

The new semester kicks off with NNU basketball

Sports pg 9

the crusader

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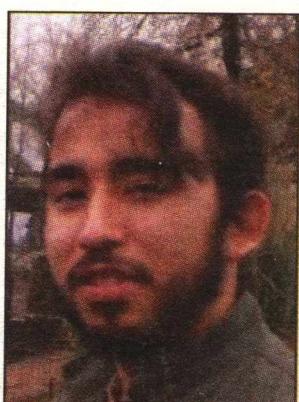
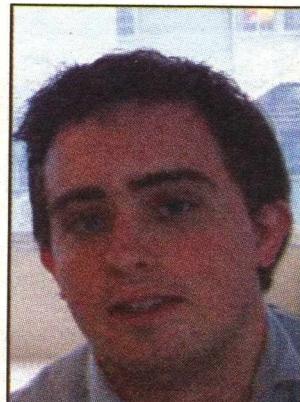
Three SGA officers forced to resign for alcohol

by ALLI SCHISLER

Three SGA officers lost their positions after being caught using alcohol.

Social Vice President Brandon Haskins, Oasis Editor Brittan Aebischer and Student Center Director Mike Hoyt have all resigned after being confronted about alcohol use.

The three cannot return to their SGA positions because they are on social probation, which prohibits students from holding



Social Vice President Haskins, Oasis Editor Aebischer and Student Center Director Hoyt

leadership positions, said Tim Milburn, director of student life. Drinking

violates the NNU lifestyle agreement, said Milburn.

All three have served as

resident assistants in the past, according to the student development list of

student leaders.

The three are on probation for six months, said Aebischer. Each must attend an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, Haskins and Hoyt said.

Milburn confronted the three separately. Milburn told Aebischer and Hoyt he had been told they were drinking, said Aebischer and Hoyt, and asked them to confirm.

Haskins said Milburn

>>See "SGA" on page 3

Miss Smith goes to Washington

by HANNAH BEERS

Lynsey Smith, a former NNU student, was one of the fortunate few who got to witness history at the inauguration of President Barack Obama in Washington, D.C.

Smith is the Obama girl on campus, said Taylor Hauck, sophomore. She was one of the most outspoken advocates during the campaign.

Her passion for politics started in high school. Smith worked for Congressman Peter DeFazio's (D-Ore.) office during high school and during her summers in college.

"DeFazio and his aides knew about my close involvement with the Obama campaign," said Smith.

"I called the office, and sent a few emails asking for

Belegarth



Senior Amber Ford blocks a blow from junior Matthew Hulen while playing Belegarth in Finkbeiner Park. Freshman Chase Vickers looks on while holding his own weapon. Belegarth is a medieval combat game that is played all over the world. For the full story on Belegarth, see Campus Life page 6 (photo by Aimee Niles).

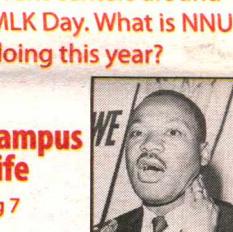
Gaza

Junior nursing student Jenna Falconieri spent her childhood in Israel, what does she think of the current situation in Gaza?



News

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Beloved Community

The annual Civil Rights event centers around MLK Day. What is NNU doing this year?

Campus Life

pg 7

Academy Awards

Who deserves the Best Picture Oscar? NNU students weigh in.

A&E

pg 11

Weather

THURSDAY

Mostly cloudy.
Hi: 41° | Low: 30°

FRIDAY

Chance of rain or snow.
Hi: 40° | Low: 31°

SATURDAY

Chance or rain or snow.
Hi: 40° | Low: 28°

SUNDAY

Chance of rain or snow.
Hi: 36° | Low: 26°

MONDAY

Chance of rain or snow.
Hi: 34° | Low: 25°

TUESDAY

Rain and snow showers.
Hi: 38° | Low: 21°

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Administration says campus has not been affected by economy

by IAN BAUDER

Many families and businesses are becoming ever more concerned about the state of the economy. But several officials at NNU say that, when it comes to the school at least, there is not much to worry about.

Director of Retention Mike Marston said retention rates from first semester to second semester are similar to previous years, which

is somewhere between 93-95 percent.

The number of students who cited "financial troubles" as the reason why they did not return to NNU in exit interviews with admissions was not abnormally high.

Marston said the numbers were almost identical to those from two years ago.

Students should not be seeing any significant changes in the way the

school operates, said Professor Bader, dean of the school of education, counseling and social work, in an interview. Bader said NNU deans have been required to make cuts to save money, but the cuts were made quickly and easily.

He said the only changes that may be visible will be an increase in scholarships available for students to help curb the effects of the economy.

Bader also pointed out that conventional wisdom dictates that during a recession, university enrollment increases.

This year, NNU saw record enrollment, with 425 new students starting school.

In December, NNU President David Alexander wrote an open letter to students and parents, assuring them the school was in good shape despite current

economic trends. According to the letter, NNU's strengths include low debt and high student retention rates.

However, Alexander did admit that NNU has not been immune from the national trend of shrinking endowments.

Marston said after Alexander's letter, about ten students contacted the office asking for help. He said different departments like the

business office and financial aid were able to help the students stay in school.

Over the last month, news agencies from across the country have reported that students should expect record increases in tuition for next fall.

NNU students will not find out how much the school plans to increase tuition until after the Board of Trustees meeting in the spring.

The Israel/Gaza conflict hits close to home for one NNU student

by AIMEE NILES and
ASSOCIATED PRESS

For junior Jenna Falconieri, the recent ceasefire in the Gaza situation is far from a solution.

Falconieri and her family made their home in Tel Aviv, Israel for seven years and she still has family all over Israel.

Her cousin is a member of the Israeli Defense Force and was part of the ground invasion into Gaza.

"He'd never seen so much carnage," said Falconieri. "Which is saying a lot when you grow up in a place where car bombs are an everyday occurrence."

Hamas proclaimed victory in rallies attended by thousands of supporters Tuesday, saying it survived Israel's military onslaught despite the destruction and massive death toll suffered by Gazans.

The media portrays the suffering as disproportionate, said Falconieri.

"When I was on a kibbutz in the Negev, a rocket came from Gaza and exploded less than 100 feet from me. It happens all the time."

Beyond its fiery words, however, Hamas offered no plans for rebuilding Gaza, which suffered some \$2 billion in damage during three weeks of fighting.

Gaza's borders with Israel and Egypt, largely sealed since the Islamic militants seized power 19 months ago, remain closed and are unlikely to open unless the militants relinquish some control.

Israel has also claimed victory, but neither side was the clear winner.

Falconieri said there is no winner. While there is a ceasefire, and not a peace agreement, technology is



Israeli soldiers collect munitions (photo courtesy of Mohammed Sufian Shurra).

getting better and it is easier to kill.

The fighting killed some 1,300 Gazans, the vast majority civilians, and thousands of Palestinian homes were destroyed.

Israel emerged from the war with relatively few casualties — 13 dead, including 10 soldiers — but halted fire before reaching its objectives.

No internationally-backed truce deal is yet in place to prevent Hamas rocket fire on southern Israel or arms smuggling into Gaza.

Israel had withdrawn the bulk of its forces from Gaza by Tuesday evening, coinciding with the inauguration in Washington of Barack Obama as president earlier that day.

However, the temporary

cease-fire remained shaky. Israel's air force struck a Gaza mortar squad after it shelled Israel, the military said.

Hamas held more than a dozen victory rallies across Gaza, choosing bombed-out buildings as backdrops to underscore its message of defiance and its claim to have survived battle against a vastly more powerful enemy.

U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon toured the local U.N. headquarters, inspecting damage from an Israeli shelling attack last week.

It hit three warehouses where flour, oil and other food rations for Gaza's needy were stored.

Piles of rice, beans and medicine still smoldered Tuesday, sending white

smoke into the air.

Ban said he felt "utter frustration, utter anger" over the shelling of the compound and two U.N. schools, and demanded a full investigation.

As he spoke, the buzz of Israeli unmanned aircraft could be heard overhead.

Israel has said troops responded to fire from militants from the areas, a claim the United Nations has vehemently denied.

During a tour, Ban was told that hundreds of tons of food and medicine were destroyed.

"It's totally outrageous and unacceptable," he said, shaking his head.

He later visited the Israeli border town of Sderot, a frequent target of Hamas rockets, and expressed

sympathy with residents.

"You live every day with a threat of a rocket falling from the sky. No human being can live in a state like this," Ban said. "I expect basic humanitarian law to protect civilian life to be respected and restored and not violated as Hamas has done."

The Palestinian Center for Human Rights has reported that 156 militants were killed in the fighting, including 48 from Hamas, 34 from Islamic Jihad and the rest from Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah movement and smaller factions.

However, a Gaza Health Ministry official who also keeps track of casualties, Dr. Moawiya Hassanain, said he believes Hamas and

other militant groups have not reported all their dead fighters.

Hamas leaders have not spoken publicly about the number of fighters killed.

"One thing I've learned growing up with car bombs," said Falconieri, "is that war is not mathematical. That's missing from the American understanding of the conflict."

All the death and destruction—from both sides—is deplorable, said Falconieri. Samiha Shaheen, 45, watching a rally in Gaza from a park bench, said Gazans should be proud.

"We, the people of Gaza, survived the full extent of Israel's force, the tanks, the warplanes, the shelling, the rockets. Is that not a victory?" she asked.

Continued from page 1: SGA looks to changes

all during the semester. "All parties involved were very forthcoming," Milburn said.

Haskins, Aebischer and Hoyt do not know who turned them in, though Hoyt said, "The rumor is that it is someone interested in my and Brandon's job." The rumor remains unconfirmed.

All three have expressed regret over their actions and said they knew their behavior could jeopardize their SGA positions. Aebischer said the potential consequences went through his mind while he was at the party.

Aebischer said he feels as if SGA was singled out because there were other NNU students at the party, but they were not turned in.

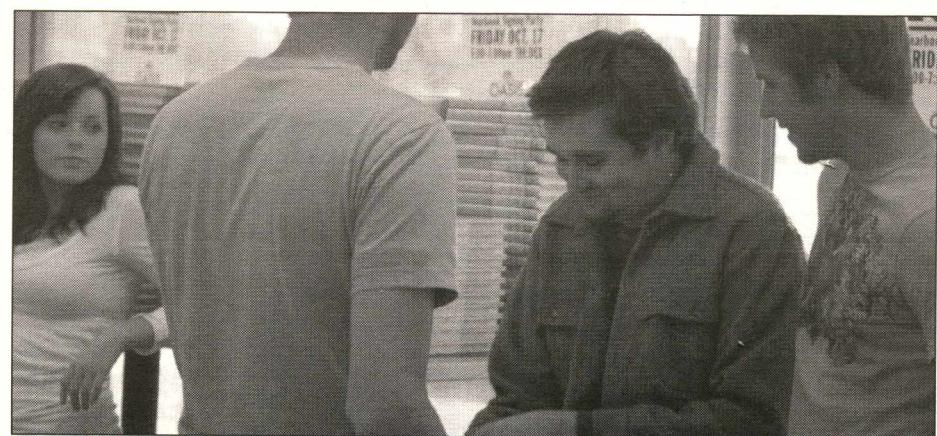
Haskins said he feels like he let students down, because he was in a student-elected position. The Oasis editor position is selected and the student center director is appointed, said Milburn.

Haskins said, "I love my job. I loved doing it. I was thinking about running again."

Hoyt also said he may consider rerunning for the student center director position. Both could be re-elected for leadership after their probation period, said Milburn, though Aebischer will graduate in May.

SGA has determined that it is not in the best interest of the student body to re-elect a social vice president this late in the school year, said Milburn.

Though not electing another social vice president violates the ASNNU Constitution under Article 12 Section 9, President



Top: Brandon Haskins gives directions to new students during Malibu Days Scavenger Hunt. **Above:** Brittan Aebischer passes out 2007-2008 yearbooks in the Dex (photos by Aimee Niles).

Lacey Smith said the decision would be most beneficial for everyone involved.

"With one event left, and with elections for next year coming up, it would have been more difficult to hold a re-election," said Smith. Smith said she looked at the pros and cons of the situation, and then chose not to re-elect as the best way to finish the year, despite what the constitution stated.

"If we were to hold a re-election, the person elected would only serve half a year on SGA," Smith said. "There's no guarantee that they would be elected for next year either."

As for Hoyt and Aebischer, their positions have been filled. Senior Kelly Sandlin will serve as the new yearbook editor.

"I was intrigued by [07-08 editor] Mike Barlett and

Brittan's drive for revamping the yearbook," said Sandlin. "I want to complete Brittan's vision." Sandlin is a graphic design major, and had already been hired as a page designer for the publication prior to accepting the job offer.

Announced yesterday, junior Adam Lyon has been chosen as the new student center director. Lyon currently serves as the junior class president.

"I want to effect more than just the junior class," said Lyon. Lyon said he will probably have to resign from his class council position upon fulfilling the empty SGA seat.

Milburn said at least four SGA members have been fired for breaking the lifestyle agreement during his eight years in his position.

The protocol for

responding to student drinking is the same for student leaders as it is for the rest of the student body, said Milburn. But while the repercussions are the same, the consequences seem harsher, said Milburn.

The remaining SGA members were notified Dec. 3 that the three would not be returning, said SGA Secretary Amber Ford. Ford said that Milburn told the SGA members why the three were fired, though they were asked not to share the information.

All three will continue as students, they said. Milburn said, "Every student leader leaves, but not every student leader leaves at the right time. Unfortunately, these student leaders left a little too early."

Continued from page 1: Smith heads to D.C.

sent a few emails asking for tickets," said Smith. On Dec. 23, Smith was informed by DeFazio's office that she would receive two tickets to the inauguration.

She will also be attending several other Obama events: Oregon for Obama, Idaho for Obama and Students for Obama. While in Washington, D.C., she will attend several luncheons and other events, which are in honor of her commitment to being an active member of the Obama staff here in Idaho.



Barack Obama gets sworn in as the 44th president of the United States at yesterday's inauguration (photo from wikicommons).



News Blurs

Britain-Bailout

LONDON

Britain announces a new bank bailout to boost lending into a struggling economy and protect banks from the bad assets sinking their balance sheets — an admission that an earlier sweeping rescue plan didn't do the job.

Israel-Palestinians

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip

Hamas claims victory in rallies attended by thousands of flag-waving supporters, saying it survived Israel's military onslaught in spite of the massive destruction and deaths suffered by Gazans. The U.N. chief tours Gaza and condemns Hamas rocket fire as "appalling and unacceptable."

Desert Tortoise-Money

SALT LAKE CITY

Among land-going critters on the endangered species list, the Mojave desert tortoise is among the top recipients of money spent by state and federal agencies trying to keep it from the brink of extinction, according to an Associated Press analysis of the last 11 years of available data.

Plane Splashdown

NEW YORK

Investigators are getting an up-close look at the damage to the battered USAir jetliner that safely splashed down in the Hudson River last week.

Inauguration RDP

WASHINGTON

Barack Hussein Obama becomes the 44th president of the United States at a time of great promise and peril, a black man taking the helm of a nation founded 232 years ago by slaveholders. The new president implores all citizens — Democrat and Republican, black and white, young and old — to join in a "new era of responsibility" to help tackle the urgent crises of war, joblessness and division that await his action.

Missing Migrants

BANGKOK, Thailand

Thailand will investigate reports the Thai navy abandoned migrants on a barge in the ocean, where hundreds of them may have drowned, the government says.

Salmonella Outbreak

MILWAUKEE

General Mills Inc. and grocers Kroger Co. and Meijer Inc. join the growing list of food companies and retailers pulling items with peanut butter amid a salmonella outbreak that has killed at least six people and sickened more than 470 others in 43 states.

Hoarding Mail

DETROIT

There were snickers at a Michigan post office when customers learned an overwhelmed carrier had rented a storage unit to hide thousands of pieces of mail. "Can I pick up my mail — or is it in storage?" some joked. Across the nation in recent months, several mail carriers have been accused of failing to carry out their appointed rounds, in some cases for years, hoarding mail by the ton.

Ukraine-Russia-Gas

PISAREVKA, Russia

Russian natural gas begins flowing into Ukraine after a nearly two-week cutoff that left large parts of Europe cold and dark and underscored the continent's vulnerability and dependence on Russia's energy.

Cuba-Americans Hiding Out

HAVANA

William Potts calls himself the "Homesick Hijacker." U.S. authorities have another name for him: fugitive harbored by an enemy government. In 1984 he diverted a U.S. commercial flight to Havana and spent 13 1/2 years in a Cuban prison for air piracy. Now he hopes Barack Obama's election will open his way home. However, among the dozens of other American fugitives are those who fear a thaw with Cuba will lead to their extradition and imprisonment in the U.S.

Curfew is unnecessary and inconvenient

At NNU, students have no need for curfew.

Now, I know I'm beating a dead horse here and I know everything I say can be unequivocally disproven by those Upstairs, so I'll



Sweatervests
by
ANDREW McCULLEY

attempt to save all our time by avoiding the more frequently heard complaints and instead focusing on a few of my bigger questions.

First of all, I would like to reiterate with certain emphasis: *NNU students* have no need for curfew. No doubt quite a few students who attend your garden-variety state school and thus answer to no curfew in fact ought to be restrained by one. However, I think we all can agree that the pool of students who voluntarily attend this school would be of a higher caliber than most.

It turns out students here generally carry some moral upbringing, have affluence enough to pay the tuition, or have neither and are now grateful for the opportunity to attend NNU—all this contributes to a population of individuals who

have no need for a curfew because they have a clearer understanding of morality and personal responsibility that I think is present, but far less prevalent in the greater population.

Furthermore, I find a great deal of irony in the situation. It's like the irony of a self-help book: once the book is picked up, the help is no longer from the internal "self," but from an external source. Similarly, it seems to me NNU often defeats the lesson it tries to teach, in this instance, by attempting to prepare its students for the "real world" by holding it apart from them.

In short, underlying the law of curfew is the

understanding that someone else, in this case the administrators, knows better than the students. Now, they obviously do, for they have far more education and experience.

But I believe that growth cannot come from the switching of one mother for another, and more often than not, a much stricter one. After all, if the administrators really wanted to be students' mothers, they might give them the same trust and opportunity for growth that at least real mothers give their children.

And besides, the whole thing is one big souping inconvenience.

SGA social vice president position should be filled

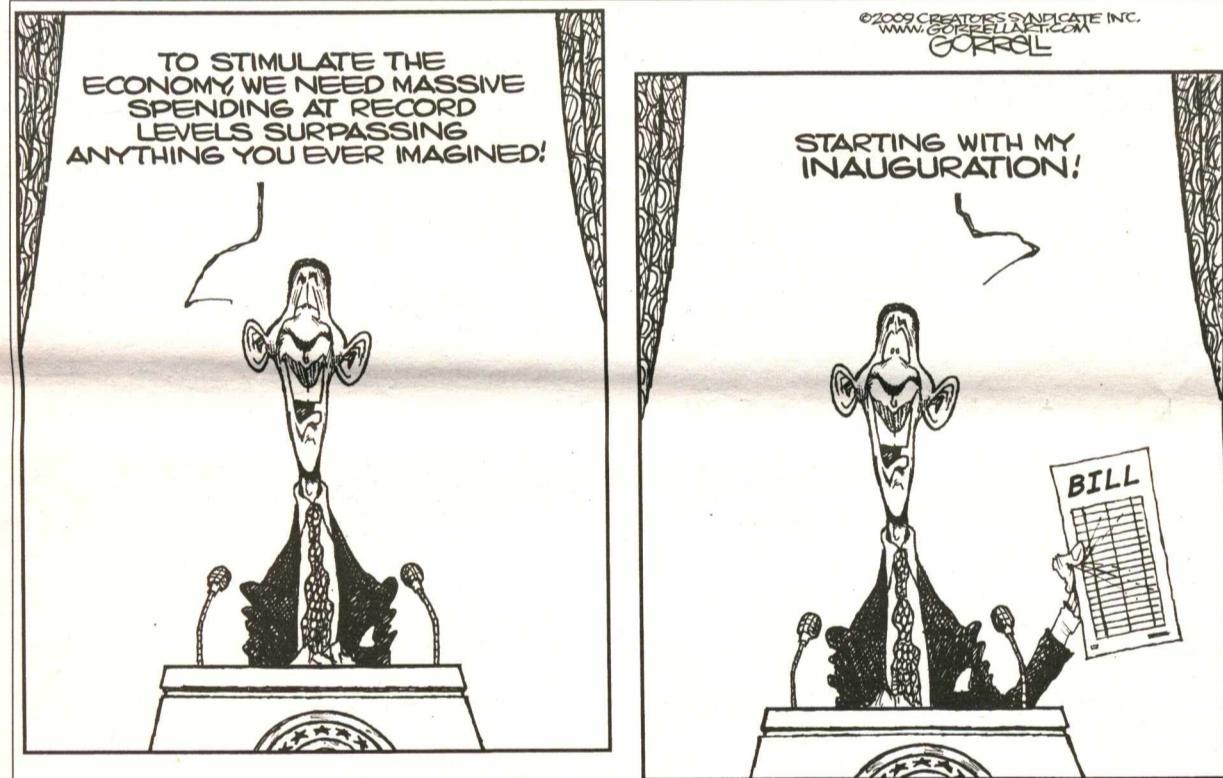
STAFF EDITORIAL

At the end of last semester, three SGA members lost their positions due to student life contract infractions. It has been announced that the only elected position, that of the social vice president, will not be filled for the remainder of the school year.

The decision holds justifications such as the academic year being over half way over and wanting to keep the SGA team dynamics in order. However, these justifications do not hold enough weight against the document SGA abides by, the ASNNU Constitution, as well as the ideal this school promotes in its students.

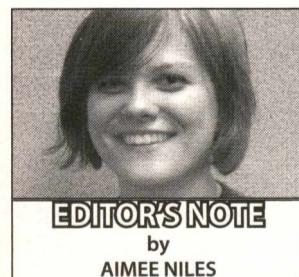
As listed in Article 12, Section 9 of the constitution, "In the case of a vacancy in any Executive Office except the President, arising from any cause other than recall, a special election shall be held as prescribed by the ASNNU Code." This particular code is not being followed, as the office of the social vice president has been closed to being filled. The constitution is used to maintain consistency throughout NNU's student government system. If the constitution is closely followed through all branches, why should this particular instance be any different?

Aside from constitutional violations, closing the social vice president position hinders an ideal this school so greatly promotes: student involvement. Students began considering the position upon the office's opening at the end of last semester, considerations which have been quickly extinguished. If we want a variety of students practicing the university outcome of creative engagement through leadership positions, this very ruling does the exact opposite.



In honor and respect of the former president

Yesterday marked the end of an era; the Bush presidency is officially over. My first reaction is to dance with joy, but upon closer reflection I realize that isn't



EDITOR'S NOTE
by
AIMEE NILES

a fair reaction.

In full recognition of my reluctance to do so, I drag my progressive little mind to the past when I can only

define myself as a rabid Bush supporter.

The year was 2000, and my boy George was locked in battle with Al Gore. My eighth grade alter ego watched and studied Fox News religiously and could explain the difference between the popular vote and the electoral college with ease and eloquence.

Dubya triumphed and entered office with a safe global situation, a surplus, peace and prosperity throughout the United States.

Then 9/11 hit. We can all remember where we were and what we were doing when we heard the

news. Analysts, historians and social scientists will be explaining how our world has changed for the next 100 years, but we all know that our lives are different.

Since then, our country and our world have undergone an astounding change. The strain of having to lead the most powerful nation in the world during these changes is hardly enviable.

Yet, Bush has handled all of this stress with a level of dignity and poise that is often overlooked in the face of some of his more unpopular decisions and policies.

Whether or not I've liked or agreed with his decisions

as president, I have to admit to myself that I have a high level of respect for former President Bush. He is a good man who has stood firm through the last eight years.

I truly believe that Bush has acted in the best and most Christ-like way he knows how. And for that, I can only say thank you. History will judge his policies, but we get to see the man as he is—and he is a good man.

I can only hope and pray that President Obama will lead our country in as graceful and respectful a manner.

THE CRUSADER'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR GUIDELINES

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- Anonymous letters will not be accepted. You must include your name and classification with your letter.
- Letters under 200 words will likely be accepted. Letters exceeding 200 words may also be published, final decision rests with the editor.
- Please refer to what you are writing in response to, whether it is an article or another campus issue.
- The Crusader reserves the right to edit all letters for length and grammar.

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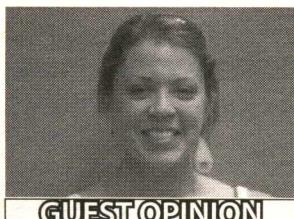
Feel creative?

Submit your poetry, short stories, artwork or musings to The Crusader for Creative Corner.
E-mail your submissions to Crusader@nnu.edu

Americans have lost work ethics

The complacency of individuals in America is leading our society into an economic and personal depression.

Individuals are relying



GUEST OPINION
by
HANNAH BEERS

too much on other people to fix their problems. People are finding copouts to run from situational issues, such as financial and social tribulations.

According to The Economist, individuals around the country are suffering from enormous levels of

personal debt. A third of all houses in America suffer from over ten thousand dollars in credit card debt. In the last thirty years, the United States has increased personal debt by \$880 billion dollars.

Why are Americans spending money they do not have?

Simply put, there is no responsibility or work ethic. Americans lack a strong drive to work. Everyone wants a free handout or a temporary fix. Mainstream media has allowed individuals to believe they are capable of getting whatever they want.

How many of you look at something you want and just buy it? Conceivably most Americans want a

quick fix and lack the actual drive to work for anything. A little over fifty percent of Americans receive welfare support. Many of these individuals are capable of getting jobs. Now don't get me wrong: certain individuals deserve some support from the government.

However, as a whole, Americans have been conditioned to be dependent. Society has enabled lazy behavior to run rampant. Somewhere within the last five decades people have lost ownership to do a job well.

There is truly no solution to the lethargy that is plaguing Americans. Next time though, see if you can go the extra mile and do a better job.

WE WANT YOU



To submit story ideas for The Crusader
E-mail your ideas to: Crusader@nnu.edu

There's gotta be more to chapel than sleeping, reading and chatting

By the end of this semester I will have attended



GUEST OPINION
by
LAURIE BURGEMEISTER

more than 274 chapels in my time spent at NNU.

That is almost 11,000

minutes (182 hours) spent in the Brandt Center listening to choirs, participating in worship, observing speakers and whatever else may have occurred, including 100 people onstage acting out "The Twelve Days of Christmas" for me, which I wholeheartedly enjoyed.

That is a lot of chapel time.

I remember hearing of a school that held a continuous chapel for about a week. Students who played instruments swapped places when

others needed a break and those who had classes left to attend them and came back to join in the worshipping again later. That is dedication. And my question is, why?

I don't loath chapels here at NNU. But oftentimes, I don't love them either. I don't get up every day looking forward to going, but I don't completely dread it.

Why is it that I have a deep indifference toward spending time in fellowship during the middle of the

week?

I don't think I'm alone here. As I look around in chapel, I see people reading, chatting or even sleeping. Yes, I know it's a convenient time to catch up on some neglected homework and a great social opportunity. But I don't think that's what chapel is really supposed to be about.

So, what is it? It's not church—Gene has made that very clear. And it's not voluntary—you know that if you've had to fork over

money for too many missed days.

I came to NNU with a hunger and expectancy to learn and grow and I know that I have succeeded in both, but where would I be if I had tried a little harder?

Perhaps the reason I feel lost right now is because I've let 182 hours slip by without recognizing the perfect opportunities for reflection and self-awareness.

I'm not drowning in despair or anything, but I wonder where I could

have been if I had perhaps opened my mind and heart during even one of those forty minute slots.

Do yourself a favor and listen. Listen, even if only once. Put down the book, wake up, and think about what is going on around you.

It may make a difference. And at the end of your senior year, maybe you'll feel as though your 11,000 minutes were not thrown to the wind.

MISERY ACCOMPLISHED



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GORRELL

It isn't the Dark Ages with Belegarth

Students test their medieval combat skills with padded weapons and shields

by AIMEE NILES

Echoir raised his sword high above his head, and struck quickly at Wanderer of Woods' chest. Wanderer blocked Echoir's blow and swung around at Echoir's exposed arm.

Quick as a flash, Echoir spun and hit Wanderer in the chest. "You got me," Wanderer of Woods said, yielding to his challenger. The fog swirled and the two raised their weapons to battle once again.

Echoir and Wanderer of Woods are not residents of Middle Earth, nor are they fighting in a Tolkien created realm. Echoir--also known as junior Matthew Hulen--and Wanderer of Woods--freshman Chase Vickers--are players of Belegarth.

"It is traditional for followers of Belegarth to chose battle names," said Hulen explaining his moniker of "Echoir" (meaning "awakening" in the Elvish language used in J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*).

Hulen and Vickers, along with a rotating group of participants, play Belegarth

every Wednesday night in Finkbeiner Park.

It is a sport, said Hulen swinging his foam padded long sword. "You must take healthy, solid blows at your opponent."

Combaters use foam covered weapons--including swords, maces, battle axes, shields and bows and arrows--to fight one another. If a player is hit in the arms or legs, they lose the use of that limb. A legless fighter must complete the battle on his or her knees.

A chest hit immediately ends the battle. Head shots are not allowed.

Each weapon has its own advantages and disadvantages, says Hulen.

Other students have seen Belegarthers fighting and taken up arms in battle against them. Freshman Heather Pence, and junior Jason Montgomery and senior Amber Ford have all faced played Belegarth at least once.

Unlike "live action role playing" (LARPing), Belegarth is a sport centered around recreating medieval battle tactics. LARPing, said

Vickers, follows a story like Dungeons and Dragons.

However, Belegarthers do wear costumes. According to the official rules of the Belegarth Medieval Combat Society, each participant is required to don "minimum garb."

The garb essential for tournaments are: a tunic or tabard covering the torso, baggy pants or trousers covering the legs (skirts, kilts and dresses are acceptable substitutes) and muted footwear.

Hulen is still working on acquiring a full costume for battle. On Wednesdays, he can be seen wearing a tabard--a loose, sleeveless outer garment worn by knights over their armor--embazoned with a red and yellow cross.

The NNU Belegarthers are working on making an official club. "We're looking for a faculty advisor," said Vickers. Until then, they can be found every Wednesday night at 9 pm in Finkbeiner Park, wielding their swords and sharpening their skills.



NNU welcomes Korean students and professor

by ALLISON HAWN

Ten students and one professor from Korea Nazarene University arrived here on Jan. 11. The students will be staying in Dooley and Sutherland for the next nine weeks as they take select classes around NNU and experience parts of American culture.

The exchange students will tour the sugar beet factory, a session of the Idaho Legislature, the Birds of Prey Center and possibly the Old Idaho Penitentiary. While on campus, the students will also get to have lunch with President Alexander and many of the faculty members, said Karen Jones, business professor, who is helping coordinate the students' stay here.

The exchange students are taking several classes including Business Communications, Business Management and Cornerstone. The Cornerstone class,



Above: Students from Korea Nazarene University pose around the globe on the floor of the Boise International Airport. Below: Students wait with their luggage when they first arrive in Idaho (photo courtesy of the NNU Business Department).



taught by Professor Waller, is specifically set up to

cover what it means to understand Christianity from

a Wesleyan perspective and some brief American and Idaho history along with the traditional Cornerstone material, said Jones.

As the students have been staying in the dorms they have been exposed to various parts of American culture. "I taught them hip-hop and the 'Thriller' dance," said sophomore Chelsea Thompson. "They love to learn hip-hop dance... and they love to socialize," said sophomore Tabitha McLaren who has been rooming with one of the exchange students. "They are very friendly and they want to get to know you and be your friend," said Ashley Egger, sophomore.

This group is the second to visit from KNU this year said Jones. NNU is hoping to soon send exchange students from every department on campus to KNU to make this a true exchange student program.

Upperclassmen head to Quaker Hill for the junior/ senior retreat

The trip is planned for a time of fun and relaxation

by LAURIE BURGEMEISTER

The junior and senior class councils confirmed the Jr./Sr. class retreat will take place Jan. 31 through Feb. 1 at Quaker Hill Campgrounds in McCall, Idaho.

The two councils had been discussing whether having the retreat at this location was feasible considering how soon the dates are and the increasing amount of commitments students have to activities here on campus, said Hannah Beers, senior class president.

"We know money is tight, but it's a great retreat. It will be a good time of relaxation and fellowship," said Beers.

Adam Lyon, junior class president, said the biggest concern is whether or not there is enough student interest to make this trip worth the cost.

Lyon said, "We need at least 75 people to attend in order to cover the entire cost of this event. With senate's help, this puts the cost at \$30 per person."

Quaker Hill will provide the food for the entire weekend and there is a game room with a big screen TV and lots of DVDs to choose from.

"There's nothing going on that weekend here in Nampa, and McCall's winter festival is happening

during the retreat. This will give students lots of activities to do in McCall," said Lyon.

Lyon did add that this particular weekend is Super Bowl weekend, but assured students that the group will be back in plenty of time for the kickoff.

"Our goal is to leave the campus Friday afternoon after classes and to return Sunday by 2 p.m. in time

"This puts the cost at \$30 dollars per person"

Student written skit deals with racism in Idaho

by ANDREW McCULLEY

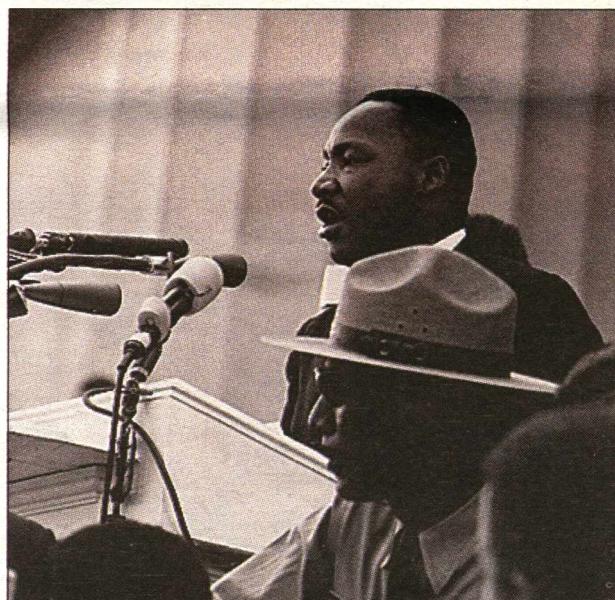
NNU students will perform a skit written for Beloved Community Week on Friday in chapel.

The skit was written by students Bri Price and LaMonica Richard. The NNU Juniors said they wrote the skit to "explain how racism and discrimination happens."

Price said, "Everyone makes assumptions about race or gender or sexual orientation. Our goal is to reduce, or to end it."

Richard explained that the skit will be in part about racism that she has personally dealt with here in Idaho.

The presentation will also include some reader's



Beloved Community Week is celebrated in conjunction with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (photo from wikipedia commons).

theater material put together and directed by Professor Brooke Adamson, who said,

"The whole chapel will be about coming together as a community. And there

might be some hard things said, about how we might be part of racism and not know it."

Events for Beloved Community earlier this week included a discussion on Tuesday night of President Barack Obama's inaugural address with panelists Professor Adamson and Professor Terry Cantrell.

The event was a discussion between panelists and a mix of about fifteen NNU students, faculty and staff.

Sophomore Chad Pearsall, who attended the event, said he likes the history of inaugural speeches given by Cantrell. He noted that Obama's speech contained "no revolutionary ideas, but a lot of old idea brought up for present context."

Psychology major discovers his niche

by JESSICA BOBANGO

In a department where students often find jobs working in impersonal positions in larger businesses, Rowdy Hope has been given the chance to make a closer connection with a different kind of employer.

Hope, a junior psychology major, began his field experience three months ago, mentoring a local tenth grader with a minor

learning disability.

"We are pretty much polar-opposites," said Hope. "At first he was very cold and wasn't open. We're like ham and eggs now. We've basically become best friends."

Hope spends two days a week with the teenager working on school assignments and organizational skills.

The two have bonded over the kid's interest in

receiving his Eagle Scout award.

Hope was at first concerned about scheduling conflicts due to golf and other commitments, but feels that he has "lucked out."

"I feel like it was God's plan for me to spend time with this kid," Hope said.

"He got a Wii for Christmas and I was playing with him the other day—to see him getting excited and

high-fiving me, that was when I knew that he had really changed. I knew that I had made a difference."

Hope is a psychology major, with a focus on clinical work, but he has said that this experience has "opened my eyes to other possibilities" in the psychology field.

"I could see myself doing something more like this down the road."

Student Life Events

Wednesday Jan. 21

Time Out- 9pm Science Lecture Hall
Wednesday Night Live with Abandon Kansas and Sleep for Sleepless- 10pm The Perk

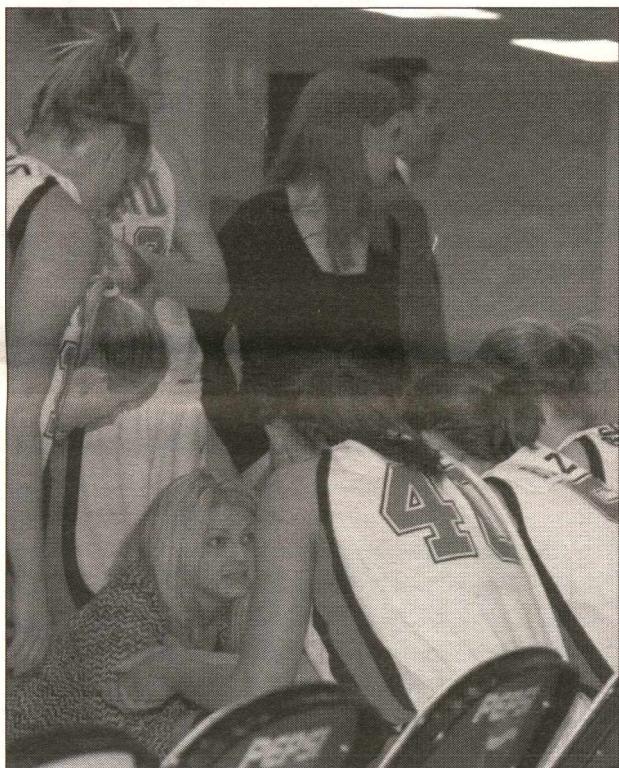
Thursday Jan. 22

Rebecca Walker Lecture- 6 pm Jordan Ballroom, Student Union, Boise State University
"Citizen King" Documentary- 7 pm Wordsworth

Friday Jan. 23

Chapel reduction forms due

Women's basketball game to be shown on CBS in February against SPU Falcons



Top: Senior Mallory Whipple looks for an open pass in the game Saturday against Western Washington University. NNU won the match 88-79. Above: Head Coach Kelli Lindley gives direction to the team during a time out Saturday. Right: Junior Brittney Roggenkamp keeps the ball away from WWU defense (photos by Andrea Schilling).

by ANDREA SCHILLING

The women's basketball team meets its competition, Seattle Pacific University, in a very different setting in the upcoming weeks.

On Feb. 7, the Lady Crusaders' game against the SPU Falcons will be aired on CBS.

Junior guard Krista Oliver said the opportunity is an honor because not many Division II teams are chosen for airtime. This is the first time a Lady Crusaders' game will have ever been

broadcasted for a television audience, which will make the occasion even more exciting, Oliver said.

It was no luck of the draw, as the Crusaders earned their way toward a time slot on the college sports network through their showing at the national tournament in the 07-08 season.

"SPU and NNU were chosen to have the televised game because both our teams did well last season," said junior forward Brittney Roggenkamp.

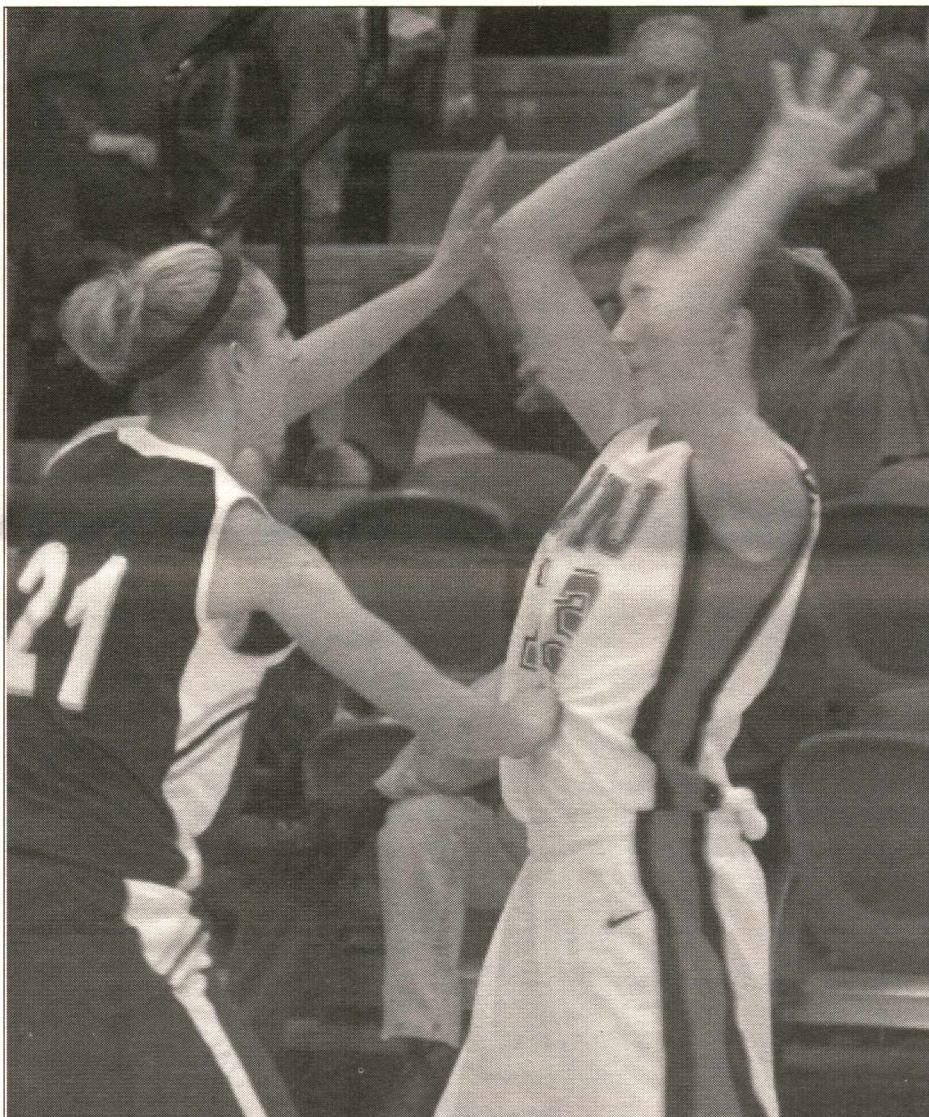
The added excitement to

the match doesn't change the team's mindset for the game.

"I think we'll be more nervous, but when we're nervous, we play better," said Roggenkamp.

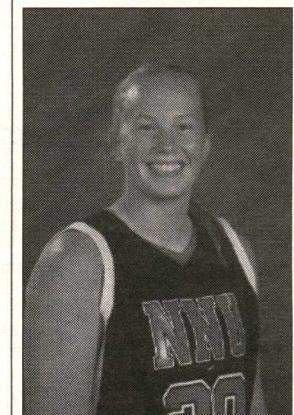
Roggenkamp said the game should be an interesting match. "SPU graduated a lot of key players, but they still have a strong team. However, we'll hold our own," she said.

The game is scheduled to air at 3 p.m.



PLAYER PROFILE

Briaunna King



Sport:
Women's Basketball

Major:
Kinesiology Education

Year:
Freshman

Occupational Goal:
To teach high school and coach basketball at her old high school in Oregon.

Favorite Theme Park:
Disneyland California Adventure

Favorite Food:
Biscuits and gravy

Favorite TV Shows:
CSI Miami, Grey's Anatomy

Fears: The ocean and flying in airplanes

Favorite Music:
Country

Favorite thing about NNU: Friendly atmosphere

NNU welcomes the 12th class of inductees into the athletic hall of fame on Saturday during men's game

by JESSICA BOBANGO

NNU's Athletic Hall of Fame announced four new members Saturday at the men's basketball game.

The Hall of Fame adds three or four members every other year, chosen by a committee of members on campus and alumni.

This year's inductees include Professor Ed Crawford for meritorious service, Kim Zumhofe for women's basketball and track and field, Terry Layton for coaching men's basketball,

and Garry Matlock for men's basketball.

Crawford worked 24 years as the Faculty Athletic Representative for Crusader Athletics and was NNU's head baseball coach in 1978-1979.

Zumhofe currently holds eight all-time career top-ten marks in women's basketball. She also holds the discus record of 147-10.

Layton served as men's head basketball coach from 1975-1982, leading his team in seven winning seasons.

Matlock was a men's basketball player from 1963-1966. He holds the career assists record of 524 and is number one in single-season assists with 260. Matlock was an assistant to Layton in 1982 and then served nine seasons as men's basketball head coach. He taught kinesiology during his tenure and was NNU's athletic director for two years.

The new members make up the 12th class of inductees.



The new inductees display their plaques at the men's basketball game on Saturday (photo by Andrea Schilling).

Men go 1-1 in last week's set of home games

by ALLISON HAWN

The NNU men's basketball team hosted two games this past week; the first on Thursday against Western Washington University and the second on Saturday against Western Oregon University.

The Crusaders walked away from the weekend battle with one win and one loss.

The team from Bellingham, Wash. beat the Crusaders 83-68 in the second

half. Brian Barkdoll and Kendall Gielow led the Crusaders with 16 points and 4 rebounds and 12 points respectively.

NNU shot 50 percent from the floor and received 18 turnovers.

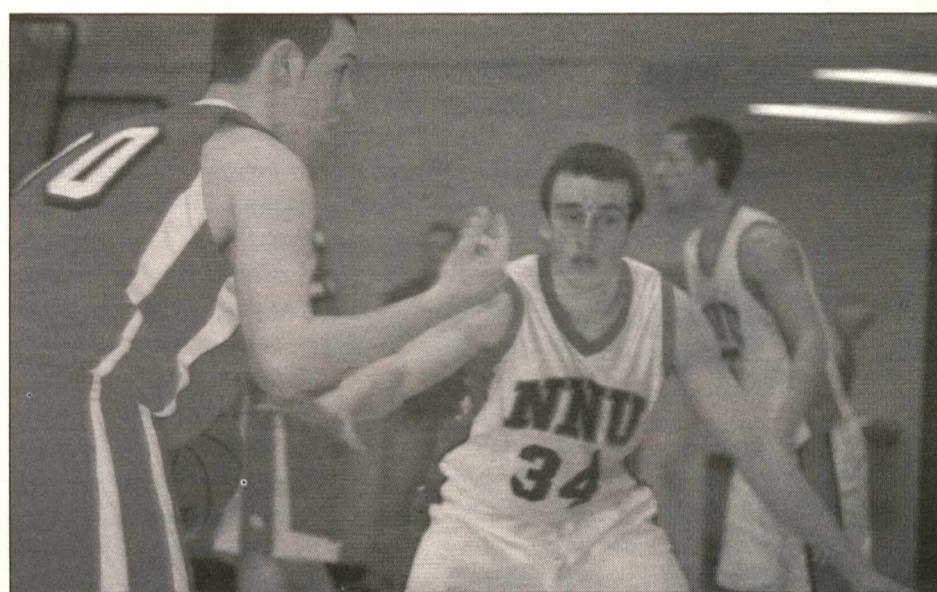
"I thought we played well in stretches, one thing we've been working on is consistency," said team member Tyler Roberts.

On Saturday the Crusaders faced off against the Western Oregon University Wolves in the Great

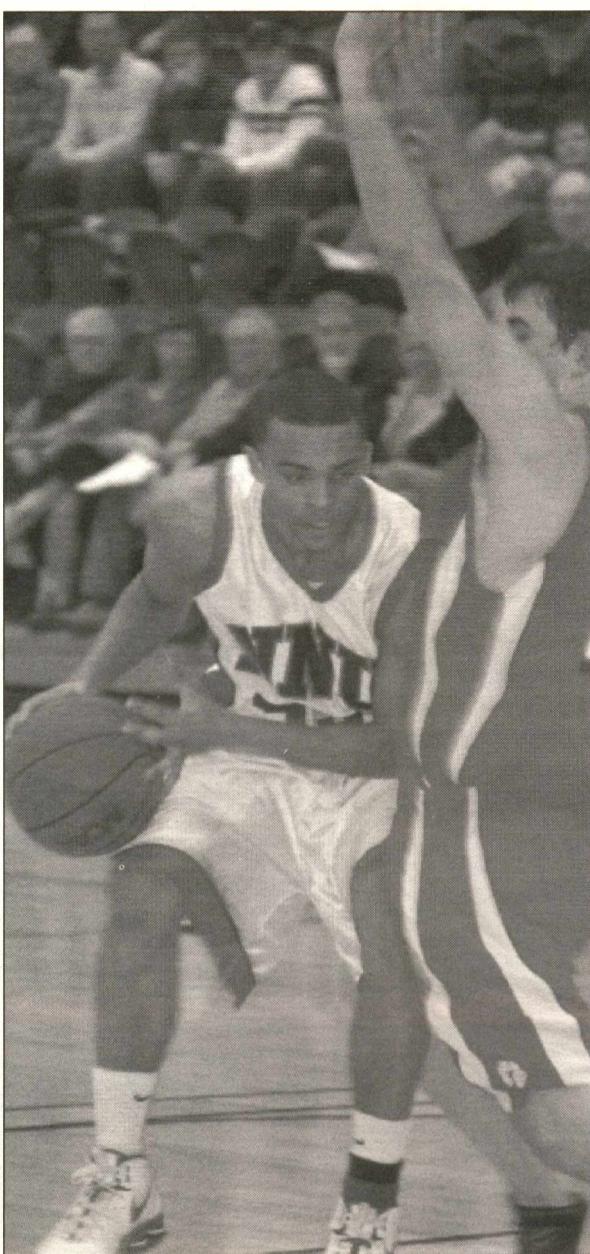
Northwest Athletic Conference game, winning 92-75.

Gielow helped lead the Crusaders to victory with his best scoring game yet, earning NNU 24 points. Barkdoll scored 18 points with 11 rebounds, Joel Ryman scored 15, and Louie Beach and Roberts both added another 10. The team shot 52.9 percent from the floor.

The Crusaders will play Seattle Pacific University today and Montana State on Saturday.



Above: Junior Louie Beech plays defense against Western Oregon. Right: Freshman Anthony Golden drives the ball to the hoop (photos by Andrea Schilling).

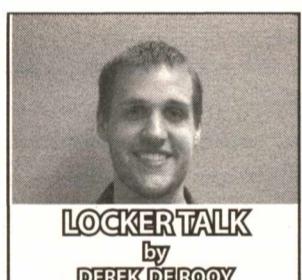


Seattle looks hopeful for the 2009 year in athletics

Typically, I'm the conservative. Change kills me; I prefer not to have to relearn things, and if I can avoid change altogether, that's great.

Obviously, I pray that 2009 is a good year, but I'm not convinced that it will be better than the last. We haven't heard the last of the economy's problems, and God knows what divisive issues will be brought up by our youthful new president in the coming months—not because he's a Democrat, but because every new president opens new cans of worms.

Fortunately, sports have traditionally been an optimistic New Year's subject.



Never having watched a Seattle-based team win a championship (save the Storm), you recognize as a fan that there is still room for improvement. There's the belief that getting there once is a great sign of getting there again, and perhaps even further.

Of course, New Year's also comes at a time when most of us are inside all day. Seeing the field for the first

time, in spring or in summer, is one of the more refreshing experiences a fan can have. A field and stadium are a team's chalkboard at the start of every season: clean, bright and welcoming. As any season wears on, marks are made, erased, and marked again... but it's never as clean as it was at the beginning. And as so many others have said, things couldn't possibly get much worse for Seattleites. One more time, let's rehash 2008:

1. The Seahawks, believed to be their division champ, and one of the better teams in the NFC, finished 4-12, their worst season since (gulp)

1992. Now, Holmgren's gone, and Hasselbeck and Engram might as well be. Fortunately, they replaced Holmgren with Jim Mora Jr., who oversaw the worst part of last year's team (defensive backs). Almost guaranteed improvement.

2. The Mariners, whom no one expected much from, finished a miserable 61-101, their worst season since (bigger gulp) 1983. Still, the team knows how to spend, already tying up over \$75 million for nine players. Ditto.

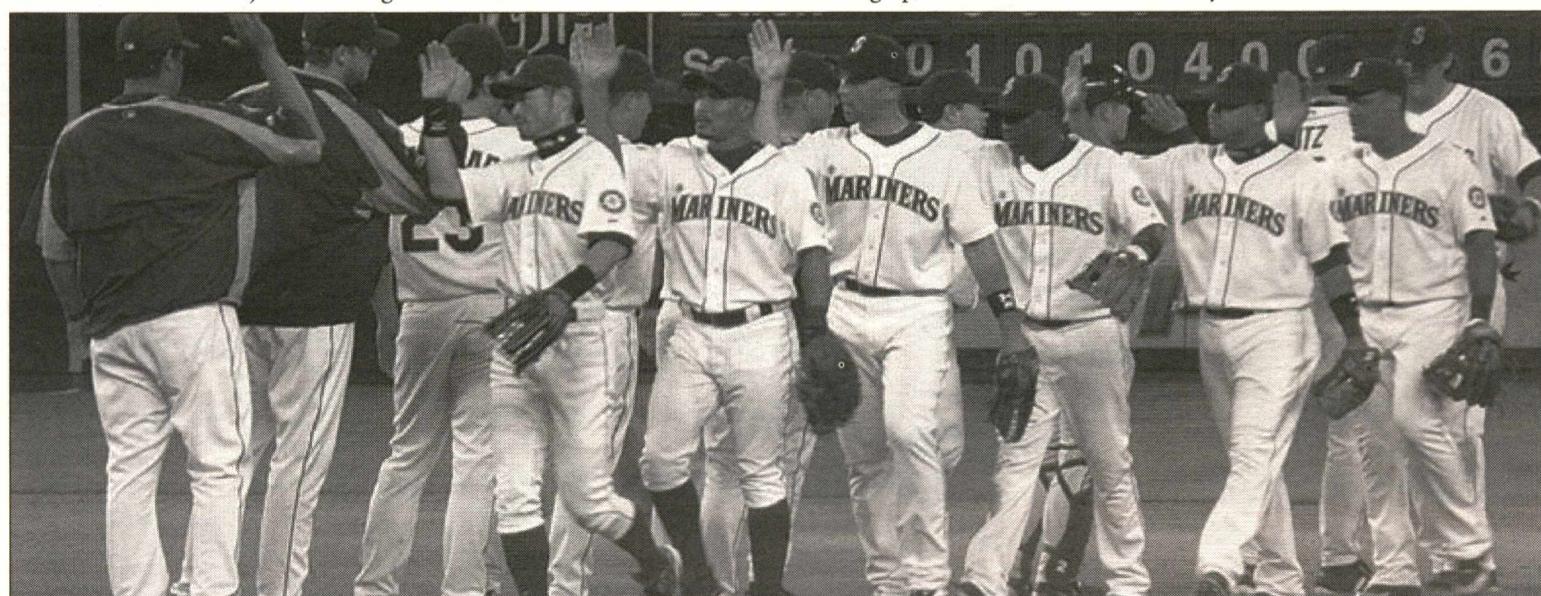
3. The Sonics, the only major Seattle sports franchise with a championship, were moved because of the lack of devotion by a

certain owner. Fortunately, we have been able to watch the first year of what hopes to be continued failure and misery in OKC.

4. UW eased to the cellar of the Pac-10, even losing to WSU (9th-ranked, Pac-10) in this year's Apple Cup.

On the bright side, a Washington-based team won the Apple Cup.

There are other things to look forward to in 2009... Eli Manning won't be the defending Super Bowl champion quarterback, this year. Shaun Alexander's still gone. (Most likely) no team will be leaving Seattle. (Hopefully) Herm Edwards will be fired. And we can build on this.



The Seattle Mariners celebrate a win against the Detroit Tigers in July (photo from wikicommons.com).

AP Sports Blurb

STEELERS-TOMLIN

PITTSBURGH

The Steelers have had only three coaches in 40 years, and each took a team to the Super Bowl. Chuck Noll got there in his sixth season, Bill Cowher in his fourth. Mike Tomlin needed only two years after being a surprising hire for one of the best-known coaching jobs in American pro sports.

CAVALIERS-LAKERS

LOS ANGELES

LeBron James and the Cavaliers face Kobe Bryant and the Lakers for the first time this season. The Cavaliers have the best record in the NBA. The Lakers, with the top record in the Western Conference, are trying to avoid their first three-game losing streak of the season.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

MELBOURNE, Australia

It was after midnight and long after Roger Federer is accustomed to finishing work in the first round of the Australian Open. No problem. He said he got to watch the sun set over Rod Laver Arena while waiting to start the last match on center court — a three-set win over Andreas Seppi.

INAUGURATION

WASHINGTON

Hall of Fame coach John Thompson calls it "the greatest thing to happen to African-Americans since the Emancipation Proclamation," and there's no way he's going to miss it. "It hasn't been able to sleep in," the longtime Georgetown college basketball coach told The Associated Press. "I will have tears in my eyes when that boy raises his hand." From Tiger Woods to Muhammad Ali, a sports world that has paid more attention to politics than usual the last few months wants to be part of the party when Barack Obama is inaugurated as the nation's first black president.

UConn-NCarolina

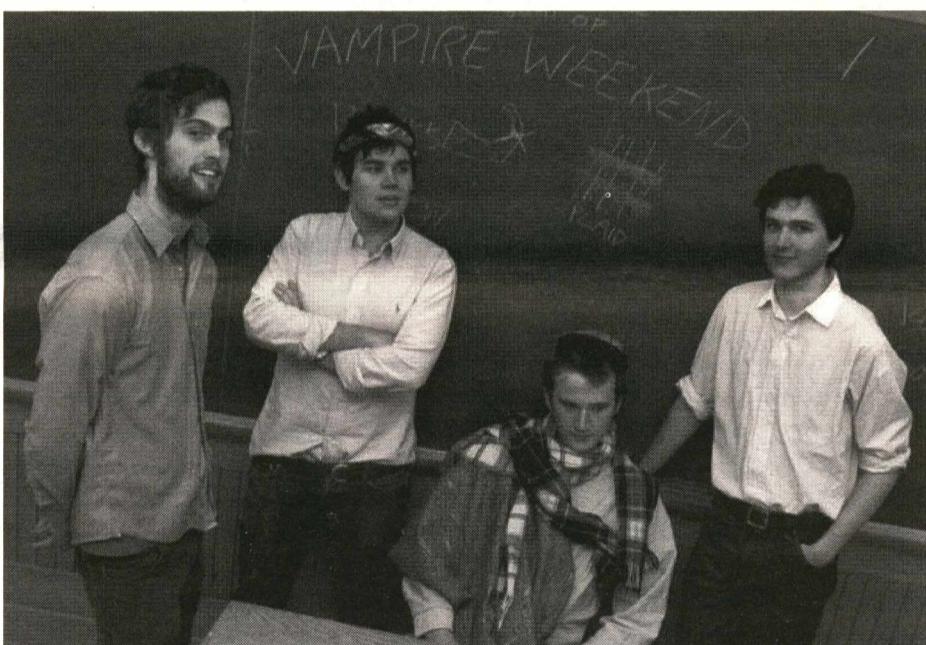
CHAPEL HILL, N.C.

In a matchup of unbeaten women's teams, No. 1 Connecticut plays at No. 2 North Carolina. UConn has won by an average of 35 points this season. The Tar Heels have been tested twice.

Vampire Weekend: Ivy leaguers turned rockers



Vampire Weekend is currently on tour, with its next stop in New York followed by the MX Beat Festival in Mexico. The band labels its sound as punk, new wave and classical. Vampire Weekend consists of Ezra Koenig, Rostam Batmanglij, Christopher Tomson and Chris Baio. The band calls New York City home (photos from myspace.com).



NNU creates mural in downtown Boise



Above: The Special Olympics, hosted in Boise this year, has given NNU the job of creating a mural for the event. The mural encourages eco-friendliness and displays the importance of the athletic event on the Treasure Valley. Art Department Professor Paul Kinsman, in collaboration with NNU SIFE, helped make the mural possible, said Professor of Management and Leadership Mark Emerson (photo courtesy of Mark Emerson).



by RACHAEL FINCH

If music were a lifetime progression, and indie was for grown-up punk rock kids, then Vampire Weekend would be the mature version of ska.

Mr. Bungle, The Mars Volta and the White Stripes would stand in awe of this outstanding culmination of ska, new wave, punk, electronica, classic influences and much more.

Clearly, the members of Vampire Weekend have a broad musical background and a tendency to switch genres for every new song, if not more often.

The group was formed while its members, Ezra Koenig (lead vocals and guitar), Chris Baio (bass), Rostam Batmanglij (keyboard, guitar, vocals) and Chris Tomson (drums), were attending Columbia University.

Beginning with local shows and party gigs, their

popularity steadily increased until they recorded the "Mansard Roof" EP and their self-titled debut album in 2008.

"Mansard Roof," on the self-titled album, sounds like a retro tribute to Elvis Costello with something similar to an early 90's video game theme song running in the background. The style is akin to Spoon's album "Girls Can Tell."

Do not, however, be deterred by the band's collegiate beginnings. Its song topics may include the Oxford comma, but they are not a band only for the pretentious.

Vampire Weekend has an upbeat, island day-trip kind of sound that can be enjoyed by the masses, and the band looks about as cool as the members of Weezer and They Might Be Giants; 70's college students could have worn the same outfit. They are eclectic but not elitist.

Fans of Talking Heads, Danielson, Joy Electric, Louis XIV, Jet, The Shins and the Killers will probably enjoy Vampire Weekend.

If there are any bands you would like to see profiled, please e-mail your suggestions to rmfinch@nnu.edu.

Creative Corner

Why I Like to Climb Trees and Pray

by MIKE HOYT

Oh great God, Hadad, bringer of storms and rain,
We build this temple to worship you,
Zeus, accept this sacrifice we have brought to you,
and may it please you,

Great Jupiter, so you can keep us in your mighty arms
until we can rededicate these grounds in the name of
The father, son and holy spirit,
May they stand until Christ himself returns,
For as a prophet of Muhammad,
He will return over by that minaret there,
As long as the true Imam is presiding over us
faithfully.

The prophets tongue, long mute, though it seems his
head is still speaking,

Would likely speak fire against what has happened
here.

Saladin would turn over in his grave, for what happens
on these grounds;

The conquered praying to the gods of their conquerors.
You can redecorate and rededicate a temple,

But you can't cut out the human heart from the ribcage and insert a new spirit.

You can replant a tree, but only the soil, the sun and
water can make it grow,

And only the wind can move it alone.

Students pick their motion picture favorites

by ANDREA SCHILLING

Ranging from a popular comic storyline to a peculiar case of one man's life, the silver screen of 2008 presented a variety of flicks for its audiences.

With Oscar night just over a month away, the nomination announcements loom over Hollywood, including the most coveted Best

Motion Picture award.

"The Dark Knight," starring the late Heath Ledger and Christian Bale, proved to be a popular one among students for its character performances and classic good vs. evil plot.

"Heath Ledger's portrayal of the Joker was amazing," said junior Katie Mann. Mann said the star's role made the movie the best

film of the year.

However, other students didn't see the Batman movie in the same light.

Junior Brandon Haskins said the hype associated with Ledger's death wasn't worthy of the Best Motion Picture award.

"The Dark Knight" wasn't extraordinary. Other movies were much more innovative," he said.

"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," featuring Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett, was also highlighted as a campus favorite to win the desired Oscar for its unique, heart-warming storyline.

"The movie was well made, creative and had a good moral," said sophomore Breyanna Thompson. Milk, starring Sean Penn,

was also on the list of favorites for its depiction of the first openly gay man to be voted into public office, Harvey Milk.

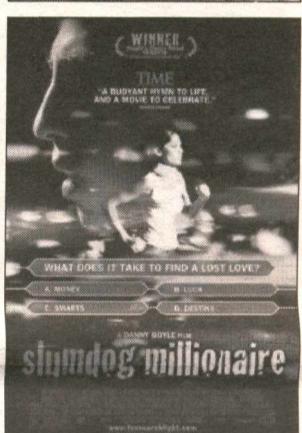
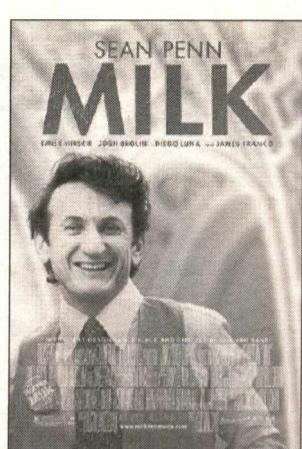
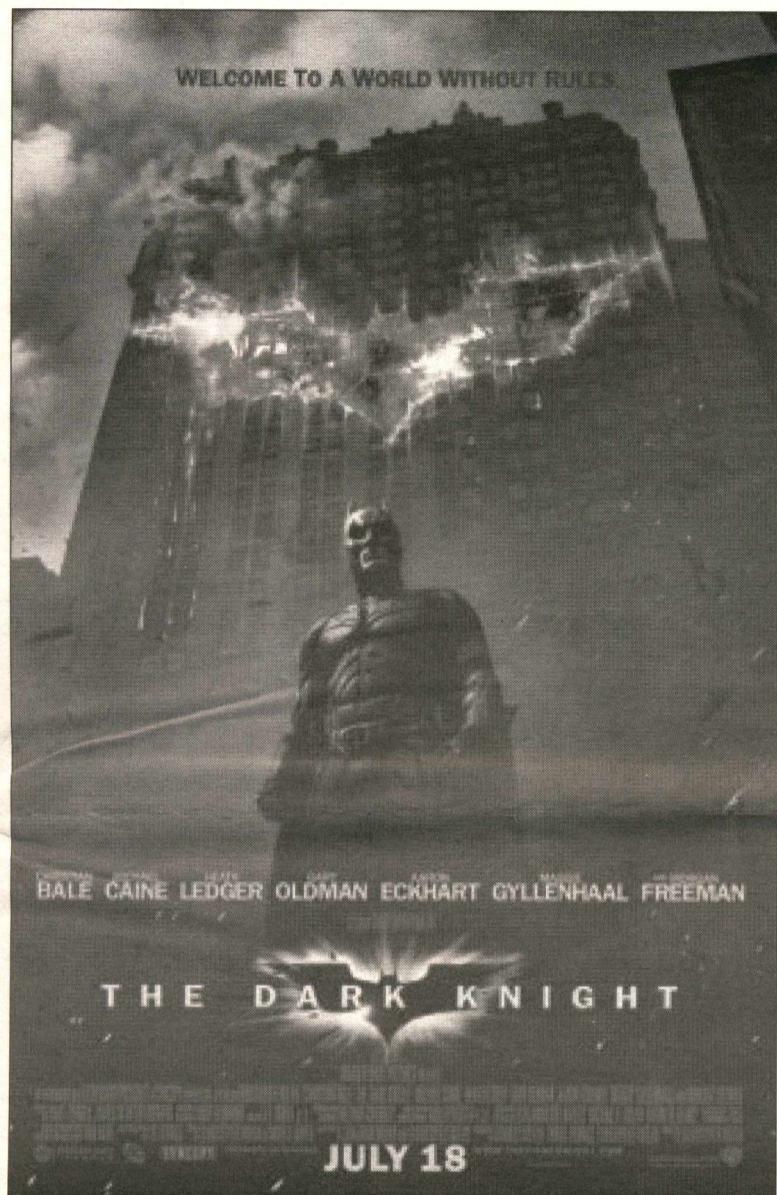
Thompson said that because the movie was based on a true story, she felt more involved with the characters.

Other films rumored to hit the nomination list are "Slumdog Millionaire,"

winner of a Golden Globe for best drama, along with films "Revolutionary Road," "The Challenging," "Frost/Nixon," "Wall-E," "Vicky Cristina Barcelona" and "The Reader."

The official Oscar nominations are to be announced tomorrow.

Oscar evening takes place Feb. 22.



"The Dark Knight," "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," "Milk" and "Slumdog Millionaire" are four of a variety of films receiving a great supply of Oscar buzz this year (photos from wikipedia).

Beers steps down as junior class play director

by RACHAEL FINCH

Attention all those with a flair for the dramatic and a command of the stage, the junior class play is in need of a director.

The play's original director, Hannah Beers, stepped down from her position as spring semester began. The junior class council will be selecting a new director, and any student is eligible for the position, said Adam Lyon, junior class president.

"I got an internship and I didn't feel like I could direct the play to my standards," said Beers. "I couldn't give 100 percent. I didn't want to let them down."

Despite the demands of

the job, Lyon said that the new director will not be going it alone.

"The director we choose will have the full support of the junior class council. I don't want anyone to not apply because they feel like they would have to produce a play on their own," said Lyon.

Beers had already selected a play, but the play choice is subject to change with the new director.

"There will be fewer dates for practice before the performance. I'm not sure the dates of the play can be moved, but if the director we choose would like, the junior class council can look into moving the performance dates," said Lyon.

All those interested in this position should contact Lyon as soon as possible at arlyon@nnu.edu.

CONCERT BOX

JERRY SEINFELD 1.22.09 @BSU MORRISON CENTER

HIS NAME SHALL BREATHE 1.29.09 @FLYING M SQUEALERS

APPLE HORSE

BREANNA PALETTA JUSTIN BENNETT D. PARIS 1.31.09 @FLYING M

ANDREW BIRD 2.24.09 @KNITTING FACTORY

RASCAL FLATTS 2.25.09 @ IDAHO CENTER

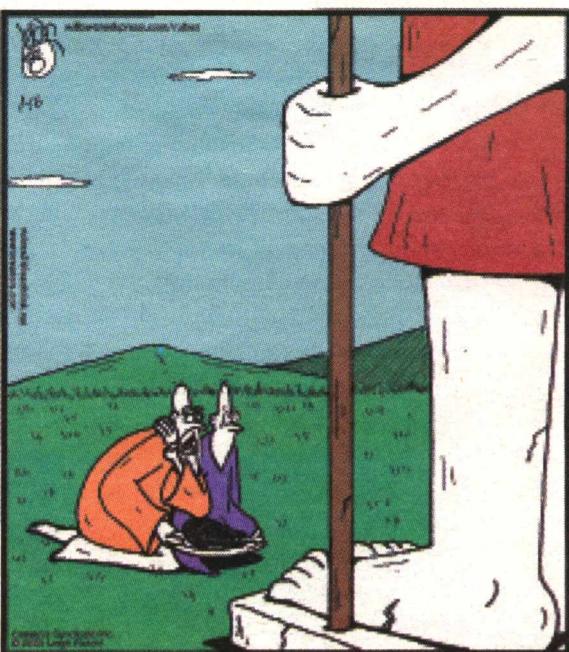
 A circular logo with a large 'X' in the center, surrounded by a textured border.

Ways to ensure professors will staple a McDonald's job application to your exam

By Nick Ratliff



10. Declare the test a conspiracy overseen by the government to determine the person best suited to be cloned into a race of super soldiers.
9. Disagree with Dr. Gismondi. He isn't wrong. Trust me.
8. Pick an obscure word out of the dictionary and convince the whole class to use it on the exam.
7. Refer to a movie scene as historical proof of an event.
6. Use text message shorthand just for LOLs.
5. Use a Chuck Norris fact as your essay title (and yes, Chuck Norris facts in a non-title setting are still lame).
4. Scantron Answer Formula: C-B-D-B-B-C-A-D-A-C, repeat.
3. Write every sentence with innuendo so one can't help but say "That's what she said."
2. "...but wikipedia said..."
1. Add an imaginary extra question where the answer is "Chicken, Yes."



"Listen, I know the offering's burnt. You know the offering's burnt. But seriously, is it really going to matter to a big hunk of carved granite?"

SUDOKU

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Newsday Crossword

ENVELOPE, PLEASE by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Sail supports
6 IRS-form experts
10 Flower part
14 Be ready for
15 Org. for those 50+
16 Bicycle wheel
17 State how much you'll pay
19 Harness strap
20 Potato bud
21 Genuine
22 Looked impolitely
24 Venetian-blind part
25 Plumlike fruit
26 Backwoodsy
29 Having an aroma
32 Ritz residence
33 Little bit
34 High-five sound
36 Bird-feeder food
37 Midmorning time
38 ___ or less (approximately)
39 Family-history diagram
40 Potpie veggie
41 Deals well with change
43 Television production
45 Most urgent
46 Opponents
47 Be durable
48 Punctual
51 Wide belt
52 Bonnet or beret
55 BMW alternative
56 Complete

DOWN

- quickly and easily
59 The shoe ___ the other foot
60 Correct, as a manuscript
61 "Shucks!"
62 Geek
63 Unaccompanied
birds flying in V's
1 Horse's hair
2 Out of the office
3 Identical
4 Suit accessory
5 Like a bright evening sky
6 Jeweler's weight
7 Bucket
8 Rainbow shape
9 Took part in a school bee
10 Wise to urban ways
11 Wedding-cake layer
12 One of the Great Lakes
13 Repair, as a tear
18 Treaty topic
23 Very long time
24 Temporary mood
25 Read over quickly
26 Take a breather
27 Take by force
28 Do the driving
29 Water vapor
30 Marry

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Newsday Crossword

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS

- 1 Concert's sound boosters
5 Enthusiastic
9 Twinkling sky sight
10 Farm storage building
14 Be an omen of
15 Big brass instruments
17 Author unknown: Abbr.
18 Highways: Abbr.
19 Nobel or Pulitzer
20 Twerp
22 Fund, as a scholarship
23 ___ and downs
24 Controls the wheel
25 Vitality
29 Did secret-agent work
31 Gemstone unit
32 Grocery vehicle
33 Big fuss
37 Frequently
38 Mischievous sprite
39 Matured
40 Tepee, for example
41 Agenda listing
42 Sent a telegram to
43 What actors memorize
45 Petroleum tankers
46 Give approval
49 Industrious insect
50 Rich pastry
51 Important person

DOWN

- 57 Music with arias
58 Where India is
59 Brother of Cain
60 Accelerator or brake
61 Be a retailer of
62 Soup containers
63 Soaks (up)
64 On an even ___ (steady)
65 Jekyll's alter ego
1 Right away, in memos
2 Short skirt
3 Fall into a chair
4 Babies in blue
5 Sudden
6 Casts a ballot
7 Notion

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HAVE A MICE DAY by Sally R. Stein
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34 Meanie

- 35 Moose relative
36 Racing-form stats
38 Cleanser scent
42 Accompanied by
44 Loft goals
45 Available to work
46 At the summit of
47 Manages somehow
48 Statement of belief
49 Spry
51 Sit in the sun
52 "That's clear"
53 Apiece
54 Online auctioneer
55 Mail out
56 Otherwise