

CLASSIC TITLE WINNERS

Women's ball finds victory on home turf last weekend. | SPORTS, 7



WEDNESDAY
December 9, 2009

The Crusader

Volume 64
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Serving the community of Northwest Nazarene University since 1942

Spreading around the holiday cheer

'TIS THE SEASON. Amid term papers and final projects, students find ways to give back to the community with the help from student leadership and clubs.

TAYLOR ALLEN The Crusader

As the Christmas season is approaching, giving opportunities arise to help those in need.

There are many needs within the local and national communities.

Although the weeks after Thanksgiving have been dedicated to finishing assignments and preparing for finals, students have given their time and resources to benefit those in need.

Give Week "Raid the Pantry"

On Monday, November 30, students brought canned food and dropped it off at the Dex. Twenty-five cans were collected.

"Super Nampa Sweep"

Students who needed to get

this season. Last Tuesday, 150 gifts were bought from Wal-Mart.

"Rapping Party"

Last Wednesday, students came together to wrap presents for the Social Work Club's "Give a Child a Christmas."

"Give Thanks"

During Brick House on Thursday, December 3, blank cards were around the house for people to write encouraging notes on.

These cards will be given to students to spread hope and cheer. Thirty-seven cards were written that night.

Give a Child a Christmas

The Social Work Club, along with Nampa First Church, had 200 boxes to fill for children in Nampa this Christmas.



Alex Corn | The Crusader

Students wrap gifts for the social work club's Give a Child a Christmas during Time-Out.

returned and wrapped at the Brick House during "Give Week."

"This was an awesome

Keeney-Smithson said she was disappointed that not all 200 boxes were returned, despite the club's efforts to contact and help

"Their hearts are beautiful, and I am grateful for them," Keeney-Smithson said.

What's inside

Without Facebook |

Campus Life, 3

Brandon Haskins spends the week without social networking Web sites -- what did this reporter learn?

Holiday blues | Opinion, 5

This Christmas season may not be as cheery for some. The Crusader editor gives her opinion to what you can do.

Indoor track | Sports, 6

The track team heads indoors for the winter season and competes in first meet over the weekend. How'd they do?

Gift ideas | Beyond, 9

The Crusader gives readers hints on how they can give, while giving back this holiday season.

Senate tonight

7:45 p.m. in Wordsworth

NO OLD BUSINESS.

out of their dorms for awhile were given a gift card to Wal-Mart and a list of items to buy for people who were without

of the Dex to fill up boxes with supplies.

Of the 200 boxes, 107 were

opportunity to help and participate," Social Work Club president Katie Keeney-Smithson said.

However, she appreciates everyone who participated and who was willing to serve.

SEE
GIVING
CAMPUS LIFE, 2

Some education majors asked to change field of study

BRANDON HASKINS
The Crusader

Few people come into college knowing exactly what they want to do with their lives. For those that do have a goal for their future career, most can never imagine not being able to accomplish that goal.

That is exactly what happened to three elementary education majors, all going into their senior year.

Zach Lane, who had been an elementary education major since his freshman year, had already completed nearly 50 hours of student teaching when he was informed that he would need to change majors.

"I was upset because all of my plans were all of the sudden changed. Initially I thought of transferring schools and finishing my ed degree there."

Lane didn't transfer schools, however, but rather changed to a social work major. "I thought of social work more and it seemed to appeal to me more after talking to people. This has caused me to have at least one more year of school, but I've kind of accepted it for what it is and just

SEE
ED MAJORS
CAMPUS LIFE, 3

Recent bicycle thefts on campus; security encourages lock use



Alex Corn | The Crusader

Senior Brian Oberst locks up his bicycle Monday afternoon.

BRANDON HASKINS
The Crusader

The weather is getting colder, and it would seem as though bike riding would be less common. However, a number of student bicycles have recently gone missing from various campus locations, and now these students have found themselves to be unexpectedly bike-less this semester.

Senior Louie Beech is among this group. Beech had his Schwinn mountain bike go missing outside of the Johnson Sports Center recently. His

bike, however, didn't have a lock.

Senior Rob Uehlin, whose bike went missing outside of the Kirkeide apartments is in a much similar situation, as are juniors Danielle Carter and Preston O'Malley.

These students did not have locks on their bikes at the time they were stolen. Carter, whose bike went missing outside her apartment said, "[it was] my own fault, it was not locked. It sucks that people are that mean. [You should] always lock your bike -- even if you're away

from it for five minutes."

"Don't leave your bikes unlocked, and if you see anyone suspicious taking a bike say something or call security," O'Malley said. His bike lock had gone missing a few weeks before his bike was stolen.

A bike lock doesn't always do the trick though, as sophomore Josh Siverson found out. Siverson's bike, a Giant NRS that was stolen between Culver and Dooley Halls, was locked with a steel lock and cable.

It is hard to say if there have been more bike thefts on

campus recently, or if this is a normal pattern. Campus Safety Director Darrel Stewart said these numbers correlate with reports students file.

"Campus Safety is not aware of any recent bicycle theft 'surge' on campus. According to Campus Safety records, from 2006-2009 there have been no more bicycle thefts reported than normal. There were two

SEE
BIKES
CAMPUS LIFE, 2

NEW BUSINESS:

>Bill to give a \$25 gift certificate Christmas bonus to all 13 NNU full-time custodians; \$100 bonuses to the two Culver Hall janitors who cleaned up the mess after the Bare Buns Fun Run

Submitted by Senators
Brandon Haskins and Jordan Scott

Senate is open to all students.

Weather

THURSDAY
Sunny.

Hi: 27° | Low: 11°

FRIDAY
Sunny.

Hi: 33° | Low: 17°

SATURDAY

Few snow showers.

Hi: 33° | Low: 23°

SUNDAY

Rain/snow showers.

Hi: 38° | Low: 24°

MONDAY

Mostly Cloudy.

Hi: 35° | Low: 23°

TUESDAY
Cloudy.

Hi: 37° | Low: 23°

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My life: without social networking Web sites with reporter **Brandon Haskins**

I know it's sad, but I check my Facebook obsessively. I Twitter from my phone, which in turn updates my Facebook status -- again, another sad truth of my life.

I don't need to explain myself though, I'm happy and I enjoy being able to keep in contact with friends no matter what.

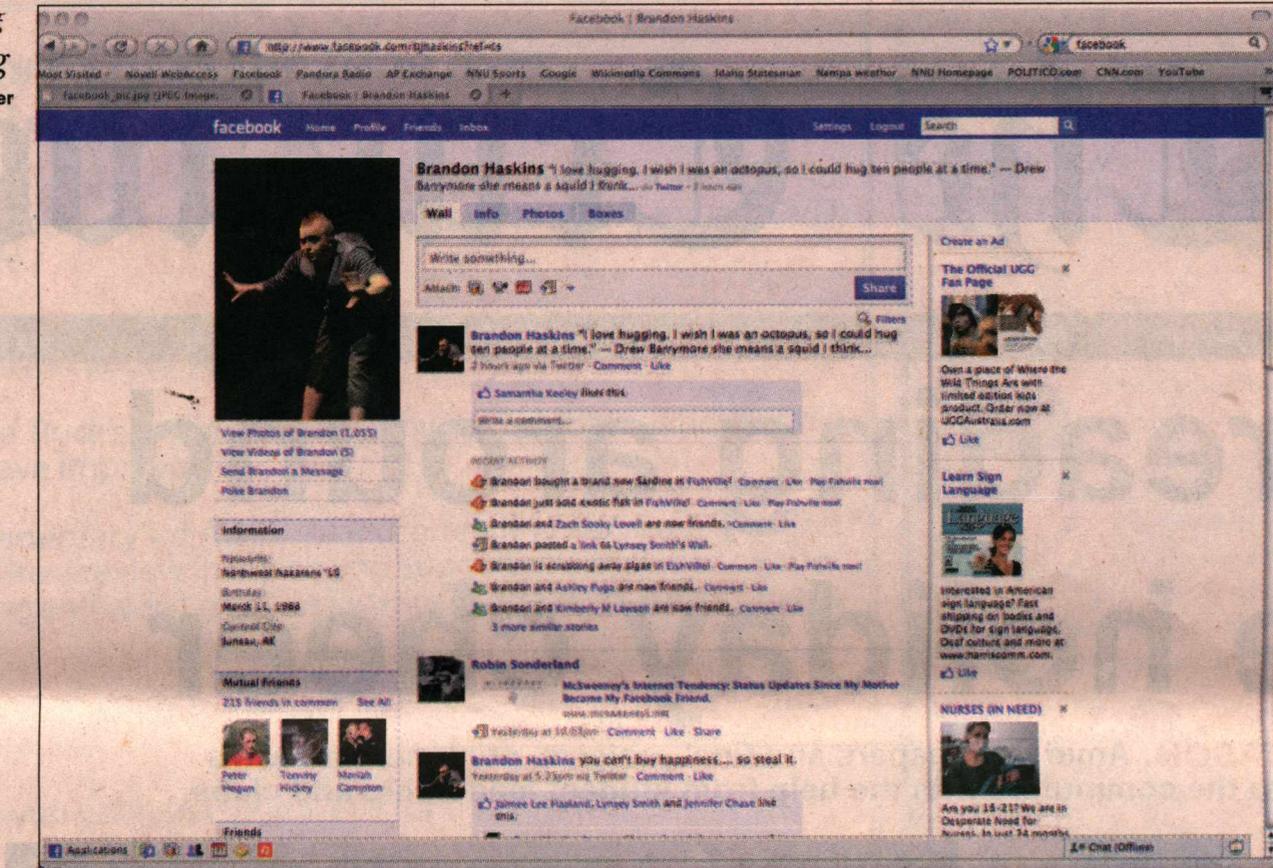
That is why I was so uneasy about going an entire week without social networking sites.

I had my password changed, and then proceeded to disable my account (a handy option Facebook offers -- you don't actually delete your account, just make it invisible to the world, then when you're ready to come back you just log in, and it is like you never even left).

Disabling my Facebook account may have been the strangest part of this experience.

Not because I was sad to see it go, but because Facebook suddenly turns creepy.

As I went through the disabling process I was informed



Brandon Haskins' Facebook account was neglected last week as part of his "My Life As" column.

that my 998 Facebook friends will no longer be able to contact me, and that they will miss me.

It then shows me the names of a number of friends, and pictures of me having fun times with that person. There was a picture of Jessica Novello and me at Twirp, a picture of Lacey

Smith and me playing mini-golf, a picture of Ryan Donley telling me stories in the grass and a picture of Ali Rotta and me dancing at a failure of an '80s dance party.

Each picture had the caption "(Person) will miss you" or "(Person) will not be able to

connect with you." Suddenly I felt as though disabling my Facebook was a vicious attack against my friends.

While the week was hard to get through, I have to say that by the end I didn't miss it much anymore.

One thing that I hoped

would happen, did not though. I was hoping that without the distraction of Facebook, I would spend a lot more time actually doing my homework, in place of wasting time on Facebook.

Not true. The internet has so many amazing things that are distraction worthy -- Facebook

was simply replaced by a number of other Web sites like mylifesaverage.com or awkward family photos.

I finally drew the conclusion that if I don't want to focus, I distract myself and then blame that distraction rather than my own lack of willpower.

I have to admit, though, I did discover that Facebook has its place, as do other social networking sites.

They are great ways to keep in contact, and are low maintenance ways to remain semi-involved in each other's lives.

I mean, outside of the sarcastic comments Dr. Chase leaves on my status updates, we wouldn't have much of a friendship, but because she does leave those, our friendship gets to live on another day, and that goes for so many of my friends.

There are people that I wouldn't go out of my way to call on the phone, or send an e-mail to, but that doesn't mean I don't want to remain in contact, or that they aren't important to me.

Social networking does allow me to stay somewhat in contact with a lot of people, and for that, I do appreciate it.

BIKES FROM PAGE 1

bicycle thefts reported to Campus Safety for November 2009. Prior to November 2009, the last reported bicycle theft to Campus Safety was July 2009."

This said, however, of the



returned to the owner," Stewart said.

On occasion, Stewart said Campus Safety has noticed a bicycle left unsecured and vulnerable for several days in the same location.

"We have brought the bicycle back to the Campus Safety Office for safe keeping. We wait for the owner to contact us about the missing bicycle. Once

five people stated in this article, only one reported their missing bike to Campus Safety.

Whether this year's amount of bike thefts is abnormal or not, Stewart has advice for all bike owners.

"Almost all of the stolen bicycles on campus are not secured. Most of the bicycle owners have a lock of some type attached to the bicycle," he said.

"However the bicycle owner does not take the time to actually use the lock. If you're going to purchase a 150-3000 dollar bicycle, use the lock and don't purchase a \$15 lock.

Many quality locks come with guarantees. So if your bicycle is



A U-lock, seen above, locks the wheel to a bike rack or post with a steel bar. The prices range from \$20-45.

Courtesy of wikipedia

stolen while using their lock, the lock manufacturing company will replace the stolen bicycle."

Stewart also said not to leave bicycles at bicycle racks for long periods of time, even if locked. Stewart recommends students use the bicycle storage sheds provided by the university for long-term bike storage.

In the event of theft, the

owner should be able to identify all the specifics of their bicycle.

Stewart said the owner of the bicycle needs to keep record of the make, model and color of their bicycle, write down the bicycle serial number and keep the information in a safe place.

"The bicycle serial number is engraved in the bicycle and usually can be found on the

bottom of the bicycle frame. Most bicycle owners do not take the time to write down the make, model and serial number of their bicycle. Without this information, the police can not enter the information into NCIC (National Crime Information Center)," Stewart said.

Stewart said that without the

serial number, there is no way to prove the bicycle belongs to the person reporting the bicycle stolen.

"NCIC information is provided to all law enforcement agencies nationwide. As a result, if a bicycle is recovered by law enforcement in any state, the bicycle can be tracked back to the owner's theft report and

the owner contacts Campus Safety, the bicycle is promptly returned. If the bicycle is not claimed, we turn the bicycle over to the Nampa Police Department as found property," he said.

For this reason, Stewart said it is important that any student whose bike goes missing to contact campus security and report their bike missing.

Siverson had words of advice for bicyclists as well.

"Many times students would borrow my bike without asking. Just let the owner know if you are going to borrow it, that way the owner knows who has it," Siverson said.

GMNG FROM PAGE 1

Operation Wish Book

In order to help give the gift of reading, NNU is participating in Operation Wish Book along with the Salvation Army.

Books are being collected in the library, the bookstore, Wiley Learning Center and the Administration Building. Books are all going to help children in Canyon County.

Children's books and cash donations are encouraged.

The bookstore is giving a 30% discount on books that are purchased for this project. This is currently going on.

Students had another opportunity to give back last night at the NNU vs. C of I rivalry game, where a toy drive was held to benefit needy children in the area.



Alex Corn | The Crusader

SGA Campus Ministries director Lacey Smith helps wrap gifts at Time-Out. Smith is in charge of leading Time-Out as part of her leadership position.

Procrastination party gives freshman leaders their first big jobs

JINELL VANCORBACH

The Crusader

The Procrastination Party is an annual event at the end of first semester for all the procrastinators to put off homework one last time before getting ready for finals.

The SGA has organized this event in the past, but this year, they decided to take a different direction.

The SGA is partnering with the freshman class council for this year's party, and calling it the "Christmas Extravaganza."

"We really wanted to give the freshman class council a chance to be involved

with something during first semester so that they can jump into their leadership roles right away," said Kenton Lee, Assistant Director of Campus Life.

The event is free, and will take place tomorrow night. It has been split into two parts.

The first part starts in the Johnson Sports Center at 7:00 p.m., where various forms of dodgeball will take place.

At 9:00 p.m., students can head over to the Brick House for a gingerbread house-building contest, movies, food and other Christmas activities.

"It should be a blast," Trevor Douty, freshman class

president, said.

"We hope to see a lot of people there."

"This is the first year that SGA is partnering with freshman class council to put on this event," Lee said.

Usually the freshman class council is in charge of Mr. NNU, which occurs next semester.

This year, however, they will be partnering in that event with the junior class, Lee said.

"We thought that would be a good partnership since the freshmen have never seen a Mr. NNU before, and the juniors know all about it."

ED MAJORS FROM PAGE 1

need to move on. I'm ready to be done with school now."

Senior Michelle Barker, who is now an applied studies major with an emphasis in education, found herself in a similar situation.

"They told me two days before I was going to go home for summer that I could not return to do my internship. I am now finishing up my degree online," Barker said.

Senior Bonita Bare is in the same boat.

The faculty of the education department informed her this summer, the summer before her senior year, that she would not be allowed to continue on in their program, she said.

"I was really upset, I won't lie. No, I was furious. First, I knew myself well enough to know that education wasn't necessarily

for me, but it was a goal that I had made and I expected to complete it because I'm a firm believer that one should finish a task that he or she starts. Also I was heavily encouraged to pursue a career in teaching. Everyone my whole life told me that I'd be great at it. It was my decision, however, to decide whether or not I wanted to take on a task that was challenging for me."

Though unable to comment on specific students' stories for confidentiality reasons, Karen Blacklock, professor of education, said each education major must meet various requirements in order to obtain their degree.

There are four specific criteria that education majors must meet in order to meet requirements set by the state of Idaho and the National Counsel for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), Blacklock said.

The criteria, Blacklock said, are described on pages 11-15 in the NNU Teacher Education Handbook. Requirements include passing the PRAXIS II content test by the state of Idaho, demonstrates the education majors' knowledge of subject matter, Blacklock said.

Also, she said, education

majors must show proficiency with written and verbal communication in order to meet the state standard called "communication."

"Every Education major takes EDUC 1110, introduction to teaching, and has this information in the required Teacher Education Handbook. The instructor of this course explains how the process works," Blacklock said.

At the Checkpoint 1 interviews, students are given a handout that reminds them of the coming checkpoints and criteria and as issues come up, advisers individually go over some of the criteria with students, she said.

The difficult decision of whether or not the student should continue in his or her major is based on their performance in relationship to the stated program criteria, Blacklock said.

The education department

has an obligation not only to NNU students, but also to the kindergarten through twelfth-grade students who will be taught by NNU graduates, she said.

"We must always keep as a top priority what is best for K-12 students. We cannot admit NNU students who may be very bright and capable in many areas, but do not have the academic strength, communication skills, planning or teaching skills, classroom management skills or dispositions to become effective teachers. Not everyone has what it takes to be a good teacher, just as not everyone has what it takes to be a good nurse, businessperson or pastor."

The education department has a responsibility to help NNU students determine his or her optimal place of service, which might not be the teaching profession, Blacklock said.

"We would be doing a

disservice to the NNU student to allow him [or] her to progress through the program, only to fail in the real world of teaching," she said.

"The reasons for the few students who are being denied their forward progress in the major are always the same in general — they didn't meet the requirements."

Much empathy goes into each decision made, Blacklock said.

"Faculty labor over these decisions and do not take them lightly. They are emotional times for both the student and the faculty member who must share the decision with the student."

Bare said she understands the department has her interests in mind. "However disappointed and upset that I may be, I appreciate the education department's careful eye, their advice and concern for my well being," she said.

>>All majors are different

Do you know what you need to do to graduate on time? Talk to your academic adviser, and visit your academic catalogue to make sure you are completing all the requirements of your major.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Special education major to be offered

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Samuel Dunn has announced the offering of a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Special Education.

The new major, launched this semester, is approved by the State of Idaho and Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

will result in an Idaho Special Education Generalist K-12 Teacher Certification.

The program will help to fill a growing need for highly qualified special education teachers in this area.

This program, like all education programs at NNU, is built on learner-centered principles.

"Learner-centered teachers are those who keep what is best for the student at the center of all

"If Jesus Were a Parent" seminar coming to NNU

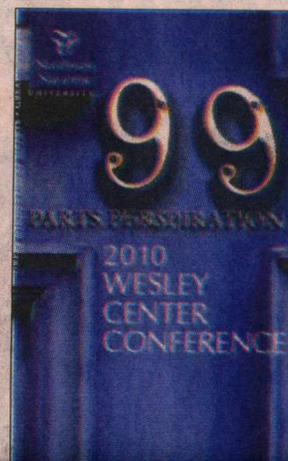
Northwest Nazarene University's alumni association is sponsoring a spring seminar titled "If Jesus were a Parent," based on the best-selling book by author, speaker and pastor Hal Perkins.

Perkins and his wife Debi will be on campus to present the three-hour seminar on Saturday

parenting issues is welcome to join the Perkinses as they teach how to establish authority Jesus' way, how to coach a child's heart and how to coach conflicts, confusion and choices in your home.

Cost for the seminar is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple, which includes materials and brunch. Childcare will be provided.

For further information,



Crosno, as well as a full menu of workshops led by creative practitioners and some of NNU's students.

The conference will be held February 4-6 at College Church of the Nazarene. Conference registration begins Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. The conference concludes at noon on Saturday.

program is designed for those who have the passion and heart for making a difference in the lives of special-needs children and youth.

The program will prepare qualified special education teachers to help students reach their full potential, and is filled with hands-on experience in area schools.

The four-year program

that they do. They have accepted the call to make a positive difference in the lives of their students through teaching and building positive relationships, and see their profession as not just a job but a ministry that requires the full engagement of heart, mind and soul." Karen Simucker, director of the special education program, said.

The seminar is designed to be beneficial to all parents (the younger the better), young adults who plan to be parents some day, grandparents who actively invest in the lives of their grandchildren, all Christian leaders, Sunday school teachers/group leaders and especially pastors called to help parents disciple children.

Anyone interested in

Author Philip Yancey among guest speakers at Wesley Conference

Northwest Nazarene University's 2010 Wesley Center Conference has been themed "99 Parts Perspiration: God & the Creative Process."

This year's conference is

geared to help both pastors and laypersons explore what it means to write, preach, teach, perform and create while keeping in step with the Spirit of God.

The conference features bestselling writer Philip Yancey and respected pastor Jeff

The Crusader staff

Celebrating brick house style



Jessica Novello | The Oasis

Last Thursday evening, the Brick House hosted its Christmas Party event. For entertainment, there was open mic for any musicians willing to play or sing tunes. There were also opportunities for sugar cookie decorating and card writing. All drinks were free.

In the picture: Three of the Brick House girls pose for a picture with James Drake and Cheryle Crenshaw.

STUDENT LIFE

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 9

Senate @ 7:45p.m. - Wordsworth

Time-Out @ 9p.m.

THURSDAY, Dec. 10

Procrastination Party @ 7:00p.m. - JSC

FRIDAY, Dec. 11

Last day of undergraduate classes

Christmas Sing-A-Long Chapel @

10:20 a.m. - Brandt

WBball vs. Notre Dame de Namur @

5:30 p.m. - JSC

MBball vs. University of Montana Western @ 6:00 p.m. - JSC

SATURDAY, Dec. 12*

MBball vs. Portland Bible @ 6:00 p.m. - JSC

MON. Dec. 14 - Thurs. Dec. 17

Semester finals

FRIDAY, Dec. 18

Residence halls close @ 12:00 p.m.

The Facebook epidemic

I'm a victim of the Facebook epidemic. Countless hours have been devoted to updating my status, icing mobsters (part of the Mafia Wars application) and filling out surveys titled "Survey for the Bored No. 734."

A number of papers have been put off until the last possible minute, and study sessions have gone into the early morning hours.

As finals are beginning next week, this subject seemed an appropriate one, as I am not the only one who has suffered from this thing I call, "Facebook Addiction."

I went through all of my posts from last week, Sunday to Friday, which included status updates, video posts, links and other random application postings. The final tally? Twenty, which is fairly low, given that approximately 55 million status updates alone are posted a day. Generally, when I'm on



GUEST OPINION
by
JINELL VANCORBACH

Facebook, it isn't to update my status – I look to find anything that will keep me from doing my homework or studying. In fact, as I sit writing this article, I have my Facebook homepage minimized on my computer screen.

Talking to other students on campus, I know I'm not the only one who struggles with getting my work done because I can always find something to do on Facebook. What I find really interesting, though, is that Facebook doesn't just affect the students – parents are slowly

becoming just as addicted, and writing status updates such as, "I guess I should start dinner now," and playing Bejeweled Blitz into the wee hours of the night, trying to beat their other adult friends' scores. The epidemic has spread to my own parents as well.

My dad was so opposed to making a Facebook account, but finally buckled and created one shortly after I began college. Then he found Mafia Wars. Now, I'm fine with him playing it, but then he would call me so that I could log onto his Facebook account and do stuff on his Mafia account when he didn't have access to Facebook. Pathetic? Yes. Did I do it? Yes.

So, what can we do about this addiction? You can always disable your account and just shun Facebook altogether, but you're going to miss out on a lot of events happening in the future. Moderation is key – just like with coffee and chocolate.

Check your homepage as a reward for writing two pages of your 10-page research paper, but set a time-limit for how long you can be on Facebook. Unplug or disable your computer from the network so you're not tempted to hit that internet icon (if you don't need the internet for an assignment you're working on).

Just for fun:

You Know You're A Facebook Addict When:

- You check your Facebook account more than once every hour
- The word "poke" is no longer considered something physical to you
- You refer to Facebook affectionately as FB
- You can spend hours doing nothing on Facebook
- You wake up just to serve the dishes or harvest your crops
- You have your homepage up and keep hitting refresh until something new comes up

STAFF EDITORIAL >>>

"Bare Buns Fun Run": go all out, but be considerate

For all you bikers on campus, the first snow fall of the year might bring about a grumble or two. However, for all you out there who like throwing rotten food at partially clothed freshmen, the first snow fall is reason to celebrate.

The "Bare Buns Fun Run" has been a treasured tradition on campus for several years. Each year, on the first night that snow sticks on the ground, any freshmen who choose to participate have to run around Ford and Culver Halls in their undergarments.

Upperclassmen come up with all sorts of nasty food to throw at the frantic runners. In years past, students have thrown vinegar-filled balloons, pancake mix and old, hardened bagels.

This year's run took place Sunday. The items of choice were frozen meatballs, flour, eggs and rotten milk. This makes for an intense Fun Run, but what about the next day when this gross food is lying all over the ground outside Culver, and students are complaining about the stench of rancid milk in the dorm lobby?

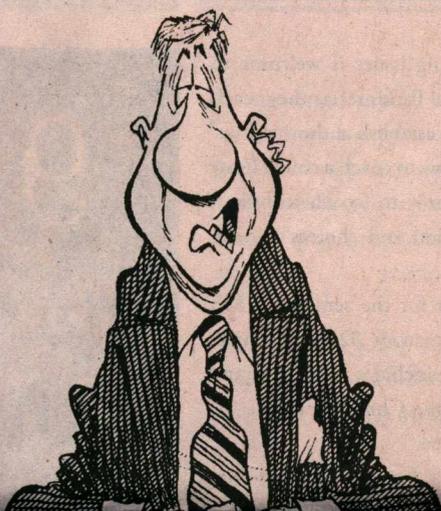
Students tracked in flour, eggs and the smell of rancid milk into Culver. And who got to clean it up? Those who did not even participate in the festivities: the Culver Hall custodians.

The custodians cleaned the dorm lobby, but as soon as more students came in from outside, the mess was made again.

This problem is not isolated to this year alone. In years past, the Fun Run has left a frustrating, not-so-fun problem for custodians.

The nastier the food, the more exciting the run. Go all out. But after the event is over, the mess needs to be cleaned up by all of us students who participate, not by the custodians who weren't even there.

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"BARACK OBAMA CREATED 640,000 JOBS, ACCORDING TO SOURCES ON THE INTERNET CREATED BY AL GORE!"

Tonight at Senate, Senators Brandon Haskins and Jordan Scott are proposing a bill to give the two custodians who cleaned Culver after the Bare Buns Fun Run a bonus of 100 dollars each.

We're all human beings; let's treat each other in that same way



WANDERING IN WONDERLAND
by
ALLISON HAWN

It is disconcerting on a campus prizing intellectual pursuit and Christian compassion that there can be a definite lack thereof. I say this in response to comments I have heard in at least five different class sessions concerning those with any form of psychological disorder. I have heard everything, ranging from the idea that those with forms of mental disorders should be ostracized from society to the

thought that they should be given electro-shock therapy.

The National Institute of Mental Health stated that as of 2009, 14.8 million American adults suffered from severe depression, 40 million suffer from anxiety disorders, 2.2 million from Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), 7.7 million have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) to varying degrees and 4.1 percent of our adult population has

Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD).

My question to those who, whether they realize it or not, are suggesting we punish those who mostly have no control over their state is: "How/why do you suppose we should do this to what the NIMH estimates is 26.5 percent of our adult population?"

That's right, over a quarter of our population has a diagnosable disorder. Further, ostracizing a

person with a disorder not only makes them want to avoid the person who targets them, but they may not wish to seek help for fear of more of the same treatment.

What I see here is a chance for those who wish to claim compassion as a descriptive quality to have a powerful positive impact. The way to helping people with disorders is not through dehumanizing them, which is often the reason,

they have a disorder in the first place.

Instead, the way to help is through understanding and accepting a person, even if they suffer from severe depression, schizophrenia, OCD or any other disorder. People with disorders are not "the others," they are everyday members of society, they are members of this community and more than that – they are normal human beings.

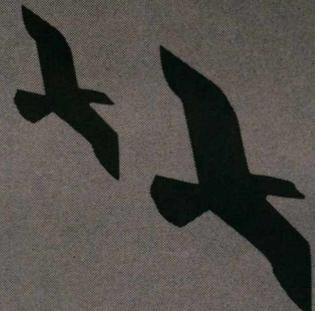


Feel Creative?

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.
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83702

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

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

People Poll

What is your favorite holiday tradition?



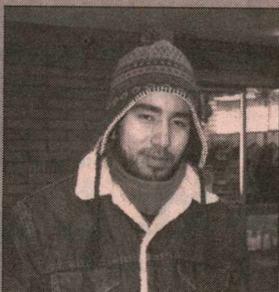
Caleb Howard
sophomore

“My family takes a four-day ski trip every year... usually to McCall.”



Jordan Liljegren
freshman

“Waking up Christmas morning and not being able to come downstairs until Mom and Dad say it’s OK.”



“Looking at Christmas lights because they are pretty and romantic. And destroying little kids’ snowmen.”

Add prayer to your list of traditions this holiday season

There’s just something about the Christmas season, right? It may be 16 degrees outside, but your heart feels all warm and fuzzy nonetheless. Jack Frost is nipping at your nose, and you’re OK with it.

All of the sudden you feel the urge to yet again, watch “It’s a Wonderful Life,” which is accompanied by that smile on your face emerging when that cute little girl talks about bells ringing and angels’ wings at the end of the film.

You say you hate Christmas music but we all know you secretly love *NSYNC’s “Home for Christmas” album. (I know I do, at least.) One familiar song played on the local soft-rock radio station even says Christmas is “the most wonderful time of the year.”

I would like to say Christmas cheer is a universal emotion, but it really isn’t. Not everyone has the ability to feel the warm and fuzzies this holiday season.

Perhaps this is the first



FROM THE LESS CYNICAL JOURNALIST
by
ANDREA SCHILLING

Christmas without a loved one. Maybe this Christmas just won’t feel the same because the family dynamic has changed.

I’m sure for some, this Christmas will be filled instead with longing thoughts of a loved one off serving our country. Or, maybe the loss of employment or sickness will be making us less-than-excited for the upcoming holiday.

And I’m sure these people would love to be cheery and merry. These people aren’t grinchers or scrooges by any means, either. You probably

won’t even hear a single “bah humbug” uttered from their mouths. You see, as a holiday based so much on family and togetherness, it can also be one of the most difficult – and depressing – of times. And often, these feelings aren’t all that visible.

The holidays can be a reminder of people we miss, traditions we used to have and how sometimes, things have changed for the worst in our lives. In fact, there are students on this campus who are dreading going home a week from now for one of these very reasons.

Maybe you’re so gosh darn excited for Christmas, you wouldn’t mind skipping your finals next week and moving right on to the eggnog. It’s not a bad thing – Christmas is a season worth the excitement.

However, I ask you to take a moment this holiday season and reflect amid the hustle and bustle. I’m willing to bet you know someone who will be having a difficult holiday this

year. And with this, I ask you to pray for them, and pray like crazy! Pray that God will bring peace to their troubled hearts this season. Pray that their heavy hearts will be lightened.

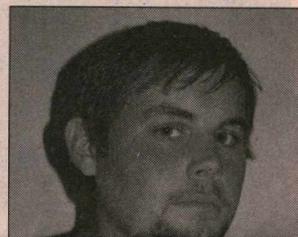
I apologize for being such a Debbie Downer. This column isn’t exactly something you bring with you to an ugly Christmas sweater party. Regardless, as you’re wrapping presents and decking the halls this holiday – say a prayer for the brother and sister to your left or right.

Just as Jesus was brought into this world to bring peace on earth, pray for that same peace to grow in your neighbor. This peace could be exactly what you or I, or the person next to us, need to get through this holiday season.

Editor’s note: Thank you for reading The Crusader this semester! Please find us again next semester, as issue 13 is scheduled to run on January 20. Have a wonderful Christmas break, and a great new year!

Slow down and appreciate the world around you

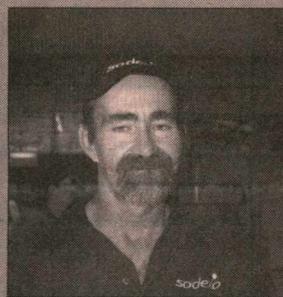
We are the fastest people on Earth. We move at a pace that screams compared to the rest of the world. This is because we are always going somewhere and when we arrive at where



time it took however never seemed to really bother any of us. Here in the states I have to force myself to dump my clothes in a washer with soap and turn the dial, I am too busy to stop

our surroundings. I guarantee that every one of us have missed miracles of life because we were in too much of a hurry or too focused on the end-goal that we couldn’t see what was going on

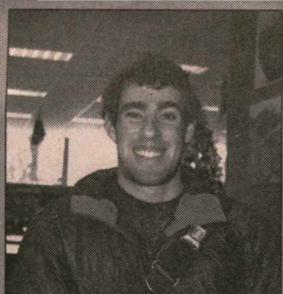
Mike Hoyt
senior



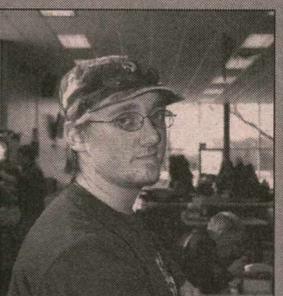
Vince Crawford
The Dex



Alanna Robinson
sophomore



Weston Patrick
freshman



John Bunch
junior

“Thanksgiving because it’s a time you should dwell back on the things you have to be thankful for.”

“Christmas morning we play ‘Santa,’ and whoever’s turn it is that year is the only one who can touch the presents under the tree.”

“My grandmother makes this delicious Chex mix that I look forward to every year.”

“I don’t know if I have one. I guess because Christmas is so commercialized it’s ruined a lot of the traditions for me.”

we are going we are moving as fast as we can so that we can go somewhere else. We live and die by our watches and the percussion of time.

How funny it is that we are dictated to by something as simple as a clock. So much emphasis in this part of the world is placed on accomplishing things in a timely manner, meeting deadlines, being efficient.

It wasn’t until I lived outside of this world that I truly realized how big of a master time is and much the part of slaves is played out by us.

Much of the rest of the world is aware of this thing we call time but similarities really stop there. Deadlines exist and appointments occur but there priority is low.

IF I WERE KING

by
TREVAN HAUCK

Some friends of mine and I were recently comparing our time use in the U.S. to our time use in Uganda. Take, for example, laundry.

Laundry in Uganda goes something like this: Get your bin of clothes, go outside, fill with cold water and soap, soak for a while, return and scrub meticulously with bar soap, wring out, empty bin, fill with water, rinse clothes, wring out again, hang to dry, pray one of the ever so common flash rainstorms does not occur. Seems a bit daunting and it takes at least an hour depending on the size of your load. The

get frustrated with how long the dryer is taking

What is the difference that occurs to make one hard task a part of life and one easy task an inconvenience? It is our strict obedience to time.

Time is too valuable to waste on any one thing and the demands of our lives require us to constantly be moving. This is not always a good thing and many people have wasted life and opportunity in obedience to the clock.

Why is this obedience dangerous? Keeping time and schedule is not a sin and in fact it is good to organize our priorities, designating time to important tasks.

The problem comes when this scheduling prevents spontaneity and appreciation of

The point of our lives is not to get the most things accomplished in the quickest amount of time. The point of our lives as Christians is not to march to the pace of others.

The wonders of this earth, the natural God-fashioned miracles, are going on unappreciated and unacknowledged because we refuse to slow down.

People’s lives are only happening in their own worlds when they should be happening to all of us.

We must be conscience of how we spend our time, dedicating some of it to appreciating this world that seems to be whispering, “Stop and be in reverence, for this is the earth, created for you” as we whizz by in our cars on the phone.



Merry Christmas from your Crusader staff!

Four records fall in indoor track's season opener

ANDREA SCHILLING

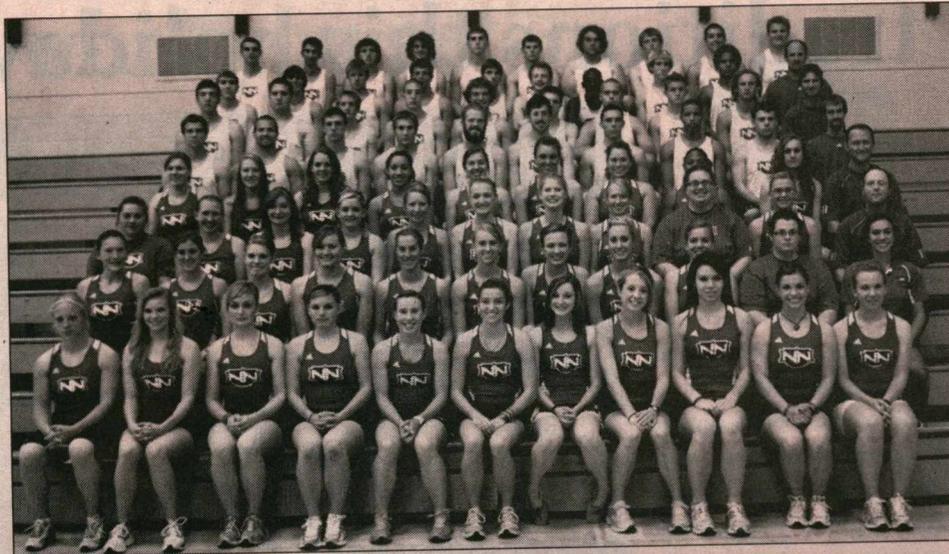
The Crusader

Indoor track kicked off this past weekend with Jackson's Open, where several Crusaders made their mark on the board.

On Friday, Jill Bennett and Laura Von Arx helped the women Crusaders off to a 1-2 finish in the Pentathlon. Competing against Portland State and Concordia, Bennett finished first with a score of 2,927 for five events. Bennett scored personal best marks in three events.

Von Arx finished with a score of 2,767 for second place in the final event of the evening, with a time of 2:42.60 in the 800m. Beth McLam finished 6th, scoring 3 team points, totaling 21 points.

On Saturday, Von Arx set an indoor school record and



Courtesy of NNU Sports Information

The 2009 NNU men's and women's track and field team participated in the first indoor meet of the season on Saturday.

became an NCAA II National Provisional Qualifier for her triple jump of 11.51m/37'9".

Von Arx jumped the qualifier on her first jump of

the competition but ended up finishing behind Mikeyla Nicholson of Portland State and defending NCAA Div 1 long jump champion Eleni

Kafourou.

Matt Stark broke the school record in the 1000m with a time of 2:33.92. Stark was the previous holder of the

record, but bettered his time on Saturday. Stark placed 5th in the event. Jasmyn Jewett won the women's high jump, hitting 1.57m/5'1.75".

Other school records for the Crusaders came from Maurus Hope in the 60m and in winning the 200m in a time of 22.13.

"It was great to see Maurus run fast this early since our focus was not on time but on competing and running through this part of our training, it just means there is more to come which is exciting," Dustin Ainsworth, sprint coach, said.

The Crusaders will compete January 23 at the Blue & Orange Invitational at the Jackson's track in Nampa.

Statistics courtesy of NNU Sports Information.

PLAYER PROFILE

Laura VonArx



Sport:

Track and Field

Events:

Triple jump, long jump, javelin, and heptathlon

Major:

Secondary education in kinesiology and health

Class:

Senior

Hometown:

Hermiston, Ore.

Favorite Christmas tradition?

"Baking the Christmas goodies, especially eating them."

What are your plans for break?

"Get some quality R&R, snowboard, hunt, whoopin' my Dad on the

Men go 1-1 at Dixie Classic; back at home this week

RACHEL BEERS

and

HOLLY BEECH

The Crusader

Last weekend, the men's basketball team traveled to St. George, Utah, to play two non-conference games. The Sadars fell to Dixie State College, 67-75, on Friday, Dec. 4, but overcame Dominican University, 76-63, on Dec. 5.

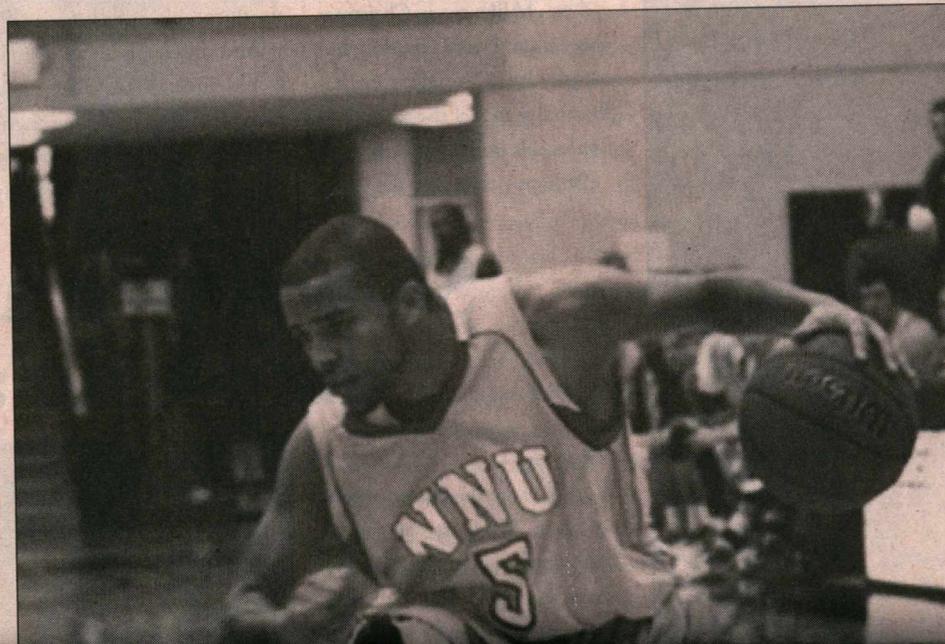
In the win against Dominican, junior guard Drew Eisinger was top scorer with 17 points, and sophomore guard Anthony Golden added another 16.

The Sadars shot 52 percent

should beat a team, we crush 'em," redshirt freshman guard CJ Shula said.

The men played at home this week against rival College of Idaho on Tuesday night. Score and statistics were unavailable at press time. This game was televised live locally on KTVB. When the Sadars played the Yotes at C of I this year on Nov. 10, they fell 72-79.

The men play two games in the 2009 College of Idaho Classic, Dec. 11-12, at College of Idaho. On Friday, Dec. 11, at 6:00 p.m., the Crusaders face University of Montana



made 10 of the 21 attempted three pointers. Junior post Brian Barkdoll and senior forward Kendall Gielow both came close to double-doubles. Barkdoll brought down seven rebounds and scored eight points. Gielow scored nine points and also had seven rebounds. Golden added six steals, and sophomore guard Jamie Eisinger dished out five assists.

"The intensity and discipline we're playing with are helping us get wins. We are putting teams away a lot better this year. If we

12, the men play Portland Bible College at 6 p.m.

For students in the Treasure Valley area over Christmas break, the Sadlers will play Boise State University on Bronco territory on Tuesday, Dec. 29.

Statistics courtesy of NNU Sports Information.

Sophomore guard Anthony Golden contributed 16 points and six steals in the Crusader's triumph over Dominican University on Saturday.



Courtesy of NNU Sports Information

Wii."

Favorite quote:

"Everyone dies but not everyone lives."

What three things would you bring with you to a deserted island?

"Peanut butter, my shotgun, deck of cards."

How do you prepare for a track meet?

"Set goals, spend time in prayer and visualize myself competing well in my event, then rock out to my favorite band."

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

"Competing in the Olympics or cheerleading for the Minnesota Vikings."

How do you plan on surviving finals?

"Five -hour energy drinks, they're nasty but they get the job done."

Alabama finishes regular season No. 1 in AP poll

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Alabama will head into the postseason as the No. 1 team in the AP Top 25 for the first time since 1973, while Southern California dropped out of the ranking Sunday after an eight-year run.

The Crimson Tide claimed the top spot in the media poll in overwhelming fashion, receiving 58 first-place votes

after its emphatic 32-13 victory against previously No. 1 Florida in the Southeastern Conference title game. Texas moved up one spot to No. 2 and received two first-place votes, after squeaking past Nebraska 13-12 in the Big 12 title game Saturday night. TCU is No. 3, followed by Cincinnati, Florida and unbeaten Boise State.

The Trojans dropped out to

snap a streak of 130 consecutive polls in which they were ranked, after completing their worst regular season since 2001. USC (8-4) was ranked 20th before losing 21-17 to Arizona on Saturday.

Southern Cal's streak was the second-longest active in the country behind Texas' 156 weeks in the poll. Ohio State is now second with 83 straight

AP rankings. While the Trojans dropped out, No. 25 Central Michigan earned its first AP ranking in school history. The Chippewas (11-2) won the Mid-American Conference for the third time in four seasons with a 20-10 victory over Ohio on Friday.

The Crimson Tide was No. 1 for a week earlier this season, but spent the previous three

at No. 2 before defeating the defending national champions. The last time Alabama went into a postseason game No. 1, the Tide lost the Sugar Bowl 24-23 to Notre Dame.

On Saturday, Alabama locked up a spot in the BCS national championship game with its SEC title, and is expected to play Texas on Jan. 7 at the Rose Bowl.

SPORTS BOX

Men's Basketball

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

Women's Basketball

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

*Standings as of Dec. 7



NNU women's basketball team wins both games in home-court tournament

TAYLOR ALLEN
The Crusader

Last weekend, Dec. 4-5, NNU hosted the Great Northwest Athletic Conference and Pac-West Classic Tournament at the Johnson Sports Center.

The NNU women's basketball team played two games in the tournament, winning both.

On Friday, Dec. 4, Northwest Nazarene University defeated Dixie State College 85-70. That same night, Grand Canyon University defeated Seattle Pacific University 69-55.

Northwest Nazarene won against Grand Canyon, 73-66, on Saturday, Dec. 5. Seattle Pacific beat Dixie State that night, 59-46.

NNU's wins gave them the GNAC/PacWest Classic Title for 2009. NNU's senior post Kristin Hein earned the MVP title. Hein also received the MVP title in the 2009 Northwest Nazarene University Classic on Nov. 27 and 28.

Along with Hein, NNU senior guard Lindsay Brady joined the All-Tournament team with three other women from the other college teams.

On Friday's game against Dixie State College, Brady scored the game-high 19 points for the night. Hein scored 15, senior guard Janee Olds added 13, and senior post Jen Williams

scored 10.

The Crusaders held their halftime lead to win the game by 15 points. Sophomore post Brianna King had eight rebounds during the game, freshman guard Heather Adams gave four assists, and Hein had six steals and two blocked shots.

In Saturday's game against Grand Canyon University, Hein finished the game with 15 points, seven rebounds, four assists, three steals and two blocked shots. Williams also had four assists, junior post Beth Johnson scored 14 points and Olds scored 13.

Overall, the Crusaders are now at 5-1, averaging 74 points per game. Their one loss at the beginning of the season was not played at the Johnson Sports Center. It is still the team's goal to stay undefeated at home, Julianne Bazzi said. "It's still early in the season, but so far we're doing really good and already showing signs of improvement."

This Friday and Saturday, Dec. 11 and 12, the Crusaders play Notre Dame de Namur and Humboldt State University in Arcata, California at the 2009 Humboldt State University Classic Tournament.

Information courtesy of NNU Sports Information.



Courtesy of NNU Sports Information

NNU's Lindsay Brady, a senior guard, led the Crusaders against Dixie State College Friday with 19 points. The Sadars beat Dixie 85-70, and beat Grand Canyon the next night, 73-66, to earn the GNAC/Pac-West 2009 title.

AP
Sports Blurbs

Sacred Heart holds off Monmouth 81-73

FAIRFIELD, Conn. — Chauncey Hardy scored 18 points and three others reached double figures as Sacred Heart beat Monmouth 81-73 on Saturday in the Northeast Conference opener for both teams.

Corey Hasssan added 17 points and nine rebounds for the Pioneers. Ryan Litke and Mehmet Sahan each scored 13.

The Pioneers (4-3) led 41-16 in the first half on the strength of 60 percent field goal shooting (17-for-27). A big portion of that lead was built by a 20-2 Pioneers' run capped by a Jerrell Thompson layup with 10:40 to play in the half.

The Hawks (2-6) went 12:06 in the first half without a field goal.

The Hawks trimmed the lead to 69-64 with 3:35 to play after runs of 13-2 and 10-5. The Pioneers' defense stiffened and the Hawks got no closer the rest of the way.

Whitney Coleman scored 26 points for the Hawks to lead all scorers. Travis Taylor and Will Campbell added 14 points apiece.

Steelers in big trouble after Raiders win 27-24

PITTSBURGH — The Steelers were in trouble, and they knew it. The Bengals exposed some weaknesses a

A look at upcoming college football bowls

The regular season is over

because of their undefeated

features two teams I really like,

Both the Sun Bowl and the

and the tables are set. With the excitement of making a bowl game still lingering in the air, teams are hard pressed to focus on the task at hand: preparing for their final game.

The BCS games are as follows: Florida will play Cincinnati for the Allstate Sugar Bowl, Oklahoma State against Ole Miss in the AT&T Cotton Bowl, the non-NCS teams of Boise State and Texas Christian square off in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, Iowa will play Georgia Tech in the FedEx Orange Bowl and no. 2 ranked Texas will play no. 1 ranked Alabama for the



BEYOND THE BLEACHERS

by
Derek Sepe

BCS National Championship.

One grudge few have about these selections is the fact that both BSU & TCU, while still being smaller schools, deserve a shot at bigger opponents

record. None the less, all the games are expected to be very entertaining.

Other games that you must also watch that are not BCS games is the Rose Bowl, Capital One Bowl, Brut Sun Bowl and Pacific Life. You should watch the Rose Bowl for an obvious reason: the Big-10 vs. the Pac-10.

Oregon is looking to go into Pasadena and get their second title in just five appearances, but the Buckeyes have other plans looking to add their seventh Rose Bowl in 14 appearances.

The Capital One Bowl

LSU & Penn St. The Tigers had a solid season, but didn't rack up as many quality wins as one would expect in the SEC.

Just like Penn State, none of LSU's nine wins came over opponents currently ranked. Both LSU and PSU were 0-2 in games against BCS-eligible teams.

Defensively, the Tigers and Nittany Lions have similar strengths and weaknesses. Both groups can bend because they come up a little short in the turnover department, but both groups also tighten up in the red zone and limit damage.

Pacific Life Bowl feature teams from the Pac-10 and the Big-12. Heisman candidate Toby Gerhart and Stanford are hoping to hold the Blue Collar assault of Oklahoma, while underrated Arizona takes on a defeated Nebraska team that lost to Texas in the final second of regulation.

No matter who you root for, this bowl season is going to be one of the best to come.

It's the best of the best; the winner takes home the trophy and the loser has a long bus ride home.

month ago, the Chiefs and the Ravens took advantage of them, and now the Oakland Raiders — yes, even the Raiders — felt Pittsburgh could be beaten.

Just when it seemed as if it couldn't get any worse for the Super Bowl champions, it did.

They're losing confidence. The Raiders (4-8), with one of the league's worst offenses in years, sensed that while driving for three touchdowns in the final 8½ minutes of their 27-24 comeback victory over Pittsburgh on Sunday.

Detect a trend? For the second time in four seasons, the Steelers (6-6) followed up a Super Bowl win by losing the following season to Oakland, which has won only 15 games during that span. The Steelers didn't make the playoffs following that 2006 loss, and they're in danger of not making them now.

Lakers beat Suns 108-88 for 9th straight victory

LOS ANGELES — Kobe Bryant scored 26 points, Ron Artest added 15 points and five steals, and the Los Angeles Lakers raced away from the Phoenix Suns in the second half of their ninth straight victory, 108-88 Sunday night.

Pau Gasol scored 14 points for the well-rested Lakers, who improved to an NBA-best 16-3 with their second home win in 24 days over road-weary Phoenix.

Two nights after Bryant banked in a 3-pointer at the buzzer in a one-point win over Miami, the defending NBA champions didn't need another lucky shot. They made a 15-1 run late in the third quarter, holding Phoenix without a field goal for 3 minutes and thirty seconds while jumping to a 23-point lead.



Cassie Carlson | The Crusader

FALL SOCCER 2009 INTRAMURAL CHAMPS

Last Tuesday, Catolina Wine Mixers won the soccer championships against Sitting Albatross 2-0. Another season of intramural soccer will return in the spring. Check the intramural board outside the Dex for upcoming winter intramural activities.

Pomplamoose: what you see is what you get



Pomplamoose consists of Jack Conte and Nataly Dawn.

Courtesy of Myspace

'The Blind Side' is a safe bet for several types of viewers



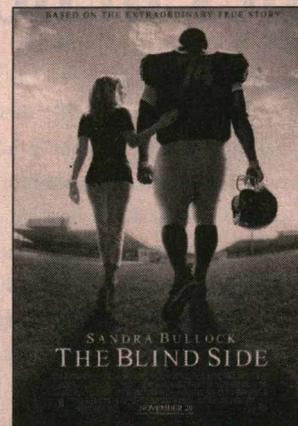
REVIEW

HOLLY BEECH
The Crusader

In the November release of "The Blind Side," Sandra Bullock delivers a capturing performance as Leigh Anne Tuohy, a wealthy Christian wife, mother and hardcore fan of college football from Tennessee. Mrs. Tuohy compassionately invites Michael Oher, a homeless teenager played by Quinton Aaron, to stay on her family's couch for a night, which leads to a transformation that no one in the Tuohy's family or their community saw coming.

The movie, written and directed by John Lee Hancock, is based on Micheal Lewis' book "The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game." It depicts the true story of Michael Oher, a boy who wandered from foster home to foster home as the result of an absent father and a mother who struggled with drug addiction. With the insistence of a friend who allowed Oher to occasionally sleep on his coach, Oher found himself attending a private Christian high school his senior year, despite his 0.6 GPA. He stood out like "a fly in a bucket of milk," as one of the only African Americans in the school.

The Tuohy family offered



Courtesy of Wikipedia

him a bed, food, new clothes and school tuition. Soon their relationship with the quiet and reserved "Big Mike" became a deep family bond. As Michael picked up his grades in school, thanks to a thoughtful science teacher and a private tutor, he became eligible to play on the high school football team. Even though he was by far the biggest player on the team, his football skills were poor. The Tuohys' lovable and humorous son, S.J., worked day after day with Mike, drilling him in hard workouts and going over plays with him. Mike finally made the connection out on the field and became a player several Division I college football coaches sought after. He decided to sign with University of Mississippi, the Tuohys' alma mater, leading to an investigation of the Tuohys' motives for taking him into their home.

Mrs. Tuohy goes to the "sketchy" side of town for the first time to take Michael to see his mother. Her world of comfort and wealth meets the world of poverty and crime. She is one tough, sassy woman,

but throughout the movie, it's clear she begins to soften and realize just how fortunate she is, and how ignorant she had been of the less fortunate. She begins to realize how shallow her conversations with her rich friends had been, and walks out on them one day when they are shocked she would let a "young black boy" sleep under the same roof as her daughter.

The lead actors and actresses, including Tim McGraw as Sean Tuohy, carry the movie and allow viewers to get caught up in the characters' lives, seeing them as real people rather than just movie characters. The supporting characters, however, do not demonstrate this depth and believability. Mrs. Tuohy's wealthy female friends, Michael Oher's "friends" from the ghetto and the college football coaches who pursue Oher are annoyingly cliché. Their poor acting and overly stereotypical roles make parts of the movie less life-like and influential.

It is impressive how closely this movie resembles the real-life story of Michael Oher, who now plays football in the NFL for the Baltimore Ravens.

If you are going to pay money to see a movie, "The Blind Side" would be a safe bet, and will probably be well-liked by a diverse range of viewers. You got football, humor, social class division, family and inspiration all in one movie.

Spelled out like that, this movie sounds a lot like "Remember the Titans." I say give it a shot. A-



REVIEW

ALLISON HAWN The Crusader

Music is more than just sounds for musical duo Pomplamoose; it is a visual experience. The group is comprised of alternative artists Jack Conte and Nataly Dawn.

The duo started performing together in 2008 and soon after decided to form a collaborative effort they dubbed Pomplamoose, which is the

Conte and Dawn's style which it comes to music could be defined as an indie-alternative with touches of funk and 1930s music sprinkled on top.

The duo has written several of their own songs, but the majority of their popularity comes from the covers of pop artists' music.

Pomplamoose has done acoustic covers of Beyonce's "Single Ladies," Michael Jackson's "Beat It," as well as more traditional songs like Simon and Garfunkel's "Mrs. Robinson" and "Favorite Things" from the musical "The Sound of Music."

Each cover has a very unique spin that gives it its own touch of flair.

Pomplamoose has a unique approach to create music.

The two perform all aspects

through computer-remixing of the mixes, a process which is filmed every step of the way.

This then goes to create what Conte calls a VideoSong.

In an interview with "Gearwire," Conte said a VideoSong has two rules, "1. What you see is what you hear (no lip-syncing for instruments or voice).

2. If you hear it, at some point you see it (no hidden sounds)." All of these videos are available for viewing on Pomplamoose's online channel on Youtube.

The California based duo has one released self-titled and independently released EP thus far, a full album titled "Pomplamoose VideoSongs" and they hope to create more soon.

Information courtesy of the Pomplamoose Facebook page.

It's beginning to sound a lot like Christmas

ALLISON HAWN The Crusader

It is officially after Thanksgiving, which means that it's now OK to obsessively listen to as much Christmas music that each individual's heart desires.

However, some might find themselves in a quandary as far as which albums they can joyfully squeeze into this season.

One of the all-time great bands for Christmas music is Mannheim Steamroller, which has been producing quality Christmas albums since 1984. The group blends modern influences with great classics, often mixing contemporary elements like

keyboards and electric bass with traditional instruments like the harpsichord. "Christmas in the Aire" and "Christmas Extraordinaire" are two albums that are great examples of this.

For those looking for a little less on the traditional side, Trans-Siberian Orchestra's "The Lost Christmas Eve" or "The Christmas Attic" will be a nice departure from the norm. TSO uses heavy metal mixed with orchestral elements to create a solid rock sound.

However, for those who are looking for something even more directly rock or just want a good laugh, the 1980s heavy metal group Twisted Sister's "A Twisted Christmas" might be worth looking into.

For those truly sentimental traditional types, one can't go wrong with "Christmas with the Rat Pack." Even the tiniest of Grinch hearts will melt to the voices of Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr. crooning to Christmas classics like "Baby it's Cold Outside," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "White Christmas." The soundtrack to the movie "Miracle on 34th Street" is also an excellent hodge-podge of traditional Christmas tunes with contributions by artists like Aretha Franklin, Kenny G and Ray Charles.

In any case, squeeze in as much of this holiday music as you can while the season is still here.

concert Box

THE MISTLETONES	12.11.10	FLYING M (NAMPA)
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 >>

"The Princess and the Frog"
"Invictus"
"The Lovely Bones"
"A Single Man"

Out on DVD >>

"Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince"
"Julie & Julia"
"Public Enemy"

Books >>

"Witch and Wizard"
by James Patterson
"Dear John"
by Nicholas Sparks
"Lead Me On"
by Victoria Dahl

Album Releases >>

"Shock Value, Vol. 2"
by Timbaland
"Element of Freedom"
by Alicia Keys
"The Fame Monster"
by Lady GaGa

Movie information from MSN.com

Book and DVD information from borders.com

releasesnewreleasesnewrele

Community Highlight

Ways to Give and Give Back

HOLLY BEECH The Crusader

NNU students are aching for that last final to be over and for Christmas break to finally get here. For many people, Christmas means wracking their brains for gift ideas for friends and family.

Here are some ideas that will not only be fun to give to a loved one, but will help out financially struggling people locally or in developing countries as well.

Many of these products are Fair Trade products, meaning the farmers and crafters receive fair compensation for their work, work in safe conditions, receive training and scholarship to develop their communities and use sustainable farming methods that protect their health and the ecosystem.



Photos by Holly Beech | The Crusader

TOMS shoes are sold at The White Pine in downtown Nampa. Every time a pair of TOMS shoes are sold, the TOM shoes company gives a pair of shoes to a needy child. (Below): Emmanuel Crafts, such as these necklaces, support Nepali women.

BE SWEET PRODUCTS

Artisans in poor regions of South Africa, especially women in the Xhosa tribe, benefit from Be Sweet's job creation programs. The income provided through Be Sweet means survival for some of these women. Villagers who participate earn a living by crafting organic cotton yarns,



TOMS SHOES

The TOMS Shoes company was founded in 2006 by American Blake Mycoskie who became friends with children in Argentina who didn't own shoes. He started the company with the One for One philosophy: for every pair of shoes the company sells, a child in

housing, health care, food and education to artisans in Asia, Africa and the Americas. Dunia hosts community shopping events that support organizations like the Idaho Peace Coalition, BSU's Intertribal Native Council and the Idaho Humane Society. Products include musical instruments, home decor, and

AP News Blurbs

UN climate science head hopes for more US action

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Delegates from almost 200 nations — threatened islands and oil powers, industrial giants and impoverished Africans — gather for the most important climate change summit in history. They seek common ground in stepping up the struggle to hold off the most dangerous effects of global warming. The Obama administration, under renewed pressure from Europe to take action, shows it is ready to take action against greenhouse gases even if the U.S.

UI research center may survive budget cuts

BOISE — The University of Idaho, facing a \$4.7 million loss for 12 research centers, says the previously doomed Parma station would survive under a proposed agreement with the J.R. Simplot Co. The university said Monday that under the agreement, the food-processing company would give the center \$300,000 each year, for five years, in exchange for letting Simplot researchers use the Parma facilities for research.

T-shirts, bags, hats, jewelry, throws and home decor.

Be Sweet products are sold locally at Puffy Mondaes and besweetproducts.com.

Information courtesy of www.besweetproducts.com

JEWELRY FROM NEPAL

Beaded jewelry, such as the necklaces pictured above, are crafted by women in Nepal and sold by Fair Trade organizations including Emmanuel Crafts, Princess Home and Behtesda House. Proceeds allow these women, several of whom are widows, to

support themselves, put their children in school and develop useful skills. These products are also sold at Puffy Mondaes.

JEWELS OF HOPE

Jewels of Hope, a non-profit organization, supports orphans and vulnerable children ages 11-19 in Africa.

The children make an income by selling their hand-crafted jewelry through Jewels of Hope. Many of these children have lost their parents to AIDS.

Jewelry is sold at www.jewelsofhope.org and Puffy Mondaes.

Information courtesy of www.jewelsofhope.org.

This helps some children get an education as well as protect their feet. In some countries, shoes are required in the school uniforms, so if children do not have shoes, they cannot get an education. TOMS are sold online, and locally at the White Pine Boutique in Nampa.

Information courtesy of www.tomsshoes.com.

DUNIA MARKETPLACE

Dunia Marketplace, located in Hyde Park in Boise, is a "not-for-profit" Fair Trade store that helps bring

Information courtesy of www.tenthousandvillagesid.com.

COFFEE GIFT CARDS

Buying Free Trade coffee helps farmers receive a fair price for their hard labor and use ecofriendly farming methods. Flying M and Moxie Java International LLC in Boise manufacture Free Trade coffee.

Choose one of these coffee companies when buying gift cards for friends.

Information courtesy of Anne Mazar and TransFair USA.

Tens of thousands protest in Iran, battling police

TEHRAN, Iran — Tens of thousands of students — shouting "Death to the Dictator" and burning pictures of the country's supreme leader — renew Iran's anti-government protests on more than a dozen campuses. Militiamen beat demonstrators with batons and fire tear gas as the opposition stages its biggest rallies in months.

Feds hold hearing on roundup of wild horses

SPARKS, Nev. — That iconic American image of wild mustangs thundering freely across the West could be heading east. The government wants to carry out perhaps the biggest roundup of wild horses in U.S. history, sending up to 25,000 of the untamed animals from the West to the Midwest and East. Planners say it's the only way to save the rapidly multiplying wild horses from mass starvation, but opponents, including celebrities Sheryl Crow, Bill Maher and Ed Harris, believe the effort is inhumane and unnecessary.

Virgin Galactic to unveil commercial spaceship

LOS ANGELES — A stubby, cigar-shaped spacecraft hardly looked like the stuff of science-fiction fantasy. But engineers who spent five years designing the nation's first commercial spacecraft hope to rocket into history by taking well-heeled customers on their first flights to the edge of space in as little as 18 months. A 2½-hour, flight would cost \$200,000 and include a mere five minutes of weightlessness.

Mo. schools complain over supplies with Obama logo

ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Several Missouri schools are complaining about notebooks and pencils with designs similar to the logos from President Barack Obama's campaign. The Columbia Daily Tribune reported that complaints from unhappy officials at three Missouri schools have prompted the supply company responsible for the materials to travel across the state recalling notebooks and pencils.

The design at issue includes a picture of pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters. Above the coins is the phrase: "CHANGE" and underneath it reads: "WE CAN BELIEVE IN."

Below the words is a circle used by Obama's campaign, in which the top half is blue and the bottom is red with three white lines cutting through it.

At least one notebook and pencil with the design have been purchased from a school supply machine at a Columbia

elementary school.

Two families have complained about the design, and Principal Mary Sue Gibson said she planned to complain to the supply company.

"I just don't want to get into that political arena at all," Gibson said.

Greg Jones, a sales representative with Pencil Wholesale, said the design was an accident.

Jones, who delivers supplies to about 800 schools, said he

remembers seeing the design but didn't think anything about it. He said the supplies were designed by a different company and that "the art department was trying to be cutesy."

"I wish I could do it over. But, for now, I can just make it right," Jones said.

It's his job to go to schools that might have received supplies with the controversial design and remove them.

Finding what schools the

supplies went to has been difficult.

From a case of 72 notebooks, three have been found that have a design similar to the Obama logo.

"It's turned out to be really ugly. We're trying to get them out of the schools as fast as we can," said Jones, who identified himself as a registered Republican who voted for John McCain in 2008.

ON THIS DAY...

The musical revival of "My Fair Lady" opened..

www.on-this-day.com

... IN 1993

10 ways to pass the time over Christmas break. by nick ratliff

T

10. Finally get around to programming that universal remote so that your vegetable state isn't interrupted by searching for the DVD player's remote.

O

9. Visit a coffee shop, lay down on one of the couches and begin to tell a fellow patron about your childhood.

P

8. Watch the Rock's entire filmography and debate whether his acting skills have improved.

T

7. Let an elementary ed major practice reading to you like a 2nd grader and write a review in which you suggest she pick a book that isn't so uplifting and won't give the kids such unrealistic expectations about life.

E

6. Satisfy an addiction to finding strangers with multiple mutual friends on Facebook.

N

5. Come up with your own number 5 for this Top Ten.

4. Beg, beg, beg, beg your parents for a Playstation 3 and then pretend to be thrilled when they get you a Wii. (Then realize you're an adult and in this economy you're lucky to get any game system.)

3. Write a letter to the International Olympic Committee explaining why ice skating should be replaced with ice driving.

2. Ponder the societal ramifications if the adage "Step on a crack, break your mother's back" were true.

1. Watch re-runs of the X-files in which you purposely ignore the sexual tension between Mulder and Scully.

Dear Nana Bobango...



Every single one of my friends currently has a significant other. I am thrilled for them, really, I think it's great that they each have someone special to share their lives with. Unfortunately, this also means that in order for them to share their lives with me as well, I often have to resort to being the third wheel.

I see my friends being so happy with their boyfriends and girlfriends, and it really makes me wish that I had someone too.

I know that if I were to date someone from NNU, I would have to wait until next semester. Do you have any suggestions for where I should look for someone after break?

-Struggling Singleton

Dear Struggling,

My question to you is this: Is it love that you're looking for, or is it companionship? If it's love, then my only advice is to let it find you. When you're looking, you're looking for "anyone," not for "someone."

If it's companionship and you're okay with having "anyone," then the next step is deciding what type of "anyone" you hope to find.

If you want a "guy's guy," you go to the JSC. If you want someone creative and open-minded, you check out the fine arts building. Someone passionate and strong-willed? Head to the political science department.

Each guy is different. Focus on their interests and make yourself available to them in a way that they'll be able to understand and appreciate.

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

SPICE CHOICES by Fred Piscop

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Somewhat slangily
6 Victor
9 Crimson Tide, to fans
13 Strong smells
14 Architectural annexes
16 Cast-of-thousands movie
17 "Credit or ___?"
18 Elton John Broadway musical
19 Part to play
20 Not at all aggressive
23 Dieter's unit. Abbr.
26 Storm's center
27 Into nasty gossip
28 Baltimore baseballers
31 Hog's home
32 Watches, as a store
33 Rebuke from Caesar
35 Party with poi
39 Government securities
42 With 8 Down, M*A*S*H star
43 Make goo-goo eyes at
44 Put up with
45 Telephone trio
46 Current measurer
48 Zodiac boundaries
51 2001, in film credits
52 NFL stats
53 Ski-lodge beverage
57 Golden Rule word
- 58 Bassoon kin
59 Accepted truth
63 Genesis garden
64 Place to brood
65 Prefix for brewery
66 Really steamed
67 Third scale notes
68 Very expensive
- 7 Poetic region
8 See 42 Across
9 Artist's topper
10 Left, on deck
11 Teen idol Cyrus
12 Got 100 on
15 Private retreat
21 Director Spike
22 Thumbs-down vote
23 Pause mark
24 Disney mermaid
25 Singer Ronstadt
29 Norse god
30 Baton Rouge sch.
31 Small brooks
34 Aviv
35 Place for an earring
36 Oneness
37 Tacked on
- 38 Techie's clients
40 Seasonal wind
41 Explosion sound
45 Radar-gun rdg.
47 "Mamma ___!"
48 Owned apartment
49 Out-and-out
50 Crumpet cousin
51 Reindeer relative
53 Spectrum bands
54 Trucker on the air
55 9 Down relatives
56 Leave a scene
60 Bar supply
61 Smelter input
62 Unruly head of hair

DOWN

- 1 Grass in squares
2 "To a . . ." work
3 Stick up
4 Barber's touchup
5 Italian wine region
6 Race-starting phrase

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quoteoftheweek

“ I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph.”

-Shirley Temple

