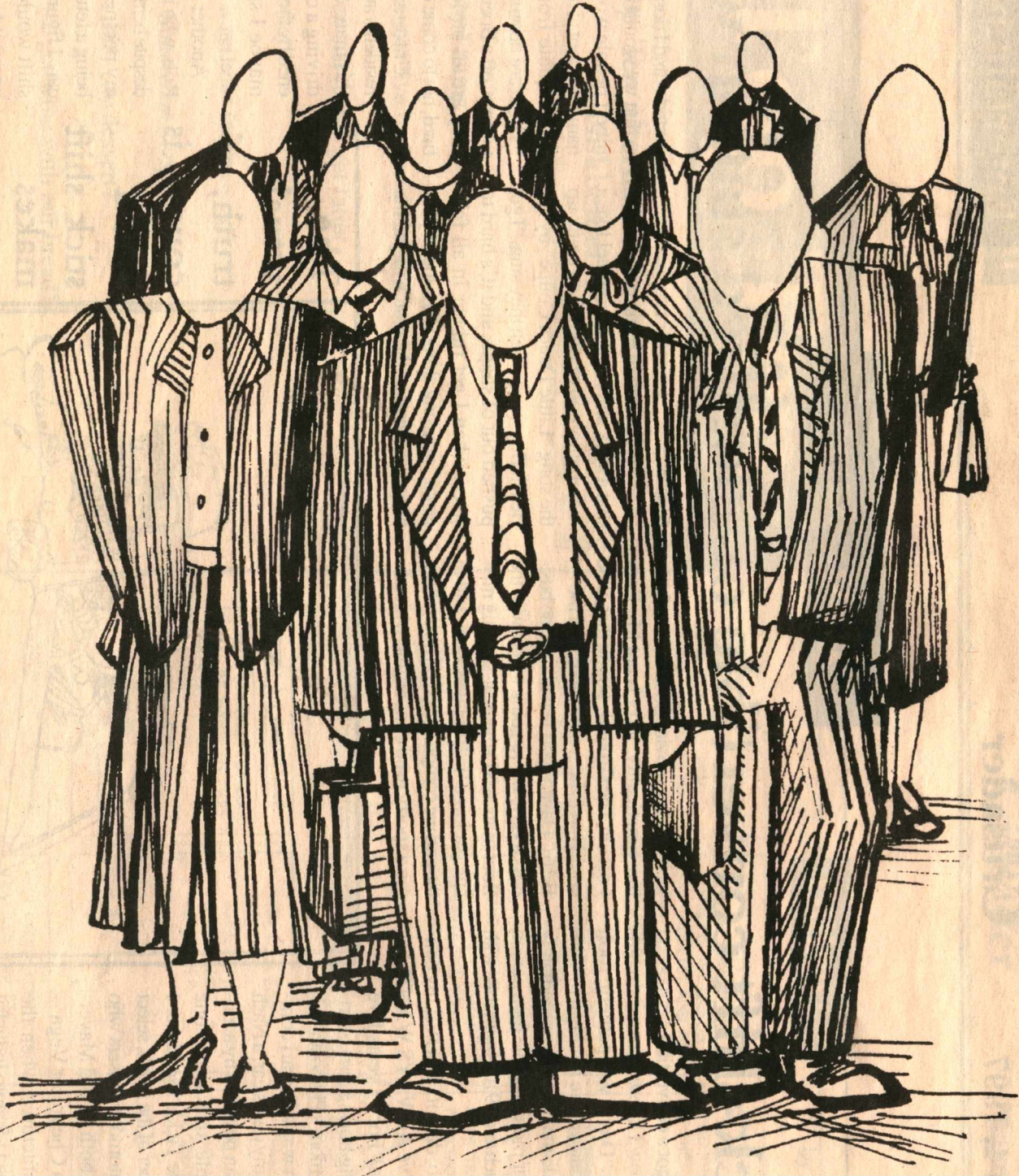




March 4, 1997



The Board of Regents appear twice a year on campus.  
Who are they? What do they do? Why are they here?

# The Crusader

Weekly Edition

Issue 15  
Volume 51

The Student Newspaper of Northwest Nazarene College ♦ March 4, 1997

## In Campus News



These guys want your votes, so read their comments.

See Pg. 3!

## In Opinions

**Problem with a professor?**  
Our page 4 column explains how to resolve the issue.  
**Problem with your girlfriend?**  
Sorry, you're out of luck.

## In Sports



Guys advance to conference finals (page 9).



## Column One

Oh my, this is my next-to-last issue.

These things take a while to set in. It won't be, probably, until June that I realize that I can't really give any orders past March 11th, date of this term's final *Crusader*.

And what a final *Crusader* it will be. You may have noticed that this week's paper is a bit thinner than usual. That would be because it's only 12 pages long.

You, the reader, pay us a fair salary. So we do believe you're entitled to more product than a mere 12 pages a week, which is why I can't wait to tell you (already) about next week's issue.

It'll be gigantic. It'll contain important stories, concerning the elimination of a couple more majors, Regents decisions, ASNNC election results, a preview of the spring musical, an NAIA pullout and preview, two pages of reviews, plus all of the usually excellent world news, opinions, sports, and entertainment.

All this in a full-color 24-pager. So don't ever call us lazy.

-- John Fraley  
Editor-in-Chief

(P.S.: Honestly, we're only putting out a really really big paper because Editor Emeritus D. M. Bomar, *Crusader* Boss for the 92-93 and 93-94 school years, is back in town for the tournament, and I want to impress him. My section editors may all want to dismember me with Saga's sharp spoons in a week, but I'm hoping they'll be too wasted to pull it off.)

Published by the Associated Students of Northwest Nazarene College behind the backs of the Board of Regents

## So who are these people?



COVER ART BY KAREN SCHANDORFF -- THE CRUSADER

Find out who these Regents are and what they do beginning on page 6.

## Lady 'Saders are Cascade Conf. champs

By David Stillman  
Assistant World News Editor

The Lady Crusaders completed their half of an anticipated championship sweep of Western Baptist's basketball teams with a 71-58 victory last night.

NNC led by as many as 25 midway through the second half, but an 18-0 WBC run cut that seemingly insurmountable lead to six with just under five minutes left.

Turn to "Lady 'Saders win conference!" on pg. 9.

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"Newspapers should be the modern-day church doors on which any and all can post their theses."

~ Dick Smyser, newspaper editor, 1994

# Sabbaticals: not just fun and games – or just work

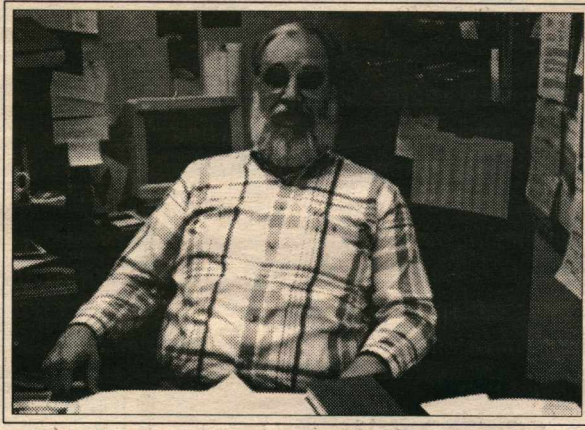
By Heather Slater  
Copy Editor

Every year at NNC, one or more professors disappear for a term at a time. Their absences are explained only by the phrase, "on sabbatical." But what exactly is a sabbatical?

"A sabbatical is a time for a faculty member to recharge his or her batteries," said Dr. Steve Shaw, chair of the Professional Development Review Committee, the body that grants sabbaticals. "They can get out of the normal routine of teaching, do some reading, writing, reflecting."

Dr. Gaymon Bennett, Chair of the Division of Language and Literature, will be taking a sabbatical spring term. "Not everyone takes one, but officially, we're eligible every seven years," he said. "This is my 26th year and second sabbatical. It's not supposed to be a paid vacation on one extreme or [just] a work opportunity on the other. The primary reason is rest, particularly for long-term employees."

"It's also a time in which you



**The Bennetts are planning to study in England and in France during third term. "[A sabbatical] is not supposed to be a paid vacation on one extreme or just a work opportunity on the other." ~Dr. Gaymon Bennett**

should be doing academic work of some sort, such as research. It's both for the individual professor and the institution," said Shaw.

Dr. Bennett and his wife, Prof. Evelyn Bennett, will use their sabbatical time in Europe, partly for research and partly to visit friends and enjoy them-

selves. "We're going to travel and live primarily in France and England. I'm going to continue research I started twelve years ago on the background of the pilgrims in England and Holland," said Bennett, who is writing a book on the subject.

"We'll live in Paris five and a half weeks, work with the Fraleys (Nazarene missionaries in France) on an American Studies program in Montpellier (France) and be in England for the rest of the time. We'll be [in Holland] for tulip season, so hopefully we'll get some nice pictures for our book," Bennett said.

According to Shaw, five or six requests for sabbaticals are submitted each year to the committee, and usually about three are funded.

lution to improve chapel respect.

The report of the Scholarship Committee recommended changing the criteria for the Honor Scholarship and the Regents' Award. These changes were approved and will go to the Board of Regents for review na da vote.

The new student-led group AWARE is having an activity on racial prejudice in the Student Center Lounge on Thursday, March 6 at 8p.m. Come to be challenged or just to gain perspective on the issue.

The offer given last year for a term of free tuition still stands for any so-

The committee is comprised of six faculty members, one from each division, elected by the rest of the faculty. The committee receives requests, analyzes them and decides whether or not to recommend them to the dean, who either agrees with the recommendation or turns it down.

If he agrees, the request will proceed to the President's office, then to the Board of Regents, who have final say in granting requests.

Sabbaticals last either for one quarter with full pay or two quarters with half pay. "They can ask for additional money, especially if there are travel expenses," said Shaw, "but they have to present a budget."



**"A sabbatical is a time for a faculty member to recharge his or her batteries... they can get out of [their] normal routine."**

~Dr. Steve Shaw

## NNCalendar

<b>March 4 - 16</b>	<b>4</b> Men's Basketball Final	<b>5</b> 10:15a Chapel	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10:15a Chapel Last Day to drop classes Alumni Board meeting	<b>Weekend 8-9</b> Alumni Board Meeting
		Board of Regents			
	<b>10</b> 10:15a Chapel ASNNC Exec. Council speeches and elections	<b>11</b> 10:15a Faculty/Staff Fellowship NAIA Banquet	<b>12</b> 10:15a Chapel 9:00p Time Out Run-offs for Exec Council	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10:15a Chapel 8:00p Jazz Band-SLH Last day classes!!!
			NAIA National Basketball Tournament		
				<b>Weekend 15-16</b> 6:30a-6:00p NTE Exam - Wiley Learning Center 8:00p Jazz Band - SLH	

### Looking Ahead in March:

**March 11th - 18th**  
NAIA National Basketball Tournament

**March 16th**  
Procrastination Party

**March 17th - 20th**  
Final Exams

**March 21st - 31st**  
Spring Break

# NNC's mission statement reevaluated

By Gina Grate  
Campus News Editor

NNC has a mission. This three-hundred-and-some-word statement, printed at the front of the NNC Catalog, summarizes NNC's purpose for existence. Any new programs or moves made by the administration are compared to this mission to see if they fulfill and enhance the purpose of NNC.

"There's a tendency in institutions for the mission to evolve day to day and time to time," explained Academic Dean Samuel Dunn. "You want to keep the mission in front of the community, keep it active, keep it alive." For this reason, President Richard Hagood has decided the mission statement needs to be re-evaluated.

Generally institutions re-examine their mission statement periodically. According to Dunn, NNC's apparently has not been reevaluated for ten or twelve years. "The President thought it would be timely to look at it now to see if it's still applicable, to determine if we believe it describes what we want to be and what we want to do in the years ahead."

Hagood appointed a committee which includes NNC President Hagood, ASNNC President Erik Quissell, Darl Brunner, Dr. Ed Crawford, Professor Kevin Dennis, Dr. Karen Vehlow, Jerry Hull, Robin Lande, Dr. Dennis Waller, Dr. Samuel Dunn. The committee has already met several times, and might have a recommendation ready for the Board of Regents, which is authorized to approve any possible change, by November.

Dr. Dunn said that some feel NNC's mission statement might be too

long, and might favor a statement that can summarize the purpose of the school in just a sentence or two. Dunn wonders if the committee may decide to divide the mission statement into two parts. The first could be a shorter mission statement, and the second could be a vision statement which would expand and develop the mission statement. "I don't know if that's where we'll end up," he said, "but it's one of the things we're looking at."

**"There's a tendency in institutions for the mission to evolve day to day and time to time." ~ Dr. Samuel Dunn, Academic Dean.**

Following are the first ever mission statement and the most recent.  
**PURPOSE OF THE NORTHWEST HOLINESS COLLEGE**  
Catalog: 1916

The following section from the charter gives the purposes for which Northwest Holiness College was founded. "The purposes for which it is formed and organized are, to establish and conduct a school; to provide courses of study preparatory for business or professional life or for general culture; to establish classical, mathematical, scientific, technical, theological, agricultural, musical, oratory, physical culture and general courses of study of this corporation; and furthermore, in its Theological Department more specifically to conserve, maintain, advocate and promulgate the great New Testament doctrine of "Entire Sanctification" or "Christian Holiness."

Northwest Holiness College was the name given to NNC in its infancy.

**MISSION**  
Catalog: 1997-98

Northwest Nazarene College is a Christian liberal arts college fully committed to an educational process that pursues both intellectual and spiritual development. This pursuit is centered firmly in the Person of Jesus Christ, and is designed to instill a habit of mind that enables each student to become God's creative and redemptive agent in today's world.

The essential mission of the College is the development of Christian character within the philosophy and framework of genuine scholarship. The college seeks to achieve this mission in the following ways:

1) By providing a Christian community of scholars in which the faculty are expected to follow a life rooted in Christian values, pursue excellence in intellectual training, seek the integration of faith and learning, instruct students effectively, and contribute to the world of scholarship.

2) By integrating into all aspects of the institution a Christian perspective of life, summarized in the school motto, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God." It is intended that the student will acquire a basic understanding of both the Old and New Testaments and of Christian doctrine.

3) By emphasizing the scholarly pursuit of knowledge to equip the graduate for intellectual leadership in his or her social and professional environment.

4) By offering guidance toward a world view consonant with Christian teachings which will enable the student to play an effective role in building a better social order. The College desires that the student acquire a clear understanding of Christian beliefs and values and the ability to interpret these to others, discover some direction for finding a place of service in the Church, and develop a sense of obligation with respect to applying Christian principles to contemporary sociocultural problems.

The task of the College, as an institution of the Church of the Nazarene, shall be to serve the church by providing an educated laity and ministry, loyal to Christ, and by emphasizing the Wesleyan doctrine of perfect love. Its theological program, based upon the doctrines set forth in the Manual of the Church of the Nazarene, shall conserve, maintain, advocate, and promulgate the New Testament doctrine of Entire Sanctification or Christian Holiness.

1) By providing a Christian community of scholars in which the faculty are expected to follow a life rooted in Christian values, pursue excellence in intellectual training, seek the integration of faith and learning, instruct students effectively, and contribute to the world of scholarship.

2) By integrating into all aspects of the institution a Christian per-

## Meet your new ASNNC

That's right: all the new ASNNC officers are listed in this article. Fear not, for behold, you did not miss the speeches, but sign-ups are over. Campaign posters may or may not be littering our buildings by press time. In any case, *The Crusader* feels (as any good hunk of paper with ink on it ought to) that every candidate should have his or her say. We asked every student running for office what one statement they felt their future constituents needed to hear from them. Unopposed positions were left off due to limited space.

**ASNNC President**  
Chris Field: "What students need is someone who will continue to stand up for exactly what they need."

Becky Galloway: "Profound in 20 words--I can't. I can be a good president. Your vote would be appreciated."

Mark Boothby: "I view the ASNNC presidency as a servant ministry. Personally, I am committed to be a servant president for the school."

**Executive Vice President**  
Lincoln Loeber: "If elected, I just hope I can live up to the legacy this year's executive VP has established."  
Lisa Lande: "My goal is to change senate from a reactive to a proactive body, implementing ideas through better campus communication."

**Business Manager**  
Luke Heath: "Yeah, sure, I do sit on the left side of the salad bar, right?"

Steve Carlson: We couldn't reach him on Monday night... sorry Steve.

Kim Fleischmann: "I'm welcoming the opportunity to contribute to NNC."

**Publicity Director**  
Christi Peterson: "I've had fun serving on it this year and it would be a neat experience to do it for a second year."

Debbie Bartlow: "I'm trying to listen to God's voice."

**Campus Ministries Coordinator**  
Jennifer Hill: "I hope to not only enhance the ministry clubs and Time Out, but to provide everyone the opportunity to serve."

Toby Schmidt: "I think that God has great things planned for NNC. Serving in campus ministries is an opportunity I really look forward to."

Kyle Buck: "Following the student leaders of this campus, NNC has the potential to make great spiritual strides in our walk with God."

Mark Walker: "It's exciting to see how God's working on campus. If I get chosen as this year's CMC, it would be a great honor."

**Community Relations Coordinator**  
Joel Spencer: "Just tell whoever you vote for as president to pick me."  
Dustin Zimmerman: "Community relations above all else is an opportunity to serve Christ"

Erika McCray: "I've enjoyed serving students in my position; as for next year's council, God will place the people that He wants on it."

## Where will we all live?

By Karen Pearson, Director of Student Life  
Special to *The Crusader*

It's almost that time again, when students are beginning to think about their residence hall and roommate choices for next year. Perhaps some are even wondering if they should apply as a Resident Assistant or Peer Assistant in a particular dorm. The following listing should help as you make your residential choices for next year.

- New Dorm**
- Freshmen Women and Men
- Morrison Hall**
- Freshmen Women
- Mangum Hall**
- Freshmen Men
- Culver Hall**
- Sophomore Women
- Sutherland Hall**
- Sophomore Men

**Dooley Hall**

Junior and Senior Women (4 wings);  
Jr. and Sr. Men (2 wings)

**Corlett Hall**

Jr. and Sr. Women and Men

**Olsen Apartments (8 apts.)**

Sr. Women and Men

When trying to assess how many students will be living on campus next year, and how many students of each gender will be attending, we do our best. The new wings in Morrison can offer us some "flex housing"; so can the downstairs wing of Mangum, if the need arises. Students with concerns and/or questions can communicate them to Dr. Ken Hills, Vice President for Student Development, and myself, at Marriott on Wednesday, March 5th, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

RA/PA applications are currently available. Housing applications will be made available May 1st.

## STAFF EDITORIAL

*It's time for real reform*

We think it's time some things changed. We don't know about you, but we're sick and tired of being lied to, blatantly and straight-faced, by our elected officials. Prominent lawmakers of both parties -- by "prominent" we mean President Bill Clinton and Senate Leader Trent Lott -- have stated in recent days that their legislative decisions are not influenced by large contributions made to them or their campaigns.

We shouldn't put up with that kind of bull. Therefore, we'd like to propose our version of campaign finance reform. We acknowledge the radical nature of the proposal you're about to read. We acknowledge it veers into an idealism that some may consider impractical. To which we say, "So what?" We need serious, gutsy reform that will make a difference.

Our plan rests upon the idea that no single contribution, to any campaign, anywhere, may exceed five hundred dollars. Period.

This would have three main effects: it would place unbelievable pressure on fundraising, force campaigns to be shortened, and make candidates rely heavily on federal funds.

But we like federal funds. Candidates should be entitled to plenty of federal funds. Millions of federal dollars. A tax increase of ten dollars for every taxpayer would free up close to a billion dollars every two years that could be distributed among candidates of both parties in every state. We figure that citizens should be eager to pay this extra fee, if it manages to free their representatives from big-business influence.

Any ad designed to slant the election in favor of one candidate would likewise be subject to the same \$500 value limit. Essentially, this would eliminate "unrequited" ads from organizations such as the AFL-CIO.

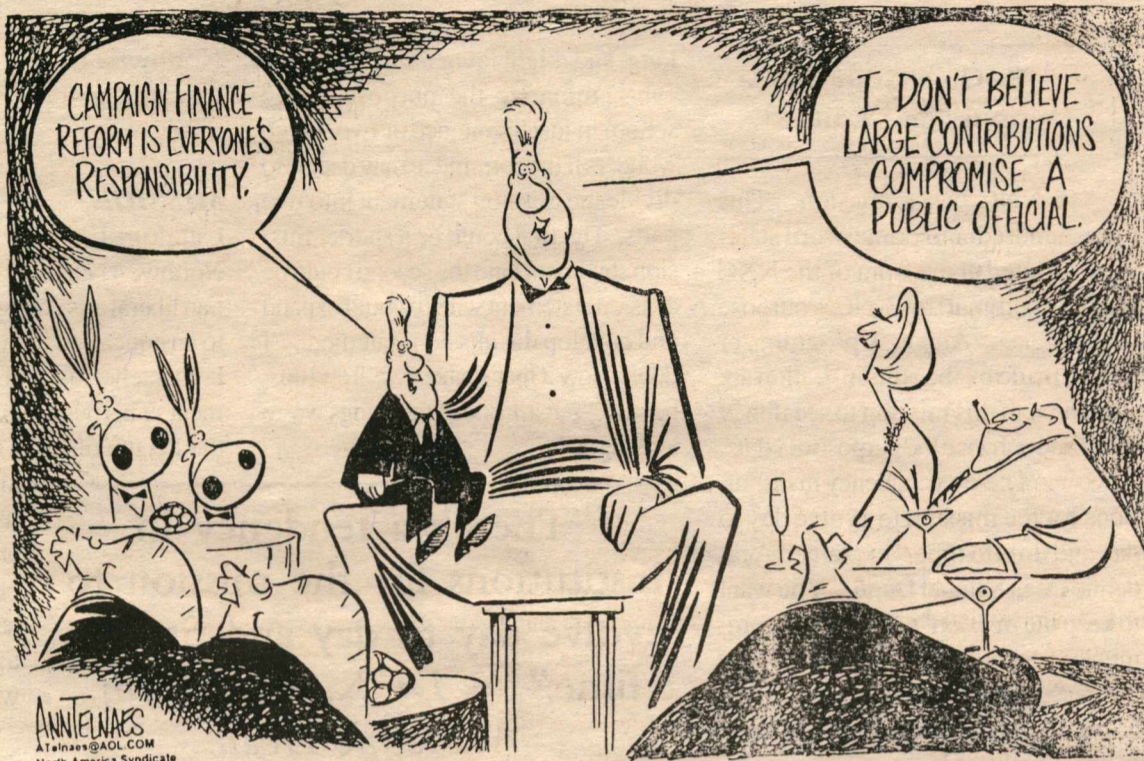
America's politicians have been greedy enough for the last two hundred years. Let's see them make do with less, and let's send a few respectable people to D.C. -- people whose vote can't be bought.

**Staff Infection**

Okay guys, we need some staff infection stuff ... It's hard to produce that on demand ... Heather: It's tough to admit you have hemorrhoids, but don't put my name on that! ... I hate kickball, I just thought I'd share that ... Jason has such a beautiful voice, doesn't he? ... Well, it would've been better without the cops ... His voice would've? No, his date ... 'Sader Editors don't date! ... Only the married one does ... Andy's married??? ... Jason's twitterpated ... So Kevin's twitterpated with John? ... Is this pick on Jason night? ... I don't think it's nice to call Stillman odd ... I don't mind ... Marital law was declared on the streets of Albania ... John: I like marital law! ... I'm glad that we're going to have an editor who is amused by the same simple things that I am ... If our printer breathed on Darth Vader, that'd be the end of the Empire ... it really is THAT evil.

**Crusader Opinions Policy**

Noble and discerning reader, please understand that signed articles, reviews and letters reflect solely the view of the writer, while staff editorials state the majority view of *The Crusader's* editorial board. Editorial cartoons reflect the view of the cartoonist plus those of a couple of influential editors. Views expressed in *The Crusader* are thus not necessarily those of Northwest Nazarene College or of the Church of the Nazarene. *The Crusader's* editorial board is: Shannon Adams, Max Chtangeev, Robin Day, Andrew Diehl, Kevin Durfee, John Fraley, Gina Grate, Nathan Hydes, Jason Isbell, Amy Riley, Heather Slater, and David Stillman. We strive to be an open forum, so write us at NNC Box C, Nampa, Idaho, 83686 or E-mail us at "Crusader." Hugs and kisses.

**Solutions for prof problems**

Every once in while, an individual approaches me and asks that I "investigate" a particular professor and his or her teaching practices, grading practices or some action which a student feels is unjust or unethical.

For the most part, *The Crusader* doesn't go hunting for faculty, so most of these individuals were left with the great student tradition of whining about their professor.

In an attempt to stop sounding completely stupid, I grabbed my notebook and went to do some investigating into the questions of teacher accountability and student complaints.

Students who have serious complaints about teachers should go through the "chain of command" in seeking a resolution. What this means is that the student should go first to the professor with their problem.

Hopefully, the student and the professor can come to an acceptable solution. In the unfortunate case that a solution cannot be reached between the professor and the student, the student should take their complaint to the department head.

If there is still not an acceptable solution, or if the professor is the department head, then the student should take their complaint to the division head and then to Dean Dunn himself.

For complaints that don't quite warrant the above process, students have the amazingly popular end-of-the-term "class evaluation" sheets. All the answers on these sheets are compiled and sent to Dean Dunn and the division chair. The division chair is respon-

**Jason Isbell**

sible for going over the results of the student evaluations, discussing recurring comments, with the professor.

In addition, Dean Dunn looks over all of the evaluations, looking for patterns of negative comments or positive comments. Professors with a pattern of negative evaluations are contacted by their division head at the request of Dean Dunn. Professors with a recurring pattern of positive com-

**Students who have serious complaints about teachers should go through the "chain of command."**

ments are sent a note of congratulations by Dean Dunn.

Dean Dunn indicates that a process is under way to do a more thorough evaluation of teachers. Under the new system of evaluation, one-third of the school's professors would be peer-evaluated every year. Each professor would be evaluated every three years and it would be a term-long process. Administrative evaluation would be done in conjunction with contract renewals. Self-evaluation and the current student evaluation would both be yearly.

Under the evaluation,

each professor to be evaluated would pick a "committee" of other teachers to work with him or her on an aspect of teaching. It is hoped that this will both improve professor's teaching skills and hold professors accountable to themselves and their colleagues.

At present, there are very few guidelines outlining a professor's behavior or teaching practices. Outside of standard rules, such as sexual harassment and racism rules, there are no campus-wide policies regarding grading, curriculum, attendance or homework. The professor is allowed great freedom in deciding what is appropriate for the course.

There is a flip side to the coin that I feel should probably be noted: Professors have great freedom to revise the course for the students if it is needed.

For those students who are feeling the heat of impossible demands, I have two suggestions: First, go talk to your prof, particularly if the entire class is having problems. Dr. Shaw may not realize that finding orange and green striped stretch pants is nearly impossible these days, but if the class lets him know, he might drop the requirement.

Second, use your class evaluation form to actually evaluate the class. Resist the temptation to get done and get out. Class evaluations are taken seriously by the professors and the administration, students need to take them as seriously.

--Jason Isbell is The Crusader's Opinions Editor and loves all his teachers.

LETTERS

Christ doesn't refute those "Ten Obsolete Rules"

To the Editor:

Sometimes I am amazed when I read *The Crusader's* editorials. As a Religious Studies major, and as a Christian preparing for a life in the ministry, I was taken aback by the editorial entitled "Those Ten Obsolete Rules." Is the author really wanting to call obeying the Ten Commandments legalism? Is he really wanting to say that now through Christ, there is no need for the Ten Commandments? I would like to ask: How could you disagree with the fundamental truths those rules set forth? Do you actually believe Christ does not agree with the commandments found there or that they are now somehow no longer authoritative?

The first line of the article reads: "What if Jesus really meant what he said?" Nowhere in the New Testament does Christ ever refute the Ten Commandments. And why should he? The concept of God telling us not to murder, steal or commit adultery may today be something that strikes our intellectual greatness as a shocking invasion of our freedom. I know that the idea of loving God, having no other gods before him and keeping a day of the week set aside for Him seems like religious persecution. And honoring your father and mother? How dare God make those kind of stipulations on me?

There is a big difference between legalism and absolutes of

a Christian life that cannot be denied. Nowhere in the New Testament will you find anything that contradicts concepts set forth in the Ten Commandments. Paul says, "Is the law evil? Certainly not!" The law and Christ's love go hand in hand. Christ did free us from the old covenant, and all the ritualistic practices found therein. But all of the Ten Commandments are reaffirmed in the New Covenant.

The founders of the Church of the Nazarene believed in "Agreement in essentials, and freedom in non-essentials." I would call whether you want to dance, or color your hair, or wear an earring non-essentials. I would see commandments such as the Ten Commandments as essentials, and so would practically every church across the face of the planet. To say "We don't need them" seems incredibly perplexing to me.

I agree with the author's convictions that "we have a law that is concisely and clearly defined by our movement's catalyst: Love God and care for everyone else." But what is lacking in that statement is what it actually takes to love God. We know how to love others. But God says "If you love me, you will keep your commandments." So in our "catalyst" is the cry to obey.

I feel that there is a dangerous temptation by all of us at our very young age to "philosophize" without really knowing the implica-

tions of what we are saying. There is a danger of taking every single thing in the Bible or in NNC's rules, and feeling the need to dispute them all in our infinite wisdom. I would tend to think that 99% of the bold claims we make in our twenties we will later chuckle at, perhaps even be ashamed of as we grow older. 1 Timothy 1:5-8 says that some "have turned to 'idle talk,' understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm. But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully."

The text goes on to remind us that the law is indeed not made for the righteous. Why is that? Because all the "do not's" found in the law are things that we as Christians would not do anyway because they are "contrary to sound doctrine" and hurt the heart of God, thereby breaking our law of love.

Yes, legalism is a dangerous trap, but our hearts should be so enthralled and desperately in love with our Savior that keeping His commandments (which include the Ten) comes as a blessing and a privilege, not as a frustrating duty. No, they are not the focus of Christ's plan of salvation, but they are a product of love and of a holy life. "Therefore, you shall be perfect, just as your Father in Heaven is perfect." (Matt. 5:48) What if Jesus really DID mean what he said?

--Andrew L. Yoder

Ten Commandments continue to be important

To the Editor:

John, first of all, I would like to say that I thoroughly enjoy reading your editorial comments every week. As a staunch (notice I did not say "knee-jerk") conservative, I enjoy reading and (I must admit) disagreeing with your thoughts on certain topics. With this week's editorial on the Ten Commandments, however, I was disturbed to see that you had crossed the line from simply differing with my point of view to outright heresy (well, maybe that's a little strong, but...). Many people sitting with me at the dinner table on Tuesday night were, quite honestly, shocked and dismayed at the way you presented your point of view.

I would like to take a moment to present a point of view with which, I don't believe, you have adequately dealt. You claimed in your opinion that "...the Ten Commandments could hardly be what we, as Christians, want to project as our theology."

I'm curious to know your reasoning behind that statement. In Matthew 5:17, we find Jesus saying, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them."

What's so wrong with pro-

jecting something as representative of our faith that the Founder of our faith Himself revered? The Sermon on the Mount can be looked upon as Jesus' "world view." He specifically stated that His coming did not contradict the laws which Moses had given the Israelites; it only added to them. In the instances where Jesus' comments or actions did not specifically set aside Mosaic law, we must assume that it still stands. II Timothy 3:16 tells us that, "...all Scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" (italics mine). We cannot simply accept the parts that look good to us or that won't cause too much strain on our "own calling," as you put it.

Let's look at another incident, found in Matthew 22, where Jesus contends with a certain expert in the law who has asked Him, "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus responds with two quotations that I'm sure we could all recite: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two

commandments" (Matt. 22:37-40). Jesus had not set aside any commandments that Moses had given the Israelites; he only simplified them. The first, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind," encapsulates the first four commandments, while the second, "Love your neighbor as yourself," covers the final six.

I would have to differ with you when you say that we, as Christians, don't want our religion to be identified with these few "thou shalt not's." What do you think Jesus would say to having no other gods before (or besides) God? "Amen" would be my guess. Well, then what about the directive to not keep idols, to not misuse God's name or to have a day set aside in which to remember what God has done for us? I've never read anything in the New Testament that shows me in any way that Jesus would be anything but supportive of these rules. Therefore, I can't reach any conclusion other than one in which Jesus would be in full support of keeping the Ten Commandments. And, since Jesus would, don't you think we, as His followers, should do the same?

--Jason Barr, sophomore

Your Turn

Random answers from random people on random issues

What do you think the Regents do?



Joey Boerner  
Freshman  
Music  
Hillsboro, OR

"I don't know. I'm a freshman."



Dawn Powell  
Freshman  
Speech Comm.  
Rainier, WA

"I think they tell the president what he can and cannot do."



Elena Roybal  
Sophomore  
Children's Ministries  
Challis, ID

"I think that they are people that I know nothing about. [They are] people making decisions for our school that I wish we were more informed about."



Erin Harri  
Sophomore  
History  
Salem, OR

"They cut programs."

You can send letters to Box C in campus mail. But please remember: our space is limited. Therefore, if you wish to avoid having your letter edited, please keep it concise -- as in under 300 words. Thanks.

# NNC's Board of Regents like other colleges'

By Gina Grate  
Campus News Editor

## COMPOSITION

The Board of Regents is made up of a total of 40 members who are representatives of each of the seven districts in NNC's zone. A district has a minimum of two regents, a District Superintendent and a layman. Because the number of regents a district can have is based on church membership in that district, some districts have up to eight Regents, which is the maximum representation any district can have. NNC's president is a member by virtue of position, as is an alumnus elected by the Alumni Association. Regents are elected at each district assembly, voted in by representatives from each church whose purpose is to approve and vote on matters brought to District Assembly. Regents are elected to a three-year term, and according to the Constitution of Northwest Nazarene College, Article III, members are elected "in alternating sequences, first a ministerial representative and then a lay representative."

The Constitution requires that a Regent must be a member of the Church of the Nazarene, and must be "in the experience of Entire Sanctification and in full sympathy with the Bible doctrines and usages held by the Church of the Nazarene as set forth in the Manual."

In addition, the Constitution requires that there be four standing committees within the Board: the Committee on Financial Affairs, the Committee of Academic Affairs, the Committee on Student Development, and the Committee on Institutional Advancement. Each committee must have nine members, each serving one year.

## DUTIES

President Richard Hagood specified that the responsibilities of the Board are "to provide oversight and accountability to the institution and set policy; they determine the mission and the fulfillment of the mission." The Constitution requires that the Board elect the President of the College as well as other "officers and faculty of the College,"

**The Constitution of Northwest Nazarene College requires that a Regent must be a member of the Church of the Nazarene and must be "in the experience of Entire Sanctification and in full sympathy with the Bible doctrines and usages held by the Church of the Nazarene as set forth in the Manual."**

which include the Academic Dean, the Vice President for Financial Affairs, the Vice President for Student Development, and the Vice President for Institutional Advancement. The Regents are required to lay down the powers and duties of the officers they elect, as well as their salaries and terms of office, and can remove any from his or her appointed office with the recommendation of the President.

Regents approve school budgets, though they don't actually prepare the budgets. They are presented with a three-year finance plan in each Fall meeting.

Within the Board of Regents is the

Board of Directors. "Because it's a large board and they only meet two times a year," said Hagood, "there are from time to time issues that come up and decisions that need to be made between the two scheduled meetings of the full Board. [The Board of Directors] make decisions in representation of the full board, [it] serves in the interim." If a decision needs to be made quickly, it is done through the Board of Directors using mail

and fax. There are seven members who are also Directors, and if they make any decisions between Regents meetings, they present a report to the full board at the next meeting.

## COMPARED TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS

According to Gayle O'Donahue, Director of Communications at Albertson College of Idaho, its Board of Trustees is very similar to NNC's Board of Regents. "We have trustees from J.R. Simplot to civic leaders to clergy. We have retired presidents and CEOs of different companies. We try to get them from all walks of life."

One major difference between NNC's Regents and AC of I's Trustees is the process through which the members join their boards. NNC's Regents are elected in their home churches. AC of I's Trustees are nominated by the Board itself, interviewed and elected by the same board. Hagood said that most private institutions like AC of I have "self-perpetuating boards. They have a nomination and selection process internal to the Board itself."

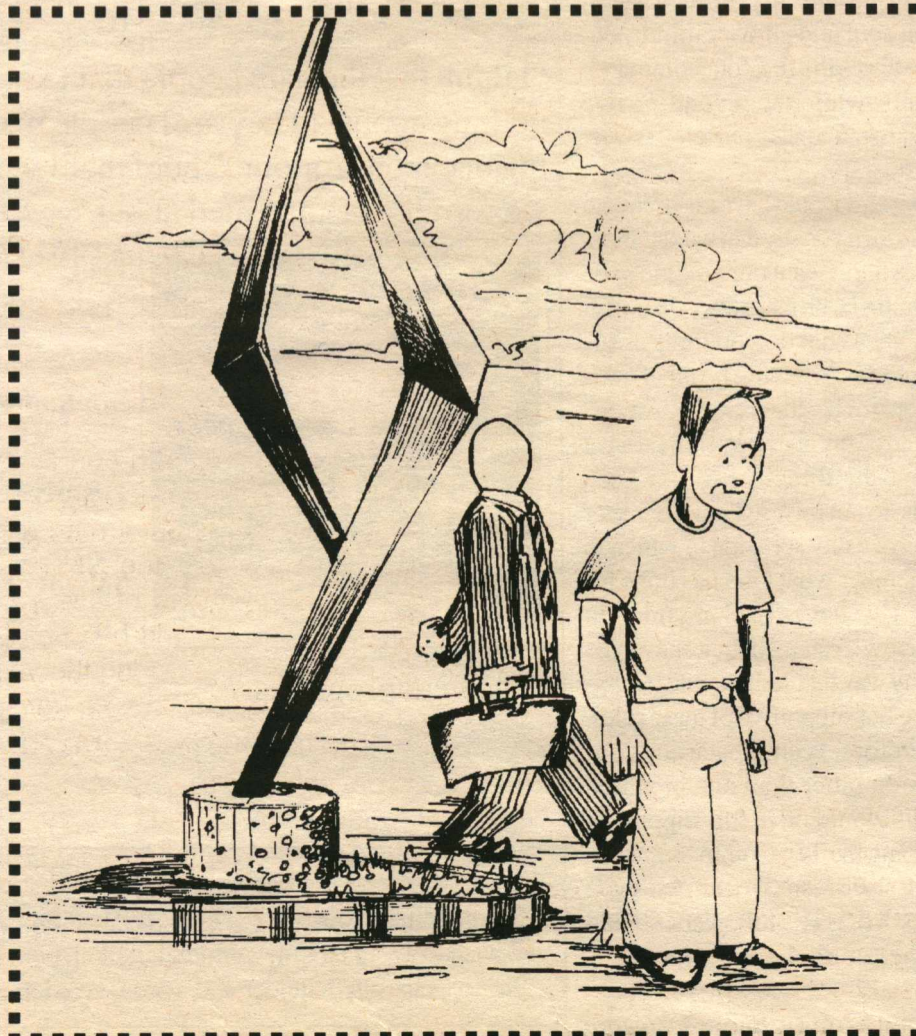
O'Donahue said that the decision-making of AC of I's Board is done "in consultation with faculty and administration and students on campus," much like NNC's. AC of I's Trustees choose members based on their expertise or influence. Hagood said

**The Constitution requires that the Board elect the President of the college as well as other "officers and faculty of the College," which includes the Academic Dean.**

that for private, non-Nazarene sponsored institutions, "one of the primary objectives beyond governance would be fundraising." NNC is different, he said, because "while our trustees have governance and oversight, and while many of our trustees support the college financially, a unique role to our kind of institution is for them to care for the relationship between the church and the college . . . That's an important link between the church and the college and that's a way of guaranteeing that relationship remains strong."

State colleges and universities are vastly different in their trustees. Idaho colleges and universities are governed by the State Board of Education. Bill Hargrove, Head of Public Affairs for the State Board of Education, said that the Governor appoints seven of the members to five-year terms. The State Board, said Hargrove, "sets policy, hires presidents, approves major contracts, governs them just like your board does for your college."

Unlike NNC's Board of Regents, the State Board actually meets once a month, and governs schools with kindergarten through high school as well.



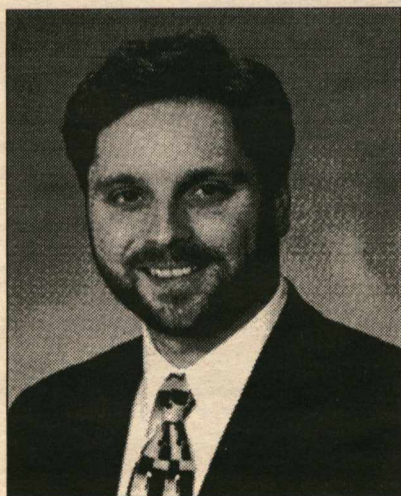
## Board of Regents' duties include fostering relationships as well as making diplomatic decisions about the college

By Gina Grate  
Campus News Editor

March has hit, and with it come strangers wandering around campus in dark suits, asking for directions to various buildings, eating in Marriott (where the food has suddenly and inexplicably increased in quality), wearing nametags and perhaps some look a few years older than the average student. The Regents are here!

NNC is a unique institution in that its trustees are elected by and come from the Nazarene Church, as opposed to state and other private institutions whose trustees have fewer ties to organized religions. Could NNC be at a disadvantage for having such a concentration of clergy on its Board of Regents? President Hagood does not believe this is the case. "They don't always have the perspective you'd find in a different body, but we have slightly different purposes. A unique role to our kind of institution is for them to care for the relationship between the church and the college. And therefore our structure has the Regents being elected by the members of the Church of the Nazarene from the congregations."

Gordon Harter, a graduate of NNC with a degree in Business Administration, is President of the Alumni Association. He feels that there is a good variety of views represented on the Board. "By constituency, half have to be clergy, and half laymen. The process by which we are elected doesn't allow for bias." Harter, who is a management consultant, listed a few of the various walks of life from which other Regents come: "elementary teachers, businessmen, CEOs,



*Alumni Association President and member of the Board of Regents Gordon Harter. Photo courtesy of the Alumni Association.*

presidents. I think there is good representation. It's not one or two people... that are making decisions. It's thirty or forty spirit-filled Christians making decisions that will be to the benefit of the institution over the long haul."

Reverend Daniel Ketchum, senior pastor of Nampa College Church of the Nazarene, feels that the Regents' most significant function is relational. "I think I would say support and encouragement and accountability would be the key functions. Obviously the Board of Regents is much more directly responsible for administration and faculty than students, but [we have] responsibility for student life."

Harter explained, "Much of what we

do is reviewing other people's work. The President, administrative officers and staff bring reports, recommendations and work-in-progress to us for review, comment and input, and in many cases, decisions. We are to hold the institution accountable for the accomplishment of its mission. This is often a difficult task, especially when it affects people's lives. Some decisions are really hard to make."

Randall Craker, Regent for three years, a graduate of NNC and director of Regional Activity Days for six years, is pastor of Kirkland Nazarene Church in Washington. He listed three things he felt that Regents bring to NNC. "We bring an outside perspective to the campus, we serve as a sounding board for the students and administration, we help create and encourage the development of long term vision... One of our major roles is to

be certain that NNC has quality leadership that we trust and then to hold that leadership accountable."

Mary Winkle, a teacher in Lake Stevens School District, is a lay representative from Washington. She listed three things she felt she is responsible for as a Regent. "It is my responsibility to provide input which reflects my district as I feel necessary, encouragement and prayer support." Because so many of NNC's Regents live hundreds of miles from campus, one might think they are out of touch with issues and situations among the student body and faculty. The Regents, however, do not feel this is the case, and many work hard at remaining in touch with students, faculty and with the latest campus news.

"I feel that the President and his staff does an excellent job of fully disclosing those things we need to know to make sound decisions," said Harter. "I have never found an incidence where inaccurate, incomplete, or in some way misleading information has ever been given to us." Harter not only relies on the administration for awareness, but also meets with several of the faculty, especially faculty in the Business Department where he has maintained strong friendships since his graduation from NNC.

"Probably the area that I have the least regular contact is with the students," Harter added. "I try to see the students from our church (Kirkland Nazarene) and have come to know some others as I get to campus four to six times a year. I have visited classes and spoken in a couple of them... I would welcome hearing more from students, as I know the other Regents would as well."

Reverend Craker feels informed about current campus situations as well. "I feel free to ask direct and specific questions when I feel more information is needed, but



I also don't feel a need to micromanage the administration as I have respect for and trust in their leadership abilities." In regard to relationships with students, Craker added, "Visiting classes is not possible because of time restraints. However, we do have some time with faculty and students. President Hagood has created ways for us to have more direct contact with students in the midst of our meetings and I value that."

Besides visiting classes and talking with students, Mary Winkle keeps updated by the administration. "I feel the administration does a good job through mailings and reports of keeping the board informed," she said. She has received e-mail and letters from NNC students. "I enjoy and welcome any dialogue they wish to provide. The Board of Regents are friendly people who truly care about NNC! It is a special privilege to be a member of the NNC Board of Regents and a true delight to get to visit the campus twice a year."

"We desire to be available," said Rev. Craker. "One of our committees deals directly with students affairs, and to request a hearing, to submit written concerns, or to have campus personnel represent personnel issues is always appropriate and does happen... but possibly the NNC students need to be made aware of this avenue of dialogue. All of us would be open to hear directly from students during the year or to meet privately while we are on campus."

Reverend Ketchum takes advantage of his proximity to NNC. "[Carol and I] visit classes and eat in Marriott; we try to prayer walk on the campus. I know every man of the Board of Regents would welcome any student-initiated conversation any time. Especially students who are from areas where there is a regent member in the same city."





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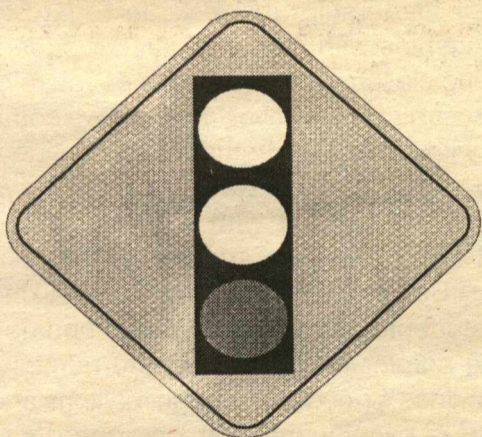
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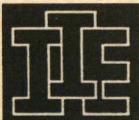
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## McVeigh attorneys accuse paper

Dallas Morning News uses "stolen" document as source

by Andrew J. Diehl  
World News Editor

DENVER, CO --The legal team for Timothy McVeigh has come out and accused *The Dallas Morning News* of running a story based on stolen documents from the defense's computer files. The paper states that all information was lawfully obtained.

*The News* published the story on their web site on Friday, and in the paper on Saturday morning, based on a "confession" by McVeigh.

The alleged source of the story is a defense memorandum that states that McVeigh had confessed to driving in the van that was loaded with explosives next to the Alfred P. Murrah building in Oklahoma City. The explosion killed 168 people in April of 1995. The memorandum supposedly states that the daytime attack was to ensure a higher body count.

Defense attorney Stephen Jones stated that he could not disclose the identity of the document due to the gag order that was placed on the case by U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch. The gag order was placed to avoid the media circus of the O.J. trial and to keep the judicial view of the court pure.

...very briefly...

According to the scientific

### Science news

journal *Nature Genetics*, scientists have discovered a weight-loss gene. According to research, manipulating this gene may allow people to keep off weight in exchange for a slightly higher body temperature. Researcher Craig Warden of the University of California at Davis estimated that a person might be able to lose five pounds a year for every tenth degree increase in body temperature.

Dr. Albert Stunkard of the University of Pennsylvania considers the finding "a major discovery for obesity." "I'll bet you the drug companies are hovering over this like vultures."

A B C

### People news

has announced that "Ellen" will

come out as a lesbian. The producers of "Ellen" have wanted to do this for months, but were prevented by ABC executives. Rev. Donald Wildmon of American Family Association has threatened an advertiser boycott, and a New York ad firm executive predicted that the move would scare some advertisers away.

According to Walter Staab of the SFM Media Corp., the story line's long gestation has served to quell much nervousness in the advertizing community. The move will make "Ellen" the first prime time T.V. show with an openly gay lead.

According to CNN, an American Family

### News of the weird

Publishers sweepstakes letter arrived at the Assembly of God church in Bushnell, Florida addressed to... God.

"God, we've been searching for you," the letter stated. "What an incredible fortune there would be for God." It continued "Could you imagine the looks you'd get from your neighbors? But don't just sit there, God."

The pastor of the church said he didn't know that his church was God's mailing address, and added that, if God didn't win, he would probably be disappointed.

--compiled by David Stillman

"I told you Friday and I tell you again today, it is not a legitimate defense memorandum," he said. "It is not a confession of Timothy McVeigh."

Jones had implied that *The News* had hacked into defense computers and retrieved the documents from that source. "They knew, or should have known, they have no authorized release from Timothy McVeigh, Judge Matsch or myself."

Jones is also planning to file a complaint with the Texas Supreme Court, requesting for the investigation of whether Pete Slover, the attorney and reporter who wrote the article, should remain a member of the Texas Bar Association.

*The Dallas Morning News* claims that it has done nothing wrong and stands by its story and the decision to publish the article.

"*The Dallas Morning News* categorically denies that it committed any crime. It did not hack into Mr. Jones's computer system and it did not assist anyone else in doing so," paper attorney Paul Watler stated at a separate conference from the McVeigh attorneys.

Jones is still in debate as to whether he will request to have the trial delayed from the March 31 date. He is also deciding whether or not he will request to move the trial to Alaska or Hawaii.

## Around the world in eighty words

Compiled by David Stillman  
Asst. World News Editor

### Floods strike eastern U.S.

Floods and tornadoes have killed dozens of people in Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Ohio. President Clinton visited many of the hardest hit areas of Arkansas, including Arkadelphia, where the damage was incredible. "It's pretty devastating," said James Lee Witt, head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. "It's a lot worse than I thought it was going to be. . . In one trailer park, one mobile home was left in a trailer park out of 80."

On the Licking River in Kentucky, most of the water height gauges are underwater. The same can be said for many rivers on the east coast.

### Albania declares martial law

The parliament of Albania re-elected President Sali Berisha to a second five-year term as martial law was declared on the streets outside. Government troops have been given the right to fire without warning to enforce censorship and curfews. Thirteen people died in riots over the weekend over a failed pyramid scheme. Anyone who resists arrests risks being shot by the Albanian police.

### Arafat visits Washington

Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, is in Washington for talking with President Clinton. He is trying to persuade the U.S. to keep Israel from continuing new construction in Jerusalem, that could isolate Arab populations. Clinton has voiced his disapproval of Israeli Premir Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to start the construction.

# Lady Crusaders win conference!

Women defeat Western Baptist 71-58; will travel to Indiana for national tournament

...story continued from page 1...

However, the Warriors never got any closer than that as NNC stepped it up on both sides of the court. "It was partially due to the personnel we had in," said Head Coach Roger Schmidt of the second half lapse, "but they changed defense on us, and hit some pretty big shots." He said that the Western Baptist run



ERIN COORDES -- THE CRUSADER

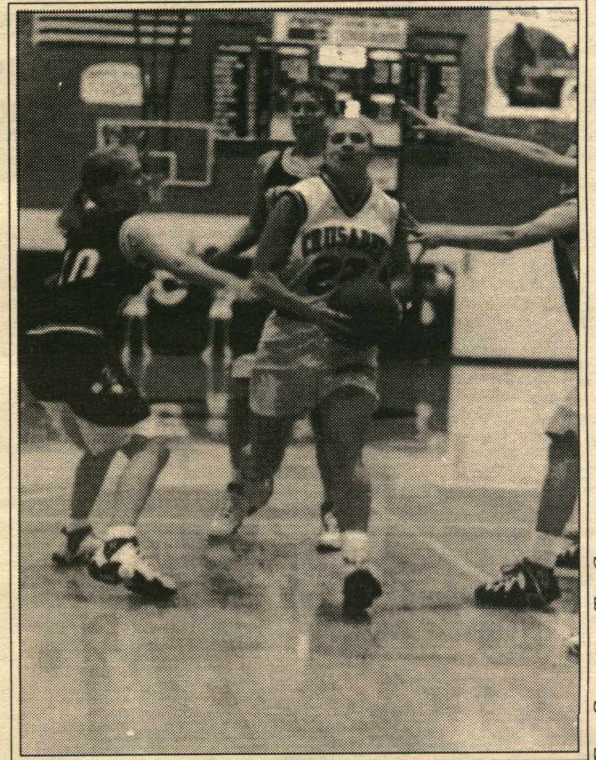
Freshman Staci Kirk looks for her open teammate while holding off the Albertson defense.

didn't really concern him after the game, noting that the Warriors scored only five in the first ten minutes of the second half.

Four 'Saders scored in double figures: Senior Ellen Duncan led the team with 16 points, freshman Staci Kirk was right behind her with 14, and seniors Erica Walton and Kari Smith added 11 each. Walton also had eight rebounds, as did senior Jennifer Meyers. Junior Sunshine Cecrle was also shooting hot, making two for two from behind the 3-point line for six points.

The Cascade Conference Championship will probably give the Crusaders a high seed in the National Tournament in Indiana, which is a welcome change. "The other times we've gone, we've had to play higher seeded teams. It will be nice to be able to play Wednesday and rest and watch the other teams on Thursday," said Coach Schmidt.

NNC's 76-65 semi-final victory over Albertson College mirrored the championship game in a number of ways. The Lady Crusaders built a 36-23 lead at the half with a 19 to 6 run which featured five steals by five different players. With 12 minutes left in the second half, the Crusaders had a commanding 17 point lead. However, a quick 3-point play by Albertson touched off a furious 9-2 run that cut NNC's lead to ten in just over a minute. The 'Yotes whittled the lead to six with just over four minutes remaining in the game, but the NNC defense allowed just two baskets in the remainder of the game. Once Albertson had to start fouling, it was all over. Still, the Coyotes managed to leave the game with a bang by intentionally fouling Smith, who made 10 for 12 free throws in the final seconds of the game.



ERIN COORDES -- THE CRUSADER

Senior Kari Smith drives against the 'Yotes in Friday's conference semi-final game.

Walton led the 'Saders in scoring with 16 points. Kirk and Smith weren't far behind with 15 and 14 points respectively. Wilson pulled down the game high of ten rebounds. The 'Saders shot 17 for 23 free throws in the second half and led the 'Yotes in shooting percentages for the whole game. The Lady 'Saders' next game will be at nationals in Indiana, where they will probably play on Wednesday, March 12.

## Crusaders trample Western Oregon

53-point 2nd half carries NNC to semifinal victory; will play here for conference title tonight

By John Fraley  
Editor-in-Chief

Tempers flared. Play was physical, if not outright dangerous. The home team won big.

And that was February 15th's WOSC-NNC game. But February 28th's contest was in Nampa, and the Crusaders came out on the better side of an 88-69 runaway victory.

The 'Saders probably would rather have played anyone besides Western in Saturday's Cascade Conference semifinal game -- WOSC had defeated NNC in the teams' last two meetings, both in conference play.

This weekend, however, the Crusaders played like they wanted it. "Part of our game plan was to not back down," said Tony Schumacher. Coach Weidenbach commented, "They [WOSC] have been the aggressors in the past, but this time we tried to match their aggressiveness. I was really pleased with our defensive intensity."

At intermission, NNC led by only seven, but the Crusaders used a 53-point second half to down the Wolves, who never found their outside range until the final minutes, when the deficit was insurmountable.

Kai Knell led the 'Saders with 19 points on 9-for-12 shooting from the field. Jon DeRoos followed closely behind with 18; Brent Darnell had 15 and 6 assists, while Jawanza Hadley grabbed 10 boards.

Wolves center Trevor Flaherty pounded it inside for 19 Western points. WOSC shot 39 percent

from the field and made only three 3-pointers in the first 38 minutes. Meanwhile, NNC shot 39 percent on threes and went to the line 34 times in the second half.

Due to the game's physicalness, the Crusaders got two good scares. Starters Tony Schumacher and Jawanza Hadley both went down hard late in the game. Another area newspaper listed Schumacher as "questionable," but Schumacher denied the report. "I don't know where they got that. My knee's fine," he said. Hadley was elbowed in the temple Saturday night by a teammate but has been cleared to play tonight.

Though it appeared that the referees were in danger of losing control of the game more than once, and though the crowd let them know near the game's conclusion that things were getting out of hand, neither injury was inflicted by a Western player.

Crusaders fans won't need to leave Nampa to see the rest of the team's games: Western Baptist upset the conference's no. 1 seed, Oregon Tech, in the other semifinal, happily sending the conference championship game to Montgomery Fieldhouse.

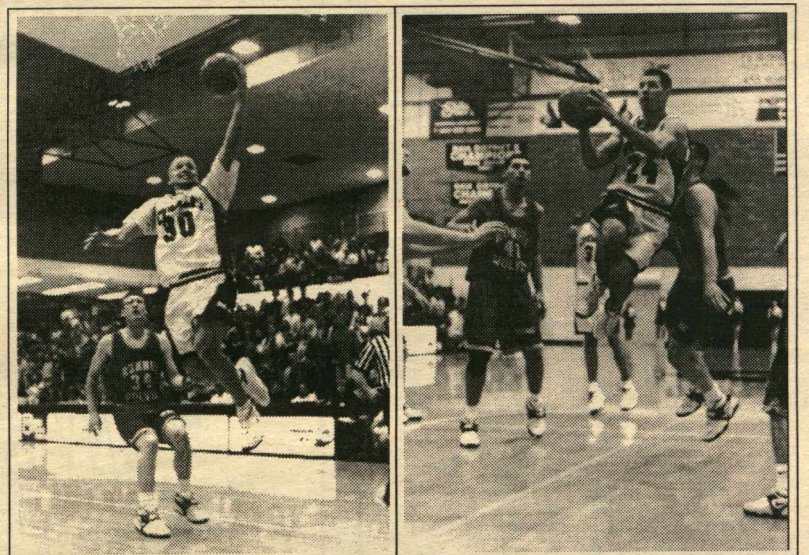
The Crusaders will take on WBC tonight at 7:30. Western Baptist can earn a ticket to nationals by winning, whereas NNC has its automatic berth as tournament host to fall back on in case of another

upset.

NNC has high expectations for the upcoming NAIA national tournament. "Obviously, we want to be there at the end," Schumacher said. "Our team goal is to be there at the end, to be playing in the last game." Weidenbach added, "In the tournament, everyone you're playing is so good -- the little things, such as free throws, are going to make the difference. We'll also have to be consistent to win"

If they win tonight, the 7th-ranked Crusaders look to move up in the polls and gain a top seed in the tournament, which begins next Wednesday.

ERIN COORDES -- THE CRUSADER



Jon DeRoos and Tony Schumacher soared above the defense in this weekend's games as the Crusaders ran past their opponents.

# Top Ten

## Top Ten alternative names for the Finkbeiner Fast

10. Finkbeiner Feast
9. Gluttony Fasting
8. Man cannot live by bread alone -- must have soup
7. Children starve, we get fatter
6. Finkbuffet
5. Come with your fat dress on!
4. Cup of Starvation Soup
3. What's this -- no dessert?
2. Don't we get wine with our bread?
1. Oxymoron

Served to *The Hungry Crusader* by Becky Galloway, Missy Rasmussen and Norma Thompson, with help from Kevin Allen. We aren't making fun of the Fast, which is a wonderful idea... in fact, this list was inspired while eating the donated Marriott soup; we just found it to be a little ironic.

### Your turn ... Your turn ... Your turn ...

You, too, can enjoy the rush of seeing your Top Ten in print. But in order to do so, you have to turn it in. Any lists lacking in obscenity, vulgarity, poor jokes, and general bad taste stand a fair chance at being published in *The Crusader*. We do reserve the right to refuse any list, however. So what we're saying is "Act now!" Send your lists to Box C in campus mail, and start your trek toward campus fame today.

*The Abode* is the exclusive property of *The Crusader* and Garrett Schmelzenbach. Satisfaction guaranteed or our money back.

## Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

RATBERT, I'M GOING BACK INTO THE CONSULTING BUSINESS AND I NEED YOU TO BE MY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER.

YOU'LL SEEM VERY SMART IF YOU RANDOMLY COMBINE THE WORDS ON THIS LIST AND MAKE MANY REFERENCES TO "WAL-MART."

IT'S LIKE "WAL-MART." MIGRATE YOUR VALUE INTO THE WHITE SPACES OF THE ECOSYSTEM.

WOW! THAT'S ONE SMART RAT!

RATBERT THE CONSULTANT  
"WAL-MART'S" BUSINESS STRATEGY WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL. YOU CAN LEARN FROM THEIR EXAMPLE.

DOES THEIR STRATEGY INVOLVE SITTING AROUND AND MAKING IRRELEVANT COMPARISONS TO OTHER COMPANIES?

ALL I KNOW FOR SURE IS THAT THEY DON'T LET RATS TRY ON ALL THE PANTYHOSE IN THE STORE.

GOOD STRATEGY.

RATBERT THE CONSULTANT  
YOUR STRATEGY OPTIONS CAN BE SHOWN IN THIS MATRIX.

THE FOUR BOXES ARE "SOMETHING... SOMETHING... SOME OTHER THING AND WHATEVER."

IN PHASE TWO I HOPE TO TURN THIS MATRIX INTO CONCENTRIC CIRCLES WITH LABELS AND ARROWS.

I'M UNDER THE CONSULTANT'S SPELL.

RATBERT THE CONSULTANT  
I AM UNDER YOUR CONSULTING SPELL.

REALLY?

YOUR OVERLY COMPLICATED MATRICES AND DIAGRAMS HAVE CONVINCED ME OF YOUR INTELLECTUAL SUPERIORITY.

I AM AFRAID TO ACT WITHOUT YOUR APPROVAL.

DID I SAY YOU COULD PUT YOUR ARMS UP LIKE THAT?

OUR BOSS HAS FALLEN UNDER THE SPELL OF A CONSULTANT.

MUST... MAKE ASSUMPTIONS

MUST... WRITE... LARGE CHECKS TO CONSULTANT... BECAUSE... EMPLOYEES... ARE... MORONS.

JUST BECAUSE WE PAY INEXPERIENCED STRANGERS TO TELL US HOW TO DO OUR JOBS, THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE MORONS!

IT'S A COINCIDENCE.

RATBERT THE CONSULTANT  
NOW THAT YOU'RE UNDER MY SPELL, I'D LIKE TO SIT ON YOUR HEAD AND PLAY BULLDOZER.

MAKE SOME ENGINE NOISES WITH YOUR LIPS!

HA HA!!

DO YOU THINK OUR CONSULTANT HAS TOO MUCH POWER?

NAH, HE'S BARELY MOVING THAT FILE CABINET.

Dilbert® is the property of United Media Services. Used by permission.

## The Abode

By Garrett Schmelzenbach

IT ALL BEGAN INNOCENTLY ENOUGH...

WHAA...?

AAAAAAGH!!

OUR TELEPORTING EXPERIMENT IS A BIT FIAWED...

CONTINUED...

Dave Barry

# Stick-shift convertible or glorified station wagon?

I got a convertible. Now I know what you're going to say: "Dave, you pathetic fool, you're 49 and you're having a midlife crisis. Trade that thing in immediately and get a car more suitable for a person your age, such as a 1910 Hupmobile with air bags."

No, dam it! I LOVE my convertible! I've ALWAYS WANTED a convertible! For 33 years I've been driving boring cars, starting with my mom's Plymouth Valiant, which was a Ferrari compared with my dad's car, a Nash Metropolitan powered by a motor the same size as the one found inside Tickle Me Elmo. I am a member of the small, select group of automotive losers who purchased both a Ford Maverick AND a Chevrolet Vega -- cars manufactured when the motto of the U.S. auto industry was: "We're Working Hard To Make You Buy An Import."

For the last seven years I've driven a practical, box-shaped car. The auto industry calls it a "sport utility vehicle," which suggests that it's sporty; this concept is reinforced by TV commercials showing such vehicles racing up mountainsides, splashing across rivers, winning the Olympic pole vault, etc.

In fact, this vehicle is a station wagon. Admit it, sport-utility-vehicle owners! It's shaped a little differently, but it's a station wagon! And you do not drive it across rivers! You drive it across the Wal-Mart parking lot!

When I went to trade in my sport utility vehicle, I was going to buy another practical car; I truly was. But I ran into a salesperson named Jerry. Jerry's former profession was -- really -- powerboat racer. Currently, in addition to selling cars, he is co-producing a

kick-boxing movie. So in terms of mature practicality, Jerry is not Mr. Both Feet On The Ground. I think that, if he could have, he would have sold me an F-16 ("Dave, if you're willing to do business today, we're going to throw in the floor mats AND the heat-seeking missile package"). But I was firm, and in the end we compromised on him selling me a sporty used convertible with a 5-

tion."

The actual truth, of course, is that a stick shift makes you feel like a major automotive stud. You crank up the song "Little Deuce Coupe" by the Beach Boys, and when they sing, "I get pushed out of shape, and it's hard to steer, when I get rubber in all four gears," you sing along at the top of your lungs as you push the clutch in, put the

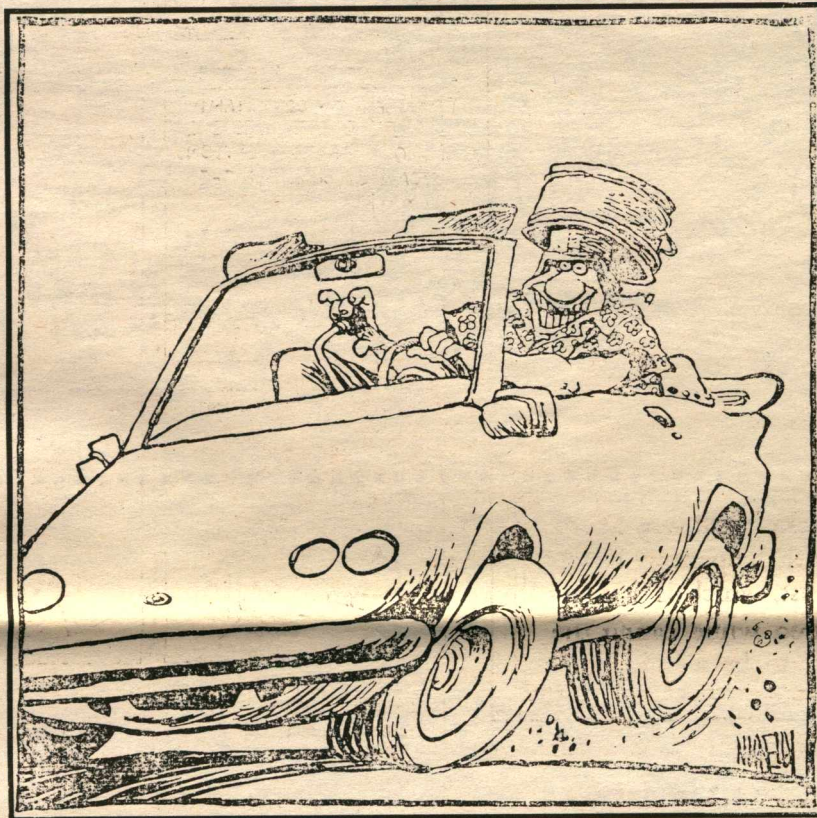
gested -- and I don't think he was joking -- that we would have a safer community if people would do what he does; namely, shoot at the ground. Here is an actual quote from this man's letter: "There are enough bullets in my yard to throw off a Boeing 747's compass, but they are all buried where they were fired, not to come down miles away."

Unfortunately, many Miami residents are not as thoughtful as this man. So for me, the fun of driving a convertible is dampened by the nagging concern that maybe I should be wearing a steel hat.

Another concern I have is that Rob, who has a driver's license despite being only 16, which from my perspective is the same as being a fetus, wants to drive my car. I figured learning the stick shift would slow him down; I know it took me a while. My mother taught me, and I can remember the two of us yelling at each other a lot as the car, with me at the controls, would lurch forward two feet, then stall, two feet, stall, two feet, stall, and so on, causing our heads to be flung violently back and forward, back and forward, like human windshield wipers. To travel just one mile that way would have required several weeks and thousands of aspirin.

But Rob picked it right up. The second try, vroom, he was off. So of course he wants to use the convertible. My feeling is, sure! He can use it whenever he wants! The only condition is that first he has to drive for 33 years. Until then, he gets the Hupmobile.

**Dave Barry is a columnist for the Miami Herald. All rights reserved.**



The actual truth, of course, is that a stick shift makes you feel like a major automotive stud.

speed stick-shift transmission.

Immediately after I bought the car, I put the top down and took my wife, Michelle, and my son, Rob, for a ride. They both wanted to know why anybody would want a stick-shift, seeing as how you have to spend a lot of time shifting it.

"Well," I explained, in my Knowledgeable Guy voice, "it's actually very practical, because by depressing the clutch you can more precisely control how fast the rpms go through the carburetor, which produces your igni-

tion in gear, ease out the clutch and -- Kiss my exhaust pipe, automatic-transmission weenies! -- you back out of your space in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

One thing I'm a little concerned about is bullets. I live in Miami, where it is customary to celebrate certain special events (such as nightfall) by firing guns into the air; when the bullets come down, they sometimes injure people. It's such a problem that *The Miami Herald* recently printed a letter to the editor, which I swear I am not making up, from a Miami man who sug-

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