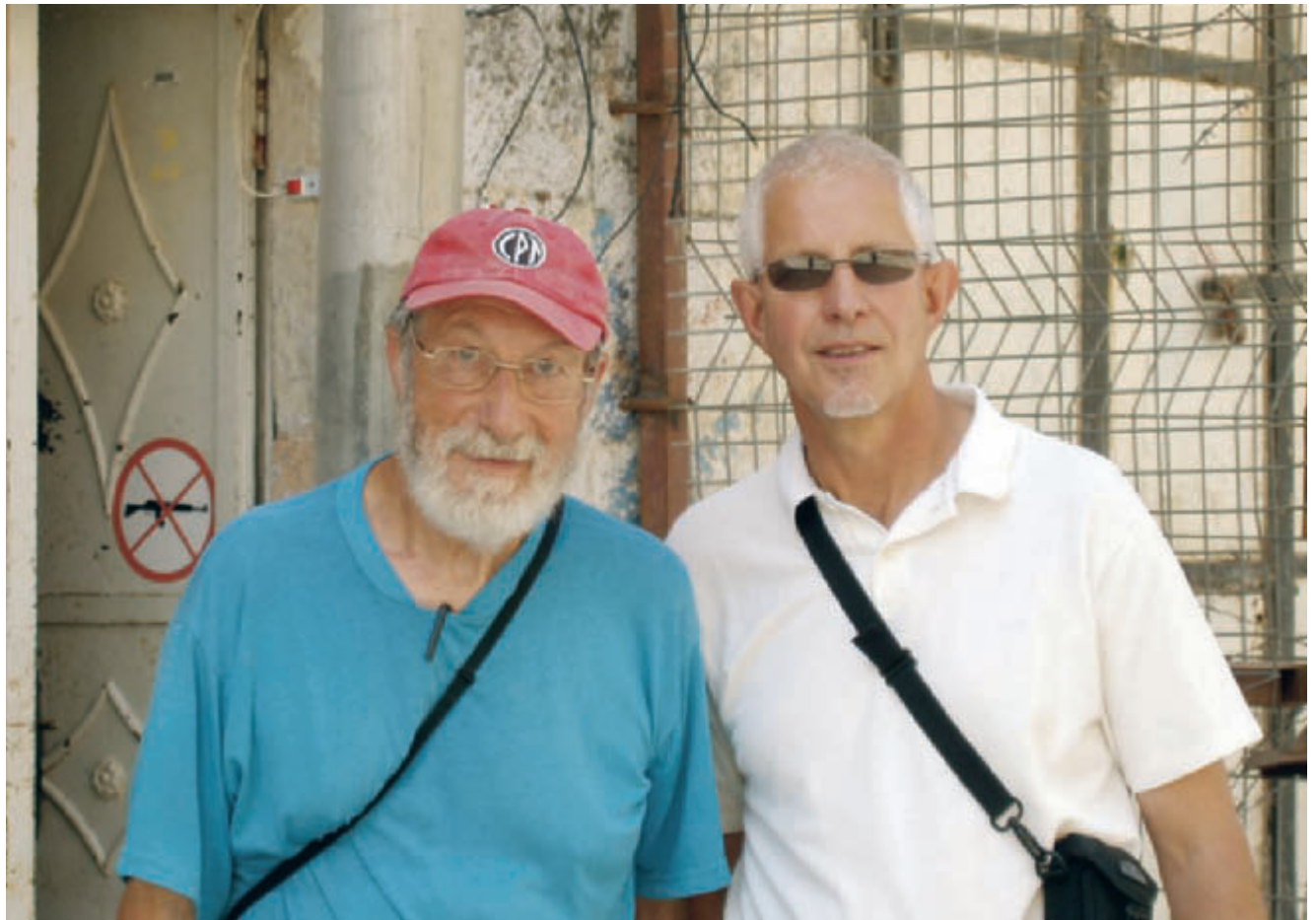
"On this dark night in Nazareth, as fire rages, this

one voice calls down God's rain of peace," Vis wrote later in his weblog. And though the song was loud and off key, "It was one of the finest solos Sally and I have ever heard."

This past January, the Vises sold most of their possessions and left their comfortable home in Zeeland,

Mich., for a front-row seat to the Palestinians' plaintive singing.

Through previous trips to the Middle East, the couple developed a deep affection for the people there, and they knew they'd return someday, primarily to aid Palestinian Christians who are fleeing Israeli occupation



Missionary Marlin Vis, right, with John, a Jewish Christian who's a member of Christian Peacemaker Teams.

in vast numbers.

Careful not to condone acts of retaliation, the Vises want to amplify this song of peace for American Christians, who often hear about the burning police cars but not the daily acts of violence committed by the Israeli army against Palestinians.

"We want this peace enough to work for it ourselves and to encourage the church in America to come alongside the Palestinian Christian community in working for it as well," he writes in an e-mail, mourning the church's silence in the face of this oppression.



"I know that folks here in this place are no different than you and me. And here's the reverse of that, which is the place we never go: We are no different than they. The next time you see the scenes of violence on your television, try to remember that."



Commissioned as Reformed Church in America missionaries (Vis was previously a pastor and campus minister), the Vises are immersed in full-time study of the Arabic language and Middle Eastern culture. They plan to stay for three to five years—loving their neighbors, communicating their

stories, and reflecting honorably on America and Christians in the land of Jesus' birth. Among their projects is an effort to build affordable homes, providing incentive for Palestinian Christians to remain in their homeland.

His days punctuated by the Muslim call to prayer, Vis visits the shops near his



An Israeli soldier scuffles with a Palestinian during a random search at a checkpoint in the West Bank city of Hebron.

apartment, located off a busy street in East Jerusalem. A shopkeeper's son himself, from Boyden, Iowa, Vis drinks tea with his Muslim neighbors and discusses local and international events, many of which have profound repercussions in this part of the world.

After Pope Benedict made derogatory comments about Islam in September, seven churches in Palestine were bombed. The next day, at a barbershop where Vis takes tea twice a week, the discussion was spirited but tense. Did the Pope speak for Christians, as the barbers claimed? ("Are you Shiite or

Sunni?" Vis retorted, to some grins.)

As Vis prepared to leave, he asked the barbers, "Is there peace between you and me?"

"Yes, between us, there is peace," answered one of the barbers.

On his blog, marlinsallyvis.typepad.com, Vis tells stories.

makes her living as an artist, and she'll look a person in the eye when she speaks.

"I know that folks here in this place are no different than you and me," Vis writes. "And here's the reverse of that, which is the place we never go: We are no different than they. The next time you see the scenes of violence on your television, try to remember that."

A friend responded to the blog by commenting that Vis seems to have grown up in the past few months. Vis takes that as a compliment, but he thinks maybe the friend has it turned around.

"I think I am more now like the child I once was," he says. He no longer feels afraid, even in a place where, as he passes through a checkpoint, an assault rifle is aimed at his head. He sees the holy in the ordinary, as his writings attest. He values people—not only Palestinians but Israelis too, whose souls, he fears, are just as troubled by the occupation.

God cares about the people in the Middle East, he writes. All of them.

"Wealthy people. Poor people. Mostly people somewhere in between. Dark people. Light people. Every-color-in-between people ... The Western Wall—two miles from where we live. The Separation Wall—two blocks from where we live. Two walls separating one people from the other.

"And Sally and Marlin somewhere in between."

Ofcourse

The Art of Healing

Class:

NUR 220: Nursing and Shalom

Instructor:

Dr. Ruth Dankanich Daumer, associate professor of nursing

Shalom, a major focus of Northwestern's new four-year nursing program, represents the biblical idea of "complete wholeness and peace found in relationship with God," according to instructor Dr. Ruth Daumer.

"We designed the program to focus on shalom and the ethics of social justice," she says. "It's always been important to me to see nursing as a healing *ministry*. That's why I became a nurse many years ago."

Nursing and Shalom is the first nursing course Northwestern students take. The class addresses the biblical concept of health and healing (shalom) and how that relates to the science behind nursing. It also helps students craft their own philosophy of Christian nursing.

"At a Christian college, the organizing foundation should be the biblical strands of God's real intent for us, and helping students understand the nature of health and illness from that faith perspective," says Daumer.

The seminar-style class provides a foundation of Christian nursing concepts that prepares students to

begin clinical work the next semester. By the time they graduate, students will have completed more than 840 hours of clinical work.

To help students embrace the concept of shalom and nursing as a ministry of healing, service learning is an important component of the class. One service opportunity enables students to assist Community Health Partners of Sioux County with the Vote and Vaccinate program, which provides flu vaccinations to primarily older adults on Election Day.

Through contact with a local agency, several students also meet regularly with either an older adult or an immigrant family. During their time together, students are asked to converse with the client about such topics as a Christian worldview, health and healing, and living a life of personal development. Students document their experiences and are expected to continue the relationship throughout the program.

Daumer says these service-learning experiences fulfill a different purpose than the students' required clinical hours. "It's based on a collaborative relationship with community partners that is primarily designed to meet *their* needs. I want the students to offer a service that will be beneficial to older



The introductory course in Northwestern's new nursing program focuses on the biblical basics of health and healing and how that relates to the science of nursing.

adults and immigrant families based on personal relationships."

Nursing student Brittany Osborn, who chose to meet with an immigrant family, agrees that service learning is an important part of the class because it gives back to the community.

"What better way to build relationships than by serving?" she asks. "Also, I am very interested in different cultures, specifically in health, and I want to help make the family's adjustment to Orange City as smooth as possible."

Another component of the class is a shalom exploration paper, in which students explain their philosophy of shalom-based nursing using material from class discussions, assigned readings

and personal observations.

As a final assignment, students write a success plan in which they evaluate their learning style, ability to think critically, and personal characteristics. They are also asked to identify strategies that can help them be more successful as they continue in the nursing program.

Although only a one-credit course, Nursing and Shalom packs a lot into eight weeks. Daumer describes it as "a course of breadth with a focus on introducing students to the values of the program"—a program student Heidi Otten says is unique "because it integrates shalom into every course. It allows us to not only learn the physical techniques of nursing, but also the reasons for our career of service."

Raisin' Kids

Memories and advice from Keith and Jill Tjeerdsma, Northwestern's Parents of the Year for 2006

What's the best parenting advice you've ever received?

Parents should be consistent and present a united front.

Who gave it to you?

We learned this by observing our own parents while growing up.

When your kids become parents, what advice will you give them?

1. Set your priorities: God, family, career.
2. If you want to be respected, you need to show respect.
3. Don't wish away the time. Pick your battles.

What have you learned about parenting over the years that you wish you'd known when you started?

Though raised in the same environment, each child is unique, and what works for one doesn't necessarily work for the other.

What are some traditions that are important in your family—either passed down or started on your own?

Devotional and sharing times around family meals (passed down)

Sunday set aside for church and family time (passed down)

Homemade pizza and a movie on Saturday night (started on our own)

Christmas Eve spent watching the movie *White Christmas* (started on our own)

▼
"Though raised in the same environment, each child is unique, and what works for one doesn't necessarily work for the other."
▲

In what ways are your parenting styles the same and different?

In many instances, our reactions are the same. In other cases, the kids are lucky they have two of us, because we balance each other out. One of us is stricter and the other, more lenient in one situation; in another, it's just the opposite. The kids have us figured out, and that's why the united front is important. They know which one to plead their case to in each instance. In some cases, an "executive session" becomes necessary!



Keith and Jill Tjeerdsma of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, were honored as Northwestern's 2006 Parents of the Year during Fall Family Weekend in November. The Tjeerdsma family includes, left to right, Jenny '04, Keith, Jill, Jon '06, Kari '08 and Kim '02.

What is the one story about your parenting that your kids will laugh about 20 years from now?

When one child would come crying that one of the other three had teased or hit him/her, Keith would calmly say, "I told him/her to do that." That would usually diffuse the situation. The kids would also often end up fighting while playing Monopoly. Jill would get so tired of the fighting that she'd throw the entire game in the trash. This happened more than once, because the kids would retrieve the pieces after Jill

left. (We're still missing some Monopoly money!)

What is your goal as parents?

To have our children grow into responsible Christian adults.

What kind of an impact has Northwestern made on your kids?

Northwestern has helped our children to continue on the path of Christ-centered lives, to be mission-minded, and to realize the importance of Christian friends.

Alumni corner



Dave Dunkelberger '85
Member, National Alumni Board

When my son Brent announced his decision to attend Northwestern College to continue his education and pursue his passion for playing basketball, I was very excited.

As an alumnus and concerned father, I know Northwestern will give Brent much more than a diploma and a basketball jersey. I want him to have a successful college experience—and I'm confident NWC will provide him that opportunity.

My hopes for my son reminded me how my experience at Northwestern gave me a firm foundation for the many roles I have in life: husband, father, employee and seeker of God's will. I was challenged not only to learn in the classroom and on the basketball court, but also to understand my faith and find the gifts God gave me.

I enjoyed my whole experience at Northwestern, but I can honestly say the things I learned in the basketball program significantly impacted my life. My experience as a Red Raider taught me that if you are gifted and work hard in a certain area, you are likely to have success. Then if you add a passion for what you are doing, positive role models and support from others—including friends, teammates and instructors or coaches—the likelihood of success only increases. I have found this to be true in everything I have attempted in life.

At Northwestern, I had many excellent role models—not only in the basketball program, but throughout the college and community. The support of coaches, friends, instructors and Orange City residents was tremendous. Many of the friendships that began some 20 years ago at Northwestern remain precious to me today.

Today Northwestern may be even more intentional about helping students seek their gifts. Northwestern continues to have excellent role models, and it is very clear the faculty and staff and the community of Orange City continue to be extremely supportive. I wish for Brent to learn the same life lessons and find his gifts through his involvement with the basketball program and the community of Northwestern.

Take some time to reflect on what you gained from your Northwestern experience. Consider sharing your story with high school students who could grow in the same way. You may be giving them a good start in the game of life—and providing Northwestern an assist at the same time.

Deaths

Harry Hoekstra '41, Maurice, Iowa, died Sept. 7 at the age of 88. After graduating from Northwestern Junior College, he served in the Army for four years and then farmed near Maurice for 35 years. He was a member of First Reformed Church of Maurice. His survivors include his wife, Gertie, and two daughters.

Darlene (Vanden Berge '46, '49) Kiernan, age 76, died Aug. 2 in Savannah, Ga. After graduating from Northwestern, she taught in elementary schools in Orange City; Le Mars, Iowa; and Vermillion, S.D. She was a member of the Jasper County Medical Auxiliary and the Newton YMCA. Survivors include her husband, Tom, and two children.

Elizabeth Den Hartog '62, age 101, died Aug. 3 in Sheldon, Iowa. She taught for 45 years, including 25 years in Hospers, Iowa. She was a member of First Reformed Church in Sheldon, where she taught Sunday school for 60 years and served as an officer in the Ladies Aid.

Esther (Bush '69) Krieger, Sibley, Iowa, died Sept. 30 at the age of 80. She taught for more than 30 years in Sibley and in southwestern Minnesota. An active member of Zion Presbyterian Church in Ellsworth, Minn., she was also very involved with the Osceola County 4-H program. She is survived by her husband, Heinz, and eight children.

Thomas Vander Broek '73, age 55, died of cancer Sept. 18 in Orange City. He served as a pilot for Mission Aviation Fellowship in Indonesia and Honduras before moving to Orange City with his family. He was a pilot for Interstates Companies in Sioux Center and Sioux Center Aviation. He was an active member of Trinity Reformed Church, where he served as a dea-

con. Survivors include his wife, Diane (Vander Stoep '73), and four children, including Cora '00.

Class notes

'78

Beth (Paekel) Johnson, Ames, Iowa, teaches gifted elementary students. Her husband, John, works at Iowa State University's Veterinary Diagnostic Lab. They have two children, Kimberly, a junior at NWC, and Mark (16).

'79

Dr. Timothy Westcott, Kansas City, Mo., was recently appointed chair of the department of social sciences at Park University.

'83

Jill (Smidt) Christensen, Parker, S.D., surpassed the 500-win mark this fall as the volleyball coach at Parker High School. In 24 seasons of coaching, she is now fourth on the South Dakota volleyball coach all-time win list.

'86

Julianne (James) Doty, Harrisburg, Ill., stays home with her children, Kristin (10), Drew (8) and foster baby J'Lynn (1). She is an active volunteer at her children's Christian school and their church, and she also serves as an advocate for foster children.

Paula (Dykstra) Folkers, Omaha, won the title of National Mrs. 2006 at the pageant in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., in July. She is now traveling and speaking to promote the pageant and the Progeria Research Foundation. (Progeria is a genetic disorder that results in premature aging of children: www.progeria-research.org.) Her monthly diary and photos can be found at www.nationalmrspageant.com.

Ed Hibma and his family recently moved to Franklin, Tenn., where he

Mini profile

Alum's family expands after African mission trip

by Emily Hennager '06

When Phil Stevenson '85 and his wife, Lisa, began praying for ways to give their five children experience in cross-cultural ministry, they didn't know one of the answers would come so close to home.

After much prayer, the Stevensons decide to arrange a three-month trip with ActionZambia, which develops local churches to help them meet the challenges of ministry in the Zambian culture. Phil was granted a missions sabbatical from his position as senior pastor at Whidbey Evangelical Free Church on Washington's Whidbey Island.

At the same time, the Stevensons were praying about adoption.

"Our hearts have gone out to children without families," Lisa says. "We knew we were going to be around all these children. How could we not provide them with a home?"

Since Zambia doesn't

adopt out of the country, the Stevensons worked with an adoption agency in Ethiopia. They decided to adopt more than one child so siblings wouldn't be separated.

In September 2005, the family arrived in Lusaka, Zambia. Phil worked with local church leaders, and Lisa trained educators at local schools, where the rest of their kids also helped out.

"The poverty there is oppressive," Phil says. "It's a desperate situation. It's sometimes difficult to know what to do."

Yet the Stevensons continually sought ways to help. They opened their flat for weekly children's Bible clubs, played soccer with the street kids and built a new school, thanks to the generosity of their U.S. supporters.

"God demonstrated himself in incredible ways," says Phil. "We were given the opportunity to not only see great suffering, but great faith. They have a lot to teach us."

After saying goodbye to



Phil Stevenson introduces daughter Kelsey to the thrill of kayaking.

their Zambian friends, the Stevensons traveled to Ethiopia and were united with their new family. They spent three weeks getting to know Kelsey (12), James (9) and Sadie (6), meeting their extended relatives and learning about Ethiopian culture.

"When we got home, we all were very excited, but the second and third months were the hardest for everybody," Lisa says. "Communication has been important in building relationships and

helping all the kids find their place in the family."

The Stevensons say these challenges have helped their family develop new perspectives on the world.

"As parents, we've tried to integrate the importance and significance of serving others and reaching out to them," Phil says. "God places us here for work that reaches far beyond Whidbey Island and America."

serves as a senior manager of technical support at Nissan's new national headquarters.

'91

Brian Heusinkveld, Sioux Falls, serves as the assistant manager at Rudolph's Shoe Store.

'92

Heather (Blankers) Bulthuis, Seal Beach, Calif., is finishing a degree in interior design and working as a kitchen and bath designer. Her husband, **Sean '94**, is the mortuary manager at Westminster Memorial Park. They have two children, Henry (8) and Elizabeth (6).

'94

Mark Petersen, Hartley, Iowa, recently completed a certificate of advanced studies through Iowa State University, allowing him to receive a superintendent's certificate. He is also midway through a doctoral program in education. He serves as principal at Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn High School.

'95

Jill Haarsma, Orange City, is executive administrative assistant to the president at NWC.

'96

Rebecca Daniel, Staten Island, N.Y., serves as a senior systems analyst for the finance department of a Manhattan hospital.



Searches are open for the following faculty positions:

Art (specialty in 3-D studio and/or art history)
Communication studies (specialty in public relations)
Nursing (three positions)
Psychology (specialty area open)

Each position is tenure-track and begins August 2007. Job descriptions and application details are available at www.nwciowa.edu/employment. Northwestern seeks individuals who are Reformed and evangelical in theology and committed to the distinctives of a Christian liberal arts education.

Northwestern College complies with federal and state regulations concerning nondiscrimination in employment. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Jason Lief teaches theology at Dordt College. He previously taught and coached at Pella (Iowa) Christian High School. His wife, **Tamara (De Hoogh)**, stays home with their two children.

Leah (DeVisser) Remijn is a physician's assistant in a community health center in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Caroline Rogers, Orlando, Fla., continues to work at Walt Disney World Resort in the information technology department. She recently traveled to Hong Kong to help open a new Disneyland.

'97

Jason Carlton, Binghamton, N.Y., recently was named a partner in the law firm of Levene Gouldin & Thompson. His practice focuses on appellate law and workers' compensation insurance defense.

Jackie (Budden) Hueser and her family moved to Pipestone, Minn., where her husband, Chad, works for Edward Jones. She substitute teaches and stays home with their two sons, Grant (5) and Davis (2).

'98

Chase Anderson, Le Mars, Iowa, is vice president/cashier/bank security officer for Liberty National Bank in Sioux City.

Matt Nelson, Austin, Texas, is a doctoral candidate in kinesiology, with an emphasis in exercise physiology, at the University of Texas.

Jamie Schmeling graduated from Western Theological Seminary in 2005 and was ordained by the Dakota Classis of the Reformed Church in America. She works with the Wild Goose Resource Group of the Iona Community in Glasgow, Scotland, in the areas of lay leadership, worship renewal and global music of the church. She recently attended a conference in Israel/Palestine focusing on the conflicts there.

'99

Jonathan Hardersen received a master's degree in physician assistant studies from Des Moines University in August. He is a physician's assistant in West Des Moines.

Sarah Sikkema, Hoffman Estates, Ill., earned a master's degree in human resource management. She continues to serve as the director of human resources for International Teams.

Kari (Krempges) Van Zee, Springville, Iowa, won the 2006 Outstanding Service Award presented by the local Citizens for People with Disabilities for her work on the Americans with Disabilities Act Celebration Committee. She works as an employment specialist for Goodwill Industries of Southeast Iowa. Her husband, **Jason '01**, is an educator in the Cedar Rapids Community School District.

'00

Colette Johnson, Sunnyside, N.Y., recently had two of her one-act plays produced by Tongue in Cheek Theatre in New York City.

Alumni: What's new with you?

Let us know so we can tell your friends and classmates. Send to: Office of Public Relations, Northwestern College, 101 7th Street SW, Orange City, IA 51041. Or e-mail to classic@nwciowa.edu; fax number is 712-707-7370. Deadline for the spring '07 Classic is Jan. 15.

Name _____
 Address _____

 Home phone _____ Class of _____
 E-mail _____
 Current employer(s) _____

Planned giving notes



Cornie Wassink '73
Director of
Planned Giving

Even YOU can fund an endowed scholarship

"Only people with wealth can create endowments."

Has this misperception kept you from considering the creation of your own Northwestern College endowed scholarship? If so, read on—and you might change your mind. The truth is nearly anyone, with a little planning, can establish an endowment.

Right up front, you need to know Northwestern requires a minimum of \$20,000 to establish an endowed scholarship. That may seem like a lot of money, but consider these options.

Do it now

Some folks prefer to establish their endowed scholarships now so they can enjoy watching students benefit from them.

1. Use cash. Finding enough cash to launch an endowed scholarship isn't always possible. But sometimes an unexpected windfall through an inheritance or larger-than-expected proceeds from the sale of a valuable asset make such a gift possible.

It may also be helpful to know Northwestern permits donors to fund an endowed scholarship over a multiple-year period. Spreading cash gifts over several years may also have tax benefits for you.

2. Use securities. Do you have publicly traded stock that is highly appreciated in value but low in dividend return? Why not use this to start your endowed fund? Since Northwestern can sell your stock without incurring a capital gains tax, it may be the perfect funding method for you.

3. Use real estate. Anything from your personal residence to a vacation home or a farm can be given to fund an endowment. For the college to accept a gift of real estate, the property would have to be very marketable and void of any contaminants. A current appraisal from a certified real estate appraiser would also be required. Upon the sale of the real estate, the proceeds would be placed in an endowment account.

4. Use tangible property. There are a few items of tangible personal property, such as a car, boat or valuable

antique, that could also be used to fund an endowment. With a gift of this nature, the advancement office should be contacted in advance to determine if the designated asset would make a practical gift to fund an endowment. A certified appraisal would be required to establish the value of the gift. We would sell the item and place the proceeds in your endowment.

Do it later

While it may not be feasible to start an endowment now, someday those resources could be part of your estate. Consider these possibilities:

1. Use the remainder of a trust. Donors sometimes establish a trust during their lifetime to provide themselves with ongoing income. When they are gone, whatever remains in the trust is disbursed according to instructions in the trust document. This can include the funding of an endowed scholarship at Northwestern College.

2. Use insurance proceeds. Do you have a life insurance policy you no longer need for protection? You could sign part or all of the policy over to NWC for the purpose of creating an endowment when you are gone.

3. Use a bequest from your will. The most popular way to fund a future endowment is to earmark a portion of your estate for this purpose. If you do decide to create an endowment through a bequest, be sure to talk with Northwestern's advancement office to make sure your attorney uses our proper legal name and address.

Do it now and later

You may want to start awarding your scholarship now by giving annual gifts, and then create the endowment later through your estate plan. This way you could see the scholarships in operation and meet the students whose lives they are impacting.

Do you want to learn more about Northwestern's endowed scholarship program and discover additional ways to fund an endowment? Contact me at 712-707-7109 or cwassink@nwciowa.edu—or visit give.nwciowa.edu.

The Rev. Troy Van Beek is pastor of Bethel Reformed Church in Sheldon, Iowa. He previously served at First Reformed Church in Fremont, Mich.

'01

Kevin Mangold, Lake in the Hills, Ill., owns a 20-car limousine company.

Nathan Martin recently completed a Master of Divinity degree at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Hamilton, Mass. He is now the pastor of Salem (Iowa) Friends Church. His wife, Brianna

(Kleven '02), earned a master's degree in mission and evangelism from Gordon-Conwell.

Josh Neeb, Sheboygan Falls, Wis., serves as a commercial lending offi-

Prayercorner



The Rev. Harlan
VanOort '82
Chaplain

John Calvin emphasizes frugality as a key principle in living the Christian life, in using the gifts God has given us: opportunities, place, calling, station, possessions, food and physical goods.

Calvin promotes moderation in their use—neither strictness nor laxity, neither miserly nor in excess, neither with boasting nor coveting. He contends in *The Institutes* that if Christians keep this rule of moderation, “they will make considerable progress in the Lord’s school.”

College life is an excellent way to be nurtured in frugality. Residence halls are adequate, but not ostentatious. Dorm rooms are shared, part of the discipline of living with less. Cafeteria food is nutritious and delicious, but not lavish. Classes are rigorous and challenging, but not overwhelming. Tuition is costly, requiring sacrifice, but not outlandish. Student schedules are full, but not too busy.

Students have been given this opportunity to study at a Christian college; to learn how to cherish these gifts with frugality is part of the education.

There are ways to do college that are not frugal. Calvin argues that if one lacks frugality, it will “befog” the mind. College could be wasted with wonton recklessness or apathetic lethargy. Time could be used inappropriately. Students could overspend, overeat, over-socialize or overindulge. They could also fail to attend, forget to participate or become isolated.

Please pray that students at Northwestern will be frugal with the gifts they have been given. Pray they will live the Christian life with excellence in the presence of God by the power of the Holy Spirit.

cer at Associated Bank.

Cory Rasmussen recently moved to Princeton, N.J., where he is a sales manager for Progressive Insurance.

'02

Amanda Baker-Vande Brake, Irvine, Calif., serves as the marketing associate for the Orange County Performing Arts Center, managing their e-market efforts and writing copy for marketing projects. Also a freelance writer, she has written reviews for OffOffOnline.com and OC Weekly.

Dave Perrigo, West Des Moines, Iowa, teaches at Four Oaks Alternative School, working with students on general education and a drug/alcohol intervention program. He also teaches part time at Street Smarts Drivers Education.

'03

Janice (Zoeteway) Briggs, Woodbury, Minn., earned a master's degree in physical therapy from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. She is a physical therapist at Bethesda Rehabilitation Hospital in St. Paul.

That summer changed my life ...



Hundreds of Northwestern students have participated in Summer of Service projects since the early 1980s. Many have reported life-changing experiences.

The *Classic* is planning a feature article in the summer 2007 issue about the long-term impact SOS projects have made on participants' lives. If you are an SOS alum, we'd like to know how that experience affected you. Did it change the direction of your life? Influence your career choice? Inspire you to make volunteerism a regular part of your life? Lead to a closer walk with Christ?

If you have stories to tell, please respond to classic@nwciowa.edu by Feb. 1 with your name, SOS year, ministry, location and a brief description of the way it has impacted your life. You may be contacted and interviewed for our summer feature.

Stephanie (Ells) and Nathan Huisman '02 are associate pastors at Bismarck (N.D.) Community Church. Stephanie oversees the children's ministry, and Nathan is working with youth.

Michael Johnson, Watertown, Mass., recently completed a Master of Divinity degree at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He is pursuing a master's degree in counseling at Lesley University in Cambridge.

Mini profile

Living the American Dream

by Sherrie Barber Willson '98

You know those inspirational stories of students who believe they could make good if they're just given a chance?

James Li '94 was one of those students.

A native of Taiwan, Li was not proficient enough in English to pass his TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) exam, which is required for admission to Northwestern by international students. But the college agreed to a one-year grace period, during which he had to maintain a B average.

"Thank God, I worked so hard that by the end of my first year, I had a B+ average. I always have special thanks to the college for their faith in me," he says.

Li built on the success of that first year, graduated and is now president and chief operating officer of Syntax-Brilliant, a company he helped to found that manufactures and distributes Olevia-brand high-definition televisions. He credits his success to his time in Orange City, for both the cultural and academic lessons he learned.

He found his career path when he started working part time at Gateway in North Sioux City, S.D. Li's knowledge of Taiwanese culture, region and language—plus his personal contacts—helped reduce manufacturing costs. He stayed on after graduation, eventually becoming senior business manager in the global procurement office.

Li left Gateway in 1997 to move to Los Angeles, where he saw an opportunity in LCD televisions, founding Syntax Groups Corp. in 2003. Two years later, Brilliant Corporation bought it and took it public—a success beyond Li's wildest dreams.

"I always thought if we built the market and the Olevia



James Li's entrepreneurial spirit has led him to his current leadership position with a company that manufactures high-definition televisions.

TV brand, maybe we could be a public company in five years. But with God's help, we achieved that in less than three years," he says.

Now Li meets with people on nearly every continent, switching from English/Western thinking to Chinese/Eastern thinking. He is responsible for the company's global LCD TV business development and management.

Li's ambition, however, is driven by a higher purpose: He'd like to establish a foundation to support missionary work throughout the world. "I have a very strong belief that God has called me to support his mission," he says. "That has always dwelt in my heart and mind. Every time I almost got defeated by the world, it's always been by God's special grace that I've gotten through these trials and come back again."

Visit www.nwciowa.edu/jamesli to read more about Li and Syntax-Brilliant's technologies.

Becky Reed, Jenison, Mich., is pursuing a master's degree in nonprofit administration at Grand Valley State University.

Sarah Taylor, Zuni, N.M., teaches seventh and eighth grade at Zuni Christian Mission School on the Zuni Reservation.

'04

Tyson Graham recently moved to Brooksville, Fla., where he is teach-

ing and coaching at Grace Christian Schools.

Rachel Nieuwsma, Brattleboro, Vt., is pursuing a master's degree in intercultural relations at the School for International Training.

Andrea Price, Houston, is a psychology research coordinator at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

'05

Lisa Farmer, Le Mars, Iowa, teaches first grade at Everett Elementary School in Sioux City.

Lisa (Miller) Koerselman, Sioux Center, serves as a tobacco prevention coordinator for Community Health Partners.

Leah Seehusen, Pella, Iowa, teaches science, reading and Spanish at Peoria Christian School.

Tamara (de Waard) Stevenson, Wheaton, Ill., teaches English as a second language in Carol Stream. Her husband, Adam, is in the biblical exegesis program at Wheaton College Graduate School.

Julie Warren, Leota, Minn., is a bookkeeper at Mouw's Feed and Grain and a part-time youth counselor at Bethel Reformed Church.

Raider blogs

Witness the Web writing, rambling and reflections of Northwestern College alumni, students and employees at a new addition to our website: Raider blogs, www.nwciowa.edu/raiderblogs.

Visit "Kicking the Gourd," where senior Ryan Pendell offers to connect readers to Flannery O'Connor via six degrees of separation. Stephanie Timmerman '99, a junior high teacher in Alaska, shares her insights on layered clothing, paper shredding and parents' lengthy phone messages on "Nunaka." Or read and respond to portions of Professor Jeff Barker's new book on storytelling in worship on his blog, "Quiet Demons and Screaming Peter Pan."

www.nwciowa.edu/raiderblogs

If you blog and you'd like to be listed on Raider blogs, send your link and a brief description of your blog's content to blogs@nwciowa.edu.

'06

Joy Den Hartog, Des Moines, teaches English as a second language at Adams and Willard Elementary Schools.

Amber Green, West Palm Beach, Fla., is in her first year of pharmacy school at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Kali (Carroll) Johnston, Nashville, Tenn., serves as the assistant to the vice president of events and programming at the Gospel Music Association.

Anna Wilkinson is a resident director at Spring Arbor (Mich.) University.

New arrivals

Khawla and **Robert Wise** '82, son, Saladin Rocky, joins Rachael (22), Brooke (11), Lindy (8),

Sophia (3) and Hashim (1). Richard and **Elisabeth Bakker Johnson** '86, daughter, Katherine Hope, joins Lillian (4) and twins Caroline and Susannah (2). Joel and **Janet (Nelson '88) Wassom**, daughter, Sarah Ann, joins Hunter (6). Mari and **Tom Schlegel** '89, son, Micah Emery. Craig and **Dana (Smallegan '94) Brower**, son, Nathan Alan, joins Erin (18), Samantha (14) and Philip (11). Angie and **Shannon Moran** '94, son, Avery Ryan. Lance and **Gretchen (Weishaupt '94) Morrison**, son, Logan Paul, joins Tori (2). Amanda and **Jeremy Wiersema** '95, daughter, Amber Janelle. **Krista (Van Gorp '97) and Jesus Carnet** '96, son, Lucas Martin. **Julie (Bouroughs '97) and Shad Danker** '97, daughter, Kallie Layne, joins Ryan (4). **Melissa (Remus '97) and Brad**

Hofmeyer '96, daughter, Peyton Lynn, joins Cameran (5) and Morgan (3). **Laurie (Aykens '97) and Vince Kurtz** '98, daughter, Kylie Shae, joins McKenzie (4). **Sara (Veldhuizen '97) and Jason Schrock** '97, daughter, Calla Grace, joins Sophia (3). **Michael and Laura (Schoolen '98) VanDerLinden**, son, Seth Michael, joins Brittany (3) and Rachel (2). **Dawn (Van Meeteren '99) and Matt De Young** '00, son, Joseph Matthew, joins Emily (3). **Jonathan and Janine (DeVries '99) McClintock**, son, Caleb Asher. **Matt and Kimberly (McGlone '99) MonteMayer**, son, Dominic Matthew. **Sabrina and Randy Smit** '99, daughter, Chloe Marie, joins Caleb (3). **JJ and Kendra (Luiken '99) Veld**, daughter, Abigail Kayrae, joins Darren (2). **Allison and Chris Feldhacker** '00,

daughter, Samara Katelynn. **Lynnette (Van Gorp '00) and Chad Fikse** '00, daughter, Kendra Grace, joins Evan (2). **Lisa (Eller '00) and Jonathan Hardersen** '99, daughter, Hadley Jeanne, joins Cooper (2). **Stephanie and Josh Hunstad** '01, son, Clayton James, joins Brooke (3). **Beth Ann and Carl Nagel** '01, son, Lincoln Andrew. **Michelle (Fynaardt '02) and Nick De Haan** '03, daughter, Rebecca Grace, joins Micah (2). **Melissa (Clark '03) and Joel Bundt** '93, son, Ezra Frederic, joins Josiah (3) and Simeon (2). **Anthony and Brooke (Fister '03) Conner**, daughter, Harley Elizabeth. **Brett and Jolynne (Nilson '05) Eilts**, son, Jackson Brett.

Marriages

Dennis Durband '76 and Steffanie Reed, Chandler, Ariz. **Cheri Waggoner** '90 and Paul Heart, West Des Moines, Iowa. **Matthew Hill** '97 and Amy Rossow, Madison, Wis. **Sunell Vincent** '97 and Regina Keener, Manama, Bahrain. **Keli Loyd** '98 and Thomas Sawyer, Orland Park, Ill. **Kristena Benz** '00 and Dann Meyers, Farmington, Minn. **Angela Vande Brake** '02 and Brandon Pechacek, Houston. **Janice Zoeteway** '03 and Nathan Briggs, Woodbury, Minn. **Jennifer Kienzle** '04 and Philip Steers IV, Loganville, Ga. **Amy Ropte** '04 and Mark Johnson, Windom, Minn. **Sara Turnquist** '04 and Jason Wheeler, Brentwood, Tenn. **Kelli Vermeer** '04 and Roscoe Cummins, Mammoth Lakes, Calif. **Tara Bajema** '06 and **Brennan Van Loo** '06, Mt. Vernon, Wash. **Michael Christians** '06 and **Tara Tigges** '07, Sioux Falls.

The couples reside in the city listed.

Our Muslim Friends

by John Hubers '76

When my wife, Lynne, and I graduated from Northwestern, little did we know we would end up spending most of our adult lives involved in one way or another with the stimulating challenge of Christian witness in the Muslim world.

It began the year we graduated, with a volunteer assignment teaching English to Arab students in the small island state of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf. That's when God said, "This is it. This is where I want you to be." That led to 11 more years in which we found our hearts' home and raised our family in countries, climates and cultures far removed from our hometown of Orange City.

When we tell people this, we sometimes get quizzical looks—as though they don't quite believe us. How could we ever feel "at home" in what they assume to have been a hostile environment for Christian witness?

"Didn't you feel threatened?" they ask—if not with their mouths, then certainly with their eyes. "Being a Christian witness in a Muslim country can get you put in jail—or worse. These are, after all, the people who carried out the murderous 9/11 attacks. They're the ones who cry, 'Death to America!'"

Either we're sugar-coating our time in the Arab world or we're masochists, they think.

Actually, neither is true. The truth is friendships came easily, as did the opportunity to share "the hope that is within us." The Muslims whom we were privileged to call friends and neighbors talked freely to us of their faith and encouraged us to do the same. They didn't necessarily agree with us (even though there is much upon which we do agree). But they didn't hate us for it.

It is true there are extremists among the 1.2 billion Muslims in the world. But it is just as true that the vast majority of them are people like you and me—people who love their children and do their best to be good parents and neighbors, people who are just as disturbed by the extremists among them as we are of the criminals who make our country one of the most violent societies on earth.

We know about the variety of different personalities and attitudes that make up the global Christian community. What we need to realize is the same variety is found within the Muslim community.

An example of what I mean: It was 1980. Lynne and I were in Cairo, Egypt, where I was doing a study

year under the direction of Dr. Harold Vogelaar '57 (another Orange City boy!). I was there studying Islamics, Arabic and Christian-Muslim relations.

Harold and I were visiting a gracious Coptic Orthodox pastor/monk who was speaking to us with grief about riots that had broken out in a slum area of Cairo the previous week. But he also added an element of hope in a story I share with you to help put a human face on those who are, in every sense of the word, our neighbors.

The riots started when an extremist Muslim group squatted on a piece of property owned by a Christian after discovering his papers were not in order. Tempers rose. Threats were made. In the heat of the dispute, a gun was fired.

Although no one was hurt, a rumor quickly spread through the mean streets that Christians were killing Muslims. The mind of the mob took over, and for three days gangs of young men ran through the streets setting fire to shops and starting fights. Seventeen people died.

At the height of the violence, a gang approached the local church with gasoline cans and torches in hand. The priest watched helplessly from the window of his



study, praying that God would turn aside the mob.

Much to his chagrin, he noticed that Muslim shopkeepers whose businesses ringed the church appeared to be coming down the street to join the crowd. "Please, Lord," he prayed, "not them too!"

But then he noticed that these shopkeepers, rather than joining the mob, were forming a human chain around the church. As the mob got closer, he heard one of the shopkeepers say, "This is our church. These are our friends. If you want to burn it down, you'll have to kill us first!"

At that point, the mob dropped their cans, turned around and walked away.

John Hubers left his role as supervisor of Reformed Church in America mission programs in the Middle East this summer to begin a doctoral program in global missions focusing on Christian-Muslim relations at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago.

Send your Classic thoughts to classic@nwciova.edu

Change Service Requested

"Every time I teach, I learn something new—and a lot of times that comes from students' questions."

Dr. Laurie Furlong
Biology professor



I am Northwestern

I love interacting with students on a personal level. For several summers, I've taken students with me to research stream ecology on the Santa Cruz Islands off the coast of California. When I involve students in research, it adds to their knowledge base and increases their enthusiasm for what they're learning in class. At Northwestern, we're teaching students inside and outside the classroom to think critically about the world around them. With today's major healthcare and environmental concerns, it's crucial that Christians increase their scientific literacy beyond bumper-sticker slogans. When you support the Northwestern Fund, you help prepare leaders to enter into—and understand—the world of intelligent discourse.



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Bid the Blues Goodbye



How about a little shopping to chase away the winter blues? Make it competitive, and there's something for everyone!

Browse and bid for electronics, sports memorabilia, NWC apparel—even vacation destinations in the mountains, on the beach, or near a world-class golf course. It's all at Northwestern's annual Gala Auction website:

www.nwciowa.edu/galaauction

New items are being added daily. Winning bidders will be determined at the live auction Feb. 3.
You don't have to be present to win a bid.