



# We're back!

Welcome Week celebrations kick off the year in style



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VOLUME 63, ISSUE 1

# The Crusader

NORTHWEST NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Single copy free

## Students plead guilty to trespassing charges

by HANNAH BEERS

Five students involved in an attempted burglary of Best Buy last semester were sentenced in June, said the Canyon County Clerk's Office.

After pleading guilty to trespassing, Joshua Grewe, Dane Manley, Kyle Gray, and Joseph Grewe were sentenced to 90 days in jail. 81 days of the jail time was suspended.

Each of the four students were fined \$225 and served eight days in jail.

In a separate hearing, the charges against Leon Vasquez were amended to trespassing. Vasquez was fined \$227 and was sentenced to 38 days in jail. The jail time was suspended to eight days. In lieu of jail time, Vasquez completed four days of sheriff's inmate labor detail, said the Canyon County Clerk's Office.

Four of the five are participating in various sports this fall, according to NNU's website.

## New RDs add pizzazz to the freshman dorms

by KATIE THOMPSON

The coming of the school year brings not only new individuals to the NNU campus, but also familiar faces to fill the positions of freshman housing resident directors.

Both Ford Hall and Culver Hall welcome new RDs. NNU alumni Lindsay Kuhl is filling

the position of Ford Hall resident director. Justin Wadsworth will serve as resident director of Culver Hall.

"Having the opportunity to be an RA while I attended NNU was a key part of my learning experience. I now see the role of RD from a different perspective. I see it as one that can impact lives, make

a difference, and even make or break a college experience for a student," said Kuhl.

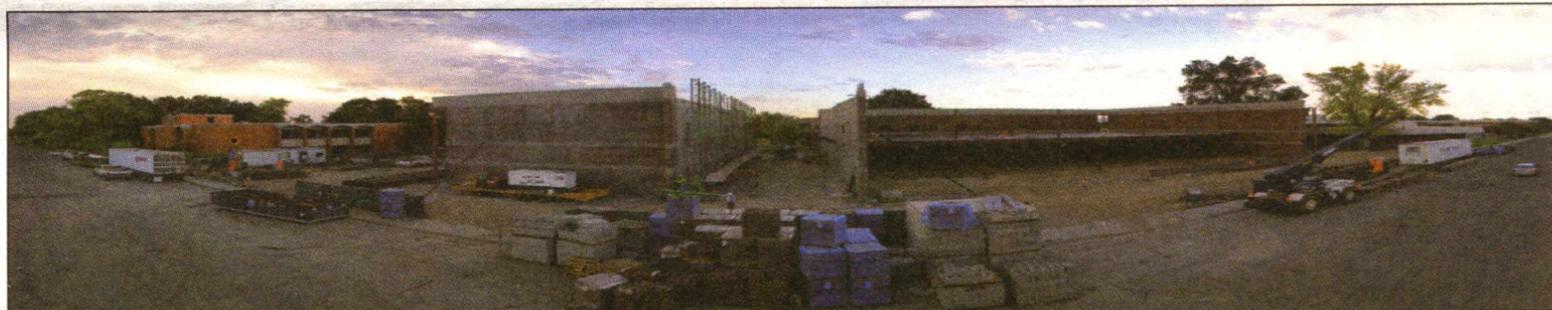
Kuhl hopes to use her RD position to not only encourage her residents practically, but most importantly, spiritually. She also desires to use the new wing teams to help reach all 160 incoming Ford residents.

Kuhl's passion for life, clear understanding of responsibility, and fun attitude make it clear why she was chosen for the position.

Wadsworth also intends to bring both respect and a bit of chaos to Culver Hall. Wadsworth said, "I want to create an atmosphere that allows a cohesive living experience. It's great to have

those moments of chaos, but there is also a need for order."

As a returning member to NNU's campus, Wadsworth intends to focus his efforts on generating a feeling of acknowledgement and love. His fun-loving personality and open door policy will certainly help Culver's residents feel right at home.



Construction of the Thomas Family Health & Science Center (Photo courtesy of Dr. Dan Nogales).

## Science classes will be held in new building next fall

by RACHAEL FINCH

A new fixture has appeared between the library and the Wiley Learning Center on the NNU campus over the summer. That fixture is the new and highly anticipated Thomas Family Health & Science Center, complete with fully erected walls and a first floor with plumbing and electric, said Dr. Nogales,

dean of the school of health and science.

Progress has been made on the building in the last few months, but there is still work to be done in terms of building and fund raising.

"The new science lecture hall has data and power to each seat so that takes a lot of coordination before we can pour concrete on the

first floor. We are continuing to fund raise for new equipment for the nursing simulation lab and science labs. We are hoping to raise an additional million dollars for equipment," said Nogales.

The two-story, 50 thousand square feet building is estimated to open on Jan. 30, 2009; however, a more realistic completion date

is March 1, said Nogales. While the building means big changes for the School of Health and Science in the future, it will cause little change for classes this academic year.

"We have a lot of equipment to move in, so we may wait until spring break to run labs in the new building. The Department of Nursing can move in

right away as most of its equipment can be set up in a day or so. Some of the science equipment requires a technician to be brought in and can take one day to a week to get the instrument running again. For sure, summer research will be greatly impacted, as of course all the classes and labs for next fall will be," said Nogales.

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### Quote of the week

"The most beautiful adventures are not those we go to seek."  
Robert Louis Stevenson

### Weather

From the National Weather Service

#### THURSDAY

Sunny.

Hi: 83° | Low: 50°

#### FRIDAY

Sunny.

Hi: 89° | Low: 54°

#### SATURDAY

Mostly sunny.

Hi: 87° | Low: 55°

#### SUNDAY

Mostly sunny.

Hi: 83° | Low: 53°

#### MONDAY

Mostly sunny.

Hi: 83° | Low: 53°

### NNU News Briefs

**New logo unveiled**  
Earlier this summer the athletic department released the new logo to be used for NNU athletics. The logo was created by Jim Ward of Jim Ward Designs in St. Louis, Mo. Students can find the new logo displayed on Orrin Hills Center Court in the

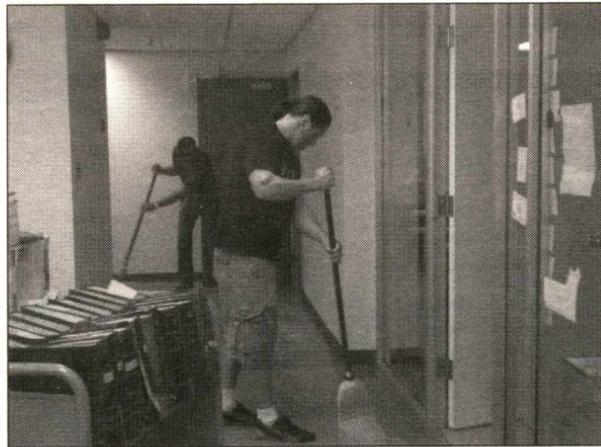
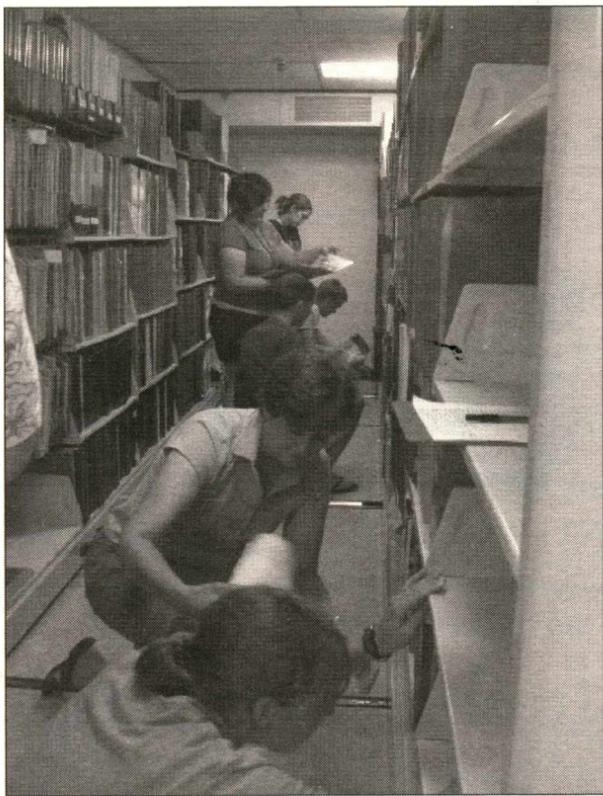
Johnson Sports Center.



**New VP of University Advancement**  
Joel Pearsall, vice president of financial

affairs, was named new vice president of university advancement. The announcement was made in July. Pearsall was appointed by President Alexander and approved by the Board of Trustees. Pearsall will continue to serve as vice president of financial affairs until a replacement is found.

## Broken sprinkler causes damage to Riley Library's periodical section



**Above:** Environmental service employees begin the cleanup process. Two to three inches of water flooded the bottom floor of Riley Library on July 31.

**Below:** Library employees had to catalogue all of the water logged periodicals before they were sent to Seattle for drying. The extent of the damage will not be known until the detailed drying process is completed (photos courtesy of Sharon Bull).

by KRISTIN GOTCH

On July 31 the faculty of John E. Riley Library at Northwest Nazarene University was dismayed when a fire-suppression sprinkler broke on the lower level. The break caused 2-3 inches of water to flood the floor and left many of the library's older periodicals soaked. Employees heard the alarm around 7:45 that morning. At that time the NNU campus safety office was notified of the situation. NNU Environmental

Services staff responded quickly to the scene. Library faculty also helped with clean up efforts. "The entire staff helped, especially in creating a list of materials" said Dr. Sharon Bull, dean of learning services and director of library services. "Our student employees worked very hard," said Bull.

Service Master came in to follow up on the efforts. Most of the mess was cleaned up by noon. It took 2 more days to prepare the damaged periodicals for shipping. An

outside company was called in to aid in repairing those periodicals. It is unclear at this time if there is any permanent damage.

The wet periodicals have been sent to a facility near Seattle where they are now being put through a detailed drying process. After this process is finished the Riley faculty will be able to better assess the volumes and whether any enduring harm was done.

"We won't make any plans or even speculate on what we will need to do

until we know for sure," said Bull.

It appears that the lower level will not be available to students until sometime in September because the floor is still drying. "We were very fortunate that the break was discovered quickly and had not had too much time to run," said Bull. The staff is certainly fortunate that time was on its side in what could have been a much more devastating situation.

## New president stresses a Christ-centered campus community

by HANNAH BEERS

New President Dr. David Alexander has three words to describe NNU: bigger, better and vital. After months of anticipation, Alexander and his wife Sandy are adjusting well to the NNU community and Idaho.

Alexander is not a stranger to the NNU campus. He taught from 1986-1991 in the Music Department where he got a good feel for the student body, with his enthusiasm and dedication to building strong relationships. Returning to the campus he can see the momentum, which drives the campus. Alexander comes to NNU from our sister school, Southern Nazarene University, where he served for 17 years as Vice President for University

Advancement.

As the new president, Alexander is not looking to come in and change things, but to continue the established momentum. By



building strong relationships with students, staff, and faculty, he hopes to institute a strong community atmosphere here on campus; one that will push the community of NNU to higher and more advanced accomplishments.

In a speech given to the

Class of 2012 and parents at the ribbon cutting ceremony on Aug. 24, Alexander said this is a transitional period not only for the university but for freshman as well.

"It is important for freshman to approach the first year of college with openness. You are not supposed to know everything right now. Everything is not supposed to be wrapped with a pretty little bow. Remember to explore academic options with pursuit of gaining more experience. Don't rush to create artificial relationships but gather a circle of friends who will care for you and learn to care for them as well," said Alexander.

With the hope of having a strong relational foundation with the NNU campus, Alexander is willing

to enjoy what NNU has to offer. While doing dissertation work at NNU, he treated himself to the skiing class here on campus. He thought it was a nice way to celebrate a job well done.

Alexander is a sociable president who wants to lead by example and truly get to know the heart and soul of the NNU community. In the upcoming year, he hopes to have the sights of NNU "fixed on Jesus." "All that we do, say, and are should be centered on Jesus Christ; our love for Him, ourselves, and our neighbors," said Alexander.

His directional leadership for 2008-09 comes from a saying he used to tell his kids: "You're responsible for your own fun; the fun you program for yourself."

## BSU professor dies in wildfire while police and firefighters continue to battle blazes in the West

by ASSOCIATED PRESS

The body of a Boise State University professor has been found in one of the nearly 20 houses burned when a wildfire raced through a neighborhood, officials confirmed Tuesday.

Forensic tests were pending and the cause of death remained undetermined, but Ada County Coroner Erwin Sonnenberg identified the woman as Mary Ellen Ryder, a professor of English and linguistics who was scheduled to teach her first class of the semester Tuesday.

Firefighters discovered her body inside one of the homes burned Monday when flames fanned by winds gusting to 50 mph spread from a vacant field of sagebrush and cheatgrass up a ridge on the city's southeast side.

Assistant Fire Marshal Mark Senteno toured the neighborhood Tuesday morning, counting driveways where homes had been reduced to blackened rubble, and said 10 homes had been destroyed.

"This has been the most devastating fire we've seen in recent memory," Fire Chief Dennis Doan said.

Police spokeswoman Lynn Hightower said no other residents were injured, but 17 police officers and at least one firefighter were treated at hospitals for smoke inhalation and other injuries.

More than 100 residents were evacuated before the fire was under control early Tuesday. Many evacuees spent the night at a nearby church or elementary school.

Police blocked off the East Sweetwater Drive in the Boise subdivision where most of the damage occurred. More than 12 hours after the fire swept through, a thick odor of smoke lingered as residents were allowed back to collect what

belongs they could find. Christopher Lee, 40, and his wife, Mindy, 35, returned early Tuesday morning to find their home was one of several that had burned to the ground.

The couple rifled through the ashes with the oldest of their five children, Spencer, 14. A firefighter had recovered the melted remnants of a college diploma and a scorched camping stove.

"Everything's just gone," said Spencer Lee, who started school at Les Bois Junior High School a day earlier.

The blaze was reported about 7 p.m. Monday in a vacant field. Duane and Lynn Hughes, who live down the street from the homes that were destroyed, said they watched as the fire roared up the ridge.

"It's a catastrophe," said Lynn Hughes, 40, as she swept up debris from her neighbor's yard.

Cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Meanwhile, a wildfire burning between Cody, Wyo., and Yellowstone National Park, forced the evacuation of a guest ranch. Debbie Millard, one of the owners of the Elephant Head Lodge, said all 15 guests had left the lodge.

The fire, about 40 miles west of Cody and 15 miles east of Yellowstone, was sparked by lightning July 26 and has burned nearly 87 square miles, fire information officer Sarah Gallup said Tuesday. It is now about a half-mile from the lodge.

Gallup said 250 firefighters are working to protect buildings and other structures in the area. She said the fire will likely continue to burn until snowfall.

In its first two weeks, the fire burned some unused, unoccupied Forest Service cabins.

## Clinton heartily endorses Obama at Democratic National Convention

by ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton summoned the millions of voters who supported her in the primaries to send Barack Obama to the White House Tuesday night, and drew thunderous applause at the Democratic National Convention when she declared her one-time rival is "my candidate and he must be our president."

"We don't have a moment to lose or a vote to spare," said the former first lady, writing the final chapter in a quest for the White House every bit as pioneering as Obama's own.

The packed convention floor became a sea of white "Hillary" signs as the New York senator — Obama's fiercest rival across 56 primaries and caucuses — strode to the podium for her prime-time speech. The signs were soon replaced

others that read simply, "Unity."

While her remarks included a full-throated endorsement of Obama, Clinton did not say whether she would have her name placed in nomination, or seek a formal roll call of the states when the party's top prize is awarded by delegates on Wednesday night.

Clinton had been the prohibitive favorite for the nomination she launched her campaign last year, seeking to become the first female president. But she fell behind Obama after the leadoff Iowa caucuses in January, and he now is poised to become the first black nominee of a major party.

Obama turned the featured speaking slot of the convention's second night over to Clinton, hoping she could nudge her

disenchanted supporters toward his candidacy.

He called her after her speech to express his appreciation, aides said.

She followed others to the podium who ripped into Republican McCain as indifferent to the working class and cozy with big oil.

Obama's formal nomination was set for Wednesday night. First came Clinton,

The convention hall was packed for her appearance, so much so that officials sealed the entrances.

Calling herself a "proud supporter of Obama, Clinton dismissed Republican John McCain with a few choice words.

"No way. No how. No McCain," she said as the hall erupted in cheers.

"We don't need four more years ... of the last eight years," she added.

Despite lingering

unhappiness among some delegates nursing grievances over Clinton's loss, party chairman Howard Dean declared the convention determined to make Obama the nation's 44th president. "There is not a unity problem. If anyone doubts that, wait till you see Hillary Clinton's speech," he said.

Obama delivers his acceptance speech Thursday night at a football stadium. An estimated 75,000 tickets have been distributed for the event, meant to stir additional comparisons with Kennedy's appearance at the Los Angeles Coliseum in 1960.

Dean, the party chairman, said the Democrats' imperatives were "to make sure people know who Barack Obama is, who Joe Biden is."

## A plane hijacked by Darfur rebels lands in WWII-era Saharan airfield

by ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRIPOLI, Libya-- Hijackers in Sudan's wartorn Darfur region seized a jetliner carrying nearly 100 people, including local Darfur officials, and forced it to land at a World War II-era airfield in the heart of the Sahara Desert in neighboring Libya, officials said.

A Libyan official at the remote Kufra airport said there were 10 hijackers belonging to a Darfur rebel group and were demanding enough fuel for the Boeing 737 to continue to France.

But the rebel group quickly denied any link to the hijacking.

The flight was commandeered soon after taking off from Nyala, capital of southern Darfur, en route to Khartoum, the national capital, said Yusuf Ibrahim, director of Khartoum's airport.

The plane was diverted to Kufra, a desert oasis in southeast Libya close to the Sudanese and Egyptian borders, some 1,000 miles from Tripoli.

The Kufra airport official said the hijackers belonged to the Darfur rebel Sudan

Liberation Movement led by Abdul-Wahid Nour. They rejected Libyan requests that they release women and children on the flight and allow provisions onto the plane, refusing any negotiations and demanding the refueling, the official said.

The official, who was privy to communications between the plane and airport officials, spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the press.

SLM-Nour spokesman Yahia Bolad denied any involvement, saying his group has "no relation to this act."

"This is a fabrication by the Sudanese government and some criminals," said Bolad, from London. "We denounce and condemn this act. We want the protection of civilians wherever they are. This is a dirty conspiracy to defame" the rebels.

In the early hours Wednesday, the plane had not refueled and it was not known whether the Libyans would allow it to do so. The airfield has little communications equipment,

and it was unclear how extensive the contacts were between the plane and the officials. Some Libyan troops are located at the facility, but their numbers were not known, and no additional forces or higher-ranking officials had arrived hours after the plane landed.

The hijacked airliner belongs to a private company, Sun Air, and was carrying 95 people, including crew and passengers, the Sudanese civil aviation authority said in a statement carried by the Sudan Media Center, which has close links to the government.

Among the passengers were former rebels who have become members of the Darfur Transitional Authority, an interim government body responsible for implementing a peace agreement reached in 2006 between the government and one of the rebel factions, a security official at Nyala airport said. He spoke on the same condition of anonymity.

A spokesman from another rebel group, the Justice and Equality Movement, Ahmed Hussain,

accused the government in the hijacking, saying it was trying to "divert attention" from an attack by the Sudanese military on the Darfur refugee camp of Kalma, near Nyala airport.

The attack Monday was the worst in Darfur in months. A spokesman for U.N.-African Union peacekeepers, Nourredine Mezni, said at least 33 people were buried Tuesday, though some U.N. officials said the toll could be higher. Hussain said he had reports of 70 dead.

Darfur's ethnic African rebels have been battling the Arab-led Khartoum government since 2003 in a conflict that has killed up to 300,000 people and driven 2.5 million from their homes. The SLM is one of the main rebel groups, but has splintered into numerous factions.

Sudan has had previous hijackings, most recently in January 2007, when a man hijacked a plane taking off from Khartoum and forced the pilot at gunpoint to fly to neighboring Chad, then surrendered. None of the more than 100 passengers was hurt.

## AP News Blurbs

### Duncan slayings

#### BOISE, Idaho

Jurors in the death sentencing hearing of confessed killer Joseph Edward Duncan III were told Tuesday that he lived near where two girls were abducted in Seattle in 1996 and worked near where their bodies were found months later. The testimony is part of an effort by government lawyers to convince jurors that Duncan has a lifelong pattern of violence and should be executed instead of sentenced to life in prison for the abduction of two northern Idaho children and the slaying of one of them in 2005.

### Egypt septuplets

#### ALEXANDRIA, Egypt

The 27-year-old and her husband already had three children — all girls. They badly wanted a boy, and she had not conceived in five years, so doctors gave her hormones. The startling result: healthy septuplets — though controversy persists about the ethics of fertility treatments in a nation where medical oversight is lax and incubators are rare.

### Immigration Raid

#### LAUREL, Miss.

Arrests at a manufacturing plant in this southern Mississippi town are expected to top 400, making it the largest workplace immigration raid in the nation's history. It's already having a chilling effect on workers at area chicken-processing plants — who are staying home in fear of another roundup. Many are even avoiding churches.

### Poverty numbers

#### WASHINGTON

The number of people lacking health insurance dropped by more than 1 million in 2007, as the poverty rate held steady, the Census Bureau reports. The numbers could be viewed as a scorecard of President Bush's stewardship of the economy at the kitchen-table level, but only go to the end of last year — before the current economic downturn.

### Hari Puttar?

#### MUMBAI, India

Bollywood producers set to release a film called "Hari Puttar: A Comedy of Terrors" are working to fend off a lawsuit filed by Warner Bros. that claims the movie title hews too closely to their mega-famous boy wizard franchise.

While Bollywood films often borrow liberally from Western movies, producers say their movie bears no resemblance to any film in the "Harry Potter" series.

"There is absolutely nothing to link 'Hari Puttar' with 'Harry Potter,'" said Munish Purii, chief executive officer of Mumbai-based producer Mirchi Movies. Hari is a common name in India and "puttar" is Punjabi for son, he said.

"Even if it does rhyme with Harry Potter, surely there is a limit to cases?" said Tarun Adarsh, editor of Trade Guide magazine.

The film is not a tale of wizard spells or flying broomsticks, but rather a story of an Indian boy left home alone, who fights off burglars when his parents go away on vacation — a plot more reminiscent of the film "Home Alone," starring Macaulay Culkin.

Warner Bros. is seeking an injunction against the film, which is set for release Sept. 12. Hearings began Monday and the next is scheduled for Sept. 2.

Warner Bros. spokeswoman Deborah Lincoln confirmed that the company has filed a lawsuit against the producers of "Hari Puttar."

"Warner Bros. values and protects intellectual property rights. However, it is our policy not to discuss publicly the details of any ongoing litigation," Lincoln said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

### Diplomat fired upon

#### ISLAMABAD, Pakistan

Gunmen fire on a vehicle carrying a top U.S. diplomat in Pakistan's militancy-plagued northwest, but no one is hurt or wounded



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The staff editorial on page four is determined by The Crusader editorial board. For a complete list of the editorial board, contact The Crusader's offices.

## There are more reasons for Biden than most would think



GUEST OPINION  
by  
ALLISON HAWN

This week, presidential hopeful Barack Obama announced Delaware Senator Joe Biden as his running mate in the November elections.

Now, you can hardly find a newspaper article that doesn't say that Obama picked Biden simply as a way to compensate for his relatively short political career. It is true that Biden has served six consecutive terms as senator and definitely has seen more of the workings of this government than Obama; but I think he was chosen for different reasons.

I think it can be agreed the race between Obama and Hillary Clinton caused quite a bit of bad blood among certain parts of the Democratic Party. Many political commentators

thought the situation could be remedied by adding Clinton as the vice-president on Obama's ticket.

This, I would think, would be ineffective since she made several members of the party and quite a few indecisive voters unhappy. Sure, Biden might win back some of Clinton's original supporters, but he would alienate five times as many people who were angry with her by the time she pulled out.

Biden originally had his name in for the presidency, but he backed out when both Clinton and Obama shot ahead in popularity. This is another reason Obama picked him. Biden will not be fighting him for attention. His decision also makes Obama a team player by picking up a past opponent showing that he doesn't hold a

grudge toward competing members of his party.

Biden also helps create a wider demographic for Obama's campaign. Biden has been cited all over the media as being a vice-presidential candidate that appeals to blue-collar workers, middle-class families and those who are socially liberal. Obama is simply expanding his voter prospects for the campaign while reaffirming those who already support him.

The idea that Obama is using Biden to counteract his own lack of experience is questionable. We really must give Obama a little more strategic credit.

If Obama were picking a person to go on his ticket based on past experience, then he could have chosen from a myriad of people who were better suited to that specific need.

Biden is a smart choice and a good tactical move on Obama's part and is not compensation.

## New students are welcome and we're excited to have you

STAFF EDITORIAL

The final days of August mark a familiar time for returning NNU students. Classes begin and friendships put on hold from four months previous are anticipated.

For new students, this feeling is far different. So how do these fresh faces find their place at NNU?

Welcome Week does just that, providing opportunity for new students to meet their newfound peers in a relaxing, end-of-summer atmosphere. Use Welcome Week as a tool to step out of your comfort zone, and meet those you will be sharing this year with.

Before the books hit us all hard, may we continue to enjoy a week of festivities, as well as building new relationships along the way.

Once classes get into full swing, don't lose what you made during the first week. Get to know the people you met even better and make connections and relationships; who knows, they may prove to last a lifetime.

Freshmen and transfers, get involved with NNU. Class council elections are coming up soon and are a wonderful opportunity to make a difference on campus. If class council isn't your style, that's okay. There are plenty of other ways to get into the NNU community.

Whether it be band, choir, drama, clubs, ministries or intramurals -- NNU has a wide variety of things to get students excited about school and the community.

If you put yourself out there, your time at NNU can be an exciting and wonderful experience.

The Crusader would like to welcome all new students to campus, and wishes you all an excellent first year at NNU.

## It's college, people, open your mind up for new things



Editor's Note  
by  
AIMEE NILES

It's a calm, quiet evening. Nothing indicates that anything out of the ordinary is about to happen. The Olympics flash across the television screen in a marathon of USA's, gold medals and Michael Phelps'. Then, it happens: a presidential commercial comes on.

John McCain's smiling face fills the screen declaring he "approves this message."

My dad clears his throat and turns to me, "So, who are you voting for?" he asks. Warning lights flash in my head, alarm bells are going into overtime and I'm stuck. Like a deer caught in the high beams of a Mac truck, I don't know what to do.

I know what he wants me to say; I know he's waiting for me to shrug it off and says something along the lines of "whomever you're

voting for." But I can't do it, I just can't.

The last presidential election was so easy. I wasn't old enough to vote, so I could make a fuss for whatever candidate and it really didn't matter. My opinions conveniently matched up with my dad, and conversations bolstered his views instead of challenged them.

But this time, it won't be easy. I've gone away to college for three years since the last election. I've experienced new things, gained new worldviews and

have—thankfully—formed opinions of my own.

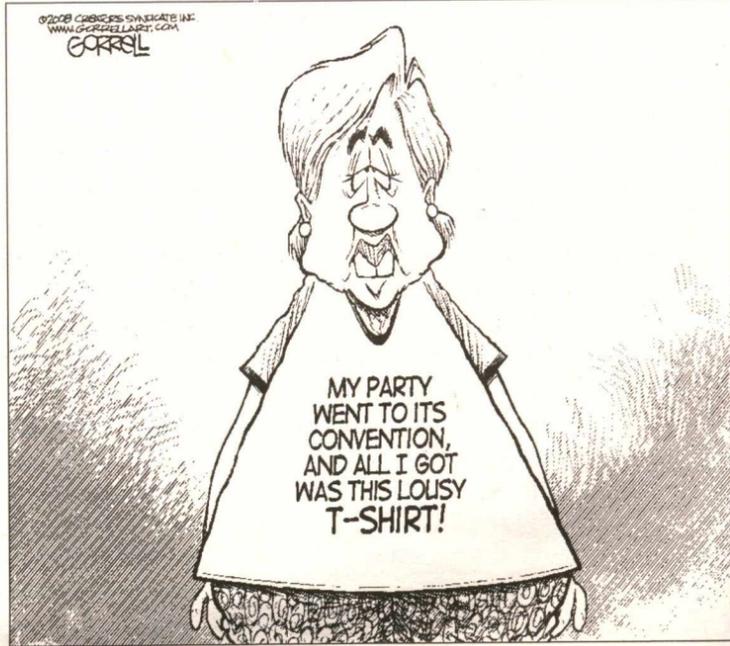
As sad as it may make my father that instead of gushing about the virtues of the Republican Party, we argue about the potential judicial appointees of McCain and Obama, it's necessary. The same applies for a litany of subjects; whether he likes it or not, his little girl is grown up.

That's what happens when we come to college; we learn, we change and we grow.

As this year begins,

embrace the changes you see in yourself. Freshmen, don't be freaked out if you find yourself changing from the person you were in high school. It's okay, and in some cases, it's a really good thing.

We all change. Whether it is from a summer experience, or from political commercials, or from coming to college. It's an amazing time to change; there's so much going on in our country this year. Open your minds and if you find yourself listening to someone you've



# Can you be too good?



**LOCKER TALK**  
by  
**DEREK DE ROOY**

A 9-year-old Connecticut boy is being punished for his efforts on the baseball field. His team is being disbanded, the coach has resigned, according to league officials, for his refusal to follow the directions of the league, almost a silent encouragement for the boy. Opposing teams refuse to play this tyke, forfeiting games. Opposing players and their parents say the same thing: the kid's too good.

Parents have mentioned their concern for their own children. Of course they don't want to see their kid get hit by a ball, but they don't want their kid to be afraid of the ball, either.

Jericho Scott pitches as hard as 40 mph, baffling batters who aren't used to such heat. Jericho has not hit a batter all season; shouldn't a pitcher so far above the competition be

able to throw down the middle?

League officials first told coach Wilfred Vidro that the boy could not pitch after their

Aug. 13 game. Jericho did play second base for a game, but stood on the mound for the next, watching the other team walk away in forfeit.

Fortunately, Jericho's team has stuck by him. Vidro tells reporters that he has not quit, and his team refuses to disband as League officials have asked. Even the parents of the team came out at a protest on the league field to let Jericho pitch again.

What should be done?

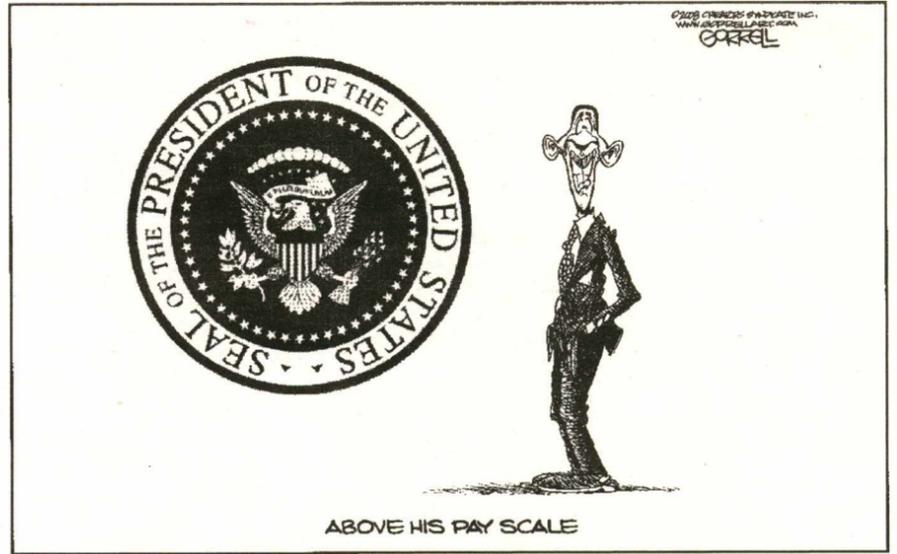
I recently came to appreciate that my nephew's soccer team had only four players on it. When I was little, I played soccer on a team of 10. I remember being part of a giant soccer blob that slowly moved up and down the field, with kids all kicking each other's shins and kicking the ball into each other. I loved that blob! When I first noticed my nephew playing with only a few other kids, it didn't

make sense. But parents and coaches are trying to get everyone involved, to let everyone affect the game, to not have anyone sit on the bench.

Now little league teams are changing the game and disallowing kids to play their best and/or desired position. I see their logic behind this move, and I can understand why a parent might be surprised or uncomfortable with balls being thrown to their child at such high speed.

Jericho is being punished for excelling. There are few American ideals so paramount as striving for excellence. Our culture encourages you to find your niche by allowing you to try anything. Yet the kid who loves baseball is being told that he can't do what he does best.

The best solution, perhaps, is to put Scott in a different league. Scott could be pitching with older children, 10 or maybe 11-year-olds. But if he doesn't want to play with them, there's not much that can be done about it.



ABOVE HIS PAY SCALE

**THE CRUSADER'S LETTERS POLICY**  
**SEND TO CRUSADER@NNU.EDU**

- Anonymous letters will not be accepted
- Letters under 200 words will likely be accepted
- Please include your name and classification with your letter

The Crusader is starting a new feature called "Ask Emerson." If you have questions for any of our administrators, please forward them to [crusader@nnu.edu](mailto:crusader@nnu.edu). Put "Ask Emerson" in the subject line

## From the SGA President's desk



**GUEST OPINION**  
by  
**LACEY SMITH**

How wonderful it is to be back on our NNU campus with so much family community. It is a true blessing to be able to be

here, and I know this time will play a huge part in shaping who we

are. We have abundant opportunity this year to not only help ourselves but help so many around us with the ways we choose to live our lives. My hope for

this year is that our student body can pull together as one, acting as one to bring about change. Our SGA will be working this year to bring opportunities for us to serve and become actively involved in being a forward motion for our world. Thank you all for this opportunity you have given me to serve, I hope to make you proud! See you around.

# Obama's truth doesn't measure up when confronted with facts



**Hatchet**  
by  
**LUCAS ROEBUCK**

Now we know how Barack Obama reacts when he is caught in a lie. He angrily defames his accusers by calling them liars in return. That's exactly what he said about the National Right to Life Committee when they unearthed voting records showing Obama opposed requiring medical care for babies born alive after a botched abortion.

When people previously questioned Obama on his vote against the Born Alive Infant Protection Act in the Illinois legislature, Obama simply said that the bill was really an effort to counter Roe v. Wade. Obama said that he supported a national bill with similar intent that passed the U. S. Senate (before he got there) unanimously.

I find it ironic that a

"legal scholar" like Obama would think that a state law could "undermine" a Supreme Court ruling. If Roe v. Wade was a proper judicial interpretation of the law, then how could a state law that allegedly flies in the face of that ruling do anything but be struck down? Either way, Obama said that people were "lying" about his record.

National Right to Life, the leading pro-life activist group, released proof by way of voting records from the Illinois Senate that Obama did oppose the bill. The documents that NRTC found show that Obama voted against language that was nearly identical to the U. S. Senate bill (which even the most pro-choice Senators voted for). The facts point to two conclusions: Either Obama was lying or ignorant of how he voted. I don't think the intelligent Obama can plead ignorance.

When confronted about the record, here is what Obama said: "Well and because they have not been telling the truth. And I hate to say that people are lying, but here's a situation where folks are lying. I have said repeatedly that I would have been completely in, fully in support of the federal bill that everybody supported, which was to say that you should provide assistance to any infant that was born - even if it was as a consequence of an induced abortion. That was not the bill that was presented at the state level. What that bill also was doing was trying to undermine Roe v. Wade."

Here is the exact text of the bill Obama voted against: AN ACT concerning infants who are born alive. Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly: Section 5. The Statute on Statutes is amended by adding Section 1.36 as follows:: Sec. 1.36. Born-alive infant. (a) In determining the meaning of any statute or of any rule, regulation, or interpretation

of the various administrative agencies of this State, the words "person," "human being," "child," and "individual" include every infant member of the species homo sapiens who is born alive at any stage of development.

(b) As used in this Section, the term "born alive," with respect to a member of the species homo sapiens, means the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of that member, at any stage of development, who after that expulsion or extraction breathes or has a beating heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, regardless of whether the umbilical cord has been cut and regardless of whether the expulsion or extraction occurs as a result of natural or induced labor, cesarean section, or induced abortion.

(c) Nothing in this Section [the bill] shall be construed to affirm, deny, expand, or contract any legal status or legal right applicable to any member of the species homo sapiens

at any point prior to being born alive as defined in this Section.

Abortion rights is a sacred cow for Obama. He talks about compromise and getting people together, but he clearly has decided that inconvenient babies, even ones born, should be subject to termination at the request of the mother - an extreme position, not a compromise one.

When asked "at what point does a baby get human rights," here is how Obama replied: "Well, you know, I think that whether you're looking at it from a theological perspective or a scientific perspective, answering that question with specificity, you know, is above my pay grade."

Obama wants us to believe that he would actually do more to reduce abortions than President Bush. He said, "The fact is that although we have had a president who is opposed to abortion over the last eight years, abortions have not gone down, and that is something we have to address."

Not sure where Obama is getting this one from. An article this January in U. S. News and World Report ran with the headline "U. S. Abortion Rate Falls to Lowest Level In Decades." The article reports, "The U. S. abortion rate has reached its lowest level in three decades... The actual number of abortions dropped to a new low, with 1.2 million abortions in 2005, compared to a high of 1.6 million abortions in 1990."

Obama seems to play fast and loose with the facts, hoping to portray himself as someone who an anti-abortion voter could cross the aisle for. He's slick, but not that slick.

Apparently, the truth is above Obama's pay grade as well.

*Lucas Roebuck is a professor of journalism at NNU. This column originally appeared in The Northwest Arkansas Times.*



## Say hello to Welcome Week

by ANDREW MCCULLEY

One aspect which distinguishes NNU from other universities is the sense of community that is fostered on campus. NNU, in part, creates this community by making the first week of classes more than just orientation and scheduling. NNU invites students back for another year with Welcome Week.

For incoming students,

orientation is a necessary facet of the week. The importance of being familiar with the campus, the functions of buildings, and meeting the staff is obvious.

For example, getting on the right side of Ronda Seward can prove to be invaluable, as those who know her can attest to. However, forging relationships is arguably the most valued, and intended, result of the Welcome Week.

NNU Student Government Association President Lacey Smith encourages students to attend the Welcome Week events. Smith said, "This is the time to form ties with the people you will be seeing and living with for the next few years."

To the returning students, who hopefully do not need remedial orientation, Welcome Week is, well, Hakuna Matata. After

the long drought of summer, everyone is ready for school to begin, if only for the social events rather than the academics.

The events of Welcome Week provide an opportunity to shift gears, easing students into the regimented "fun" of school from the freedom of summer.

Social Vice President Brandon Haskins has scheduled a Welcome Week supremely up to all

expectations, keeping in place traditional events while planning new events assured to be spectacular.

This year's theme, "Paradise Lost," will be a "shipwrecked, castaway sort of thing," said Haskins.

Look for "Paradise Lost" Welcome Week advertisements papering the campus, detailing specific times and places for every event. Students participated in the Ice Cream Social, the Scavenger

Hunt—a thinly veiled attempt to trick Freshman into learning the campus—and the Bonfire.

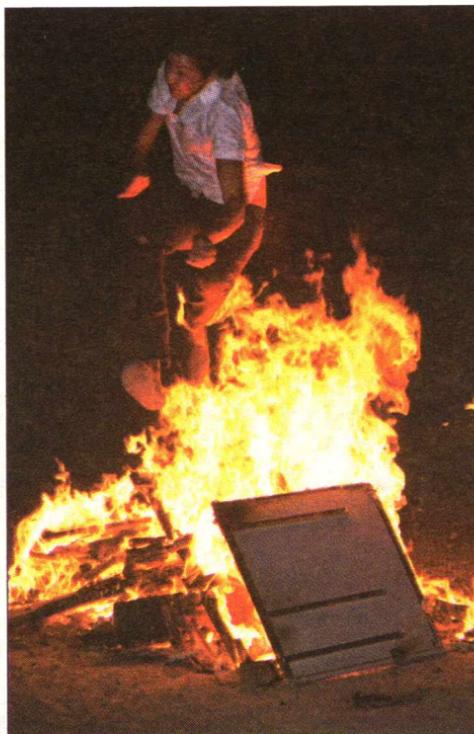
Rootbeerfest was hosted Aug. 25 in the Science Lecture Hall, and featured a screening of "The Goonies."

Look forward to the Malibu Café and a new event, Water Sports, to be held at Roaring Springs.

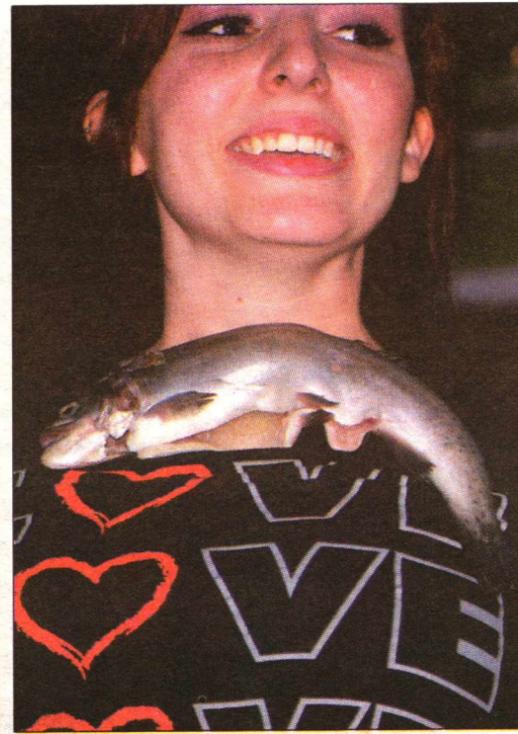
Haskins said, "The college experience is all what



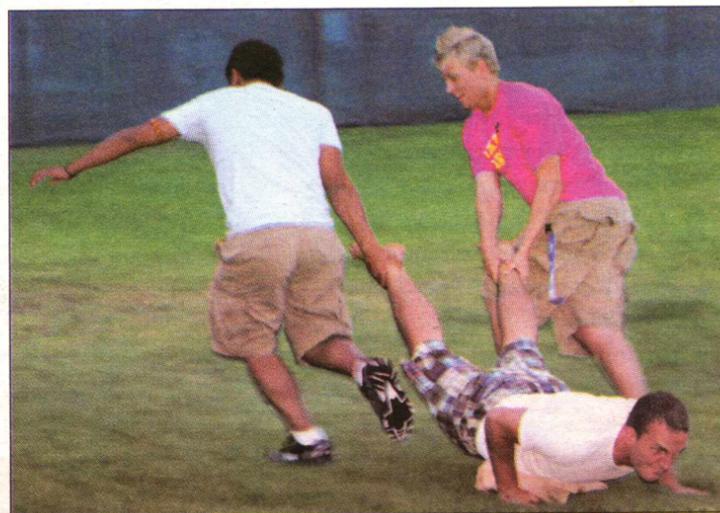
Students cheer on Executive Vice President Grant Miller as he downs two cans of root-beer Monday night at Rootbeer Fest (Photo by Chris Vanderschaff).



Freshman Digger Reeder adds excitement at the Bonfire Sunday night (Photo by Chris VanDerschaff).



Freshman Elizabeth Grinder participates in the Scavenger Hunt (Photo by Aimee Niles).



Freshman Bryce May gets dragged by classmate Josh Siverson on a block of ice during the Scavenger Hunt Saturday (Photo by Aimee Niles).

## Student-organized trip heads south of the border

by LAURIE BURGEMEISTER

This summer, NNU students took missions into their own hands, planning and completing a trip to Tijuana, Mexico.

Robert Poe, Roland Tedder, Kay Hardiman, and Jerad May organized the trip. The team left May 6 and returned May 14.

The planning was part of the Topics in Christian Ministries class, taught by Professor Mike Kipp. The course lasted a year, as the students learned the logistics of planning a mission trip.

The group made announcements during chapel about the trip and eight other students volunteered. The team included Megan Saunders, Kirsten Abel, Chelsey Jones, Tim Meeks, Mallore Norris, Sharelle Sewerd, Greg DeSimone, and Vanessa Evans.

The team's only funding came from the money each student was required to pay for participating in the trip. This fee was around \$950 per student.

The group teamed up with the organization Amor Ministries. Amor has been building homes for families in need in Mexico since 1980 and has recently started work in South Africa.

The students drove to Mexico and set up tents. They hired an organization to take care of their meals;

*"Doing everything as a team made both work and play a joy"*

though they had originally planned to bring their own food, budgeting and state regulations about taking food across state lines proved difficult.

The team completed a house in three days for a family that had been living in a one-bedroom shack with a queen-size bed taking up most of the room.

Hardiman said that her favorite part was working and playing with the people in the community. "Doing everything as a team made

both work and play a joy," she said.

Poe, having been on three trips to Mexico in high school, said "It was cool to be with people who had never experienced a mission trip. We all worked really well together."

The students slept in the Amor compound in tents. Each evening the team worshipped around the campfire and spent time discussing the impact the trip was having on them.

Tedder said, "God has called each of us to live out the Great Commission and this is the way that Amor Ministries is doing it. We were able to be a part of that."

Poe said that planning the trip, instead of simply participating, was difficult. Ultimately however, it was fulfilling to understand what it takes to plan a mission trip, said Poe.



Above from left to right: Greg DeSimone, Mike Kipp, Chelsea Jones, Roland Tedder, Kirsten Abel, Vanessa Evans, Sharelle Seward, Kay Hardiman, Mallore Norris, Megan Saunders, Tim Meeks, Robert Poe (Photo courtesy of Megan Saunders).

## LEAD prepares student leaders

by HANNAH BEERS

The week before freshmen arrived, 120 student leaders gathered for a four-day training session on campus and at Trinity Pines in McCall.

The groups represented were RAs, BSLs, PMs, SGA, athletic captains, and PHEs, which make up about ten percent of the student body population. It is good to get acquainted with each of the separate leadership positions on campus.

Incoming freshmen have a wing team composed of a Resident Assistant, a Bible Study Leader and a Peer

Mentor. Resident Assistant (RA) act not only as

Mentor. Resident Assistants (RA) act not only as "mom or dad" for students away from home, but also as a friend and mentor. Bible study leaders (BSL) establish a meeting time with their wing of students to search God's Word and provide an open environment for growth. Peer Mentors (PM) become accountability friends who are there for students as they experience the ups and downs of college life. These individuals have already been through college life and will help bridge the transitional gap between home and school life. Designated dorm floors around campus have Peer Health Educators (PHE), who provides information about college health issues.

Last year, student leadership on campus had a goal of bridging the gap between athletes and the rest of the student body. Athletic

captains are dedicated to the goal of getting their teams to participate in social activities on campus. The rest of the student leaders want to erase the invisible line between students and athletes. So make sure to get out and participate in all aspects of campus life cause no one wants to be missing out.

SGA is a group of individuals who is here to provide a profitable college experience for the whole student body. Each SGA member has posted office hours every week upstairs in Student Development. Make sure to familiarize yourself with all of the student leaders on campus.

"U Fit" is the theme for this year's student leaders, who have the hope of showing new and returning students where they "fit" on campus. Their training at LEAD is designed to serve the student body in every

## The JSC returns after an arson related fire last spring

by RACHAEL FINCH

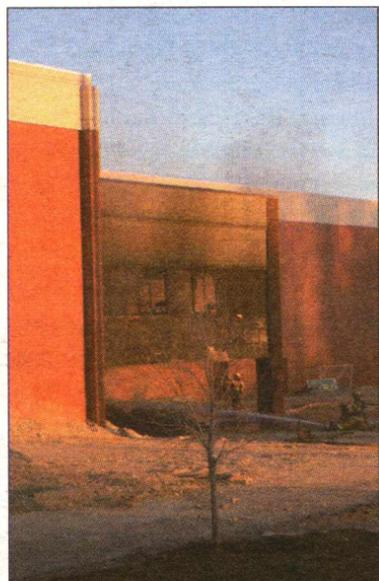
Five months after the fire at the Johnson Sports Center, the facility is back in working order. Excluding some final details, it is as good as new—or maybe even better than new, considering the added features.

"We have added an indoor climbing wall in the southeast corner of the fieldhouse managed by Assistant Athletic Director Rob King," said Athletic Director Rich Sanders.

"Sod was recently installed on the new men's and women's soccer game facility between the track and Colorado Street. We hope to use the facility for competition later in September," Sanders said.

The indoor soccer field, which was in the process of construction before the fire, was not damaged by the fire, but the construction was delayed, said Hollie Lindner, director of marketing and public relations.

"We hope to have the indoor soccer facility



Above: Johnson Sports Center rebuilt (Photo by Chris VanDerschaaf)  
Left: Johnson Sports Center after blaze in March (Photo by Aimee Niles).

completed in the next two weeks," said Sanders.

The main gym floor was refurbished and work was done to the field house to repair water damage.

While the downstairs weight room has all its equipment in place, the fitness center equipment was not as quickly or easily restored.

"We are waiting for delivery of the new cardio equipment for the fitness center. The cardio equipment and replacement Olympic

weight equipment is scheduled for delivery this Friday Aug. 22," Sanders said.

Aside from the fitness center, only a few details remain. "We are also waiting for 40 chairs and nine stools for the suites. They should be delivered in the next two weeks. The suites are also a priority due to campus and rental use," said Sanders.

Sanders also said replacement pool tables and ping pong tables have been ordered though no date has been set for delivery.

"Many people have

worked diligently since the fire to get the facility restored and available for student and community use. We are grateful to the community partners such as the City of Nampa and the Nampa Recreation Center and Nampa School District, that provided space and access to workout facilities in the interim," said Lindner.

### Student Life Events

**Wednesday, August 27**  
9:00 p.m.: Time Out with Rylee Curtis (Student Center Courtyard)  
10:00 p.m.: Wednesday Nite Live: Fraizer (Park)

**Thursday, August 28**  
8:00 p.m.: SGA Jazz on the Lawn (Brickhouse)

**Friday, August 29**  
7:30 p.m.: SGA Malibu Cafe (Student Center)

**Saturday, August 30**  
11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.: SGA Water Sports  
5:00 p.m.: SGA Malibu Pays Luau  
9:00 p.m.: SGA RollerJamming

**Monday, September 1**  
Labor Day (Student Holiday)

## Crusader volleyball has their eye on nationals

by Jael Henthorn

Expectations are high this season for Crusader volleyball. The team ended last season ranked 6th in the region, earning itself a bid to nationals. The team is led by coach Jared Sliger.

Cammy Dranginis, All-Regional All-Star and a key part of the team's success, said, "Some of our team goals are to make it to the national tournament again,

be ranked top two in conference, and to get the campus excited for volleyball again this year."

There are seven returners this season; each one played a key role in last season's success. Leading the team into what is hopefully another winning season is senior Amanda Boschma, a powerful outside hitter.

Juniors Dranginis and Lindsay Forseth are also

key returners for the team. Dranginis led the crusaders last year receiving first team all conference honors. Forseth made second team all conference. This dynamic duo combined for 674 kills last season.

Other returners to watch include Amy Higginson, Jackie Bourdon, Haley Hevern, and Erika Schaub.

The Crusaders will round out their team with nine

newcomers. Transfers Ashley Galeai, College of Idaho, Heidi Fehringer, University of Colorado, and Eki Punimata, Tacoma Community College, show potential to be immediate contributors.

The team is excited to get the freshman involved this season. Dranginis said, "With the freshmen class being so large, a few of them will have to play right off the bat. We have some great new

comers though and it will be exciting to see what they bring to our team."

The incoming freshmen include Kailey Trautman, Haley Abbott, Meagan Swenson, Alaina Barber, Kelly VanEldren, and Kelsey Smith.

As the volleyball team has gained success, game attendance has also increased. The student body earned its own form of national

recognition last season, when Crusader Volleyball ranked 6th national among NCAA Division II teams in home attendance.

Women's volleyball would like to see that tradition continue. Dranginis said, "It would be great to exceed that ranking this season, and we hope the student body enjoys watching us as much as we enjoy having them there."

## Women's soccer fields a young team

by Jael Henthorn

The NNU women's soccer team has a challenging season ahead of it. Since lead scorer, Katy McNutt, and all-star goal keeper, Amanda Peters, graduated in May, Crusaders have holes to fill on their roster.

Coaches Jamie Lindvall and Rachel Lindvall have recruited the talent needed to fill in the gaps.

This year's team is young. Freshmen and sophomores take up 12 roster spots. Seniors Jenna Johnson, Angie Duryea, and Hannah Mohs will push the team to its full potential.

Jenna Johnson said the

returners will, "...play a big part on this team as players and as leaders. Since we only have three seniors, and both of the juniors on the team are new, the sophomores are really going to have to step up, and I think that their class is going to play a huge part this season."

Many of the sophomore players got significant playing time last season, which will contribute to the team's success this season. Kim Bowen and Kendra Courcy have potential to be leading scorers on the team this year.

Because of numbers,

freshmen will likely get significant playing time. Many of the Crusaders are able to play multiple positions. This year's freshman class includes Jessie Cahill, Macey McGovert, Kayleigh Carlson, Susanna Contreas, and Kylie Marshall.

Johnson said, "Our freshman class is going to be very important to our team this year. We have five freshmen on the team, all of them bring good skills and they all mesh with the returning players very well."

The challenge this year may be defensive, with much responsibility resting



Alumna Katie McNutt, faces a defender in a last season game (Photo by Robin McConkey).

on whether goal keepers Linsie Powers and Pip Herman can keep the ball out of the net or not.

Both players lack experience, but their athletic

ability gives them the potential for success.

Crusaders' sports teams continually encourage fan support. The women's soccer team plays its first home

game on Sept. 5 against Eastern Oregon University at 4 p.m.

## New recruits hope to make men's soccer a success

by ANDREA SCHILLING

Men's soccer takes full force as part of NNU athletics this year, marking its first season as part of the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. Additionally, fifteen new players have been added to the roster.

"Our primary goal is to establish a competitive young core in year one. We have a squad with no seniors and believe that the experience gained this year will serve us well in the coming years," said Head Coach Coe Michaelson.

Recruits include freshmen Mitchell Rice, Alexander Engemann, Kyle Gaedke, Jose Oregon, Chris Voth, Alex Mangeac, Nate Hamm, Matt Larson, Christian Adamson, Drew Shidaker and

Transfers consist of juniors Theron Fereday, Alonso Avila, Michael Sykes and sophomore Brock Ogami.

"I'm looking forward to getting the chance to

play with a group of guys I am not familiar with and see how we gel as a team throughout the season," said Gaedke.

"I'm excited to just get out and play," said Clements, who is playing defense for the team.

The team's first game is tomorrow at home against the College of Idaho at 6 p.m. The team also hosts University of Great Falls on Saturday at 3 p.m. Players hope to see

sidelines filled with their fellow students this fall as they haul through their first season in the GNAC.

"Student support is so important because we want to go out and perform better and represent our school well," said Gaedke.

"We will attempt to put an entertaining product on the field and hope that the students, the university, and the community will enjoy the return of competitive soccer to NNU," said Michaelson.

## Athletes honored for performances off the field

by ANDREA SCHILLING

NNU athletics has added another big award to its trophy case, winning the 2007-2008 Great Northwest Academic All-Sport title, which was announced by the Great Northwest Athletic Conference earlier this summer. NNU clinched victories in four sports including men's basketball, golf, women's soccer, and softball. These victories enabled the Crusaders to take the overall title.

The title is awarded based on teams' GPAs, in which NNU outscored its competition. NNU bypassed its opposition by earning 145 points, leaving last year's champions Seattle University trailing by 15. This is the first time NNU has ever won the title.

"What's so cool about this title is that it's a collective effort. One team can't do it by itself," said Sports Information Director Craig Stensgaard, "This title shows that our entire athletic

department is dedicated to academics."

Athletic Director Rich Sanders said this accomplishment shows the academic discipline NNU athletes display.

Men's basketball swept its competition by earning a 3.25 GPA, as did golf, which earned a 2.99. Women's soccer helped feed the victory, with an overall GPA of 3.56. The softball team came in with a 3.55 GPA to cap the title for NNU.

"This title substantiates the fact that we're serious about academics," said Stensgaard, who also serves as the head coach of the golf team.

This title is held in high regard by the athletic department and the GNAC.

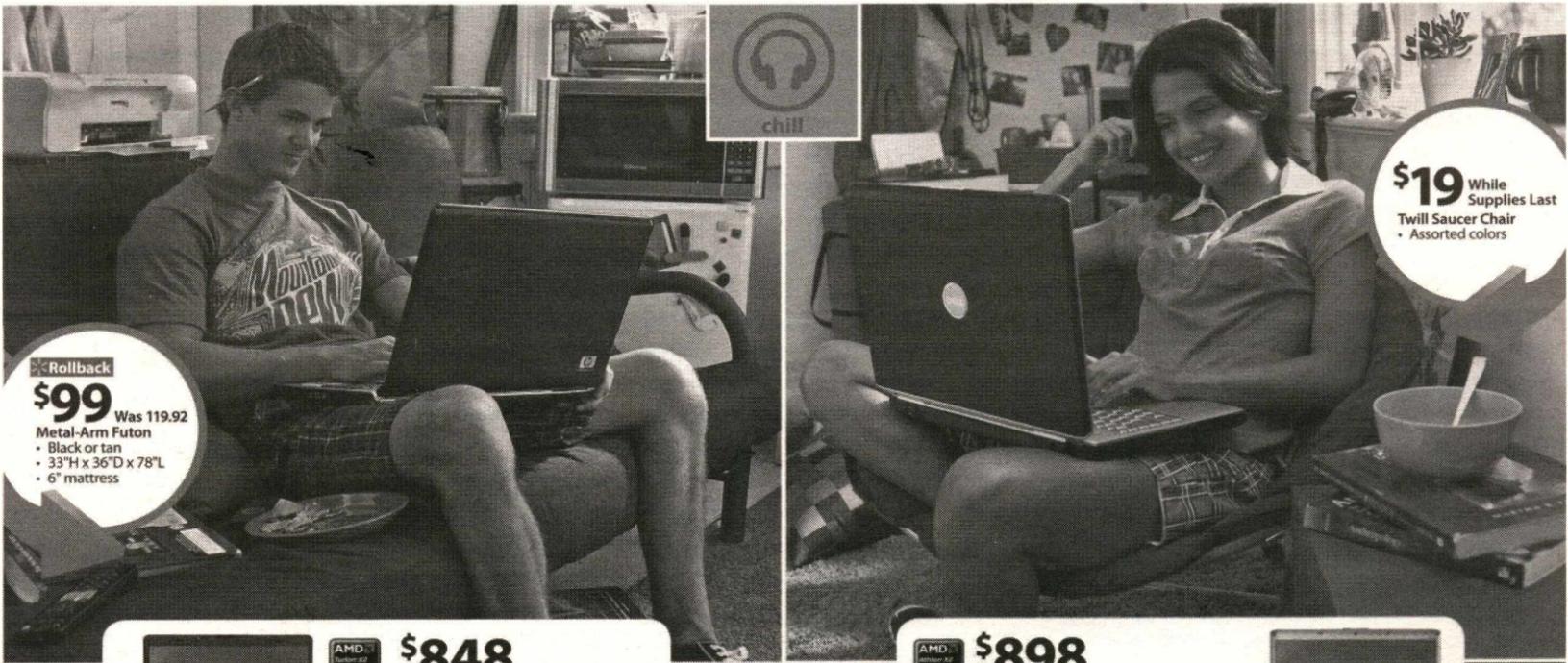
"A lot of schools say they put academics first, but this proves NNU athletics go beyond that. What we do in the classroom is just as important as what we do on the court, on the course, or on the field," said Stensgaard.



Former NNU soccer player, Tim Palmer, slides into an opponent during a game last season (Photo by Robin McConkey).

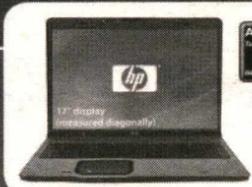
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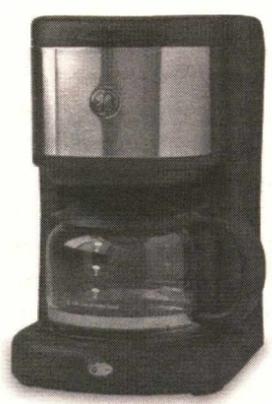
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## “The Servant of Two Masters” comes to NNU

by AIMEE NILES

Jonathan Perry returns to direct Carlo Goldini’s “The Servant of Two Masters” as this year’s fall play, said NNU Communications Department Chair Arnie Ytreeide.

Goldini’s play—translated by Jeffery Hatcher and Paolo Emilio Landi—was written in 1745 and centers around the forever hungry servant, Truffaldino, as he negotiates serving two masters in eighteenth century Venice, and

juggles the romantic affairs of both masters.

The play turns comedic as characters are disguised and communications confused.

The play includes many traits common in Italian comedies of the time, called Commedia dell’arte.

Ytreeide says to look for all the twists, turns, misunderstandings and mis-identifications typical in such production.

The two hundred and fifty year old play will be a change from previous

years’ modern productions of “The Curious Savage”, and 2006’s one acts “Holy Mo!” and “The Complete History of the Bible in 20 Minutes.”

Auditions will be held August 28 at 4 p.m. in the Science Lecture Hall. There are thirteen roles for both men and women.

All students are encouraged to audition. Experience isn’t necessary to capture a role in this production.

The play will be performed four times during



Paramore performs at the Vans Warped Tour (photo wikicommons.org).

## Feature Band: Paramore

by RACHAEL FINCH

Mix one part orange hair-dye with one exuberant lead singer, two brothers, a bassist, and of course, Ramen, and you have the recipe for a killer pop-punk band. It’s a far cry from the days of the Sexpistols, but a few things, including the hair color, have stayed the same.

Paramore is rocking proof that Tennessee isn’t all country tunes. Frontwoman Hayley Williams belts heartfelt lyrics with the power of a singer ten years her senior, and all the energy of her youth. Her quasi Billy Idol snarl and Johnny Rotten hair just put a little attitude behind the voice.

The band, consisting of vocalist Hayley Williams, Josh Farro on guitar, Zac Farro on drums, and Jeremy Davis on bass, formed in 2004.

The band played its first show in Nashville, according to [www.paramore.net](http://www.paramore.net). Nashville’s not exactly the home of punk, but it did the trick. The band formed a local following, and in 2005, signed a record deal with Fueled By Ramen, according to the band’s official website.

Later in 2005, Paramore’s debut album, “All We Know is Falling,” was released. The album stands out against other pop-punk albums featuring a female vocalist because of Williams’ vocal power and control.

It also has very controlled distortion, and a calculated sound, without being formulaic. The final song “My Heart” brings the album to an emotional pinnacle with a touch of screamed background lyrics.

In 2006, the year following its debut release,

Paramore performed on Warped Tour, Bamboozle, and tours in North America, Europe and Japan, according to the website. Then, without losing any time, Paramore released the album, “RIOT!” in 2007.

“RIOT!” has all the energy of “All We Know is Falling” and more, but its energy is more focused. The album shows that the band has matured beyond teenage pop-punk to a tighter sound. One of the singles from the album, entitled “Misery Business,” has a sharp brooding tone.

Singles are a kind of release that is traditionally reserved for catchy and fun loving songs or ballads, but “Misery Business” has harsh transitions and a dark quality, musically and lyrically. It’s bold, specifically as a radio single played next to the average catchy top 100.

## Creative Corner

### Eyes

by ALLISON HAWN

Apathetically stranded  
in a sinking paradise

With utter acceptance  
the blue pools allow  
entry

Then icy winds  
pluck you out  
of those crisp waves

Without questioning  
outsiders  
the gates of rose open

Carrying you past those  
borders  
bound in tanned hues

These small oceans  
kept inside winter lands  
provide for all to enter

Struggling to regain  
yourself  
on some distant coast

But for those who dive in  
there is certain  
entrapment

You gaze back  
with uncertain sight  
praying, hoping

Those crystal waters will  
hold you  
in their soft soothing  
tides

Once again to exist  
in those sparkling waters

The glittering shores  
are out of your reach  
as your hopeless thoughts  
grow

Only to plunge-to sub-  
merge back  
Into those deep waters

Your doomed fate is  
known  
You are lost

To be dragged under  
to never breath  
the shallow, icy, air again

## “Mamma Mia!” is a musical mistake

by KATIE THOMPSON

Summer blockbusters have gradually become a thing of the past. Though box-offices are still able to bring in millions with the hype and excitement that only comes with summer fever, this summer’s anticipated films did not meet expectations.

Topping the list of disappointments was the musical mistake “Mamma Mia!”. With European renowned artists ABBA as the lyricists of this highly acclaimed Broadway musical, the bar was set high.

And when filmmakers are given the chance to rejuvenate a celebrated musical, they are handed an award winning opportunity, as in the case of “Chicago.” The directors of “Mamma Mia!” were given the possibility

to create summer-worthy musical.

Even a noteworthy cast including such stars as Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth, Amanda Seyfried, and Christine Baranski could not save the poorly constructed film.

Musicals, of course, are only enjoyable when actors and actresses are graced with pleasing singing voices.

On most occasions in “Mamma Mia!” the lead characters sing off key. Songs began and ended haphazardly as famous tunes, such as ABBA’s “Money, Money, Money,” were accompanied by painful choreography.

Perhaps the fault lies not in the actors and actresses, but in this summer hit’s poor plot. Broadway may be able to take a bizarre love

triangle between a mother and her three previous lovers and make it into a smash hit, but Hollywood could offer no more than a captivating choice of location.

The actors played their role well. Unfortunately, such roles included older women acting as sex-obsessed teenagers.

The rather predictable finale demonstrates the film’s backward take on life, love, and relationships. Streep and Brosnan’s spontaneous wedding left the audience wondering what is to become of the now unwed daughter, Sophie.

If you must see this film, it helps to go with friends expecting a laugh, and it never hurts to see it in ABBA’s fan based Europe.

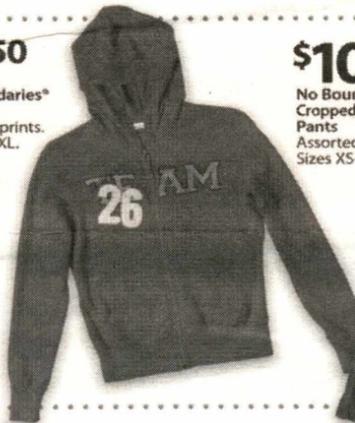
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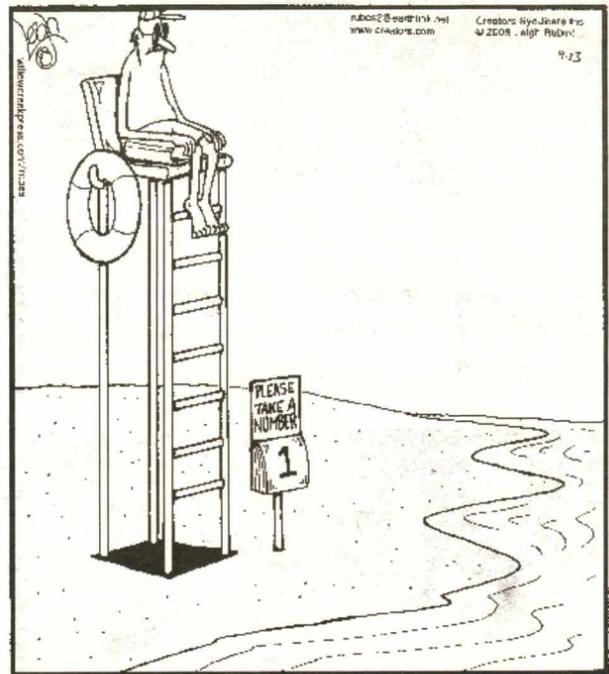
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**Top Ten things Freshmen ought to know**

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10. Don't drink out of Elijah drain
9. Don't make out in the prayer chapel
8. Don't get caught riding Howard the Elk
7. Polar run - beware
6. Take advantage of Ford, because Dooley comes next
5. Risqué Facebook pictures--all of Residential Life has Facebook...just saying
4. Gene Schandorff was a cheerleader
3. Need something? Know Ronda Seward
2. Avoid single, senior, religion majors
1. "Cheryl make it real good for ya...honey"



**Bernard's decades of experience in deli management proved to be of little value in his new position.**

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