

IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Start celebrating the season before finals hit -- College Church has just the event. | A&E, 8



WEDNESDAY
December 2, 2009

The Crusader

Volume 64
Issue 11

Serving the community of Northwest Nazarene University since 1942

Already making strides

HEAD OF THE PACK. Though only a freshman, Barak Watson is making distance running look like a piece of cake by already qualifying, and participating in the NCAA National Championships.

HOLLY BEECH
The Crusader

For the first time in NNU history, a freshman from the cross country team has made it to the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) national championship, said Ben Gall, NNU assistant coach.

Barak Watson, a freshman from Nampa, set the precedent on Nov. 21 when he ran at the NCAA Division II Men's Cross Country National Championships.

Watson earned All American honors by coming in 38th place out of 184 runners, with a time of 32:30.1.

He is the first male cross country runner in NNU history to earn NCAA All-American honors, Gall said.

Watson and Gall traveled to Indiana for the championship, hosted by the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville.

The national cross country results show that Watson was the fifth Division II freshman in the country and the first

"It is rare for any school to have a freshman qualify, let alone be an All-American."

NNU switched to the NCAA conference from the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) eight years ago.

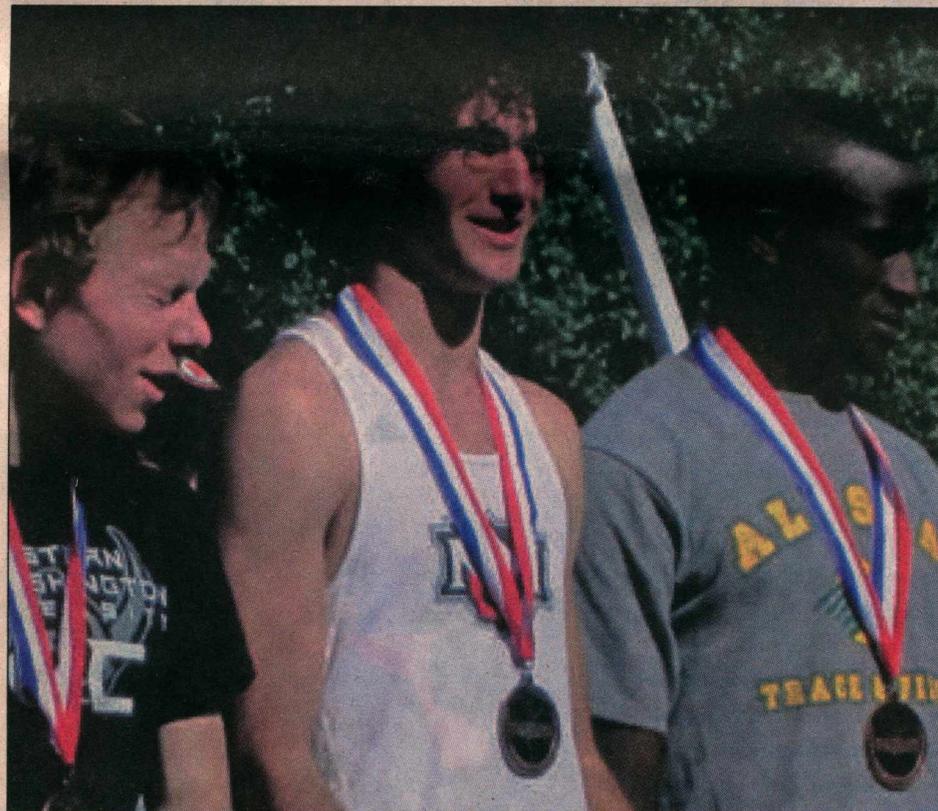
"The NCAA national meet is completely different and way harder to qualify for," Gall said.

Watson ran cross country for Columbia High School in Nampa.

"It is always a hard adjustment from high school to college. In high school you can beat people by just being better than them, while in college you have to not only be really fit, you have to be able to out-think your opponent," Gall said.

"Barak learned from each race and applied this learning as the season went on."

At the conference championships, Watson was 10th overall, and at the regional championships he moved up to sixth place in his conference, Gall said.



Courtesy of NNU Sports Information

NNU freshman Barak Watson, middle, received a medal at regionals and qualified for the cross country national championships, where he earned All American honors.

his conference.

"As the meets got bigger he learned more and was able to apply that in beating people who previously beat him," Gall said.

at the regional championship, lot of pressure," he said, with several steep hills, "but on the other hand, I was very nervous because

"On one hand I was a lot less nervous for nationals than I was for regionals, because

SEE

What's inside

Go vegan | Campus Life, 3
Brandon Haskins' weekly column explores the life of being a vegan, and how the lifestyle isn't an easy one on a college campus.

Senate | Opinion, 4
One student gives his opinion on this year's Senate body. What's your take on the issue?

Finally rivals | Sports, 7
NNU's Louie Beech and C of I's Matt Ballenger are more than opposing forces this basketball season -- they were teammates back in high school.

"Old Dogs" | A&E, 8
Was the John Travolta and Robin Williams team something to be thankful for in the theaters? The Crusader doubts it.

Senate tonight

7:45 p.m. in Wordsworth

NO OLD BUSINESS.

freshman to come right out of high school, Gall said.

At nationals, he was fourth from his region and third from

The course in Indiana was more difficult than the course

I had already qualified and made it so there wasn't a

WATSON
SPORTS, 6

NO NEW BUSINESS.

>Gallery business: club reports

Senate is open to all students.

Sister Helen Prejean to speak during Beloved Community Week

BRANDON HASKINS
The Crusader

Early next semester NNU students have something very special to look forward to. Beloved Community Week, an annual event that grew out of the Len B Jordan Public Affairs Symposium, will happen the fourth week of January next semester, with guest speaker Sister Helen Prejean speaking on the 27th.

Beloved Community week has been an annual occurrence at NNU, happening right around the time of Dr. Martin Luther King's holiday.

The week-long event has had a reputation for impressive speakers with past speakers including Rev. James Lawson, a leader in the civil rights movements; Minnie Jean Brown, of the Little Rock nine, and Charles Marsh, a University of Virginia professor of theology.

According to the biography provided by her office, Prejean "is known internationally for her tireless work against the death penalty. She was instrumental

SEE
PREJEAN
CAMPUS LIFE, 3

Mass comm majors put together the seventh year of 'An Idaho Family Christmas'



Whitney Brown | The Oasis

Sophomores Susanna McCulloch and Corey Johnson work on the set of this year's "An Idaho Family Christmas."

RACHEL BEERS
The Crusader

Lights are going up, trees are being decorated and the mass communications department is in full production swing.

Setting up the holiday season, "An Idaho Family Christmas" has kept mass communication majors busy since the beginning of the school year. Mass communications professor Arnie Ytreeide writes and directs the show each year.

The show is run entirely by the mass comm students, ranging from novice freshmen

to veteran seniors.

Ytreeide brings in two or three professionals to help guide and train students, but for the most part all the hands-on expertise is the work of NNU students.

Students are granted their project positions by seniority with quite a number of jobs to be done, including lighting, sound, audio, grip, jib arm and production to name a few.

These are just some of the skill qualifications NNU mass comm students need to possess.

The show is taking on a new theme this year, that of a variety show.

Ytreeide said it was an amalgamation between the Carol Burnett Show and Saturday Night Live.

Production this season required two Saturdays to film the show.

Ytreeide said he and his team put in 14-hour days each of the Saturdays.

Their end result will hopefully yield a well developed, entertaining show.

United Heritage sponsors the show, being a loyal supporter for all the seven years it has been running.

Previous shows have won national awards and gained admiring prestige.

The show is produced just as a regular movie set would be run. Ytreeide said the structure of the show is similar to any other shoot in the country.

SEE
**IDAHO FAMILY
CHRISTMAS**
CAMPUS LIFE, 3

Weather

THURSDAY
Partly cloudy.
Hi: 41° | Low: 22°

FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy.
Hi: 42° | Low: 26°

SATURDAY
Partly cloudy.
Hi: 42° | Low: 22°

SUNDAY
Rain/snow showers.
Hi: 39° | Low: 22°

MONDAY
Snow showers.
Hi: 38° | Low: 19°

TUESDAY
Rain/snow showers.
Hi: 39° | Low: 22°

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'Late Night at the Library' prepares for looming finals week

TAYLOR ALLEN
The Crusader

It's that time of year again -- finals are coming up, and everyone will soon be heading home for the holidays.

But first, the infamous week before finals is coming up, which means another Late Night at the Library event.

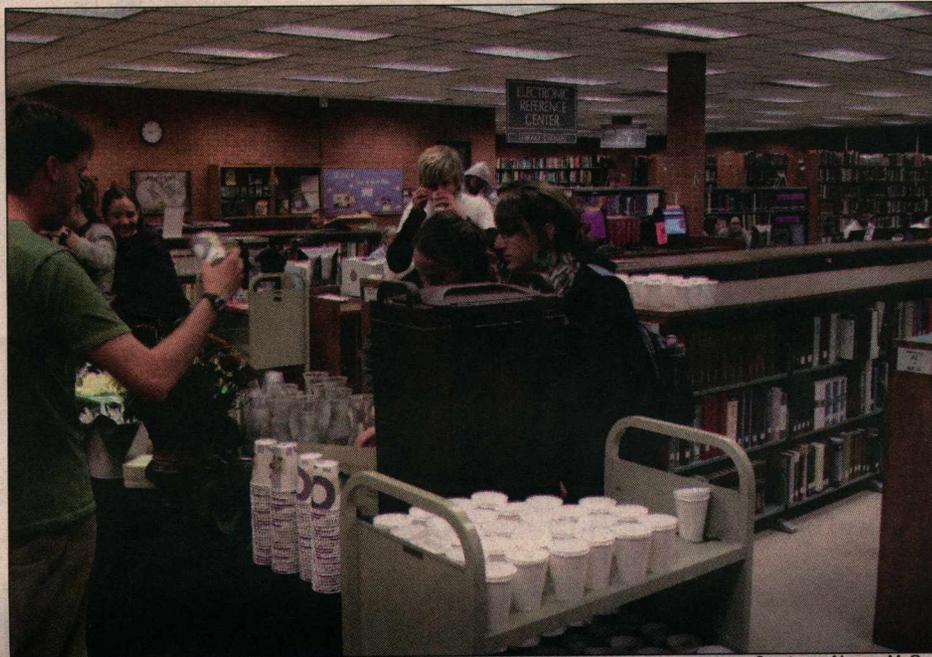
On December 6 – 10, the Riley Library will extend its hours until 12 a.m. so that students can work and study.

"We are mainly trying to provide a good study environment," Lance McGrath, User Services Librarian, said.

The library will provide coffee from the Flying M on Monday through Thursday.

Various professors and staff members will make goodies for the students as well.

Tea and hot chocolate will also be served for non-coffee



Courtesy of Lance McGrath

Students gather for goodies during last year's Late Night at the Library.

drinkers.

A massage chair and certified masseuse will be back this year to give 10-minute massages

to students who need a little relaxation.

The masseuse will be in the library Tuesday and Wednesday

from 8:30 to 10 p.m.

This semester, Late Night is not offering anything new or out of the ordinary.

The reason is because the librarians have refined the process over the years.

"We know what to provide so that students get a good study vibe," McGrath said.

Late Night is part of the culture at NNU.

Students embrace Late Night and give it a life of its own each time. The librarians have always received positive feedback from students.

The library is usually very full during Late Night, as many students utilize the services offered.

"It's been busy, but students seem to want to be with people," LaRita Schandorff, Reference Librarian, said.

Although busy, students know that the week before finals is dedicated to studying and finishing up projects and assignments.

Students who work in the library usually want to be around others, but are good about staying quiet and keeping the atmosphere business-like, Schandorff said.

In addition to extended hours and free coffee, peer tutors from the Academic Support Center will be available, librarians will be able to answer questions and extension cords will be provided.

For a break during studying, a holiday puzzle will be out and students can nominate people for the Read posters, unveiled in the spring.

"Come prepared to nominate someone," McGrath said.

The librarians may also come up with something fun at the last minute.

The library will be open for Late Night until midnight on December 6-10.

IDAHO FAMILY CHRISTMAS FROM PAGE 1

Professionals hired by him always admire the proficient work and talented skill level of NNU students.

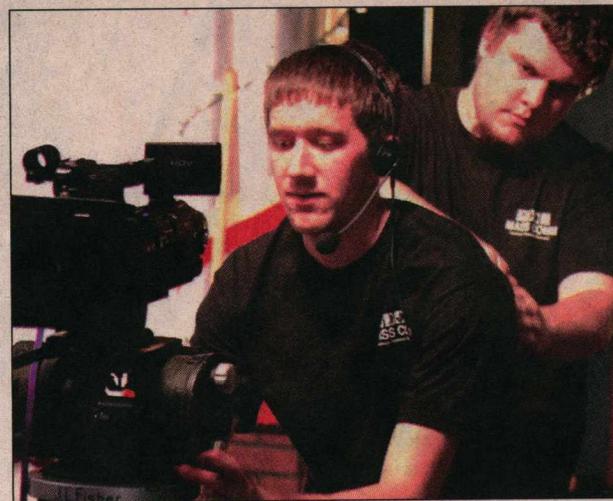
All the actors and stage talent come from outside NNU and they genuinely want it

to be about an Idaho family Christmas.

"An Idaho Family Christmas" begins airing at the end of December.

Fifteen time slots on all KTVB channel stations have been reserved for this special 60-minute presentation.

Check your cable guide for KTVB show times.



Photos by Whitney Brown | The Oasis

Left: Josh Wiese and senior Craig Cook work on the filming of "An Idaho Family Christmas." Above: Junior Troy Watters works with a puppet featured in this year's production.

Spring Semester 2010 Budgeting Results

SGA
Campus Ministries:
\$10.00

Sophomore
Class: \$1,350.00
Freshman

Psych Club: \$500.00
Student Nursing: \$ -
Angels: \$131.31

Sigma Tau
Delta: \$25.00
Peer

Budgeting Results

In November, Senate approved the budget amounts for the following SGA positions and clubs for next semester.

SGA President: \$300.00	SGA Secretary: \$ -
NSLC/NSLA: \$5,000.00	SGA Business Manager: \$16,552.16
SGA Executive VP: \$3,500.00	SGA Publicity: \$2,500.00
SGA Social VP: \$8,000.00	SGA Community Relations: \$2,000.00

Campus Ministries: \$10.00	Freshman Class: \$1,550.00
SGA Student Center Director: \$2,000.00	Social Work Club: \$ -
SGA Athletic Liason: \$500.00	Art Club: \$304.00
Oasis: \$10,400.00	College Republicans: \$100.00
Crusader: \$16,000	College Democrats: \$68.06
Brick House: \$1,500	SIFE: \$1,000.00
Brick House Permanent: \$500.00	Accounting: \$231.50
Senior Class: \$100.00	Outdoor Rec: \$1,345.57
Junior Class: \$200.00	Hope House: \$375.00

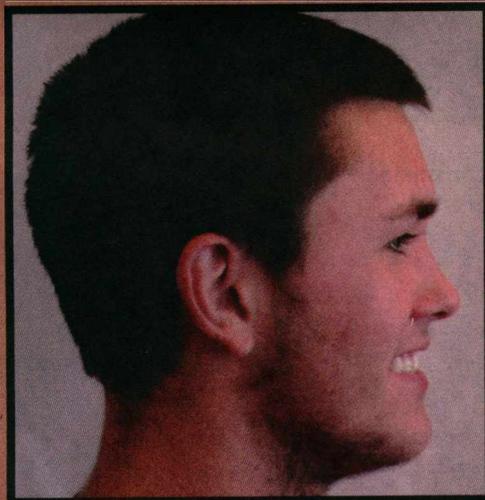
Angels: \$131.31	Delta: \$25.00
Recycling Club: \$50.00	Peer Mentors: \$250.00
Multicultural Club: \$153.19	Peer Health Educators: \$250.00
Alpha Epsilon Delta: \$175.00	Bible Study Leaders: \$500.00
Fencing Club: \$200.00	-----
Drama Club: \$200.00	TOTAL AWARDED:
Midnight Ridazz: \$1,500.00	\$77,870.61

NO SHAVE NOVEMBER 2009

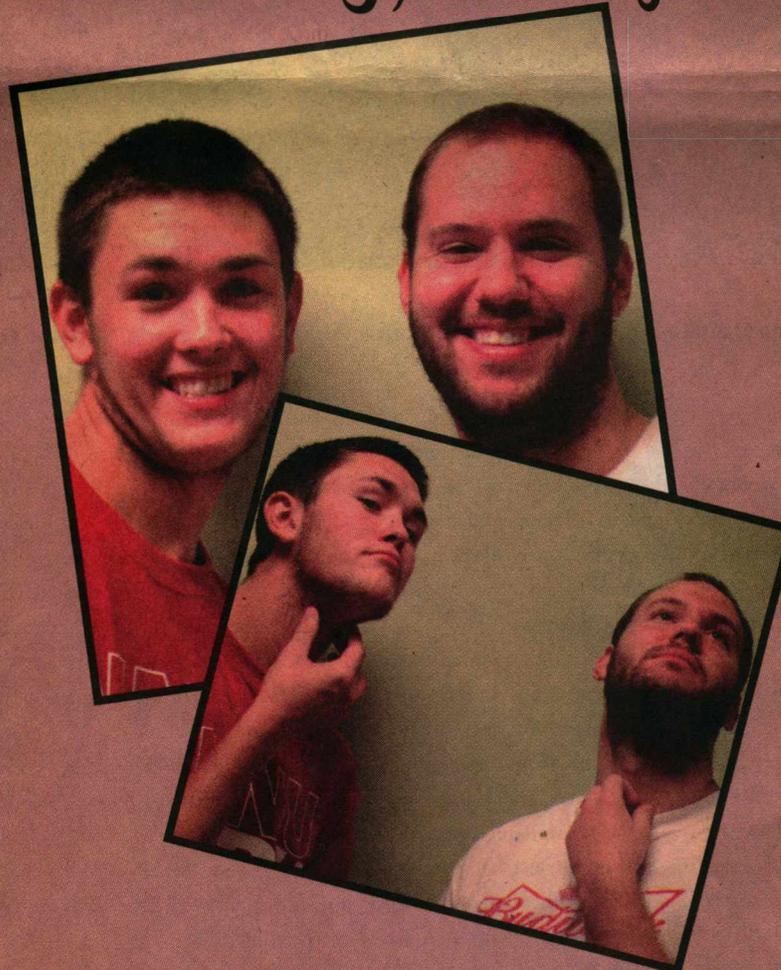
Done. Gone. Over with. The end. Another No Shave November has come and gone -- how did the end of the month shape up for two of NNU's finest participants?

DAY 30: A big, hairy finish

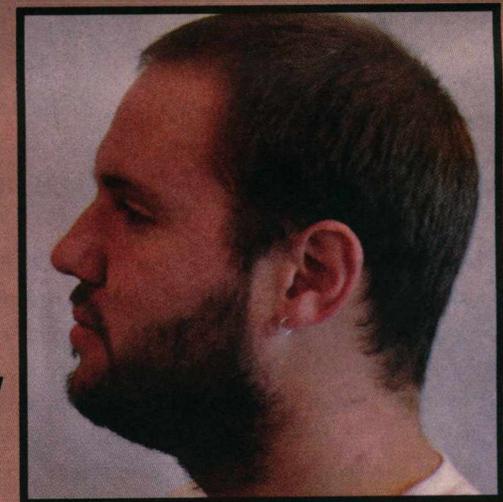
Seth Ott



"I am proud of my progress since freshman year. Now it is time to shave this grossness off. Congratulations Flanders on a job well done. For the first time in school, I believe you deserve an A."



Brian Flanders



"My furry face has kept me warm over this past month. I am proud of Seth's progress. I was offered ice cream by his grandparents."



**My life as a:
 vegan** with reporter
Brandon Haskins

With Thanksgiving approaching, "My Life as" was going to be shortened this week.

I decided to tackle the thing I had been dreading: my life as a vegan. This wasn't going to be as simple as avoiding meat during meals, but went as far as checking ingredients on bread packages to check for egg and dairy products.

Suddenly eating at the Dex went from enjoyable social time, to a search for something I actually wanted to eat, and could eat.

Slowly I learned that outside of rice and the salad bar, there wasn't much in the Dex that I could eat. Becoming more and more irritated with my dining option, nndining.com soon became my friend.

Listing the meals for the week, I could also see which options are vegetarian or vegan, and even which are healthy,

**>>What is a
 'vegan?'**

One whose diet consists of absolutely no animal product.

balanced options.

Enjoying vegan soup was a highlight, as well as how helpful the Dex staff was in helping me find options. It would never occur to me that while veggie burgers were not vegan (containing eggs), that the fries were actually acceptable for the vegan diet.

Being vegan was a chore. It interfered with every part of life.

I wasn't able to just go out to dinner with friends, but had to feel like a bother, asking what everything had in it.

Even going to coffee was difficult, as some chocolate contains milk, while other chocolate does not, some caramel contains egg, while other caramel does not. No matter where you go, white chocolate is not vegan.

I did find that I became more in tune with what my body needed, I thought pregnant women were crazy when they talked about their cravings but by the time 6:00 rolled around each night, I was craving some meat. Some peanut butter or beans, however, and the craving was gone.

I have to admit, being vegan seemed so silly to me. It was hard not to cheat, and I did occasionally. Something about bread bowl day in the Dex was simply too hard to resist.



Alex Corn | The Crusader

Resorting to the salad bar to satisfy his hunger, Brandon Haskins completes a vegan-friendly lunch at the Dex.

**PREJEAN
 FROM PAGE 1**

in sparking national dialogue on the issue and in shaping the Catholic church's newly vigorous opposition to all state executions... Since 1984, Sister Helen has divided her time



should come prepared "to hear someone speak that is very passionate and compassionate. They will be hearing a warm compassionate Christian voice, and equal to that someone with strong convictions. She is very strongly opposed to the death penalty, and wants to try to challenge us in how we view

speaks all over the world about the death penalty, life issues, victim's rights, criminal justice and what it means to be a Christian.

"Dead Man Walking" has been a required text for NNU courses, including Shaw's foundations of politics class.

In addition to having a

In addition to her speaking, a showing of the film "Dead Man Walking," based on Prejean's book, will also be shown during the week.

Prejean will be available for a book signing and pictures after she speaks.

between educating citizens about the death penalty and counseling individual death row prisoners. She has accompanied six men to their deaths."

"[Prejean will] focus our attention on what it means to be part of a beloved community when we exclude people from that community, be they criminals in prisons, victims of crimes or the families of victims; and how do we take care of



Courtesy of prejean.org



Courtesy of wikipedia

Sister Helen Prejean (left) wrote the 1993 book "Dead Man Walking," which was eventually made into a film starring Susan Sarandon and Sean Penn.

those affected by crime," Steve Shaw, professor of political science, said.

"The principle subject will be

the Christian grace and dignity of each person that shouldn't be taken away."

Shaw said that students

people, for instance how we view someone with the word criminal attached."

Shaw said Prejean has been a national and international figure ever since the publishing of her book "Dead Man Walking" in 1993 and the release of the movie by the same name that followed three years later.

In addition to "Dead Man Walking," Prejean has written "Death of Innocents" and she

strong stance against the death penalty, Shaw said Prejean is "strongly pro-life, she believes in addressing and trying to eradicate poverty, homelessness and hunger. She believes that all issues are tied together, that we cannot and should not see them in isolation."

Sister Prejean is scheduled to speak the evening of Wednesday, January 27 in Swayne Auditorium.

>>Get to know the speaker

Learn more about Sister Helen Prejean and her story at her official Web site, prejean.org.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

NU Among Idaho Universities to Receive \$1,000,000 from Albertson Foundation

NU is one of the eleven Idaho universities to receive a \$1,000,000 grant from the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation to assist in their statewide "Go On" initiative.

The intent of these funds is to help boost post-secondary success for Idaho students, and to increase higher education enrollment and a higher completion percentage.

"The university is privileged to partner with them in immediately identifying, encouraging, scholarshiping and educating Idaho's students to complete their education and reach their full potential on the way to becoming civic and community leaders," President David Alexander said.

The Foundation has stipulated that these automatically renewable funds (as long as criteria is being met) be awarded to undergraduate Idaho residents, and are to be directed to support five

categories of students: 1) first-generation two- or four-year college students; 2) need-based students re-entering college either part- or full-time in

pursuit of a degree; 3) core-certified students from any community college in pursuit of a bachelor's degree at a four-year institution; 4) a full- or part-time student who has never attended college and is one year or more out of high school; and, 5) merit-based for high school seniors with high overall student performance, having included successful completion of four math and four science courses.

"We currently administer over \$14 million in grants and financial aid scholarships to over 95% of our students; these funds will definitely allow us to help many additional students 'go on' to completion of their college education and will

reduce the financial burden that students bear with student loans," Wes Maggard said. Maggard is NNU's Director of Financial Aid.

NU's alumni association provides new contact sharing system

To help future generations of students navigate through this stressful time, NNU's Alumni Association has invited students and alumni to join ASK—an innovative undertaking to connect alumni with NNU



students.

The Alumni Sharing Knowledge (ASK) Network is designed to provide NNU students with a network of alumni contacts and career information.

To become involved, alumni

set up an account through the online networking site LinkedIn*.

NU alumna Carrie Goldsmith ('01) participated in the ASK program as a student.

She was partnered with an alumnus of the same major.

"It was great being able to talk with her and learn from her experiences. She helped encourage me and gave me advice for the future."

Through partnering with a student you can create lasting relationships while giving back to the university.

To get detailed registration instructions or find more information, visit the ASK page of the NNU Web site.

STUDENT LIFE

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 2

Senate @ 7:45 p.m. - Wordsworth
Time-Out @ 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, Dec. 3

Jazz Combo Concert @ 7:30 p.m. - SLH
Brick House @ 9-11 p.m. - Open Mic Night
and Christmas party

FRIDAY, Dec. 4

Friday Escape
SGA Coffee & Conversation @ 6:30 p.m.
WBall vs. Dixie State @ 7:30 p.m. - JSC

SATURDAY, Dec. 5

WBall vs. Grand Canyon @
4:30 p.m. - JSC

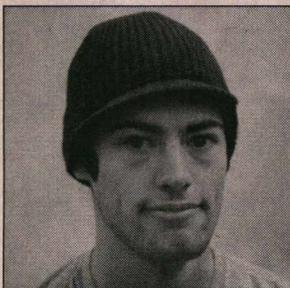
MONDAY, Dec. 7

Community Chapel @ 10:10 a.m. - Brandt

TUESDAY, Dec. 8

MBball vs. C of I @ 7:00 p.m. - JSC

Senate needs to listen to the student body



GUEST OPINION

by

ANDREW FIRESTONE

On Monday the 16th, there was a survey of the students at lunch about some bills that were presented in Senate.

One of those bills had to

do with the purchasing of two 42-inch televisions in the SGA area for the students to use, -- which would cost \$1400 -- one for cable television, another for announcements just like the one downstairs.

The results showed a clear outcome, 2.1 percent in favor of the TVs and 97.9 percent against.

Those statistics come from Senator Nathaniel Leslie, a member of the Campus Life Committee.

The student body had made their voice heard. So what did

Senate do? They passed the bill claiming that the survey was not truly representative of the student body.

These are the same senators who earlier decided that they should poll the students because they did not know what the student body thought about the bill.

Isn't Senate's job to understand and represent the student body? If so, how does throwing out clear poll results represent the student body.

One senator's excuse was that not enough people knew about

the poll thus did not vote, even though the poll had been announced in chapel and all 200 ballots were picked up just outside the Dex during lunch.

Please bear in mind that not all the senators felt the same way. Senators John Bunch, Sarah Fleming, Leslie and Chadwick Pearsall all voted no on the bill because they were not comfortable spending \$1400 when the students felt it was not a worthy cause.

By passing this bill Senate has blatantly and willingly defied the will of the student body.

STAFF EDITORIAL >>>

Some late night library perks should stick around all year

Late Night at the Library begins Dec. 6 and ends Dec. 10. During this time, the library stays open until 12 a.m. instead of 11 p.m., giving students one extra hour each night to study for looming tests and exams. Students are also provided with coffee, treats and extension cords.

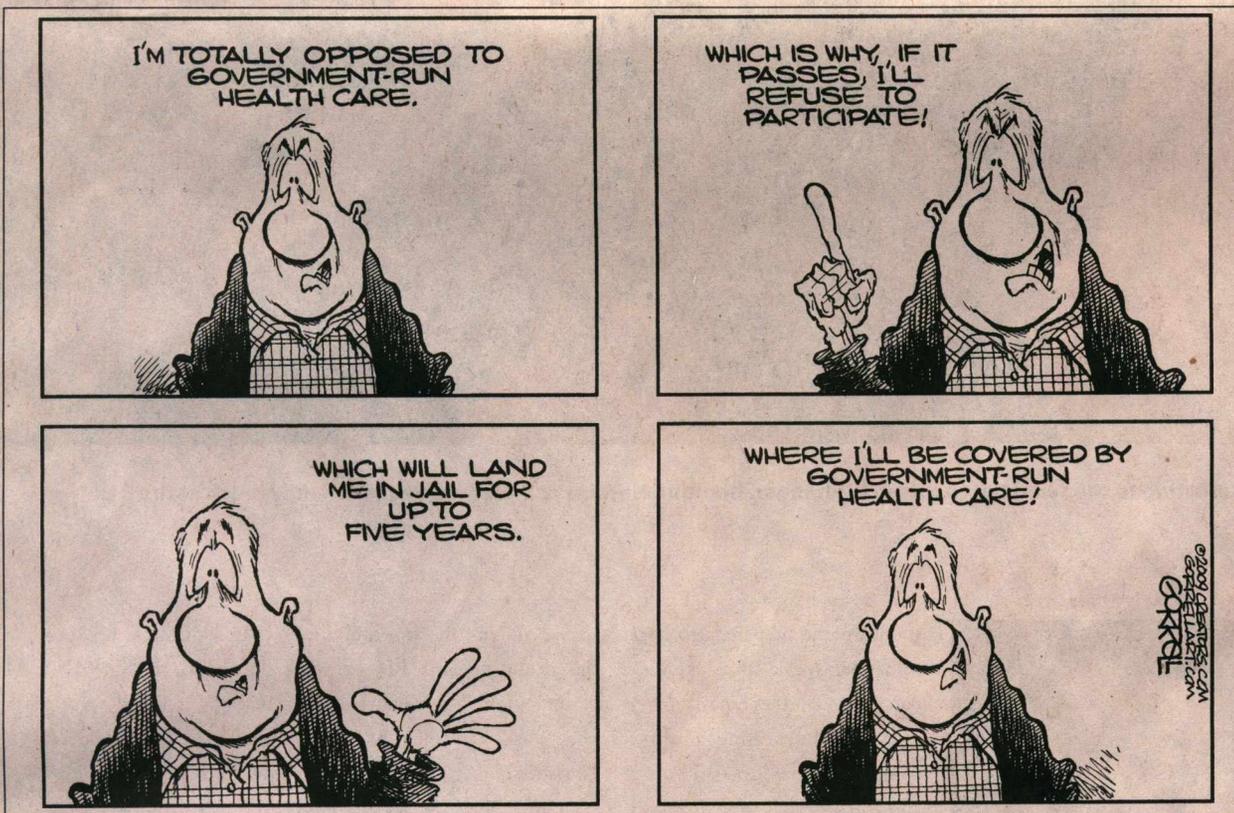
The special perks of Late Night during the week before finals -- one of the most difficult times of the semester -- are greatly appreciated. However, it would be helpful if extension cords and an extra hour each night were not just perks during dead week, but were instead provided all year long.

There is table space in the library for students to work and study on their laptops, but not enough available outlets for those times when the library is full. Extension cords at each outlet that is near a table would make the library more conducive for students who use their laptops.

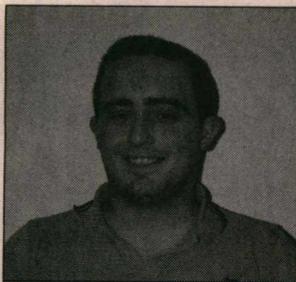
As for the desktop computers in the library, sometimes a computer is not available to students because there are only eight computers downstairs and six upstairs that students can use for more than a half-hour. It would be beneficial to students if the entire island of tables in the middle of the main floor were converted into desktop computer stations rather than just table space.

Along with extension cords and more computers, staying open until 12 a.m. should be added to the library's normal schedule. This would be especially helpful during midterms week and weeks when large research assignments are due.

Lance McGrath, User Services Librarian, said the peak hour of students using the library is 10 p.m. If several students are able to come at 10, having two hours to study would be more beneficial than just one. Also, since several campus events start between 7 and 9 p.m., students may not be able to make it to the library until later in the evening.



Social responsiveness means being social, too



YOU CAN STARE IF YOU'D LIKE

by
BRANDON HASKINS

Our university has deemed it important to attempt to invest each of us with four university outcomes.

One such outcome that I personally believe is misconstrued is that of social responsiveness.

When one typically thinks of social responsiveness, attention is turned to major national or global issues.

Things we attempt to deal

with through mission trips, raising awareness or charitable giving.

We waste away our time doing these sorts of things in the name of being socially responsible, while all the while, the people next to us suffer.

I believe that social responsiveness requires us to do more than simply look toward major world issues and recognize the plight of individuals overseas, but social responsiveness

actually requires us to engage with those around us, that is, social responsiveness requires us to be social.

Philippians 2:4 tells us, "Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others."

Hebrews 3:13 says, "But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness."

Romans 12:15 says, "Rejoice

with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

We, as Christians, have an obligation to reach out to those around us and share in those things that make us a community, be that pain and sorrow or celebration of accomplishments.

Everywhere you go, you will find suffering people, even in a community like we have here at NNU.

While their plights seem

menial in comparison to the AIDS inflicted or starving children of the world, their pain is no less real.

Not only that, but their pain is much more tangible. I'm not saying we should stop caring about world issues, but I am saying that we need to have a good time with the people God has put in our lives.

Those people that we invest time with, those are the people that we can fully rejoice with.

If you can read this, then help someone else who can't



WANDERING IN WONDERLAND

by
ALLISON HAWN

It's hard to believe, living in a university setting like we do, that there are those in America who cannot read.

Yet a study published by the National Center for Education Statistics said that 5 percent of the American population, over the age of 16, is completely illiterate.

Five percent may seem minuscule, but that only

includes those who are completely illiterate.

An article recently published in the Journal of American Medicine said that 46 percent of adults are incapable of understanding the labels on prescription medicine due to low literacy competency.

The same article said that an annual total of \$73 billion goes into health care for people who were incapable of using

medicine or understanding their need for treatment due to low literacy levels.

If you are looking for something to be thankful for this holiday season, be thankful that you can read.

However, the fact that we can read should not make us feel superior to those who are illiterate.

Most people who cannot read or write are not less

intelligent or in some way mentally deficient; often they are products of an environment that did not provide a healthy level of instruction for learning to read and write.

Literacy is directly linked to our efficacy as citizens. There are several ways that people wanting to help boost literacy rates in their community can help.

There are several national and

international organizations, like the Wish Book Foundation, that take donations of money or books to give to those who can't afford them or to school districts with budgetary constraints.

One of the best ways to help, however, is simply to sit and read with a child.

The more kids are exposed to reading and writing the better they will be at it.



Feel Creative?

Submit your poetry, artwork, comics and short stories to us!

We love publishing your work!

E-mail your submissions to Crusader@nnu.edu



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THE CRUSADER'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR GUIDELINES

PLEASE SEND TO CRUSADER@NNU.EDU

- Anonymous letters will not be accepted. You must include your name and classification with your letter.
- Letters should not exceed 250 words.
- 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.
- Letters wanting to be published the following issue must be sent by the Sunday prior.

Contact Idaho's elected officials

U.S. Sen. Jim Risch: 225 North 9th St.
Suite 530, Boise, ID
83702

U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo: 524 East Cleveland
Blvd. Suite 220
Caldwell, ID 83605

U.S. Rep. Walt Minnick: 802 W Bannock,
Suite 101
Boise, Idaho 83702

People Poll

What final exam
 will be most
 difficult for you?



Jacey Wooldridge
 sophomore

“Hebrew with
 Dr. Bowes.”



Ruben Alers
 freshman

“Chemistry
 with Dr. Harris
 because it
 covers all the
 chapters
 we’ve done,
 about 12.”



Nick Ratliff
 senior

“Shaw’s
 political novel.
 I’ll actually
 have to read.”

On the outside looking in
 on today’s Christian

“Esquire” Magazine published a letter last month by author Shane Claiborne (“Jesus for President,” “The Irresistible Revolution”) in which he wrote non-Christians a bit of an apology. You can read the entire letter at www.esquire.com/features/best-and-brightest-2009/shane-claiborne-1209. In an excerpt, he writes:

“To all my non-believing, sort-of-believing, and used-to-be-believing friends: I feel like I should begin with a confession. I am sorry that so often the biggest obstacle to God has been Christians. Christians who have had so much to say with our mouths and so little to show with our lives. I am sorry that so often we have forgotten the Christ of our Christianity. Forgive us. Forgive us for the embarrassing things we have done in the name of God.”

Now I know we’ve all heard this topic before: that as Christians we are to love others. Blah, blah, blah. It’s not so easy, right? Heck, I think it’s extremely difficult! Sometimes people drive us nuts. Sometimes people break our hearts. I know I can say “yes” to both of those. Isn’t it odd how easy it is to love the pleasant people? Well, it



FROM THE LESS
 CYNICAL
 JOURNALIST
 by
 ANDREA SCHILLING

turns out the unpleasant people need love just as much. When we boil down why we believe what we do, this faith we have is based solely on love. This love wasn’t meant to be kept to ourselves, and it wasn’t meant to be kept inside our churches’ walls either.

It’s pathetic, don’t you think? As Christians, our primary objective to the world around us is to be conduits of God’s grace, and yet we’re some of the biggest road blocks to such. Isn’t it ironic that we’re actually turning away the very people we’re supposed to be helping? Talk about a miscommunication! Whoops.

At this point in the article, Claiborne was making me feel pretty darn crappy – but in the best way possible. Sometimes it’s the wake-up calls we need more than anything. Part of

me thinks that this letter wasn’t written to non-Christians at all. I think it’s a letter to Christians in disguise. I’d just like to say that I don’t always exude the love of God, and that’s why this article impacted me in such a great way. I write this as a goal for myself as to where I would like to be. Love has no boundaries or fine print. Love is love. Period. The end.

In another excerpt, Claiborne says:

“At one point Gandhi was asked if he was a Christian, and he said, essentially, “I sure love Jesus, but the Christians seem so unlike their Christ.” A recent study showed that the top three perceptions of Christians in the U.S. among young non-Christians are that Christians are 1) antigay, 2) judgmental, and 3) hypocritical. So what we have here is a bit of an image crisis, and much of that reputation is well deserved. That’s the ugly stuff. And that’s why I begin by saying that I’m sorry.”

Hold the phone. Antigay? Judgmental? Hypocritical?! Oh dear – this isn’t the Christianity I learned about in Sunday School! How about for you? Probably not. Any way we slice it, this is what our image has become. Man, being a Christian

mustn’t be that great. I mean, if those three qualifications make one a Christian, then shoot—I don’t want to be a Christian anymore. Needless to say, I’m a bit embarrassed. I think about how God has blessed my life and somehow that’s being translated toward non-believers as antigay, judgmental and hypocritical. Yikes. What a great example of operator error.

Am I saying we should be overflowing so much with God’s grace that we give everyone bunny rabbits, daisies and pockets full of sunshine? No. I am saying, however, that since we are overflowing with God’s grace, we should maybe spread it around a little bit. I think that if we really did this, the first thought of non-Christians about us would not be “antigay.” I mean, really—that’s just pathetic of us.

I wish I could be as convicting of a writer as Shane Claiborne. I also wish Justin Timberlake could somehow find me here in the random Nampa, Idaho. Can’t win them all though, right? I do hope, however, that I’ve encouraged you to at least take a moment from your busy lives and read Claiborne’s letter. My hope is that you, too, will be humbled, inspired and blessed by his words.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

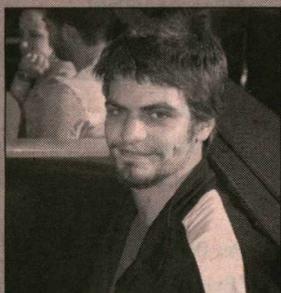
In the last issue [Nov. 18], Trevan’s opinion column

that strict pacifism is actually a sin in some cases.

As Christians, we are called to love God and to

for another’s benefit. Surely this is an easy scenario where a gunman stops you on the street for money and you turn

Can I stand before almighty God and say I did the right thing by standing aside, watching it happen?



“Discrete math with Korntved. I haven’t been studying for it.”

Josh Ehrlin
junior



“Ethics with Timpe.”

Chelsie Collins
sophomore



“My history class, conflict and consensus with Dr. Esh.”

Christine Harwood
freshman



“Social psych with Dr. Creswell. It’s the most intimidating one right now.”

Sarah Austin
senior

asked the question “would Jesus ever stab someone in any situation?” when arguing that Christians should be pacifists.

While I agree completely that Jesus probably wouldn’t go about stabbing willy-nilly, I would say that there are some situations that the Bible doesn’t give explicit advice for, in this case, the defense of another.

The real issue that I see is

love others. But what is this “love” idea? To many, it is this fluffy idea reminiscent of ’69 Woodstock, where everyone lives in peace and harmony with golden rainbows and colored clouds.

Though this is a cool utopian idea, I don’t think it’s the sort of love plausible in this world.

To borrow from Dr. Oord, love is acting with intention

the cheek. Here’s a more difficult possible reality though, what if he (or she) is trying to kidnap your daughter? Rape your wife? Whose benefit shall I act for?

To me, standing passively is to allow harm come to others, not really an action of love. I’ve just put my ideal of pacifism and legalistic theology above the life of someone else.

though I certainly wouldn’t encourage killing the instigator as a primary option, there are times where that’s not really a possibility.

In my humble opinion, the man who goes looking to hurt others is the one who “will die by the sword” (Mt 26:52). The issue isn’t owning a sword, it’s drawing the sword first.

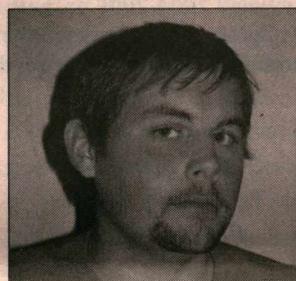
Mark Ostyn

The reality of following Christ isn’t about denominational debate

Recently I had the fortunate opportunity to share in another family’s Thanksgiving traditions. While all that you would usually suspect to be present was, like turkey and dressing, one tradition, which is more of a weekly one, was to attend two churches on Sunday. This intrigued me as sometimes I find it hard to attend one service on Sunday let alone two in different locations. The multiple services were not the most surprising thing, however, what caught me off guard was the fact that these services were of two separate faith traditions, one Calvinist and one Wesleyan.

I am not going to speculate why they choose to attend two different types of services on Sundays or how this plays into one’s faith dynamic. What I will do is reveal what was revealed to me by this unique event.

What I learned from this experience is that God is everywhere, in a reformed Calvinist church and in a free



IF I WERE KING
by
TREVAN HAUCK

Wesleyan congregation.

He is not merely with one denomination or tradition. I found this experience most refreshing because it allowed me to witness something that I have always believed to be the case; when there are two strongly opposing views on something the answer usually lies somewhere in the middle. God was definitely present in both services during prayer, worship and sermon. Seeing how this is possible even though these two branches of the Christian faith are often opposing is encouraging, and it makes sense.

When examining the

opposites in anything we must be aware that they will always be biases in either argument as well as non-negotiable. What one should look for when they are examining polar opposites is anything that is agreed upon between the two, this is usually a truth.

For example, Calvinists and Wesleyans tend to be divided in many areas of theology but one thing that they do agree on is the Gospel. For example Democrats and Republicans both agree that life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness is paramount to life under the constitution, what that entails is a whole other story.

We cannot allow ourselves to become distracted in a life of debate, what matters to the Christian life should not be whether or not they hold the truth or have the right way. This mentality defeats the purpose of a Christian life. While there are indeed absolute truths when it comes to being a Christian, like the Gospel, there are many things that are impossible to

nail down. We can look to Paul and remember how the gentiles were not forced to abstain from unclean animals or become circumcised in order to share in the grace of Jesus. It is not a question of salvation whether or not you follow Wesley or Calvin. Not that I am saying questioning what we are taught and examining the scripture does not provide insight or important knowledge for the Christian. Such things are pertinent to the life of a believer. What is important is the intent behind such research.

The heart of the Christian should be one of a curious knowledge seeker looking to gain a better understanding of our savior; not one of arrogance or attack.

The word of God is a double-edged sword, but it was never meant to be used to cut down others, Wesleyan, Calvinist, atheist or otherwise.

It was meant to cut through ourselves, dividing our own selfish desires and thoughts from what God desires of us.

Women's team earns Thanksgiving Classic title over weekend

TAYLOR ALLEN
The Crusader

The women's basketball team played two games over Thanksgiving break in the 2009 Northwest Nazarene University Thanksgiving Classic. Winning both games, the Crusaders earned the Thanksgiving Classic title.

The tournament started out on Friday with Colorado Christian University winning against Central Washington University 81-70 and NNU beating California State Stanislaus 79-58.

On Saturday, Cal State Stanislaus beat Central Washington University 69-59 and NNU won against Colorado Christian University 81-63.

NNU senior post Kristin Hein was named MVP of the tournament. In the victory over Cal State Stanislaus, Hein scored 18 points and pulled down 14 rebounds. She scored 16 points and had nine rebounds against Colorado Christian.

Against CSU-Stanislaus, NNU senior post Jennifer Williams and sophomore post Brianna King contributed 15 points each, and senior guard Janee Olds scored 11.

In the game against Colorado Christian on Saturday, senior guard Lindsay Brady scored 15 points and King added 12. The Saders went on two 10-0 runs.

The two wins brought the Crusaders' overall season record to 3-1. Their only loss has been against Cal State Monterey Bay on Nov. 21.

Although not part of the



Courtesy of NNU Sports Information

Redshirt freshman Falissa Smith, guard, protects the ball from a College of Idaho opponent earlier this season.

regular season, the win against Division 1 Weber State in an exhibition game was a great start, said redshirt junior guard Krista Oliver. Their one loss allowed them to learn from their mistakes, but Oliver said that the team will improve because of it.

"We have a lot of experience with about 10 returning players, so our goal is definitely to

compete for the GNAC title," Oliver said.

Conference play starts on Jan. 7. Seattle Pacific University and University of Alaska Anchorage will be the toughest competition for the team, Oliver said. "Both teams have won the title the last couple years."

So far, the women have won all of their games at the Johnson Sports Center. "We hope to stay

undefeated at the JSC, which will help prepare us for league play," Oliver said.

The women's basketball team has two tournaments to compete in during December, both at the Johnson Sports Center.

This weekend, they will play in the 2009 GNAC/Pac-West Classic Tournament against Dixie State College and Grand

Canyon University. Friday's game is at 7:30 and Saturday's is 4:30.

On Dec. 18 and 19, NNU will host and compete in the 2009 GNAC/CCAA Classic Tournament. The tournament consists of four games.

Information courtesy of NNU Sports Information.

PLAYER PROFILE

Falissa Smith



Major:
Kinesiology

Class:
Junior

Hometown:
Tigard, Ore.

Sport:
Women's Basketball

Favorite Food:
"Mac 'n Cheese"

Favorite Movie:
"Finding Nemo"

Favorite thing about the team:

Watson said this season he has learned the importance of having confidence in himself during races, trusting in the Lord and focusing on the joy of competing rather than the pain or the fear of not doing well. "I am really looking forward to next year when we can hopefully make it to nationals as a team," Watson said. "Although it was fun to go as an individual, it would have definitely been a ton more fun with the team."

Watson is now focused on the upcoming indoor track and field season. He will most likely run the 800 and the mile to work on his speed, he said, and if all goes well he will run the mile leg of the Distance Medley Relay, as well as the 5k, in which he hopes to qualify for nationals.

Information courtesy of NNU Sports Information.

High school teammates are now college rivals

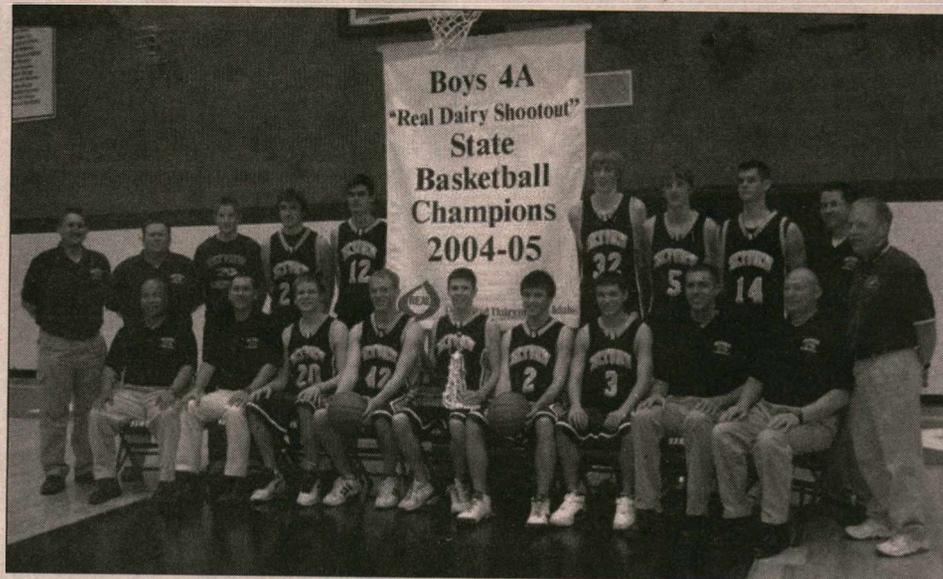
BRANDON HASKINS The Crusader

The NNU vs. C of I rivalry has been going on for years. It seems a rivalry like this couldn't get any more intense. That was until former third-string quarterback for the University of Colorado decided to leave football and return to the basketball court.

Matt Ballenger, a Skyview High School graduate, announced this past April that he would leave the field in favor of the court.

In an Idaho Press Tribune interview, Ballenger stated that he would be willing to sign with a school anywhere from NAIA to Division I. He eventually settled on College of Idaho. Here he would face the rival school NNU, as well as former Skyview teammate Louie Beech.

According to Beech, facing



Courtesy of Molly Beech

Skyview's 2004-2005 basketball team poses with their state championship banner and trophy. Matt Ballenger stands in the top row wearing jersey number 14. Louie Beech, number 21, is fourth in from the left on the top row.

a former teammate "adds to the rivalry," stating that playing with Ballenger, "made me a better player, having to guard him at practices."

The two played together on

SkyviewHighSchool'sbasketball team for three years, garnering 4A state Championships in 2005 and 2006.

Both players have been recognized as Idaho State

Gatorade Player of the Year, and both play guard for their respective teams. The rivalry can be seen in action Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. at the Johnson Sports Center.

Favorite thing about the team:
"We are family!"

Dream Car:
"Mustang"

Pet Peeve:
"Being late for movies"

If you could travel anywhere, where would it be?
"The Bahamas"

Favorite hobbies:
"Hanging out with my team and Bejeweled"

If you could have a super power, what would it be?
"To be invisible"

SPORTS BOX

Men's Basketball

1. Saint Martin's
2. Seattle Pacific
3. Northwest Nazarene
4. Western Washington
5. Western Oregon
6. Montana State Billings
7. Central Washington
8. Alaska Anchorage
9. Alaska Fairbanks

Women's Basketball

1. Alaska Anchorage
2. Montana State Billings
3. Seattle Pacific
4. Western Washington
5. Northwest Nazarene
6. Saint Martin's
7. Western Oregon
8. Alaska Fairbanks
9. Central Washington

*Standings as of Nov. 30



Oden versus James: who would win?



BEYOND THE BLEACHERS

by
Derek Sepe

First, let's take a look at James. He is 6'8," 250 pounds with a wingspan of seven feet. His vertical leap is 44" and he ran a 40-yard dash in 4.4 seconds. That is by no means the fastest ever, but it sure is fast. It is also rumored that he benched 350 pounds, which is a lot, but again not the heaviest a man can bench.

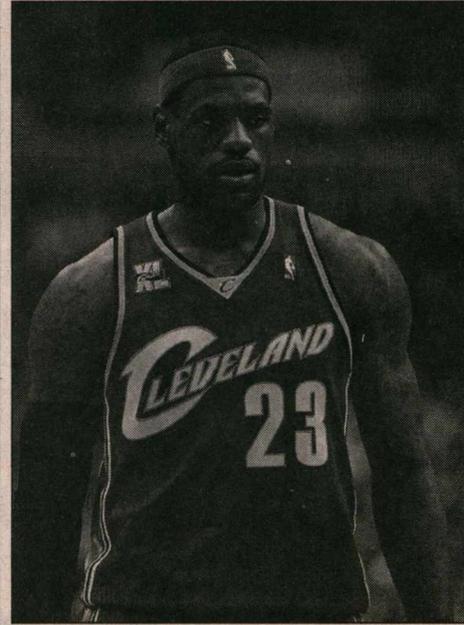
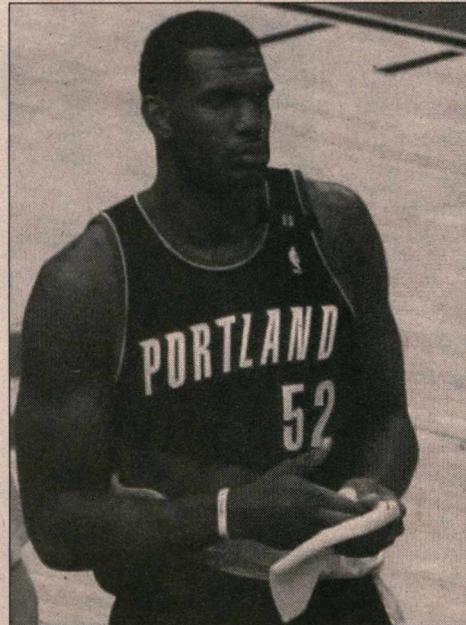
So the stats show James is quick, agile and strong. Not to mention flat out is a big guy.

Now looking at Oden, we can see he is 6'11" and weighs 257 pounds with a wingspan of 7'4."

His three-quarter court sprint (which is the closest equivalent the NBA can provide to a 40-yard dash) was 3.27 seconds.

There is no information provided for Oden's bench because he never attempted in the draft.

He also ran the cone agility drill in 11.6 seconds, which proves he is agile for a big man



Photos courtesy of Wikimedia

Portland Trail Blazer's Greg Oden (left) and Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James are strong forces for their teams.

This column was written because of popular demand. So here it is: Who would win in a fight, LeBron James or Greg Oden?

Last year at dinner one time, an argument came up about who would win in a fight.

Now as you can imagine all the Blazer fans praised Oden, but thankfully there were some smart people who sided with James (sorry Eric Zwiefelhofer).

Let's set aside all biases however and look at the cold hard facts.

as well.

All this added up shows one thing. These two NBA superstars, if matched up in the ring, would duke it out.

There is no doubt in my mind it would be an all out

brawl. In my opinion however, I am siding with James. He simply looks and performs more athletically than Oden.

Regardless of how big Oden is, James is no pushover either, and if a fighter is just as big

or a little smaller than their opponent with twice the power and speed, it is a no brainer.

In my opinion not only does James win, he wins knockout.

Men's basketball takes down Walla Walla; rivalry match looms

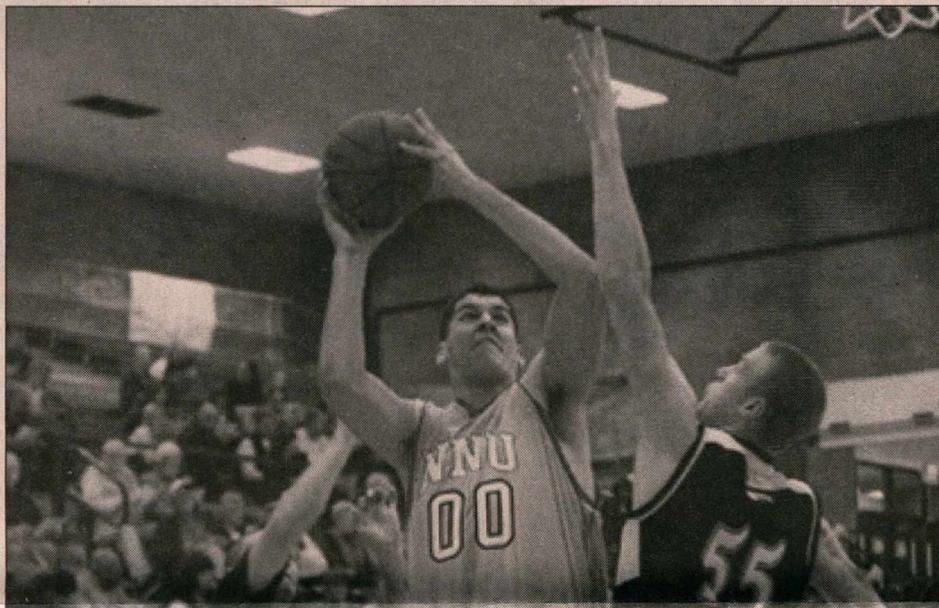
JINELL VANCORBACH

The Crusader

The NNU men's basketball team opened up the season with a 115-73 victory over Walla Walla University Tuesday, Nov. 24.

Sophomore guard Anthony Golden led the Crusaders with 18 points and added to his stats four rebounds, five assists and three steals.

Junior forward Kendall Gielow scored 15 points, and senior guard Derek Miller, junior guard Lateef Williams and redshirt freshman post



27-28, playing UC Colorado Springs on Friday and Dixie State College on Saturday.

The Crusaders will travel to St. George, Utah for the Dixie State College Classic this weekend and will host rival College of Idaho on Dec. 8.

Information courtesy of NNU sports information

>>Give back

AP

Sports Blurbs

Kansas near unanimous No. 1 in AP poll

Only once before has The Associated Press college basketball poll changed as much as it did Monday.

Only once before has Portland been in the Top 25.

The Pilots were among a record-tying seven teams to move into the rankings Monday, their first appearance in the poll since February 1959.

"I heard that team was quite a squad," Portland coach Eric Reveno said with a laugh, "it's been a while."

Kansas, which had two easy wins last week, was No. 1 for the fourth straight poll, this time falling just two votes of being unanimous, while Texas and Villanova both moved up one spot to second and third.

Dayton flies into Top 25, UConn still No. 1

Dayton jumped into the AP women's basketball Top 25 for the first time in school history, while Connecticut remained a unanimous No. 1 for the 19th consecutive poll.

The 25th-ranked Flyers (5-1) will get their first test as a Top 25 team Monday night at Illinois-Chicago. Coach Jim Jabir was thrilled his team made the poll.

The Huskies received all 40 first-place votes Monday from the national media panel. They have been the AP's top team the past 28 polls.

The first nine teams remained the same for a third straight

apiece.

Junior post Brian Barkdoll led the Crusaders in rebounds with 11 and scored 9 points.

The Wolves were out-rebounded by the Crusaders 54-37.

"I thought the game on Tuesday night went really well," said Reeher.

"It reminded me of Lord of the Rings when all the hobbits



Courtesy of NNU Sports Information

Brian Barkdoll fights for points in the paint. Barkdoll was named GNAC player of the week on Monday.

were running around and the much bigger and stronger orcs came and captured them,

overpowering them in every aspect of life. Walla Walla was the hobbits in this case."

The Crusaders hosted the NNU Thanksgiving Classic on Friday and Saturday, Nov.

Advisory Committee is holding a toy drive, partnering with Salvation Army, for the men's match against C of I on Tuesday. Bring toys to the night's rivalry game!

23-0 with a 29-point average margin of victory last week. Connecticut eased through another week, winning the WBCA Classic. The Huskies routed Hofstra, Richmond, and Clemson by an average of 44 points. Stanford was No. 2, followed by No. 3 Ohio State, No. 4 North Carolina and Notre Dame. Tennessee was sixth, followed by LSU, Baylor, Xavier and Texas A&M.

West Coast Conference holds two teams high up in the polls; Portland Pilots amid the poll switch-up

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The Jayhawks (5-0) had 63 first-place votes from the national media panel, while Texas (5-0), which matched the highest ranking in school history, and No. 8 Syracuse (6-0) both were No. 1 on one ballot. Texas has been ranked No. 2 for a total of six weeks, the last time early in 2005-06.

This the first time the Big 12,



Courtesy of Wikipedia

which started in 1996-97, has had the top two ranked teams. The last time it happened to the Big Eight was March 6, 1990, when Oklahoma was No. 1 and Kansas was No. 2.

It happened twice last season — the Big East had Pittsburgh and Connecticut and the Atlantic Coast Conference had Wake Forest and Duke.

Purdue moved from sixth to fourth and was followed by Kentucky, Duke, West Virginia, Syracuse, Michigan State and North Carolina.

Michigan State (5-1), which had been No. 2 in the previous polls, dropped to ninth after losing 77-74 to Florida. At No. 13, the Gators were the highest ranked of the seven newcomers.

The only time seven new teams entered the poll was Dec. 13, 1955, when it was still a Top 20.

Florida, No. 17 Gonzaga and

No. 21 Florida State were all ranked last season, while No. 19 Texas A&M was last rated in 2007-08, No. 24 UNLV in 2006-07 and No. 22 Cincinnati in 2005-06. Then there was Portland's long absence.

The Pilots (5-1) burst onto the national scene with a 74-47 dismantling of UCLA in the first round of the 76 Classic that was followed by a 61-56 semifinal win over then-No. 22 Minnesota and an 84-66 loss to West Virginia in the title game.

"I felt like we could compete. I know and still know our team is very solid and can compete with a lot of talented teams and this weekend was no different," Reveno said.

"I also knew we could have competed and not win games, so to really play well against UCLA and get them out of sorts was a great start."

Having a number in front of

their name isn't going to change the Pilots much, according to their coach.

"It definitely is something that can be distracting but we have a veteran team and they know what it took to get here and it won't take much to remind them what it takes to stay successful," Reveno said.

"This basically just confirms the progress we're making, It's not an accomplishment in and of itself," he said.

"This is definitely a milepost if you want to be a team that can compete in the West Coast Conference and be an NCAA tournament team. This is a marker you should see along the journey."

Tennessee was 11th followed by Washington, Florida, Connecticut, Ohio State, Georgetown, Gonzaga, Clemson, Texas A&M and Louisville.

The last five ranked teams were Florida State, Cincinnati, Butler, UNLV and Portland. Michigan, which fell from 15th after losing to Marquette and Alabama in the Old Spice Classic, was the highest ranked

team to drop out of the poll.

The others were ranked from 20th through 25th: Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, Notre Dame, Vanderbilt and Oklahoma. All the teams that fell out lost two games last week except Notre Dame and Vanderbilt, which lost one each.

Gonzaga and Portland give the WCC two ranked teams just as it for one week last season when Gonzaga and Saint Mary's were in the poll together.

"It shows our conference is getting the respect it deserves," Reveno said.

"Gonzaga has been the powerhouse in our conference that we all sort of look to be. But the depth in our league is sometimes underrated. ... I think is getting us on the radar earlier than usual because it usually doesn't happen until late in the season."

The seven teams that moved into the poll in December 1955 were: No. 9 Vanderbilt, No. 11 Temple, No. 14 Cincinnati, No. 16 North Carolina, No. 17 Saint Louis, No. 18 Kansas and No. 19 Indiana.

Chargers D leads way in 43-14 win over Chiefs

It was a play that seemed to sum up the afternoon.

San Diego Chargers safety Paul Oliver suddenly found the ball in his hands after Matt Cassel of the Kansas City Chiefs had it slip out of his. Oliver bobbed it a few times, held on, then ran 40 yards into the end zone.

"It bounced right to me," Oliver said. "It was about as easy of a play as you can make."

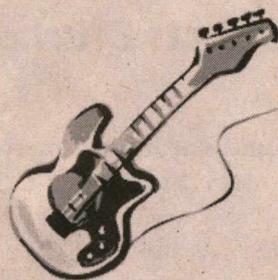
The Chargers converted four turnovers into scores in a 43-14 win over Kansas City on Sunday to run their winning streak to six games.

Seahawks make it 10 in row over Rams, 27-17

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Pretty much all Matt Hasselbeck had to do for his eighth straight win over the St. Louis Rams was hand off and watch.

Justin Forsett had 130 yards on 22 carries with two touchdowns — all career highs — and helped the Seahawks to a 27-17 victory over the Rams on Sunday that was Seattle's 10th straight over St. Louis and first on the road this season in six tries.

LA-based band begins with a newspaper ad



REVIEW

ALLISON HAWN

The Crusader

Marizane is definitely an Indie group with a style all their own.

The Los Angeles based group is made up of Debbie Shair, Todd Jaeger and Jim Laspesa and has been active since 1992 said Shair.

The group has just released their first studio album titled "Cosmosis." Shair was kind enough to grant an interview about the new album.

How did Marizane get started?

Shair: A number of years ago, I'd just moved to Los Angeles and was looking for a music project to get involved with. I didn't see anything in the local

music magazines that seemed very interesting or appropriate at the time, so I put in my own ad, which read something to the effect of "Hyper NY female seeks band for therapy and gigs." This peeked the curiosity of Todd, who probably called to see what kind of wingnut I was. But we talked on the phone for quite awhile and found we had very similar musical interests. So I met him in the garage he was living in, which was set up like a cross between a vintage equipment store and a science fair experiment. His demos blew my mind and he was pretty jazzed about my keyboard style, so that's where the collaboration started.

Who all has been involved with your "Cosmosis" album? Many musicians and friends of ours were involved with different aspects of the album. We gave extra attention to make sure that everyone who participated on the album was credited, which is why there's a 15-page booklet -- there's really too many to mention here. We're just so grateful to everyone who participated on it.

Where did the name "Cosmosis" come from?

It was tossed out by our friend Nicky Wonder (Wondermints, Brian Wilson band) during one of many late night hangouts.

Who/what are your major influences?

Todd's influences were primarily both well-known and obscure '60s and '70s pop and rock bands. My early influences were albums that my parents had, such as Best of Simon and Garfunkel, Revolver, Carpenters and the soundtracks to The Sting, classic Disney movies, Grease and Star Wars and lots of show tunes, to name more than a few. They had an amazing collection of 45s primarily from the '50s, but had an oddity now and then, such as the Theme to Shaft. I danced around the living room a lot to that one. Later on I became an '80s new wave girl and then a progressive and classic rock junkie.

What is your favorite song on the album?

That's a tricky one, but Todd says "Fiddler's Green" and mine is "Candlelight."



Marizane began in 1992, and calls Los Angeles home.

Courtesy of Myspace

What has been the most popular song from the album so far?

Probably "Fiddler's Green."

Is Marizane currently working on another project?

We're throwing around ideas and starting the process of writing some more stuff.

Where do you find inspiration for your lyrics?

Many places. They could come from things we're reading, stories we've heard or personal experiences, just as an example. "Cosmosis" contains various themes about fantasy, exploration and journeys (and the idea of leaving "the old world" behind). It also has a lot of nautical references.

Is Marizane planning any tours in the near future?

It's been a little difficult to plan a tour at the moment since I've been very busy on the road with Heart. We're planning to do some local live shows in the next few months though.

College Church opens its doors to the Nampa community this holiday season with 'The Living Christmas Tree'

RACHEL BEERS

The Crusader

With the cherished Christmas season rushing upon us, now is time to catch and spread

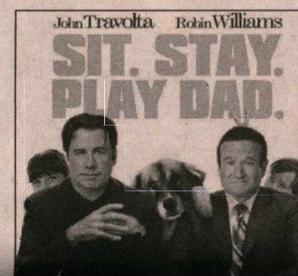
"Tree" about nine months ago.

First and foremost, Hedman said, it starts with a self-effacing prayer answered with solid inspiration from God.

Meticulous maintenance remains constant throughout the entire year for such a sizeable structure.

On performance nights

'Old Dogs' prospective audiences can wait for the dollar theatre



announces that he and Charlie have to move to Japan, and Vicki and the twins leave devastated.

After the Japanese deal falls through, Dan returns to the States to go to the twins' high school. He eventually

the holiday cheer and joyous message.

Nampa College Church of the Nazarene is looking to help do just that with their annual production of "The Living Christmas Tree."

College Church presents "The Living Christmas Tree" every year as an outreach benefit for local charities.

Caroline Hedman heads the massive project, which takes months to carefully prepare with a brand new theme every year.

This year the theme is based on the innkeeper's perspective.

Hedman, with a committed team of four dedicated individuals started working on the new "Living Christmas

A novel sacred scripture theme is selected every year along with the innovative music and fresh talent.

About 200 people are involved with each performance.

Seventy-five are in the adult choir with 65 children's voices and a drama cast of around 25.

Hedman is anxiously optimistic each performance will have a twofold effect for everyone in attendance.

She expects performances will fittingly entertain as they plant a seed in those that do not perceive their need of Christ.

If the capable talent and devoted cast involved were not enough, the enormous tree itself hosts over 112,000 lights and towers 25- feet tall.

the soaring tree dazzlingly illuminates with assorted rich Christmas colors and seasonal sounds making a spectacular sight for every eye.

Hedman said each patron will receive several concurring presentations united in this one stunning light show combining a choral concert and theatrical drama.

Performances begin Friday and run through next Monday.

College Church presents a total of five different shows over the three-day period with each performance estimated to enthrall about a thousand attendees.

Tickets are \$3 a person.

REVIEW

JINELL VANCORBACH The Crusader

There are many things to be thankful for this season, but the new John Travolta and Robin Williams comedy, "Old Dogs," is not one of them.

Dan (Williams) and Charlie (Travolta), best friends and business partners in their early 50s, have their lives turned upside down when Dan discovers that he has 7-year-old fraternal twins with his ex-wife Vicki (Kelly Preston), whom he met and married on a wild night in Miami.

Vicki meets Dan for lunch after having no communication with him in the last seven years



Courtesy of Wikipedia

to tell him that she is going to jail for two weeks for trespassing – and that he is the father of her two children. Dan volunteers to take care of the kids while Vicki is on her "spa vacation."

Dan and Charlie end up taking care of the twins together and do activities such as camping and playing tea party. Throughout the two-week time period, Dan and Charlie are wrapping up a deal with a Japanese business that will take their sports-marketing business international.

When Vicki returns, Dan

wins his family over, and the Japanese business contacts Dan because they're looking for a "family man" to represent the company.

Although there are a few funny scenes, sadly they're the ones that are shown in all of the movie trailers and previews, such as the scene when Dan and Charlie's pills get mixed up and they both experience adverse and comedic side effects.

This movie is definitely not one to waste your hard-earned \$9.50 on. Wait until it hits the midnight movie time slot at the Nampa Reel – by then you'll be so tired that the movie will be funnier than it really is. C-

concert Box

HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS 12.06.09

BOISE VENUE

METALLICA

12.07.09

IDAHO CENTER

REEL BIG FISH

01.08.10

KNITTING FACTORY

AFI

01.18.10

KNITTING FACTORY

HOWIE DAY

01.20.10

KNITTING FACTORY

newreleasesnewreleasesnew

New In The Theaters >>

"Up in the Air"
"Brothers"
"Everybody's Fine"
"Transylmania"

Out on DVD >>

"Angels & Demons"
"Up"
"Four Christmases"
"Imagine That"

Books >>

"Beautiful Creatures"
by Kami Garcia
"U is for Undertow"
by Sue Grafton
"The Piano Teacher"
by Janic Y. K. Lee

Album Releases >>

"I Dreamed a Dream
by Susan Boyle
"Battle Studies"
by John Mayer
"The Fame Monster"
by Lady GaGa

Movie information from MSN.com

Book and DVD information from borders.com

releasesnewreleasesnewrele

Community Highlight



Upcoming Events

December is filled with cramming for exams and finishing up on the last of the semester projects. But before you pack up and head home for the season, here are holiday events going on in Nampa. An event or two may be a good study break or a way to get some Christmas shopping done before Christmas Eve.

HIP HOLIDAY MARKET

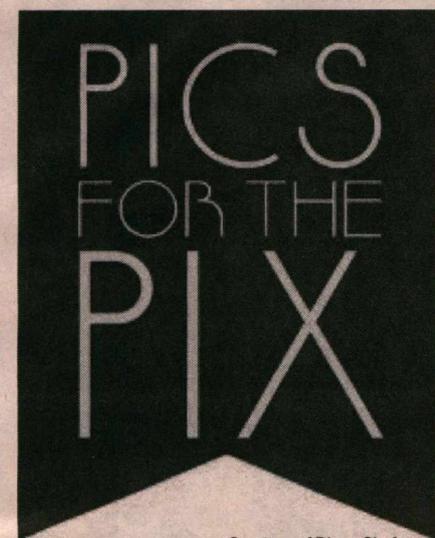
The Flying M Coffeegarage in Nampa will host its 4th Annual Hip Holiday Market on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Over 25 booths will be filled with items like jewelry, bags and knitted accessories made by local artists and crafters. A basket filled with products from the vendors will be raffled off at 5 p.m. that same day. Proceeds will go to buying blankets for those in need.

Information courtesy of the Flying M Web site.



Holly Beech | The Crusader

Yarn, buttons and clothing at Puffy Mondaes art store in downtown Nampa. Puffy Mondaes is offering several art classes this holiday season.



Courtesy of Diana Shafer

PICS FOR THE PIX

The White Pine is putting on a photography show, held at the Flying M Coffeegarage in Nampa, to benefit the re-opening of the Pix Theatre in downtown Nampa. The event is on Thursday, Dec. 10, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Admission cost is a suggested minimum of 5 dollars. Attendees will be able to vote on their favorite collection of photographs and bid in a silent auction. The challenge of the participating photographers, both professional and amateur, is to feature a simple organic tee shirt in their photographs while integrating their own unique style.

The vision for the Pix Theatre, which has been closed for several years, is to use the building as a venue for cultural and educational activities, community events and performances.

Information courtesy of The White Pine Web site.

>> Check out the events

The Flying M Coffeegarage
 1314 2nd St. South
 Nampa

Puffy Mondaes
 200 12th Ave. South
 Nampa

Call to register:
 208-407-3359



News Blurbs

Suspect in officer killings eludes law in Seattle

SEATTLE — After an all-night siege, a SWAT team storms a house where the man wanted in the coffeehouse slayings of four police officers was believed cornered, only to find he is still on the loose. Police fan out across the city, and residents are unnerved by the thought of a mentally unstable killer with a hatred for cops still on the streets.

Hurricane season ends with barely a whimper

SAVANNAH, Ga. — The hurricane season ends with barely a whimper. Since the season began in June, not a single hurricane came ashore in the United States. And just nine named storms developed — the smallest number since 1997.

Washington keeps close eye on home foreclosures

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is cracking down on mortgage companies that are failing to do enough to help borrowers at risk of foreclosure, as part of a broad effort to boost participation in its \$75 billion mortgage assistance program. And government data show that

PUFFY MONDAES ART CLASSES

Puffy Mondaes offers art classes all year long, but this time of year you could give your creation to a friend or family member.

Make Your Own Journal

- Friday, Dec. 4: 6-8 p.m.
- \$30, includes paper and binding materials
- Learn pamphlet stitch and Japanese stab binding

Make a Lined Tote Bag

- Saturday, Dec. 5: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- \$35, includes fabric, notions, and pattern
- Learn how to use a sewing machine and create seam allowances

Pine Needle Basket Weaving

- Thursday, Dec. 10: 6-9 p.m.
- \$30, includes all materials

Lockerhooking

- Fridays Dec. 11 and 18: 7-9 p.m.
- \$45 includes rug base and covers both sessions
- Learn to make a rug and transfer a design

Information courtesy of the Puffy Mondaes Web site.

Canada float plane crash kills 6, including baby

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SATURNA, British Columbia — A float plane crashed off Canada's Pacific coast, killing six people, including a Vancouver doctor and her six month-old baby, as well as two American residents. Two people on board survived.

The Dehavilland Beaver aircraft went down Sunday during takeoff in Lyall Harbour, off Saturna Island in British Columbia's Gulf Islands — about 50 miles (80 kilometers) south of Vancouver.

Only two of the eight on board — the pilot and a female passenger — were rescued

within minutes of the crash and both are expected to survive, although one has serious injuries, the other is listed in stable condition.

Bill Yearwood of Canada's Transportation Safety Board said investigators are hoping the pilot can tell them what went wrong.

A float plane is an aircraft equipped with pontoons for water landings.

Coast guard spokesman Troy Haddock said divers recovered the bodies of six people who were trapped in the plane which sank in 11 meters (36 feet) of water, moments after

going down.

James White heard the crash and rushed to his boat to look for survivors, but while he got into Lyall Harbour within minutes, the plane had already slipped beneath the water.

"There was no sign of anybody else or any other debris from the aircraft so I think it probably sank pretty fast," White said.

He found a woman and the pilot close together in the water, both conscious and begging for help.

White couldn't pull the two of them into his boat on his own, so he tied them to the side

of his vessel for a few minutes until other boats came to help.

Captain Bob Evans at the Joint Rescue Co-Ordination Centre in Victoria said officials searched for seven hours before finding the plane and recovering the victims.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police have identified the victims as 41-year-old Vancouver doctor Kerry Margaret Morrissey, her baby Sarah, 55-year-old Catherine White-Holman of Vancouver and 60-year-old Thomas Gordon Glenn of White Rock, British Columbia.

The two American residents

were 44-year-old Cindy Shafer and 49-year-old Richard Bruce Haskett of Huntington Beach, California.

Last year there were two fatal float plane crashes off the coast of British Columbia.

In August 2008, five people were killed when a Pacific Coastal Airlines Grumman Goose crashed on Vancouver Island.

In November 2008, one man survived a crash that killed seven others on Thormanby Island, located between the British Columbia mainland and northern Vancouver Island.

companies are way behind, with five making almost no progress in reaching out to borrowers from July through October.

Demjanjuk trial opens on Nazi death camp charges

MUNICH — John Demjanjuk sits in a wheelchair wrapped in a blanket, his eyes closed and his left hand twitching occasionally, as his attorneys describe the retired Ohio autoworker as a victim of the Nazis and misguided justice. After decades of court battles, the 89-year-old goes on trial in Germany on charges he helped murder 27,900 Jews.

Health care still a buzz word for lawmakers

WASHINGTON — With Democrats deeply divided, the Senate opens debate on health care legislation that would expand coverage to most of the uninsured, ban onerous insurance industry practices and provide better prescription drug coverage to seniors. Lawmakers are trying to deliver on President Barack Obama's domestic initiative before year's end.

Swiss demand big bail price tag from Polanski

GSTAAD, Switzerland — Two months after Roman Polanski's arrest on a U.S. warrant, workers plow snow away from his Alpine chalet. Before the film director can leave prison for house arrest, his lawyers must satisfy Swiss authorities' demands for full bail payment of \$4.5 million bail.

ON THIS DAY...

The Ford Motor Company unveiled the Model A automobile. It was the successor to the Model T.. www.on-this-day.com

... IN 1927

10 ways to stay off santa's nice list.

by nick ratliff

T

10. Go to Walmart, buy anti-wrinkle cream, give it to the greeter and say, "You need this more than I do. Merry Christmas."

O

9. Throw a temper tantrum after insisting on playing the part of baby Jesus in a local church's rendition of the Christmas story.

P

8. Kill a ladybug and feel like the superior species that you are.

T

7. Ridicule elementary school kids for their belief in a seasonal Coca-Cola cartoon spokesperson.

E

6. Stand outside the exit for New Moon dressed as a werewolf and see how many girls partial to Edward mace you (and, consequently, how many girls partial to Jacob come to your aid).

N

5. Send an e-mail to Pauly Shore just to see if he's lonely enough to reply.

4. Ask any cell phone kiosk vendor at the mall over the age of 25 where their life went wrong.

3. Dress up as a disgruntled elf and go on strike in front of Santa at the mall.

2. Send in a request to MTV's Made to be turned into an evil Chucky Cheese mascot.

1. Go to a Christmas tree lot dressed up as Mother Nature, and accuse prospective Christmas tree owners of being murderers.

Dear Nana Bobango...



There is a boy who seems to be following me everywhere.

He tries to awkwardly sit next to me whenever he sees me.

I'm assuming that it's a crush, but don't know for sure. I definitely do not have the same feelings toward him as he does toward me.

I'm hoping to let this guy down easy, but he doesn't seem to be getting the message. I don't want to hurt his feelings, he doesn't seem like the kind of guy who really knows how to date or even talk to a girl.

He asked me out on a Twix, and I'm hoping I didn't send the wrong message by going.

How do I get rid of him without killing his manhood?

--Peeved Crushee

Dear Peeved,

Really, the best thing to do at this point may be to simply approach the poor guy. If you're not entirely sure he's romantically interested, then it would be unfair to jump to that sort of conclusion. Maybe he simply thinks you're a cool girl and hopes that you two can become friends.

Generally speaking, a Twix invitation isn't usually synonymous with a love declaration. Typically that's what the Valentine's Banquet is for. Perhaps he asked you on the Twix because he wanted to get to know you better as a human being, and not as a possible love interest.

If you're so unsure of his motives, ask him. If he says he does have a crush on you, then you can tell him he's a great guy but you're not interested in that way.

Nana Bobango wants to hear from you! E-mail your questions to crusader@nnu.edu. Put "Dear Nana Bobango" in the subject line.

GOOD WITH NUMBERS? SUDOKU ME.

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GOOD WITH WORDS? CROSSWORD IT.

Newsday Crossword

THIS ONE'S FOR YOU by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Favoritism
5 Choice word
10 Stork relative
14 Long ago
15 Gladiator's venue
16 Slim margin
17 Hidden obstacle
18 Does' mates
19 Prescription amount
20 Ultimatum to a boaster
23 Origami need
25 Mascara targets
26 Iron source
27 5 Down instrument
30 Fly trapper
31 Eye slyly
33 At any time
35 Prefix for mural
40 Arts connoisseurs
43 Is in charge of
44 City near Lake Tahoe
45 Borscht veggie
46 FDR successor
48 Red State grp.
50 Urban way: Abbr.
51 Letterman list
55 Take in or let out
57 Motto on money
62 72 Across spheroids
63 City with two banks
64 Grid officials
67 Actor Estrada
68 Fill with glee
69 Toddler's perch

DOWN

- 70 Beanery sign
71 Edited out
72 Ladled meal
1 "Hub" city, for short
2 B&B
3 Unaccompanied singing style
4 Smooth switch
5 Diamond
6 Golf hazard
7 Damsel saver
8 ___'acte
9 Go to the mat, in the backwoods
10 Pakistan's chief river
11 Trade-show setup

- 12 Matter of debate
13 Barely flows
21 Capote nickname
22 Gum chewing, to some
23 Bow-wow
24 Debate
28 Prefix for plop
29 Tennis great
30 Twisted to dry
32 Takeoff stat: Abbr.
34 12/24 or 12/31
36 Well-used pencil
37 Literary handling
38 Chaucer pilgrim
39 Autumn flower
41 Aisle worker

- 42 Card game
47 Took potshots
49 Skillet
51 Conical abode
52 Drama with divas
53 Make cornrows
54 Walrus features
56 Waits in the shadows
58 Hayloft bundle
59 Russia's ___ Mountains
60 Internet destination
61 Like hand-me-downs
65 Agent's cut
66 Do patchwork

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quoteoftheweek

“Is God vengeful, demanding a death for a death? Or is God compassionate, luring souls into love so great that no one can be considered ‘enemy’?”

-Sister Helen Prejean



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